UFOB INDEX CARD

1. DATE 7 DEC 1954	2. LOCATION ~~EDINTON, NORTH CAROLINA~~ NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	12. CONCLUSIONS ☒ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other_____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 072005Z (D)	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE MILITARY	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20 SECONDS	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE	9. COURSE SSW

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

SEMI-SPHERICAL SHAPED OBJECT SHARPLY OUTLINED WITH DARK OBJECT SUSPENDED. ENTERED A SLOW CLIMB AT HIGH SPEED.

11. COMMENTS

AT FIRST APPEARED TO BE A PARACHUTE OR WEATHER BALLOON. PREMLIMINARY REPORTS INDICATE A BALLOON IN A HIGH WIND. THIS SIGHTING BEING INVESTIGATED BY FLT 3-H AT MCGUIRE.

AISOP Form 5 (15 Oct 54)

IN

ACTION

53114

0651Z DA
0F072 DA

-3 DEC 1954 07 45 Z

0DCSM 0554

Orld 07327

RBØ97

WPFØ87

TYA125

TDBØ68

BT93

EG B4Ø

1. Atta
2. Atta
3. Atta-2
4. File

OO JEPHQ JEDWP BEPW 333

DE BEGC 12B

O ZØ114Z

FM COMEASTSE

FRON

TO JEPHQ/DIRINT HQ USAF WASHDC

WP/AIR TECHNICAL INTCEN WPAFB

N/EADF STEWART AFB

EPW/DNI

Q Ø723Ø2Z

FM CNO

INFO CINCLANTFLT

COMEASTSEAFRON

Y Ø721Ø8Z

FM MAS NORVA

TO CG ADC ENT AFB COLORADO

SECDEF WASHDC

NFO CNO

E EDENTON

COMFIVE

GRNC

RECEIVED FROM MARINE ACFT BUNO 16851 X 36-5ØN 76-13W ONE

UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT HEADED SSW 15ØØØ FT EXTREMELY HIGH SPEED

X SILVER SPHERICAL SHAPE X VISIBILITY UNLIMITED X VERIFIED BY

PASSENGER Ø72ØØ5Z X PILOT STATIONED ALF EDENTON WILL FILE

PLIFYING REPORT ON LANDING EDENTON

... 16851 36-5ØN 76-13W 15ØØØ Ø72ØØ5Z

Ø27/211ØZ DEC BEKA

INTERCEPTION BY MAKING HARD RIGHT TURN IN THE DIRECTION OF OBJECT BUYEE

OBJECT PUT DUE TO EXTREMELY HIGH ACCELERATION OF OBJECT FURTHER

IDENTIFICATION IMPOSSIBLE X PART TEN X NO OTHER AIR TRAFFIC OBSERVED

BY PILOT OR WITNESS AT ALTITUE EEE AT ALTITUDES INVOLVED

CFN 0721087Z 382CPNT1 WY TR EIWCPNT2 QY TR QIP WPP PUQRRTR TV-2
136851 WOP WPPPP EYATPN 76-13W C12 QEEE C45 QTPPP WWPP EPP QRPPP
280 UP QYPPP WIP IQ QPPPP WYP IE

08/0315
PIXPEQTZ DDC BEKAE

IN

10 DEC 1954 08 45 Z

ACTION

9 DEC 54 21 02

6

1. C/Ops
2. C/Ops-2
3. C/Ops-3
4. Files

CORRECTED COPY OF MESSAGE
PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

07/14/54
Norfolk, VA

WPC214

TYC302

THB209U

TTB075

BT324

BEK B281

BEKA 133

RR JEPHQ JEDWP UECNR JEPNB UEPDA BEFW BEPQ BEKZF BEKAC BEKHC

CORCY BEKA

RR JEPHQ JEDWP UECNR JEPNB UEPDA BEPW BEPQ BEKZF BEKAC BEKHC [illegible]

DE BEKAE 02

R 080315Z

FM OIC ALF EDENTON

TO JEPHQ.DIR INTEL HQ USAF WASHDC

JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELCEN WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB /ATTEN AT-1AA-2C/

UECNR/COMMANDER ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS

JEPNB/COMMANDER ESTER AIR DEFENSE FORCE STEWART AFB

INFO UEPDA/SECDEF WASHDC

BEPW/CNO

BEPQ/CNC

BEKZF/CG AIRFMFFLANT

BEKAC/COM FIVE NAVDIST

BEKHC/CG SECOND MARAIRWING

BEKHC/CO MCAS CHERRY POINT

BEKAC/CO NAS NORVA

GRNC

FLYOBRPT X PILOT AMPLIFYING REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

INCLUDING INFORMATION CONTAINED IN NAS NORVA 072100Z NOTAL X REF

COMFIVE 382PNT1 OF 26 AUG 54 AND COM EASTERN SEA FRONTIER 382PNT2

OF 16 JUL 54 X PART ONE X WHITE CIRCULAR SEMI-SPHERICAL SHAPE SHARPLY

OUTLINED WITH DARK OBJECT SUSPENDED X AT FIRST APPEARED TO BE OPENED

PARACHUTE OR WEATHERNBALLOON FREE DRIFTING SLOW SPEDEEE SPEED 180 DEGREES

X WHEN CLOSER OBSERVATION WAS ATTEMPTED OBJECT ACCELERATED TO TREMENDOUS

SPEED ENTERING SLOW RATE CLIMB AND SLIGHT COURSE CHANGE TO THE RIGHT

GRADUALLY DIMINISHING IN SIZE AND FINALLY DISAPPEARING ON COURSE ABOUT

270 DEGREES WITHIN TWENTY SECOND EEEE SECONDS X NO OTHER IDENTIFYING

INFORMATION X PART

PAGGE TWO BEKAE 022

TWO X OBSERVED AT 071445R X PART THREE X VISUAL OBSERVATION X OBSERVER
AIRCRAFT MARINE TV-2 BUNO 136851 X 290 KNOTS INDICATED AT 20000
FEET X PART FOUR X OBSERVER AT INITIAL SIGHTING 36-50N 76-13W ABOUT
FIVE MILES SOUTH NAVY NORFOLK RADIO HEADING 012 DEGREES X WHEN FIRST
SIGHTED OBJECT WAS 045 DEGREES RELATIVE TO OBSERVER AT 15000 FEET
ABOUT TWO MILES ESTIMATED X PART FIVE X OBSERVER PILOT CAPTAIN DAYTON
ROBINSON USMC NAVAL AVIATOR EIGHT YEARS WITH ABOUT 2200 HOURS FLIGHT
TIME CONSIDERED TO BE HIGHLY RELIABLE X WITNESS PASSENGER CORJORAL
EEEEE PASSENGER CORPORAL EDWIN G CAPONE USMC AIRCRAFT MC EEE MECHANIC AND
CREW MEMBER FOR THREE YEARS WITH ABOUT 300 HOURS FLIGHT TIME EXPERIENCE
X WITNESS CONFIRMS OBSERVERS REPORT S PART SIX X WEATHER CAVU WITH
ESTIMATED WINDS 14000 FEET 280 DEGREES AT 70 KNOTS 16000 FEET 280 AT
81 AND 20000 FEET 260 AT 83 X PART SEVEN X PILOT FIRST INVESTIGATED WITH
THE ASSUMPTION OBJECT WAS A PARACHUTE OR A LARGE WEATHER BALLON BUT DUE
TO IMMEDIATE ACCELERATION OF OBJECT AND ON FURTHER OBSERVATION HE AND THE
WITNESS POSITIVELY DISCOUNTED THESE POSSIBILITIES AND REALIZED THAT
OBJECT WAS CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN PARACHUTE OR BALLOON X THE SUN WAS
EXTREMELY BRIGHT AND
PILOT CLAIMS HE CONSIDERED REFLECTION FACTOR X PART EIGHT X NO PHYSICA
EVIDENCE SUCH AS FRAGMENTS OR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE OBJECT EXIST X PART
NINE X ON INITIAL SIGHTING PILOT ATTEMPTED IDENTIFICATION AND THEN

Unclassified

USA

3B-UIOB-2

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

UIOB

N/A

Intelligence Bn, 4602d AISS

9 Dec 54

7 Dec 54

B-2

CHESTER B. HANSON, Captain, USAF

See contents below

Hq 4602nd AISS ltr USE AISOB, 31/24, dated 8 Dec 54, AFR 200-2 & 5a USC 170? UM 12-

I. CONTENTS:

PART ONE: Description of sighting by Marine Captain EDISON ROBINSON, JR.

PART TWO: Description of sighting by Air Lieutenant EDWIN C. CARLONE.

PART THREE: Weather and Balloon data from EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

PART FOUR: Weather and Balloon data from NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

PART FIVE: Weather and Balloon data from LANGLEY AFB, VA.

PART SIX: Opinion of DR. UCO VAN WICK, Director, Perkinston Observatory, Perkinston, Miss.

PART SEVEN: Investigator's Summary.

II. SUMMARY: One unidentified flying object was sighted over MARINE AUXILIARY AIRFIELD, EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA, GEOGRAPHIC COORDS, at 7:19½ Dec 1954. The information contained in this report was obtained from persons observing the object and meteorological data, and information from Perkinston Observatory.

III. INVESTIGATOR: Captain CHESTER B. HANSON, A0667289

CHESTER B. HANSON
Captain, USAF
Officer in Charge

APPROVED BY:

JOHN L. WHITE, Jr.
Colonel, USAF
Commander

Encl: (See Individual Reports)

DISTRIBUTION: 5 - Hq USAF
1 - ATIC
1 - 4602d AISS
1 - AISOB
1 - File

COMMENDING (COC) w/o encl
D/I 2602d AISS w/o encl

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 10 PAGES
Flight 3-H, 4602D AISS	3H-UDOB-2, PART I	

1. SOURCE: DARLTON ROBINSON, JR., Captain USMC

Age: 29

Length of Service: 8 years Flying Experience

Duties: Material Officer and Pilot

Education: Graduated from University of Alabama in 1950

Qualifications: Flying time, 2200 Hours; single engine type

Station: Marine Aircraft Group, Fourteen Air Station Cherry Point, Havelock, North Carolina

2. EVALUATION: Source was a fully qualified Marine Captain. He gave much thought to each of his answers and appeared to be recalling events as they happened to the best of his ability. In the opinion of this investigator he was a highly reliable source.

3. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT: (See Inclosure #1 "Statement of SOURCE" and Inclosure #2 "Completed Form A" Information Required by Paragraph 7d of AFR 200-2 is contained in completed Form A).

2 Incls:
1. Statement by Source
2. Completed Form A

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[redacted]

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Flight 3-B, /6026 ATBS	[redacted] 3E-IIF-OB-2, PART 1	[redacted] 1 of 1

Encl. #1, PART ONE, Rept. 3E-IIF-OB-2
Statement of Captain Dayton Robinson, Jr., USMC

STATEMENT

On 7 December 1954, I took off from Edenton, North Carolina for a two hour local flight. Take-off time was approximately 1430 Eastern Standard Time. I headed immediately for Navy Norfolk Radio, homing in on the Station with the ADF gear, on a heading of about 015 magnetic. I climbed to 20,000 feet and leveled off, indicated air speed of 290 knots. Weather CAVU except for a few (CCOO (8) scattered clouds far out to sea and a trace of high thin cirrus. Visibility was excellent due to the large amount of storm and rain the day before the flight. Approaching Norfolk I noticed a slight needle ADF swing to the right and corrected to a heading of 012, assuming I had crossed the Airway. As I approached the station I noticed a needle deflection of about 5 because I knew I was about over the station. Looking down on my chart I saw many boats of the Atlantic Fleet maneuvering in the Bay Area just off-shore between Norfolk and Cape Henry and the fact that the Navy looked busy to my passenger. When I passed what I thought to be a battleship drifting slowly down, 045 to my heading and down I was approaching the object rapidly and I called my passenger's attention to the object, thinking to myself that possibly someone had bailed out or ejected without a Mayday transmission. I rolled my aircraft into a right bank of approximately 45 with the intention of circling the object. My passenger remarked that the object looked more like a large weather balloon than a parachute and I agreed, telling him that we would investigate. At this time I noticed that the object was accelerating rapidly and moving to the south. I realized that I was watching something new to my experience. I rolled into a steeper right bank and told my passenger to keep the object in sight. By this time the rate of speed and acceleration was astounding and the object was becoming smaller as it moved away. At this time I judged the object to be at 15,000 feet and moving rapidly to the south in a slight climb with a slight curvature of course to the west. Before I could complete 90 of turn both my passenger and I lost sight of the object. I circled the area without re-establishing contact with the object. My passenger and I discussed all possibilities that we could think of. I decided to report the matter to Naval Air Station, Norfolk, which I did. I timed to duplicate the circumstances of the sighting and we decided that the total time involved was 20-25 seconds. I judged the speed of the object to be 2700 to 3000 mph. To me the object had definite form and depth and I had no feeling of illusion except that I had never seen any thing move that fast. The best description I can give is to relate that I was positive I had sighted a descending parachute when I first saw the object. Upon closer observation I decided that the object was at a greater distance than I thought and I lost sight of the dark object suspended below. I then believed the object to be at 15,000 ft. and considerably larger than I first thought. At times it appeared cartoon-like and the color never changed from the metallic grey white. The object did not seem to be flat. My impression was of some depth, although I never had a good view of the side of the object.

/s/ Dayton Robinson, Jr.
Captain, USMC

STATEMENT

INTEL CODE: [redacted]
CHESTER B. HANSON
Captain, USAF

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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

[illegible]	REPORT NO.	PAGE 4 OF 10 PAGES
Flight 3-H, 46026 AISS	3H-IIR-2, PART II	

I SOURCE: EDWIN G. CAPONE, Cpl., USMC

Age: 22

Length of Service: 3 years

Duties: Aircrewman, and flight line mechanic

Education: High school and 1½ years of college (college unknown)

Qualifications: 300 flight hours as crewmember, 14 months training on Aviation Mechanic

Stations: Marine Aircraft Group, Cherry Point Auxiliary Landing Field, Edenton, North Carolina

II EVALUATION: (C) Capone was talkative, cooperative, cheerful man. From the conversation of routine questions on the Base, this investigator understood that SOURCE is inclined to joke considerably and is considered a troublemaker. In spite of this, Investigator considers SOURCE reliable in view of his flying experience and the serious manner with which he answered the questions submitted to him.

III SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT: (See Inclosure # 1 "Statements of SOURCE" and Inclosure # 2, "Completed Form A". Information contained in paragraph 7b of AIR 200-2 as contained in completed Form A)

2 Incls:
1. Statements of SOURCE
2. Completed Form A

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.	PAGE
Encl, 3-H, A6026 AISS	3H-USFOB-2, PART III	5 of 10 Pages

Encl, #1, PART TWO, Rept, 3H-USFOB-2
Statement of Capt, Edward G. Capone, USMC

SUBJECT

While on a routine simulated instrument hop in a TV-2 (15651) my position was to raise and observe the areas for other aircraft. While we (Lieut Osborne, Radio Nº0 with a slight variation to a base heading (012) I was looking out of the canopy to the left watching some ship movement in the Norfolk Harbor. I had just furnished a complete 180 scan of our position and was looking down to watch the harbor and lower altitudes. Captain Roberson called my attention to an object that he thought was a disabling parachute and to my challenge observation of what I immediately saw an object which was of a flat white color and to my latest observation was not a parachute. Due to radio type weather talkon, (due to the shape, however our conclusion was that it was a parachute and that it was disabling and perhaps a pilot who had no time to give a "Mayday". So we turned to the radar to make an orbit on it and as we approached at 15 knots (as far as our movement had been detected) the object picked up speed at its descending course flew out of sight at a slight increasing rapidity until its gone terminated and could no longer be seen. Our plane was not completed a still 50 turn when the object disappeared. All observations were taken as to its being a plane or parachute and this was not out of my mind as far as a very strong conviction and the only place or parachute from for seemed to come from the object suspended below it. While same speculation was that it disabled as to believe it was a parachute.

/s/ Edward G. Capone,
Capt, USMC

SUBJECT

TRUE COPY:

CHESTER B. HANSON, Lt
Commanding, USAR

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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.			
Flight 3H, 46026 AISS	3H-USOR-3, PART I/II	PAGE 6	OF 10	PAGES

I. WEATHER DATA FROM EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA, OBSERVER CAPT 2/Lt

a. Time of Observation: 7215OZ Dec 54

b. No cloud coverage

c. Visibility: 10 miles

d. Winds: WNW 9 knots, no gusts

e. Station pressure: 30.225

f. Surface temperature: 35.10

g. Wet Bulb: 31.0

h. Relative humidity: 65%

II. BALLOON DATA:

a. One 15 gram balloon was released at 7150Z Dec; however it is believe that due to prevailing winds, balloon would not have remained in vicinity.

b. No further information on balloons obtained.

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PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.	DATE		REPORTED BY	EVALUATION		
FTAg4-3-B 46026 AISS	3B-USOB-2	PART IV				

I. WEATHER DATA FROM NORFOLK NAVAL AIR STATION, VIRGINIA (GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION)

a. Time of Observation: 71830Z Dec 54

b. Cloud coverage: Clear

c. Visibility: 10 miles

d. Thunder-storms: none

e. Winds aloft:

5,000 ft	360°	30 Knots
10,000 "	270°	30 "
15,000 "	260°	50 "
20,000 "	260°	50 "

f. Temperature lapse rate: Surface to 2000 2° Centr. per 1000 ft
2000-15,000 1° " " "
15000-20,000 3° " " "

g. Moisture lapse rate: 0

II. BALLOON DATA FROM NORFOLK NAVAL AIR STATION

a. At 71500Z Dec 54 a RAWINSONDE weather balloon was released at Norfolk Naval Air Station. However it is believed that prevailing winds would have taken balloon from that vicinity.

b. Similarly a balloon from Greensboro, North Carolina at the same time. It is believed that winds could have drifted the balloon into the area of the sighting of the object.

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AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED JUNE 1950

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.	REPORT NO.	PAGE
FTD-Rpt-54-H 46026 AISS	AF-USOB-2, PART V	8 OF 16 PAGES

I. WEATHER OBSERVATION FROM LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA, (38.5°N 76.5°W)

a. Time of Observation: 21830Z Dec 54

b. Cloud coverage: Clear

c. Visibility: 15 miles

d. Thunderstorms: None

e. Winds aloft:

5,000 ft	360°	30 Knots
10,000 "	270°	30 "
15,000 "	260°	50 "
20,000 "	260°	50 "

f. Temperature lapse rate:

Surface - 2,000	2° centr per 1,000 ft
2,000 - 15,000	1° " " " "
15,000 - 20,000	3° " " " "

g. Moisture lapse rate: 0

II. BALLOON DATA FROM LANGLEY AFB: No balloons were released at that station.

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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 9 OF 10 PAGES
Flight 3-H, 4602d AISS	3H-UFOB-2, PART VI	

Incl #1, PART SIX, Rept. 3H-UFOB-2
Opinion of Dr. Joo Van Hajik, Princeton Observatory, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, As related to Mr. Tebo.

S-U-M-M-A-R-Y

If, as the captain said, the object was about the size of a dime held at arms length, and it was approximately 2 miles distance from the aircraft, the object must have been in the neighborhood of 50 feet in diameter. Now, an object that distance away from an aircraft would never have been in sight for 20 to 22 seconds if it were going 2,700 miles per hour. The object would not be going faster than 750 miles per hour, as it were 1500 feet below the aircraft, and if the object were lower, it would be going faster, but it would have to fall all the way on the ground from the pilot to have observed it for 22 seconds at the speed of 2,700 miles per hour.

Now, according to the angles given by the pilots, and his heading, the sun must have been close to his rear, and as he turned from it the object, the sun would tend to shine less on the part of the object that was seen. This would have a tendency to make the object diminish in size. Also, the object must have been rising, as stated by the angle it was from the horizon at first, (20°) and then to 5°.

Now, as the Capt. Robinson went more into his bank, the object received less and less sun on the side he was looking at, and as the object gave the illusion of getting smaller, it could very easily give the illusion of moving away rapidly.

Another item is the psychological conditioning of not-to thinking the object is a parachute, and should be moving down. When it is realized that the object is not moving down, after a quick conditioning that it is, a disagreeable type movement (such as up, or lateral) would seem apparent to the observer.

We must also take into consideration two other items. No object was reported by other aircraft in the area, or the fleet below. Also, the distance that veiled away from the object while the plane was going into its bank to the right.

All of these things combined could add up to the object being a balloon having different types of light thrown on it while the aircraft was turning, a momentarily prompt conditioned observer, and faulty estimates on distances and speeds. With the balloon this close to the ground, it could be traveling fairly rapidly, although not necessarily at a constant speed.

Jack Tebo
JACK TEBO
2/Lt., USAF
Asst. Ofc., Flt. 3H
4602d AISS

S-E-C-R-E-T-U-N-C-L-A-S-S-I-F-I-E-D

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AF FORM 112 - PART II
APPROVED JUNE 1954

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	DATE
Flight 2-B, 4602d AISS	3-UFOB-2, Part VII	Mo. 10 D. 10 Yr.

INVESTIGATOR'S SUMMARY

1. Flight 2-B, 4602d AISS, Knoxville, Tennessee, reported no unusual objects at the time of the sighting by GCI Posts and Radar Controls.

2. Since units in the area send up aircraft for all known (radar) sightings, checks dealing with the Flight Service Center, Olmsted AFB, Pennsylvania, no record could be discovered of aircraft in the vicinity at the time of the sighting. However, because of the many flights beginning at Langley AFB, Virginia, Lovell Naval Air Station, Virginia and Edenton, North Carolina, it is highly probable that aircraft were in the vicinity at this time.

3. The fact that both observers saw a time throughout the object was a weather balloon and indicates that it was possible that weather balloons were in the area indicates a possible answer to the sighting. This theory is borne out by opinion of Dr. Van Tuyl, Part VI, of this report.

CHESTER B. HANSON
Captain, USAF
Investigator-In-Charge

CONCURS: Approving Officer

Evaluation of the combined statements of the two observers, plus the professional opinion of Dr. Ico Van Tuyl, tend to support the theory that the sighting was a balloon.

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