

MULTIPLE SIGHTING ~~PROJECT 10073~~ RECORD CARD

1. DATE 28 Sep 60		2. LOCATION Grand Junction, Colorado		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other <u>Temp Inversion</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 29/0521Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Telescope ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 40 min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE SW	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING A square light in a round circle, moving SW in a straight line, flashing red, green and white light. The altitude of the object was estimated to be 37 1/2 miles using an inclinometer. Reported stationary for 20 min, then moved SW for 15°. <i>Inversion cannot be resp. for 15° lateral motion.</i>				11. COMMENTS The sighting gives all indication of being due to atmospheric refraction. - stellar scintillation, possibly. This caused by turbulence, not inversion. If motion was real, cause is not inversion. <i>jjf</i>	

6. The sighting which occurred in Colorado on 29 September 1960 gives all indication of being due to atmospheric refraction. ATIC has taken action to obtain the weather data for the area on the date of the sighting. A complete analysis will be accomplished when ATIC receives this additional data.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

F. NOT GIVEN

G. NONE

H. NONE

I. NONE

PART 2: DISCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT. MOVING SOUTHWEST
IN A STRAGHT LINE. NO OTHER INFORMATION GIVEN.

PART 3: MANNER OF OBSERVATION/

A. GRAOUND VISUAL.

B. 8POWER TELESCOPE. ANAUTO LIGHT UTILIZED TO
DETERMINE HEIGHT OF OBJECT. REPORTED TO BE AT
37 AND ONE SLANT TWO MILES.

C. N/A

PART 4: TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING:

A. 0521Z 29AWP 60

B. NIGHT

PART 5: LOCATION OF OBSERVERS: GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.

PART 6, IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF OBSERVERS: CIVILIANS.

FIRST OBSERVED BY 1 INDIVIDUAL AND THEN A GROUP.

TOTAL UNKOWN. NAMES AND OTHER PERTINENT DATA ON
OBSERVERS IS NOT KNOWN.

PART U. FOLLOWING INFORMATION RECEIV FROM NORAD/COC

WEATHER FORCASTER: WEATER AND WINDS-ALOFT CONDITIONS
AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHING.

A. NOT GIVEN

B. SURFACE : SE AT 7 KNOTS 6,000 300 DEGREES 8 KNOTS;
10,000 270 DEGREES 16 KNOTS: 16,000 230 DEGREES
23 KNOTS: 20,000 280 DEGREES 19 KNOTS: 30,000
290 DEGREES 29 KNOTS: 50,000 300 DEGREES 47 KNOTS:
80,000 NOT AVAILABLE.

C. 15 MILES PLUS. NONE. 9,000 FEET, SCATTERED CLOUDS.

D. 15 MILES PLUS.

3. 1/4 CLOUD COVER.

F. NOEN. OCCASSINAL LIGHTNIG IN DISTANT NORTHWEST

COPY TO DR HYMER

CZCSOE704ZCWYA058

RECEIVED

RR RJEDSQ

30 Oct 60 11 22

DE RJWFAL 328

ATIC 1960 OCT 1 11 13

R 302339Z ZEX

FM COMDR ADC ENT AFB COL

TO RJEDSQ/COMDR ATIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/OSAF WASH D C

RJEZHQ/COFS USAF WASH D C

BT

UNCLASSIFIED ADOIN 041033.

FOR SAFIS OSAF, AFCIN COFS USAF, NIOI CINCNORAD. SUBJECT:
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT REPORT. FOLLOWING UNIDENTIFIED
FLYING OBJECT REPORT RECEIVED 29 SEPTEMBER 1960 BY ADC STAFF
DUTY OFFICER VIA FLIGHT SERVIDE, DENVER, TO ARRC, TO BASE
OPERATIONS PETERSON FIELD AND ULTIMATELY ATO ADC STAFF DUTY
OFFICER WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR THE LARGE AMOUNT OF REQUIRED
INFORMATION NOT BEING FURNISHED. REFERENCE AFR 200-2 14
SEPTEMBER 1960. THIS MESSAGE IN 12 PARTS:
PART: A. A SQUARE LIGHT IN A ROUND CIRCLE.

33
7-17 4E2X
3 4 X2A

1960 OCT 3 07 31

WPAFB
ADMIN. SERVICES

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B. NOT GIVEN,

C. NOT GIVEN.

D. ONE

E. N/A

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

At approximately 1040, 10 October 1960, a telephone call was made to the home of Mr. [REDACTED] of Grand Junction, Colorado regarding the sighting made by him, and others, on 28 Sep 1960, and the following additional information was acquired.

The object was first seen and reported from Farmington, New Mexico on a bearing of 35 degrees. It was also reported to be seen from Eagle, Colorado on a bearing of approximately 225 degrees. Mr. [REDACTED] saw the object on a bearing of 100 degrees. Mr. [REDACTED] then made a triangulation and said the object was estimated to be over Gunnison, Colorado. He also stated that a B-52 was refueling in the Deadwood refueling area, and when the acft was contacted regarding the object a reply was made to the effect that the object could be seen. After the refueling operation was completed the acft changed course and flew in the direction of the object. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that the pilot later reported to the Denver control that when they were in the area of the alleged object, nothing could be seen.

The object was described as round, flashing red, green white light with a small square in the middle. The altitude of the object was estimated to be $37\frac{1}{2}$ miles using an inclinometer. The object was reported to be stationary for 20 minutes, then it moved Southwest for 15 degrees. The object was visible for 40 minutes.

OBSERVED.

PART 8: NONE.

PART 9: NOONE

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PART 11: FIRST LT SIZEMORE, ADC STAFF DUTY OFFICER, WHEN
THIS REPORT WAS ULTIMATELY RECEIVED AT ADC.

PART 12: NONE

BT

10/2345Z SEP RJWFAL

DATA PROCESSING DIVISION
CLIMATIC CENTER, USAF
Air Weather Service (MATS)
Asheville, North Carolina

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: CCDPD/HCKH

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Weather Records

25 Oct 1960

TO: ATIC/WPAFB

We are inclosing with this letter photographic copies of the WBAN Form 31 (Adiabatic Chart) to include the period 26 September through 30 September from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Grand Junction, Colorado. This transmittal is in response to your telephone request of 20 October 1960.

FOR THE DIRECTOR

Pallas L. Tye Jr.
PALLAS L. TYE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Administrative Officer

Atch
Cys WBAN Fm 31 f/2 stns

ATIC

NOV 10 1960

RECEIVED

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dup
16 Nov 60

AFCIN-4E2x

UFO Sighting, Grand Junction, Colorado (29 Sep 1960)

16 NOV 1960

SAFOI-3d (L/Col Tacker)

1. On 29 September 1960 at 0521Z (2221 hours on 28 September 1960) unidentified flying objects were sighted from FAA stations at Grand Junction and Eagle, Colorado and also from the station at Farmington, New Mexico. In addition, many people in the general area reported seeing unidentified flying objects.
2. The object viewed from Grand Junction was described as a round, flashing red, green and white light and reported as generally stationary. The object was in sight for 40 minutes.
3. The witnesses at Grand Junction and Farmington used a theodolite to measure the angle of elevation of the object and then by triangulation arrived at an altitude of 37½ miles for the object.
4. ATIC obtained weather data for the date of the sighting from Air Weather Service, Asheville, North Carolina. The adiabatic charts for the area show an inversion at 0405 on the date of the sighting. The ATIC conclusion is that effects produced by this inversion were responsible for the UFO sightings in this area.
5. The stations which measured the angle of elevation of the object were consistent with 15°; however, triangulation revealed that the object, if it were the same one, would have been further from one station than the other, thus a geometric inconsistency. If the objects viewed were due to the inversion, then the apparent angles would have been approximately the same from any location.
6. In the instances of inversions (temperature low near the ground and increasing rather rapidly as altitude increases) light rays which pass through this layer are bent toward the earth and effectively the distance to the horizon is increased from any given point. Mirages which result from these conditions are sometimes referred to as "looming mirages" because unsteady conditions may cause a distant object to suddenly "loom" above the horizon.
7. From the limited information available, it is impossible for ATIC to determine what specific object was viewed by each witness;

however, it is concluded that the inversion was responsible for common objects being misidentified and mistakes made as to their actual location.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science and Components