

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE 11 July 47	TIME GROUP 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	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	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.	
7. COURSE Landed		
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☒ Yes Not in File ☐ No		

10 JULY 47

Base Rpt. False

Behr
(6)

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.

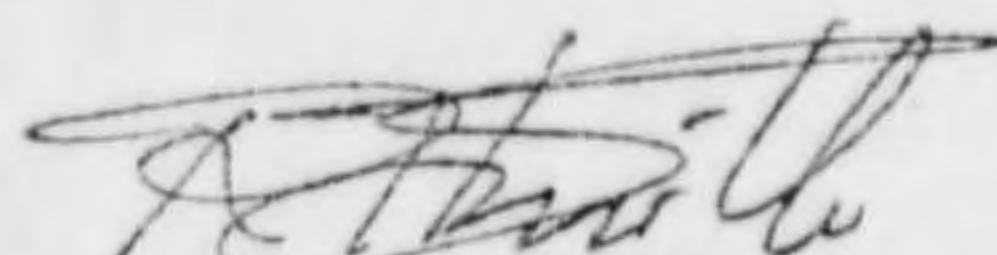
1. Inclosed herewith are the photographs of the reputed flying saucer referred to in letter from Second Air Force, 333.5, subject, "Flying Disc", 14 July 1947, with 1st Ind. from this headquarters, 22 July 1947.

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:

2 Incls:
1-Photo. of "fly-
ing saucer"
2- " "



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

7-3712-2

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:

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

1 Incl:
n/c

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

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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 187th 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, 12 July, officers of Colonel Sanders' command delivered to me in person the flying disk.

1373

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12 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
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

31279

HEADQUARTERS
137TH AAF BG (RES TNG) ADC
WOLD CHAMBERLAIN FIELD
MINNEAPOLIS 8, 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. Pezoy, 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. [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 Black River 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 Black River 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. It was stopped by Mr. Young, Chief of Police, who confiscated the "object of attention" and placed it under lock and key until my arrival.

91279

HEADQUARTERS
137TH AAF BG (RES TNG) ADC
WOLD CHAMBERLAIN FIELD
MINNEAPOLIS 8, MINNESOTA

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] himself. A few comments were obtained by speaking with some of the townspeople. 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

RECEIVED

JUL 14 1947

HEADQUARTERS

COPY