

ATTN: [redacted]

UNCLAS

Incident 12

DATE: [redacted]

TO: [redacted]

FROM: [redacted]

SUBJECT: [redacted]

RE: [redacted]

INFO: [redacted]

NOTE: [redacted]

OP OF THE [redacted]

FOR THE [redacted]

THROUGH [redacted]

BY [redacted]

ON [redacted]

AT [redacted]

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FROM THE OREGON JOURNAL - 5 July 1947, Portland, Ore.

"PROWL CARS SPOT DISKS IN SKY HERE"

Whatever they are, there are some disk-like objects flying around in the sky.

Or else eight Portland area policemen and deputy sheriffs who sighted the objects Friday, numerous private citizens, the crew of a United Air Lines plane over Boise, Idaho, and a coastguardsman who claims to have photographed one near Seattle, are all wrong.

In Portland the alert was sounded over police radio at 1:06 p.m. Friday, after the East Side station received a score of calls that the disks were overhead. Within seconds, two prowl cars reported spotting the mystery craft.

FLASHES SEEN, NOISE LACKING.

First to report in were Patrolmen Walter Lissy and Robert Ellis in Car No. 82, who stopped near Oaks Park. Both World War II veterans and civilian pilots, they sighted three of the objects within 30 seconds traveling at great height and speed over the park. They reported they heard no engine noises but saw flashes. The objects seemed erratic and changed direction of flight. The patrolmen agreed that without knowledge of the size of the objects it would be impossible to judge their speed or altitude.

Patrolman Earl Patterson in car No. 13 stopped at SE 82d avenue and Foster road to look eastward from there the disks were reported. Telephone calls located them coming out of the sun. He saw nothing, but a few seconds later observed one coming out of the west and heading southwest. The craft seemed to be aluminum or eggshell white and didn't flash or reflect light, he said.

OBJECTS UNIDENTIFIED.

A former aircorps veteran, he said the object was unlike any plane he'd ever seen. He thought it appeared radio-controlled because the disk could change direction at a 90-degree angle without difficulty.

Members of the harbor patrol at the foot of NW Irving street stepped out when they heard the all-car alert. Capt. K. A. Prehn, Harbor Pilot, A. T. Austed and Patrolman K. C. Hoff all saw the objects and said they appeared to be going south high over the Globe mills at terrific speed. Capt. Prehn said the flashes kept them from ascertaining whether there were three or six.

"The disks would oscillate and sometimes we would see a full disk, then a half-moon shape, then nothing at all," he reported. The objects looked more like a shiny chromium hub cap off a car which wobbled, disappeared and reappeared."

There was a plane in the sky at the time, but all were emphatic that the disks were not planes.

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FILE 5

File #2

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM THE OREGON JOURNAL - 5 July 1947, Portland, Ore.

AIRLINES CREW CONFIRMS REPORTS OF FLYING DISKS: FIVE SPOTTED.

Circumstantial reports of flying disks in the sky Friday came from the crew of a United Airlines plane over Boise, Idaho, and a coast guardsman near Seattle, as well as from Portland area police and citizens.

[REDACTED], captain of the airliner, told United Press that he sighted five "somethings" which were "thin and smooth on the bottom and rough appearing on top." The objects appeared against the sunset shortly after the plane took off at 8:04 p.m., he said.

"We saw them clearly," he reported. "We followed them in a north-westerly direction for about 45 miles. Finally the objects disappeared. We were unable to tell whether they outsped us or disintegrated.

NOT AIRCRAFT.

"We can't say whether they were saucer-like, oval or anything else," the captain said, "but whatever they were, they were not another aircraft, nor were they smoke or clouds."

In Seattle, Coast Guardsman Frank Ryman, 27, reported to United Press that he snapped a picture from the front porch of his home which showed a "white saucer" flying over the north end of Lake Washington.

Acme News Pictures, New York City, said a 7x9 inch print of the photograph showed two tiny dots, one of which was a flaw in the print.

[REDACTED], 19, Oaks Amusement park employe, reported that he saw several objects "like spinning disks" in the sky Friday. He said several picnickers, including a woman pilot noticed them.

In Vancouver, Wash., Sheriff's Deputies John Sullivan, Clarence McKay and Fred Krives heard the Portland police radio broadcast and ran out of the sheriff's office to look at the sky. Over Portland, three to five miles away, Sullivan said, they saw 20 to 30 objects "like a flight of geese." They heard a low humming sound.

OTHERS DOUBTFUL.

Col. G. R. Dodson, commander of the Oregon national guard, made an inspection of this area from the air after the disks were reported here. He said he saw nothing "suspicious."

Only known military airplanes in the air at the time of the reports were 23 B-29 bombers near Astoria.

Despite all the reports, at least two persons remained unconvinced of the existence of the disks. [REDACTED], Holgate moorage, gave his opinion that the objects were cottonwood blossoms.

[REDACTED], 64, of [REDACTED] telephoned the Journal to berate the newspapers for "perpetuating a hoax." He said he saw objects in the sky about a minute after an airplane passed over his house. To him the objects looked like bits of aluminum foil, perhaps cigarette wrappers.

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REF ID: A61111

From the Oregon Journal - continued.

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MORE SEEN LATER.

Several late flights of objects over Portland were reported Friday afternoon. [REDACTED] avenue, said he saw three fly east across the Willamette river near the Ross Island bridge about 2 p.m.

The objects did not appear high, he said, and were traveling so fast that, appearing in the west, they were out of sight in the east in two to four seconds. He said they resembled metallic disks glinting in the sunlight.

Later, he said, he and neighbors saw a single disk-like object flying north far away and very high.

At 4:30 p.m., Mrs. [REDACTED], reported sighting a disk "like a new dime flipping around" in the air over the Sandy district. She said it seemed to be moving slowly.

PAPER RECOVERED.

[REDACTED] said he sighted two white or silver objects flying southeast high over Portland a few minutes before 5 p.m. He reported another, headed northeast, over his home at 5:30 p.m. [REDACTED] reported that four disks flew past Mount Jefferson at about 11 a.m. while he was driving near Redmond.

[REDACTED] recovered from Rose City golf course a piece of paper he said had fallen from a great height in the sky. Time of its fall coincided with some of the reports of flying disks. The paper, of low quality, measured $23\frac{1}{2}$ x 36 inches.

SILVERED DISKS, DROPPED BY PLANE.

EUGENE, July 5 -(AP)- A Eugene railroad cashier said Friday he saw silvered disks being dropped out of a light airplane flying over this city. [REDACTED] an assistant cashier for the Southern Pacific Railroad, said he was driving on a Eugene street when --

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FILE 5

[REDACTED]

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CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 5

1. Date **4 July 1947**
2. Time **1305**
3. Location **Portland, Oregon**
4. Name of observer **Kenneth A. McDowell**
5. Occupation of observer **Patrolman, Portland City Police**
6. Address of observer **Portland City Police Dept., Portland, Oregon**
7. Place of observation **Parking lot back of police station**
45° 30' N 122° 33' W
8. Number of objects **5**
9. Distance of object from observer **N/S**
10. Time in sight **N/S**
11. Altitude **N/S**
12. Speed **Great speed**
13. Direction of flight **2 discs flying south, 3. in easterly direction**
14. Tactics **Dipped up and down in oscillating motion at great speed**
15. Sound **None**
16. Size **N/A Large**
17. Color **Could not be determined**
18. Shape **Round - disc-shaped**
19. Odor detected **N/S**
20. Apparent construction **N/S**
21. Exhaust trails **N/S - No visible means of propulsion observed**
22. Weather conditions **N/S**
23. Effect on clouds **N/S**
24. Sketches or photographs **None**
25. Manner of disappearance **Quickly - before any detailed observation could be made**
26. Remarks:

INC FILE

(over)

5

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Officer McDowell stated that at approximately 1305, 4 July 1947 while he was on duty at Precinct #1 and feeding the pigeons in the parking lot back of the station he noticed that the pigeons became quite excited over something and flattered in the air. Officer McDowell in looking around to see what had disturbed them saw 5 large discs in the air east of Portland; two discs flying south and three flying in an easterly direction. He stated he could determine no color to the discs but advised they were dipping in an up and down oscillating motion and were traveling at great speed. He was unable to give an estimate of the speed or altitude of the discs as they were out of sight before any detailed observation could be made. Officer McDowell advised that he notified the Police Radio who immediately broadcast an alert. He saw no indication of any motivating force nor heard any sound coming from the discs and could give no description other than round.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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13

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1. Date: 1 July 47
2. Time: 1305
3. Location: Klamath, Oregon
4. Name of observer: Sergeant Claude Green
5. Organization of observer: Oregon State Police Officer
6. Address of observer: District 12, Klamath, Oregon
7. Place of observation: Police station
8. Number of objects: 3
9. Distance of object from observer: N/S
10. Time in sight: N/S
11. Altitude: Undetermined
12. Speed: N/S
13. Direction of flight: Northwest
14. Remarks: Three objects following each other at ten-foot pace
15. Sound: None
16. Size: N/S
17. Color: White to brown 5000 ft. and was white below 5000
18. Shape: Disc
19. When detected: N/S
20. Apparent construction: N/S
21. Exhaust trails: N/S
22. Weather conditions: N/S
23. Evident on clouds: N/S
24. Sketches or photographs: None
25. Name of observer: N/S
26. Remarks: (over)



CHECK LIST - INFORMATION REPORT FORMS

1. Date 1 May 1947
2. Time 1305
3. Location Oregon
4. Name of observer Earl E. Parkerson
5. Occupation of observer Parkerson - Harbor Air Corps pilot
6. Address of observer [REDACTED] Portland, Oregon
7. Place of observation Southwest 32nd and Foster Road, Portland
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer 1/8
10. Time in sight 1/8
11. Altitude Approx 30,000 ft
12. Speed Possible - faster than any speed witness had ever seen
13. Direction of flight Southwesterly direction over Portland
14. Tactics Used Performed 90° angle without difficulty - thought to be radio controlled
15. Sound None
16. Size 1/8
17. Color Reddish
18. Shape disc
19. Time detected 1/8
20. Apparent construction 1/8 Apparently metallic or metal-like with bright red light
21. Estimated altitude None
22. Position compared with 1/8
23. Position on horizon 1/8
24. Surrounding circumstances None
25. Remarks 1/8
26. Remarks (over)

DOWNGRADED
INTERVALS NOT AFFECTED
DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

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1. Date: 4 July 47
2. Time: 1:05
3. Location: Portland, Oregon
4. Name of observer: W. A. Riser
5. Occupation of observer: Retiree - also a private pilot
6. Address of observer: Portland City Police Dept.
7. Place of observation: Ground
8. Number of objects: 3
9. Distance of objects from observer: N/S
10. Time in sight: N/S
11. Altitude: 12,000 ft
12. Speed: variable
13. Direction of flight: South
14. Tactics: Straight-line formation except last one threatened to fall in line
15. Sound: None
16. Size: N/S
17. Color: White
18. Shape: disc
19. Color reflected: N/S
20. Apparent construction: N/S
21. Kinetic energy: None
22. Visible contrails: None - 2nd plane or in cloud formation visible
23. Effect on clouds: N/S - no clouds
24. Sketches or photographs: None
25. Name of organization: N/S
26. Remarks: (over)

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SECRET

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36-20000-10000 CHIEF LIST - PHOTOGRAPHED THINGS ON HAND

1. Date: July 14
2. Time: 1:30
3. Location: Portland, Oregon
4. Name of observer: J. E. Hines
5. Occupation of observer: Photographer
6. Address of observer: Portland City Police Dept., Oregon
7. Place of observation: Portland, Oregon
8. Number of objects: 3
9. Distance of object from observer: 1/5
10. Time in light: 1/5
11. Altitude: About 10,000 ft.
12. Speed: Variable
13. Direction of flight: South
14. Character: Straight line formation, eight feet above ground, in S.W. in air
15. Sound: None
16. Size: N/S
17. Color: White
18. Shape: Disc
19. Color of object: 1/5
20. Apparent construction: 1/5
21. Estimated weight: None
22. Possible explanation: One of the little ones of construction, visible from ground
23. Name of object: 1/5 - no name
24. Sketches or photographs: None
25. Name of observer: J.E. Hines
26. Remarks: (over)

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[REDACTED]

Incident #5 -- Portland, Oregon -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this, incident, nor for numerous others (#6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16) which occurred in and near Portland on the Fourth of July, 1947.

Besides being observed in the same vicinity, and most of them at the same time, the objects seen have in common a round shape, "terrific" speed, abrupt tactics, and quick disappearance. Abrupt tactics certainly suggest that the objects were of a very light weight.

This investigator can offer no definite hypothesis, but in passing would like to note that these incidents occurred on the Fourth of July, and that if relatively small pieces of aluminum foil had been dropped from a plane over that area, then any one object would become visible at a relatively short distance. Even moderate wind velocities could give the illusion that fluttering, gyrating discs had gone by at great velocities. Various observers would not, of course, in this case have seen the same objects.

The above is not to be regarded as a very likely explanation but only as a possibility: the occurrence of these incidents on July 4 may have been more than a coincidence. Some prankster might have tossed such objects out of an airplane as part of an Independence Day celebration.

If these were aircraft of either known or unknown type,

[REDACTED]

[The page contains faint, illegible markings.]

1940-1941

UNCLASSIFIED AIRCRAFT SIGHTING REPORT

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1. Date 4 July 1967
2. Time 1505
3. Location Vandenberg, Washington
4. Name of observer John Sullivan
5. Occupation of observer Specialist, Navy
6. Address of observer Vandenberg, Washington
7. Place of observation Vandenberg, Washington, Ground
8. Number of objects 21 to 31
9. Distance of object from observer 1 to 5 miles from Ground
10. Time in sight 1/2
11. Altitude 1/2
12. Speed 1/2
13. Direction of flight 1/2
14. Tactics 1/2
15. Shape Low flying, erratic
16. Size 1/2
17. Color 1/2
18. Shape 1/2 - like flock of geese
19. Color described 1/2
20. Apparent construction 1/2
21. Similar to 1/2
22. Weather conditions 1/2
23. Effect on clouds 1/2
24. Sound or photographic 1/2
25. Name of organization 1/2
26. Remarks (over)

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, 163, 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, 160, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213,
229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:

#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 62, 68, 61, 62, 64, 63, 71,
75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 152,
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

Incident #5 -- page 2

it would be difficult to explain their appearance over only one locality and at only one time, their apparent random motion, the lack of any sound or obvious propulsion method, and the lack of aerodynamic construction.

Incident #6 -- Milwaukee, Oregon -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident.

See report on incident #5.

[REDACTED]

Incident #7 -- Portland, Oregon -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident.

See report on incident #5.

4-1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Incident #8, 8a -- Portland, Oregon -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident.

See report on incident #5.

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Incident #9 -- Portland, Oregon -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident.

See report on incident #5.

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Incident #12 -- Vancouver, Washington -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident.

See report on incident #5.

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
HAMILTON FIELD, CALIFORNIA

4AFDA
333.5 ID

5 AUG 1947

SUBJECT: Investigation of "Flying Discs"

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

Attached MOIC and newspaper clipping forwarded your office in compliance with letter from Headquarters Air Defense Command, Mitchel Field, New York, subject as above, dated 7 July 47.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

William J. Sorenson
CWO, U. S. Army,
Asst. Adjutant General,

2 Incls:

1. MOIC Sorensen 7 Jul 47.(dup)
2. Newspaper clipping dtd
5 Jul 47 (dup)

Info Cy to: Air Defense Command
Mitchel Field, N.Y.

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4-3912-2