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PROJECT 16073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE: 13 March 1951	2. LOCATION: McClellan AFB, California	12. CONCLUSIONS: ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other UNIDENTIFIED. ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☒ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP: Local 1520PST; GMT 13/2320Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS: ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE: Military & Civilian	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 2 minutes.	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS: one	9. COURSE: Rising to N

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Witness sighted object from car. Stopped car and viewed object described as round, about 200 ft in diameter, cylindrical and had two white tails attached. Object hovering. Estimated altitude at 2,000 ft. Object turned in a Northerly direction and moved at incredible speed, becoming a speck in about 1 minute. Total sighting lasted about 2 minutes. No A/C in vicinity of object. No reflection from sun on the object.

11. COMMENTS

Possibility exists that object was balloon launch, however the report did not contain launch data from the Air Base adjacent to sighting. Duration short for balloon. All other data indicates that this was a balloon observation, However since the duration was short and launch data not included the case is carried as UNIDENTIFIED.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

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HEADQUARTERS
SACRAMENTO AIR MATERIEL AREA
McCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE
McCLELLAN, CALIFORNIA

SMAI/IHP/eb

IN REPLY
REFER TO: SMAI 319.1

19 March 1951

SUBJECT: Report of Incident

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
ATTENTION: ~~MCIS~~
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. 1st Lieutenant BUEL J. HASTIE, 1st Communications Squadron, Griffis Air Force Base, Rome, New York, and attached for duty at Hq SMAMA, reported that on 13 March 1951, at approximately 1520 hours PST, while driving his automobile in a westerly direction on the main road adjacent to McClellan Air Force Base, and with Mrs. Thomas W. Rafferty as passenger, sighted an object estimated to be at 2000 feet altitude, hovering in the vicinity of the city of Sacramento, California, approximately seven (7) miles distant from the point of observation.

2. Lt. Hastie stated the size of the object especially drew his attention and that he stopped his car and stepped to the ground to better view the object and to determine what it was.

3. Lt. Hastie described the object as approximately 200 feet in diameter and 90 feet deep and cylindrical, with what appeared to be twin tails attached, color, white.

4. As he watched the object he states it turned in a northerly direction away from the city and appeared to move at incredible speed without sound or trails of any sort and disappeared to a mere speck and then from his vision in less than a minute. The overall time he witnessed the operation was a duration of approximately two (2) minutes. No other aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported object. No solar reflections appeared from the object which might tend to distort its size.

5. Mrs. Rafferty confirms the lieutenant's observations.

Sounds like Wellen-Lizard balloons again

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SMAI 319.1
Subj: Report of Incident

19 March 1951

6. No other persons reported such an object that day and no article appeared in the local newspapers as having been witnessed by people in or near the city.

7. No meteorological phenomena was reported.

8. The weather that day was clear and cloudless with light winds, unlimited visibility.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Irving H. Baum

IRVING H. BAUM
Captain, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Section

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