

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 22 Aug 67 23/0200Z		2. LOCATION Washington, D.C. ✓	
3. SOURCE Civilian		10. CONCLUSION BALLOON Probably hot air balloon released in Georgetown area.	
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1			
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10-20 minutes		11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object was round and red in color. Light appeared to flash at times. All observers stated object was overhead, and object disappeared suddenly.	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual			
7. COURSE NE--NNE			
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No			
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No			

Balloon

PRIORITY

067

HA

probably hot air
released in
Georgetown area

23 AUG 67 08 03z

22 Aug 67
WASH DC

WPB041

PITUZYUW RUEDTAA7599 235 0656-UUUU--RUEDFIF.

ZNR UUUUU

P 230600Z AUV 67

FM 1001ST ABW ANDREWS AFB WASH D C

TO RUWMEVA/ADC

RUEPBU/E3RD AIR DIVISION FORT LEE VA

RUEDFIF/FTD WPAFB/

RUEFHQA/CSAF

RUEFHQA/OSAF

RUEDPVA/HEADQUARTERS COMMAND

BT

INCLAS DOBO 811 23 AUG 67

UFO

FOR IDET/UFO

FOR AFRDC

FOR SAF-OI

A. DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT:

1. SHAPE: ROUND

2. SIZE: BASEBALL OR GRAPEFRUIT

3. COLOR: RED

4. NUMBER: 1

5. DETAILS: LIGHT APPEARED TO FLASH AT TIMES. NO TAIL,

5- ET/UFO

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TRAIL OR EXHAUST OBSERVED. NO SOUND. NO OTHER
FEATURES REPORTED.

B. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT:

UFO, PAGE 2

1. ALL OBSERVERS REPORTED SIGHTING THE OBJECT BY ACCIDENT.
2. OBJECT REPORTED TO BE OVERHEAD.
3. OBJECT APPEARED TO MOVE FROM NE TO N TO NE.
4. OBJECT DISAPPEARED SUDDENLY.
5. DURATION OF SIGHTING: 10 TO 20 MINUTES.

C. MANNER OF OBSERVATION: GROUND-CISUAL. NO OPTICAL AIDS.
NO AIRBORNE SIGHTING.

D. DATE AND TIME SIGHTINGS: (NIGHT) 0200 23 AUG 67 (ZULU)
2200 LOCAL 22 AUG 67.

E. ALL OBSERVERS LOCATED IN N.W. WASHINGTON D.C. AREA.

F. WIND DIRECTION/VELOCITY IN DEGREES AND KNOTS:

SURFACE, ADW 2404: SURFACE, DCA 1903: 6,000- 3214:

10,000-2615: 16,000-2725: 20,000- 2631: 30,000- 2445:

50,000-2650.

UFO PAGE3.

CEILING: ADW - 12,000 FT: DCA -12,000 FT.

VISIBILITY: ADW -7 MILES: DCA -12 MILES.

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CLOUD COVER: ADW -10/10: DCA -10/10.

NO THUNDERSHORMS REPORTED.

VERTICAL TEMP GRADIENT: 3 DEGREES C/ 1,000 FT.

G. NO OTHER UNUSUAL ACTIVITY.

H. NO ATTEMPT MADE TO INTERCEPT.

I. NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Surface
240.4 KNOTS
6,000 FT
300-1400

1. COMMENTS: NUMEROUS CALLS WERE RECEIVED (APPROX 30)
CONCERNING THIS OBJECT BY THE BASS OPERATIONS DUTY OFFICER,
MAJOR RAYMOND D. RICE. THIS REPORT SUMMARIZES THE REPORTS
RECEIVED. SOME OBSERVERS THOUGHT THAT THE OBJECT MIGHT BE
A BALLOON WITH LIGHTS. WASHINGTON CENTER AND
APPROACH CONTROL REPORTED NO RADAR TARGETS WERE
IDENTIFIED DURING THE SPECIFIED TIME. GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT
CENTER REPORTED NO AIRCRAFT AIRBORNE AT THE TIME.
UFO PAGE 4.

THE LATEST U.S. WEATHER BUREAU BALLOON LAUNCH WAS AT
2300 ZULU 22 AUG FROM STERLING , VA. THE BALLOON WAS NOT
LIGHTED AND CAME APART AT 0100 ZULU. PREVAILING WINDS
WOULD HAVE CARRIED THE BALLOON WELL TO THE EAST BEFORE

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0100 ZULU. OBSERVERS FROM WASHINGTON NATIONAL TOWE AND
ANDREWS TOWER UNABLE TO SEE THE OBJECT. POSSIBLE
CAUSE FROM OBSERVERS' ACCOUNTS INDICATE THAT THE OBJECT
COULD HAVE BEEN A LIGHTED BALLOON FROM AN UNKNOWN AGENCY
OR BY PERSON OR PERSONS TRYING TO PERPATRATE A HOAX.

BT

NNNN

Capt Lt. Nielson

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

24 Aug 67

SUBJECT: UFO Observations, Maryland, 22 Aug 67

At 0915, 24 Aug 67, Major Quintanilla spoke with Captain Jensen and Lt Nielson of the Public Information Office, Andrews AFB, Maryland. Lt. Nielson had investigated the reports on this particular UFO. Major asked Lt Nielson if he had checked with the police department on this sighting. He said he hadn't but he had heard that the police department had made observations of the UFO. Major Quintanilla explained that we also felt that the observation was a balloon but confirmations from someone (like the police department) is needed before we can release a statement to the public that it was a balloon. Lt. Nielson said he would check with the police department but he wasn't sure that he could get a confirmation. Lt Nielson commented that NICAP was on an NBC report. The NBC film report left no doubt that it was a balloon for evidently this person had observed one go up the night before. Major Quintanilla asked Lt. Nielson to call the lady in the documentary and find out where she had gotten her confirmation. Lt. Nielson didn't understand why he should get a confirmation from her since the film left no doubt that it was a balloon. Major Quintanilla explained that we needed a confirmation before we can release a statement that the observation was a balloon. Captain Jensen then asked what Major Quintanilla's job was and who he was connected with. Captain Jensen also wanted to know who was interested in this. Major Quintanilla informed him that it was Public at Safoi that had had the inquiries and that we must give them a statement. Captain Jensen said they would try to get a confirmation. Lt. Nielson said that the sky was overcast to 12,000 ft and the air was very still. Their extension is 4511.

At 0930, Major Quintanilla spoke with Mr. Jim Newton of Public Relations, SAFOI regarding this observation. Wanted to know if Public was still getting inquiries on this sighting. Public had gotten only two press inquiries, however Community relations had had several. Major Quintanilla informed Mr. Newton that he had spoken with Andrews and wanted them to get us a confirmation. Major Quintanilla also informed Mr. Newton of the statement that was given in a news report that the observation was a balloon, and that Andrews was checking this out. Mr. Newton said the only release that they gave out was that the case is currently under investigation.

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

24 Aug 67

Subject: UFO Reports, Wash D C area, 22 Aug 67

Lt Nielson of Andrews AFB, Ohio spoke with [REDACTED] regarding additional information he had been able to gather on the sightings made in the Washington D C area on 22 August 67. Lt Nielson checked with the D.C. police department and Ellington police department. They were negative, no policement observed a UFO nor did anyone turn in a balloon. Lt. Nielson also talked to a private citizen and he told Lt Nielson that he was standing in downtown Georgetown and there was a policeman on the corner who was also watching this object. Lt Nielson has been unable to get in touch with the policeman, however, he comes on duty at 4pm and he will try to reach him then.

Lt Nielson also spoke with Lt Col Builta who is with the Scientific and Technical Division of DIA. Lt Col Builta said that based on everything he has seen and heard the object was most probably a surface balloon with some kind of light tied onto it.

I also asked Lt Nielson if everyone reported that the color was red and he said yes.

Lt. Nielson said that he had previously checked National Airport, which would have been in the area, to see if any of their pilots had observed the UFO. The tower said none observed the UFO. However, Lt. Nielson said he could personally check each airline if one of their pilots had observed the UFO if Major Quintanilla would want him to do so. I informed Lt Nielson that would call him back in approximately 1½ hours.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS, 1001ST AIR BASE WING (HQ COMD USAF)
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, WASHINGTON DC 20331



REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

WIO/Lt Nielsen/4511

28 August 1967

SUBJECT:

UFO Sighting, 22 August 1967, Washington, D. C.

TO:

TDET/UFO

1. Reference is made to the message sent from this Headquarters, 23 August 1967, concerning subject sighting.
2. An investigation conducted by the undersigned has failed to positively identify the object sighted over the Georgetown area of Washington, D. C. at 2200 hours (local) 22 August 1967.
3. However, I was able to locate a Washington, D. C. policeman who said the object looked like a flare (red, railroad flare). [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Avenue, Oxon Hill, Maryland stated that he was on duty in the Georgetown area on 22 August 1967. He observed an object which he described as an intense red light, like a flare. He said he could not see anything above or below the light. He said he first saw the light after noticing other groups of people looking up into the sky. The object made no sound. He said it was almost overhead and appeared to go up and out of sight. At the time of the sighting [REDACTED] was standing on the corner of Wisconsin and Q Streets in the District.
4. Crist stated that his first reaction to the object was that it was a flare. He also stated that another policeman told him he had seen the same object three nights in a row (21, 22 and 23 August 1967). I have not been able to locate the other policeman.
5. I discussed with [REDACTED] the possibility of this object being the result of a prank. He said that was what he thought it was when he saw the object.
6. I asked [REDACTED] to watch for the object to appear again and let me know. He said he would, and would also advise the other policemen in the Precinct.

7. It is my opinion that the object sighted over Georgetown on 22 August 1967 was either a red light or a red flare attached to a large balloon released by someone as a hoax. I plan to take no further action unless the object reappears.



WILLARD D. NIELSEN, 1st Lt, USAF
UFO Investigative Officer

Copy to: University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado 80302
ATTN: Dr. Condon