

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 6 March 1963		2. LOCATION Southern California		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Metallic Parachute ☒ Other. fm Pt Mugu ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1. 06/1830Z GMT 2. 06/1730Z-1843Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5-10 minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE appeared West	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING 1. Silver obj observed fm F-101's at 50,000 ft. Obj above at 80 dgr elevation 10dgr off port. Sighting between Ventura & Santa Barbara. In sight 5-10 mins. 101's made turn & lost sight of obj. Estimated obj to be at 100,000 ft going 500 knots. 2. Bright light resembling star, white with out feature, no contrail or exhaust. High against clear blue sky. Object 30 dgr above horizon. Disappeared instantaneously to East like lightbulb going out. Reported fm Santa Barbara, Vandenburg, Oxnard area. All sightings air visual.				11. COMMENTS Pt Mugu made high altitude shot w/metallic parachute to 230,000ft. Parachute w/package drifted to SW 132 NM fm release point. This obj over southern California at the time. Consider motion to West in error & evaluate case as metallic parachute. Info received fm Pt Mugu Range Officer, Lt Apley. LA Air Defense sector had been notified of shot since package contained chaff released. One at 60,000 feet. At 230,000.	

UFO INCIDENT
6 March 1963

1756Z and 1846Z

Summary: (1) Silver object observed from F-101's at 50,000 feet. Object above at 80 degree elevation 10 degrees off port. Sighting between Ventura and Santa Barbara. In sight 5-10 minutes. F-101's made turn and lost sight of object. Estimated object to be at 100,000 feet going 500 knots. (2) Bright light resembling star, white with out feature, no contrail or exhaust. High against clear blue sky. Object 30 degrees above horizon. Disappeared instantaneously to East like lightbulb going out. Reported from Santa Barbara, Vandenburg, Oxnard area. All sightings air visual.

Reference: Col Torgeson, Command Post
Col Gregory, NORAD, 2734/2378

T-33 pilot between Vandenburg and Fresno, California. Vandenburg requested control of F-101's from NORAD. F-101's directed toward UFO. Both aircraft sighted object approaching head on. F-101's made 180 degree turn and lost object. Object estimated to be traveling at 500 knots at 100,000 feet. F-101's at 45,000 feet.

Reference: Col Fredricks, Intelligence
Col John Peck, Operations

~~Don Lind~~ at ~~75-100-1000~~ Point Mugu gave following names:

~~Mr. [redacted]~~ at Boulder AFB, Colorado

Mr. ~~[redacted]~~

Mr. ~~[redacted]~~

Training crews in balloon launch from off coast. By Raven Industry.

Sea Space Systems (code 805-486-8331) Rawinsonde balloon launched at 527 on 6 March to 70,000 feet and burst after one hour at 0637. Wind was from WNW toward Los Angeles, weather was clear.

Pt Mugu Naval Base (area code 805/486-8331) range 7358. Released high-altitude-chaff-drop balloon with metallic parachute on 6 March at 1047Z. 132 nautical miles SE 230,000 altitude with slight wind carry. Dropped chaff. Lt Apley, Range Officer, Los Angeles Air Defense (NORAD, 28th Air Defense. Time in air 1747Z to 1845Z.

Comments: Pt Mugu made high altitude shot with metallic parachute to 230,000 ft. Parachute with package drifted to SW 132 nautical miles from release point. This object over southern California at the time. Consider motion to West in error and evaluate case as metallic parachute. Information received from Pt Mugu Range Officer, Lt Apley. Los Angeles Air Defense secbr had been notified of shot since package contained chaff release. One at 60,000 feet and at 230,000 feet.

Approval numbers 02 (~~[redacted]~~), 78 (Pt Mugu), and 93 (Lt Apley).

THE FOLLOWING UFOB IS SUBMITTED IAW AFR 200-2 IN FORMAT OF
PARAGRAPH 14: A1. UNDERTERMINED. A2. PEA A3. SILVER A4. ONE A5.
NONE A6. NONE A7.
NONE A8. NONE A9. NONE B1. VANDENBERG AFB T-33 56672 CALLED
ATTENTION TO IT. B2. 80 DEGREES ELEVATION UP 10 DEGREES AZIMUTH
PORT B3. APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS B2 B4. APPEARED AS FAST
MOVING FROM EAST TO WEST B5. AIRCREW LOOKED AWAY AND WHEN THEY
LOOKED BACK IT WAS GONE B6. 5 TO 10 MINUTES C1. AIR VISUAL
C2. NONE C3. F-101F 570428 50,000 FEET VARIED HEADING, .8 TO
1.5 MACH, OXNARD AFB CALIF. D1. 6 MARCH 63 1830Z D2. DAY VFR

March, 1963, Case 5: Length of observation is in error; it was observed
for one hour, 12 minutes. It is odd that no photos were taken by inter-
ceptors. The committee agrees with the classification, however.

PAGE TWO RUWHJBU 12

E1. BETWEEN VENTURA AND SANTA BARBARA, CALIF. 10 - 20 MILES INLAND
AT FIRST SIGHTING. F1. N/A F2. ELMER R. EHRLICH, CAPT AND LOUIS
E. VAUGHT, CAPT, 437FIS, OXNARD AFB, CALIF. - EXCELLENT - BOTM PILOTS
CONCUR WITH THIS STATEMENT. G1. DAY VFR G2. SOUTHEAST AT 11
320 AT 12 280 AT 30 L/V 290 AT 55 290 AT 65 280 AT 60 280 AT
35 G3. CLEAR G4. 10 PLUS G5. SCATTERED G6. NONE G7. N/A
H. NONE I. WENT TO 50,000 FEET AT V MAX. J. ONE T-33 AND THREE
F101B'S IN THE OXNARD LOCAL AREA K. PILOT - INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
COULD POSSIBLY BE WEATHER BALLOON FROM LOS ANGELES OR VANDENBERG
LAUNCHED AT 1800Z DAILY. BALLOON GIVES WEATHER DATA TO AT LEAST
60,000 FEET. L. NONE. SUBMITTED BY ROBERT I. BUSH, 1/LT., 6 MARCH
63, 2330Z, 414FTRGP, OXNARD AFB, CALIF.

BT

07/0103Z MAR RUWHJBU

TELEPHONED

TO: C/D
FR: 712-2
EXT: 0510
DATE: 7 MAR 63
BY: (signature)

NNNN

RD031

CZCSQN531ZCQYB937

PP RUCDSQ

DE RUWHJBU 12

ZNR

P 070100Z ZEX

FM 414FTRGP OXNARD AFB CALIF

TO RUCDSQ/AFSCW FTD WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RUEAHQ/HQ USAF AFCIN WASH DC

RUEAHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE WASH DC

RUWHFK/VANDENBERGNAFB CALIF

BT

UNCLAS 414ODC 1460C. TO BE DELIVERED DURING NORMAL DUTY HOURS.

63 MAR 7 02 19

82

Handwritten: DE (UFO)
3 X m

NNNN

RC048

CZCSQN731ZCQYD020

PP RUCDSQ

DE RUWHFK 117

ZNR

P 072227Z

FM ~~4392ASG VANDENBERG AFB CALIF~~

TO RUWGAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RUWHSB/28TH AD ADC HAMILTON AFB CALIF

RUCDSQ/AFSC FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIV WPAFB OHIO

RUEAHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RUEAH/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE WASH DC

INFO RUCSER/SAC

RUWHJB/LAADS NORTON AFB CALIF

ZEN/1STRATAD VAFB CALIF

BT

UNCLAS BDCO 22327. UFO FOR USAF, AFCIN; SEC AF (SAFOI); SAC, DOCO;
LAADS, ATTN: COL LONG. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH AFR 200-2. DESCRIPTION: THE EXACT SHUPE OF THE OBJECT
COULD NOT BE DETECTED BY THE OBSERVING PILOTS; BOTH DESCRIBED IT AS
A BRIGHT LIGHT WHICH RESEMBLED A FIRST MAGNITUDE STAR. ITS SIZE WAS
REFERRED TO AS LARGER THAN A PIN-HEAD AND SMALLER THAT A PEA. COLOR
WAS DESCRIBED AS A STAR TYPR WHITE. ON OBJECT WITH NO DISCERNABLE
FEATURES, NO CON TRAIL OR EXHAUST. NO SAUND HEARD. COURSE OF OBJECT:
PILOTS WERE CLIMBING AFTER TAKE OFF AND COMMENTED ON TWO CON TRAILS
HIVH AGAINST CLEAR BLUE SKY LEFT BY TWO FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. THE

27

27

1) E (UFO)
2) E (UFO)
3) XM

PAGE TWO RUWHFK 117

OBJECT WAS FIRST OBSERVED AS BELOW THE CON TRAILS WELL TO THE REAR OF THE TWO AIRCRAFT. ALTITUDE OF OBSERVATION 15 THOUSAND FEET IN THE SANTA BARBARA, BACICTA AREA AT AN ELEVATION OF APPROXIMATELY 30 DEGREES ABOVE THE HORIZON. THE OBJECT APPEARED TO MOVE FROM THE SANTA BARBARA AREA TO VANDENBERG AFB AREA TO LOS ANGELES AREA AND TO EDWARDS AFB AREA. GENERALLY 119 DEGREES WEST TO 119 DEGREES, 50 MINUTES WEST, 34 DEGREES 30 MIN TO 34 DEGREES 45 MIN NORTH. THE FLIGHT PATH OF THE OBJECT WAS VERIFIED IN THE GENERAL AREA DESCRIBED. THE OBJECT DISAPPEARED INSTANTANEOUSLY TO THE EAST, DESCRIBED BY THE PILOT AS LIKE A LIGHT BULB WAS TURNED OFF. VISUAL CONTACT WITH THE OBJECT LASTED APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AND 12 MINUTES. MANNER OF OBSERVATION: VISUAL AIR SIGHTING BY TWO T-33 PILOTS, OBSERVED FROM FIFTEEN THOUSAND TO FORTY (40) THOUSAND FEET. AN F121 AIRCRAFT FROM OXNARD AFB ALSO SIGHTED THE OBJECT FROM AN ALTITUDE OF SIXTY THOUSAND FEET. NO OPTICAL AIDS WERE USED BY T-33 PILOTS. SPEED OF T-33, 360 KNOTS TRUE. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING: 1730 ZULU CONTINUOUS TO 1843 ZULU 6 MAR 63, DAY. OBSERVERS, MILITARY, JOHN M. LUND, CAPTAIN 576TH STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON, 1STRTAD, LAUNCH CONTROL OFFICER, CONSIDERED STABLE AND RELIABLE MORGAN W. SANBORN, CAPTAIN, 6595 AEROSPACE TEST WING, AFSC, VANDENBERG AFB, CALIFORNIA. PREVIOUS

PAGE THREE RUWHFK 117

FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR PILOT, CONSIDERED A GOOD PILOT AND ALSO RELIABLE.
WEATHER AND WINDS: OBSERVER WEATHER ACCOUNTED AS CLEAR. VANDENBERG
AFB AIR WEATHER SERVICE RECORDS INDICATE HIGH THIN SCATTERED CIRRUS,
ON TENTH.

WIND/TEMP VBG	S	GVO	SBA
SURFACE	SOUTHWEST 2/59	-----SOUTHEAST 10/64	
10 THOUSAND	280/33/MINUS 7 DEGREES	SAME	SAME
16 THOUSAND	280/29/MINUS 15 DEGREES	SAME	SAME
20 THOUSAND	280/54/MINUS 23 1/2 DEGREES	SAME	SAME
30 THOUSAND	280/70/MINUS 46 DEGREES	SAME	SAME
50 THOUSAND	280/55/MINUS 65 DEGREES	SAME	SAME
80 THOUSAND	300/87/MINUS 60 DEGREES	SAME	SAME
120 THOUSAND	280/57/NO TEMPERATURE RECORDED	SAME	SAME

NO OTHER UNUSUAL ACTIVITY KNOWN WHICH MIGHT ACCOUNT FOR THE SIGHTING.
INTERCEPTION ACTION TAKEN AS STATED. NO PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN. REPORT
PREPARED BY ASSISTANT DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR OPERATIONS. 4392D
AEROSPACE SUPPORT GROUP, VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF. THE REPORTING OFFICER
CANNOT OFFER AN EXPLANATION FOR THE SIGHTING. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT
THE WIND SPEED AND TEMPERATURE VARIANCE AT 80 THOUSAND FOOT LEVEL
COULD BE A FACTOR IN THIS INCIDENT. THE WINDS ALL ARE GENERALLY FROM

PAGE FOUR RUWHFK 11

THE WESTERLY DIRECTION, WHICH WOULD PREVENT A FREE BALLOON FROM
MOVING EAST TO WEST AS IN THIS CASE. TAPE RECORDING OF PILOT
CONVERSATION WITH VANDENBERG TOWER IS BEING SENT TO LAADS NORTON AFB
WITH T-33 PILOTS STATEMENTS.

BT

07/2235Z MAR RUWHFK







