

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 10 Jan 53 10/2345Z	2. LOCATION Sonoma, California
3. SOURCE Retired Colonel	10. CONCLUSION UNIDENTIFIED
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Unidentified
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 60 - 75 Sec.	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Silvery colored object traveled at estimated speed of 4 times the speed of jet a/c. Object made 3 360° turns and several 90° turns, then rose vertically and disappeared.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Northwest	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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RA005

WPB002

YDB001

XVA354T

XDB218

JWPML 191

NNNM-JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN 333

DE-JWPML 191A

NM 162200Z ZNJ ZEX

FM CG WADF HAMILTON AFB CALIF

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTEL, HQ USAF, WASH 25 D C

JEDWP/ATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO ATTN ATIAA-2C

JEDEN/CG ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

/ [REDACTED] /WDOID 01131. ATTN: INTEL. FLYOBRPT. /1/ SHAPE:

UNKNOWN. SIZE: ABOUT SIZE OF PIN HEAD HELD 2FT FR EYE. COLOR: SILVERY,
POSSIBLY DUE TO REFLECTION OF SUN AGAINST (ACFT TYPE COVERING.) NUMBER:

1. AERODYNAMIC FEATURES: NEG. SPEED: GR RATE OF SPEED, ABOUT 4 TIMES
SPEED OF J ACFT. SOUND: SIMILAR TO F-86 J ACFT, DEFINITELY CONNECTED W/

OBJ. SOUND FOLD OBJ ACROSS SKY W/NO C IN TONE OR VOL DURING

MANEUVERS. MANEUVERS: OBJ TVLD NW DIR MAKING 3, 360 DEGREE TIGHT TURNS
TAKING 3 SECONDS TO COMPL EA TURN HOLDING ON SAME CRSE AT INTERVALS OF
5 SECONDS EA, OBJ MADE ABRUPT RIGHLE /90 DEGREE/ TURNS FIRST TO

RIGHT, THEN TO LEFT. OBJ THEN SLOWED DOWN ALMOST TO A STOP, ACCELERATING

TO ITS PREVIOUS SPEED MAKING THIS MANEUVER THREE TIMES. OBJ THEN FLEW WESTWARD

PAGE TWO JWPML 191A

like a balloon

ANDISAPPEARED FR VIEW. TRAIL OR EXHAUST: NEG. PROPULSIONS SYS:
NEG. DISAPPEARANCE: ROSE VERTICALLY AND DISAPPEARED FR VIEW. /2/
BETWEEN 1545 AND 1600 PST-2345 AND 2400Z 10 JAN 53. LGTH OF
OBSERVATION 60 TO 75 SECONDS. /3/ VISUAL SIGHTING. /4/ 8. MIS NW SONOMA,
CALIF IN SONOMA VALLEY. OBJ SIGHTED 45 DEGREES NW OF OBSR AT VERY HIGH
ALT. /5/ 1 OBSR RETD COL W/ 100 HRS AIR EXPERIENCE. 1 OBSR EMPL FSA,
S.F., CALIF. /6/ WEA HAMILTON AFB AND SONOMA; CLEAR, VISIBILITY 10 MIS,
WINDS FR E AT 7 KNOTS. /7/ NEG. /8/ NEG. /9/ NEG. /10/ NO OTHER AIR
TRAFFIC IN AREA AT TIME OF SIGHTING. END

16/2100Z JAN JWPML

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10/1

AF FORM 112—PART I

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

10/2345Z SONOMA, CALIF

(CLASSIFICATION)

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO. IR-1-53W	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Unidentified Flying Object Report (FLYOBREP)		
AREA REPORTED ON Sonoma Valley, California	FROM (Agency) Director of Intelligence, Hq, WADF Hamilton AFB, Hamilton, California	
DATE OF REPORT 20 January 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 15 January 1953	EVALUATION A-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) PERCY H. HAUG, Captain, USAF	SOURCE Retired USAF Colonel	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, dated 29 April 1952		
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.) SUBJECT: FLYOBREP In accordance with AFL 200-5, dated 29 April 1952, subject: Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting (Short Title: FLYOBREP), the following report of an unidentified flying object is submitted: On 10 January 1953, between 1545 hours and 1600 hours, PST (2345Z and 2400Z), Colonel [REDACTED] USAF (Ret) and Mr. [REDACTED] of the Federal Security Agency, San Francisco, California, observed an unidentified flying object while eight (8) miles northwest of Sonoma, California, from a knoll in the hills northwest of the Sonoma Valley. The object was sighted at a 45° angle northwest from the location of the observers at a very high altitude, so high that the object was compared to the flat head of a pin held two feet from the eye. Speed was estimated at four times the speed of a jet aircraft with accompanying sound similar to the USAF F-86 jet at high altitude. There was no change in sound tone or volume during maneuvers. Unusual maneuvers made by the object were; (1) - Three (3) 360° tight turns to the right, taking 2 to 3 seconds to complete each turn; (2) - Two (2) right angle (90°) turns, first to the right, then to the left; (3) - The object slowed down to almost a complete stop, then accelerated to high speed again, making this maneuver twice. The object then rose vertically and disappeared from view. Total time of observation was estimated to be between 60 and 75 seconds. There were no radar contacts with this object. No other observations of this object are known to have been made. APPROVED: Harvey C. Brown Jr. HARVEY C. BROWN JR Lt Colonel, USAF Director of Intelligence 1 INCL. Tape Recording on Reel Tape recording sent to USAF W.C.P. RDC DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS DOD DIR 5200.10 DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR CG, Air Defense Command, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado UNCLASSIFIED		

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Hq, WADF, Hamilton AFB Hamilton, Calif	REPORT NO. IR-1-53W	PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES
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On 15 January 1953 at 1135 hours PST (1935Z), one Colonel [REDACTED] USAF, (Retired), appeared and was interrogated in the Office of the Director of Intelligence, Hamilton Air Force Base, Hamilton, California, stating he had observed an unidentified flying object. A tape recording of this interrogation was made and is forwarded with this report as inclosure #1. Information contained therein is as follows:

Name and Address of Observers:

- (1) Colonel [REDACTED] USAF (Ret)
[REDACTED]
Sonoma, California
- (2) Mr [REDACTED]
Federal Security Agency
San Francisco, California

Interrogated by:

Captain E. M. Johnson, USAF
Public Information Office
Headquarters Western Air Defense Force
Hamilton Air Force Base, Hamilton, California

1. Description of Object:

Shape:	Unknown due to high altitude.
Size:	About the size of a pin-head held 2 feet from the eye.
Color:	Silvery, possibly due to reflection of sun against aircraft-type covering.
Speed:	Great speed. Estimated as 4 times the speed of a jet aircraft.
Sound:	Similar to sound of an F-86 at high altitude, with no change in tone or volume during maneuvers.
Maneuvers:	The object made three (3), 360° turns to the right taking 2 to 3 seconds to complete each turn. These turns were made at 5 second intervals still holding on the same course. It continued on and made an abrupt right angle (90°) turn to the right, followed 5 seconds later with an abrupt turn to the left which placed the object back on its original course. After this maneuver, the object slowed down to almost a stop and then accelerated to its previous speed, making this maneuver twice. The object then rose vertically and disappeared from view. (The observer stated that the object could possibly have been climbing

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Hq. WADF, Hamilton AFB Hamilton, Calif	IR-1-53W	3	4	

when it seemed to slow down to a stop but that he seriously doubted it). The 360° turns were said to be very tight turns, about one-eighth (1/8th) of area required for jet aircraft.

Trails or Exhaust: None observed.

Propulsion System: Not reported.

Number of Objects: One (1)

Manner of Disappearance: Object rose vertically and disappeared from view to the northwest.

Other Pertinent or Unusual Features: The glinting did not change during the maneuvers.

2. Time of Sighting:

Local Time: Between 1545 hrs and 1600 hrs, 10 Jan 53

Zebra Time: Between 2345Z and 2400Z, 10 Jan 53

Length of Time Observed: From 60 to 75 seconds by Colonel [REDACTED] Mr [REDACTED] saw object 10 seconds later when Colonel [REDACTED] pointed it out to him, due to the objects terrific speed and high altitude.

3. Manner of Observation: Visual without aids. The 28th Air Division (Defense) reported no radar contacts with this object during the time and date reported.

4. Location of Observers During Sighting:

Eight (8) miles northwest of Sonoma, California, from a knoll in the hills northwest of Sonoma Valley near the crest of Trinity Road connecting the Sonoma and Napa Valleys. The object was sighted at a 45° angle northwest of position of the observers. Distance of object from observers was undetermined, flying at a very high altitude in a northwest direction. Altitude was determined to be greater than that normally flown by jet aircraft.

5. Reliability of Information:

Colonel [REDACTED] stated he had a total of over 1,000 hours flying time and is familiar with various types of aircraft. However, he stated that Mr. Hunter's background does not indicate much familiarity with aircraft.

6. Weather, Winds and Visibility at Time and Place of Sighting:

Observers Report: The sun was dropping in the West. Visibility was good, ceiling was unlimited with sufficient light for good observation.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Hq, WADF, Hamilton AFB Hamilton, Calif	REPORT NO. IR-1-53W	PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES
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Official Weather Report - Hamilton Weather Station: Weather in Hamilton and Sonoma Area: Clear, visibility 10 miles with winds from the east at 7 knots.

7. Negative.

8. Negative.

9. Negative.

10. Location of Air Traffic in General Area at Time of Sighting:

No other air traffic in area at time of sighting.

Percy W. Haug

PERCY W. HAUG

Captain, USAF

Chief, Operational Intelligence

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Sonoma, California

10 January 1953

I. Description of Incident

At 2345 ~~3~~ two civilian sources observed one small flying object moving at a great rate of speed and performing violent maneuvers. The object's sound was similar to that of a jet aircraft. The object made three 360° right turns in nine seconds then performed abrupt 90° turns first to the right, then to the left. The object then stopped, accelerated to its former speed, rose vertically and disappeared.

II. Discussion of Incident

The only known aerial object capable of appearing to go through the described maneuvers would be a balloon; however, the time factors and velocity estimates do not support this conclusion.

III. Conclusion

Unknown

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