COLATRUGLIO, Kenneth A.

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 18 Apr 62	**2. LOCATION** Nellis AFB, Nevada	**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
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local_____ GMT 19/0335Z	**4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION** ☐ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	**6. SOURCE** Military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 32 Min.	**8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS** 1	**9. COURSE** NE

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Radar sighting. Blip. Speed of object varied. Initial observation at 060 no elevation. Disappearance at 105° az 10,000' altitude. Heading tentively NE, however disappeared instantly to S. Observed by search and height radars. No visual.

11. COMMENTS

There is insufficient data in the report to form a valid conclusion. Speed, changes in course, and altitude not included. Appearance on both search and height finder confirms that some object was there. Track characteristics indicate possible balloon as the source.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 58034 (19 Apr 62) N/sc page 1 of 2

ACTION: CIN-17

INFO : SAFS-3 (21)

SMB C 213

ACHQE390ZCQJD019

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJWZHAP 4

ZNR

P 192010Z

FM LAS VEGAS AFS NEV

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJWZSB/28AIRDIV HAMILTON AFB CALIF

RJEDSQ/ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USFA AFCIN WASH 25 DC

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFIS WASH 25 DC

INFO RJWZNJ/4520 CCRTNGWG NELL

S AFB NEV

BT

UNCLAS 8650AC0320. UFO. AFR 200-2 FORMAT

A. (1) RADAR BLIP

(2) UNKNOWN

(3) UNKNOWN

(4) ONE

(5) UNKNOWN

(6) SPEED VARIED NOTICEABLY

(7) NONE

(8) NONE

(9) NONE

B. (1) REPORT FROM NELLIS AFB WEATHER STATION

(2) AZIMUTH 060 DEGREES NO ELEVATION

(3) AZIMUTH 105 DEGREES, ALTITUDE 10,800 FEET.

(4) NE HEADING APPROX 050 DEGREES

(5) INSTANTLY TO THE SOUTH

(6) THRITY-TWO MINUTES

C. (1) GROUND ELECTRONIC, AN/FPS20 SEARTH, AN/FPS 26 HEIGHT

(2) NONE

(3) NO

D. (1) 0335Z, 19 APR 62

(2) NIGHT

E. 36 19'07''N 115 34'30''W

F. (1) NONE

(2) KENNETH A. COLATRUGLIO, A2C 865 RADAR SQ, OPERATIONS. RELIABLE.

G. NONE

H. NONE

I. NONE

J. UNKNOWN

K. DWIGHT S. RANNEY, CAPTAIN, USAF C& E OFFICER, 865 RADAR SQ.

BLIP SIGHTING WAS IN APPROX AREA OF WEATHER STATION REPORT. NO OTHER AIRCRAFT OR BLIPS IN GENERAL VICINITY.

L. NEGATIVE. SCOPE CAMERA NOT OPERATINGIOBTIME OF SIGHTING.

BT

1962

A front page headline story from Las Vegas, dated April 19, tells of a "tremendous flaming sword" which flashed across Nevada skies. The same mysterious object, traveling on a horizontal course, was also seen in several other western states, and it was tracked on radar. According to a UPI report, the Air Force stated that the object landed near Eureka, Utah. A spokesman for the 28th Air Division at Stead Air Force Base in Reno admitted that the power in Eureka was knocked out by the impact. Earlier, jet fighters at Nellis Air Force Base had been scrambled as a result of the radar sightings..

On April 18,1962 the Air Force Defense Command was puzzled by an aerial object that exploded and seemed to be a meteor, but had the unique distinction of being tracked by radar 70 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Nevada, as well as chased by jets, before it exploded in Nevada in a blinding flash. An Air Force Defense Command alert reported the object was tracked and traced over New York,Kansas, Utah, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Wyoming, Arizona and California, so that it's light covered almost as much area as that created by the big hydrogen space bomb test held later in the Pacific hundreds of miles high.