[redacted]

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE: 27 Nov 60	2. LOCATION: Chula Vista, California	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
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1930 GMT 28/0330Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE: Civilian and Military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 20-30 min	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS: one	9. COURSE: Varied

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Object was a bit redder than Mars (orange red) and was describing huge circles in the air. It then came to a sudden stop and hovered. Resembled a planet, but it had something connected with it a planet does not have. This thing resembled "a 4th of July sparkler," which appeared to go in and out on one side.

11. COMMENTS

Object has many characteristics of a refracted astronomical object, but the movement fm E-W and the high elevation angle tends to rule out this possibility. Witnesses indicated they were watching object thru binoculars; therefore a balloon ar a/c should have been recognized and 30 min is a long time for an a/c to be in sight if flying in any one direction for any length of time. This case is classed as an "Unidentified."

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

January 21, 1961

Lt. Col. Lawrence Tacker
KT TV- TV , Channel 11
Hollywood, 28, California

Dear Sir:

I wish to report a very strange sighting in the sky over Chula Vista and San Diego and Mexico about a month ago. There was an exceptionally clear sky that evening and seven of us viewed the object for twenty minutes and two for thirty minutes.

First, I wish to make it clear to you that we are competent observers. We have been amateur astronomers for many years and are well acquainted with all the constellations and planets. We are also able to recognize a meteor when we see one. During meteor showers we often watch the sky all night and we have seen many varieties and many spectacular meteors. And we knew them for what they were, of course. We are also very used to jet plane sightings, weather and observation balloons, satellites, helicopters and all the other things, including inversions that are often mistaken for UFOS. We have watched all the Sputniks and Echo.

On the evening we saw this strange object we were sitting watching Television when the Manager of this trailer court knocked on the door and asked us to please come out and see if we could identify the strange thing they were watching in the sky. So we seized our binoculars and rushed out to see a staggering sight. It was an object a bit redder than Mars (orange red) and was describing huge circles in the air. Then it would come to a sudden stop and hover. Through the binoculars it closely resembled a planet, but it had something connected with it a planet does not have. The best way I can describe it is to say it looked like a 4th of July sparkler connected to the side of the object and appeared to go in and out. Then the red-orange glow went out and the sparkler part kept right on making dashes at terrific speeds. It went way down into Mexico and then circled some more and then returned and from where we were viewing it went out over North Island and hovered some more. Kindly remember that seven people (three with binoculars) were viewing this object for a long time. Then it vanished. And did not reappear.

There was no noise connected with it. And there was not a plane of any description in the air that night. (It was a Sunday evening). That is very unusual here, especially on clear nights.

I felt I should report this sighting to someone so I called up Mr. [redacted] who is the head of Project Moonwatch here and described the sighting to him. He was interested and gave me his residence phone number so we could call him if we ever saw it again and perhaps manage to triangulate it.

None of the usual Air Force explanations could explain this sighting. We have not seen it again but we look every night.

It seems to me it should be reported to the Air Force. If you agree with me then you can insist that they send someone out here to take testimony from all or any of us that saw it. My husband would be the best one to interrogate. He and Mr. [redacted] (msnager of this trailer court) never took their binoculars off it. And my husband has a theory about the sparkle bar and rocketry that he could tell them about.

We could not resolve the white light that seemed to go in and out from the red-orange light but we were able to resolve the red-orange light. It seemed to be very, very far away especially when directly overhead. The definition of the orange-red light was much smaller than we expected it to be. The sparkling white light seemed to move in and out a great distance, possibly as much as a hundred diameters. It left the impression of a very bright light fastened on a long pole that could only be seen on one side and every time the pole would go around you could see the bright white light go in and out on one side of the main body only. The whole thing maneuvered so much in circles and going to and from us that we must have viewed it from all sides.

This was the most mysterious, unexplainable and spectacular sighting we have ever made and we will appreciate any explanation you can make of it.

My husband says I should state that the one hundred diameters means diameters of the main body.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Mr. & Mrs. [redacted]

Chula Vista, California

1 February 1961

Dear Mr. and [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21 January in which you reported the sighting of an unidentified flying object in the sky over Chula Vista, San Diego and Mexico about a month ago.

Your letter contained insufficient information for a valid evaluation. Therefore, request you fill out the attached Air Force quetionnaire in detail and send the completed document to the Commander, Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for their analysis and/or evaluation.

Sincerely,

Attachment

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Publid Information Division
Office of Information

[redacted]
Caravan Trailer Court
Chula Vista, California

U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U.S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes, and will be regarded as confidential material. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that, if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

27 (Day) November (Month) 1960 (Year)

2. Time of day: Seven (Hour) Thirty (Minutes)

(Circle One): A.M. or (P.M.)

3. Time Zone: (Circle One): a. Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain
d. (Pacific)
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
(b) Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

[redacted] (Nearest Postal Address) Chula Vista (City or Town) California (State or Country)

Additional remarks: [redacted]

5. How long was object in sight? _____ Hours 20 to 30 Minutes _____ Seconds

5.1 How was time in sight determined? By the clock and by TV program

a. (Certain)
b. Fairly certain
c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

DAY	NIGHT
a. Bright	a. (Bright)
b. Cloudy	b. Cloudy

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right
d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

ATIC FORM FEB 60 164 This form supersedes ATIC 164, 13 Oct 54.

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS *(Circle One)*:

a. None
b. A few
c. (Many)
d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON *(Circle One)*:

a. Bright moonlight
b. Dull moonlight
c. (No moonlight — pitch dark)
d. Don't remember

9. The object appeared:

(Circle One): a.(As a light) b. Shiny c. Dark d. Don't remember

10. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? No. About the same magnitude as Mars when the main body of the object was illuminated. Identical in color with Mars, also.

11. Did the object: *(Circle One for each question)*

a. Appear to stand still at any time?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
c. Break up into parts or explode?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
d. Give off smoke?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
e. Change brightness? Section went out	Yes	No	Don't Know
f. Change shape? Explanation later	Yes	No	Don't Know
g. Flash or flicker? One section	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
h. Disappear and reappear ?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know

12. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes (No) Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind: _____

13. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes (No) Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what in front of: _____

14. Did the object appear: *(Circle One)*: a. (Solid) b. Transparent c. Vapor d. Don't Know

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

a. Eyeglasses	Yes	No	e. Binoculars	(Yes)	No
b. Sun glasses	Yes	No	f. Telescope	Yes	No
c. Windshield	Yes	No	g. Theodolite	Yes	No
d. Window glass	Yes	No	h. Other _____		

20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.



21. How large did the object appear to you as compared to an object with which you are familiar?

Overhead*** Mars. Down over Mexico **** Mercury.

22. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick at arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head? Covered

23. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how? Yes. It seemed to hover over North Island and then disappear but undoubtedly it simply travelled out of sight in a straight line from our viewpoint.

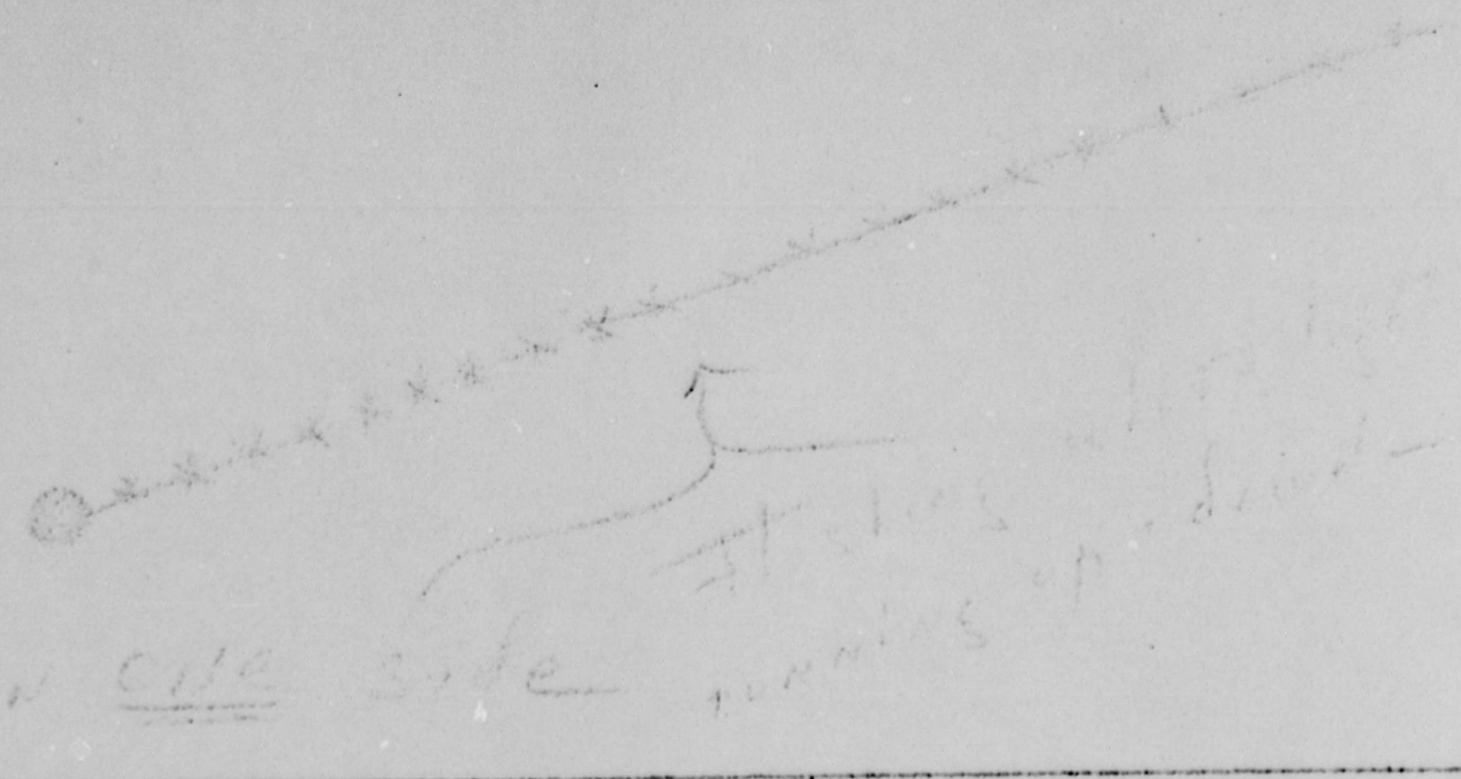
24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw. Mars, with a very long antenna rod attached and a flashing white light running back and forth the whole length of the rod. Rod fifty to one hundred diameters of the main resolved red-orange body.

16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

a. Sound No sound

b. Color Resembled Mars in color.

17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.



Seen only on one side

18. The edges of the object were:

(Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred
b. Like a bright star
c. Sharply outlined
d. Don't remember
e. Other Well outlinedwhen resolved with binoculars

19. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____

Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

25. Where were you located when you saw the object? *(Circle One):*

a. Inside a building
b. In a car
c. Outdoors
d. In an airplane (type)
e. At sea
f. Other _____

26. Were you *(Circle One)*

a. In the business section of a city?
Semi (b.) In the residential section of a city?
c. In open countryside?
(d.) Near an airfield? Near four
e. Flying over a city? (Lindbergh 9 mi.
(North Isl. 7 mi.
f. Flying over open country?
g. Other (Brown 10 mi.) (Hetland City 5 mi.

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

Watching television. Manager of Trailer Court knocked and asked us to please come out and try to identify the strange object they were watching. He knew we were interested in astronomy and studied the sky on all clear nights for many years.

28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

28.1 What direction were you moving? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

28.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

29. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object? *(Circle One)*

The people watching it before us said first viewed (g.) West

a. North
(c.) East
b. Northeast
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
h. Northwest
i. Overhead

30. What direction were you looking when you last saw the object? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
(h.) Northwest
i. Overhead

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North (thru east) and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

31.1 When it first appeared:

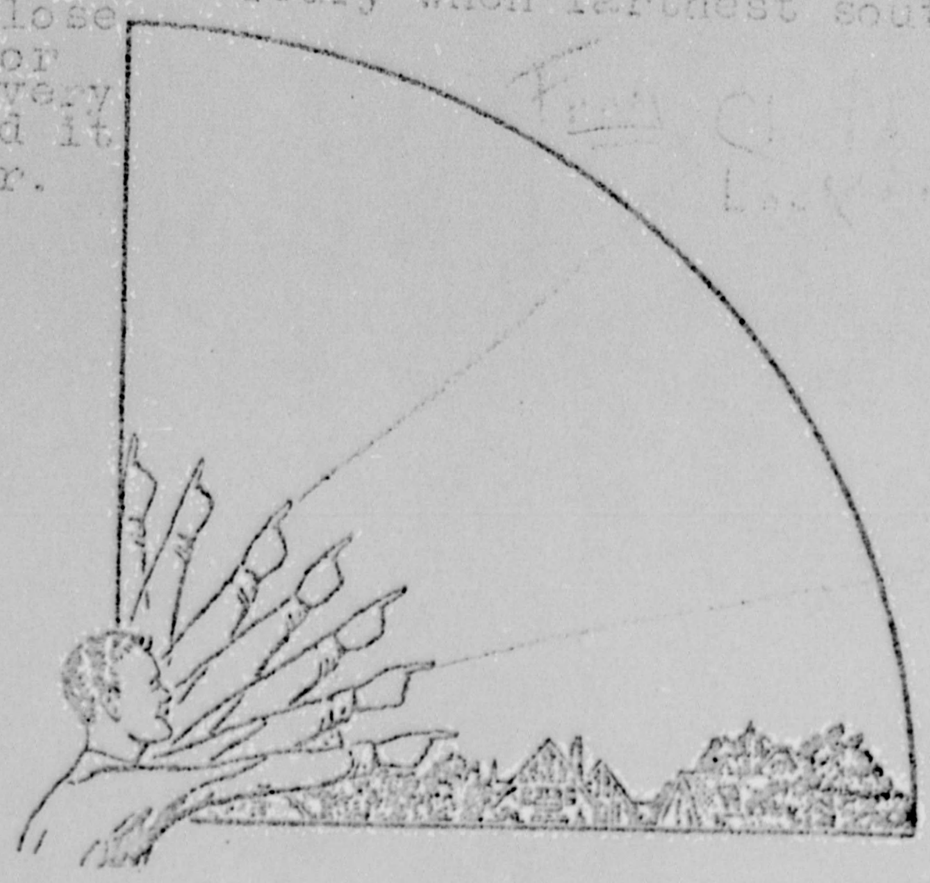
a. From true North 45 degrees. from Polaris east
b. From horizon 40 degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

a. From true North 45 degrees. west from Polaris
b. From horizon 30 degrees.

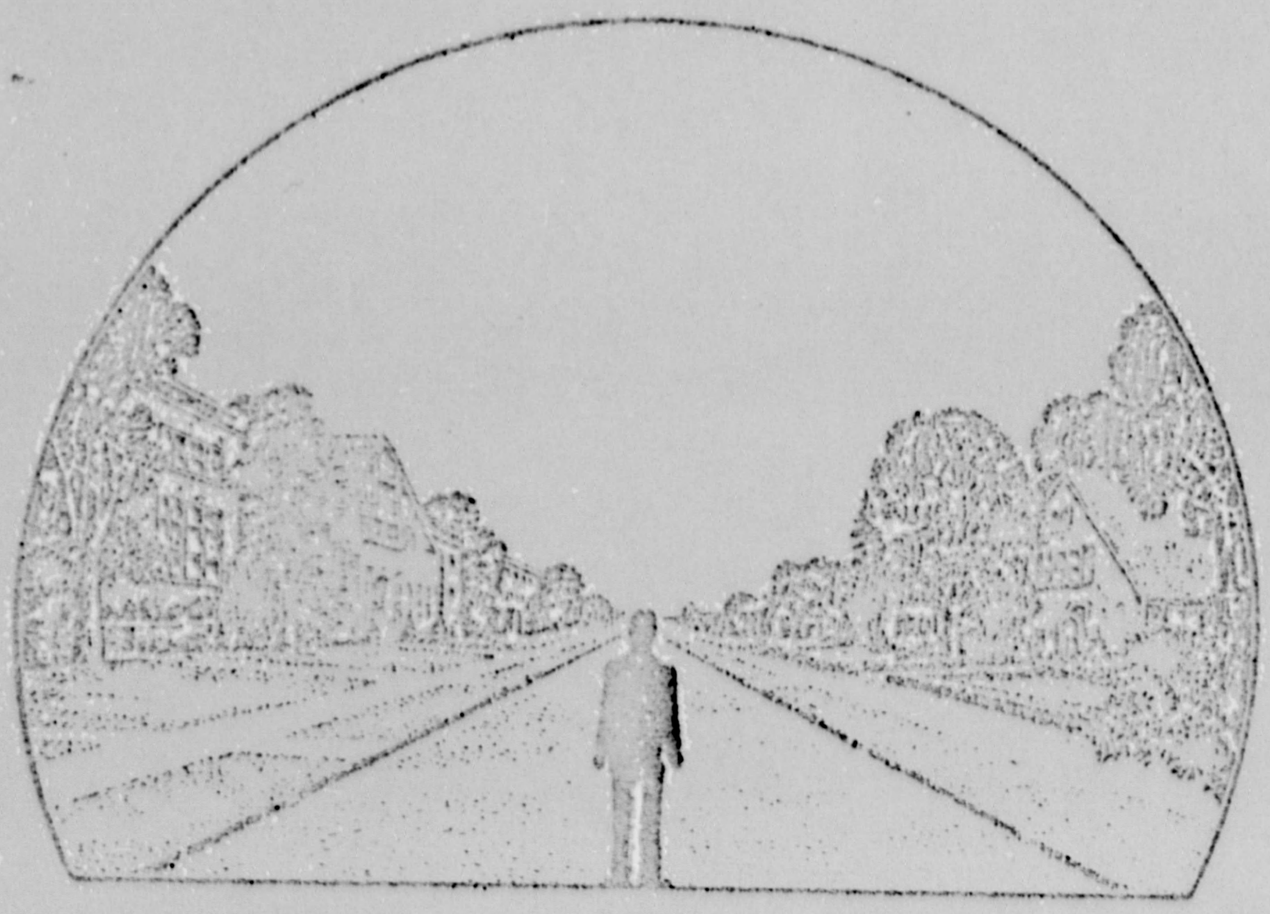
32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the *same* curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it.

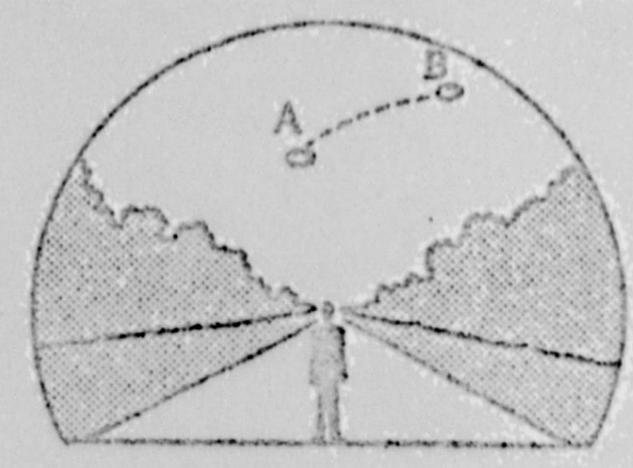
Using same binoculars the object resolved about the same size or slightly smaller then Mercury when farthest south. When first elected it was close enough to Mars for comparison, and very closely resembled it in size and color.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you *first* saw it, and a "B" at its position when you *last* saw it. Refer to smaller sketch as an example of how to complete the larger sketch.

Impossible to delineate on this sketch. It was all over the sky.





34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (Circle One)

(a.) Clear sky Exceptionally
b. Hazy
c. Scattered clouds
d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (Circle One)

(a.) Dry Santa Ana condition
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

35. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object?

November (Month) 1960 (Year) Mr. [redacted], Project, MOONWATCH

36. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

36.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

36.2 Please list their names and addresses: Mr.&Mrs. [redacted], Mr. [redacted] Mr.&Mrs. [redacted] (and us) all at [redacted] Chula Vista, Calif.

37. Was this the first time that you had seen an object or objects like this?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

37.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see other ones?

38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

It was unquestionably some kind of intelligently controlled air or space vehicle.

39. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?

(Circle One) Yes (No) All we can say is it must have been very high and going at a terrific speed

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? _____

40. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) Yes (No) No way to triangulate.

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? _____

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME Mr. & [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS [redacted] Chula Vista Californie
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER [redacted]

Age 55 (both) Sex M & F

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any education, which might be pertinent.

We have been amateur astronomers for many years and are very well acquainted with the constellations, planets, all types of planes, meteorites, comets, inversions, zodiacal light, sun-dogs, etc.

42. Date you completed this questionnaire: 6 (Day) Febuary (Month) 1961 (Year)

U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

(SUMMARY DATA)

In order that your information may be filed and coded as accurately as possible, please use the following space to write out a short description of the event that you observed. You may repeat information that you have already given in the questionnaire, and add any further comments, statements, or sketches that you believe are important. Try to present the details of the observation in the order in which they occurred. Additional pages of the same size paper may be attached if they are needed.

NAME [redacted]
(Please Print)

SIGNATURE [redacted]

DATE February 6, 1961

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

This is one of the most unusual sightings we have ever had. Mainly because of the great distance the flashing white light travelled back and forth from the main red-orange body and appeared only on one side. We have seen many unusual meteors and meteorites and have watch many meteor showers. We have observed all the visible Sputniks and Echo many times and we are positive that this was not a natural phenomena.

There were seven viewers, three with binoculars watching it for from twenty to thirty five minutes. The other five observers are not as familiar with the skies as we are but it excited their interest very much.

We are still wondering and discussing this amazing sighting and if you can give us any information about it we would appreciate it. It might give us a little more stimulation for continued sky watching for objects of this sort and and stimulate more sky-watching on the part of others. Our five neighbors have become intensely interested in sky watching.

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

Location Chula Vista, California

Date (Local) 27 November 60 Hour (Local) 1930

Hour (Z Time Group) 0330Z

Satellite: (Det 5 ATIC, Ext 3279) ✓

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) ✓

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) N/A

Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc)

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc

Other

Evaluation of Source Reliability Probably Good.

Analysis and Conclusions: The objects described by these witnesses have many of the characteristics of a reflected astronomical object, but the movement from East to West and the high elevation angle tends to rule out this possibility. The witnesses indicated they were watching the object through binoculars. Therefore a balloon or aircraft should have been recognized and 30 minutes is a long time for an aircraft to be in sight if flying in any one direction for any length of time. This case is classed as an "Unidentified"

Friend

S.D. SKIES GLOW

Pilots Spot Mystery Light

By JOHN BUNKER
EVENING TRIBUNE Military Writer

Two Navy pilots today reported seeing a strange, flying object in San Diego skies.

Lt. Bill Friel and Ens. Jim Jacanin of North Island's All Weather Fighter Squadron 3 spotted the object about 9:45 last night.

The Air Force radar station on Mt. Laguna said it did not pick up an unidentified object.

The station tracks all aircraft approaching the San Diego area.

"We were just going home from a routine alert when I saw this unusual light in the sky," said Friel.

"We were three blocks from our house at 311 First St. When we got there, the light was still visible. At first I thought it might be a satellite, but it wasn't moving as a satellite would. We then got binoculars and watched it.

"At first it was almost due east," said Jacanin. "It seemed to be moving east to west. Then it made a 90 degree turn toward the north. A minute or so later, it turned another 90 degrees and went back east."

The fliers said the object was visible for eight or 10 minutes.

"What intrigued us was the light from this object," said Friel.

"It wasn't the kind of light you see from a reciprocating engine exhaust at night or from a jet afterburner.

"The nearest you can describe it is to say it looked like a steady stream of electric sparks. Something like a sparkler on the 4th of July."

Friel and Jacanin belong to the only Navy fighter-interceptor squadron in the Air Force's North American Air Defense network.

EVENING TRIBUNE SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA Tues., Mar. 14, 1961

March 14, 1961

ATIC
Dayton
Ohio

Dear Sirs:

I am forwarding the enclosed clipping to you because it so closely resembles the sighting made by us in this vicinity on November 27, 1960.

My husband and I sent you a report on our sighting but I did not have the exact date on the report. Since then I found the page of the calendar where I had marked it and the date given above is correct.

We did not receive any acknowledgment from you of our report but I suppose a sighting like this is just as mysterious and unexplainable to you as it is to us.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]t
Chula Vista, California