

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 20 Jan 52	2. LOCATION FAIRCHILD AFB, WASH.	12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical (Meteor) ☐ Possibly Astronomical
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 20/1920 PST GMT 21/0320 Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air Visual ☐ Air Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE 3 Airmen	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 Sec.	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE S
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Brilliant bluish-white, circular shaped object leaving a blue trail, traveled at a high rate of speed on a horizontal course. Object appeared to be traveling approximately 500 ft. below the clouds.		11. COMMENTS 1. Object meets the description of a meteor which was at a low altitude.

20 Jan FAIRCHILD AFB, WASHINGTON

ASTRO (METEOR)

EXTRACT FROM STATUS REPORT # 1

DATE: 20 Jan 52

TIME (Local): 1920

LOCATION: Spokane, Wash.

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 2 Sec.

SOUND: None

SPEED: High

ALTITUDE: Below 500'

HEADING: Unknown

SOURCE: ~~Two~~ four airmen

ACTION OR COMMENTS: Conclusions pending

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: A brilliant meteor-like object was observed traveling at a high rate of speed under a 500' cloud ceiling.

7-3712-42

COUNTRY

REPORT NO.

(LEAVE BLANK)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT

AREA REPORTED ON

FROM (Agency)

DATE OF REPORT

DATE OF INFORMATION

EVALUATION

PREPARED BY (Officer)

SOURCE

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

1. At 1930 hours, [redacted] 1952, I was leaving the 92d Bomb Wing Headquarters Squadron barracks with 1/3rd Harry A. Cavagnaro and 3/4th Robert T. Barnes.

As we were about to turn from the sidewalk to the road, I looked at the beacon light to the North and saw what I thought was a shooting star slightly above the water tower.

I called Sergeant Cavagnaro's attention to it, and he remarked "That's no shooting star, Cliff." As I continued to look, I knew the object could not be a shooting star, for it was travelling at a high rate of speed -- three times the speed of any jet I have ever seen -- parallel to the earth's surface.

The object was below the clouds, which I estimated at a height of 500 feet, moving silently from North to South. It was oval shaped and seemed to pulsate as it left a sharp blue intermittent flame at approximately 6 foot intervals.

The color of the object was a bright blue-white and appeared to be the size of a grapefruit from a distance of approximately 300 feet.

Sergeant Barnes did not see the object, for it was visible for only about two seconds.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

2. Since the WFO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

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

INCL.

Harry B. Bandy
Major
Supervisor of Intelligence

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

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO. 92ED-1-52	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Sighting of Unusual Object		
AREA REPORTED ON NW United States (Spokane, Washington)	FROM (Agency) Hq 57th Air Division, 92d Bomb Wing H	
DATE OF REPORT 23 January 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 20 January 1952	EVALUATION B-2
PREPARED BY (Officer) HAROLD D. NELSON, 1/Lt., USAF	T/Sgt Harry A. Cavagnaro, 92d BWg Intell	

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

Hq 57th AD 92ID Subject: Sightings of Unusual Objects, dtd 4 Oct 51

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 113-Part II.)

1. At approximately 1920 hours on 20 January 1952, I was walking from my quarters with M/Sgt Aluridus C. Holm and S/Sgt Robert T. Barnes. My attention was called by Sergeant Holm to an unidentified object travelling below the clouds at approximately 500 feet.

The object was moving silently at a terrific rate of speed as compared to any jet aircraft I have ever seen. It appeared circular in shape and was brilliant blue-white in color. I estimate that the object was approximately 3/4 to 1 mile away, and at the distance from where I stood it appeared to be slightly larger than an orange.

The object left a blue trail which was broken. The trail appeared to be coming from the object in spurts.

Height of the clouds was estimated by a beacon light on Fairchild Air Force Base. The beacon was projected vertically in a stationary position, the flying object travelling parallel to the earth.

Sergeant Barnes was behind Sergeant Holm and me and did not see the object.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

2. Since the NCO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

APPROVED:

HARRY E. BAILEY
Major, USAF
Supervisor of Intelligence

INCL.

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DDI DIR 520010

copy
T/Sgt Cavanaugh

At approximately 1920 hours on 20 January 1952 I was walking from my quarters with M/Sgt Aluridus C. Holm and S/Sgt Robert T. Barnes. My attention was called by Sergeant Holm to an unidentified object travelling below the clouds at approximately 500 feet.

The object was moving silently at a terrific rate of speed as compared to any jet aircraft I have ever seen. It appeared circular in shape and was brilliant blue-white in color. I estimate that the object was approximately 3/4 to 1 mile away, and at the distance from where I stood it appeared to be slightly larger than an orange.

The object left a blue trail which was broken. The trail appeared to be coming from the object in spurts.

Height of the clouds was estimated by a beacon light on Fairchild Air Force Base. The beacon was projected vertically in a stationary position, the flying object travelling parallel to the earth.

Sergeant Barnes was behind Sergeant Holm and me and did not see the object.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Since the NCO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

ATIC # 42749

AF 404333

m/sst Holm

At 1920 hours, 20 January 1952, I was leaving the 92d Bomb Wing Headquarters Squadron barracks with T/Sgt Harry A. Cavagnaro and S/Sgt Robert T. Barnes.

As we were about to turn from the sidewalk to the road, I looked at the beacon light to the North and saw what I thought was a shooting star slightly above the water towers.

I called Sergeant Cavagnaro's attention to it, and he remarked "That's no shooting star, Cliff." As I continued to look, I knew the object could not be a shooting star, for it was travelling at a high rate of speed -- three times the speed of any jet I have ever seen -- parallel to the earth's surface.

The object was below the clouds, which I estimated at a height of 500 feet, moving silently from North to South. It was oval shaped and seemed to pulsate as it left a sharp blue intermittent flame at approximated six foot intervals.

The color of the object was a bright blue-white and appeared to be the size of a grapefruit from a distance of approximately 3000 feet.

Sergeant Barnes did not see the object, for it was visible for only about two seconds.

• COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Since the NCO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

~~SECRET~~ EXTRACT STATUS REPORT
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APPENDIX II

Fairchild AFB, Washington - 20 January 1952

I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

At approximately 1920 MST on 20 January 1952, two Wing Intelligence airmen noticed a bright spherical object traveling through the sky. At first it was assumed to be a meteor but then it was noted that it appeared to be traveling beneath a cloud layer. The object was traveling at a speed much faster than a jet aircraft. The object, which made no sound, was traveling in a path horizontal to the earth at an estimated 500 feet and left a blue trail. The trail seemed to come from the object in spurts. The object disappeared from sight behind a building.

The two airmen observers, a Tech Sergeant and Master Sergeant are considered reliable observers.

II. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

This incident is interesting due to the fact that there was an eight-tenths cloud coverage at 4,700 ft. It is possible that the object was viewed between a break in the clouds and that it was extremely high, indicating that the sighting was a meteor. However, the sources indicated that they believed the object was below the cloud cover, and if this is true the slant range of the object can be computed to be about 7,300 ft. This would eliminate the possibility of the lighted object being a conventional aircraft, since no sound was heard. The possibility of a meteor is also nil because a meteor would not be traveling horizontally at 7,300 ft.

A request was made for the angular measurement of the arc made by the object, however, this information could not be obtained. It is presumed that the sources were not available for questioning.

III. CONCLUSIONS

If the object was beneath the cloud cover it was not a conventional aircraft or meteor, and no conclusions can be made as to its identity.

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T52-6338

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ATIC, AFOIN-ATIAA-2c Subject: (Restricted) Additional Information
on Sighting of Unidentified Object

92ID 000.9 (23 Feb 52) 1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS 57TH AIR DIVISION, Fairchild Air Force Base, Fairchild,
Washington 13 MAR 1952

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c, Wright-
Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

1. As requested in paragraph 2 of basic communication, the fol-
lowing information is submitted:

- a. Forty (40) degrees.
- b. Two (2) seconds.
- c. Object both appeared and disappeared at an elevation angle
of forty (40) degrees.
- d. Disappeared behind messhall.

e. Sighting occurred 1920 hours, 20 Jan 52. Reported weather
for 1830 hours on that date follows:

- (1) Single seven tenths (.7) cloud layer at three thousand
(3,000) feet (est); visibility: Twenty five (25) miles;
temperature: Twenty three (23) degrees Fahrenheit;
wind: South South East at fourteen (14) knots (est).
Weather as of 1930 hours 20 Jan 52: Single eight tenths
(.8) broken cloud layer at four thousand seven hundred
(4,700) feet; visibility: Twenty (20) miles; temper-
ature: Twenty four (24) degrees Fahrenheit; dew point:
Twenty one (21) degrees Fahrenheit; wind: South South
East at fifteen (15) knots (est).

f. Viewed from 1/2 mile, the object appeared to be four (4)
inches in diameter.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Donald B. North

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DONALD B. NORTH
Captain USAF

ASST Adjutant GENERAL

3

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ATIAA-2c/EJR/vs

AIR INSPECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:
AFOLN-ATIAA-2c

28 FEB 1952

SUBJECT: (Restricted) Additional Information on Sighting of
Unidentified Object

PUBLIC INF. OFFICE

TO: Commanding Officer
92d Bomb Wing
Attn: Supervisor of Intelligence
Fairchild Air Force Base
Fairchild, Washington

COMPTROLLER

PERSONNEL & ADM.

1. Reference is made to AF Form 112, Report No. 92 ID-1-52, dated
23 January 1952, subject: "Sighting of Unusual Object".

2. It is requested that the following information be forwarded
directly to the Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Attention:
ATIAA-2c, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio:

RESEARCH & DEV.*

a. Azimuth angle (from true north) at point of initial sighting
and point object disappeared.

b. Time, in seconds, object required to traverse above angle.

c. Elevation angle at point of initial sighting and point at
which object disappeared.

d. How object disappeared. Did the object disappear by getting
smaller such as an aircraft disappearing in the distance or did it suddenly
"go out" like a light being turned off?

e. Measured ceiling and detailed description of cloud coverage,
such as altitude of various layers and tenths coverage.

f. Relative size of the object such as a one inch diameter
circle viewed from six feet, pinpoint of light, etc.

3. It is realized that due to the lapse of time since the observa-
tions were made that it may be difficult to obtain accurate data. It is

SUPPLY AND MAINT.

PROC. & IND. MOB.
PLNG.*

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ATIC, AFOIN-ATIAA-2c, Subject: (Restricted) Additional Information on
Sighting of Unidentified Object

AIR INSPECTOR

requested, however, that the answers to the questions in paragraph 2 be
obtained as nearly accurate as possible so that the sighting may be
evaluated.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

C. I. Z.

S. H. KIRKLAND, JR.

Colonel, USAF

Chief, Technical Analysis Division

Air Technical Intelligence Center

PUBLIC INF. OFFICE

COMPTROLLER

PERSONNEL & ADM.

RESEARCH & DEV.*

INTELLIGENCE

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