PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE
18 September 1954

2. LOCATION
Kimpo AB, Korea

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local 0555I - 0608I
GMT 17/2055-2108 (DAWN)

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

5. PHOTOS
☐ Yes
☒ No

6. SOURCE
Military

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
11 - 13 Minutes

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
1

9. COURSE
Stationary

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING
Color resembled glare of strong sunlight on polished alum. Round.

11. COMMENTS
Apparently too bright for star at dawn although Rigel at 50 deg elev, 180 deg az. Possibility of balloon. Ruled out due to objects being stations and balloon track indicates motion. UNIDENTIFIED

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

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

UNCLASSIFIED

Korea	IR-4-54	AF 643149

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

UFOB

Kimpo, Korea	4th Ftr Intcp Gp Intelligence APO 76
22 Sep 1954	19 Sep 1954
	B-6
Anthony P Ingrao 2nd Lt. Intell Off.	1 Duty Dispatcher from Base Operations 2 Weather Station Members 2 Control Tower Operators

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

An UFOB was observed between 2055Z and 2108Z, 18 September 1954. The object was moving in a westerly direction and was last observed at a southerly heading where it disappeared behind clouds. Reliability of the five (5) observers should be judged as good.

APPROVED:

cy STEAF
Cy J-2 FEC

CARROL M. SMITHSON
Major USAF
Intelligence Officer

D/I FEAF COMMENT:

"It is believed that the object was either a star (Cirius) or a high flying aircraft for the following reasons:

a. Cirius (the brightest star) would have been in almost the same location as the object except at a 12 1/4 degree smaller angle of elevation. Observers are generally 10 to 15 degrees high when estimating elevation.

b. Although the sun was not yet visible at the surface, an aircraft at over 45,000 feet would have been illuminated by the sun at the time of the sighting."

LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

GEORGE D. HASTINGS
COLONEL, USAF
Director of Requirements
Deputy for Intelligence, FEAF

1. AF Form 112 Part II (4cys, 3 pages) Report
2. AF Form 112 Part II (4cys, 2 pages) Statements
3. AF Form 112 Part II (4cys, 1 pages) Annex "A"

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w/ 3 and ATISDIA 31 Dec 54

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(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

4th Fighter Interceptor Group Intelligence APO 76	IR-4-54	1 of 3

1. Description of the object:

a. Three (3) of the observers estimated the object to be round in shape. Two (2) of the observers could not determine the shape of the object due to its brightness.

b. Observers estimated the object to be about the size of a pin head held at arm's length.

c. Color of the object resembled the glare of strong sunlight on polished aluminum.

d. One object was sighted.

e. Negative

f. Negative

g. Negative

h. Negative

i. Negative

2. Description of course of object:

a. The initial sighting was made by the Duty Dispatcher of Base Operations, who was outside the building at the time. He first noticed the object due to its brightness and definite movement. He immediately called its attention to members of the Base Weather Station, who are located in the same building. The weather personel observed the object and then phoned the Control Tower.

b. The object was at approximately a 50 degree angle of elevation and at 175 degrees azimuth to the observers, when first observed.

c. The object was at approximately a 50 degree angle of elevation and at 180 degrees azimuth to the observers upon disappearance.

d. The object moved in a westerly direction from an azimuth of approximately 175 degrees, to one of 180 degrees, with no apparent change in elevation.

e. The object was obscured by clouds which were at 12,000 feet, seven-tenths broken.

f. The object was observed for approximately eleven (11) to thirteen (13) minutes.

3. Manner of observation:

a. Object was observed by ground-visual means.

b. Both control tower operators observed the object at 0557I through hand-held 7 X 50 power binoculars. Through these they observed the object to be about the size of a pea held at arm's length. They described the object as being much brighter than a star, resembling the glare of strong sunlight on polished aluminum. They last observed the object disappearing behind

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clouds at approximately 0608I.

c. Not-applicable

4. Time and date of sighting:

a. The object was observed from:
2055Z-2108Z 18 September 1954
0555I-0608I 19 September 1954

b. Object was observed at dawn. Sunrise was at 0618I on the 19 September 1954.

5. Location of observers:

a. The observers were at K-14, Kimpo Air Force Base (Kimpo, Korea), located at CS 0150 (UMT Grid). All the observers were on duty during the sighting.

6. Identifying information of all observers:

a. Not-applicable

b. 1. James E Sheldon M/Sgt 30 Weather Sqd. Det. #23 Forecaster B-6
2. Alcest J Schexnayder A/1c 1993 AACS Sqd. Tower Controller B-6
3. Ellsworth G Johnson A/2c 1993 AACS Sqd. Tower Controller B-6
4. Winston F Perry A3c Hq Sqd. 4th Air Base Gp. Duty Dispatcher B-6
5. Frederick J McNeill A/3c 30 Weather Sqd. Det. #23 Observer B-6

7. Weather and winds aloft conditions at time and place of sighting:

a. The observers reported that the clouds were 12,000 feet, scattered, seven-tenths cloud coverage.

b. The weather report from K-14 weather station is as follows:

(1) Surface: Calm
(2) 6,000 feet: 250 degrees at 6 Knots
(3) 10,000 feet :280 degrees at 13 Knots
(4) 16,000 feet: 280 degrees at 28 Knots
(5) 20,000 feet: 260 degrees at 48 Knots
(6) 30,000 feet: 270 degrees at 70 Knots
(7) 40,000 feet: 270 degrees at 105 Knots
(8) 45,000 feet: 270 degrees at 95 Knots
(9) 50,000 feet: Negative
(10) 80,000 Feet: Negative

The Weather Station at K-14 released a weather balloon at 0600I, 19 Sept 1954 (See Annex A).

c. Ceiling: 12,000 feet

d. Visibility: 8 miles

e. Amount of cloud coverage: Seven-tenths broken at 12,000 feet.

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f. Thunderstorms in area: Negative

8. Negative

9. Negative

10. Negative

11. Negative

12. The preliminary analysis of this office reveals that there is apparently no explanation to this sighting. The fact that a weather balloon was released during the time of sighting has no apparent bearing on the sighting since the balloon was never plotted in a southerly direction where the object was observed. The object was travelling on a westerly heading against the west wind at the time. These reasons seem to eliminate the assumption that the object was the weather balloon released by the K-14 weather station. The local radar station had no plots in the K-14 area during the time the object was sighted.

ANTHONY P. INGRAO
2nd Lt. USAF
Intelligence Officer

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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On the 19 September 1954, at about 0555L, as I was standing outside of the weather station, I noticed for the first time this bright object, similar to the glare of bright sunlight off polished aluminum. It was moving from about 175 degrees of azimuth westward to approximately 180 degrees azimuth. As it was very high, I could not make out a definite shape. I called a weather observer and he also saw the object. He then called the forecaster, Sgt. Sheldon. The control tower and combat operations were notified. Around 0608L clouds moved under the object, obscuring it. At the time the object disappeared, it was on a southerly direction from me at about 180 degrees azimuth. The object looked to me about the size of a pinhead with a bright light on it.

WINSTON F PERRY
A/3c USAF
Duty Dispatcher

On the morning of 19 September at 0555L, while taking a weather observation, a bright object was called to my attention by A/3c Perry. After watching for a few minutes, I called M/Sgt Sheldon to view the object, who proceeded to call the control tower. The object was slightly east of due south when we first saw it and moved east to west until approximately due south of the weather station. I left the weather station at 0608L to wake up my relief and when I arrived back at the station, the clouds had covered the past position of the object. The object was a little larger than a star and much brighter. It appeared to me like a reflection of the sun off of some bright-shiny object.

FREDERICK J McNEILL
A/3c USAF
Observer

On the morning of 19 September at approximately 0557L I was called to the door, on the south side of the weather station, by A/3c's Perry and McNeill and what appeared to be a very bright star was pointed out to me, but I was quite positive it couldn't be a star as it was moving from east to west, so I called the control tower operator and asked him to see what he could make of it through his field glasses. The three of us continued to watch the object until it disappeared behind a cloud deck that moved in under it at about 0608L. The object appeared to be very bright and about the size of a star. At times it appeared to be flickering as sunlight does on a mirror, as the mirror is tilted at various angles.

JAMES E SHELDON
M/Sgt USAF
Forecaster

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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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(6)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency): 4th Fighter Interceptor Group Intelligence APO 76	REPORT NO.: IIR-4-54	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

At approximately 0557I, 19 September 1954 (2057Z, 18 September 1954), Base Weather telephoned the tower and asked me to look toward the south and see if I could see a white light that resembled a star. I could see the object, so they asked me to look at it through the binoculars. I looked at the object through the binoculars and told them that it didn't look like a star to me, because it was much brighter and appeared to be moving in a westerly direction. Weather said that it also appeared to them to be moving. I asked them if it could be a weather balloon. They said that it couldn't be a balloon, because it was moving in the wrong direction. I then called Combat Operations and gave them the above information. I continued to look through the binoculars until the object disappeared above clouds at about 0608I. I would estimate that the object was at about 175 azimuth degrees from the tower. It appeared to be at a very high altitude and at about 50 degrees elevation. Through the binoculars no streamers, tail, or specific structure could be seen, only a bright, white light, similar to bright sunlight reflected by an aluminum surface. With the binoculars the object appeared to be about the size of a pin-head.

ALCEST J. SCHEXNAYDER
A/1c USAF
Tower Controller

At 0557I, 19 September 1954, the control tower received a telephone call from the Base Weather Section, stating that weather personnel had under observation a bright object in the sky to the south. Airman Schexnayder then went to the window with binoculars (7x50 power) and observed the object. He then pointed out the object to me and handed me the binoculars. I observed the object through the binoculars. The object was very bright—too bright to make out any specifice shape or dimensions or to estimate its altitude. I then went out of the tower and lined up my eye with the edge of the roof and the bright object. I kept this position for a minute and a half, during which the object appeared to be standing still. During this period clouds were moving rapidly from the west, giving the object an apparent motion with relation to the clouds. I then went back into the tower for a couple of minutes, and then went out and again visually lined up the roof edge with the object. The object appeared to have moved, but only slightly. The sky was clouding up very rapidly, and at 0608I the object was obscured by clouds at about 160 degrees azimuth.

ELLSWORTH G. JOHNSON
A/2c USAF
Tower Controller

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency): 4th Fighter Interceptor Group Intelligence APO 76	REPORT NO.: IR-4-54 Annex "A"	PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

The weather station at K-14 reports that a weather balloon was released at approximately 0600I, on 19 September 1954, which was during the time the object was observed. The weather balloon was at no time, during the sighting of the object, at a southerly position. The balloon was white in color and had no lights. The weather station reports the following plots of the balloon. (Figures are given for the first 15 minutes of balloon's flight):

Time (Item)	Elevation	Azimuth	Horizontal Distance (Yards)	Wind Direction	Wind Velocity
0600		RELEASED			
01	59.5°	262.9°	210	110°	7kts
02	61.2	293.3	410	140	8
03	63[illegible]	305.8	580	150	6
04	63.4	312.4	760	190	5
05	68.[illegible]	325.3	760	250	6
06	72.8	338.0	720	260	8
07	76.0	02.9	670	270	10
08	76.[illegible]	27.0	740	280	13
09	74.4	53.0	970	280	17
10	69.8	67.7	1440	280	21
11	65.2	77.8	2070	280	25
12	59.4	83.2	2820	280	26
13	56.[illegible]	83.9	3550	280	32
14	48.1	83.5	5200	270	58
15	42.3	85.7	6930	260	60

[illegible] AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
[illegible] AFTER 12 YEARS
[illegible]

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SEPTEMBER 1954 SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
1.	Pasco, Washington	Indered	Balloon
2	Machiato, Okinawa (CASE MISSING)	Military & Civilian	Balloon
2	Mineral Wells, Texas	Kruse	A/C
4	Butler, Missouri	Paltemier	UNIDENTIFIED
5	Rockford, Illinois (CRIFO Newsletter, 1 Oct 54)(INFO) Bartkus & McColm		
5	Butler, Missouri	Paltemier	UNIDENTIFIED
5	Hillcrest Heights, Maryland	Military	Insufficient Data
5	Palm Springs, California	Pilots	Insufficient Data
6	Washington, D. C.	Rowell	Astro (METEOR)
7	France	Unknown Civilian	Insufficient Data
7	France	Unknown Civilian	Insufficient Data
7	Las Vegas, Nevada	Military	Astro (METEOR)
11	Seoul, Korea	Military	Balloon
12	Kinston, North Carolina	Newborn	Astro (METEOR)
12	Cape May, New Jersey	Unknown Civilian	A/C
14	Finland	Unknown	Astro (METEORITE)
14	Italy	Unknown Civilian	Insufficient Data
17	Hamlet, Indiana	Jensen (PHOTOS)	Other (FOWL)
17	N. Rome Ciampino, Italy	Military	Balloon
17	Clarksdale, Arizona	Military	Insufficient Data
18	Kimpo AB, Korea	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
18	New Baden, Illinois	Fortune	Insufficient Data
18	Oklahoma	Military	Astro (METEOR)
19	Montgomery, Alabama	Taruman	Balloon
19	Beaumont, Texas	Unknown Civilian	Balloon
19	Atlanta, Georgia	Pinson	Astro (STAR/PLANET)
20	Ionia, Michigan	Burgeon & McLaughlin	Insufficient Data
20	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Sturd	Astro (CAPELLA)
20	Neah Bay, Washington	Abbott & Sample	Astro (STAR/PLANET)
21	Barstow, California	Multi Civilian	UNIDENTIFIED
21	Winslow, Arizona	American Air Lines	Insufficient Data
21	Santa Maria Airport, Azores	Multi Civilian	UNIDENTIFIED
21	Houston, Texas	Boyd	1. Insufficient Data 2. A/C
21	Venice, California	Lesser	Astro (VENUS)
22	Marshfield, Missouri	Williams & Ash	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Gatlinburg, Tennessee	Trainer & Owenby	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Baltimore, Maryland	Military & Civilian	Astro (MARS)
23	West Riverside, California	Breece	Insufficient Data
24	Neosho, Missouri	Kelly	Insufficient Data
25	Biloxi, Mississippi	Illing	A/C
26	Butler, Missouri	Paltemier	Other (BIRDS)
26	Beaumont, Texas	Military	A/C
26	Altoona, Pennsylvania	Picurie	Insufficient Data
27	Loudonville, Ohio	Solomon	A/C
27	Lafayette, Louisiana	Military & Civilian	Astro (METEOR)
27	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Military	Insufficient Data
27	Kensington, Maryland	Lewis	Astro (MARS)
30	Temple Hills, Maryland	Ball	Insufficient Data
30	Lyon, France (Christian Science Monitor)(INFO) Reuters		

Sep 54