

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 9 June 53 9/1810Z	2. LOCATION Tillamook, Oregon
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION CASE Astronomical (VENUS)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Observation was Venus
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 Hours	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual (Theodolite)	Half moon shaped, white object was observed hovering at an altitude. No unusual maneuvers were observed. Object at 49 deg elevation, 221 deg azimuth.
7. COURSE Not Reported	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

COORDINATION

INSERT
ORGNL CODE AND
FULL SIGNATURE

ATIAE-5/RWC/vs

Multi
In reply refer to
AFOIN-ATIAE-5

*09/10 10PST
TILLAMOOK
OREGON*

31 JUL 1953

2nd Lt Alfred Slynna, AO 223711
1300th ARC Special Launch Site
Tillamook Naval Air Station, Oregon

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your sighting of an unidentified aerial object on 9 June 1953 at 1010 PST. It has been concluded by the Air Technical Intelligence Center's astronomers that the object you observed was clearly the planet Venus.

Your interest in reporting this incident and your desire to be of service are greatly appreciated by the Air Technical Intelligence Center.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT C. BROWN

USAF

COORDINATION:

ATIAE-5 *Alfred M. Tuttle* Date *30 Jul 53*
for (Lt Olsson)

ATIAE *W. A. Johnston* Date *20 July*
for (Col Johnston)

ATIAE *William K. O'Hern* Date *30 July 53*
for (Col O'Hern)

DESIGNATE AUTHD OFFICE OF RECORD

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, President

COLUMBUS 10

EMERSON McMILLIN OBSERVATORY

25 June 1953

1st Lt. Robert Olsson
ATIC — Wright-Patterson AFB

Dear Lt. Olsson;

Of the last batch of 4 items sent on June 15, the only one about which there is any question is the 12 June Covington, Georgia. It is essential to know here the duration of sighting. A lot depends on this. Can you get this for us?

Regarding the Detroit 11 June case is there anything in this that a good landing light would not explain? Likewise Goodse AFB 11 June it would appear that since second radar did not pick up the signal, the most probable explanation is faulty radar. I assume that the GCI had radar available.

And we still have Venus with us. The 9 June Oregon case is clearly and unequivocally Venus.

Jennie has called to my attention the fact that I asked some follow-up questions which by now you may have obtained the answers.

Anything new on:

5 March	Shaw AFB
3 March	Luke AFB — Film?
17 Feb.	Port Austin
25 March	San Antonio
12 April	Stead AFB

I am anxiously awaiting Jennie's clearance so we can get organized in a more business-like manner. I know you can't do anything about this but just mentioning it anyway. I hope it comes through before your successor is appointed. *Jim*

Cordially,
Allen Hynek

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

IR-360-53

2

2

The following message was received from McChord Flight Service Center:

"FSC 09-F-2 FLYCRPT

1. DESCRIPTION OF OBJ HALFMOON SHAPE SIZE APRX 1/2 INCH AS SEEN THRU A THEODOLITE WHITE COLOR ONE OBJ AERODYNAMIC FEATURES UNKNOWN OBSR NO TRAIL EXHAUST OR PRPLN SYS SPEED AND SOUND UNKNOWN OBJECT APPEARED TO HOVER MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE AND OTHER PERTINENT OR UNUSUAL FEATURES ARE UNKNOWN
 2. TIME OF SIGHTING AT 1010PST, 09 JUNE 1953 LENGTH OF TIME OBSRD UNKNOWN
 3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION VISUAL THRU THEODOLITE FROM GRD
 4. LOCATION
 - A. LOCATION OF OBSR DURING SIGHTING LATITUDE 121 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST LONGITUDE 15 DEGREES 15 MIN NORTH REFERENCE TO KNOWN LANDMARKS NAS TILLAMOOK, ORE
 - B. LOCATION OF OBJ WITH RESPECT TO OBSR UNABLE TO DETERMINE DISTANCE AND ALTITUDE, SSW DIR
 5. IDENTIFYING INFO ON OBSRS AND WITNESSES 2ND LT I. N. PATTERSON, AO 1865653 AND 2ND LT ALFRED SLYNN, AO 223711, MOBY DICK 1300TH ARC SPECIAL LAUNCH SITE A OBSRS EXPERIENCE 8 MONTHS AT THIS SITE
 6. WEATHER (AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING)
 - A. WEATHER COND PREVALENT IN AREA 100 SCATTERED 250 BROKEN 15 6h/19 NORTH 2
 - B. WINDS ALCT 090 DEGREES 15 KNOTS 10,000 FEET, 100 DEGREES 20 KNOTS 20,000 FEET, 120 DEGREES E 25 KNOTS 30,000 FEET
 7. COND WHICH MIGHT ACCT FOR THE SIGHTING MOON TABLE INDICATES THIS AS A POSSIBILITY
 8. NO EXISTENCE OF ANY PHY EVIDENCE SUCH AS FRAG, PHOTO AND THE LIKE OF SIGHTING
 9. INTCR OR IDENTIFICATION ACTION TAKEN RPT TO CONTROLLER 25 AIR DIV RESULTING ACTION UNKNOWN
 10. NO LOG OF ANY AIR TRAF IN GEN AREA AT TIME OF SIGHTING
 11. NO AGENCIES CONTACTED FOR INFO AND/OR CFM OF FACTS
- 09/2119 JUNE JWPB"

Comments of Preparing Officer:

The officers submitting the report are members of the Moby Dick Balloon Detachment and should be familiar with the appearance of balloons at high altitudes.

*This sighting should be taken
to Mr. Robinson -
No AB. or EHV. Readings given*

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INT
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEA
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

IR-360-53

USA-MATS

Unidentified Flying Object Near Tillamook, Oregon 9 June 1953

State of Oregon, USA

Flight Service, MATS, 3800 Newark
Street, N. W., Washington 25, D.C.

17 June 1953

9 June 1953

B-2

BENJAMIN S. CATLIN, III, Captain, USAF

2d Lt I.N. Patterson, AO1865653 & 2d Lt
Alfred Slynn, AO223711, 1300th ARC Special
Launch Site, Tillamook NAS, Oregon

TELETYPE FLICBRPT 092010Z June 1953 submitted by McChord Flight Service Center

An unidentified object was reported by two USAF 2d Lieutenants stationed with the
Hoby Dick balloon launching detachment, Tillamook NAS. The object was viewed through
a Theodolite and appeared as halfmoon in shape and white colored. It appeared to
hover and no manner of propulsion was observed. No manner of disappearance was reported.

BENJAMIN S. CATLIN
Captain, USAF
Intelligence Officer

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12
DOD DIR 5200.10

Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

McChord Flt Sv Cen
McChord AFB, Wash

1915000 Jun 53

R

X

Comdr
Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: ATIAA-2c
Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio

UNCLASSIFIED

AFOIN-ATIAE 6-11-E

SC 19-F-02. CITE Project Blue Book URMSG AF OIN-ATIAE 6-11-E.

/1/ 221 degrees SSW /2/ Sighted aprx 2 hrs /3/ AZIMUTH 221 degrees Elevation
49 degrees /4/ Wind ESE. 10000 scattered, 25000 thin, broken w/15 miles
visibility /5/ Obsers sighted obj for 2 hrs and state that moon could not have
caused sighting.

Was reviewed by me Miller
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

JOE W. DONALDSON, MAJOR, USAF

FSC

5206

COMMANDER

UNCLASSIFIED

1953 JUN 10 09:37

10 JUN 53 00 202

ACTION

14710

15337
CR. INFOR

09:36

DA

1. Atia
2. Atia
3. C. J. Lee

RA006

WPA003

PP JEDWP ZOV JED

YDB003

XYE316

XDB235

JWPD 270

PP JEPHQ JEDWF JEDEN JWPFF JEPRS 555

DE JWPD 13B

P 092010Z

FM MCCHORD FLT SV CENHOETLAFB WASH.

TO JEPHQ/DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASH 25 D C

JEDWF/AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CNTR

ATTN: ATIAA-3C WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/C G ENT AFB COLO. SPRINGS COLO

INFO: JEPFF/COMDR MATS ANDREWS AFB WASH 25D C

JEPRS/COMDR FS WASH 25 D C

/ [REDACTED] FSC 09-F-02 FLYOBRPT.

1. DESCRIPTION OF OBJ; HALFMOON SHAPE; SIZE APRX 1/2 INCH AS SEEN THRU A THEODOLITE; WHITE COLOR; ONE OBJ; AERODYNAMIC REATURES UNKNOWN; OBSR NO TRAIL, EXHAUST OR PRPLN SYS; SPEED AND SOUND UNKNOWN; OBJECT APPEARED TO HOVER; MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE AND OTHER PERTINENT OR UNUSUAL REAT-URES ARE UNKNOWN.

2. TIME OF SIGHTING; VAT 1010PST, 09 JUNE 1953. LENGTH OF TIME OBSR IS INKNOWN.

3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION VISUAL THRU THEODOLITE FROM GRD.

4. LOCATION;

A. LOCATION OF OBSR DURING SIGHTING: LATITUDE; 124 DEGREE 00

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST; LONGITUDE; 45 DEGREES 15 MIN NORTH; REFERENCE
TO KNOWN LANDMARKS; NAS TILAMMOK, ORE

B. LOCATION OF OBJ WITH RESPECT TO OBSR: UNABLE TO DETERMINE
DISTANCE AND AXE, YJGW DIR.

PAGE TWOJWPD 13B

5. IDENTIFYING INFO ON OBSRS & WITNESSES: 2ND LT I. N. PATTERSON, AO
1865653 AND 2ND LT ALFRD SLYNN, AO 223711, MOBY DICK 1300TH ARC SPECIAL
LAUNCH SITEA; (AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING)

A. WEATHER COND PREVALENT IN AREA: 1000 250-0 15 64/49 NORTH 2
20,000 FEET, /120 DEGREES E 25 KNOTS 30,000 FEET/

7. COND WHICH MIGHT ACCT FOR THE SIGHTING: MOON TABLE INDICATES THIS AS
A POSSIBILITY.

8. NO EXISTEKNCCE OF ANY PHT EVIDENCE SUCH AS FRAB, PHOTO AND THEE LIKE,
OF THE SIGHTING.

9. INTCP OR IDENTIFICATION ACTION TAKEN: RPT TO CONTROLLER, 25 TH AIR DIV
RESULTING ACTION UNKNOWN.

10. NO LOC OF ANY AIR TRAF IN GEN AREA AT TIME OF SIGHTING.

11. NO AGENCIES CONTACTED FOR INFO AND/OF CFM OF FACTS.

09/149Z JUN JWPD

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

UNCLASSIFIED

5
CJ /

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

TO: CO McCHORD FLT SV CENTER
McCHORD AFB WASH

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATLAE-6-11-2

DATE-TIME GROUP

171515Z JUNE 53

SECURITY

PRECEDENCE
FOR:ACTION
ROUTINE

INFORMATION

☐

BOOK MESSAGE

☐

ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐

MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐

YES

☒

NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

PSC 09-F-02

IDENTIFICATION

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Reference your FLYORPT PSC 09-F-02, ATIC requests answers to the following questions in order to analyze the subject sighting: 1) What direction was the object from the observers? *220° - SSW* 2) How long was the object observed? *2 hours* 3) Were azimuth and elevation readings taken from the theodolite? *azimuth 221°, elevation 49°* 4) Was the wind generally from the ESE? *YES ESE* Give cloud coverage and *10,000 scattered* general visibility conditions. 5) Could the moon have caused the sighting because of confusing weather conditions? *NO*

It is imperative that Project Blue Book have the position of the object from the observers to establish whether or not it could have been the moon.

Reply by wire is requested. Cite Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION:

ATLAE-5

Date

Lt Olsson

ATLAE

Date

Col Johnston

ATLA

Date

Col McDuffee

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

UNCLASSIFIED

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

LT R.M. OLSSON/vs

SECURITY

PAGE

1

OF

1

PAGES

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE

BARBARA P. HANAWALT, 1st Lt, USAF
ASST AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

TELEPHONE 365

DD

FORM

1 OCT 49

173

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48,
WHICH MAY BE USED.

16-59923-3 ★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

ATIAE-5 File

1953 JUN 22

10:28

20 JUN 1953 462

ACTION

1. Attn
2. Attn
3. C. Files

RE054

WPB045

KYB044

JWPD 51

RR JEDUP

DE JWPD 01B

R 192300Z

FM MCCHORD FLT SV CEN MCCHORD AFB WASH

TO COMDR AIR TECH INTELLIGENCE CEN

ATTN ATIAA-2 C WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

Z/R E S T R I C T E D/

FSC 19-F-02 PD CITE PROJECT BLUE BOOK URMSG AF OIN-ATIAE 6-11-E PD

/1/ 221 DEGREES SSW /2/ SIGHTED APRX 2 HRS /3/ AZIMUTH 221 DEGREES

ELEVATIO 49 DEGREES /4/ WIND ESE PD 10000 SCATTERED CMA 25000 THIN CMA

BROKEN S/15 MILES VISIBILITY /5/ OBSRS SIGHTED OBJ FOR 2 HRS AND

STATE THAT MOON COULD NOT HAVE CAUSED SIGHTING PD

19/2352Z JUN JWPD

ATIC

0:35

cyf

9 June 1953

UNCLASSIFIED

Tillamook, Oregon

Description

One unidentified object was reported by two USAF officers stationed with the Moby Dick balloon launching detachment, Tillamook, Oregon. This object was seen at 1010 PST 9 June 1953. The object was viewed through a theodolite and appeared half-moon in shape and white in color. It appeared to hover and no manner of propulsion was observed. No manner of disappearance was reported.

Discussion

During such a long period of observation, any conventional object known to be on this earth would, under existing conditions, have moved more than this particular object did. The winds at 30,000 feet were from 120 deg at 25 knots. Project Blue Book's astronomer was contacted and they stated that this sighting was undoubtedly the planet Venus which, under ideal conditions, can be seen during the daylight hours.

Conclusion

Was astronomical (Venus).

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

DOWNGRADED
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR

UNCLASSIFIED

T53-11156