PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE
2 Aug 55

2. LOCATION
Fresno, Calif

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local
GMT 02/2100Z

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION
☒ Ground-Visual
☐ Ground-Radar
☐ Air-Visual
☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS
☐ Yes
☒ No

6. SOURCE
civ (WX observer)

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
½ min

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
1

9. COURSE
SE

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

While observing wx balloon, bright silver circular obj crossedin front of theodolite field of view. Obj was brighter than white balloooon. Obj higher than balloon and moved at steady rate of speed.

11. COMMENTS

[illegible]
~~Poss~~ research balloon.

12. CONCLUSIONS
☐ Was Balloon
☐ Probably Balloon
☑ Possibly Balloon
☐ Was Aircraft
☐ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft
☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical
☐ Other
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION) (SECURITY INFORMATION when filled in)

③ 21

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COUNTRY OF ORIGIN USA - MATS 1 Witness	REPORT NO. IR-68-55	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

AREA REPORT CONCERNS USA - California	
AGENCY OF ORIGIN Hq, Air Weather Service	DATE OF REPORT 12 October 1955
SOURCE OF INFORMATION WBAS, Fresno, California	DATE OF INFORMATION 2 August 1955
PREPARING OFFICER Major Robert P. Craig	EVALUATION A-2

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

BAIR 3A; AFR 200-2

SUBJECT

Sighting of Unidentified Flying Object

SUMMARY (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112a.)

1. The following report was submitted through channels to the Chief, U. S. Weather Bureau, by Mr[redacted] of the Weather Bureau Airport Station at Fresno, California.

2. On 2 August 1955, Mr[redacted] was taking the 2100Z pibal observation when a bright circular object was noted crossing the theodolite field of view. It was silver in color, such as a metallic surface would appear when reflecting sunlight. It was brighter than the white balloon. No shadows or markings were distinguishable on the object, but it was sharply outlined against the blue sky background. At the time, about 1:30 p.m. PST, the balloon was in its twenty-ninth minute and approximately 27,000 feet above the surface. The object had an apparent diameter of about one-fourth or one-fifth of that of the five foot balloon at that height. Mr. [redacted] stated that although he realized that size and height of such an object are interdependent and very difficult, if not impossible to judge, his impression at the time of the observation was that the object was far above the balloon and therefore could have been larger than the balloon. The object moved at a steady rate of speed and was tracked with the theodolite for about a half minute so as to get a better look at it. This resulted in losing the balloon from the field of view, so he had to return to the balloon to continue the pibal. The movement of the object across the line of sight was not so very fast, although much faster than the slowly moving balloon, and in a different direction. Later computations (assuming horizontal flight) of the estimated movement indicated that the object moved from the northeast at a speed of 80-130 knots if at 40,000 feet MSL, or 120-200 knots if at 60,000 feet MSL.

COMMENT:

3. Mr[redacted] further stated that he had seen airplanes cross the theodolite field at or below the balloon's height, or even for some distance above the balloon, and that an airplane at heights up to roughly twice that of the balloon should have been fairly easy to recognize through the theodolite under the prevailing conditions of visibility, elevation angle, illumination, etc, and would have moved faster than the object did.

0 mas.

APPROVED: Robert P. Craig
ROBERT P CRAIG
Major, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Branch
DCS/Plans

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APPR D 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Hq, AWS, MATS, USAF, Washington 25, D. C.	REPORT NO. IR-68-55	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

COMMENT OF FORWARDING OFFICER, HQ MATS

Considering the short time of observation of the object and the distance involved, it is felt that the evaluation is rather high.

Jack Reiter
JACK REITER
Major, USAF
Intelligence Division
DCS/Plans

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PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

Conclusion ~~[illegible]~~ File

1. DATE
2 AUGUST 1955

2. LOCATION
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local 13:30 PST
GMT 02/ 2100Z (DAY)

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION
☑ Ground-Visual
☐ Ground-Radar
☐ Air-Visual
☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS
☐ Yes
☒ No

6. SOURCE
CIV (WX OBSERVER)

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
1/2 MIN

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
1

9. COURSE
SE

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING
WHILE OBSERVING WX BALLOON, BRIGHT SILVER CIRCULAR OBJ CROSSED IN FRONT OF THEODOLITE FIELD OF VIEW. OBJ WAS BRIGHTER THAN WHITE BALLOON. OBJ HIGHER THAN BALLOON & MOVED AT STEADY RATE OF SPEED.

11. COMMENTS
Poss. Res. Ball.

12. CONCLUSIONS
☐ Was Balloon
☐ Probably Balloon
☑ Possibly Balloon

☐ Was Aircraft
☐ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft

☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical

☐ Other__________
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

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