

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 5 June 1956		2. LOCATION Birmingham, Alabama		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 05/1437Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20-30 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE South	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One round circular & flat object approximately 40-50 feet in diameter, 6-8 ft thick. Color aluminum or silver, no unusual maneuvers. Disappeared climbing to South.				11. COMMENTS Probable balloon sighting.	

WPA270 YDB 197 VYD185 VMCO2SYQA122

MM RJEDEN RJEDWP RJEPHQ RJESDB

DE RJESYQ 70

M 062203Z

FM COMDR 3800 AB WG MAXWELL AFB ALA

TO RJEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLOSPGS COLO

RJESDB/COMDR 35TH AIRDIV DOBEINS AFB GA

RJEDWP/COMDR AT INTEL CEN WPAT AFB OHIO

RJEPHQ/DIR OF INTELL HQ USAF WASHDC

BT

10-7. UFOE INFO SUBMITTED IN ACCORD WITH AFR 200-2. 1. (A) CIRCULAR
AND FLAT. (B) APRX 40 TO 50 FT IN DIAMETER AND 6 TO 8 FT THICK.
(C) ALUMINUM OR SILVER. (D) ONE. (E) NOT APPL. (F) NONE. (G) NONE.
(H) NONE. (I) NONE. 2. (A) OBJECT WAS TRAVELING DIRECTLY TOWARD
OBSERVERS AT AN ALT APRX 3,000 FT. (B) BELOW AND NORTH OF OBSERVERS.
(C) CLIMBING. (D) OBJECT TRAVELLED IN SOUTHERLY DIRECTION
TOWARD ACFT OF OBSERVERS NO UNUSUAL MANEUVERS. (E) OBJECT VEERED
WEST OF OBSERVERS AND DISAPPEARED CLIMBING TO THE SOUTH. (F) 20
TO 30 SECONDS. 3. (A) AIR TO AIR. (B) NONE. (C) E-25 44-31470, 6,000
FT, NORTH, 195, MAXWELL AFB, ALA. 4. (A) 051437Z. (B) DAY. 5. DIRECTLY
OVER MUNICIPAL APRT, BIRMINGHAM, ALA. 6. (A) NONE.

05/1437Z

III

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-7 JUN 1956 07 32

1) 4E4
2) 4E4
3) 4E4
4) 4X2a
JC

PAGE TWO RJESYQ 70

(B) MAJOR [REDACTED] AC & SC, MAXWELL AFB, ALA.

MAJOR [REDACTED] AC & SC, MAXWELL AFB, ALA.

RELIABLE. 7. (A) FAIR. (B) NONE. (C) UNLIMITED. (D) APRX 10 MILES.

(E) NONE. (F) NONE. 8. NONE. 9. NONE. 10. NONE. 11. WG OPERATIONS

OFF NO COMMENTS. 12. NONE.

BT

Z6/2217Z JUN RJESYQ

66893

UFOB INDEX CARD

AISS-UFOB-114-56

1. DATE 5 June 1956		2. LOCATION Birmingham, Alabama		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 05/1437Z June 1956		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE AP Pilots			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Thirty (30) Seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One (1)		9. COURSE Ascending	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One (1) circular and flat object approximately 40 to 50 feet in diameter and 6 to 8 feet thick, silver (or aluminum in color, traveling directly towards the observers' aircraft at 3,000 feet. The object was below and north of the a/c traveling south and ascending.		11. COMMENTS A TT Msg was sent to the originator of the message requesting that all balloon releases in the area of the sighting be checked out and this headquarters informed of results.			

15 January 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR UFO FILES

SUBJECT: Late Receipt of UFO Reports

1. This is one of six (6) UFO reports submitted under one cover letter by the 4602d AIBS, who received them from the OSI. Reference "4602d AIBS File," letter dated 26 December 1956, subject: "OSI UFOB Reports."
2. Received by AFIC on 3 January 1957.
3. Reports range from almost two years (February 1954) for the oldest, to over 7 months for the newest (August 1956). It appears that the OSI had "pigeonholed" the reports for some unknown reason before submitting them to the 4602d AIBS.
4. The very late date of receipt makes investigations or conclusive analysis difficult, if not impossible. A preliminary evaluation made of each and entered in UFO files.

George T. Gregory
GEORGE T. GREGORY
Captain USAF

UFO Rpt from OSI, dtd 30 July 56

UNCL

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr fr 14th Dist OSI (IG) USAF file 24-0 subj: Sighting of Unidentified Flying Object over Birmingham, 5Jun56 to Cmdr ADC:

"b. Course of Object

At the time the object was sighted, Major Zimmerman was flying practice instruments under the hood and Major Oelker was acting as Safety Pilot. The heading of their aircraft was to the north at 6000 feet and the location was directly over Birmingham, Alabama airport. Major Oelker first noted the object coming directly toward his aircraft at an altitude of approximately 3000 feet. He observed the object some 20 to 30 seconds during which time it climbed approximately 2000 feet and when it passed his aircraft it was, in his estimation, approximately 2000 feet west of his position. At this time Major Oelker banked his aircraft very sharply in an attempt to follow the object, at the same time calling the matter to the attention of Major Zimmerman. Major Zimmerman claims to have seen the object for approximately 4 or 5 seconds. The object, according to both officers, continued to climb in a southerly direction and disappeared from sight.

"c. Weather Conditions

Both officers described the weather as CAVU with the visibility of approximately 10 miles. Since they were on a local clearance, they had no knowledge of a thunderstorm or other electrical activities in the area.

"d. Unusual Characteristics

The object was described as spinning at all times it was under observation and although the officers were in a B-25 aircraft at cruising speed, they did not feel qualified to estimate the speed of the object. However, it is noted the object readily pulled away from their view.

"Although Major Oelker claims to have had a camera in his possession at the time of the sighting, he stated that since he first thought the object was an aircraft, no attempt was made by him to take a picture thereof.

"Both officers complete their course of instruction at Maxwell AFB on 14 June 1956, at which time they will be reassigned as follows:

"Major Oelker: James Connally AFB, Waco, Texas.
Major Zimmerman: Headquarters, Air Weather Service,
Andrews AFB, Maryland."

2. The above information has been previously furnished to the Commander, 3800th Air Base Wing, Maxwell AFB, Alabama by District Office Nr. 8, OSI.

3. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL pursuant to authority contained in par 30c(2)(a) AFR 205-1.

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

Heston C. Cole
HESTON C. COLE
Lt Colonel USAF
District Commander

UNCLASSIFIED

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756-30388-1

[REDACTED]
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
14TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE, DENVER, COLORADO

14D 24-0

SUBJECT: (UNCLASSIFIED)
Sighting of Unidentified Flying
Object over Birmingham, Alabama, 5 Jun 56

SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commander
Air Defense Command
Ent AFB
Colorado Springs Colorado

1. The following is for your information and any action warranted:

"On 5 June 1956, Major Robert L. Oelker, AO 829539, and Major Arnold E. Zimmerman, 12385A, both students, Wing 4, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, advised S/A Barnidge that at 1437Z hours, 5 June 1956, they had sighted an unidentified object flying in the air over Birmingham Airport, Birmingham, Alabama. In this connection, the following information was furnished:

"a. Description

- (1) The object was described as being perfectly circular in shape and flat by Major Oelker, and by Major Zimmerman as an ellipse shaped object.
- (2) The size was described by both officers as being similar to a small American type fighter aircraft, roughly approximately 40 to 50 feet in diameter and 6 to 8 feet in thickness.
- (3) The color was indicated as aluminum or silver.
- (4) Only one object was sighted and there were no tails, trails or exhausts noted. There was also no sound noted above the sound of the B-25 aircraft in which the officers were flying.

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

600 (50-24-21-223)

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