

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 18 Apr 64		2. LOCATION Manassas, Virginia		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other poss. Research ^{Activity} ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1930 GMT 19/0300Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5-8 Minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS three/one		9. COURSE Rising NE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Sighting at dusk through BX. Obj. appeared to be three stars together forming a triangle. Motion erratic. XXXXXXXX Appeared to be breaking up. like a red spark that burned out. Looked as bright as meteor at first, white. Obj. was observed in flight in the East on the horizon and rising. Disappearance at 45 deg elevation.				11. COMMENTS Wind direction at alt. wrong for balloon type obs. unless obj. appeared to rise to the NE. Wallops Island located at 120 deg az. from Manassas, Virginia. Sighting more likely assoc. with activities from this location in view of initial appearance of meteor. and the rising. Also poss. XX balloon launch for atmospheric studies from this location.	

20. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? _____

21. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) Yes No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? _____

22. Where were you located when you saw the object?
(Circle One):

- a. Inside a building
- b. In a car
- c. Outdoors
- d. In an airplane (type)
- e. At sea
- f. Other _____

23. Were you (Circle One)

- a. In the business section of a city?
- b. In the residential section of a city?
- c. In open countryside?
- d. Near an airfield?
- e. Flying over a city?
- f. Flying over open country?
- g. Other _____

24. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

24.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One)

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| a. North | c. East | e. South | g. West |
| b. Northeast | d. Southeast | f. Southwest | h. Northwest |

24.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

24.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

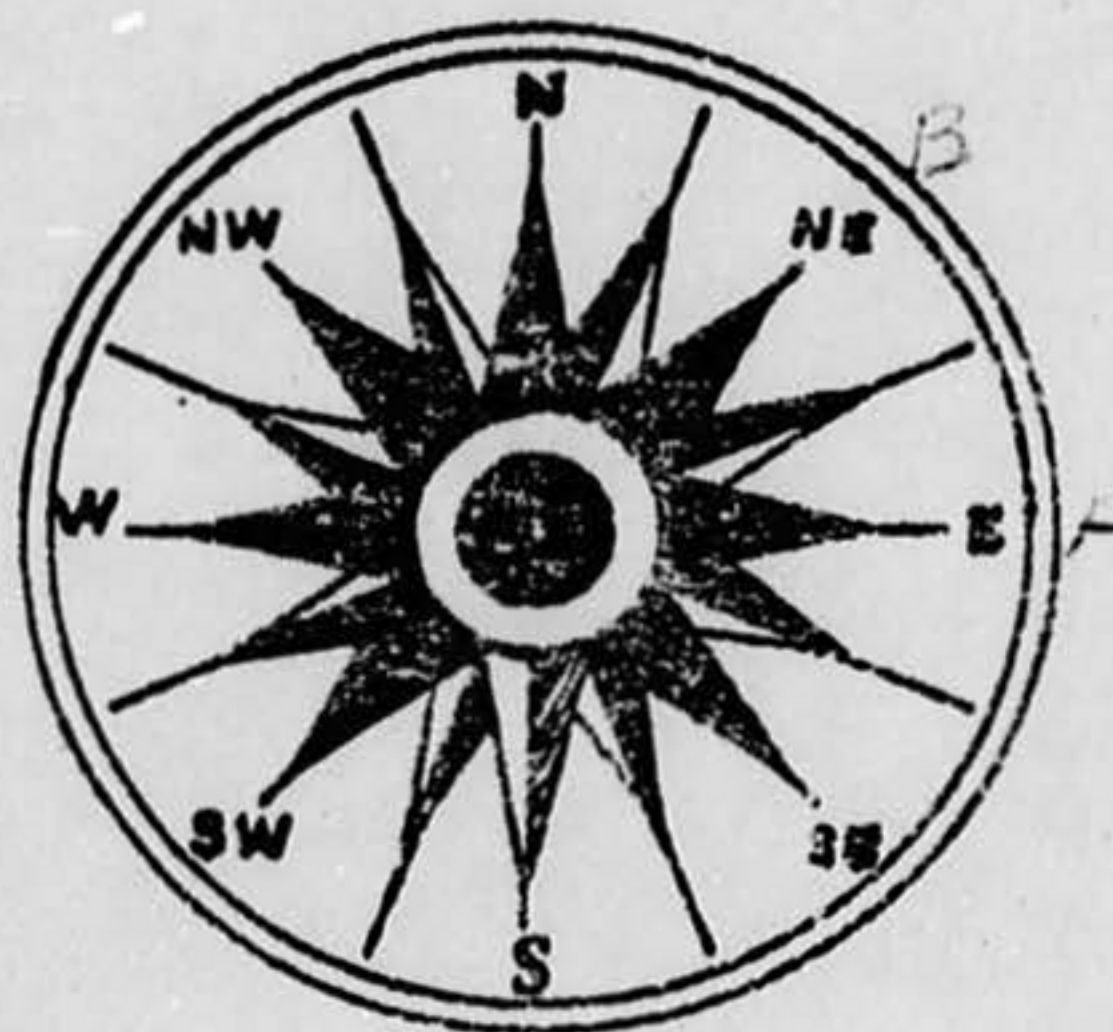
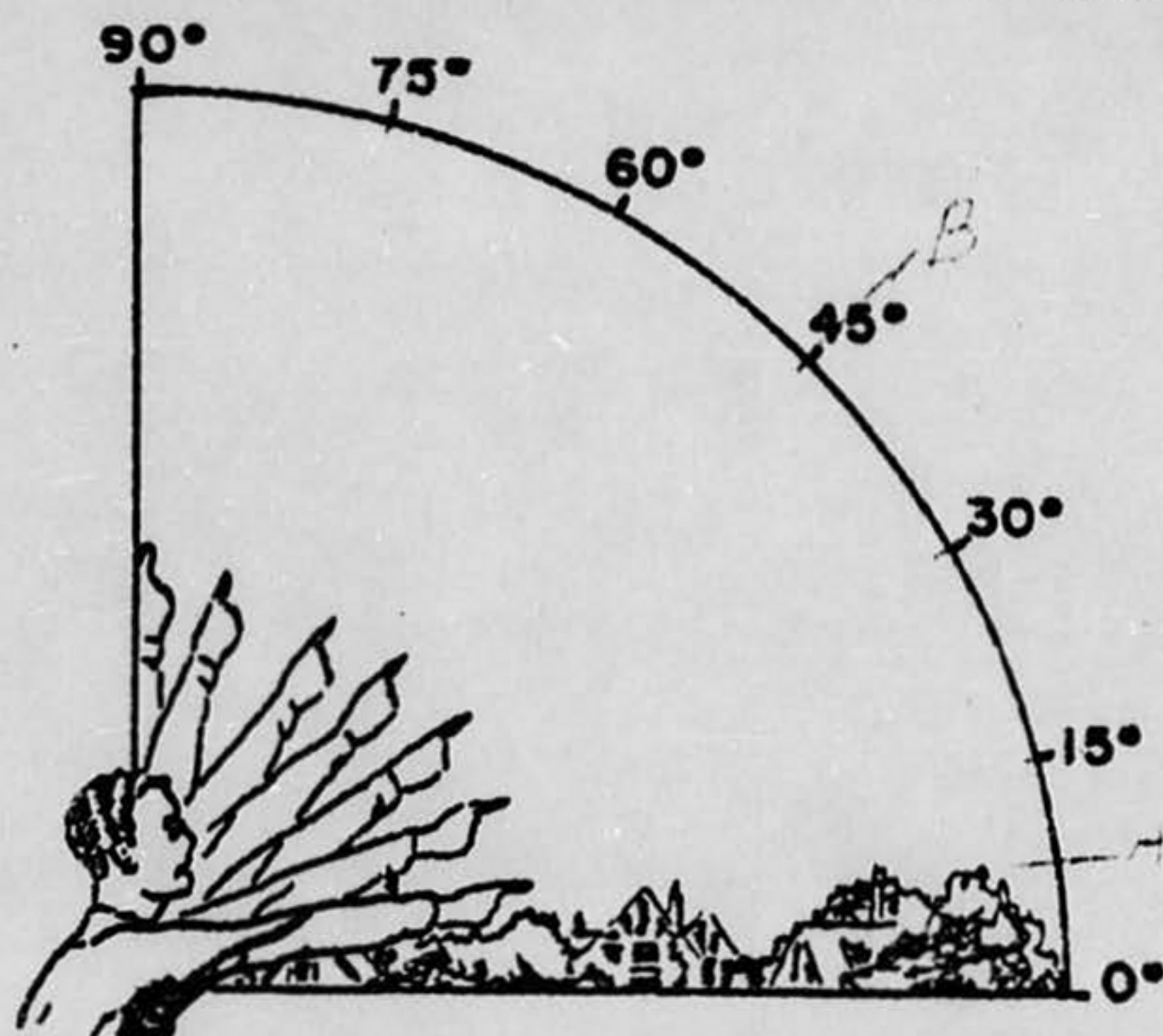
(Circle One) Yes No

25. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----|----------------|-----|----|
| a. Eyeglasses | Yes | No | e. Binoculars | Yes | No |
| b. Sun glasses | Yes | No | f. Telescope | Yes | No |
| c. Windshield | Yes | No | g. Theodolite | Yes | No |
| d. Window glass | Yes | No | h. Other _____ | | |

26. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

27. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it. Place an "A" on the compass when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the compass where you *last* saw the object.



28. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.

29. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____
 Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

30. Have you ever seen this, or a similar object before. If so give date or dates and location. *No*

31. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object? (Circle One) ☒ Yes ☐ No

31.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too? (Circle One) ☒ Yes ☐ No

31.2 Please list their names and addresses:

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Bladensburg, Maryland

One Phone

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Home 461-4015

32. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME *[Redacted]* *[Redacted]* *[Redacted]*
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS *[Redacted]* *[Redacted]* *[Redacted]* *[Redacted]*
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER *[Redacted]* AGE *[Redacted]* SEX *[Redacted]*

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any special experience, which might be pertinent.

33. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object?

[Redacted] *[Redacted]* *[Redacted]*
Day Month Year

34. Date you completed this questionnaire:

Day

Month

Year

35. Information which you feel pertinent and which is not adequately covered in the specific points of the questionnaire or a narrative explanation of your sighting.

HEADQUARTERS
FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: TDFCC/Major George Mills/57223
SUBJECT: Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon

1 May 1964

TO: TDEW

1. Reference: Sighting of 18 April 1964 1930L near Manassas, Virginia. The time, location and description suggest this sighting may have been the 19 April 0030Z radiosonde release from Washington, D.C.

2. Supporting facts

a. The radiosonde train consists of a balloon, a radiosonde package and another intermediate object. Oscillations of the radiosonde package may cause the entire train to take a triangular shape from time to time.

b. The release time of the radiosonde train preceded the sighting sufficiently to allow a climb to an altitude consistent with the sighting angle.

c. Sunset for the area occurred at 1849 local time followed by 30 minutes of twilight. At the sighted altitude the radiosonde would first be bathed in direct sunlight. As sunset occurs for the higher elevation the radiosonde would be bathed in more of the red light from the sun. This might account for the observed color change. The time and altitude were correct for this transition. There were no weather systems and few clouds to the west which also permits this sequence. (High clouds, cirrus, often show this same color change at sunrise or sunset).

d. The trajectory of the radiosonde train is determined by the following winds:

<u>1000 foot levels</u>	<u>Direction from which</u>	<u>Speed knots</u>
2-12	250	20
14	270	25
30	290	40
35	310	40
40	300	35
50	280	40



YOU - THE NUCLEUS OF SECURITY!

(e.g., 270 degrees is a wind from the west, 250 degrees is from south of west). The rise rate is 1000 feet per minute. The 250 degree winds would carry the radiosonde train into the NE quadrant which would appear to the observer as a movement to the north. The apparent motion would be more noticeable than that caused by the higher winds which occurred at higher elevations and from the NW quadrant. At this later time the distance of the radiosonde from the observer reduces the apparent motion.

3. No explanations of this nature are conclusive but there is enough consistency between Mr. [REDACTED] observations and the supporting data above to make our hypothesis plausible. Please let me know if more detailed analysis is required.

George Mills II
GEORGE MILLS II
Major, USAF
Meteorologist

18 APR

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS		ACTION
1 TO HELEN	INITIALS			CIRCULATE
	DATE			COORDINATION
2				FILE
				INFORMATION
3				NOTE AND RETURN
				PER CONVERSATION
4				SEE ME
				SIGNATURE
REMARKS THE ATTACHED LETTER IS TO BE UTILIZED ON WHICH TO BASE A REPLY TO THIS GENTLEMEN. I TALKED TO YOU ON THE PHONE ABOUT THIS. I NOTICED THAT MAJ MILLS USES THE WORDS MAY AND MIGHT. SUGGEST YOU LEAVE THESE OUT. THANK YOU SGT OBENOUR				
FROM		DATE		
		PHONE		

DD FORM 95
1 OCT 50

Replaces DD Form 94, 1 Feb 50 and DD Form 95,
1 Feb 50 which will be used until exhausted.

GPO 1961 O-596753

18 APR

May 13, 1964

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This letter is in further reference to the sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object you reported seeing on April 18, 1964.

The time, location and description of this sighting coincide with the release of a radiosonde balloon in the Washington, D.C. area.

The radiosonde train consists of a balloon, a radiosonde package and another intermediate object. Oscillations of the radiosonde package may cause the entire train to take a triangular shape from time to time. The release time of the radiosonde train preceded the sighting sufficiently to allow a climb to an altitude consistent with the sighting angle.

Sunset for this area occurred at 6:49 p.m. local time, followed by 30 minutes of twilight. At the sighted altitude the radiosonde would first be bathed in direct sunlight. As sunset occurs for the higher elevation, the radiosonde would be bathed in more of the red light from the sun. This accounts for the observed color change. The time and altitude were correct for this transition. Also, the winds at that time would have carried the radiosonde train into the NE quadrant which would appear to you as a movement to the north.

It is hoped that this information will answer your query. Thank you for reporting this sighting to the Air Force.

Sincerely,

MASTON M. JACKS
Major, USAF
Public Information Division
Office of Information

Mr. [REDACTED]

George Washington Station
Alexandria, Virginia

17 APR.

Form 164

from

PO Box

Geo Wash. Station

Alex, Va.

Business:

Said over Manassas. Sept 64

U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U.S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

15 April 1964
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 7:30
Hour Minutes

(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time Zone:

(Circle One): a. Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
b. Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Nearest Postal Address

City or Town

State or Country

5. How long was object in sight? (Total Duration)

Hours Minutes Seconds

a. Certain

c. Not very sure

b. Fairly certain

d. Just a guess

5.1 How was time in sight determined? _____

5.2 Was object in sight continuously? Yes _____ No _____

6. What was the condition of the sky?

DAY

NIGHT

a. Bright

a. Bright

b. Cloudy

b. Cloudy

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right

d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

- a. None
- b. A few
- c. Many
- d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

- a. Bright moonlight
- b. Dull moonlight
- c. No moonlight - pitch dark
- d. Don't remember

9. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (Circle One):

- a. Clear sky
- b. Hazy
- c. Scattered clouds
- d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (Circle One):

- a. Dry
- b. Fog, mist, or light rain
- c. Moderate or heavy rain
- d. Snow
- e. Don't remember

10. The object appeared: (Circle One):

- a. Solid
- b. Transparent
- c. Vapor
- d. As a light
- e. Don't remember

11. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? (Circle One):

- a. Brighter
- b. Dimmer
- c. About the same
- d. Don't know

11.1 Compare brightness to some common object:

12. The edges of the object were:

- (Circle One):
- a. Fuzzy or blurred
 - b. Like a bright star
 - c. Sharply outlined
 - d. Don't remember

e. Other _____

13. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

- | | | | |
|---|-----|----|------------|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| d. Give off smoke? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| e. Change brightness? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| f. Change shape? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| g. Flash or flicker? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| h. Disappear and reappear? | Yes | No | Don't know |

14. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how?

*It appeared as if it was a small airplane
and it disappeared into the clouds. It was not a plane.*

15. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what
it moved behind: _____

16. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what
in front of: _____

17. Tell in a few words the following things about the object:

a. Sound _____

b. Color _____

18. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick at arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head?

19. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

Small airplane - C

It was a small airplane and it was moving.