

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 11 May 61		2. LOCATION Indian Springs, Nevada		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1128 GMT 11/1828Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☒ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military		☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 4 hrs		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE ☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Crescent shaped, silver in color. Altitude of objt estimated to be 75,000-10,000'.				11. COMMENTS Subsequent reports of similar sightings fm same area attribute to U-2 type a/c.	

UNCLASSIFIED

5579 13 MAY 61

PRIORITY

1961 MAY 13 15 17

FM 865 ACW SQ LAS VEGAS AFS NEV 122100Z

TO ADC ENT AFB COLO

28 AIR DIV HAMILTON AFB CALIF

ATIC WPAFB OHIO

ASSIST COFS INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASHDC

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES HQ USAF WASHDC

INFO 1006 AISS ENT AFB COLO

Classification Cancelled
(or changed to)
Auth. *Perkins*
By *Quintanilla*
Date *9 MAY 1959*

AFR 205-1, Par 2-7a
J. Jones

1
2
3 4E(UFD)

4X2a
5

[REDACTED] CITE 86500P0519. (A) (1) (2) (3)

(4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) REFERENCE 4520TH CCRTNGT, NELLIS

AFB, MESSAGE OI-05-0038. B. (1) TELEPHONE CALL FROM MAJOR JOHN

JARRETT, NELLIS AFB WX DET. (2) ANGLE UNK AXIMUTH 293 DEG 32 NM. (3)

ANGLE UNK 10 NM RADIUS OF 293 DEG 32 NM. (4) ALL DIRECTIONS FROM
INITIAL CONTACT IN STRAIGHT LINE TO DISAPPEARANCE-APPROX 5-10NM.

(5) GRADUAL FADDE. (6) 3 HOURS 25 MINUTES. C. (1) GROUND ELECTRONICS

FPS20A. (2) 9. (3) N/A. D. (1) 2205Z MAY 61. (2) DAY AND DUSK.

E. 36 DEG 19 MIN 07 SEC NORTH, 115 DEG 34 MIN 30 SEC WEST 23 NM

WNW LAS VEGAS NEVADA. F. (1) NONE. (2) EARLE W DENAU CAPT 865

PAGE TWO

ACW ASQ OPERATIONS OFFICER FAIR MELVIN D CALAHAN SSGT 865 ACW SQ
CREW CHIEF GOOD JONATHAN Y GREENWOOD A/1C 865 ACW SQ SCOPE
OPERATOR GOOD MATTHEW A WEBB AIRMAN SECOND CLASS 865 ACW SQ CREW
CHIEF GOOD DAVID G FREEMAN AIRMAN SECOND CLASS 865 ACW SQ SCOPE
OPERATOR GOOD. G. (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) REFERENCE 4520 THE
CCRTNCWG, NELLIS AFB, MESSAGE OI-05-0038. H. UNKNOWN. I. NONE.
J. UNK. K. DEE L JORGENSEN CAPT SQUADRON INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.
L. SCOPE FILM (WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN DEVELOPED).

BT

13/1418Z MAY

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNN

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UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

NNNN

INCOMING

AF IN : 50343 (12 May 61) W/sc

ACTION: CIN-14

INFO : OOP-2, OOP-CP-1, SAFS-3 (21)

SMB C 096

ZCZCHQA689ZCQJA588

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJWZNJ 3

ZNR

P 120320Z ZEX

FM 4520TH CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEV

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJWZSB/28TH ADIV (NORAD) HAMILTON AFB CALIF

RJEDSQ/ATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF (AFCIN) WASHINGTON D C

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (SAFIS) WASHINGTON D C

INFO: RJWZJBD/865TH AC&W SQ LAS VEGAS NEV

BT

UNCLAS/E F T O/ OI-05-0038.

UFO. (A) (1) CRESCENT.

(2) UNDETERMINED

(3) SILVER

(4) ONE INITIALLY, 57 AT 1828Z 11 MAY 61.

(5) NOT APPLICABLE

(6) NONE

(7) NOT DISCERNED.

(8) NONE- DUE TO EXTREME ALTITUDE.

(9) NONE

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I N C O M I N G

AF IN : 50343 (12 May 61)

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(B) (1) WEATHER OBSERVER AT INDIAN SPRINGS AFB NEVADA NOTICED OBJECT DURING THEODOLITE OBSERVATION AT APPROXIMATELY 1828Z, 11 MAY 61. TRACKED BY ISAFB UNTIL 2100Z WHEN NELLIS AFB WEATHER DETACHMENT COMMANDER WAS ADVISED BY ISAFB WEATHER TEAM AND COMMENCED TRACK VIA THEODOLITE. NELLIS AFB INTELLIGENCE ADVISED 2200Z AND WITNESSED SIGHTING VIA THEODOLITE. 865TH AC&W SITE (ANGELS PEAK) WERE QUERIED APPROXIMATELY 2230Z AND THEY ADVISED THEY WERE NOT TRACKING ANY OBJECTS. 865TH ADVISED NAFB WEATHER OFFICER APPROXIMATELY 2300Z THEY WERE NOW TRACKING WITH RADAR AND SCOPE PHOTOS WERE BEING TAKEN. NAFB CEASED THEODOLITE OBSERVATION AT 2300Z. 856TH WAS QUERIED 2330Z AS TO POSSIBLE VECTOR OF AVAILABLE INTERCEPTORS AND ADVISED POSSIBILITY OF AN F-106 FROM GEORGE AFB. AT 2400Z, 865TH ADVISED F-106 CANCELLED AND WERE TRYING TO GET F3H AIRCRAFT INTERCEPTOR FROM YUMA ARIZONA. AT THAT TIME 865TH ADVISED THEY HAD PICKED UP ON THEIR SCOPES A TOTAL OF 57 SEPARATE OBJECT SIGHTINGS.

(2) ANGLE OR ELEVATION AT 2200Z WAS 31.9 DEGREES, 248.7 AZIMUTH FROM WEATHER STATION AT NELLIS AFB.

(3) OBJECTS STILL BEING SIGHTED AT TIME OF REPORT FILING.

(4) FLIGHT PATHS ALL DIRECTIONS, SPEED VARIABLE. ALTITUDE OF OBJECTS ESTIMATED TO BE 75,000 TO 100,000 FEET.

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(5) INITIAL SIGHTING VIA NAFB THEODOLITE FADED BEYOND TRACKING CAPABILITY AT 2300Z ELEVATION OF OBJECT AT THAT TIME WAS 19 DEGREES, 260 DEGREES AZIMUTH.

(6) INITIAL SIGHTING VISIBLE APPROXIMATELY FOUR HOURS.

(C) (1) GROUND-THEODOLITE: GROUND- ELECTRONIC BY 865TH AC&W (UNDER CONTROL OF LOS ANGELES NORAD SECTOR, NORTON AFB, CALIF.)

(2) THEODOLITE AND RADAR (TYPE RADAR UNKNOWN).

(3) NOT APPLICABLE.

(D) (1) APPROXIMATELY 1828Z 11 MAY 61.

(2) DAY (HEAVY DUST DUE TO 27-38 KNOT SURFACE WINDS).

() NELLIS AFB WEATHER OBSERVER, FROM BASE WEATHER STATION. NELLIS AFB COORDINATES 36 DEGREES 15 MINUTES NORTH, 115 DEGREES, 2 MINUTES WEST. SIGHTINGS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 8.25 NAUTICAL MILES DUE WEST OF LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

(F) (1) NOT APPLICABLE.

(2) MAJOR JOHN JARRETT, COMMANDER DETACHMENT 31, 25TH WEATHER SQUADRON, SSGT MATSUNAMI, WEATHER OBSERVER, DET 31;; .-'94 -. J. BUSALACCHI AND TSGT E. L. ARMENTROUT, WING INTELLIGENCE, 4520TH CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEVADA.

(G) (1) NO CLOUDS, SURFACE TEMPERATURE 84 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT, SURFACE WINDS 27 TO 38 KNOTS; DUSTY CONDITION.

(2) WINDS 180 DEGREES, 27-38 KNOTS SURFACD: 220 DEGREES, 30 KNOTS AT 6000; 240 DEGREES, 50 KNOTS AT 10,000; 240 DEGREES, 55 KNOTS

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AT 16,000; 240 DEGREES, 90 KNOTS AT 30,000; 240 DEGREES, 55 KNOTS
AT 50,000. NO HIGHER ALTITUDE WINDS AVAILABLE.

(3) CEILING UNLIMITED.

(4) VISIBILITY 25NM.

(5) NO CLOUDS.

(6) NOT APPLICABLE

(7) 83 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

(H) CHECKS WITH FAA ADVISOR AND US WEATHER BUREAU AT MCCARRAN
AIRPORT, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, WERE NEGATIVE, NO NOTAMS ON FILE
REGARDING HIGH ALTITUDE OPERATIONS OR BALLON RELEASES. NO
UNUSUAL METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS REPORTED BY US WEATHER BUREAU.

(I) UNKNOWN. TO BE FORWARDED BY 856TH AC&W SITE.

(J) NOT APPLICABLE.

(K) MAJOR ANTHONY J. BUSALACHI, DIRECTOR ON INTELLIGENCE,
4520TH CCRTNGWG, NELLIS AFB, NEVADA. PRESUMED TO BE A MOTHER
BALLON DEVICE PERIODICALLY LAUNCHING OTHER FLYING OBJECTS.
ORIGIN UNKNOWN.

(L) RADAR SCOPE PHOTOS WILL PRESUMABLY BE INCLUDED WITH UFOB
REPORT TO BE RENDERED BY 856TH AC&W SITE OR CONTROLLING NORAD
SECTOR.

BT

12/0400Z MAY RJWZSJ

AEROSPACE TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCIN-4E/Major Friend/vw/69216

23 May 1961

SUBJECT: Radar Analysis

TO: AFCIN-4E1

Request analysis and comments on attached radar report.

Philip G. Evans
U S A F

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E

1 Atch
Inc TWX dtd 12 May 61.

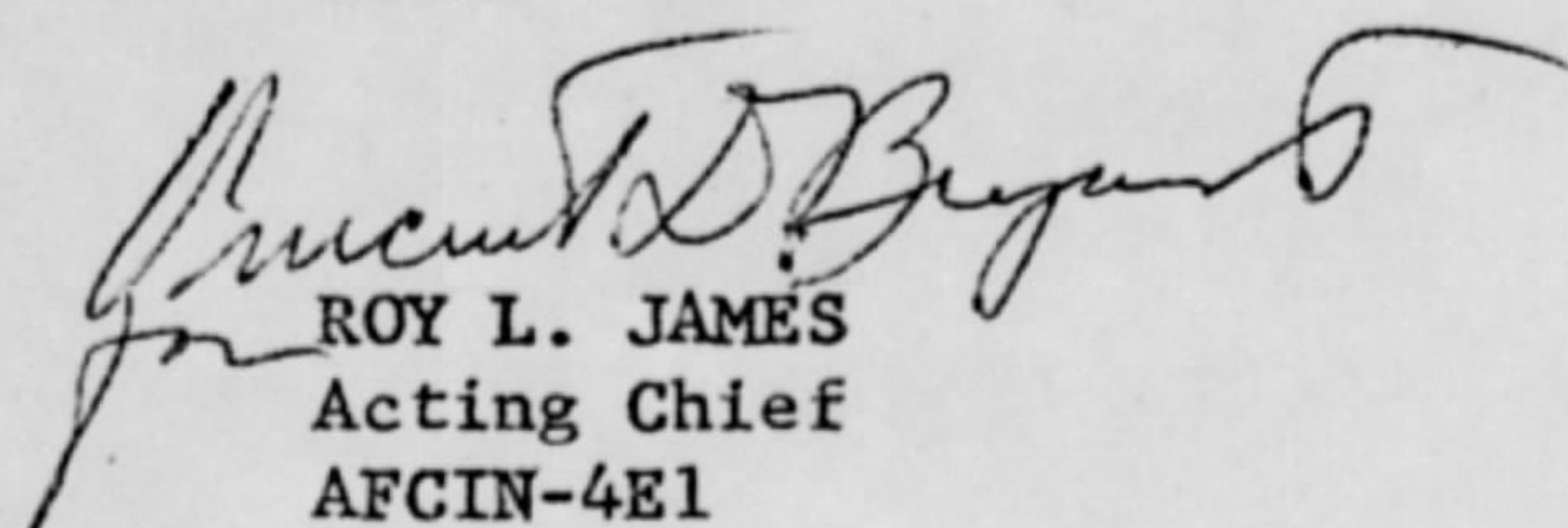
Memo, AFCIN-4E, 23 May 61, Radar Analysis

1st Ind (AFCIN-4E1a)

6 Jun 61

TO: AFCIN-4E (Major Friend)

1. Subject report does not contain enough radar data for an analyses to be made.
2. The only reference to radar is in Item (B)(1) wherein it is reported that a total of 57 separate targets had been picked up on the radar scopes. Assuming that they are based on authoratative knowledge of the existence of such balloon devices, Maj. Busalachi's comments in Item (K) are concurred with.


ROY L. JAMES
Acting Chief
AFCIN-4E1

1 Atch
n/c