

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 4 June 49 04/1005Z	2. LOCATION Hillsboro, Oregon	393
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON	
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One		
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object appeared to be metallic in color, rather large and round in shape, and comparable to an object 3/8 inch in diam. held at arms length. It appeared to wobble slightly, but remained in a fixed position. After remaining in view for about 3 minutes it then appeared to move in a Southwesterly direction at a very rapid rate of speed.	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual		
7. COURSE Hovering and SW		
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No		

FORM

CONTROL NO. S - 605	SUBJECT: Ltr Aerial Phenomena UNF....	DECIMAL FILE NO. <u>5-1579</u>	FOLLOW UP ON DATE
FROM: 20th Distr Off Spec Inv	DATED 7/8/59		
TO: IAXS	Wash	NO. INCLS. 1	
RECORDING DESK	XT-1	DATE RECORDED 7/18/49	HOOR 0900
ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)	DATE
1 IAXS	N/R	WST	15 July
2			
3			
DATE OF REPLY		OTHER DISPOSITION:	
TRANSMITTAL AMC FORM NO. 10-2 (20 NOV. 47) SEE OTHER SIDE FOR REMARKS			

File No. 24-²⁹0-12

DETAILS:

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Investigation initiated by the Acting District Commander after being advised of an unknown object, which was sighted over the Hillsboro Airport, Hillsboro, Oregon.

AT BEAVERTON, OREGON

393

2. On 8 June 1949, Mr. [REDACTED], Portland 1, Oregon; and Mr. [REDACTED], Portland 1, Ore., were interviewed and stated in substance as follows: At 1105 hours (PST), on 4 June 1949, they were sitting in the open on a hilltop which enabled them to view the surrounding countryside. As was their habit during lunch hour, they were observing (with the naked eye) the airplanes flying in the vicinity of the Hillsboro Airport, Hillsboro, Oregon. The airport is approximately seven miles West of where they were eating their lunch. Their attention was attracted to an amphibious-type aircraft that entered the area. While watching this craft, they noted something reflecting light from the sun a considerable height above the general level of the other airplanes. They then gave this object all of their attention in an effort to determine what type of aircraft it was. They noticed that they were only able to see it when it flashed, or reflected the light from the sun. The object appeared to be metallic in color, rather large and round in shape. They estimated it to be approximately the size of an object 3/8" in diameter held at arm's length. They emphasized, however, that due to the reflection of light, it was difficult for them to determine with any accuracy the size or shape of the object. In regard to maneuverability, it appeared to wobble slightly, but remained in a fixed position. It was the lack of movement that raised the doubt in their minds of its being an ordinary aircraft, and resulted in their making known their observations. The object remained in view for approximately three minutes, and then appeared to go in a Southwesterly direction at a very rapid rate of speed. The flashing, or reflection ceased, and they could no longer see the object. There was no sound nor exhaust trail associated with the object. The weather was clear, good visibility, bright sunshine, and no clouds in the sky. Its position was approximately 45° above the horizon and between 9 and 10 o'clock clockwise from North. The altitude was first estimated at six or seven thousand feet. However, this estimate was later retracted. Due to the lack of clouds and the unknown size of the object, they decided that they had nothing on which to base any estimate as to altitude. They did emphasize, however, that they could make out other aircraft far below the object. Position of observers at time of sighting was: 45° 30' 54" North Latitude and 122° 48' 02" West Longitude. The observers are in the middle-aged

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

File No. 24-²⁴~~0-12~~

UNCLASSIFIED

group. Neither SMITH ~~SMITH~~ wears glasses. They are employed by the Wolf Creek Highway Water District, Cedar Mills, Oregon. There was no apparent attempt for notoriety, as the story was not published by any newspaper. Mr. ~~SMITH~~ notified only the Federal Bureau of Investigation of his observations. No one in the surrounding area, including their fellow workers, had any knowledge of these observations. On 8 June 1949, it was learned that there had been no reports in Beaverton, Oregon, of anyone having seen any unidentified aircraft or objects in the air.

AT HILLSBORO, OREGON

3. On 8 June 1949, it was learned that there had been no reports of anyone having seen any unidentified aircraft or objects in the air over Hillsboro, Oregon.

AT FOREST GROVE, OREGON

4. On 8 June 1949, it was learned that there had been no reports of anyone having seen any unidentified aircraft or objects in the air over Forest Grove, Oregon.

AT PORTLAND, OREGON

5. On 8 June 1949, it was learned that there had been no reports of anyone having seen any unidentified aircraft or objects in the air over Portland, Oregon.

6. On 13 June 1949, forecasters on duty with the U. S. Weather Bureau, Customs House, 200 NW 8th Avenue, Portland, Oregon, were interviewed. The Surface and Winds Aloft Charts were consulted, and the data thereon are as follows: Surface Observations for 1100 hours (PST), 4 June 1949: Ceiling unlimited; visibility - 5 miles; pressure - 1020.3 millibars; temperature - 79°; dew point - 56°; wind from the West North West at 7 mph; sea level pressure - 30.12 inches. Winds Aloft Chart: At 3000 feet the wind was 5 mph from 20°. As the altitude increased, there was a gradual increase in velocity and shifting of the wind to the Northeast. At 10,000 feet the wind was 12 mph from 50°.

CLOSED

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
20th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
McCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, McCHORD FIELD, WASHINGTON

20D OSI 24-29

8 July 1949

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENON
Unknown object sighted over
Hillsboro Airport, Hillsboro, Oregon
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

1. Forwarded herewith is a closed report of investigation of Special Agent JOHN T. REILLY, this District, dated 1 July 1949.

2. Unknown object was sighted over the Hillsboro Airport, Hillsboro, Oregon, on 4 June 1949 by Mr. [REDACTED] and Mr. [REDACTED] both of Portland, Oregon. All logical leads in this District have been exhausted; therefore, the case is forwarded to your District for necessary evaluation.

1 Incl:
Rpt of S/A Reilly,
dtd 1 July 49 (in
qud)

R. D. Melcher
R. D. MELCHER
Major, USAF
Acting District Commander

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

JUL 18

1. Date of Observation 4 June 1949 Date of Interview 8 June 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1105
3. Place of Observation Hillsboro, Oregon 45°-30'-54 North 122° 48' 02 West
4. Position of observer Ground on hilltop
5. What attracted attention to object While watching airplanes.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size Size of 3/8 in. dia. object held at arms length.
8. Color of object Metallic
9. Shape Round
10. Altitude 45°
11. Direction from observer West to NW
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) SW
14. Time in sight 3 Minutes
15. Speed Stationary then rapid speed.
16. Sound and odor None
17. Trail None
18. Luminosity Reflected
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Wobbled slightly
21. Manner of disappearance passed from view
22. Effect on Clouds No clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions Clear, good visibility, bright sunshine, no clouds.

(over)

Balloon

Name and address of observer: Mr. [REDACTED] 1, Oregon
Mr. [REDACTED], Portland 1,
Oregon

Occupation and hobbies:

Employees of Wolf Creek Water Dist.

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT BEAVERTON, OREGON

2. On 8 June 1949, Mr. [REDACTED] Portland 1, Oregon; and Mr. [REDACTED] Cornell Road, Portland 1, Ore., were interviewed and stated in substance as follows: At 1105 hours (PST), on 4 June 1949, they were sitting in the open on a hilltop which enabled them to view the surrounding countryside. As was their habit during lunch hour, they were observing (with the naked eye) the airplanes flying in the vicinity of the Hillsboro Airport, Hillsboro, Oregon. The airport is approximately seven miles West of where they were eating their lunch. Their attention was attracted to an amphibious-type aircraft that entered the area. While watching this craft, they noted something reflecting light from the sun a considerable height above the general level of the other airplanes. They then gave this object all of their attention in an effort to determine what type of aircraft it was. They noticed that they were only able to see it when it flashed, or reflected the light from the sun. The object appeared to be metallic in color, rather large and round in shape. They estimated it to be approximately the size of an object $3/8$ " in diameter held at arm's length. They emphasized, however, that due to the reflection of light, it was difficult for them to determine with any accuracy the size or shape of the object. In regard to maneuverability, it appeared to wobble slightly, but remained in a fixed position. It was the lack of movement that raised the doubt in their minds of its being an ordinary aircraft, and resulted in their making known their observations. The object remained in view for approximately three minutes, and then appeared to go in a Southwesterly direction at a very rapid rate of speed. The flashing, or reflection ceased, and they could no longer see the object. ~~The weather was clear, good visibility, bright sunshine, and no clouds in the sky.~~ There was no sound nor exhaust trail associated with the object. The weather was clear, good visibility, bright sunshine, and no clouds in the sky. Its position was approximately 45° above the horizon and between ~~9 and 10 o'clock clockwise from North.~~ 9 and 10 o'clock clockwise from North. The altitude was first estimated at six or seven thousand feet. However, this estimate was later retracted. Due to the lack of clouds and the unknown size of the object, they decided that they had nothing on which to base any estimate as to altitude. They did emphasize, however, that they could make out other aircraft far below the object. Position of observers at time of sighting was: $45^{\circ} 30' 54''$ North latitude and $122^{\circ} 45' 02''$ West longitude. The observers are in the middle-aged group. Neither SMITH nor PAWLOFSKE wears glasses. they are employed by the Wolf Creek Highway Water District, Cedar Mills, Oregon. There

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Incident _____

Name and address of observer:

Occupation and hobbies:

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

was no apparent attempt for notoriety, as the story was not published by any newspaper. [REDACTED] notified only the Federal Bureau of Investigation of his observations. No one in the surrounding area, including their fellow workers, had any knowledge of these observations. On 3 June 1949, it was learned that there had been no reports in Beaverton, Oregon, of anyone having seen any unidentified aircraft or objects in the air.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PROJECT 10073 RECORD AND

ATIC NO. _____

DATE OF INFO 5 June 49

AF NO. _____

LOCATION Van Wert, Ohio

REPORT NO. _____

SOURCE civilians

DATE OF REPORT _____

DATE IN TO ATIC _____

TIME OF SIGHTING Daylight

COLOR Silver

SHAPE Ball

SPEED _____

Estimated

Measured

Estimated

SIZE 2' dia.

ALTITUDE _____

Measured

COURSE NE

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED _____

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION _____

NOISE _____

MANEUVERS _____

PHOTOS _____

SKETCHES _____

Object was viewed through binoculars.
Evidentially seen for several minutes or
longer.

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

Ins. Data

Van Wert,

10, R.F.D. #4.
March 10th 1950.

Air Material Command,
Wright Field,
Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen:-

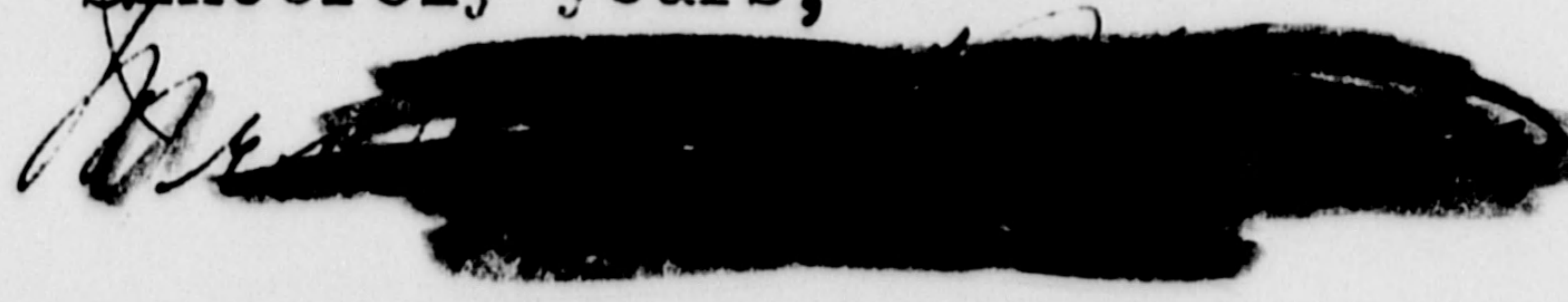
I know there has been a lot of talk and conjecture about Flying Discs, Saucers, Balls, etc. for some time. I want to report that last Spring, in fact on June 5th 1949, we were traveling west on the Lincoln Highway, Route 30, from Van Wert, Ohio, to Route 101(1) Indiana to go to Hamilton Lake, Indiana. Several miles before we turned off of the Lincoln Highway onto Route 1, we saw what looked like a silver or chrome ball in the air, traveling from SW to NE and crossed Lincoln Highway before we turned off of same. At first we thought it might be a balloon or test ball of some sort let loose by Baer Field at Ft. Wayne or Stout Field at Indianapolis but we watched it anyhow until it disappeared way off to the NE of us. It was much better for us to watch as we had our field glasses along and my husband drove very slowly and then we came to a stop and both of us watched it thru the glasses. As it got off in the distance it would apparently at times disappear and then reappear. It looked thru the glasses to be a ball of I would say around 2 feet in diameter but my husband said that at distance from us, it would appear to be perhaps 10 feet in diameter. This is merely guesses on our part.

We had heard of flying saucers but this did not look like a saucer but just a large ball. Later on I got your address from a broadcast over one of the stations and thought I would write you but did not. Then the other evening we heard a broadcast about Lieut. Col. Dale Shaffer having seen what appeared to be a large silver ball and I decided to write and tell you what we had seen.

A day or so after we had seen this ball, our Toledo Blade had an article in, I think the Saturday June 4th issue (we get our Saturday papers on Monday) that told about a man in Ontario having found a large aluminum or bright ~~aluminum~~ disc on his farm. You can get the issue this article was in by writing the Toledo Blade. I do not have it, though I did but must have destroyed it by mistake, as I intended saving it. It gave the man's name, location, etc. and all other details. It may have been in Monday's issue, but they will know.

I thought you might like to have our report on this.

Sincerely yours,



7-3712-21

HEADQUARTERS
AIR MATERIEL COMMAND

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
DAYTON, OHIO

IN REPLY ADDRESS BOTH
COMMUNICATION AND EN-
VELOPE TO COMMANDING
GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL
COMMAND, ATTENTION FOL-
LOWING OFFICE SYMBOL:

MCIAXA

15 March 1950

Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Van Wert, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Robinson

Receipt of your letter dated 10 March 1950 is
hereby acknowledged.

Your letter will be forwarded to the office interested
in these matters.

If further information is desired you will be contacted.

Your action in writing this Command is appreciated.

Yours truly,

Bryan L Davis

FRYAN L. DAVIS
Colonel, USAF
Air Adjutant General

MCIAXA - Section File