

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 27 Feb 61	2. LOCATION Yuma, Arizona		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Poss Chaff</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>1041</u> GMT <u>271741Z</u>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Military		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 hr 48 min	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Similar to chaff drop. Gradually lost altitude, very slow moving. Gradually faded. Rate of descent--aprox 300' per minute.		11. COMMENTS Sighting was made only on radar. FTD radar specialists indicate that most plausible explanation is that a chaff drop was being conducted.	



Memo (AFCIN-4E), 19 Apr 61, Request for Review

1st Ind (AFCIN-4E1a/Mr. Bryant/jc/74201)

9 May 61

TO: AFCIN-4E (Maj Friend)

1. The report dated 14 Apr 61 from Anderson AFB has insufficient information upon which to base an evaluation. For example, "Description of flight path and maneuvers of object" is indicated as "N/A", and range of the target is not given.
2. Report dated 17 Feb 61 has been evaluated and evaluation indicates that considering speed of target, a reentry body (or meteorite) is about the only possibility if the target was real. The abnormally large size of the blip is not consistent with that type of target, however. Anomalous propagation or equipment malfunction are other possibilities. Check should be made of cognizant agencies to determine if reentry body or meteorites were in area.
3. Evaluation of report from 864th ACW Sq., Yuma, Ariz., dated 28 Feb 61, indicates chaff drop is most plausible explanation. Check of Air Force activities for possible chaff exercise could be made.

ROY L. JAMES  
Acting Chief  
AFCIN-4E1

3 Atch  
n/c



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28 FEB 61 20 39z

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FM 864TH ACWSQ USMC AUX AIR STATION YUMA ARIZONA

TO RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASHINGTON 25 DC

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE WASHINGTON 25 DC

RJWFAL/AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENT AFB COLO

RJEDSQ/AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJWZJB/LOS ANGELES ADS NORTON AFB CALIF

BT

UNCLAS FROM 86400P 28-B-01. FOR AFCIN, SAFIS, ADOIN, ATIC, LAOIN.

UFO REPORT. A. DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT: (Q) SIMILIAR TO CHAFF DROP

(W) NEGATIVE (E) NEGATIVE (R) NEGATIVE (T) NEGATIVE (Y) NEGATIVE

(U) BENT AND WEAVIN (I) NEGATIVE (O) NEGATIVE B. DESCRIPTION OF

COURSE OF OBJECT: (Q) UNUSUAL DISPLAY, POSITION, SPEED, AND HEIGHT

(W) <sup>140</sup>VRD DEGREES, 35 MILES, 46,000 FEET (E) <sup>130</sup>QEP DEGREES, 110 MILES,

13,000 FEET (R) GRADUALLY LOST ALTITUDE, VERY SLOW MOVING (T) GRAD

UALLY FADED. (Y) ONE HOUR AND FORTY EIGHT MINUTES C. MANNER OF

OBSERVATION: (Q) MPS-14 (W) NEGATIVE (E) NEGATIVE D. TIME AND

DATE OF SIGHTING: (Q) WUXQURQZ (W) DAY E. LOCATION OF OBSERVERS:

21/1741Z

Handwritten notes: 4E2 (UFO), 44X2A, 17, 23, 31

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MCAAS, YUMA, ARIZONA F. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON OBSERVERS:

(KQ) NEGATIVE (KW) PAUL E. REUTER, A/2C, 864TH ACWSQ, VERY RELIABLE,  
MORRIS ROYSTER, CAPT., 864TH ACWSQ, VERY RELIABLE G. WEATHER AND

WINDS-ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTINGS: (Q) GOOD

(W) 6,000-355/15; 10,000-335/25; 16,000-315/35; 20,000-315/40;  
YNPPPAETTXQTV QPNPPPAEETXWTV QYNPPPAEETXETV WPNPPPAEOTXRPV

(E) 30,000-305/50; 50,000-285/45; 80,000-  
EPNPPPAEPTXTPV IPNPPPAWITXRTV IPNPPANEGATIVE (K) CLEAR (RD) CLEAR

(T) NONE (Y) NONE (U) TO DEGREES H. NONE 8. NONE J. NONE K. COMMENTS

OF PREPARING OFFICER: POSITION TITLE: SENIOR DIRECTOR. WHEN THE  
OBJECT WAS FIRST PICKED UP ON THE MPS-14, THE PRESENTATION APPEARED  
THE SAME AS THAT OF A SINGLE AIRCRAFT. DUE TO THE SLOW SPEED, IT WAS  
THOUGHT TO BE A BALLOON, HOWEVER, THE PRESENTATION BEGAN TO BREAK UP  
AND BECAME DIFFUSED AT APPROXIMATELY 42,000 FEET. ALTHOUGH THE  
OBJECT WAS MOVING AT ONLY 20 KNOTS, IT LEFT A TRAIL OF DIFFUSE ECHOES  
EXTENDING BEHIND AND SLANTING DOWNWARD, SIMILIAR TO A STREAM OF CHAFF.  
THE RATE OF DESCEND WAS APPROXIMATELY 300 FEET PER MINUTE. THE ENTIRE  
ECHO BECAME DIFFUSE AND DESCENDED AT THE ABOVE RATE UNTIL CONTACT  
WAS LOST. THIS OFFICER DURING EIGHT YEARS EXPERIENCE IN AC&W DUTY  
HAS NOT ENCOUNTERED A SIMILIAR PRESENTATION WITH THE EXCEPTION OF  
CHAFF DROPPED FROM BALLOONS IN ALASKA. L. NEGATIVE

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28/1757Z FEB RJWZJBJ

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