

Tidbit No. 60a

The folks at the Wayne Township Library reminded me that the last tidbit should have been No. 60! And so this is No. 60a.

We have fun in Starke County, Indiana. I got a lot of laughs from the Space Rocket tidbit, but I didn't write it. The article was written by some unknown reporter about a month after the US-Air Force investigation.

Here is the conclusion of that story: Vic Albright found the US-Air Force declassified report on the rocket and sent it to me - I have **attached** it for you. Don't let the title of it scare you - the **Black Vault**. Just scroll down to the end to see the photo of Richard Jensen's space rocket. In fact, there are two photos showing the expert way it was "destroyed" when it "hit the ground".

There is more about those clever people in Hamlet, Indiana. In 1967, a small space ship (about 30" in diameter) was found by Starke County road personnel in a ditch near County Road 500 East. It had four pipes extending from one side and a lot of burned marks, supposedly because of heat from entering the earth's atmosphere so fast. Inside were radio control units and other items. It, too, was a hoax made from spare parts and two aluminum children's sleds. But it did create quite a stir in the Hamlet area for a week or two. It is "flying" in our Museum today.

**Jim Shilling**  
**Starke County Historical Society**

<http://www.starkehistory.com>  
<http://www.scpl.lib.in.us/historical/>





# THE BLACK VAULT

This document was obtained from The Black Vault, an online database of declassified government documents. This particular record is housed in the Project Blue Book Collection, a compilation of more than 140,000 pages across more than 10,000 case files of Projects Sign, Grudge and Blue Book.

The entire collection is free to download and online at:

**<http://projectbluebook.theblackvault.com>**

# PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 17 September 1954		2. LOCATION Hamlet, Indiana		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Hoax</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT _____		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>PHYSICAL SPEC</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Mr Hall of Hamlet, Ind found cigar shaped object, 5 ft long, 6" in diameter. Constructed of aluminum, steel and contained radio equipment.				11. COMMENTS OSI and FBI investigation proved the observation to be a hoax. Object made by [REDACTED], Hamlet, Ind. FBI report received and is filed in the ATIC Security Office - ATII.	



UNCLASSIFIED IN

1. ATIA  
2. ATIA  
3. AT76-2  
4. ATIA Pending  
File

27 SEP 1959 09 39

3858 25 SEP 54  
NO UNCLASSIFIED REPLY OR REFERENCE IF THE DATE TIME GROUP IS QUOTED  
C-1 CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY  
FM 24 DIST OSI USAF CHICAGO ILL 242200Z  
TO COFS USAF WASH DC  
INFO ATIC WPAFB OHIO ATTN: ATIAA-2C  
CG ADF ENT AFB COLO

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER  
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

CITE DO 24-9-22-E.  
IN ACCORDANCE AFCSI LTR 35 AND AFL 200-5 FOL INFO SUBMITTED: ON  
17 SEP 54 1 CIGAR SHAPE OBJ APRX 5 FEET LONG, 6 INCHES DIAMETER CON-  
STRUCTED OF ALUMINUM, STEEL AND CONTAINING RADIO EQP FOUND BY AC HALL,  
HAMLET, IND ON HAMLET GOLF CRS. [REDACTED] TURNED OBJ OVER TO LT COL  
OSCAR STEGALL, CMDR KINGSBURY ORD DEPOT SAME DATE. NO ACTION TAKEN  
KINGSBURY ORD. OBJ NOW IN POSSESSION THIS OFFICE. REQ ATIC FWD  
SHIPPING INSTR THIS OFFICE. REPT AND PHOTOGRAPHS FOL.  
25/1440Z SEP

*Suspense*  
*9/29/54*

UNCLASSIFIED

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5280.10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



171

HAMLET IWD

28

ROUTING

## JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

206  
5/019496

FROM: (Originator) SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

COMDR ATIC

DATE-TIME GROUP

011320Z OCT 54

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PRECEDENCE  
FOR:

ACTION

INFORMATION

ROUTINE

TO:

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT  
OSI, USAF  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

JEPFQ

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

DO 24-9-28-E

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO:

FROM: ADDIN-ATIAE -10-565-E

Urmsg DO 24-9-28-E. Shipment of material not necessary. Include hoax information in report.

COORDINATION:

ATIAE 10073 DATE 1007  
 Lt. Col. H. C. Johnston  
 ATIA 10073 DATE 1007  
 Col. W. L. O'Hern  
 API \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
 DQQ DIR 5290.10

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 10073  
 ELECTRONICS BRANCH  
 Office of Record

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

Capt. Charles A. Hardin/rl

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE

Asst. Adj.

SYMBOL

ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE

69216

DD FORM 173

1 OCT 49

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 49,  
WHICH MAY BE USED.

Asst. Adj.

09-16-56923-4

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

ATIAE5 OFFICIAL FILE



NBR 4062

NO UNCL REPLY OR REF IF DTG QUOTED  
C-1 CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

FM COMDR [REDACTED] USAF CHICAGO ILL 291730Z  
TO COMDR ATIC WPAFB O FOR ATIAA-2C  
INFO CSUSAF WASHDC FOR DIR SP INVES  
COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO

CITE DO 24-9-28-E

REF MSG COMDR ATIC WPAFB, AFOIN-ATIAE-9-546-E. REF DO 24-9-22-E.  
FURTHER INVES REVEALED OBJECT MADE BY [REDACTED], HAMLET, IND AND  
PLACED ON GOLF COURSE AS A HOAX BY JENSEN. IN VIEW THIS INFO REQ INSTR  
BE REITERATED IF SHIPPING STILL DESIRED. REPT AND PHOTOGRAPHS FOL  
30/1235Z

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5280.10

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE [REDACTED] TO CENT  
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

30 SEP 1954 08 55

UNCLASSIFIED

NI

754-14022

UNCLASSIFIED

ACTION

ATIC  
JHO  
E. Atc / Atia  
E. Atg-2  
4 R file

491776  
copy  
Suspense  
Atia  
10/4/54



ROUTING

## JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

COMDR ATIC

DATE-TIME GROUP  
281500Z SEP 54SECURITY CLASSIFICATION  
UNCLASSIFIEDPRECEDENCE  
FOR  
ACTION  
ROUTINE

INFORMATION

TO:

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT  
OSI, USAF  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

JEDFQ

UNCLASSIFIED

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES ☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

DO 24-9-22-E

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-9-546-E

Urmsg DO 24-9-22-E. Subject equipment should be shipped to Air Technical  
Intelligence Center Attention: Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION:

ATIAE 1.5 hours DATE 25 Sep  
Lt. Col. H. C. JohnstonATIA R. L. L. O'Hern DATE 28 Sep  
Col. W. L. O'Hern

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

Although the contents of this document are Uncl  
it bears UNCLASSIFIED classification markings to accord with the  
overall classification of this correspondence.

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10073  
ELECTRONICS BRANCH  
Office of Record

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

Charles A. Hardin  
Capt. Charles A. Hardin/r1

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

R. L. L. O'Hern  
R. L. L. O'Hern

SYMBOL

ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE

69216

OFFICIAL TITLE

CWO, USAF

ASST. ADJ.

DD FORM 173  
1 OCT 49REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 49,  
WHICH MAY BE USED.

60-10-58023-4 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

ATIAE5 OFFICIAL FILE



Note: Report of investigation by the FBI  
received and is on file in the  
ATIC Security Office.

N/A



Chron. 24-185-24-24x

September 17, 1954

Hamlet, Indiana

2 Photos.





