PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 30 Set 61	**2. LOCATION** Indian Springs & Las Vegas, Nevada	**12. CONCLUSIONS** ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 301714Z	**4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION** 2. ☒ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	**6. SOURCE** Civilian and Military 1.	☐ Was Astronomical VENUS ☐ Probably Astronomical ☒ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION ½ Hrs	**8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS** 1 then 4	**9. COURSE**
		☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Elevations and azimuths of planet Venus at times of sightings from Indian Spring AFB and Nellis AFB are coincident with those reported for UFO. Planet was of magnitude -3.4 and its appearance in a theodolite would have been as described by witnesses. Since it was reported that witness came across planet while tracking a weather balloon it is safe to assume balloon was at an az close to that reported for objt. Objt observed by radar was in SE and was probably weather balloon.

There is no evidence available which would indicate that objt seen visually and objt observed on radar were not Venus and a weather balloon.

11. COMMENTS

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

H. NONE

I. NONE. 865TH AC&W OPERATIONS OFFICER ADVISED ALTITUDE OF OBJECTS, COMPUTED VIA TRIANGULATION, APPROXIMATELY 98 STATUTE MILES, WITH OBJECTS 45 STATUTE MILES SOUTHEAST OF NELLIS AFB AT TIME OF INITIAL SIGHTING.

J. USWB AND FAA, MCCARRAN AIRPORT, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, ADVISE NO UNUSUAL METEOROLOGICAL ACTIVITY, BALLOON RELEASES, AND NO NOTAMS ON FILE CANNBE ATTRIBUTED TO THE SIGHTING.

K. ANTHONY J. BUSALACCHI, MAJOR, USAF, DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, 452ND CCRTNGWG, NELLISHAFB, NEVADA. NO ANALYSIS POSSIBLE VIA AVAILABLE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO SIGHTINGS.

L. NEGATIVE. UNKNOWN IF 865TH AC&W SQUADRON OBTAINED SCOPE PHOTOSENG

BT

3/2205Z SEPTHRJWZNJ

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PEAK (MT CHARLESTON NW OF LAS VEGAS)

!. (1) N/A

(2) DET 31, 25TH WEA SQDN, NELLIS AFB, NEV

G. (1) CLEAR, VISIBILITY UNLIMITED

(2) WINDS: SURFACE - CALM; 6,000FT, 10DEGREES/4 KNOTS: 10,000FT, 320/13; 15,000FT, 250/14; 20,000FT, 280/13; 30,000FT, 310/19; 50,000FT, 280/52; 60,000FT, 290/15. WINDS ARE FROM USWB, MCCARRAN AIRPORT, LAS VEGAS, FROM 1100Z BALLOON REPORT (0400 LOCAL. NO HIGHER WINDS.

(3) CEILING CLEAR

(4) VISIBILITY 35 MILES

(5) CLOUD COVER - NONE

(6) THUNDERSTORMS-NONE

(7) TEMPERATURE (NAFB) 80 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT AT 0830 LOCAL, 1530Z, 30 SEP 61.

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(B) (1) WEATHER OBSERVER, INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NEVADA PICKED UP OBJECTS ONA THEODOLITE DURING OBSERVATIONS.

(2) AZIMUTH 133.4, ELEVATION 55.0, FROM INDIAN SPRINGS AFB.

(3) LAST THEODOLITE OBSERVATION FROM DETACHMENT 31, 25TH WEATHER SQUADRON, NELLIS AFB NEVADA AT 1630Z, 30 SEP 61, AZIMUTH 166.0, ELEVATION 53.0.

(4) SE, HEADING APPROX 145 DEGREES (FROM NELLIS AFB).

(5) STILL PAINTED BY 865TH AC&W SQUADRON, LAS VEGAS AF STATION, AT REPORTING TIME, PASSED TO PHOENIX AC&W AT TIMEHOF REPORT.

(6) FIRST OBSERVED 0830 LOCAL (1530Z, 30 SEP 61) BY AN INDIAN SPRINGS AFB WEATHER OBSERVER. VISIBLE ONE HOUR AT REPORT TIME. ONLY ONE OBJECT VISIBLE ON THE ODOLITES AT BOTH ISAFB AND NAFB.K

C. (1) (A) THEODOLITE (ISAFB AND NELLIS AFB)

(B) GCI RADAR, 865TH AC& W SQUADRON, MT CHARLESTON, NEV

(2) NONE

(3) N/A

D. (1) 301530Z SEP 61

(2) DAY

E. INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NELLIS AFB, AND 865TH AC&W SQ, ANGELS

NNNN

1961 SEP 30 22 58

RA147

CZCSQE432ZCSRA033

PP RJEDSQ

ZNR ZOV RJEDSR

SRC246ZCQYD759

PP RJEDSR

DE RJWZNJ 36

ZNR

P M 302200Z ZEX

FM 4520TH CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEV

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLORADO

RJWZSB/28TH AIRDIV HAMILTON AFB CALIF

RJEDSR/ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFIS

INFO RJWZHAP/865TH AC2W SQUADRON LAS VEGAS AF STATION

BT

UNCLAS OI 09-0550

HQ USAF FOR AFCIN. UFO. AFR 200-2FORMAT.

A. (1) ROUND APPEARANCE

(2) HEAD OF A PIN

(3) WHITE OR METALLIC

(4) FOUR TO FIVE

(5) BROKEN

(6) NO

(7) NONE VISIBLE

(8) NONE

(9) NEGATIVE

TELEPHONED
TO
NO. 1552
TIME
Date
By:

1 E (UFO)
3
4 - x2
5

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

03/2152Z

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION / INFO ROUTINE	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF	~~OI 09-0660~~	~~UNCL~~

FROM:

~~FTD WPAFB O~~

TO:

NELLIS AFB NEV RJWZNJ

3-10-33

UNCLASSIFIED TD-E

4520th CCRTNGWG/YOUR UNCL MSG OI 09-0660 DTD 30 SEP 61. THE INFO REPORTED IS LIMITED IN NATURE. THEREFORE REQUEST A FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION BE MADE. IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PERTINENT INFO, THE WITNESSES AT EACH OF THE SIGHTING POSITIONS SHOULD REPORT THE INFO REQUESTED IN PAR 15A THRU 15D, AFR 200-2 DTD 14 SEP 59.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

03/1923Z

DATE | TIME 1423

MONTH OCT | YEAR 1961

Hold Copy 3 Oct 61

WRITER

SYMBOL

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required) TD-2

Major Robert J. Friend

PHONE | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 1

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASER

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

EDWARD H. WYNN
Colonel, USAF
Dep for Science & Components

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

CZCSQK148ZCQYD527

RR RJEDSQ

ZNR ZDK

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJWZNJ 17

ZNR

P 062258Z

FM 4520TH CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEVADA

TO WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

BT

UNCLAS/OI 10-3612. FOR RTD. UFO. REFERENCE OUR OI 09-3650 AND YOUR TD-E-3-10-33, 3 OCT 61. FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION REVEALS FOLLOWING. AFR 200-2 FORMAT.

15A(1) ROUND

(2) ONE-EIGHTH INCH (THRU 6X POWER THEODOLITE)

FTD

1961 OCT 6 13 46

E (UFO)

1 4 3 7

4 x 2A

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G(1) CLEAR, SUNNY

(2) SEE OUR Ø9-Ø66Ø-3Ø SEP 61

(3) NONE

(4) 35 PLUS MILES

(5) NO CLOUDS

(6) NONE

(7) 78 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

H, I, J, K AND L: SEE OUR OI Ø9-Ø66Ø

ABOVE INFORMATION FROM COMMANDER, DETACHMENT 31, 25TH WEATHER SQUADRON, NAFB, NEVADA. ELECTRONIC TRACKING REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED DIRECT BY THE 865TH AC&W SQUADRON, LAS VEGAS AIR FORCE STATION. 865TH AC&W SQUADRON EARLIER ADVISED UFO WAS APPROXIMATELY 45 STATUTE MILES SE OF NELLIS AFB AT APPROXIMATELY 17ØØZ, 39 SEP, TRAVELING THROUGHOUT SIGHTING AT APPROXIMATELY 6 KNOTS. ADDED ITEM FOR INFORMATION: THE LAS VEGAS NEVADA REVIEW JOURNAL NEWSPAPER RAN A FRONT PAGE ASSOCIATED PRESS ITEM ON 3 OCT 61 REGARDING A DISC-SHAPED UFO SIGHTING SOUTH OF SALT LAKE CITY ON MONDAY, 2 OCT 61, SEEN BY AIRBORNE PILOT [redacted] A SALT LAKE CITY INSURANCE MAN, ALONG WITH SEVEN GROUND OBSERVERS IN THAT AREA.

BT

05/2352Z OCT RJWZNJ

(3) WHITE (METALLIC, SILVER SHINE)

(4) STARTED AS ONE (FOUR CAME FROM IT- TRAVELING VERY FAST).

(5) NO FORMATION

(6) EVEN TEXTURE

(7) NONE

(8) NONE

(9) FOUR SMALLER OBJECTS CAME FROM LARGER OBJECT.

B(1) WEATHER OBSERVER FOLLOWING PIBAL AND CAME INTO FIELD OF VIEW.

(2) 182/2 AZIMUTH, 62.8 ELEVATION FROM INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NEVADA RANGE III AT 30/0914 PST. SPOTTED 10 MINUTES EARLIER. FINISHED PIBAL RUN THEN WATCHED UFO.

(3) 180.2 AZIMUTH, 63.4 ELEVATION, 30/0954 PST SEP 61.

(4) STRAIGHT LINE FLIGHT PATH

(5) FOLLOWED UNTIL 1000 HOURS PST PIBAL RUN REQUIRED DIVERSION. OBJECT STILL VISIBLE ON THEODOLITE.

(6) SEE A(5) ABOVE.

C(1) GROUND VISUAL

(2) 2X POWER WEATHER THEODOLITE

(3) N/A

D(1) 30/1714Z SEP 61

(2) DAY

E. 36 DEGREES 35 MINUTES NORTH: 115 DEGREES, 41 MINUTES WEST.

F(1) N/A

(2) A/3C DEANE '. MILLINGTON, AF 19638720 AND A/3C BOBBY L. SETLIFF

60CT61 13 28Z

37E (UFO)
37
4 X2A

Arrival

FM [illegible] LAS VEGAS AF [illegible] NEV

TO RUDDC [illegible] WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

INFO RUHZNJ/4523CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEV

BT

UNCLAS [illegible] 55BOP 1022. UFO

FOR ATIC. REF ATIC MSGG TY-E-S-12-SS. AFR 200-2 FORMAT

A. (1) RADAR BLIP

(2) UNKNOWN

(3) [illegible]

(4) [illegible]

(5) [illegible]

(6) [illegible]

(7) [illegible]

(8) [illegible]

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(9) [illegible]

B. (1) REPORT FROM NELLIS AFB NEVADA

(2) AZIMUTH 105 DEGREES NO ELEVATION

(4) ST HEADING APPRO[illegible] 210 DEGREES

(5) FADED OUT TO THE SOUTH

(6) 45 MIN

C. (1) GROUND ELECTRONIC AP[illegible]D VISION

(2) NONE

(3) NO

D. (1) 2[illegible]45 LOCAL (16452)

(2) DAY

E. 36 19,27, ,N 115 34,30,,W

F (1) NO

(2) JOHN H. SCHILLING JR, ACC, 765 RADAR SQ., OPERATIONS RELIABLE.

G. NONE

H. NONE

I. NONE

J. UNKOWN

PAGE THREE RJWZHAP 7D

K. EARLE M. DENEAU, CAPTAIN, USAF, OPERATIONS OFFICER, 765 RADAR SQ., LAS VEGAS AFS, NEVADA. PREVIOUS STATED ALTITUDE AS REPORTED FROM THIS STATION IS FALSE SINCE SEARCH GEAR CANNOT SEARCH ABOVE 100,000 FT. MSL.

L. NEGATIVE SCOPE CAMERA FILM AVAILABLE AT TIME OF SIGHTING

ET

25 [illegible]0202Z OCT RJWZHP

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

Location INDIAN SPRINGS, LAS VEGAS NEVADA AREA

Date (Local) 30 SEPT. 1961 Hour (Local)

Hour (Z Time Group) 30/1717Z SEPT 61

Satellite: ———

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) POSSIBLY VENUS.

Radar Analysis (TD-E1) POSSIBLY WX BALLOON

Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc) ———

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc PESS BALLOON (RADAR)

Other

CIVILIAN GROUND VISUAL (2 EA THEODOLITE) 1 AF AFLS

Evaluation of Source Reliability

Analysis and Conclusions:

RPTD WHITE METALLIC LOOKING OBJECT WITH SILVER SHINE. APPEARING AS ONE OBJECT BREAKING INTO 4. OBSERVATION BY WEATHER OBSERVER FOLLOWING PIBAL. SPOTTED AT 0904. STILL VISIBLE AT 1000 160° AZ 62° ELEV → 150 AZ 63 ELEV. SPEED 6 KNOTS. PICKED ON RADAR AT 3E NELLIS AFB. ON SCOPE FOR 45 MIN ON AZ SCOPE ONLY

THE ELEVATIONS AND AZIMUTHS OF THE PLANET VENUS AT THE TIMES OF THE SIGHTINGS FROM INDIAN SPRINGS AFB AND NELLIS AFB ARE CONCIDENT WITH THOSE REPORTED FOR THE UFO. THE PLANET WAS OF [redacted] MAGNITUDE −3.4 AND ITS APPEARANCE IN A THEODOLITE WOULD HAVE BEEN AS DESCRIBED BY THE WITNESSES. SINCE IT

WAS REPORTED [illegible] ACROSS THE PLANET WHILE TRACKING A WX BALLOON IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME THE BALLOON WAS AT AN AZIMUTH CLOSE TO THAT REPORTED FOR THE OBJECT. THE OBJECT OBSERVED BY THE RADAR WAS IN THE SE AND WAS PROBABLY THE WX BALLOON.

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE AVAILABLE WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT THE OBJECT SEEN VISUALLY AND THE OBJECT OBSERVED ON RADAR WERE NOT VENUS AND A WX BALLOON.

Friend.