

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 3 August 1958	2. LOCATION Tioga, North Dakota	12. CONCLUSIONS	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 03/0905Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	<input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian Police	7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 hrs 35 mins	<input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft
8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE West	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Vaguely spherical obj, size of dime, color varying fm blue-white to red, moving Westerly at a slow rate of speed.		11. COMMENTS Astro computer & 1958 Ephemeris shows Mars in location of observation.	

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

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COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT	Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)	
AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)	
North Western, North Dakota	780th AC&W Fortuna AFS, Westby, Montana	
DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
4 August 1958	3 August 1958	
PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE	
E. H. Wright Maj USAF	Ground Observer	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)		
AFR 200-2 Par 15 Dated 5Feb 1958		
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 112-Part II.)		
<p>A. DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT(S)</p> <p>(1) SHAPE: Indefinate vaguely spherical. (2) SIZE: Size of a dime held at arms length. (3) Varries from blue-white to red. ← <u>Clue!</u> (4) Number of objects - one. (5) Variation of color no sudden changes of speed or direction. (6) No exhaust or tail or trail. (7) No sound. (8) No other unusual features.</p> <p><i>(The L will Astro Computer & H.C. Tables holt 1958 1000-1000 1000-1000)</i></p>		
<p>B. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT(S):</p> <p>(1) Normal police surveillance detected object. (2) Object was east of Tioga, North Dakota, at approximately a 10 degree azimuth, progressing westward to 90 degree azimuth. It seemed to progress from dark cloud to dark cloud. Weather was broken cumuliform clouds. (3) Disappeared on a 90 degree azimuth over Tioga, North Dakota. (4) Object moved westerly at a slow rate of speed. (5) Object gradually faded out on the 90 degree azimuth at 1200z. (6) Object was observed for <u>two hours and 35 minutes</u>.</p>		
<p>C. MANNER OF OBSERVATION:</p> <p>(1) Ground visual. (2) Binoculars were utilized in the observation. (3) No airborne sightings were made.</p> <p><i>Note: about 3 hours in sight with only small movements</i></p>		
<p>D. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING:</p> <p>(1) 03/0905z - 7 = <u>0205 hrs</u> to <u>0445 hrs</u>, 3 Aug 58 (Local time)</p>		
<p>E. LOCATION OF OBSERVER(S)</p> <p>(1) Tioga, North Dakota, 48degrees 38 minutes North, 102 degrees 56 minutes West</p>		
<p>F. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON OBSERVER:</p> <p>(1) Chief of police <u>██████████</u>, North Dakota (2) Age unknown. (3) Estimate of reliability- excellent.</p>		
<p><i>Comment: Astro Computer and 1958 Ephemeris indicate that 1100z was, & moved from approx. 40 to 90° degrees. for 200 to 430 AM. This is no doubt the years. Also see the large number of entries on this form.</i></p>		

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
780th ACWRON Westby, Montana		2	OF	2 PAGES

G. WEATHER AND WINDS-ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING:
(1) Wind aloft condition.

H. Broken ceiling extending to 35000 feet from appox 20000 feet

I. Visibility was unrestricted below 20000 feet.

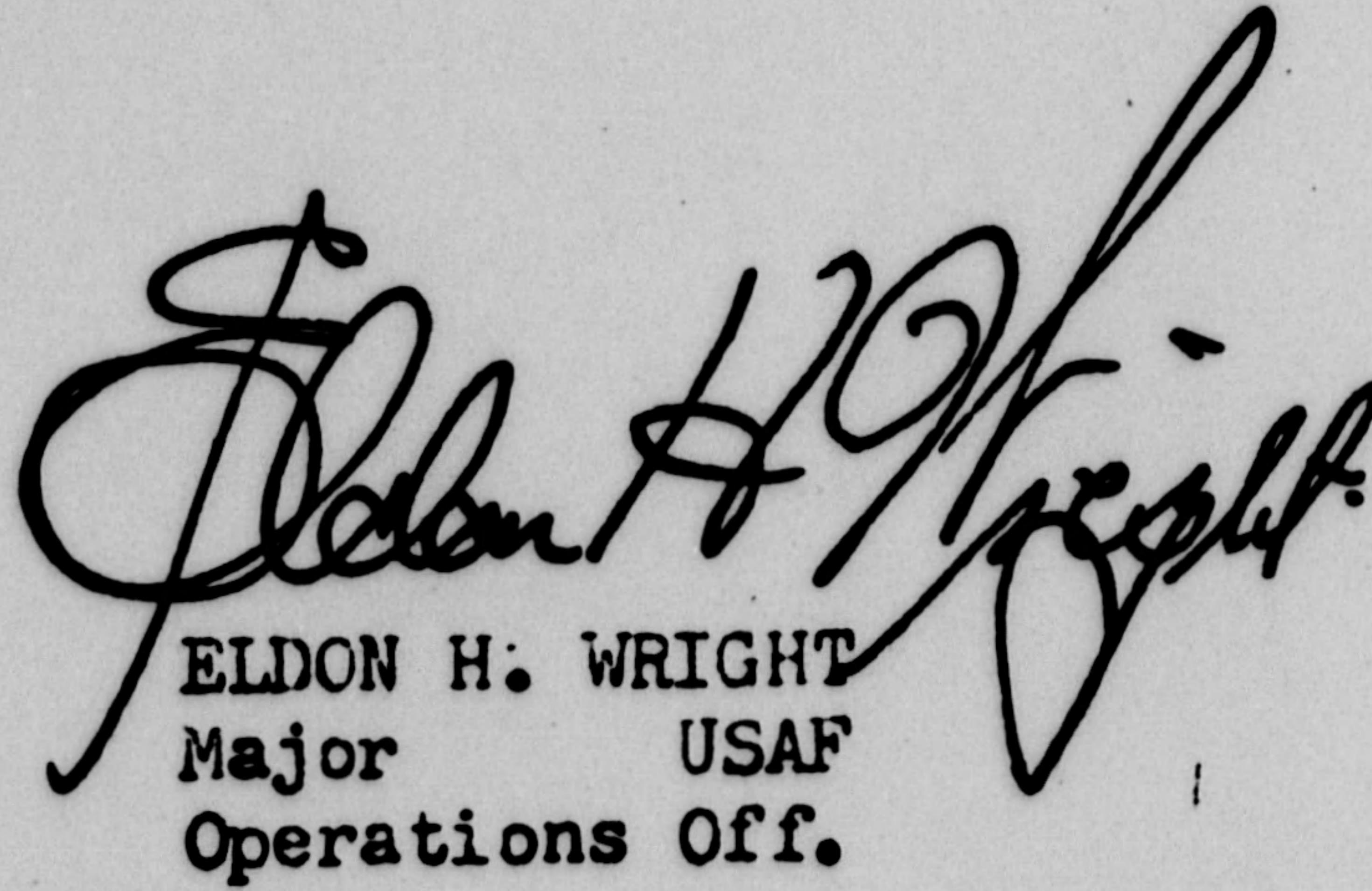
J. Scattered thunderstorms covered the general area.

K. Possible balloon launchings or astronomical position of Mars to the earth could have caused these sightings.

L. An interceptor aircraft (F-89J) was dispatched to the area in question. A search from 20,000 feet to 36,000 feet in a grid pattern revealed no objects or object either visually or electronically. During the search, ground observers indicated the object was still visible.

M. There was no known aerial activity within this area at the time of sighting.

N. Comments of preparing Officer:
1. Object could have been a natural astronomical phenomena in form of a planet or star, or it may have been a balloon launched from the United States or Canada by unofficial or official agencies.
2. Similar reports from the same geographical location by reliable sources indicate the established presence of something. Nothing in these sightings indicate a threat to the United States or a violation of security.



ELDON H. WRIGHT
Major USAF
Operations Off.

MX31

3,1958

WASHINGTON, AUG 1 - (UPI)--ASTRONOME S TODAY TOLD ROCKET-AGE MOONWATCHERS EARLY TODAY TO GO BACK TO SLEEP -- THAT WAS NOT A ROCKET THEY SAW APARENTLY HEADED FOR THE MOON.

IT WAS THE PLANET MARS, A NAVAL OBSERVATORY SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN NEW YORK, AN ASTRONOMER FOR THE HAYDEN PLANETARIUM ALSO SAID IT APPEARED THE OBJECT WAS MARS. HE EXPLAINED THAT, IN ITS PRESENT CYCLE, MARS WAS BRIGHTEST THAN IT HAS BEEN SINCE EARLY 1957. MOREOVER, THE ASTRONOMER, DR. ██████████ SAID THE PLANET WOULD BECOME INCREASINGLY BRIGHTEST, IN RELATION TO THE MOON, DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, REACHING ITS PEAK IN NOVEMBER. THEREAFTER, HE SAID, ITS BRIGHTEST WOULD DIMINISH SLOWLY.

THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAS DISCLOSED THAT IT PLANS TO TRY TO LAUNCH THE FIRST U.S. "LUNAR PROBE" ROCKET AT CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA., BETWEEN AUG. 17 AND AUG. 20, THOUGH TECHNICAL PROBLEMS MAY DELAY THE FIRING INTO SEPTEMBER. THE RUSSIANS ARE KNOWN TO BE WORKING ON A MOON SHOT OF THEIR OWN AND THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THEY ALREADY TRIED ONCE UNSUCCESSFULLY.

LAST NIGHT NEWS AGENCIES AND ASTRONOMERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY WERE PHONED BY EXCITED CITIZENS WHO REPORTED SEEING A BRIGHT OBJECT IN SPACE IN THE VICINITY OF THE MOON. SOME REPORTS SAID THE OBJECT WAS HURTLING TOWARD THE MOON.

PHONE CALLS TO OBSERVATORIES SEEMED TO DISPEL THE EXCITEMENT.

MARTHA SAWYER, A MEMBER OF THE STAFF OF THE U. S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY, SAID SHE'D SEEN THE OBJECT, TOO. BUT AFTER OBSERVING IT AND CONSULTING CHARTS SHE IDENTIFIED IT POSITIVELY AS THE PLANET MARS WHICH HAPPENS TO BE AT THAT ANGLE JUST NOW -- BUT MUCH FARTHER AWAY THAN THE MOON.

AT THE GEorgetown UNIVERSITY, ASTRONOMER OWEN MATTINGLY TOOK A LOOK TOO.

HE DIDN'T SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFY THE BRIGHT OBJECT, BUT HE SAID IT WAS "A BRIGHT STAR OR POSSIBLY A PLANET."

MATTINGLY SAID NO ROCKET FIRED FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON WOULD REMAIN VISIBLE IN SPACE FOR VERY LONG: IT

REMAIN VISIBLE IN SPACE FOR VERY LONG: IT JUST WOULDN'T BE BIG ENOUGH TO HAVE THE BRILLIANCE OF A STAR OR PLANET.

NO COMMENT WAS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FROM THE NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, WHICH TRACKS THE U.S. AND RUSSIAN EARTH SATELLITES.

ALTHOUGH AFAIR MOONWATCHER REPORTED THEY SAW THE OBJECT MOVING TOWARD THE MOON, FRANKLIN SAID THE SITUATION WAS ACTUALLY THE REVERSE

-- THAT IS, THE MOON WAS MOVING TOWARD MARS. FROM THE EARTH, HOWEVER, HE EXPLAINED, THE PHENOMENON WOULD GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE REVERSE WAS TRUE.

FRANKLIN ATTRIBUTED THE ACUTE INTEREST TO A RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PLANS TO LAUNCH A "LUNAR PROBE" ROCKET AND RUSSIA'S AVOWED INTENTION OF TRYING TO SHOOT A ROCKET TO THE MOON.

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Press Release