

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 11 August 1952	2. LOCATION George AFB, California	12. CONCLUSIONS ☒ Not Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon
3. TIME 11/1045 PST	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Based ☐ Aircraft ☐ Aerial Intercept Radar	13. COMMENTS ☐ Possible Aircraft ☐ Possible Aircraft ☐ Possible Aircraft ☐ Possible Astronomical ☐ Possible Astronomical ☐ Possible Astronomical
5. SOURCE AF Officer	6. NUMBER OF SUBJECTS 1	7. COURSE 1
8. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 4 Min	9. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Single object, round, bright, and shiny, hovered over GAFB at high altitude. Source saw object from moving auto for 3-4 min.	10. COMMENTS Information incomplete: No winds aloft No local balloon releases

[REDACTED]

INTELLIGENCE OFFICE
146TH FIGHTER-BOMBER GROUP
George Air Force Base
Victorville, California

FG02

19 August 1952

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting

Press Balloon

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

Forwarded herewith are two (2) reports of information on unidentified objects, prepared in accordance with Air Force Letter 200-5, Headquarters United States Air Force, dated 29 April 1952, subject same as above.

2 incls

1. Rpt- Col. Riha

2. Rpt- Lt. Van Steenburgh

Daniel W. Snow

DANIEL W. SNOW

Captain, USAF

Intelligence Officer

7-3719-11

COUNTRY USA	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Report of Information on Unidentified Objects		
AREA REPORTED ON Southern California	FROM (Agency) Intelligence Officer, 146th F/B Gp	
DATE OF REPORT 18 August 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 11 August 1952	EVALUATION b-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) Captain Daniel W. Snow	SOURCE 1st Lt William F. Van Steenburgh	
REFERENCES (Control number, directives, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, dtd 29 April 1952		
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 113 - Part II.) Reference Air Force Letter 200-5, Subject: "(Unclassified) Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting" (Short Title: FLYORRPT)", dated 29 April 1952, Department of the Air Force, Washington, D.C. a. The following information is submitted: (1) Single object, round, bright and shiny. No trail, exhaust or means of propulsion observed. Appeared to be hovering for about 3 or 4 minutes. <u>Observer was driving car and lost sight of object while trying to get out of traffic and stop.</u> (2) Sighted 1045 PST, <u>11 August 1952</u> for 3 to 4 minutes. 1045 7-4-52 (3) Visual sighting from moving automobile. No optical or electronic equipment used. (4) Observer was driving automobile on <u>George AFB</u>, facing south-east. Object was very high (approximately 20,000 ft) and about 15 to 20 miles away. Appeared to be hovering over the San Bernardino Mountain Range. (5) Observer was 1st Lieutenant William F. Van Steenburgh, 146th Fighter-Bomber Group, George Air Force Base. Observer is 32 years of age, married and rated navigator (Not on flying status). Lt. Van Steenburgh has 12 years total service including 6 years officer status. Officer is considered reliable. (6) Weather was CAVU. Winds 70 degrees at 15 knots. (7) None (8) None (9) None (10) None sighted by observer.		
2 incs. 1. Observer's Statement 2. Overlay		
APPROVED: <i>Daniel W. Snow</i> DANIEL W. SNOW Captain, USAF Intelligence Officer		
1 cy - Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 1 cy - Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington D.C.		

18 August 1952

STATEMENT OF OBSERVER

I, William F. Van Steenburgh, 1st Lieutenant USAF AO 2101826, 146th Fighter-Bomber Group, make the following statement concerning a certain unidentified object observed by me on 11 August 1952:

My observation took place at 1045 hours PST on the date indicated. At the time I was driving southeast on Main Street on George Air Force Base.

The bright object appeared almost directly in my line of travel at about 20,000 feet, and seemingly well away and over the range of mountains to the south and southeast of the station. It did not seem to have any noticeable motion.

I had intentions of going through the main gate and parking out of traffic where I could better observe the object with field glasses. Before I could get to the gate, the object had disappeared.

The object was visible to me for 3 or 4 minutes. It is possible that the object was round but the brightness could have given it that illusion.

William F. Van Steenburgh
WILLIAM F. VAN STEENBURGH
1st Lieutenant, USAF

116°W

35°N

observer

object

117°30'W

33°30'N

WRC #404

Scale 1:1,000,000

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY USA	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Report of Information on Unidentified Objects		
AREA REPORTED ON Southern California	FROM (Agency) Intelligence Officer, 146th Ftr-Bmr Gp	
DATE OF REPORT 18 August 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 11 August 1952	EVALUATION b-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) Captain Daniel W. Snow	SOURCE Colonel Amos F. Riha	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, dtd 29 April 1952		

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one sentence paragraph. List inclosures at bottom left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

Reference Air Force Letter 200-5, Subject: "(Unclassified) Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting (Short Title: FIYOBREPT)", dated 29 April 1952, Department of the Air Force, Washington, D.C.

a. The following information is submitted:

- (1) Sighted bright and shiny object, round, larger than large airplane. No exhaust, vapor trail or means of propulsion observed. Was hovering or in slight climb away from observer. No maneuvers.
- (2) Time of sighting 0801 PST 11 August 1952. Observed for approximately 1 minute.
- (3) Visual observation from F-51, altitude 6,000 ft., speed approximately 215. Observer was number 2 man in flight formation. Observer lost sight of object during turn in formation.
- (4) Location of observer was 34° 50' N, 117° 20' W. Object was approximately 45° at 15,000 to 20,000 feet at about 10 miles distance.
- (5) Observer was Amos F. Riha, Colonel, Commanding Officer 146th Fighter-Bomber Group, George Air Force Base, California. Colonel Riha is experienced, rated pilot. Considered very reliable.
- (6) Weather CAVU. Winds at 6,000 feet, 70° at 15 knots.
- (7) None
- (8) None
- (9) Colonel Riha led flight of F-51s to the area where object was last seen. Climbed to 14,000 ft. Nothing more observed.
- (10) Several flights of F-51s in area.

2 INCL.

APPROVED:
DANIEL W. SNOW
Captain, USAF
Intelligence Officer

1 cy - Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
1 cy - Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington D.C.

13 August 1952

STATEMENT OF OBSERVER

I, Amos F. Rife, Colonel USAF 4593A, 146th Fighter-Bomber Group, make the following statement concerning a certain unidentified object observed by me on 11 August 1952:

I sighted the object while flying as number 2 man in a formation of F-51s. The time was 0801 hours PST on the date indicated.

The object was bright and shiny and appeared to be hovering or in a slight climb away from me. It was about 10 miles away at about 15 to 20,000 feet in altitude.

I observed it for about a minute until I lost sight of it while making a turn in formation. I led the formation to where I had last seen the object but did not see it again.

AMOS F. RIFE
Colonel, USAF

116°W

35°N

F-51 Flight
PATH

Object

George AFB

Legend
Point of First Sighting
Point where Pilot lost sight of Object

117° 10' W

35° 30' N

WAC # 404

Scale 1:1,000,000

Incl # 2

ACTION

12 AUG 1952 10 29
1952 AUG 12

11. ATIAA
2. ATIA
3. C. Files

RD066A

WPE061

YDD040

XYC038

XMA036

CXE060

JWPGG 023

PP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JESDF 444

DE JWPGG 005

P 120200Z

FM CO FTR BMR WG 146 GEORGE AFB CALIF

TO JEPHQ/ D/I HQ USAF WASHINGTON D.C.

JEDWP/ATIC, WRIGHT ~~55349, 17 980~~ *PATTERSON AFB OHIO*

JEDEN/ CG ENF ~~AFB~~

JESDF/CG 9AF POPE AFB N.C.

~~██████████~~ CITE 146 FBW FG02 102 ATTN: AIAA

2--: PD FLYOBRPT - SIGHTED SINGLE OBJ PD ROUND CMA BRIGHT AND SHINY
PD NO TRAIL CMA EXHAUST NOR MEANS OF PRPLN PD SIZE OF LARGE ACFT PD
TIME SIGHTED 1045 PST FOR APRX 4 MINUTES PD SIGHTED FROM MOVING
AUTOMOBILE PD OBSR WAS ON GEORGE AFB CMA 34 DEGREES 35 MINUTES N
117 DEGREES 23 MINUTES W PD OBJ WAS 20 MILES SE CMA APRX TWO
ZERO ZERO ZERO ZERO FT PD OBSR 1ST LT W F VAN STEENBURGH NAV NOT
ON FLY STATUS CMA 10 YRS SERVICE CMA RELIABILITY GOOD PD WEA CAVU
PD NO MET COND TO ACCT FOR SIGHTING PD NO PHY EVIDENCE PD NO INTCP
AND NO OTHER AIR TRAFFIC NOTED PD

12/0208Z AUG JWPGG

ATIC
ACTION INFOR. AGO I
INFOR.

11 PM 11:03

Cy1

RA064

WPE060

YDB045T

XYA055

XMA033

XXC013

CXA044

JWPGG 022

PP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JESDF 444

DE JWPGG 006

P 120201Z ZNJ

FM CO 146 FTRBMRWG GEORGE AFB CALIF

TO JEPHQ/ D/I HQ USAF, WASHINGTON D C

JEDWP/ ATIC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COL

JESDF/CG 9AF POPE AFB N C

~~REDACTED~~/CITE 146 FBW FG02 101 ATTN: AIAA 2-C PD

FLYOB RPT - SIGHTED SINGLE OBJ PD ROUND CMA BRIGHT AND SHINY CMA NO

TRAIL CMA EXHAUST CMA OR SOUND PD HOVERING OR SLIGHT CLIMB PD TIME

OF OBSERVATION 0801 PST PD SIGHTING LASTED ONE MINUTE PD VIS

OBSERVATION FROM F-51 SIX ZERO ZERO ZERO FEET SPEED APRX 215 PD

LOC OF OBSR 34 DEGREES 50 MINUTES N 117 DEGREES 20 MINUTES W PD

LOC OF OBJ 45 DEGREES FROM OBSR AT ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO ZERO TO TWO

ZERO ZERO ZERO ZERO FT PD OBSR COL RIHA CMA 4593A CMA CO 146TH

FTR-BMR GP PD RELIABLE PD WEA CAVU WINDS 70 DEGREES 15 KNOTS PD NO

MET COND TO ACCT FOR SIGHTING PD INTCP ATTEMPTED CMA PLT LOST SIGHT

OF OBJ DURING TURN PD

12/0208Z AUG JWPGG

*Shirley AFB
11 Aug*

Book Bellom
ACTION INFOR. AGO. INFOR.
11 PM 11:05

*1501 Z
W 70°*