

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 30 Set 61		2. LOCATION Indian Springs & Las Vegas, Nevada		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 301714Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical <i>VENUS</i> ☐ Probably Astronomical ☒ Possibly Astronomical	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian and Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1+ Hrs		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1 then 4		9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Elevations and azimuths of planet Venus at times of sightings from Indian Spring AFB and Nellis AFB are coincident with those reported for UFO. Planet was of magnitude -3.4 and its appearance in a theodolite would have been as described by witnesses. Since it was reported that witness came across planet while tracking a weather balloon it is safe to assume balloon was at an az close to that reported for objt. Objt observed by radar was in SE and was probably weather balloon. There is no evidence available which would indicate that objt seen visually and objt observed on radar were not Venus and a weather balloon.				11. COMMENTS	

H. NONE

I. NONE. 865TH AC&W OPERATIONS OFFICER ADVISED ALTITUDE OF OBJECTS, COMPUTED VIA TRIANGULATION, APPROXIMATELY 98 STATUTE MILES, WITH OBJECTS 45 STATUTE MILES SOUTHEAST OF NELLIS AFB AT TIME OF INITIAL SIGHTING.

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J. USWB AND FAA, MCCARRAN AIRPORT, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, ADVISE NO UNUSUAL METEOROLOGICAL ACTIVITY, BALLOON RELEASES, AND NO NOTAMS ON FILE CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE SIGHTING.

K. ANTHONY J. BUSALACCHI, MAJOR, USAF, DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, 4520TH CCRTNGWG, NELLISHAFB, NEVADA. NO ANALYSIS POSSIBLE VIA AVAILABLE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO SIGHTINGS.

L. NEGATIVE. UNKNOWN IF 865TH AC&W SQUADRON OBTAINED SCOPE PHOTOSENG

BT

3/2305Z SEPT RJWZSJ

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PEAK (MT CHARLESTON NW OF LAS VEGAS)

I. (1) N/A

(2) DET 31, 25TH WEA SQDN, NELLIS AFB, NEV

G. (1) CLEAR, VISIBILITY UNLIMITED

(2) WINDS: SURFACE - CALM; 6,000FT, 10DEGREES/4 KNOTS:

10,000FT, 320/13; 16,000FT, 250/14; 20,000FT, 280/13;

30,000FT, 310/19; 50,000FT, 280/52; 60,000FT, 290/15. WINDS

ARE FROM USWB, MCCARRAN AIRPORT, LAS VEGAS, FROM 1130Z BALLOON
REPORT (0400 LOCAL. NO HIGHER WINDS.

(3) CEILING CLEAR

(4) VISIBILITY 35 MILES

(5) CLOUD COVER - NONE

(6) THUNDERSTORMS-NONE

(7) TEMPERATURE (NAFB) 60 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT AT 0830 LOCAL,
1530Z, 30 SEP 61.

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(B) (1) WEATHER OBSERVER, INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NEVADA PICKED UP OBJECTS ON A THEODOLITE DURING OBSERVATIONS.

(2) AZIMUTH 133.4, ELEVATION 55.0, FROM INDIAN SPRINGS AFB.

(3) LAST THEODOLITE OBSERVATION FROM DETACHMENT 31, 25TH WEATHER SQUADRON, NELLIS AFB NEVADA AT 1630Z, 30 SEP 61, AZIMUTH 166.0, ELEVATION 63.0.

(4) SE, HEADING APPROX 145 DEGREES (FROM NELLIS AFB).

(5) STILL PAINTED BY 865TH AC&W SQUADRON, LAS VEGAS AF STATION, AT REPORTING TIME, PASSED TO PHOENIX AC&W AT TIMEHOF REPORT.

(6) FIRST OBSERVED 0830 LOCAL (1530Z, 30 SEP 61) BY AN INDIAN SPRINGS AFB WEATHER OBSERVER. VISIBLE ONE HOUR AT REPORT TIME. ONLY ONE OBJECT VISIBLE ON THE THEODOLITES AT BOTH ISAFB AND NAFB.K

C. (1) (A) THEODOLITE (ISAFB AND NELLIS AFB)

(B) GCI RADAR, 865TH AC&W SQUADRON, MT CHARLESTON, NEV

(2) NONE

(3) N/A

D. (1) 301530Z SEP 61

(2) DAY

E. INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NELLIS AFB, AND 865TH AC&W SQ, ANGELS

NNNN

1961 SEP 30 22 58

TELEPHONED

TO _____
NO. 11224
TIME _____
Date _____
By: _____

RA147

CZCSQE432ZCSRA033

PP RJEDSQ

ZNR ZOV RJEDSR

SRC246ZCQYD759

PP RJEDSR

DE RJWZMJ 36

ZNR

P M 302200Z ZEX

FM 4520TH CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEV

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLORADO

RJWZSB/28TH AIRDIV HAMILTON AFB CALIF

RJEDSR/ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFIS

INFO RJWZHAP/855TH AC2W SQUADRON LAS VEGAS AF STATION

BT

UNCLAS OI 09-0666

HQ USAF FOR AFCIN. UFO. AFR 200-2FORMAT.

A. (1) ROUND APPEARANCE

(2) HEAD OF A PIN

(3) WHITE OR METALLIC

(4) FOUR TO FIVE

(5) BROKEN

(6) NO

(7) NONE VISIBLE

(8) NONE

(9) NEGATIVE

31
1
3
4
E(ufo)
- x20

CZCSQK148ZCQYD527

FTD

RR RJEDSQ

ZNR ZDK

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJWZSJ 17

ZNR

P 052253Z

1961 OCT 6 13 46

E(UFO)

17
23
4
X2A

FM 4520TH CCRTNGWG NELLIS AFB NEVADA

TO WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

BT

UNCLAS/OI 13-3612. FOR RTD. UFC. REFERENCE OUR OI 89-3661 AND YOUR
TD-E-3-13-33, 3 OCT 61. FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION REVEALS FOLLOWING.
AFR 253-2 FORMAT.

15A(1) ROUND

(2) ONE-EIGHTH INCH (TURN ON POWER THEODOLITE)

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G(1) CLEAR, SUNNY

(2) SEE OUR 09-0660-30 SEP 61

(3) NONE

(4) 35 PLUS MILES

(5) NO CLOUDS

(6) NONE

(7) 78 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

H, I, J, K AND L: SEE OUR 01 09-0660

ABOVE INFORMATION FROM COMMANDER, DETACHMENT 31, 25TH WEATHER SQUADRON, NAFB, NEVADA. ELECTRONIC TRACKING REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED DIRECT BY THE 865TH AC&W SQUADRON, LAS VEGAS AIR FORCE STATION. 865TH AC&W SQUADRON EARLIER ADVISED UFO WAS APPROXIMATELY 45 STATUTE MILES SE OF NELLIS AFB AT APPROXIMATELY 1700Z, 30 SEP, TRAVELING THROUGHOUT SIGHTING AT APPROXIMATELY 6 KNOTS. ADDED ITEM FOR INFORMATION: THE LAS VEGAS NEVADA REVIEW JOURNAL NEWSPAPER RAN A FRONT PAGE ASSOCIATED PRESS ITEM ON 3 OCT 61 REGARDING A DISC-SHAPED UFO SIGHTING SOUTH OF SALT LAKE CITY ON MONDAY, 2 OCT 61, SEEN BY AIRBORNE PILOT [REDACTED] A SALT LAKE CITY INSURANCE MAN, ALONG WITH SEVEN GROUND OBSERVERS IN THAT AREA.

BT

05/2352Z OCT RJWZMJ

(3) WHITE (METALLIC, SILVER SHINE)

(4) STARTED AS ONE (FOUR CAME FROM IT- TRAVELING VERY FAST).

(5) NO FORMATION

(6) EVEN TEXTURE

(7) NONE

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(8) NONE

(9) FOUR SMALLER OBJECTS CAME FROM LARGER OBJECT.

B(1) WEATHER OBSERVER FOLLOWING PIBAL AND CAME INTO FIELD OF VIEW.

(2) 162/2 AZIMUTH, 62.8 ELEVATION FROM INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NEVADA
RANGE III AT 30/0914 PST. SPOTTED 10 MINUTES EARLIER. FINISHED PIBAL
RUN THEN WATCHED UFO.

(3) 180.2 AZIMUTH, 63.4 ELEVATION, 30/0954 PST SEP 61.

(4) STRAIGHT LINE FLIGHT PATH

(5) FOLLOWED UNTIL 1000 HOURS PST PIBAL RUN REQUIRED DIVERSION.
OBJECT STILL VISIBLE ON THEODOLITE.

(6) SEE A(5) ABOVE.

C(1) GROUND VISUAL

(2) 20 POWER WEATHER THEODOLITE

(3) N/A

D(1) 30/1714Z SEP 61

(2) DAY

E. 36 DEGREES 35 MINUTES NORTH: 115 DEGREES, 41 MINUTES WEST.

F(1) N/A

(2) A/3C DEANE W. MILLINGTON, AF 19638723 AND A/3C BOBBY L. SETLIFF

AF 19635004 WEATHER OBSERVERS INDIAN SPRINGS AFB NEV

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60 Oct 61 13 20z

1
27 E (UFO)
3
4 X2A

Friend

(4) SW HEADING APPROX 200 DEGREES

(5) PAIRED OUT TO THE SOUTH

(6) 45 MIN

C. (1) GROUND ELECTRONIC FPD-12 SEARCH

(2) NONE

(3) NO

D. (1) 2045 LOCAL (1645Z)

(2) DAY

E. 36 19, 37, ,N 115 34, 38, ,W

F (1) NO

(2) JOHN H. SCHIRLING JR, ACC, 365 RADAR SQ., OPERATIONS
RELIABLE.

G. NONE

H. NONE

I. NONE

J. UNKNOWN

PAGE THREE RJWZMAP 7D

K. EARLE W. DENEAU, CAPTAIN, USAF, OPERATIONS OFFICER, 365
RADAR SQ., LAS VEGAS AFB, NEVADA. PREVIOUS STATED ALTITUDE
AS REPORTED FROM THIS STATION IS FALSE SINCE SEARCH GEAR
CANNOT SEARCH ABOVE 100,000 FT. MSL.

L. NEGATIVE SCOPE CAMERA FILM AVAILABLE AT TIME OF SIGHTING
BT

25 1322Z OCT RJWZHP

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

Location INDIAN SPRINGS LAS VEGAS NEVADA AREA

Date (Local) 30 SEPT 1961

Hour (Local)

Hour (Z Time Group) 30/1710Z SEPT 61

Satellite:

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) POSSIBLY VENUS.

Radar Analysis (TD-El) POSSIBLY WX BALLOON

Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc)

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc POSS BALLOON (RADAR)

Other

CIVILIAN GROUND VISUAL (EX THEODORE) 1 HR PLUS

Evaluation of Source Reliability

Analysis and Conclusions:

ROUND WHITE METALLIC LOOKING OBJECT WITH SILVER SHINE. APPEARING AS ONE OBJECT BREAKING INTO 4. OBSERVATION BY WEATHER OBSERVER FOLLOWING PIRAL. SPOTTED AT 0904. STILL VISIBLE AT 1000. 160° AZ 62.0 ELEV. → 180 AZ 63.4 ELEV. SPEED 6 KNOTS. PICKUP ON RADAR AT 30 NELLIS AFB. ON SCOPE FOR 45 MIN ON AZ SCOPE ONLY

THE ELEVATIONS AND AZIMUTHS OF THE PLANET VENUS AT THE TIMES OF THE SIGHTINGS FROM INDIAN SPRINGS AFB AND NELLIS AFB ARE COINCIDENT WITH THOSE REPORTED FOR THE UFO. THE PLANET WAS OF ~~MAGNITUDE~~ MAGNITUDE -3.4 AND ITS APPEARANCE IN A THEODOLITE WOULD HAVE BEEN AS DESCRIBED BY THE WITNESSES. SINCE IT

WAS REPORTED THAT IT WAS TRACKING A
ACROSS THE PLANET WHILE TRACKING A
WX BALLOON IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME
THE BALLOON WAS AT AN AZIMUTH CLOSE
TO THAT REPORTED FOR THE OBJECT.
THE OBJECT OBSERVED BY THE RADAR
WAS IN THE SE AND WAS PROBABLY
THE WX BALLOON.

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE AVAILABLE
WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT THE OBJECT
SEEN VISUALLY AND THE OBJECT OBSERVED
ON RADAR WERE NOT VENUS AND A
WX BALLOON.

Final.