PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
30 August 66 31/0030Z	Alley Springs, Missouri

3. SOURCE	10. CONCLUSION
Civilian	Balloon

4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
One

5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
90 minutes

6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION
Ground Visual

7. COURSE
West

8. PHOTOS
☐ Yes ☒ No

9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE
☐ Yes ☒ No

11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

Observers noted round object about the size of a marble. The color was silver that later changed to orange. Object was visible for 1½ hours before disappearing toward the west. The object was seen by many people and some said that it looked like a balloon.

A balloon was launched by Litton Systems Incorp. of Minneapolis, Minnesota on 24 August 66. The balloon dropped its package; however, it did not function properly and the ballonn went toward the south for the next 10 days. This balloon was over the southern Missouri area on the 30 August 66.

Balloon was confirmed by B 52 pilot over eastern Arkansas.

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

UNCLASSIFIED

31/01

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

31 Aug 66
00302

AF IN: 10707 (8 Sept 66) T/ms

ACTION: RDC-4

INFO: XOP-1,XOPX-2,SAFOS-3,NIN-7,DIA-1(19) ADV CY DIA
SMB B119RFTU JAW RUEDWXA0213 2510632-UUUU--RUEDHQA.

DE RUWGHU 1317 2510201

ZNR UUUUU

R 080130Z SEP 66

FM 97BW BLYTHEVILLE AFB ARK

TO RUWMFUA/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RUWGKG/29AD RICHARDS GEBAUR AFB MO

RUEDFIF/FTD WPAFB OHIO

RUEDHQA/AFNIN WASH DC

RUEDHQA/SAFIO WASH DC

INFO RUWGAA/2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA

BT

UNCLAS FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY DCOI 04068 SPE 66. TO ADC ENT AFB COLO, 29 AIRDIV RICHARDS-GEBAUR AFB MO, FTD WAPAFB OHIO FOR TDETR, AFNIN WASH DC, SAFOI WASH DC. INFO 2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA AND 42AD. SUBJ: UFO REPORT. REFERENCE PARA 14, AFR 200-2. PARA 14A(ALPHA): LARGE BALL (1) SHAPE WAS ROUND. (2) SIZE APPROXIMATELY THAT OF A MARBLE. (3) COLOR WAS SILVER CHANGING TO ORANGE. (4) NUMBER WAS ONE. (5) N/A. (6) OBJECT WAS OBSERVED BEFORE MOON CAME UP. THE MOON WAS APPROXIMATELY AT ITS SEVEN EIGHTS PHASE ON THE DATE OF

AFHQ FORM JAN 65 0-309C

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OBSERVATION. (7) NO TAIL, TRAIL OR EXHAUST. (8) NO SOUND. (9) NO OTHER PERTINENT OR UNUSUAL FEATURES.

PARA 14B(BRAVO): (1) OBSERVERS ATTENTION WAS ATTRACTED BECAUSE

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OTHER PEOPLE IN THE AREA WERE LOOKING AT THE OBJECT. (2) OBJECT FIRST OBSERVED AT AN ANGLE OF APPROXIMATELY 25 DEGREES ABOVE THE HORIZON TO THE SOUTHEAST OF OBSERVERS POSITION. (3) OBJECT DISAPPEARED AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME ANGLE. (4) OBJECT MOVED FROM EAST TO WEST. (6) OBJECT WAS VISIBLE APPROXIMATELY ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS.

PARA 14C(CHARLIE): (1) GROUND VISUAL. (2) NO OPTICAL AIDS. (3) N/A.

PARA 14D(DELTA): (1) APPROXIMATELY 310030Z AUG 66, ABOUT 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNSET. (2) LATE AFTERNOON. (3) N/A.

PARA 14E(ECHO): OBSERVERSS SIGHTING WAS MADE AT THE POST OFFICE IN ALLEY SPRING MISSOURI, LOCATED ON HIGHTWAY 106.

PARA 14F(FOXTROT): (1) [redacted] GE 19, [redacted] NO, COLLEGE STUDENT AT SPRINGFIEL COLLEGE, MO. COMPLETELY RELIABLE. MR [redacted] ALSO ADVISED THAT HIS BROTHER [redacted] HIS MOTHER AND MR [redacted] BELIEVED TO BE AND EMPLOYEE OF THE

U.S. POST OFFICE IN ALLEY SPRING, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, ALSO SAW THE OBJECT AT THE SAME TIME AS DID MANY OTHERS.

PARA 14G(GOLF): (1) OBSERVER DESCRIBED THE WEATHER CONDITIONS AS CLEAR WITH UNLIMITED VISIBILITY. (2) BLYTHEVILLE AFB WEATHER STATION

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REPORTS THE WIND DIRECTION AND VELOCITY IN DEGREES AND KNOTS AS 150/05 AT THE SURFACE, 120/10 AT 6000FT, 120/10 AT 10,000 FT, 120/15 AT 16000 FT, VARIABLE/05 AT 20,000 FT, 350,20 AT 30,000 FT, 330/25 AT 50,000 FT AND NOT AVAILABLE AT 80,000 FT. (3) NONE. (4) 10. (5) SCATTERED AT 6000 FT. (6) NONE. (7) NORMAL LAPSE RATE TEMPERATURE DEVIATION PLUS 15 DEGREES.

PARA 14H(HOTEL): NONE

PARA 14I(INDIA): UNKNOWN

PARA 14J(JULIET): TWO B-52 AIRCRAFT FROM THE 97TH BW WERE AIRBORNE AT TIME OF THE SIGHTING; HOWEVER, AND EXAMINATION OF THE FLIGHT ROUTE AND TIMES OF EACH AIRCRAFT INDICATES THAT ONLY ONE WAS IN THE VACINITY OF ALLEY SPRING AT THE TIME FOR SIGHTING. THE AIRCRAFT IS IDENTIFIED AS ETTA 22, PILOTED BY CAPTIAIN WARREN J. HERRIG, 340TH BOMB SQUADRON. CAPTAING HERRIG ADVISED THAT AT APPROXIMATELY 301750Z AUG, WHILE HIS AIRCRAFT WAS BETWEEN SPRINGFIELD, MO AND EVANSVILLE, IND, HE RECEIVED

AN ADVISORY TO BE ON THE LOOK FOR A WEATHER BALLOON BUT AT NO TIME COULD HE SEE THE BALLOON. CAPTAIN HERRIG ALSO ADVISED THAT AT APPROXIMATELY 310040Z AUG WHEN HIS ESTIMATED POSITION WAS APPROXIMATELY 60 NM SOUTH OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI HE RECEIVED AND ADVISORY FROM THE KANSAS CITY CENTER TO BE ON THE LOOK FOR A WEATHER BALLOON WHICH

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HAD BEEN RELEASE AT ST. LOUIS. CAPT HERRIG ADVISES THAT HE SAW THE BALLOON AT THIS TIME.

AN EXAMINATION OF CAPT HERRIGS FLIGHT ROUTE INDICATES THAT HIS AIRCRAFT TURNED SOUTHWARD AT THE ST. LOUIS VORTAC AT 310035Z AUG WAS ABEAM AND APPROXIMATELY 10 NM TO THE WEST OF THE FARMINGTON, MO VORTAC ON A TRUE HEADING OF 176 DEGREES AND AT AN ALTITUDE OF 37,000 FT AT 310042Z, AND WAS APPROXIMATELY 6NM SOUTH OF POPULAR BLUFF, MO AT 310055Z AUG.

AT 011430Z SEP, MAJOR JOHN C. GODFREY, 97BW COMMAND POST ADVISED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED AND ADVISORY FROM MEMPHIS CENTER THAT A WEATHER BALLOON WAS IN THE AREA. MAJ GODFRY FURTHER ADVISES THAT AT 010000Z SEP HE OBSERVED A WEATHER BALLOON FROM A POSITION APPROXIMATELY HALF WAY BETWEEN MEMPHIS, TENN AND BLYTHEVILLE AFB, ARK. MAJOR GODFRY ESTIMATED THE ALTITUDE OF THE BALLOON AS 45000 FT AND FURTHER ADVISES

THAT THE BALLOON HAS BEEN REPORTED IN THE AREA APPROXIMATELY 10 DAYS, THAT THE ALTITUDE VARIES BETWEEN 40 AND 69 THOUSAND FT, THAT THE DIAMETER IS APPROXIMATELY 500 FT AND THE KBOA RADIO STATION IN KENNETT, MO, HAD REPORTED A WEATHER BALLOON IN THE AREA.

PARA 14K(KILO): CHIEF, INTELLIGENCE DIVSION, 97TH BOMBARDMENT WING BLYTHEVILLE AFB, ARKANSAS.

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THE MOST LOGICAL EXPLANATION OF THE CAUSE OF THIS SIGHTING IS THAT THE OBSERVER SAW THE LARGE WEATHER BALLOON WHICH REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN DRIFING IN THE AREA FOR APPROXIMATELY 10 DAYS. SEVERAL OFFICERS HAVE REPORTED SEEING THE BALLOON. THE B-52 WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN UNDER OBSERVATION FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME REPORTED BY THE OBSERVER AND UNDOUBTABLY WAS TOO FAR AWAY AND TOO HIGH TO BE OBSERVED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE LATE AFTERNOON TIME OF OBSERVATION. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT THE OBSERVER REPORTED THAT THE OBJECT WAS FIRST OBSERVED AT APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNSET AND WAS IN VIEW FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS BUT DISAPPEARED WHEN THE SUN WENT DOWN. THIS APPARENT DISCREPANCY MIGHT BE ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE FACT THAT EMINENCE, MO, IS ON DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME OR BY POSSIBLE ERRORS IN THE OBSERVERS ESTIMATE OF THE TIME OF DAY, BUT THE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN: 10707 (8 Sept 66)

DISCREPANCY IS NOT CONSIDERED SIGNIFICANT. FURTHER, AND EXAMINATION OF THE SATELLITE SCHEDULE PREPARED BY DR. J. H. SENNE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AT ROLLA AND PUBLISHED BY THE MEMPHIS, TENN, COMMERCIAL APPEAL NEWPAPER FOR SUNDAY, 28 AUG, INDICATES THAT THREE SATELLITES, ECHO I, ECHO II AND PEGAOS-A WOULD BE VISIBLE DURING THE WEEK OF 28 AUG BUT NONE AT THE TIME FOR THIS SIGHTING. CONSEQUENTLY, ON THE BASIS OF AVAILBEL INFORMATION, IT IS BELIEVED THA THE WEATHER

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BALLOON WAS THE OBJECT SIGHTED. THE USAF OPERATIONAL SUMMARY OF 2 SEP 66 CONFIRMS A FREE BALLOON IN THE AREA.

PARA L(LUNA): NONE.

BT

NNNN

9 Sept. 66

Contact with Dr. Morris of NCAR (303-443-1960 ex. 502). Dr. Morris said that he knew a little about the balloon launched from Minn. It was launched by Linton Systems Incorp. (612-633-7110). He said that other groups launched balloons.

Winzen Research Incorp. Mr. Dan Williams (612-881-5871)
Raven Industries Mr. Keauser (605-336-2750)

Was a balloon launched from Palistine, Texas on 5 Sept. 66 which went westward. Over Lubbock, Texas, Tucumcari, New Mexico, Gallop, New Mexico, to Prescott, Arizona. Dr. Morris didn't know where the balloon was at the time of the conversation. This was 9 Sept, 66 and the balloon was still loose.

Dr. Morris also said that it was quite possible for a balloon to reach the US after having gone around the world. There have been balloons launched from New Zealon By NCAR that have gone around the Southern Hemmpesphere in 10 days,.

Contact with Mr. Richard Olson of Litton Incorp. about their Balloon which was launched on 24 August 66. Their balloon was up from 24 Aug. to 4 Sept 66. Balloon was launched and stayed in the area for several hours. Balloon went up to 137,000 feet. Balloon traveled slowly westward and dropped its package about 7-8 hours about 40 miles west of launch area. Balloon traveled slowly toward south and was reported over Shenandoah, Iowa on the 26 August 66. 27 Aug.66 Hastings Neb. 28 Aug.66 Russell, Kanas, 29 Aug.66 Kansas City, Mo. Balloon has a red pennant which has been reported as a big red tail. Balloon came down in SE Texas.

Contact with Balloon Control Center, Holloman AFB, New Mexico about balloons launched from Holloman. Balloon was launched on 7 Sept66 at 2245 MST and came down 1155 8 Sept, 66 near Doglan, Arizona.

8 Sept. 66

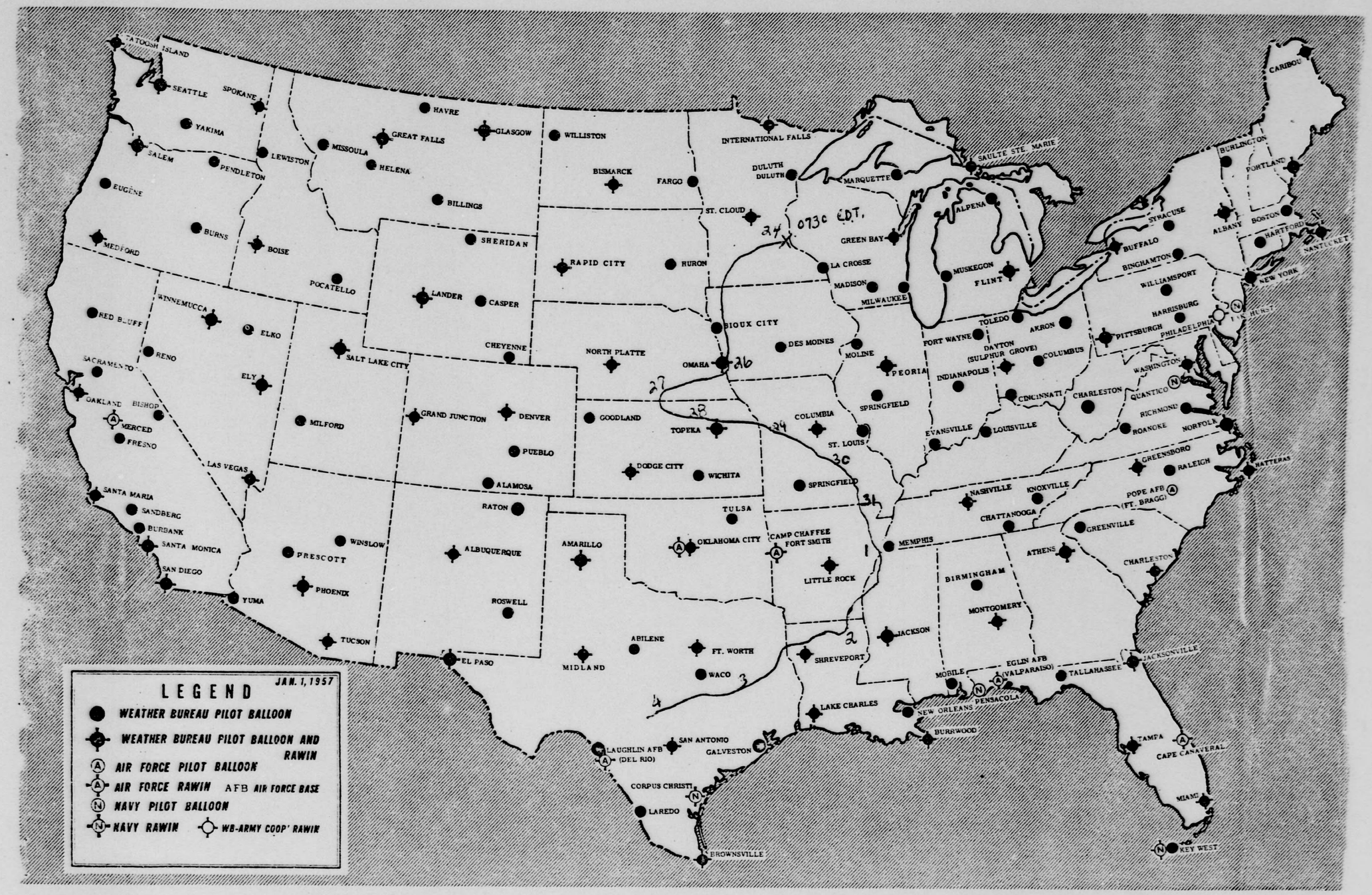
Contact was made with the PIO Scott AFB, Ill. concerning the release of a balloon from the St. Louis area. The PIO stated that he knew of no balloons being released from the area. He had heard of two balloons; one in Wisconsin and the other in Texas that had"gotten away". He said one of the balloons was being tracked by NORAD and was now near Winslow, Arizona.

Conversation with Radio Station KBOA Kennett, Mo. Informed that a balloon(weather) had been launched near Minneapolis, Minn. on 24 August 66. The balloon traveled southward being over the Mo.,Ark., Tenn. area on 30-31 August 66. The balloon left this area and was heading SE toward Alabama. Balloon went down in Texas. The balloon dropped its package; however it did not deflate properly. (314-88-84616)

9 Sept. 66

Contact with the FAA at Memphis Airport, Memphis, Tenn. (901-397-1473) traffic tower. The autovon number is 631-1620. Balloon was west of Memphis, Tenn on about the 30 of August 66. Balloon went over Wynne, Ark., Clarksdale, Miss. and was heading SW. Contact should be made with FAA(901- 363-1202) for more data. An aircraft near Dyersburg, Tenn saw the balloon and identified it.

Contact with FAA Memphis, Tenn,chief controler (363-1202). Mr. Starns. Mr. Starns said that they picked up the balloon on 30 Aug. 66 at 0400Z. The balloon at this time was reported to be at 10 miles NW of Sedalia, Mo. and was moving ESE at about 5-10 miles per hour. The altitude was ~~about 59,000 but not~~ not known but believed to be about 59,000 feet. Mr. Starnes said he would send us their report on the balloon flight path.


TATOOSH ISLAND
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SPOKANE
YAKIMA
SALEM
PENDLETON
LEWISTON
EUGENE
BURNS
BOISE
MEDFORD
POCATELLO
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ELKO
RENO
SACRAMENTO
ELY
OAKLAND
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MERCED
FRESNO
SALT LAKE CITY
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SANTA MONICA
SAN DIEGO
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RATON
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NORTH PLATTE
GOODLAND
DODGE CITY
WICHITA
AMARILLO
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ST. LOUIS
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TULSA
OKLAHOMA CITY
FT. WORTH
WACO
SAULTE STE. MARIE
MARQUETTE
ALPENA
MUSKEGON
FLINT
MOLINE
PEORIA
FORT WAYNE
TOLEDO
AKRON
DAYTON
(SULPHUR GROVE)
COLUMBUS
INDIANAPOLIS
CINCINNATI
EVANSVILLE
LOUISVILLE
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FORT SMITH
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MONTGOMERY
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CHARLESTON
LAKE CHARLES
NEW ORLEANS
BURRWOOD
MOBILE
EGLIN AFB
(VALPARAISO)
PENSACOLA
TALLAHASSEE
JACKSONVILLE
TAMPA
CAPE CANAVERAL
MIAMI
KEY WEST
LAUGHLIN AFB
(DEL RIO)
SAN ANTONIO
GALVESTON
CORPUS CHRISTI
LAREDO
BROWNSVILLE
CARIBOU
BURLINGTON
PORTLAND
ALBANY
BOSTON
HARTFORD
NANTUCKET
SYRACUSE
BUFFALO
BINGHAMTON
WILLIAMSPORT
NEW YORK
HARRISBURG
PHILADELPHIA
PITTSBURGH
WASHINGTON
QUANTICO
RICHMOND
ROANOKE
NORFOLK
CHARLESTON
GREENSBORO
RALEIGH
POPE AFB
(FT. BRAGG)
HATTERAS
073c EDT.
LEGEND
JAN. 1, 1957
WEATHER BUREAU PILOT BALLOON
WEATHER BUREAU PILOT BALLOON AND RAWIN
AIR FORCE PILOT BALLOON
AIR FORCE RAWIN
AFB AIR FORCE BASE
NAVY PILOT BALLOON
NAVY RAWIN
WB-ARMY COOP' RAWIN

FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY

ROUTE SLIP

DATE: 9/9/66

To: TDETR
Wright-Patterson AFB

ROUTING SYMBOL:

- [X] Per Your Request
- [ ] For Your Information
- [ ] Per Our Conversation
- [ ] Note and Return
- [ ] Discuss With Me
- [ ] For Your Approval
- [ ] For Your Signature
- [ ] Comment
- [ ] Take Appropriate Action
- [ ] Please Answer
- [ ] Prepare Reply for Signature

of _____

REMARKS:

From:	TELEPHONE NO.	ROUTING SYMBOL
MEMPHIS ARTC CENTER		

FAA Form 2641-1 (7-65) USE PREVIOUS EDITION (1360)

☆ GPO : 1965 O—782-193

RECORD OF ☐ VISIT ☐ CONFERENCE OR ☒ TELEPHONE CALL

TIME

DATE 9/2/66

NAME(s) OF PERSON(s) CONTACTED OR IN CONFERENCE AND LOCATION

Mr. Little, MEM-3

ROUTING

SYMBOL	INITIALS

SUBJECT

Balloon

DIGEST

Mr. Little called concerning the balloon and we discussed it briefly. He stated that Mr. Flener had been designated by Dave Thomas to be the one to keep an eye on the situation and take whatever action was appropriate. Mr. Little asked that Memphis Center work closely with Fort Worth and Houston to supply Mr. Flener and Control Central with current information. Mr. Flener would like to know immediately when any of the following conditions occur:

1. If the balloon descends at any time below 45,000 feet.

2. The instant it reaches the coastline.

3. If at any time we lose contact or are unable to determine where the balloon is.

4. Advise Mr. Flener if balloon moves substantially further south or west.

The Watch Supervisor should determine from Fort Worth and Houston Centers, and GCI, the location of the balloon, including height. The Watch Supervisor should check for current information as to location once each hour so that this information will be available for Mr. Flener, if asked for.

Mr. Little stated that FAA will trust GCI for location and painting of the balloon tonight instead of aircraft maintaining a watch.

Watch Supervisors are requested to notify Mr. Flener immediately concerning Items 1, 2, and 3 above, or any other information considered significant. Also, significant information should be forwarded to Mr. Wyatt Lewis for the Area Office.

CONCLUSION, ACTION TAKEN, OR REQUIRED

DATE	TITLE	SIGNATURE
9/2/66	William W. Parker Chief, Memphis Center	