PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	2. LOCATION	12. CONCLUSIONS
10 Jul 58	Billings, Montana	☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 11/0230Z to 0340OZ	**4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION** ☒ Ground-Visual (Binoculars) ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	**6. SOURCE** Civilian	☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 hr 10 mins	**8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS** three	**9. COURSE** South
		☒ Other Illusion ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Three objs, thinner & longer than a cigar, very bright golden w/fuzzy outline, in a loose group. First obj was stationary when first sighted, tilted fm horizontal. Two more moved toward it. Second obj approached the first, circled over it, leaving a vapor-like trail & joined up w/ the first. The third obj then joined the two objs. The first obj returned to a horizontal positoon & all three moved rapidly South & faded.

11. COMMENTS

Probably interplay of sun's slant rays on scattered clouds.

fir

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

11/0230Z to 11/0340Z
Jul

Multi

TELEPHONED
TO
NO.
TIME
Date
By:

14

UFO Report 4E4

QBS18 YDB 77ZCZCQYA212ZCGUA 78

FF RJEDDN RJEDSQ

DE RJWZGU 2F

P 111640Z

FM COMDR 779TH ACWRON OPHEIM AFS

TO RJEDDN/COMDR AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENT AFB

RJWZGU/COMDR 29TH ADIV DEF MALMSTROM AFB

RJEDSQ/COMDR AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB

RJEZHQ/ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF INTELLIGENCE HEADQUARTERS USAF

RJEZHQ/OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES HEADQUARTERS USAF

1
2
3
4E4

44X-22

CNE

BI

//UNCLASSIFIED//OPS 481. UFO:

A. DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTS:

(1) LIKE A DIRIGIBLE, BUT THINNER. LIKE A CIGAR, BUT THINNER AND LONGER.

(2) GRAPEFRUIT

(3) VERY BRIGHT GOLDEN (FUZZY OUTLINES)

(4) THREE

(5) LOOSE GROUP

(6) NONE

(7) SECON OBJECT CIRCLED AND LEFT A VAPOR-LIKE TRAIL, QUITE LONG

AND BRIGHT. THIS TRAIL STOPPED VERY ABRUPTLY.

(8) NONE

(9) EXTREMELY HIGH SPEED

B. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECTS:

(1) FIRST OBJECT WAS NOTICED DUE TO ITS EXTREME BRIGHTNESS AND STRANGE SHAPE.

(2) APPROXIMATELY 1 DEGREES TO 2 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON, ESTIMATED 33 DEGREES TRUE.

(3) APPROXIMATELY 4 DEGREES TO 6 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON, ESTIMATED 3 DEGREES TRUE.

(4) FIRST OBJECT WAS STATIONARY WHEN FIRST SIGHTED. OBSERVERS WENT INSIDE STORE FOR 3 MINUTES AND WHEN THEY CAME OUTSIDE AGAIN THE FIRST OBJECT WAS STILL IN THE SAME PLACE, BUT TWO MORE OBJECTS OF THE SAME SIZE AND SHAPE WERE MOVING TOWARD IT. AT

THIS TIME, FIRST OBJECT APPEARED TO BE TILTED FROM THE HORIZONTAL. SECOND OBJECT APPROACHED THE FIRST, CIRCLED OVER IT, LEAVING A VAPOR LIKE TRAIL, AND JOINED UP WITH THE FIRST. THE THIRD OBJECT THEN JOINED THE FIRST AND SECOND OBJECTS; THE FIRST OBJECT RETURNED TO THE HORIZONTAL POSITION, AND ALL THREE MOVED RAPIDLY SOUTH AND FADED.

Best Plot of Incident

Insufficient Time in sight for one to get moving speed

(5) GRADUALLY FADED

(6) ONE HOUR, TEN MINUTES

C. MANNER OF OBSERVATION:

(1) GROUND-VISUAL

(2) NAKED EYE AND BINOCULARS

(3) N/A

effects + illusion known - see file

D. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING;

(1) 11/ 23 Z TO 11/ 34 Z JULY 1958

(2) DUSK

Last seen 40° above horizon

1st observed at 10° above horizon

NORTH EAST

40° above horizon

UNKNOWN POWER

10°

NORTH

NOTE! SUN LOW ON HORIZON AT THIS TIME

Local Time!

0230 - 7 = 1930 to

0340 - 7 = 2040 hrs

1.e. 7:30 PM to 8:40 PM

E. LOCATION OF OBSERVERS: 1 842W - 4552N BILLINGS, MONTANA

F. MRS. [redacted], [redacted] BILLINGS, MONTANA

RADIO STATION (KOOK) COPY-WRITER; [redacted], MONTANA AGE AND OCCUPATION UNKNOWN; [redacted] ALKALI CREEK ROAD BILLINGS, MONTANA AGE AND OCCUPATION UNKNOWN.

G. WEATHER AND WINDS ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTINGS:

(1) CLEAR, [redacted] SCATTERED CLOUDS, CALM, DRY AND WARM.

(2) SURFACE - 090 DEGREES, 3 KNOTS

6,000 FT - NOT AVAILABLE

10,000 FT - NOT AVAILABLE

Note: Scattered clouds at dusk!
Sun going behind horizon!
object fuzzy!

Therefore, objects moved from near the horizon (at 7:30 PM) to 40° + above the horizon (at 8:40 PM) - from 330 to 300 degrees - i.e. Moved Westward 15 degrees at an angle.

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16,000 FT - NOT AVAILABLE

20,000 FT - 290 DEGREES, 15 KNOTS
30,000 FT - 310 DEGREES, 25 KNOTS
} Winds from W-NW - stripe to below

45,000 FT

280 DEGREES, 45 KNOTS

50,000 FT - NOT AVAILABLE

80,000 FT - NOT AVAILABLE

(3) UNLIMITED

(4) 50 MILES

(5) NONE

(6) NONE

(7) NONE

H. NONE

I. NONE

J. NONE

K. NONE

L. NONE

END

BT

11/1722Z JUL RJWZGU

Based on observers statements:

(1) Sight for one hour or less
(2) scattered clouds
(3) Sun low on horizon
(4) object fairly flat - fuzzy no discernable outline
(5) Inconsistencies - some observers statements noted (indicates reliability)

Conclusions on basis of above - and the last: OTHER similar reports - sun's rays on scattered clouds? ILLUSION

realize how frequently mirages occur. Many persons do not know what a mirage is or what can cause it. First, let me say that a mirage is something real, not a hallucination like a pink elephant. Nor is it an optical illusion. Light may depart appreciably from its nearly straight-line path when exceptional temperature conditions occur in the lower atmosphere, as, for example, when an intensely

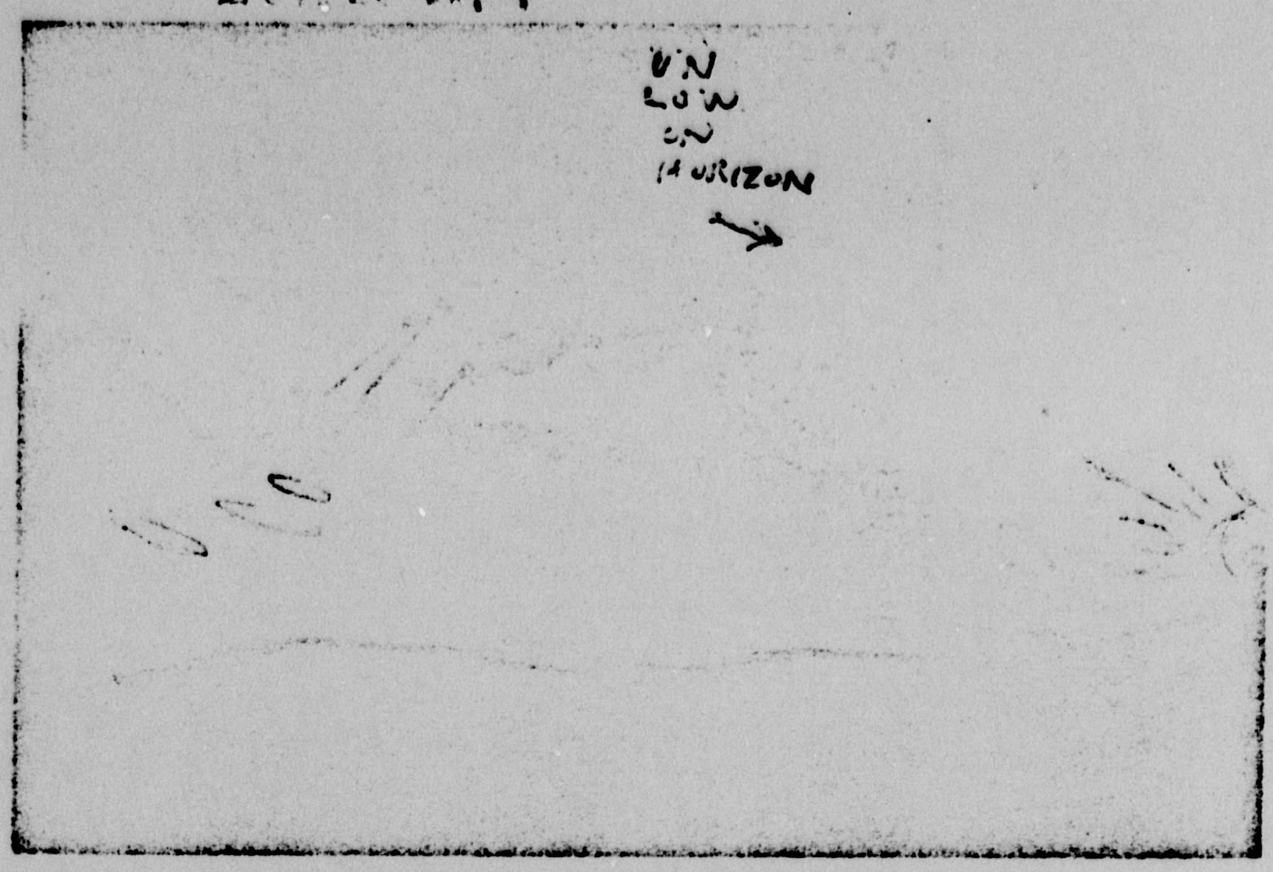


Fig. 2. A lenticular cloud, often mistaken for a flying saucer.

hot or extremely cold layer of air lies close to the earth's surface. The air acts as a sort of lens to bring a distant light source into focus. The lens is imperfect, so that the world seen through it is distorted and unfamiliar; it is a little like looking through someone else's spectacles. No wonder one sees weird things — even flying saucers. This brief description of a mirage will have to serve until we again consider the question in more detail, in a later chapter.