

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 21 July 66 21/1500Z	2. LOCATION Port Harrison, Canada one witness
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Balloon ✓ <i>Just</i>
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 hours	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observer noted a balloon shaped object with what appeared to be cords hanging down from it with a small object connected. The object was moving toward the SW at about 5 mph, At an altitude of approximately 20,000 feet. The description is consistent with that of a balloon observation. Although attempts to locate such a balloon were fruitless the description is very consistent with such an evaluation.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	
7. COURSE SW	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

TDETR/Maj H Quintanilla, Jr/70916/mhs

Unidentified Observation, 21 July 1966

U.S. Department of Commerce
Environmental Science Services Administration
Weather Bureau
Attn: Mr. [REDACTED]

SEP 26 1966

Reference your letter W1321, dated 26 August 1966, regarding an observation by the Canadian Meteorological Service. We have conferred with a meteorologist on this particular sighting and he believes a balloon is responsible for the sighting; however, we have been unable to locate the specific balloon which caused the sighting.

Contact was made with the National Center for Atmospheric Research for any information on a balloon that could have been in the area. They did not know of any super pressure balloons that could account for this observation. Contact was also made with other departments who launch balloons, and in all instances we met with negative results.

Since no national threat is indicated and no scientific benefit can be gained, it is felt that the expenditure of extra manhours and computer times to retrieve this data would not be justified.

W. A. Wheeler

WARREN S. WHEELER, Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology and Subsystems

COORDINATION:

(H)
TDETR MAJ H QUINTANILLA, JR

DATE 23 SEPT 66

Paul P. Van Dine
TDET

DATE 23 SEPT 66

TDETR OFFICIAL FILE CY



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WEATHER BUREAU
SILVER SPRING, MD. 20910

August 26, 1966

IN REPLY REFER TO: W1321

Major Quintanella
Foreign Technology Division
Attention: TDEW
Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433

Dear Sir:

Your office was suggested as possibly being able to identify or assist in the identification of the object or source of the object described in the copy of the attached letter recently received from the Director of the Canadian Meteorological Service.

From the description it would appear that the object was some sort of constant density or pressure level type of balloon. However, we do not know of any balloons of this type being released in the Northern Hemisphere at this time.

Port Harrison is located due east of Churchill across the Hudson Bay where regular radiosonde balloons are released. These balloons expand to a much larger size at 20,000 feet than noted in the description in the letter and probably never cross the Hudson Bay before bursting.

We appreciate any assistance that can be given.

Sincerely,


Special Assistant (Polar)
Overseas Operations Division

Attach.
cpy ltr dtd 8/9/66

[Handwritten signature]
AIR SERVICES
METEOROLOGICAL BRANCH



YOUR FILE NO.
05964-27 (WBC)
OUR FILE NO.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
315 Bloor Street West,
Toronto 5, Ontario,
August 9, 1966.

[Redacted],
Director,
United States Weather Bureau,
Washington, D.C. 20235.

Attention: *[Redacted]* - Overseas Operations Division

Dear *[Redacted]*:

We have a report from our O.I.C. of the Upper Air Station,
Port Harrison, P.Q. as follows:

"On July 21st, 1966 an unknown object was sighted in the vicinity
of Port Harrison, P.Q. A description of the object, sighting
location etc. follows.

- (1) Balloon shaped.
- (2) Dome shaped top was blue in colour, the rest was white.
- (3) Appeared to be cords hanging down from it with a small object connected.
- (4) Estimated to be 5 feet wide and 7 feet high.
- (5) Object moving south west at approximately 5 miles per hour at a height of 20,000 feet.
- (6) In view by eye from 10 A.M. to 12 Noon, July 21/66.
- (7) Sighting location 78° 50' Longitude, 58° 15' Latitude.

It would be appreciated if you would provide us with some information concerning what this object was, what its purpose was and where it originated from."

We are passing this report to you for your information and comment as we have no information here as to the source of this reported object.

Yours very truly,

[Redacted signature]
Director.

[REDACTED]
Conversation with Wallops Island/revealed that they have only been launching weather balloons lately and they would not reach Canada. However, if they do find anything they will call us. Otherwise they are negative.

Conversation with [REDACTED] ONR revealed that they launched three balloons on 16 Jul 66 however, they went down within 24 hours. No other launches would account for observation. He had been up in Canda at this time and had heard of nothing unusual up there. He said it would be unlikely that any of their balloons would be responsible for they normally don't get across the Hudson Bay before going westward. Also said that there were numerous radiosonde launches in Canada that launch daily and that our weather man should be^{able to} help us in this matter.

~~Contact with the Balloon Control Center, Holloman AFB, New Mexico~~

NCAR, Boulder, Colorado reported negative results. Dr. Morris said that he did not know of any balloons to account for the observence.

C
O
P
Y

Lt. Marley,

I have reviewed this sighting and it seems to fit the description of a balloon launched from Ft. Churchill. However, other stations within a 500 nautical mile radius of the sighting also launch radiosonde balloons which tend to fit this description as outlined here by Mr. Noble. The only way I know to confirm or at least try to confirm the track of these balloons is to request the weather data for the specific launch sites. If you feel that this extra effort is desirable then I will initiate the necessary action acquire the data.

Sometimes weather balloons will develop a leak, as a result they never reach high altitude or their normal size. This could be the case in this instance.

However, since obviously no national threat is indicated and no scientific benefit can be gained, I suggest that the expenditure of the extra manhours and computer times to retrieve this data would not be justified.

(s) Maj Smith

C
O
P
Y

Id Merley,

I have reviewed this sighting and it seems to fit the description of a balloon launched from Ft Churchill.

However other stations within a 500 nautical miles radius of the sighting also launch weather balloons which tend to fit the description as well as being here by Mr Noble. The only way I know to confirm or at least try to confirm the tracks of these balloons is to request the weather data for the specific launch sites. If you feel that this extra effort is desirable then I will initiate the necessary action to acquire the data.

Some times weather balloons will develop a leak, as a result they never reach the high altitude or their normal size. This could be the case in this instance -

However since obviously no national threat is involved & no scientific benefit can be gained,

I suggest that the expenditure of
the extra man hours and computer
time to retrieve this data would
not be justified.

Maj Smith