

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 18 Jun 61	2. LOCATION Bloomington, Illinois		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1620 GMT 18/2220Z Jun 61	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10-20 Sec	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE SW	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Shiny round star-like object. In same position as Venus often takes in relation to a new moon when seen early in the evening. Resembled Venus in size and brightness. Moved slightly toward the NW, circled clockwise and headed almost due Southwest at a very rapid speed. Disappeared from sight at about 30-40 deg elevation. Speed was 3-4 times faster than jet a/c. Seemed very high while circling and proceeded in a straight line at disappearance.		11. COMMENTS Short duration rules out balloon. The maneuvers rule out astronomical objects. Speeds indicated rule out a/c although the possibility exists that there was an overestimation on speed. Duration is consistent with the speed indicated. Report received in letter and no follow up information requested. Report listed as insufficient data. Time lag reduced probability of checking on information.	

HEADQUARTERS
CHANUTE TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER (ATC)
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: OSD

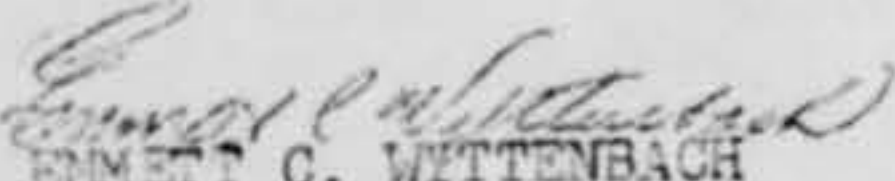
23 JUN 1961

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting

TO: ATIC
Wright-Patterson AFB
Ohio

The attached report of UFO Sighting is forwarded for your review and determination if further investigation is necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDER


EMMETT C. WITTENBACH
Major, USAF
Chief, Operations Services Division

1 Atch
UFO Report

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE
[REDACTED]

June 19, 1961

Commanding Officer
United States Air Force Base
Chanute Field
Rantoul, Illinois

Dear Sir:

This is a report of a sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object.

June 18, 1961, I was lying on my back on the grass near the swimming pool at the Bloomington Country Club looking directly up into the sky. The time was 4:20 p.m. There were no clouds in the sky at that time, the wind velocity at ground level was practically zero and the visibility in all directions was unlimited. I was wearing polarized sun glasses which contain no optical corrections. My eyesight is very good; I wear glasses with a very slight correction only for reading and television and I have always been slightly far sighted.

The moon, in its first quarter, was almost directly overhead. I was looking at the moon when I noticed a shiny round object which I thought was a star. It was also directly overhead near the moon, in the same position as Venus often takes in relation to a new moon when it is seen in the early evening. It occurred to me after a few seconds that a star would not be visible at this particular hour of this particular day, although the object resembled Venus in size and brightness.

As I watched the object it moved slightly toward the northwest, circled clockwise and headed almost due southwest at a very rapid speed and disappeared from sight about 30 to 40 degrees above the horizon. As it moved southwest its speed, I would estimate was three or four times as fast as the jet military aircraft which we frequently see flying over Bloomington. The object seemed to be very high and after circling proceeded in a straight line.

(to 20)

The entire episode took place in about 10/seconds from the time I first noticed the object until it disappeared from sight. There were several other people present at the time but I was the only one lying down at that moment and although I called it to the attention of the others it had disappeared before they could see it.

I am 43 years of age and hold the rank of Lieut., DC USNR (Ret.). I have never before sighted any such object nor have I talked with anyone who has done so. I hope that this information will be of some value.

Respectfully yours,
[REDACTED]