

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 24-25 Jul 59	2. LOCATION Yakima, Bremerton, Bellingham Washington Area		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☒ Probably Aircraft Refuel Opr ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2030, 2100 GMT _____	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Civilian		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION varied	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS varied	9. COURSE varied	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Multiple rpts on 24 & 25 Jul of red, green, and white lights. Numerous newspaper articles enclosed. (See case file)			11. COMMENTS Evaluated as a/c refueling opr by McCord AFB investigators.

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCIN-4X1

SUBJECT: Clippings on Observed Lights

5 September 1959

TO: AFCIN-4E4 (Major Friend)

We would appreciate your comments on the three attached clippings.


A. 
Scientific Advisor
AFCIN-4X1

3 Atchs
Yakima Newspaper 27 Aug 59
a/s

NOTE TO SHERIFF: *Your Guys Saw Lights in the Sky, All Right*

Memo to Dean Jones: It's okeh, sheriff. Your deputies weren't hitting the old jug. They really did see lights in the sky.

The unidentified flying objects they saw Monday night really shook up the deputies and a few other people in your bailiwick. But they didn't surprise Yakima.

You see, Yakima folks have been seeing the light off and on for a couple of months. Same time, same station. Not the same color, though.

You'll recall, sheriff, that the lights showed up here at 8:45 Monday night. Well, they were seen from Yakima at precisely

the same time. Hung around there for three hours, too, just like here.

They appeared orange and white in Yakima, whereas Kit-sap's deputies voted for red, green and white.

The military can't seem to get together on these things. Fairchild air force base at Spokane told Yakima a week ago today, when the lights were seen again, that they were from jet-refueling tankers from the 92nd bombardment wing.

But McChord air force base near Tacoma said no, they aren't jets.

Yakima light-watchers are somewhat less conservative than your men, sheriff. The south-central Washingtonians say that by golly those lights are traveling to beat heck, but the local deputies don't go that far; they'll only say the objects hovered noiselessly at 40,000 to 50,000 feet and "sometimes gave the impression of motion." So you can see they aren't going out on any limbs, even Martian limbs.

But nobody in Yakima has come up with anything to top Detective Bill Clifton's reaction:

"I think I'll drain my swimming pool and put a concrete roof on it."

W. J. Clifton

8/27/59

THREE-HOUR MYSTERY, ALL-NIGHT FOUL-UP

Things in Sky, and Everybody---But Everybody---in Act

By GENE GISLEY

Winking and blinking brilliant red, green and blue lights, unidentified flying objects filled Kitsap skies last night from 8:45 to almost midnight.

Larger than an airplane, the UFOB (as the air force calls such things) hovered noiselessly high in the sky, sometimes giving the impression of motion, said several sheriff's officers — just about as credible witnesses as can be found.

Explaining that no investigation was instituted last night because civil defense communications apparently "bogged down," McChord air force officers said they had no knowledge of what the objects might have been.

"There were no military operations in that area that we know of," said Col. J. R. Reed, deputy commander of McChord air base. "We will begin an investigation today."

FIRST REPORT of the UFOB came from Roy C. Jackson, 2832 Center st., who described the objects as flying at 40,000 feet altitude south of the city.

Sheriff's dispatcher Don Sherrill radioed the information to all patrols in the county and all officers reported seeing the bright-colored objects from different locations in the county.

"Port Orchard patrolman Don Corey and I went outside the office to look for them," Sherrill said today. "They were a dark object, more or less of a circle with a light at the exterior. The light was very brilliant and kept changing from red to green to white."

"I would say they were at 50,000 feet because there were commercial planes in the air which were so high we could faintly hear them

and the objects were much higher than the planes.

"DEPUTY Sheriff Les Cline reported seeing the objects from Waterman beach and Detective Bill Clifton saw them from Ross Point and from his home at Gorst."

Sherrill said he relayed the information to the Olympia headquarters of the civil defense air raid warning system.

"They told us that a similar report had been received from the Centralia area a week ago and the air force had told the civil defense people to 'stay out of air force operations,'" Sherrill said.

"The civil defense headquarters called back 15 minutes later and said the information had been relayed to McChord field and that the air force knew of the operation."

Colonel Reed today said he was unable to find any record that the

information had been relayed to McChord field.

"I've back-tracked this report as far as I can and I can't pin it down," he said. "We can't find out where the information is supposed to have come from."

"WE ARE extremely interested in information of this kind particularly when we know of no military operation which could explain it," he said.

"I can't understand how anyone here could have given anyone from civil defense headquarters the 'light treatment.'"

"In fact, we have gotten reports of such treatment before and we have deliberately had persons call the base to report flying objects to see what kind of treatment they got. The 'dry run' calls have always been well handled."

CIVIL DEFENSE headquarters in Olympia said that calls are re-

ceived there when the office is staffed or by a communications coordinator at home when no one is in the office.

The communications coordinator today told The Sun that last night's call from Kitsap county was received by the Olympia detachment of the Washington state patrol.

"We don't investigate these reports here," Colonel Reed said, "but we'll see that an investigation is begun today."

Detective Bill Clifton said he counted eight of the objects, two over Green mountain, one over Belfair and the rest in a line between Bremerton and Seattle.

"It's hard to describe what they were like," Clifton said. "They might have been moving or the motion may have been an illusion from looking at them so long."

"I think I'll drain my swimming pool and pour a cement top over it," Clifton said.

Mystery Lights In Night Sky Baffle Washington Cities

YAKIMA, Aug. 27.—(A.P.)—Lights in the high night sky, winking brilliant lights that show up exactly at 8:45 p. m. (P. S. T.), have been puzzling folks in Yakima off and on for more than two months.

Across the Cascade Mountains at Bremerton, the lights showed up Monday at exactly the same time. The only disagreement was on color. Yakimans say the lights are orange and white; Bremerton reports red, green and white.

Fairchild Air Force Base at Spokane informed Yakima August 20 that the lights resulted merely from routine training exercises by jet refueling tankers from the 92nd Bombardment Wing.

Air Force Indefinite
But across the state, McChord Air Force Base was asked if the lights could be from jet tankers on refueling missions.

"No," McChord replied, "we don't believe they are." "What you see has been seen before, but we do not believe you can place the lights in the same classification with the 2 per cent unidentified flying objects that have been sighted in recent years," the McChord report added.

The lights first were noted here June 14. Observers said "a dark object, more or less of a circle with a light at the exterior. The light was very brilliant and kept changing from red to green to white."

Sherill said he notified Olympia headquarters of the civil defense air-raid-warning system and was told that similar lights had been seen above Centralia, 65 miles south of Bremerton, a week earlier.

"I think I'll drain my swimming pool and put a concrete roof on it," said Detective Bill Clifton.

Lights Described

Don Sherrill, sheriff's dispatcher, said each light was "a dark object, more or less of a circle with a light at the exterior. The light was very brilliant and kept changing from red to green to white."

Sherill said he notified Olympia headquarters of the civil defense air-raid-warning system and was told that similar lights had been seen above Centralia, 65 miles south of Bremerton, a week earlier.

"I think I'll drain my swimming pool and put a concrete roof on it," said Detective Bill Clifton.

2 Cited

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
25TH AIR DIVISION (SAGE)
United States Air Force
McChord Air Force Base, Washington

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: 25ODI

15 Sep 1959

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)

TO: Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: Major Friend, AFCIN 4E4
Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

1. Your request for information on UFO's in the Bremerton, Washington area has been referred to the Chief of Intelligence, 25th Air Division, McChord Air Force Base, Washington.

2. Intelligence records show that three UFO reports have been received from Bremerton since 1 July 1959. These reports occurred within a two day period.

a. On 24 July 1959 at 2030 hours PST, observers in Bremerton reported seeing red, green and white lights in the sky west of Bremerton. Approximately two hours later a report was received from Port Orchard stating yellow-orange lights were visible over the city of Bremerton. The ACRON maintaining air surveillance in the Bremerton area was contacted and they informed intelligence that SAC aircraft were flying night training missions in the area of sighting.

b. On 25 July 1959 at 2100 hours PST another report of UFO was received from Bremerton which stated blue and white lights were visible in the sky west of Bremerton. The responsible ACRON was contacted and surveillance personnel stated SAC refuelers were in the area of sighting at the time of sighting.

3. Intelligence has identified these Bremerton UFO's as lights and flares emanating from known friendly sources and has notified base ISO personnel of our findings. Intelligence considers these reports closed and does not contemplate taking any further action on them.

Neil A. Vosburgh
NEIL A. VOSBURGH
Major, USAF
Director of Intelligence

AFCIN-4E2

UFO Sightings, State of Washington

SAFOI-3d (Maj L. J. Tacker)

1. It was brought to the attention of ATIC by Congressman [REDACTED] [REDACTED] State of Washington, that during July and August of 1959, there were a number of sightings of unidentified flying objects in the areas of Bremerton, Yakima, Bellingham, and Hoquiam, Washington.
2. These objects were described as red, green, white, blue, and yellow by the various witnesses; all sightings occurring at night.
3. ATIC contacted the 25th Air Division, McChord AFB, Washington and requested an investigation of these sightings. The Directorate of Intelligence of the 25th Air Division informed ATIC on 15 September 1959, that these lights resulted from flares emanating from known friendly sources. A telephone call to the base commander, McChord AFB, Washington determined that these friendly sources were SAC aircraft conducting a refueling mission in the area.
4. It is requested that Congressman Towlesson be informed of our findings concerning these sightings. It is requested that the letter be addressed to:

[REDACTED]
Congressman [REDACTED]
6th District
Washington State

FOR THE COMMANDER:

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Sciences and Components

AFCIN-4E2 Reading