

MILITARY AIR

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 Mar 60		2. LOCATION Vicinity North Platte, Nebraska		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other <u>Mirage</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <u>0530Z</u>		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5-6 min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS three		9. COURSE erratic	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Three white lights in line formation, size of grapefruit; lights had various intensities and movements. Lights were brighter than surrounding stars and ground lights.				11. COMMENTS The most important clue in this report is probably the use of the word "haze" by the witnesses. An inversion or haze layer was probably present which resulted in the bright stars on the horizon or just below the horizon resulting in the effects experienced by the two pilots. It is concluded that a mirage of bright stars or ground lights was probably the cause of this sighting.	

TELEPHONED
TO Lt. Hammer
NO. 71222
TIME 1200
Date 22 MAR
By: 43

1950 MAR 22 01 44

NNNNZCSQB3 91ZCWYD497

PP RJEDSO

DE RJWFAM 132

P 212325Z ZEX

FM HQ LOWRY

TO RJWFAL/AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENT AFB

RJWFKD/34TH AIR DIVISION

RJEDSO/AIR TECH INTELLIGENCE CEN

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF AFCIN

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFIS

BT

UNCLAS OS 2226 C. UFO. 15A (1) LIGHTS IN LINE FORMATION (HORIZONTAL)
(2) GRAPEFRUIT. (3) WHITE. (4) THREE. (5) LINE ABREAST. (6) NONE.
(7) NONE. (8) NONE. (9) VARIOUS INTENSITIES OF LIGHTS AND
MOVEMENTS. B(1) THREE LIGHTS BRIGHTER THAN SURROUNDING STARS OR
GROUND LIGHTS. (2) AIRCRAFT HEADING 261 DEGREES AND 240 DEGREES.
OBJECTS IN 10, 11 AND 12 O'CLOCK POSITIONS DURING SIGHTING. (3)
10 O'CLOCK TO AIRCRAFT, LEVEL. (4) MOVED INITIALLY FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
WENT OUT INDIVIDUALLY, RETURNED 5 MINUTES LATER ONE BY ONE MOVING
FROM RIGHT TO FAR LEFT (10 O'CLOCK) GETTING BRIGHTER. (5)
INSTANTANEOUSLY TO SOUTHEAST ONE BY ONE IN LINE ABREAST FORMATION.

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(G) 5 TO 6 MINUTES TOTAL. C (1) AIR VISUAL. (2) NONE. (3) T-33,

AGJ 535852 26000 FEET, 261 AND 240 DEGREES, 300 G. S. 340 TAS,

MCGUIRE AFB, NEW JERSEY. D (1) 200530Z MAR 60. (2) NIGHT.

E. 20 MILES NORTHEAST NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA AND 20 MILES SOUTHWEST,

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA. F (1) N/A. (2) WILLIAM M. MAC INNES, CAPT.

141ST TFS, NJANG, IP, GOOD RELIABILITY, WILLIAM W. DIENER, CAPT.,

3415TH TECH SCHOOL, LOWRY AFB, PILOT, GOOD RELIABILITY. G. LOW

3000 FEET. GROUND COVER-CLEAR AT ALTITUDE 50 PLUS VISABILITY.

(1) 3000 FEET UNDER CAST EAST OF NORTH PLATTE, CLEAR 60 MILES WEST
OF NORTH PLATTE. (2) SFC 230/10, 6M 330/10, 10M 340/20, 16M 330/25,

20M 330/25, 30M 330/35, 50M 350/40. (3) CLEAR (4) 50 PLUS. (5) THIN

GROUND COVER (UNDERCAST 3000 FEET). (6) NONE. H. NONE. I.

DISTANCE TO FAR TO EFFECT INTERCEPT OR IDENTIFICATION. UHF RADIOS

HAD BEEN WORKING WELL UP TO THE TIME OF OBJECTS, THEN NO CONTACT

COULD BE MADE WITH ANY STATION UNTIL 10 MILES NORTHEAST OF DENVER.

J. NONE. K. AIRDROME OFFICER-UNABLE TO EVALUATE DUE TO SIGHTING

OF OBJECTS DURING FLIGHT OVER NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA. 1. NONE.

ADJUTANT LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE COLO

BT

22/0047Z MAR RJWFAM

NNNN

JOINT MESSAGEFORM				SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ON UNCLASSIFIED			
SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER							
<i>242119Z</i> <i>(DM)</i>							
PRECEDENCE		TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION	ROUTINE	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF	OS 2226C	UNCLAS
INFO							
FROM: ATIC, W-P AFB						SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS	
TO: LOWRY AFB, COLO							
/UNCLAS/FROM: AFCIN-4E2 <i>3-961-E</i> YOUR MSG OS 2226C, DTD 21 MAR 60. HOW WAS THE SIZE OF THE LIGHTS DETERMINED? WHAT WAS THE ACFT HEADING WHEN THE LIGHTS WERE FIRST SEEN? WAS ACFT HEADING CHANGED BEFORE LIGHTS FIRST DISAPPEARED? WHAT WAS THE ACFT POSITION WHEN HEADING WAS CHANGED, AND WHEN LIGHTS REAPPEARED? WHAT WAS THE ELEVATION AND AZIMUTH OF THE LIGHTS WHEN THEY APPEARED AND DISAPPEARED EACH TIME? HOW FAR APART DID THE LIGHTS APPEAR TO BE?							
						DATE 23	TIME 1038
						MONTH MAR	YEAR 1960
SYMBOL AFCIN-4E2 TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required) Major Robert J. Friend <i>RM</i> PHONE 69216 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED				SIGNATURE <i>Richard R. Evans</i> TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE PHILIP G. EVANS Colonel, USAF AFCIN-4E			

WRITER

RELEASER

NNNNCZC(SOC259)ZCWAYA28

RECEIVED

PP RJEDSO

23 MAR 60 00 30

DE RJWFAM 343

ATIC

23 MAR 26 02 03

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FM HQ LOWRY

TO AEROSPACE TECH INTELLIGENCE CEN WPAFB

BT

UNCL OS 2353C. YOUR AFCIN-4E2 3-961-E. ANSWER TO

QUESTIONS FOLLOW: A. LIGHTS (3) ABREAST FIRST APPEARED IN AN

11 O'CLOCK POSITION ABOUT LEVEL WITH THE HORIZON. LIGHTS APPEARED

TO BE SLIGHTLY BRIGHTER THAN AVERAGE STAR AND GAVE THE SAME

APPEARANCE OF STANDARD AIRCRAFT LANDING LIGHTS BY SIZE. B. AIRCRAFT

HEADING APPROXIMATELY 270 DEGREES. C. LIGHTS DISAPPEARED AND

REAPPEARED WHILE AIRCRAFT REMAINED ON ORIGINAL 270 DEGREES

HEADING. D. AIRCRAFT CHANGED COURSE OVER NORTH PLATTE TO APPROXIMATELY

215 DEGREES HEADING. E. FIRST APPEARANCE 255 DEGREES AND

LEVEL WITH HAZY HORIZON. LIGHTS MOVED TO ABOUT 265 DEGREES

TELEPHONED

TO _____

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By: _____

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AND DISAPPEARED. REAPPEARED APPROXIMATELY 5 MINUTES LATER AT
10 O'CLOCK OR 240 DEGREES AT ABOUT 15 TO 20 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON.
LIGHTS CONTINUED TO MOVE TO LEFT DISAPPEARING AND REAPPEARING AT
UNTIMED INTERVALS GROWING AND LESSENING WITH VARIED INTENSITY.
MOVEMENT APPEARED RELATIVELY SLOW WHEN LIGHTS DID MOVE ABOUT
THE APPARENT SPEED OF AN AIRCRAFT FLYING SOME 4 MILES AHEAD IN
AN OPPOSITE DIRECTION. F. FOR COMPARISON, LIGHTS APPEARED TO
BE 2000 TO 3000 FEET APART IF THEY HAD BEEN AIRCRAFT FLYING A
LOOSE TACTICAL FORMATION.

BT

26/0018Z MAR RJWFAM

N

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

Location vicinity North Platte, Neb. area

Date 20 March 60 Hour (Z) 05-30Z

WX 3000' overcast + 60 mi vis, thin ground cover, wind SW @ 10 knots and NW @ 10-40 knots

Description 3 white lights in line formation, appeared to be slightly brighter than average stars giving the same appearance of standard air lndg lights by size

Direction of Motion ERRATIC

Satellite: (AFCIN-4F3, Phone 69219) No CONTINUITY OF MOTION - IN SIGHT 5-6 MINUTES.

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) METEORS RULED OUT BECAUSE OF MOTION - NO PLANETS OR COMETS IN POSITION REPORTED.

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4EL) N/A.

Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc) N/A.

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc. POSSIBLY BALLOON - MOTION NOT CONSISTENT WITH THAT OF AN AIRCRAFT.

Other POSSIBLY DUE TO A MIRAGE OR BRIGHT STARS OR GROUND LIGHTS -

Evaluation of Source Reliability PROBABLY GOOD -

Analysis and Conclusions: THE MOST IMPORTANT CLUE IN THIS REPORT IS PROBABLY THE USE OF THE WORD HAZE BY THE WITNESSES. AN INVERSION OR HAZE LAYER WAS PROBABLY PRESENT WHICH RESULTED IN THE BRIGHT STARS ON THE HORIZON OR JUST BELOW THE HORIZON ~~BEING~~ RESULTING IN THE EFFECTS EXPERIENCED BY THE TWO PILOTS. IT IS CONCLUDED THAT A MIRAGE OR BRIGHT STARS OR GROUND LIGHTS WAS PROBABLY

RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SIGHTING —