

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 11 March 1963		2. LOCATION San Diego, California		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other <u>Atlas Missile</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 12/0515Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION not reported		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE West	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Orange flame or light w/one burst of white as in an explosion observed by R & D personnel in a/c approaching San Diego. Light appeared in the vicinity of the observers a/c and at the same altitude of 8,5000ft. Object appeared fm the NW made a left turn fm 180 dgr to 270 dgr & faded fm view in a rapid climb at 25,000ft or above. WX was clear, observers a/c on top of overcast. Pilot stated that size, coloring, pattern and intensity of flame indicated a rocket type of engine rather than jet.				11. COMMENTS Confirmed Atlas launch from Vandenberg.	

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HEADQUARTERS
6592d SUPPORT GROUP (AFSC)
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Air Force Unit Post Office, Los Angeles 45, California

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: SSQO

SUBJECT : Report of Unidentified Flying Object (UFO)

15 MAR 1963

TO: ATIC
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

1. Reference AFR 200-2.

2. The following UFO sighting was reported to the SSD Command Post, Inglewood, California at 0515Z, 12 March 1963.

- a. Description of Object: Orange flame or light with one burst of white as in an explosion.
- b. Description of Course: Observer's attention was directed to the object by the light appearing in near vicinity of observer's aircraft and at approximately same altitude of 8500 feet MSL. Object appeared from northwest, made a left turn of from 180° to 270°, then faded from view, in a rapid climb, at 25000 feet MSL or above.
- c. Manner of Observation:
 - (1) Visual sighting, during darkness, from aircraft.
 - (2) No optical aids.
 - (3) Type of aircraft and identification number - U3A 82185. Altitude - 8500' MSL. Heading - 270°. Speed - 160K. Home Station - Los Angeles International Airport.
- d. Time and Date of Sighting:
 - (1) 0515Z, 12 March 1963.
 - (2) Night.
- e. Location of Observers: CAMPO intersection on V-66 airway.
- f. Identification Information on Observers:
 - (1) Captain T. L. McKewen, SSD (AFSC), R&D Project Office; highly reliable.
 - (2) Captain R. S. Stuart, SSD (AFSC), R&D Project Office; highly reliable.

- g. Weather: Clear on top of overcast.
- h. Unusual Activities: None.
- i. Identification Actions: Pilots reported sighting to San Diego Approach Control.
- j. Air Traffic: Los Angeles Center (FAA ARTCC) and FAA radar facility at Miramar, California reported no unusual flight patterns at or near reported sighting during 11 March.
- k. Position and Comments of Preparing Officer:
- (1) Emergency Plans Project Officer, SSD.
 - (2) The job experience and training of the observers lends credence to their report. Captain Stuart stated that the size, coloring, pattern and intensity of the flame indicated a rocket type engine rather than a jet. The radar facility controlling traffic for Miramar NAS advised that a TACAN holding pattern for Miramar NAS is located in the same area where the UFO was reported.

James J. Davis
Lt Colonel USAF
Deputy Commander