

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 15 JUL 52	2. LOCATION LAS VEGAS NEV	3. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Sighted ☐ Possibly Sighted ☒ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
4. TIME OF OBSERVATION 15/0345 PST	5. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	6. SOURCE 3 civilians
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 60 sec	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 2	9. COURSE W
10. LOCATION OF SIGHTING	11. COMMENTS	

Two lens-shaped objects pursued a smooth rapid glide toward the west over Las Vegas. Source has considerable experience as weather observer and radio technician at various air installations.

1. Nellis AFB Las Vegas reported no a/c in area at time.

PAGE TWO JWPRH 2302

FEET 280 DEGREES THIRTEEN KNOTS CMA TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND FEET 260
DEGREES THIRTY KNOTS PD NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OBTAINED PD LAS VEGAS
INSAC REPORTS NO AIR TRAFFIC UNDER THEIR CONTROL IN THAT VICINITY
AT THAT TIME PD NELLIS AFB LAS VEGAS NEVADA HAD SEVERAL FLIGHTS OF JET
AIRCRAFT ON LOCAL TRAINING MISSIONS IN THE AIR AT THAT TIME END
GRIFFING CO MARCH FLT SV CEN MARCH AFB CALIF

15/2028Z JUL JWPRH

DOWNLOADED AFTER 13 YEARS.
DECLASSIFIED
DQC DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

Cy-1

USA-MATS

UNCLASSIFIED

Unidentified Flying Objects Sighted Near Las Vegas, Nevada 15 July

State of Nevada, USA

Flight Service, MATS, 3800 Newark
Street, N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

5 August 1952

15 July 1952

P-2

Gerald E. Tyler, Major, USAF

Civilian observers of Las Vegas, Nevada

Teletype FLYCERPT submitted by March Flight Service Center DMZ 8161

Witnesses statements and drawings included in Part II, this report, refers to
sighting reported on AF Form 112 IR-409-52

Major, USAF
Acting Intelligence Officer

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

IR-505-52

2

4

1. The following statements are forwarded for your information:

a. Statement by [REDACTED], Las Vegas, Nevada.

"About 8:45 A.M., I was sitting at our breakfast table talking with my wife.

[REDACTED], also present in the kitchen adjoining, were my daughter, [REDACTED], age 11, and two employees, [REDACTED], adult, and [REDACTED], age 16.

My wife was seated facing the window, South. Suddenly she cried out, "Flying saucers!"

I made a remark jokingly, in disbelief, and then seeing her intent gaze and apparent sincerity, I jumped up, and with my wife, daughter, and followed by [REDACTED] dashed into the yard at the South side of the house.

At this time, I first sighted two flying objects. Bearing S.W., azimuth 25° above horizon. This by subsequent estimation against large trees, looking from point of observation. Course of the objects apparently Westerly, slight down glide, very smooth and apparently very rapid. I realize that speed could not be judged without knowing distance of object, which could not be estimated.

At this time they were obscured by a large cottonwood S.W. They reappeared, on an apparent perfect projection of their first course.

Course of the objects was apparently a long glide, with no change in forward speed, glide angle and no sudden change of rate or direction. When last sighted, were W.N.W., azimuth less than 15° above horizon apparently on a Northerly course and became obscured by a large cottonwood tree. I do not assume any connection, but it so happens that this tree is in direct line from our house to the point of observed flash for recent A.E.C. test explosions. Distance still unknown, except I would say this side of Charleston Mountains.

From the time of my wife's first exclamation, until the objects disappeared, I would estimate by re-enactment of the events as 30 seconds.

We watched for about one minute afterwards and saw nothing of further interest.

I placed a call to 2205 immediately after and got a busy signal. In about two minutes I tried again and was successful in making a report to the CAA control tower.

My description of the objects would be two discrete lense shaped objects, the leading one above the following one, color identical to that of small dense clouds. Undershadow same as under a cloud. Top, silvery, white same as cloud. No fringe, tails, lights, sound or other manifestations. I will state that at the time I considered first that I might be looking at a gunnery target towed by an aluminum colored jet plane. But this concept was discarded while the objects were still under observation, due one, to the short length and two, to the large angle off the line of flight which a tow rope would have had to make. I have seen gliders pulled off and do not believe even a glider could have made the relative position to its towing plane that was made by these two objects.

I have no idea as to what the nature of the objects could be. Sketches follow:

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

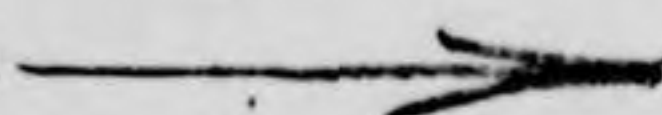
Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

IR-505-52

3

4

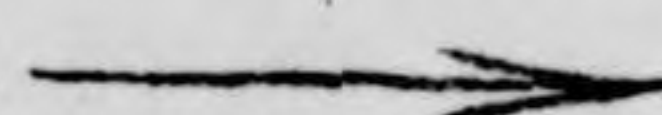
Direction of flight



As Seen South of Us

Color could have been due to frost covered surfaces, or due to surfaces of such a white as would radiate heat practically as a "black object."

Direction of flight



As Seen West of Us
(Difference; more shadow)

As seen in both views, could possibly have been Ram Jet shaped rather than Lense shaped.

Inasfar as possible, the preceding is my independent observation containing no heresay and without results of collaboration with the other observers.

I served 5 years at Airways Stations in the U.S. Weather Bureau, including:

Las Vegas, Nevada '37 to '40, Observer
Beaumont, California '40 - '41 In Charge
Long Beach, California '41 - '42 In Charge
(Daugherty Field)

Also, 5 years following above, in the CAA as Radio Technician at Salt Lake City Airport.

Tonopah Air Base, sector included

Gabbs Valley, Nevada
Conway Summit, California
Bishop, California (Saw gliders in use there)

My vision when last tested, I saw at 30 feet the 20 foot tests.

b. Statement by [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED



[REDACTED]

Flight Service, MATS
3600 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

UNCLASSIFIED
IR-505-52

4

4

I saw two almost transparent looking objects gliding at a high rate of speed. They were flying parallel to each other. I just saw them as they went behind the trees.

c. Statement by [REDACTED]

I saw two round objects, silver or white color. To me they looked like they were in tow. They were going very fast,, in a smooth glide. We waited about one minute then went in.

d. Statement by Mrs. [REDACTED]

At approximately 8:45 in the morning of July 15 I was seated at our breakfast table with several members of our family. Two workmen were in our kitchen which adjoins the room we were in. I was the only one seated facing the south and as I gazed out the window I saw two very small objects glide into view from "behind" the next house chimney. At first they looked like gulls gliding but I realized there were no such things here but it was a first impression as the movement was so smooth. As I did realize they were a foreign object, not like any other aircraft I had seen and definitely not a bird, I pointed, exclaiming "Flying Saucers."

My husband made some chiding remark but I got to my feet and he did also. We dashed out the door, followed by my 11 year old daughter, [REDACTED], an employee aged 16, and [REDACTED], an adult worker who was slow in following as he still was skeptical. They had disappeared behind some tall cottonwoods but immediately upon reappearing I saw them and my husband said he did also, pointing to them. They again disappeared behind more trees and upon reappearing, both my daughter and Logan said they saw them. From the very first instant I spotted them as they appeared to come from behind the neighboring chimney until last sighted they seemed to hold an even, steady, gliding speed and were travelling on a downward angle until last spotted they looked like they would crash into the side of lower Charleston (Spring) Mountains if we could have seen them.

They were, to my sight, gray white and looked as if they might be round, with our view from the edge. They did not appear to be very thick. I am no judge of distance nor speed so I could not say even what I would have estimated either at.

A re-inactment of our motions and words from the time I first spotted them until we saw them disappear was 30 seconds.

There were two of the objects, one slightly behind the other and it appeared to me to be smaller which could have been that it was some distance on the other side of the forward and larger appearing one. They disappeared, within degrees, at the sight that we watch the atomic flash and cloud from Yucca Flats.

The above is my conception of what I saw without collaboration from any one else except for the re-inactment of time it took for the craft to pass.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

USA-MATS

IR-409-52

Unidentified Flying Objects Sighted **UNCLASSIFIED** Las Vegas, Nevada, 15 July 1952.
State of Nevada, USA Flight Service, MATS, 3800 Newark
Street, N.W., Washington 25, D. C.

17 July 1952

15 July 1952

F-2

[REDACTED] Lt Colonel, USAF

[REDACTED] Las Vegas, Nevada

Teletype FLYOBRPT filed by March Flight Service Center (DMZ 8161 of 16 July)

Two unidentified flying objects were sighted over Las Vegas, Nevada, and observed for one minute (until they disappeared). They were white, lens or cigar shaped, and moved "faster than jet aircraft."

Weather was excellent for observation. Qualifications of observers unknown.

[REDACTED]
Lt Colonel, USAF
Intelligence Officer

Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

IR-409-52

2

2

Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Two unidentified flying objects were observed from the ground in Las Vegas, Nevada 15 July 1952. They were first sighted at 1630Z, and observed for one minute by three persons.

2. Objects were white, shaped like a lens or cigar, and made no jet stream or vapor trail. Their altitude was unknown, but their speed was "very fast" ("faster than jet aircraft")

3. When first sighted, the objects were over the city of Las Vegas, moving westward, and they disappeared into the West.

4. Las Vegas weather at 1630Z 15 July was reported:

a. Sky clear, visibility 35 miles, temperature 90 degrees, dew point 47, altimeter setting 29.83, surface winds calm.

b. Winds aloft: 14,000 feet, from 150° at 7 knots
16,000 " " 200° at 3 knots
20,000 " " 280° at 13 knots
25,000 " " 260° at 30 knots

5. Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada, reported several flights of jet aircraft, on local training missions, in the air at the time of the sighting. Las Vegas Interstate Airways Communications Station (INSAC) reported no aircraft under Air Traffic Control in the general area at the time of sighting.

6. Reporting observer [REDACTED] Third Street, Las Vegas, Nevada, who submitted the information to Las Vegas INSAC via telephone.

7. FLXOBRPT was submitted via teletype by March Flight Service Center (Message DMZ 8161 of 16 July).

8. No physical evidence of the object sighted has been reported. No interception or identification action was reported.

Comments of Preparing Officer:

1. Citizens of Las Vegas, Nevada, should be familiar with the appearance of jet type aircraft, due to the pilot training program at Nellis Air Force Base. However, appearance of aircraft at altitude differs greatly from appearance in air traffic pattern during landing or takeoff. At a speed of 600 miles per hour, an aircraft would move only ten miles from overhead in one minute, or to a position less than 12 miles from the observer, if at an altitude of 30,000 feet or less.

2. It is impossible to ascertain the positions of the jet type aircraft reported by Nellis Air Force Base at the time of the sighting, as they did not file route or plan of flight, and could have been anywhere in the local flying area. (Approximately within 100 miles of Las Vegas)

3. Information probably was transmitted through Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center (CAA), to March Flight Service Center, by Las Vegas INSAC (via CAA Service "F" interphone).

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

16 JUL 52 10.11

1952 JUL 15 04 42

1952 JUL 15 07:26
1
110

ACTION

1. ATIAA
2. ATIA
3. Cont Files

RE066
WPH068
TYE071
TTB031
JPHQ 0223
RR JEDWP
DE JEPHQ 345A
R 152052Z
FM HQ USAF WASHDC

TO ATIC WRIGHT PAT AFB OHIO
FROM CLN AFOIN 38221 ATTN CLN ATIAA-2C FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM
OLMSTED AFB MIDDLE TOWN PA. CIRVIS OVER LAS VEGAS NEVADA 2
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS HEADED WEST NORTH WEST ALTITUDE
UNDETERMINED CMA COLOR WHITE CMA LENS OR CIGAR SHAPED CMA
STEADY FLIGHT CMA VERY FAST CMA FASTER THAN JET AIRCRAFT CMA
NO JET STREAM OR VAPOR TRAIL CMA OBSERVED FOR ABOUT 1 MINUTE BY
THREE PERSONS LAS VEGAS. WEATHER CLEAR VISIBILITY 35 CMA WIND
CALM CMA TIME 151630Z. ABOVE REPORTED TO LAS VEGAS
15/2150Z JUL JEPHQ

Ag-1

RE179

WPA272

YDD106

NYA247

XDA188

JWPRH A125

PP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN 333

DE JWPRH 2302

P 152000Z ZNJ

FM CO MARCH FLT SV CEN MARCH AFB CALIF

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTELL HQ USAF WASHDC

JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELL CEN WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLO

JEPHQ/COMDR MATS WASHDC

JEPHQ/COMDR FLT SV WASHDC

[REDACTED] DMZ 8161 PD FOR ATIAA-2C. FOR INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

PD FLYOBRPT PD TWO UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS CMA COLOR WHITE LENS

OR CIGAR SHAPED) CMA NO JET STREAM OR VAPOR TRAIL CMA SIGHTED OVER

LAS VEGAS NEVADA FOR ONE MINUTE BY THREE PERSONS AT 1630 ZEBRA 15

JUL 52 ALTITUDE UNKNOWN CMA SPEED VERY FAST FASTER THAN JET AIRCRAFT

PD ABOVE REPORTED TO LAS VEGAS INSAC BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STREET LAS VEGAS NEVADA PD WEATHER CLEAR VISIBILITY 35 MILES

TEMPERATURE 90 DEGREES DEW POINT 47 ALTIMETER 2933 PD WINDS ALOFT

OVER LAS VEGAS NEVADA FOURTEEN THOUSAND FEET 150 DEGREES SEVEN KNOTS

CMA SIXTEEN THOUSAND FEET 200 DEGREES THREE KNOTS CMA TWENTY THOUSAND

UNCLASSIFIED

1952 JUL 15

22 15

1952 JUL 15

17:37

ACTION

1. ATIAA
2. ATIAA
3. Cont. JEPHQ