

PROJECT WOLF REPORT

18 Jul 52

MIAMI FLA

18/ 10 35Z

4. TYPE OF CONTACT

XCF Ground-Visual

C Ground-Visual

18/ 10 3

C Air-Visual

C Air-Intercept Radar

5. SOURCE

Civilian man

10 sec

6. NUMBER OF GASETS

1

7. COURSE

E

XXX Unknown

8. COMMENTS

Opaque, silvery bubble moved smoothly through sky at high speed over Miami by mail clerk and young daughter.

1. Balloon released from Miami International 15 min prior to sighting. Winds up to 40,000' going in opposite direction, however.

United States

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft

Miami, Florida

Intelligence Office, 435th Troop
Carrier Wing (M), MIA, Miami, Florida

19 July 1952

18 July 1952

F-3

Major John H. Sharpe

Civilian Observer

SUMMARY: (This summary is prepared by the preparer of the report. It should be brief and to the point. It should not exceed 10% of the report.)

On 18 July 1952, [redacted], a Post Office employee of Miami, Florida reported sighting an unconventional flying object. [redacted] was interviewed by the undersigned and gave the following information:

On 18 July 1952 at about 1100 hours, [redacted] was in the yard of his home at [redacted] Court, Miami, Florida. He heard the noise of an aircraft and looked up to locate it. He did not see the aircraft immediately, but did see what appeared to be a spherical transparent bubble about five (5) feet in diameter moving from west to east across the sky south of his position, at an elevation of about 45° above the horizon. At first he thought it was below the clouds. However, as he watched it passed into or behind a cloud. He watched it appear momentarily and again disappear behind a large cloud from which it did not again appear.

[redacted] then decided that the object was opaque, silvery in color and much larger than it first appeared. He called the attention of his stepdaughter, aged eleven, to the object and she labelled it a "flying saucer." [redacted] stated that he had the object under observation for a total of about ten seconds, and that during that time it moved from a position south of him to almost east, through an arc of 75°.

The object moved smoothly, with no sound or visible exhaust. [redacted] could detect no physical features, but concluded that it was propelled. Considering the performance of the object, [redacted] decided the thing was 50 to 200 feet in diameter, about two (2) miles distant and traveled at over 1,000 mph. It appeared to him to be perfectly spherical.

COMMENT of Preparing Officer:

[redacted] object could very well have been a weather balloon released at Miami International Airport about 1045 hours, except for two reasons:

1. The winds at that time were fairly strong, about 25 mph, and were consistently from the east and east-southeast from the surface up to 40,000 feet. The balloon was released at least five miles north of [redacted] position and could not possibly have drifted to the south [redacted] house. [redacted] noted that the object moved across the direction the clouds were moving, not with them. The cloud coverage was 3/8 cumulus from 2,000 to 6,500 feet.

2. It would have been impossible for a weather balloon to travel such a tremendous distance in a few seconds, even with the wind behind it.

[redacted] appeared to be a normal and reliable person. He is a former PAA employee and is accustomed to the appearance of all types of aircraft in flight. Probably his description of what he saw is accurate.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

JOHN H. SHARPE
Major, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

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PROJECT 10073 WORKSHEET

I. GENERAL

1. DATE <i>18 July '52</i>	2. LOCATION <i>Miami, Florida</i>	3. TIME Local: <i>1100</i> Zebra: <i>1500</i>
4. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE GROUND? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
☒ Naked Eye ☐ Binoculars ☐ Telescope ☐ Theodolite		
5. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED BY GROUND RADAR? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ By One Set ☐ By Two Sets ☐ By Three Sets		
6. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE AIR? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ A/C Observed Object ☐ Interception Attempted ☐ No Intercept Attempted		
7. WERE AIRCRAFT SCRAMBLED TO INTERCEPT? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ A/C Scrambled ☐ Visual Contact Made ☐ A/I Contact Made ☐ No Contact Made		
8. DID OBJECT CHANGE DIRECTION AT ANY TIME? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ Normal ☐ Violent		
9. IF OBJECT WAS A "LIGHT", WAS IT: <i>Not a light</i> ☐ Blinking ☐ Steady		
10. LENGTH OF TIME IN SIGHT: ☒ 1-15 Seconds ☐ 1-5 Minutes ☐ Over 10 Minutes		
11. REPORTING AGENCY (Unit Number and Mailing Address)		
<i>Intelligence Office, 435th Troop Carrier Wing, 191A</i>		

II. ASTRONOMICAL DATA

12. WHAT ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY WAS NOTED? <i>N/D</i>		
13. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO ARCH DOWNWARD? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
14. DID OBJECT HAVE A TAIL? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
15. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO DISINTEGRATE? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
16. TIME OF SIGHTING RELATIVE TO SUNRISE OR SUNSET (Data From Air Almanac)		
☐ Night ☒ Day ☐ Sunrise ☐ Sunset		

III. AIRCRAFT DATA

17. WERE AIRCRAFT NOTED IN AREA? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ One Aircraft ☐ More Than One Aircraft		
18. WAS ANY SOUND HEARD? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
19. WERE THERE INDICATIONS OF HIGH BACKGROUND NOISE? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
20. WAS THE OBJECT VIEWED ABOVE 45° ELEVATION? ☐ Yes ☒ No <i>115°</i>		

IV. BALLOON DATA

21. WERE BALLOONS RELEASED IN AREA? ☒ Yes ☐ No						
22. TIME SINCE SCHEDULED BALLOON RELEASE: <u>15</u> Minutes						
23. POSSIBLE BALLOON LAUNCH SITES DOWNWIND OF SIGHTING:						
	Location	Type	Launching Agency	Lighted?		Describe Lighting
				Yes	No	
a.	Miami Fla.	Weather Balloon	USDA Weather Bureau			
b.						
c.						
d.						

(attach overlay)

V. EVALUATION

21. EVALUATION OF SOURCE: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Unreliable ☐ Extremely Doubtful ☐ Hoax	22. DETAILS OF REPORT: ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Insufficient to Evaluate
23. FINAL EVALUATION: ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Insufficient Data For Evaluation ☒ Unknown	
24. COMMENTS: Weather balloon released from Miami 1045 EDT but winds were in opposite direction of the object WEST to EAST.	

1. DATE OF OBSERVATION		2. TIME OF OBSERVATION		3. STATION OBSERVING	
4. WINDS ALOFT:					
ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)	ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)
0			25,000		
1,000			30,000		
2,000			35,000		
3,000			40,000		
4,000			45,000		
5,000			50,000		
6,000			55,000		
7,000			60,000		
8,000			65,000		
9,000			70,000		
10,000			75,000		
12,000			80,000		
14,000			85,000		
16,000			90,000		
18,000			95,000		
20,000			100,000		
5. WAS AN INVERSION LAYER NOTED? (If yes, at what altitude? _____)			☐ Yes ☐ No		
6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? (If yes, at what quadrant? _____)			☐ Yes ☐ No		
7. CLOUD COVER:				8. VISIBILITY WAS	
_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ MILES.	
_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ tenths at _____ feet.			
9. COMMENTS:					