

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 July 1960		2. LOCATION Tacoma, Washington		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical Meteor ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 20/0516Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION fraction of a second		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE descending	
				☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round circular ball, bright yellow then turned green, disappeared behind trees.				11. COMMENTS Description is typical of a meteor.	

1960 JUL 20 09 43

TELEPHONED
TO CD
NO. 71222
TIME 0957Z
DATE 20 JUL 60
BY 20

REC63

CZCSQA285ZCQYA945

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJWZBH 37A

P 200737Z ZEX

FM 25NADD COC

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJEDSQ/AIR TECH INTEL CTR WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASHINGTON 25 DC

RJEZHQ/SEC AF WASHINGTON 25 DC

BT

/UNCLAS/250CC-5-720 ATTN AFCIN, HW USAF, SAFIS,

SEC AF.

PART I

1. ROUND CIRCULAR BALL
2. NEGATIVE
3. BRIGHT YELLOW THEN TURNED GREEN
4. ONE
5. N/A
6. NONE
7. N/A
8. N/A

HEE 3
4 X 2 A
4

PAGE TWO RJWZEH 37A

9. N/A

PART II

1. BRIGHT APPEARANCE

2. 30DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON

3. N/A

4. STRAIGHT LINE AT SLIGHT DOWN ANGEL

5. OBSCURED BY TREES

6. FRACTION OF A SECOND

PART III

1. VISUAL

2. NONE

3. N/A

PART IV

1. 200516Z

2. NIGHT

3. N/A

PART V

1. LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE

TACOMA, WASHINGTON DKNC 2905

PART VI

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1. MR. [REDACTED]

LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE

TACOMS, WASHINGTON

2. N/A

PART VII

1. NEGATIVE

2. 10-260/10, 20-240/25, 30-240/29, 40-230/37

50-230/17, 80-240/05

3. CLEAR

4. GOOD OVER 10 MILES

5. NORMAL-NO INVERSION

6. N/A

PART VIII-NONE

PART IX-N/A

PART X-NONE

PART XI

SENIOR CONTROLLER-

THIS REPORT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN AN OBSERVATION
OF A FIRE BALL; A VERY LARGE METEOR WHICH OCCASIONALLY
ARE KNOWN TO FLASH GREEN UPON CONTACT WITH THE

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ATMOSPHERE. THE BRIEF SPAN OF THE OBSERVATION WHICH
WAS ONLY A FRACTION OF A SECOND, ALSO LENDS WEIGHT
TO THIS ASSUMPTION.

PART XII-NONE

BT

20/0747Z JUL RJWZBH

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED
Unclassified
CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY OF ACTIVITY REPORTING United States of America		REPORT NO. IR 21 60	(Leave blank)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNS St. Louis, Missouri		DATE OF INFORMATION 19 July 1960	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT 1405th ABW (MATS) Scott AFB, Ill		DATE OF COLLECTION 20-21 July 1960	SRI STATUS (If applicable) SRI NO. CANCELED/COMPLETE
PREPARING INDIVIDUAL [REDACTED]		DATE OF REPORT 21 July 1960	SRI NO. CANCELED/INCOMPLETE
NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE [REDACTED]		EVALUATION	SRI NO. ACTIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON (Date)
REFERENCES (BAIR Subject, previous reports, etc., as applicable) None			
SUBJECT (Descriptive title. Use individual reports for separate subjects) (U) Unidentified Flying Object Report			
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) A telephone call was received from Mr. [REDACTED] by the Base Clearance Officer the night of 19 July 1960, reporting an unidentified flying object. A number of his neighbors were also reported as having seen the object. This information was immediately followed by a telephone call from Mrs. [REDACTED], University City, St. Louis, Missouri, providing the same type of information. This headquarters contacted Det 6, 10th Radar Bomb Scoring Squadron and the 798th AC&W Squadron the morning of 20 July to evaluate the report. Det 6, 10th RBS did not become active until 2200, 19 July, one half hour after the time of the reported sighting. The log of the 798th AC&W Sq showed no activity at that time. Another report was received from Mrs. [REDACTED] the night of 20 July, reporting a similar sighting at approximately the same time, 2130 local. Det 6, 10th RBS was contacted at 0830 local, 21 July and reported one aircraft at 39,000 ft tracking East to West over North St. Louis at 2150 local, 20 July. The 798th AC&W Sq log was negative. The U.S. Weather Bureau, St. Louis, Missouri stated no balloons were in the vicinity at the time of the reported sighting. Many other persons have been quoted by the press and radio in the St. Louis area as having seen the object both nights. This headquarters is unable to determine the nature of the object, and is forwarding this information IAW paragraph 13b, AFR 200-2. Also inclosed is an extract from a local newspaper which gives an account of the incident and names and addresses of additional observers. 1 incl. Newspaper Extract			
APPROVED: [Signature] JOHN E. RHODE, Lt. Col. USAF Chief, Intelligence Division, DCS/Plans			
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Scott AFB, Ill

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a. Description of the Object:

(1) Shape. Round

(2) Size. Approximately size of a quarter.

(3) Color.

Bright red, varying in intensity.

(4) Number.

One.

(5) Formation.

N/A

(6) Any discernible features or details.

None.

(7) Tail, trail or exhaust.

None.

(8) Sound.

None.

(9) Other pertinent or unusual features.

None.

b. Description of Course of Objects:

(1) What first called the attention of observer(s) to the object(s)?

Neighbors called it to his attention.

(2) Angle or elevation and azimuth of the object(s) when first observed.

Straight overhead.

(3) Angle or elevation and azimuth of object(s) upon disappearance.

To the East at high altitude.

(4) Description of flight path and maneuvers of object(s).

Stopped and hovered. Went backwards once or twice.

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(5) How did the object(s) disappear?

Instantaneously to the East first night. Instantaneously to the West second night.

(6) How long was the object(s) visible. (Be specific, 5 minutes, 1 hour, etc)

Approximately twenty (20) minutes first night; thirty (30) minutes second night.

c. Manner of Observation:

(1) Use one or any combination of the following items:

Ground-visual, ground-electronic, air electronic. (If electronic, specify type of radar).

Ground-visual.

(2) Statement as to optical aids (telescopes, binoculars, and so forth) used and description thereof.

No aids first night. Mrs. [REDACTED] utilized a telescope second night, after locating object with naked eye.

(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.

200230Z and 210230Z

(2) Light conditions - (Night, day, dawn, dusk.)

Night.

e. Location of Observer(s). Exact latitude and longitude of each observer, and/or geographical position. A position with reference to a known landmark also should be given, such as "2 mi N of Deeville," "3 mi SW of Blue Lake". Typographical errors or "garbling" often result in electrically transmitted messages, making location plots difficult or impossible.

University City, St. Louis, Missouri. Observed from front of homes in West St. Louis.

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f. Identifying Information on Observer(s):

(1) Civilian - Name, age, mailing address, occupation.

Mr. [REDACTED]

14

[REDACTED]
University City, Missouri
Student

Mrs. [REDACTED]

54

[REDACTED]
University City, Missouri
Housewife

(2) Military - Name, grade, organization, duty, and estimate of reliability.

N/A

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

(1) Observer(s) account of weather conditions.

Clear and calm both nights

(2) Report from AWS, Scott AFB

200230Z

Surface - Calm

6,000 - 360/11

10,000 - 360/11

16,000 - 340/14

20,000 - 350/12

30,000 - 290/12

50,000 - 270/30

80,000 -

210230Z

Surface - Calm

6,000 - 080/10

10,000 - Light & variable

16,000 - Light & variable

20,000 - Light & variable

30,000 - 300/10

50,000 - 260/30

80,000 - 040/10 est

(3) Ceiling

200230Z

2100C STL 5,000 Sctd

210230Z

None

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(4) Visibility

2 00230Z210230Z

2100C STL 15 miles Clear and 10

(5) Amount of cloud cover

less than 6/10
covering

.2

(6) Thunderstorms

None

None

(7) Temperature gradient

-2.1°/per/1000 ft

Surface: ISO Thermal - 6,000

Aloft: 6,000 Normal to Tropopause
40,000

h. Other Unusual Activity - None.

i. Interception Action - None.

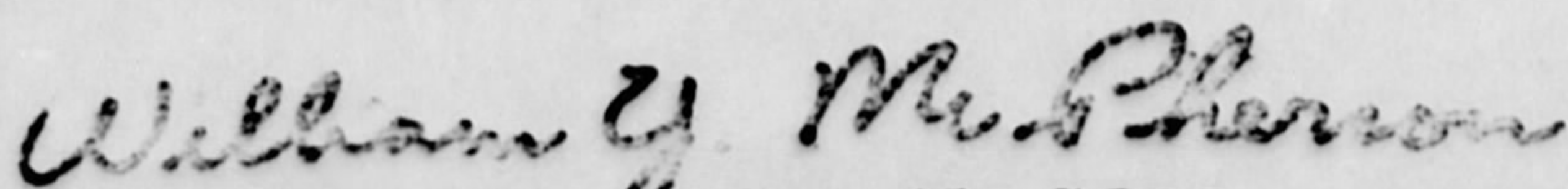
j. Air Traffic

Normal commercial air traffic in and out of Lambert Field, St. Louis, Missouri. Considerable military air traffic at high altitude on strategic exercises.

k. Position Title and Comments of Preparing Officer.

The manner in which the object hovered and moved slowly, combined with the instantaneous disappearance, would indicate that it might be a balloon which eventually burst at high altitude. However, the Weather Bureau reported no balloons in the area, and stated that their balloons carry a white light, which burns only 15 minutes. Refractions from the atmosphere might make a white light appear red to a ground observer.

l. Physical Evidence - None.



WILLIAM Y. MCPHERSON

Civilian

Plans & Programs Officer

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THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS EXTRACTED FROM THE ST. LOUIS GLOBE DEMOCRAT, FRIDAY, 22 JULY 1960, PAGE 3A.

" 2 COUNTY GROUPS
SEE STRANGE RED
LIGHTS IN SKY

Two separate groups of St. Louis County residents, about three-quarters of a mile from each other, said they saw bright red lights in a circular formation in the sky about 10 p.m. Wednesday.

The [REDACTED] family, [REDACTED], University City, observed the mysterious lights through a 120-power telescope.

Mrs. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] her nephew, her niece, and her two young sons watched the object through powerful Navy binoculars.

Dozens of persons reported seeing a mysterious red light or lights in the sky above St. Louis County about 9:30 or 10 p.m. Wednesday. Many others reported flickering, erratically-moving red lights in the sky about the same time Tuesday night.

Mrs. [REDACTED] said she and her companions watched the object for 15 or 30 minutes before the lights seemed to rise and then disappeared suddenly.

"It looked like a wheel," she said. "There was a double row of lights in a circle, and it had spokes, also lighted. We sighted it when we were in a car near our home. When we pulled up it seemed to be right overhead, and I heard a muffled humming, which later faded out."

Mrs. [REDACTED] said she ran in and got her husband's binoculars. Then the group watched the lights as they moved steadily west, zig-zagging slightly, and later started to rise.

"What seemed to be a flickering of the lights to the naked eye was really a movement of the lights, we found when we looked through the binoculars," she said.

"It must have been terribly high when it disappeared, because it looked like a star just before it vanished."

[REDACTED] 14, whose hobby is astronomy, described the object as "four very bright red objects, in a circle around a central point at about 20 revolutions per minute."

The lights appeared to be one light to the naked eye, he said. They moved from east-northeast to west-southwest "at about the speed of a slow airplane," he said.

He said he could not tell how high or how far away the lights were. They disappeared "one by one, seeming to merge into each other" he said.

[REDACTED], his brother [REDACTED] 12, their parents and two neighbors observed the object through telescopes, until the last light west generally straight up, taking a slightly erratic course, he reported.

* 1 incl.

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