PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE TIME GROUP 11 July 47 11/2045Z	2. LOCATION Black River Falls, Wisconsin
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Other (HOAX)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	The FBI investigated the object and evaluated it as a hoax
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION N/Z	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS The observer phoned the Fifth Army, Chicago, and stated an object had been found in the Black River Falls fairgrounds. A flying disk which was 16 in in diameter, 7 in in thickness, silver-colored, made of plywood and cardboard, and mounted on it was a motor propellor, shaft propellor and some radio cells. Was later found out that the observer was charging admission to see the object.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Landed	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes XX No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE XX Yes Not in File ☐ No	

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

10 July 47
Block Rept. Facts, w/se

Before
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HEADQUARTERS
AIR DEFENSE COMMAND
MITCHEL FIELD, NEW YORK

23 July 1947

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

D333.5

SUBJECT: Flying Disc.

TO : Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.
ATTN: AC/AS-2.

1. Inclosed herewith are the photographs of the reputed flying saucer referred to in letter from Second Air Force, 333.5, subject, "Flying Disc", 14 July 1947, with 1st Ind. from this headquarters, 22 July 1947.

2. This contrivance is patently a hoax and should not be dignified by any further consideration from any Intelligence agency, nor should any further government funds be spent in its transportation.

3. In the event you desire the original contrivance forwarded to you, please indicate to this office your desires, otherwise it will be held here for a reasonable length of time and then disposed of in the nearest ash receptacle.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

R. H. Smith

R. H. SMITH
Colonel, GSC
Asst Chief of Staff-Intell.

2 Incls:
1-Photo.of"flying saucer"
2- " "

1-8112-23

Beck ci
16

Flying Disk.
D333.5 ID (16 Jul 47) 1st Ind.
HQ AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, Mitchel Field, New York, 22 July 1947

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.
ATTN: AC/AS-2.

1. Forwarded for your information and utilization.

2. Subject disk is being forwarded under separate cover.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

James F.X. O'Connell
Lt. Col. AC.
for R. H. SMITH
Colonel, GSC
Asst Chief of Staff-Intell.

Info cy:
AMC, Wright
Fld, Dayton, O.

1 Incl:
n/c

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
COMMANDING GENERAL, SECOND AIR FORCE
OFFUTT FIELD, FORT CROOK, NEBRASKA

ATTENTION

HEADQUARTERS SECOND AIR FORCE

OFFUTT FIELD

FORT CROOK, NEBRASKA

16 July 1947

SUBJECT: Flying Disk

TO: Commanding General, Air Defense Command, Mitchel Field, N.Y.

1. At 1445, 11 July 1947, Colonel Siebert, A-2 Division, Fifth Army, Chicago, telephoned me and stated substantially as follows: A Mr. H. W. Schaeffer, Civil Air Patrol, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, telephone 268, had just telephoned Headquarters Fifth Army and stated that there had been found in the Black River Falls Fairgrounds a flying disk, description of which was substantially as follows: 16 inches in diameter, 7 inches in thickness, silver colored, made of plywood and cardboard, and mounted on it was a motor propellor, shaft propellor and some radio cells. I immediately contacted Colonel DeFord, Chief of Staff, Second Air Force, and suggested to him that I telephone Mr. Schaeffer and have him ship collect to this Headquarters the flying saucer. Colonel DeFord agreed and the call was placed to Black River Falls at 1500. About a half hour later, the telephone operator informed me that Mr. Schaeffer had departed for Milwaukee and he could be located in that city after 1630 at Broadway 4128. I asked the operator to contact Mr. Schaeffer for me in Milwaukee as soon as it was possible. That day and the following day (Saturday) efforts to contact Mr. Schaeffer were to no avail. At about noon Saturday, I phoned the Chief of Police ([redacted]) at Black River Falls and he stated that he, along with a few hundred other people in and near Black River Falls, had seen the flying saucer, as it had been on display and admission of 50¢ per person was being charged to view it. Mr. Young told me that the disk was at the moment locked in the vaults of the local bank and could not be gotten to until the vault was opened at about 9:00 o'clock Monday morning, 14 July.

2. Mr. [redacted] stated that agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation from Milwaukee had flown to Black River Falls in a chartered airplane and inspected the disk, stated that in their opinion it was a hoax, and had returned to Milwaukee.

3. The next day I placed a call to the Commanding Officer of the 137th AAF BU, at Wold Chamberlain Field, Minneapolis. Colonel Sanders was not there at the moment, and I talked with Lt Carey, the Officer of the Day, to whom I gave the salient facts covering the flying pieplate, and told him of my conversation with Mr. Young, the Chief of Police at Black River Falls. I told Lt Carey to tell Colonel Sanders to fly to Black River Falls the following morning and carefully examine the object in question and to communicate with me as soon thereafter as possible. Yesterday, 15 July, officers of Colonel Sanders' command delivered to me in person the flying disk.

21279

18 JUL 1947

4. The disk has been examined by the Commanding General, Second Air Force, and members of his staff and is being sent under separate cover to you. Immediately upon receipt of the aerial soup tureen, I attempted to telephone Colonel Siebert (A-2, Fifth Army) who was in Milwaukee, but I did talk with Major Walton, Administrative Division, A-2, Fifth Army; told him that the flying disk was in my possession, was being sent to Commanding General, ADC, that I would furnish him a copy of this letter.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

W. R. Sweeley

W. R. SWEELEY
Colonel, GSC
Asst Chief of Staff, A-2

Incl:
Cy ltr dtd 14Jul47 fr
Lt Col E.A.Sanders,Jr,
137th AAF BU to Col
Sweeley

91279

HEADQUARTERS
137TH AAF BU (RES TNG) ADC
WOLD CHAMBERLAIN FIELD
MINNEAPOLIS 6, MINNESOTA

14 July 1947

Colonel William R. Sweeley
Ass't Chief of Staff, A-2
Headquarters, Second Air Force
Offutt Field
Fort Crook, Nebraska

Dear Colonel Sweeley:

In accordance with your directions (Phone conversation between yourself and Lt. Peeroy, this base, 1530, 13 July 1947), I flew down to Black River Falls, Wisconsin this date and acquired the so-called "flying disc" which was reported to have landed in that vicinity. The following facts connected therewith are presented:

1. Finder of the "Flying disc": Mr. S[redacted].
2. Place: Jackson County Fairgrounds, Black River Falls, Wis.
3. Time and date: 1530, 10 July 1947.
4. Witnesses to the finding: Mr. [redacted], Mr. [redacted], both of BlackRiver Falls, Wisconsin.
5. According to Mr. [redacted], the finder, a "flying disc" was reported seen in flight near Black River Falls the morning of July 10th. That afternoon, Mr. [redacted], while working on the Jackson County Fairgrounds, found what he believed to be a "flying disc" in the high grass and sand of the terrain. The two aforementioned witnesses were with him at the finding. None of these three state that they saw or heard the contraption in flight. It is interesting to note, particularly after examining the "flying disc", that Mr. [redacted] is an electrician employed by the city of BlackRiver Falls.

I will not attempt a description of subject "flying disc" as I am sending it along with this letter for your own perusal. I inquired as to whether or not any clever model aircraft builders resided in the area and all reports indicated there were none. ~~It seems~~ that Mr. [redacted] put the "thing" on display in the city after finding it and was accumulating cash at the rate of $.50 per person per look ~~until he was~~ stopped by Mr. Young, Chief of Police, who confiscated the "object of attention" and placed it under lock and key until my arrival.

01279

Ltr to Colonel William R. Sweeley, 14 July 1947.

I was unable to contact Mr. Young personally as he was out of town on business. The facts outlined herein were gathered primarily from Mr. [redacted] n himself. A few comments were obtained by speaking with some of the towns-people. All opinions were more or less the same, that is, it was the "real McCoy". I, for one, after examining the "flying disc" and considering the source of most of the information on it cannot bring myself to believe that this "thing" will fly [redacted]

/s/ [redacted]

EDWARD A. SANDERS, Jr.
Lt. Colonel, Air Corps
Commanding

Incident #12 / 48304

UNCLASSIFIED

0230

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #42 -- Anchorage, Alaska -- 12 July 1947

As in incident #41, no astronomical explanation can be given here.

In this incident also, the temptation is to assume that the object seen was a balloon.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

A-3913-83

UNCLASSIFIED

Extract from Weekly Intelligence Summary, ATC, 18 Jul 47

"[illegible] REPORTS [illegible]": The following is a digest of an [illegible] report that have been received through the [illegible] Intelligence system of [illegible] concerning unidentified flying objects. On 10 June 1947, [illegible] first report from rural areas in Hungary to the effect that "silver [illegible] flying across the sky in [illegible] fashion." No [illegible] description of such [illegible] report was obtained. [illegible] Newfoundland certificate [illegible] [redacted] [illegible] by personnel of the 1360th AAF Base Unit, ATC, Newfoundland [illegible] Torbay, Newfoundland, reported that on 9 July at 2320 hours local time (0220Z), he observed a [illegible] "egg-shaped phosphorus colored discs" followed ten minutes later by a fifth similar object moving through the air in the vicinity of Torbay, Newfoundland. According to the observable, all objects were flying very fast, and parallel to the ground, at an altitude of "10,000 feet". The first four were in trail formation. The observable described the [illegible] objects as being like a "barrel head or egg" with "black spots on the trail" but leaving no [illegible] trail. The Northwestern [illegible] Command reports [illegible] unidentified [illegible] of these objects. [illegible] described them as "[illegible]-shaped" in shape. A check of weather records revealed that [illegible] prevailed in the Grand Falls region at the time these objects were reported [illegible] seen. Mr. [redacted] for Inter-[illegible] [redacted], for Pan American [illegible], both stationed at Harmon Field, Newfoundland, reports that on 10 July at 1[illegible]0 hours local time (2[illegible]0Z), they observed over that installation [illegible] saucer-shaped disc of silver color which, at its estimated altitude of "[illegible],000 feet", appeared to be of equal size to the wing span of a C-54. [illegible] records indicate that the weather at Harmon during the time this incident occurred was clear with scattered cumulus clouds at an altitude of [illegible] to ten thousand feet. There has been report that the disc was first [illegible] appeared about six miles SSW of Harmon; the two observers report [illegible] the disc seemed to "cut the clouds as it passed" over on a NNE course leaving "[illegible] black trail approximately fifteen miles long" which is described as similar in appearance to the beam seen for an instant after a high powered [illegible] light or search light has been switched off. Personnel of the 1558th [illegible] Base Unit, ATC, Harmon Field, Stephenville, who relayed [redacted] and [redacted] report to this office state that underexposed pictures were taken of the disc [illegible] are now being developed, probably by Eastman at Rochester, New York, and they [redacted] will forward the prints "as soon as received". On 11 July 1947, Col [redacted] and Major [redacted] of the 56th Airways and Air Communication Service Group, Elmendorf Field, Anchorage, observed an object [illegible] silver colored balloon "about 6 feet in diameter" travelling at an altitude "at a great speed" in a N/S direction in the vicinity of [illegible] on 10 July at 0[illegible]50 hours local time (0[illegible]Z), Major [redacted] of this [illegible] and some unidentified officers of the Canadian Department observed a [illegible] "approximately 10 feet in diameter" in the vicinity of Elmendorf Field [illegible] in a NW direction following the contour of the mountains five miles [illegible] object was reported as flying at an altitude of "1500 feet" at an estimated [illegible] 100 miles per hour. [illegible] per hour. [illegible] on [illegible] This summary was based on reports emanating from rural areas in [illegible]

UNCLASSIFIED

U-30178-A-3

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Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:
#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:
#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.