PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	2. LOCATION	12. CONCLUSIONS
3 Jun 50	Genoa, Italy	☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2143 GMT 03/2043Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☐ No	6. SOURCE Civilian	☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☒ Possibly Astronomical Meteor
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 13-14 secs	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE Southward
		☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Steady, pale, whitish light of unchanging intensity. No tail. Disappeared among the stars.

11. COMMENTS

Observation indicates possible meteor sighting.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

AIR FORCE BALLISTIC MISSILE DIVISION
HEADQUARTERS
AIR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Air Force Unit Post Office, Los Angeles 45, California

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: WDGNP/Capt Moore/2261

SUBJECT: Letter of Transmittal

2 July 1959

TO: USAF Technical Intelligence Agency
ATTN: UFO Section
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

The attached letter from Captain [redacted] is forwarded for your evaluation and information.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

RALPH J. NUNZIATO
Colonel, USAF
Director of Information Services

2 Atchs
1. Subj ltr dtd 6 Jun 59
2. AFBMD reply to Capt [redacted] dtd 2 Jul 59, 1 cy

Genoa the 6th June 1959

To Staff of Air Base of VANDENBERG

CALIFORNIA

I am a captain tourist officer employed in the publicity office of the Lloyd Triestino Line in Genoa.

At home, as I am very keen in astronomy, I have a small rainbow field glass o 60 enlargements which I bought at a cheap price in Hong Kong.

In the evening of the 3rd. of this month I had set it in position and was obs ving Jupiter and three of the four principal satellites, endeavouring to trace the four which position was unknown to me.

It was exactly 21.43 local time(I had set the clock at right 20.00 with the time signal of Radio Roma) when in the field of observation of my glass(see pink zone) entered from north a luminous flying object direct southward.

Its size was apparently that of one of the three satellites I was observing but its light was not so bright but of a steady pale whitish colour(The sky was moonles and air very clear) This light was of an unchanging intensity without any sort of lumi= nous tail.

I understood immediately it was not any sort of meteorite; not at all a plane and I kept it under observation for what I reckoned to be 13 or 14 seconds of time, unt lessening little by little among the tiniest stars it disappeared at a point which I estimated to be more or less 20 degrees of height on the horizon.

In the following day, the 4th of June, the newspapers reported of the launchi of the "Explorer III" from Vandemberg-California at 2I.09 local time(Genova-Italy) and that was the reason why I phoned my observation to the Geophisic Institute of the Unive sity, relating what I have seen.

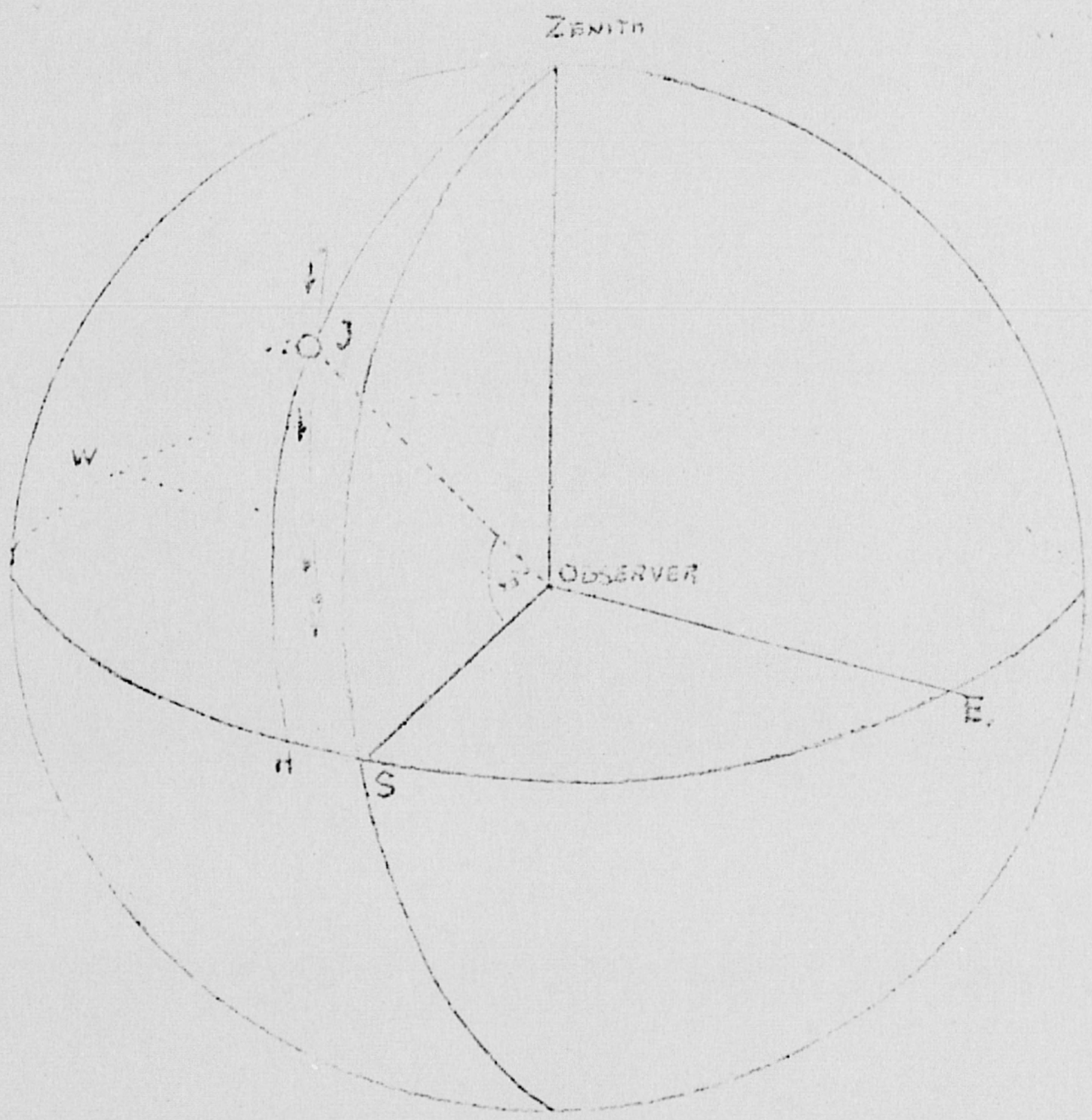
Is there anything with the launching of the "Explorer III"

I send a graphic which represent quite sensibly what I have seen hoping to be excused for not having ben able to do more.

Whith best regards

[redacted]

Cap[redacted] -via [redacted] 2/12.A.
GENOVA(ITALY)



=Pink zone = Observable size of the zone in the sky with my glass.

..... = Trajectory of the flying object

J = Jupiter

J.H= Height of Jupiter on the horizon

TIME of Observation = 3rd. june 1959 at 21.43 local time(Genova-ITALY)

Sky = moonless

Athmosphere very clear

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REPLY TO
ATTN OF: WDGMP/Capt Moore/2261

SUBJECT: Letter Volunteering Information

2 July 1959

TO:

Captain [redacted]
[redacted]
Genova, Italy

Dear Captain [redacted]:

1. Thank you for your very precise and complete astronautical observations on the night of 3 June.

2. However, you could not have been observing DISCOVERER III because it would have been going from south to north at Genoa, instead of north to south as you observed. In addition, DISCOVERER III would have required more than 58 minutes to reach the latitude of northern Italy instead of the 34 minutes observed by you.

3. The excellent and concise account of your sighting made it possible to immediately find the differences between the object you saw and the path of DISCOVERER III.

4. Your interest and willingness to assist is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

/s/ Johnson

RALPH J. NUNZIATO
Colonel, USAF
Director of Information Services