PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 8 July 66 08/0400Z	**2. LOCATION** Ilion, New York (2 Witnesses)
3. SOURCE Civilian	**10. CONCLUSION** Possible (AIRCRAFT) (REFUELING MISSION) ✓ ZNT There ~~is~~ are two refueling tracks over the area of the sighting, which could have abributed to the cause of the sighting.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS Several	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Varied	**11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS** Observers noted unusual lights that were moving east to west. Lights appeared to travel through the Big Dipper and make a direct reversal of its course in several short jerky course changes. On another account the light continued east and made abrupt turn to the north. There were B-52's being refueled on two different refueling tracks. Ilion is located at the ARIP point of "Water Clock" and about 25 miles north of the ARIP point of "Camel Train". Aircraft would be in rendezvous at these points.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual (BX)	
7. COURSE West	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes XX No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes XX No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDF) Previous editions of this form may be used

11 July, 1966

Dear Sir:

While in Russell Park late Thursday night, my friend and I saw a highly unusual light in the night sky. This is the report of what we saw.

0400Z

Friday morning, 8 July, 1966 between 00:00 and 00:30

A light was observed form the north end of Russell Park. This light was in the southern portion of the sky moving from East to West when first detected. With binoculars it was determined that the light was a double light in the red-orange range of the spectrum. The light made a very sharp turn to a more northerly course. After the turn, then light commenced to blink. As it started to blink, it appeared to increase in brillance. The range could not be determined. The position angle appeared to be about 20 to 30 degrees with the horizon as 0 degrees. The light was lost behind clouds at about 00:35. A/C

Friday morning, 8 July, 1966 at 00:45

Cloud cover cleared. A brillant reddish light was observed from the same position. This light appeared approximately where Venus rises as the evening star. It was traveling in an easterly direction. Through binoculars it was a fairly large luminscent object of undetermined shape. The light appeared to travel through the Big Dipper and make a direct reversal of its course in several short jerky course changes(see drawing #1). The truning radius for the course change was quite short. The object was again moving at high speed. It appeared to be at a high altitude. There was no sound. When first sighted it was at position angle of 10 to 20 degrees. The light was lost from sight at 00:55. See drawing #2.

False ?

0500Z

Friday morning, 8 July, 1966 at 01:00

Strange light observed at same location as 00:45 light. Light Was moving in the same direction as 00:45 light. Light again made again made a direct reversal fo its course. This time the turn was right handed instead of left. About ½ way through the turn, the light faded from view. The light blinked on after the turn had been completed and moved off the way it had come. Through the binoculars the light appeared to be the same one that was seen at 00:45. The light was lost from sight at 01:10.

Friday morning, 8 July, 1966 at 01:15

Light appeared in same locale as the last two lights. The course was the same as before while coming towards us. This time the light continued through the Big Dipper and continued East for a short time. It then made an abrupt turn to the North. Shortly after the turn the light blinked out. The light was last seen at 01:25. The light was not seen again that night.

These are some general observations for the last three times listed.

1. The times are approximate with an error of not more then 5 minutes either way.
2. The light was in the red-orange range of the spectrum.
3. The light moved with several abrupt speed changes.
4. At all times the light seemed to be moving at high speeds.
5. There was no sound detected at any time.
6. The light appeared to be at a high altitude.
7. At no time did the object appear directly overhead.

Signed:

[redacted]

John A. May SA USNR

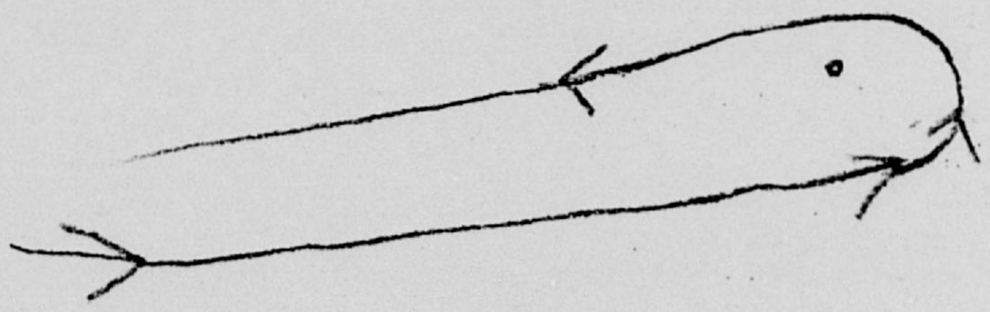
[redacted]

Drawing #1

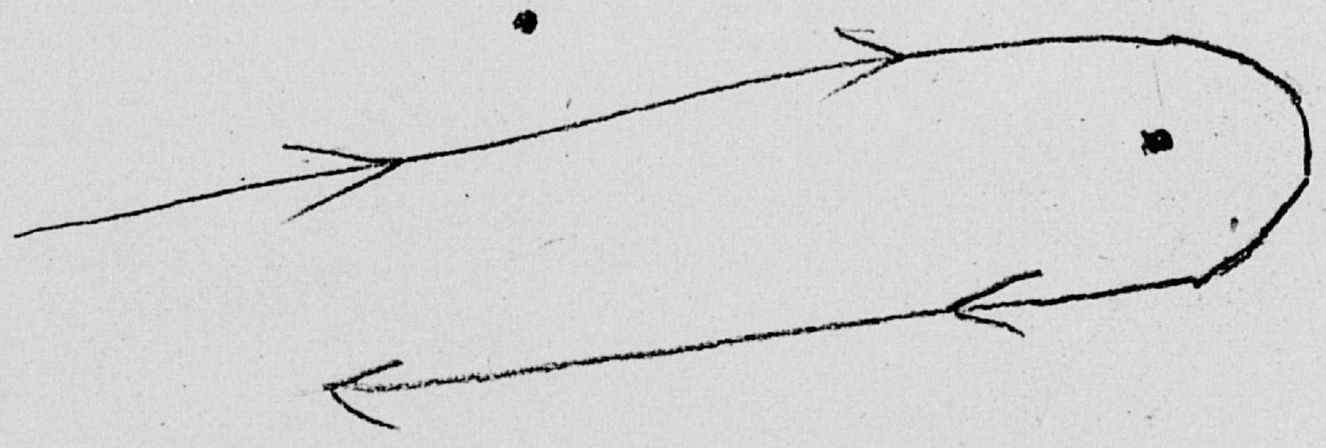
Arrow indicates direction of trave

Dots indicate Big Dipper

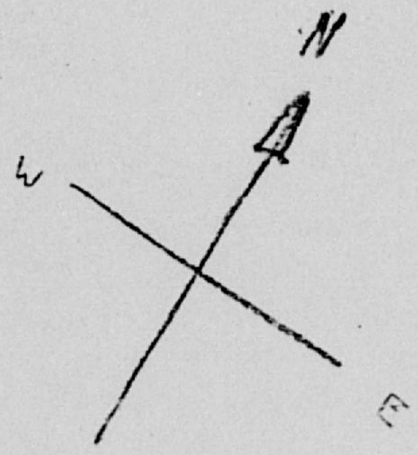




Drawing #2



Arrow indicates direction.
Dots indicate Big Dipper.



This is additional information as to the location of the observation point.

The latitude is 42 degrees 58.13 minutes
The longitude is 75 degrees.
Ilion is located about 23 miles southeast of Griffis Air Force Base.

Our address is:

[redacted]
Ilion, N.Y.
13357

21 Sept. 66

Contact with 99th BW, Westover AFB, Mass. concerning their use of refueling track Water Clock on 8 July 66.
At 0400Z there was a B52 being refueled on the above track.
The aircraft reached the ARIP at about 0400Z. The ARIP is at ~~42*40N**84~~ 43 02N 75 10W where the aircraft and the tanker begin their rendezvous. The B52 was refueled on a east-west flight path.
Also aircraft were refueled at 0230Z and at 0615Z.

Contact was made with Griffis AFB, New York, ex. 3819 (scheduling) about refueling aircraft on the Air Refueling track Camelm Train. The 416th Bw schedules in the above track however on this night they were not using the track. They did however inform that there were aircraft being refueled on 8 July 66. At 0340Z and 0425Z a B52s entered the track and was refueled by a KC135 at an altitude of 28,000 feet. In both cases the aircraft were flying on a east-west flight plan.