

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 29 October 1962		2. LOCATION Altadena, 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 _____ GMT 29/2400Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 1/2 minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE ESE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Shiny white or aluminum colored obj observed to rise rapidly.				11. COMMENTS Weather balloon released at Santa Monica at 0900 would have been in position. Alta- dena is at the foothills of mountain range rising to more than 5,000 ft. This updraft would cause the balloon to rise rapidly. Case evaluated as a balloon sighting.	

7D-E

HEADQUARTERS
2848th AIR BASE WING
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
NORTON AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: SBBF

1 November 1962

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects Report

TO: FTD
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

The following Unidentified Flying Objects Report is submitted in accordance with AFR 200-2. The attached UFO worksheet includes all information required by the prescribing directive.

a. The UFO report was received by the investigating officer, Capt Kenneth W. Schwobel, 29 October 1962, at approximately 1600 hours PST.

b. Sgt James F. Daley, Deputy John R. Hogan and two trustees, ~~██████████~~ and ~~██████████~~ of the Sheriff's Building, 780 East Altadena Drive, Altadena, California, viewed the unidentified object in the air. Deputy John R. Hogan was contacted on 30 October 1962 at 1200 hours PST and gave the following information:

(1) The above named four persons were standing outside the east wing of the Sheriff's Building, Altadena, California, observing and remarking on the clearness of the sky when the object was first sighted. The flight path appeared to be from SSE to NNW at an estimated altitude between 10,000 and 20,000 feet. At first the object appeared to be traveling slowly, but as it went overhead the viewers stated that the speed of the object seemed to suddenly increase rapidly. The object was lost from sight as it passed behind the Sheriff's Building. The four observers rushed through the building to the other side; however, the object was not seen again. Deputy Hogan at first estimated the altitude of the object at 2,000 feet, while Sgt Daley believed it to be between 10,000 and 20,000 feet. Deputy Hogan later stated he may have been in error on his estimate and agreed on the 10,000 feet altitude.

(2) At no time did any of the observers notice any tail, trail or exhaust, or hear any sound coming from the object.

c. Further research in this matter revealed:

(1) Sgt Daley reported the UFO by telephone to the Hollywood Office of Information, Secretary of the Air Force, and was referred to 1/Lt Peter J. Feary, Information Officer of LAADS, Norton Air Force Base, California, at approximately 1215 hours PST. The information was immediately forwarded to the Commander of LAADS, Senior Director of LAADS, and Intelligence Officer of LAADS. No intercept was sent out to investigate the UFO due to the three-hour lapse in time from first sighting by Sgt Daley and the three other observers.

(2) Deputy John R. Hogan explained that the Sheriff's Building in Altadena is at an approximate elevation of 1,500 feet and is situated at the foothills of the mountains toward the north, which rise abruptly to about 5,000 feet.

(3) Weather offices at San Diego Municipal, Long Beach, Los Angeles International and Santa Monica Airports were contacted for any information regarding weather balloon releases between 0800 and 0900 hours PST.

(4) The weather office at Santa Monica Airport released a weather balloon at 0900 hours, while at San Diego Airport a weather balloon was released at 0943 hours.

d. The comments of the preparing officer are:

(1) From all the information gathered, it would be most likely to assume and arrive at the conclusion that the UFO was very possibly a weather balloon. The fact that the object was white, bright in appearance, and the size and shape of a basketball would tend to lead towards this logical assumption. In addition, the weather balloon released from Santa Monica Airport was reported as being white in color and five to six feet in diameter.

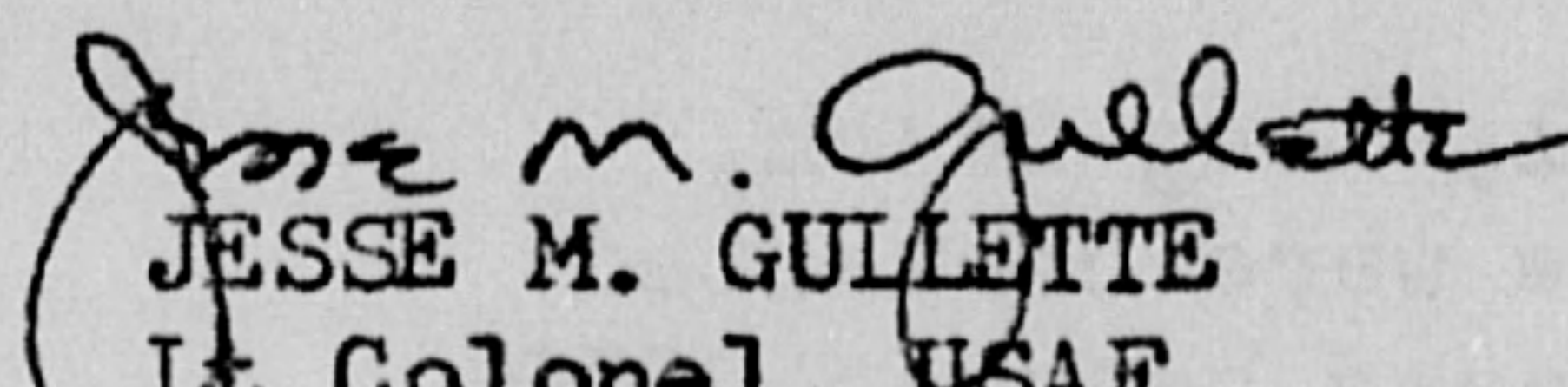
(2) Santa Monica Airport is located WSW in a direct line at about 18 nautical miles from the Altadena Sheriff's Building. The wind at the time the object was sighted was very light and variable. It is entirely possible that the object sighted was this very balloon, which was blown inland by vagrant low level winds. The time of the balloon release and distance required to travel make this entirely possible.

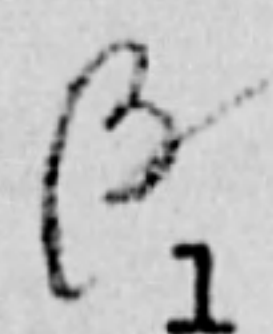
(3) The observers stated that at first the object seemed to move rather slowly. Then as it came overhead, its speed increased very rapidly.

(4) It will be remembered that the Sheriff's Building is situated right at the foothills of the sharply rising mountains. The wind at levels of 6,000 feet on up to 50,000 feet was a prevailing ESE wind. Therefore, the sudden increase in velocity of the object can be explained by the updraft currents of air being pushed aloft, which were caused by the orographic effect of the rising mountain ridges in the immediate background.

e. It is the opinion of the investigating officer that, based on the strength of the facts herein presented, the unidentified object in this case was a weather balloon.

FOR THE COMMANDER


JESSE M. GULLETTE
Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Flight Operations Division


1 Atch
UFO Worksheet

UFOB WORKSHEET

SOURCE Civilian

TIME 1620Z/29 October 1962

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT:

- a. SHAPE Round object, basketball in size
- b. SIZE COMPARED TO A KNOWN OBJECT (USE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TERMS: HEAD OF A PIN, PEA, DIME, NICKEL, QUARTER, HALF DOLLAR, SILVER DOLLAR, BASEBALL, GRAPEFRUIT, OR BASKETBALL) HELD IN THE HAND AT ABOUT ARMS LENGTH.
- c. COLOR Shiny aluminum or white
- d. NUMBER ---
- e. FORMATION, IF MORE THAN ONE ---
- f. ANY DISCERNIBLE FEATURES OR DETAILS None
- g. TAIL, TRAIL OR EXHAUST, INCLUDING SIZE OF SAME COMPARED TO SIZE OF OBJECT None
- h. SOUND. IF HEARD, DESCRIBE SOUND None
- i. OTHER PERTINENT OR UNUSUAL FEATURES None

2. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT:

- a. WHAT FIRST CALLED THE ATTENTION OF OBSERVER TO THE OBJECT Persons were observing and remarking on clearness of sky.
- b. ANGLE OF ELEVATION AND AZIMUTH (DIRECTION) OF OBJECT WHEN FIRST SIGHTED 45° to 60°
- c. ANGLE OF ELEVATION AND AZIMUTH (DIRECTION) OF OBJECT WHEN LAST OBSERVED 45° to 60°
- d. DESCRIPTION OF FLIGHT PATH AND/OR MANEUVER OF OBJECT Traveling from SSE to NNW.
- e. MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE OF OBJECT Passed behind roof of house.
- f. LENGTH OF TIME IN SIGHT 1 to 1½ minutes

3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION:

- a. USE OF ONE OR ANY NUMBER OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: GROUND-VISUAL, GROUND-ELECTRONIC, AIR-ELECTRONIC (IF ELECTRONIC, SPECIFY TYPE OF RADAR) ground visual
- b. STATEMENT AS TO OPTICAL AIDS (TELESCOPES, BINOCULARS, ETC.) None
- c. IF THE SIGHTING WAS MADE WHILE AIRBORNE, GIVE TYPE OF ACFT, IDENTIFICATION NO., ALTITUDE, HEADING, SPEED AND HOME STATION ---

4. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING:

a. ZULU TIME-DATE GROUP: 1620Z/29 October 1962

b. LIGHT CONDITIONS (NIGHT, DAY, DAWN, DUSK) Day

5. LOCATION OF OBSERVER. EXACT LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE, OR REFERENCE TO A KNOWN LANDMARK: Sheriff's Building, East Wing, 780 East Altadena Drive, Altadena, Calif

6. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF ALL OBSERVERS:

a. CIVILIAN - MILITARY. NAME, GRADE, ORGANIZATION, DUTY AND ESTIMATE OF RELIABILITY Sgt James F. Daley, Deputy John R. Hogan - good reliability; two trustees: [redacted] - fair reliability (address [redacted])

7. WEATHER AND WINDS ALOFT - CONDITIONS AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING:

a. OBSERVER'S ACCOUNT OF WEATHER CONDITIONS Clear conditions

b. REPORT FROM NEAREST AWS OR US WEATHER BUREAU: WIND DIRECTION AND VELOCITY IN DEGREES AND KNOTS AT: (IF AVAILABLE)

0	SURFACE Southeast 4 kts	20,000'	100/08 kts
6,000'	110/16 kts	30,000'	110/17 kts
10,000'	080/10 kts	50,000'	120/16 kts
16,000'	130/11 kts	80,000'	N/A

c. CEILING Clear

d. VISIBILITY Vertical vis - clear. Horizontal - two miles with smog.

e. AMOUNT OF CLOUD COVER None

f. THUNDERSTORMS IN AREA None

8. ANY OTHER UNUSUAL ACTIVITY OR CONDITION, METEOROLOGICAL, ASTRONOMICAL, ETC.

None

9. INTERCEPTION OR IDENTIFICATION ACTION TAKEN (FOR ADDC OR ADCC)

None

10. LOCATION OF ANY AIR TRAFFIC IN THE AREA AT THE TIME OF SIGHTING

None

11. POSITION, TITLE AND COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER, INCLUDING HIS ANALYSIS

Attached in letter form

12. EXISTENCE OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, SUCH AS MATERIALS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

None

Kenneth W. Schwoebel
Captain, USAF

Submitted by

Date/Time Group