

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 10 October 1951		2. LOCATION Temple, Oklahoma		12. CONCLUSIONS ☒ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other <u>Hoax</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <u>N/A</u>		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 Rectangular, opaque white plastic, 7'x7' found beating against a tree as a result of the wind. A note was attached written in Russian stating, "I do not understand Russian - How are you?" See specimen 7-3745-461			11. COMMENTS Obj no doubt grounded weather balloon. Note is a hoax.		

ARTIFACT # 341-9-473
LOCATED IN ARTIFACT ROOM

TEMPLE, OK

10 OCT 58

case contains

PHYSICAL SPECIMEN

(weather BALLOON)

IN SEPARATE FOLDER



UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF
5TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO

5D-24-21-

22 October 1958

SUBJECT: (U)
UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S): Balloon of Unidentified
Origin Landing on Property of [REDACTED]
Temple, Oklahoma

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: AFCIN-4E4
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio

1. Forwarded herewith for your information and any action deemed appropriate is one (1) copy of letter from District Office Nr. 11, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, dated 17 October 1958, concerning subject matter.

2. Your attention is invited to the provisions of AFR 124-1, which prohibit the release of investigative information to unauthorized persons.

Edmund G. Glavey Major, USAF

1 Incl
Ltr, DO #11 dtd 17 Oct 58

DOYLE REES
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

Copy furnished:
Dir OSI w/o Incl

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

Attention is invited to the fact that the information contained herein has been classified "Secret" by the USAF. Information contained herein is to be controlled by the USAF with the exception of information furnished to outside of the USAF for official use only. Information contained herein is to be controlled by the USAF prior approval from the Office of Special Investigations.

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58-OSI-2177

UNCLASSIFIED

24-0

17 OCT 1958

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S): Balloon of Unidentified
Origin Landing on Property of [REDACTED]
Temple, Oklahoma

TO: District Commander
23d OSI District (IG) USAF
Carswell Air Force Base, Texas

1. On this date, the following Summary of Information was furnished this District Office by the Commander, Region VII, 112th CIC Group, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:

"VI. (U) Miscellaneous Counterintelligence Information:

1. On 13 October 1958, the following information was received from Joseph H. Cason, Major, Arty, Liaison Officer, Office of the ACof S, G-2, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Cason advised that it had been reported to the Office of the AC of S, G-2, by a [REDACTED], Lawton, Oklahoma, that on 10 October 1958, an unidentified balloon had landed on the property of a Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] at Temple, Oklahoma. The balloon was described as being approximately seven (7) feet square (deflated), and constructed of a thin plastic material. The balloon carried no instruments of any kind. However, either a note was attached to the balloon or inscribed on the balloon was the following phrase, written in the Russian Language: "I do not understand Russian. How are you?". According to Bolan, the balloon is still in possession of the [REDACTED]. (B-6)

The phrase which had been written in the Russian Language was translated by a Marshall R. Hurley, Captain, 02014784, Btry "A", 2d How Bn, 37th Arty, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Hurley opined that the phrase appeared to be one that would have normally appeared in small pamphlet-type foreign language dictionary issued to the American soldier during the war for conversational purposes. (B-2)

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 3 YEARS;

DOA. Request the foregoing be furnished the Commander, Sheppard AFB, Texas, as the Air Force installation nearest Temple, Oklahoma. (Paragraph 903, OSIB Nr 51)

UNCLASSIFIED
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DISTRICT No. 5 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION	
21 OCT 1958	
[Signature]	

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AIR FORCE-OC-20M-8-1-58

RAC

DO #5

243549
level 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

11D 24-0

3. The CONFIDENTIAL classification is required on this letter for protection against unauthorized disclosure.

Albert C. Naum

ALBERT C. NAUM
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

cc: Dir OSI
DO #5 (for ATIC)

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 10 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

²
UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REF
~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

AIR FORCE-OC-20M-8-1-58

JOINT MESSAGEFORM				SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED			
SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER							
31 OCT 58 21 26z 211/16 01/01/58							
PRECEDENCE		TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION ROUTINE		BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF	ORIG	
INFO				X			
FROM: COMDR, ATIC							SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
TO: COMDR, SHEPPARD AFB, TEXAS <i>R J W F S A</i> /UNCLASSIFIED/FROM: AFCIN-4E4 <i>10-2593-E</i> REF CLASS LTR, DTD 17 OCT 58, FR 11TH DISTRICT OSI, TINKER AFB, CY FURNISHED YOUR COMMAND. REQ YOUR ORGANIZATION CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION OF THIS INCIDENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFR 200-2, DTD 5 FEB 58. IF POSSIBLE, GET A RELEASE OF THE PHYSICAL ITEMS CONCERNED AND FORWARD BOTH RELEASE AND ITEMS TO THIS CENTER. IF THE INDIVIDUAL DESIRES THE ITEMS RETURNED TO HIM, SO STATE. COORDINATION: AFCIN-4E4 <i>[Signature]</i> DATE <i>31 Oct 58</i> COL GLASER AFCIN-4E <i>[Signature]</i> DATE <i>31 Oct 58</i> COL GILBERT							DATE 30 MONTH OCT TIME 1010 YEAR 1958
WRITER	SYMBOL AFCIN-4E4			RELEASEE	SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>		
	TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required) T/Sgt James O. Bolieu				TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE		
	PHONE 6-9216	PAGE NR. 1	NR. OF PAGES 1		WALLACE W. ELWOOD Captain, USAF Assistant Administrative Officer		
	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION						

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COUNTRY OF ACTIVITY REPORTING USA	REPORT NO. IR-1-58	(Leave blank)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNS USA	DATE OF INFORMATION 5 November 1958	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT Headquarters, 3750th Technical Training Wing, Sheppard AFB, Texas	DATE OF COLLECTION 12 November 1958	SRI STATUS (If applicable) SRI NO. CANCELED/COMPLETE
PREPARING INDIVIDUAL Captain Martin S. Doria, 45377A 3750th Air Police Squadron, SAFB, Tex.	DATE OF REPORT 13 November 1958	SRI NO. CANCELED/INCOMPLETE
NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE Mr. & Mrs. [REDACTED] % General Delivery, Temple, Oklahoma	EVALUATION F-6	ACTIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON (Date)
REFERENCES (BAIR Subject, previous reports, etc., as applicable) AFR 200-2, 5 Feb 58 and Message AFCIN-4E4 10-2593-E		
SUBJECT (Descriptive title. Use individual reports for separate subjects) Unidentified Plastic Balloon		
SUMMARY (Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 112a unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List inclosures, including number of copies) This report contains information concerning an unidentified plastic balloon found in Temple, Oklahoma.		
✓ 1 INCL APPROVED:  J. H. WALLACE Maj Gen, USAF Commander		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR (Except USAF and file. Indicate Dupl M/oz and copies w/o inclosures, if applicable) Commander, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio		
WARNING: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Section 793 and 794. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.		

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(SECURITY INFORMATION when filled in)

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

3750th Technical Training Wing
Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas

REPORT NO.

IR-1-58

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a. Description of the Object:

- (1) Shape: Rectangular.
- (2) Size: 7' x 7'.
- (3) Color: Opaque (white) plastic.
- (4) Number: One (1).
- (5) Formation: N/A.
- (6) Any discernible features or details: N/A.
- (7) Tail, trail, or exhaust, including size of same compared to size of object: N/A.
- (8) Sound: N/A.
- (9) Other pertinent or unusual features: Note attached written in Russian stating, "I do not understand Russian - How are you?"

b. Description of Course of Object:

- (1) What first called the attention of observer to the object: Noise of object beating against a tree as a result of wind.
- (2) Angle or elevation and azimuth of the object when first observed: N/A.
- (3) Angle or elevation and azimuth of object upon disappearance: N/A.
- (4) Description of flight path and maneuvers of object: N/A.
- (5) How did the object disappear: N/A.
- (6) How long was the object visible: N/A.

c. Manner of Observation:

- (1) Ground-visual.
- (2) Statement as to optical aids (telescopes, binoculars, and so forth) used and description thereof: N/A.
- (3) If the sighting is made while airborne, give type of aircraft, identification number, altitude, heading, speed, and home station: N/A.

d. Time and Date of Sighting:

- (1) Zulu time-date group of sighting: Time unknown, date 10 October 1958.
- (2) Light conditions: Night.

e. Location of Observers: One-half mile NE from center of Temple, Oklahoma.

f. Identifying Information on Observers:

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(1) Civilian - Mr. & Mrs. [REDACTED]

(a) Ages approximately 65-70.

(b) Mailing Address - General Delivery, Temple, Oklahoma, occupation unknown, reliability unknown.

g. Weather and Winds-Aloft Conditions at Time and Place of Sighting:

(1) Observers' account of weather conditions: Brisk wind from Northeast.

(2) Report from nearest AWS or U.S. Weather Bureau Office: N/A.

(3) Ceiling: N/A.

(4) Visibility: N/A.

(5) Amount of cloud cover: N/A.

(6) Thunderstorms in area: N/A.

h. Any other unusual activity or condition, meteorological, astronomical, or otherwise, which might account for the sighting: N/A.

i. Interception or identification action taken: N/A.

j. Location, approximate altitude, and general direction of flight of any air traffic in the area at time of sighting: N/A.

k. Position title and comments of the preparing officer: Captain Martin S. Doria, Asst Provost Marshal, Sheppard AFB, Texas. On 8 November 1958, Major Lynn H. Robson, AO 649848, Provost Marshal, Sheppard AFB, and Captain Martin S. Doria, 45377A, Air Police Officer, 3750th Air Police Squadron, proceeded to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] at Temple, Oklahoma.

Mr. [REDACTED] stated that on 10 October 1958, an object appearing to be a plastic balloon was caught in a small tree located at the rear of his property. He further stated that the object had a note attached to the bottom and was written in the Russian language. He didn't actually see the object in flight however the wind had been blowing from the Northeast so he assumed that was the direction it came from.

When asked if the object was still in their possession they produced a folded, clear type, soft plastic, rectangular sheet measuring approximately 7' x 7'. They described it as having the corners tied together by an ordinary string in a parachute type of affair. The note was attached to the string. Several holes in the plastic were observed by the investigators and Mr. [REDACTED] stated he assumed they were a result of damage by the tree branches. He (Mr. [REDACTED]) further stated that they had thrown the string away and turned the note over to U.S. Army officials at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The [REDACTED] had no further information regarding the incident so the investigators requested that the plastic sheet be placed in their custody. The [REDACTED] agreed and signified that they had no desire to have the object returned to them.

Major Joseph H. Cason, Artillery Major, Liaison Officer of the Assistant

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

3750th Technical Training Wing
Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas

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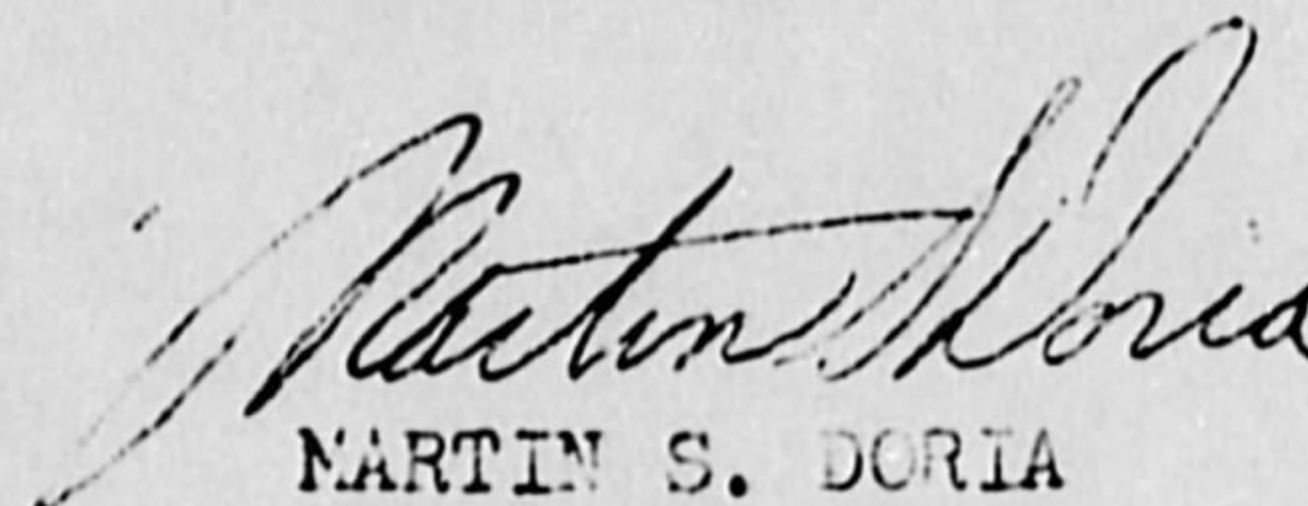
Chief of Staff, G-2, Fort Sill, Oklahoma was contacted telephonically in order to determine the location of the note allegedly attached to the balloon. He stated he would make inquiry and on 13 November 1958 a letter was received by the investigators from that office at Fort Sill stating that a Major Brotherton, Region VII, 112th CIC Group, [REDACTED] Oklahoma City, Oklahoma had forwarded the note to the FBI office in that city on or about 16 October 1958. Major Brotherton did not know what disposition the FBI made of the note.

1. Existence of physical evidence, such as materials and photographs: Plastic sheet (balloon) enclosed. Note written in Russian may be in possession of FBI, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

A search of the immediate area of discovery revealed no unusual or clarifying data. It appears that this incident would be the result of one or two things: (1) A grounded weather balloon, (2) A hoax.

The complete absence of weather equipment plus the description of the object when found as given by the Copelands leads the writer to believe that the incident is a hoax.



MARTIN S. DORIA
Captain, USAF

DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

FILE NO.

SUBJECT

(U) Unidentified Plastic Balloon

TO AFCIN-4E2c

Attn: Mr. Naugle

FROM

AFCIN-4E4

DATE 19 Nov 58

COMMENT NO. 1

4E4/T/Sgt Bolieu/ac/69216/Bldg 828

1. In accordance with existing ATIC policies, the attached physical specimen and IR 112 is forwarded to your office for analysis.

2. Upon completion of analysis, please forward your conclusions to this office hereon.

1 Incl:
IR 112
w/ 1 Inc.

for H.A. Miley
LEONARD T. GLASS
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E4

TO: AFCIN-4E4

FROM: AFCIN-4E2

DATE: 24 Nov 58
AFCIN-4E2c/F.G. Jacobs, Jr./cw
67310/Rm 150/Bldg 828

COMMENT NO. 2

1. The plastic bag herewith accompanying the basic IR is of ordinary polyethylene of the size, thickness and shape in daily use by weather stations.

2. The small size of the bag completely precludes any possibility that it may have crossed the Pacific Ocean on the prevailing westerly winds.

3. The note, not inclosed but herein described, which was written in Russian and attached to the balloon by a string, was evidently copied from a Russian phrase book, such as those furnished to foreign-based U.S. troops, or which can be purchased at any good book store. Even the juxtaposition of the two rather unrelated phrases is typical of the foreign language phrase book format.

4. The comments of the officer who prepared IR-1-58 are fully concurred in, to wit:

a. This is a grounded weather balloon.

b. The attachment of the note, written in Russian is a prank.

1 Incl
n/c

Can
HOMER E. MARTIN
Acting Chief
AFCIN-4E2

Multi

10 Oct

14

UFO Analysis Sheet _____

Location EMPLE OKLA.

Date 10 OCT 58

Hour (Z) _____

WX _____

Description: RECTANGULAR, OPAQUE, WHITE PLASTIC
7' X 7', NOTE ATTACHED WRITTEN IN RUSSIAN -
"I DO NOT UNDERSTAND RUSSIAN" "HOW ARE YOU?"

Direction of Motion HANGING IN A TREE.

Satellite: _____
(AFCIN-4E3) Phone: 69219

Astronomical Phenomena
Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc.

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) _____

Natural Phenomena
Ball Lightning, etc. _____

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc. WEATHER BALLOON ACCORDING TO
AN ANALYSIS BY 4E2C.

Other: _____

Evaluation of Source Reliability UNKNOWN

Analysis and Conclusions:

THE OBJECT WAS ANALYSED
BY 4E2C AND DETERMINED TO BE A BALLOON
OF THE TYPE UTILIZED BY WEATHER DETACHMENTS.
THE SMALL SIZE OF THE BALLOON PRECLUDES
ANY POSSIBILITY OF IT CROSSING THE OCEAN.
THE NOTE ATTACHED CONTAINED TWO
COMPLETELY UNRELATED PHRASES. ARMY
INTELLIGENCE DETERMINED THESE PHRASES WERE
OBTAINED FROM A SMALL HANDBOOK - THE
NOTE IS OBVIOUSLY A PRANK.

Spind