PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE
3 September 1956

2. LOCATION
Silver Springs, Maryland

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local _____
GMT 04/0130Z

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION
☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar
☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS
☐ Yes
☒ No

6. SOURCE
Civilians

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
ten seconds

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
one

9. COURSE
straight up

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING
One round or oval white object, size of basketball at arm's length. Object was sighted directly overhead & disappeared straight up. Object was observed visually for 10 seconds.

11. COMMENTS
Concur w/comments of preparing officer. Sighting probably caused by a light reflection of some sort from the Washington, DC area. Impracticable to attempt to pinpoint light source.

12. CONCLUSIONS
☐ Was Balloon
☐ Probably Balloon
☐ Possibly Balloon
☐ Was Aircraft
☐ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft
☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical
☒ Other Probably Light Reflectin
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

AF FORM 112
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

Multi

(CLASSIFICATION)

04/0130Z - 72

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
United States of America	2-56	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT
Unidentified Flying Object Report

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
Silver Spring, Maryland	Director of Plans and Intelligence, Headquarters Command, USAF, Bolling AFB

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
5 September 1956	4 September 1956	Unevaluated

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
Major James E. Geurtz	James Blick

REFERENCES (*Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable*)
None

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 112—Part II.*)

The following information is reported in accordance with AFR 200-2, Unidentified Flying Objects Report, dated 12 August 1954:

James E. Geurtz
JAMES E. GEURTZ
Major, USAF
Assistant Director, Plans
and Intelligence

0 INCLS.

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR
1 cy - Dir of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington 25, D. C.
1 cy - Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
1 cy - Dir of Plans and Intelligence, Headquarters Command, USAF, Bolling AFB 25, DC

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Director of Plans and Intelligence, Headquarters Command, USAF	REPORT NO. 2-56	PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

1. Description of the object:

   a. Between round and oval
   b. Basketball
   c. White
   d. One
   e. Negative
   f. Negative
   g. Negative
   h. Negative
   i. Negative

2. Description of course of object:

   a. [redacted] and a friend were observing the planet Mars, when his friend suddenly pointed up at the object and called Mr. [redacted] attention to it.
   b. Directly overhead
   c. Disappeared straight up
   d. Unknown
   e. Unknown
   f. 10 seconds

3. Manner of observation:

   a. Ground-visual
   b. Negative
   c. Negative

4. Time and date of sighting:

   a. 0130Z 4 September 1956
   b. Night

5. Location of observers:

   a. [redacted] Terrace, Silver Spring, Maryland

6. Identifying information of observer:

   a. [redacted] age, 15; [redacted] Terrace, Silver Spring, Maryland; occupation, student

   [redacted]; age, 13; [redacted] Terrace, Silver Spring, Maryland; occupation, student

7. Weather and winds--aloft, conditions at time and place of sighting:

   a. Clear
   b. Surface, 090-04K
      6000-110-06K
      10,000-220-08K
      16,000-240-12K
      20,000-240-20K
      30,000-260-27K
      50,000-170-06K
      70,000-080-16K

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES
Director of Plans & Intelligence Hq Command, USAF	2-56	

7. Cont'd

   c. Ceiling - none
   d. Visibility - 12 Miles
   e. Amount of cloud cover - None
   f. Thunderstorms in area - None

8. Negative

9. Negative

10. Negative

11. Position title and comments of the preparing officer:

   a. Asst Director of Plans & Intelligence

   b. The youth of the observers, coupled with an apparent interest in celestial-scientific knowledge could have led to an over-imaginative observation. Due to the relative positions of the observers and the planet Mars, they would have been looking almost directly over the City of Washington and it's airport complex. Heavy air traffic and lights in this area could have created a false impression. The observers were sincere in their attitude and they apparently saw something. There was no evidence that they were seeking personal noteriety. The reliability of this report is unknown.

12. Negative

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