

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 12 December 1956		2. LOCATION 7 Mi W of Cedar Falls, Iowa		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 not given GMT _____		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes, Physical ☒ No Specimen		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION N/A		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE N/A	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Object was a balloon found. Remains sent 788th ACW, Waverly, Iowa for positive identification, then forwarded to ATIC.				11. COMMENTS Although positively identified as some type of balloon, a rather extensive check of applicable facilities thruout U.S. disclosed that it was apparently not of U.S. origin. Action being taken by ATIC to determine origin, type, purpose, etc. Made a matter of UFO record in event sightings later rptd fm same general area, which could relate to this balloon.	

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

788TH AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON
Waverly Air Force Station
Iowa

OCE

19 December 1956

SUBJECT: Unidentified Balloon

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. Subject balloon was found by Mr. [REDACTED] in a roadside ditch adjacent to his mother's home located 7 miles west of Cedar Falls, Iowa. Mr. [REDACTED] found the balloon 12 December 1956. He stated that the balloon was not in the ditch previous to that date.

2. The balloon envelope indicated that the balloon may have been of cellular construction. The remains of the envelope were in shreds which were 14 - 15 feet in length. The shreds were examined minutely and no identifying marks could be found. The shreds were cut off the base assembly.

3. Futile attempts were made to identify the remains of the balloon by the Operations and/or Intelligence section of:

- a. 20th Air Division
- b. Central Air Defense Force
- c. Western Air Defense Force
- d. Air Defense Command

4. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that he had found a balloon similar to this one in 1948 but that it was not as large as this one, and it bore General Mills markings. He further stated that he had disassembled the metal portion in hopes of finding indications of a reward such as he had received in the case of the 1948 finding. He said that he had searched the adjacent areas thoroughly for additional parts of the balloon but found none. Search of the area subsequent to the finding was precluded by a snowfall which blanketed the entire area.

5. The finding was at first suspected to be one of the balloons launched from the Vernalis California Launching Site; however, WADF investigation eliminated the possibility. There being no satisfactory

788th AC&W Sqn., OCE, 19 Dec 56, Subj: Unidentified Balloon

5. (Cont'd)
identification of the balloon, Air Defense Command, acting upon advise-
ment by Intelligence Service, directed that the remains of the balloon
be forwarded to your headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

DONALD E. EVETT
2nd Lt USAF
Adjutant

DISCONTINUED

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

3 January 1957

SUBJECT: (U) Balloon Identification - Recommendations

1. Subject item was forwarded to ATIC after all efforts were made by pertinent agencies to identify it as to origin, purpose and design. It appears that it is ~~not~~ of U. S. origin. As such, it possesses a potential for intelligence information.

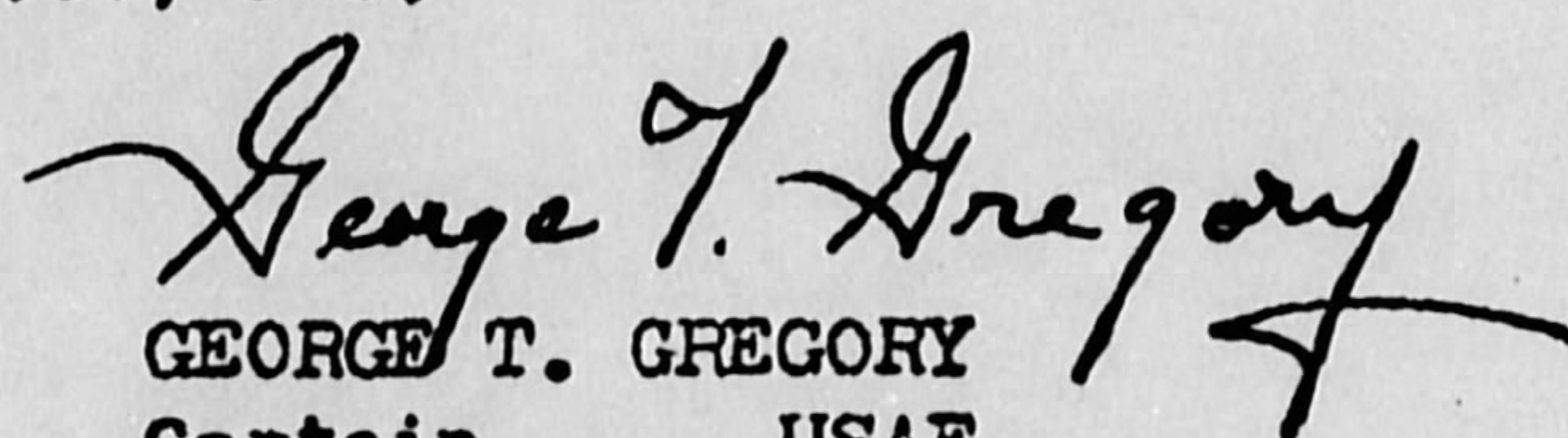
2. Inasmuch as it has been identified as a known object, it falls out of the UFO category and should be placed in the hands of pertinent specialists for further intelligence exploitation, if any.

3. Accordingly, to assist you in this matter the following are offered:

a. Have made arrangements with Mr. Arnold, 4E2 Equipment Specialist, to work with you in this respect,

b. Mr. ~~XXXXXX~~ and this officer, previously worked on a balloon equipment project and you will find him very cooperative.

c. Some of the intelligence requirements for information that may be considered in this matter would include origin, purpose, track of the balloon, possibly jet streams, or upper atmospheric data that may relate to the object, etc.


GEORGE T. GREGORY
Captain, USAF

12 Dec

FILE CLASS: _____
OFFICIAL FILE COPY

OFFICE OF RECORD

COORDINATION
AFOIN-4
AFOIN-4E4
AFOIN-4X2B
AFOIN-4X2C
AFOIN-4X3
AFOIN-4X4
AFOIN-4A
AFOIN-4B
AFOIN-4C
AFOIN-4D
AFOIN-4E
AFOIN-4F
OTHERS

OGE, 788th AC&W Sqdn., 19 Dec 1956, Subj: Unidentified Balloon

AFOIN-4E4

1st Ind Capt G.T.Gregory/ltc/69216

14 JAN 1957

Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Ohio

To: Commander, 788th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, Waverly Air Force Station, Iowa

1. Receipt of subject balloon is herewith acknowledged.

2. An examination of the components and the type of plastic material indicates that the balloon is not of foreign origin, and is undoubtedly a constant-altitude type manufactured by General Mills, Inc., and released by one of the Air Force research contractors. General locale of launching is believed to have been from either the Sioux City or Minneapolis area.

3. Any action deemed necessary may be taken by your organization in notifying the agencies previously contacted (reference paragraph 3 of basic communication) regarding this matter.

FOR THE COMMANDER

WALLACE W. ELWOOD
USAF
Assistant Adjutant

1 DEC 1956 J.D. Mitech, 10 Jan 57
2 DEC 1956 H.A. Miley, 10 Jan 57
3 DEC 1956 H.A. Miley, 10 Jan 57

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14 JAN 25 05 12

PERM	
TEMP	
90 DAYS	
INITIAL	