

[REDACTED]

Incident//114

18/23062

ATIC NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF INFO 18 April 1948

AF NO. \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION 1 mi N of Fairbanks, Alaska

REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SOURCE USAF OFFICER

DATE OF REPORT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE IN TO ATIC \_\_\_\_\_

TIME OF SIGHTING 1306

COLOR silvery

SHAPE round & flat

SPEED 250-300 mph

SIZE 8" diameter

ALTITUDE \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE SW

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED few minutes

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION aerial

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

MANEUVERS Oscillated from horizontal plane to vertical plane at very rapid speed

PICTURES \_\_\_\_\_ SKETCHES \_\_\_\_\_

*Prob Balloon*

Temporary ATIC Form 329  
(2 Jan 52)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS  
375TH RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON (VLR) WEATHER IR/WBR/gd  
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER  
APO 731, Seattle, Washington

375TH RON SA 350.05

13 August 1948

SUBJECT: Project "SIGN"

TO: Commanding General  
Air Material Command  
Wright-Patterson AFB  
Dayton, Ohio

1. In compliance with letter your Headquarters, dated 9 August 1948, file MCIAXO-3, Subject: Project "SIGN", the following information is submitted:

- a. 1st Lt. [REDACTED], was discharged from the USAF as per authority Para 1, SO. 60 dated 28 May 1948. (See Incl #1)
- b. Information presently available in this office on the subject sighting is included in Incl #2, attached.
- c. Reference Para 4a, your letter; the weather sequence as it appeared on the teletype circuit at 1255 AST and 1325 AST on 18 April 1948 is included in Incl #3 attached.

2. It is suggested that your Command forward correspondence to Subject Officer who is presently residing at Ft. Worth, Texas.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

WILLIAM B. RIDER  
Captain, USAF  
Intelligence Officer

- 3 Incls:
- #1 - SO. 60, dtd 28 May 1948. (Dup)
  - #2 - Information on Sighting. (Dup)
  - #3 - Weather Sequence. (Dup)

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

114  
210

SPECIAL ORDER)

REFER TO PAR 1

NUMBER 60)

28 May 1948

\* 1. 1ST LT [REDACTED] USAF (W) (Cat I) (MOS 1035) (Rated-nonflying) (Home address: Ft Worth Texas) this orgn is hereby reld asgmt and dy this orgn and trfd to PAE USA for subsequent asgmt to Sep Point USA for relief fr AD under prov of Sect IV WD Cir 72, 1947. DS of Off with Hqs and Hqs Sq Airdrome Gp this sta is term eff this date. Off WP o/a 16 June 48 by rail to Seward Als thence by first avail surface transportation to SEPE Seattle Wash thence to Personnel Center Ft Lawton Wash where Off will be reld fr AD. Tvl by rail and/or surface transportation to be at Govt expense.

Concurrent movement of dependent (Mrs. [REDACTED] wife) by transportation indicated is auth to Ft Worth Texas.

Shipment of household goods to Ft Worth Texas at govt expense is auth. Installation Off will pack and crate and TC will ship household goods to destination.

EDCMR to Personnel Center Ft Lawton Wash will be 20 June 48. PCS TDN TCT 801-18 P 431-02 03 04 A 2180425 S 99-999 L 501.

AUTH: Sect IV WD Cir 72, 1947; 4th Ind Hqs ATC dtd 7 May 48 to Ltr fr Lt [REDACTED] dtd 8 Apr 48 subj: Appl for Release fr AD Because of Undue Hardship TWX Hqs 7WG PER 2100 dtd 130200Z Mar 48 AWS Ltr 35-11 AF Reg 35-59 as amended.

2. Under the prov of Par 15 AR 615-5 (C3) and AR 420-5 the fol named Offs USAF (W) this orgn are apptd as a Bd of Offs to determine whether Sgt Thomas E Baker Jr AF19252738 USAF (W) this orgn should be reduced to gr of Private and to make appropriate recommendations thereon to CC this orgn:

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	
CAPT	JAMES M ROGERS	A045629	(President)
1ST LT	OTIS G GROOM	A0753174	(Member)
1ST LT	DONALD C WINNER	A0875902	(Recorder)

3. M/Sgt David W Heckart AF20624539 USAF (W) (SSN 750) (3 yr enl-11 Feb 46) this orgn is hereby reld asgmt and dy Flt "B" this orgn Fairfield-Suisun AFB Calif and trfd in gr to 3rd AF Base Unit Bolling AF Base Wash DC with DS sta 5302d ASU 1660 E. Hyde Park Blvd Chicago Illinois. EM WP o/a 20 June 48 RUAT CO 5302d ASU for orientation in recruiting duties and subsequent reasgmt within Ill Recruiting District. EM auth ten (10) days delay enroute. TC will furnish nec transportation and meal tickets for tvl fr Fairfield-Suisun AFB Calif to Chicago Ill. Prior to departure EM will advise correspondents and publishers of change of address. Under prov of AR 35-4520 as amended EM will be paid qtrs and subsistence for a period not to exceed thirty-one (31) days eff on arr at Chicago Ill. Prior to departure fr Fairfield-Suisun AFB Calif EM will report to Base recruiting officer for a short period of instruction. PCS EDCMR: 23 June 48. TDN TCT PCS 801-15 P 431-02 03 04 A 2180425 S 99-999 L 501. AUTH: 6th Ind Hqs USAF dtd 6 May 48 to Ltr fr M/Sgt Heckart dtd 31 Mar 48 subj: Recruiting Duty TWX Hqs 7WG PER 2100 dtd 130200Z Mar 48 AWS Ltr 35-11 AF Reg 35-59 as amended.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR RICHARDSON:

WALTER N HESS  
1st Lt., USAF  
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCLASSIFIED  
HEADQUARTERS

375TH RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON (VLR) WEATHER  
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER  
APO 731, Seattle, Washington

ANNEX I TO SEMI-MONTHLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY:

FROM: 16 April 1948

THRU: 30 April 1948

SIGHTING OF FLYING DISC: A-2

1. On 18 April 1948, 1306 local time, Lt. ~~██████████~~ of this organization sighted what he thought was a flying disc. The sighting was made over the city of Fairbanks, Alaska.

2. The report was made to Lt. Clarke, the Base Intelligence Officer of Ladd Air Force Base. Lt. Clarke immediately sent the information of the sighting to the proper commands concerned.

3. The following is a description of the object sighted as was reported to the Intelligence Officer of this organization the following day.

- a. The object was at an altitude of about 2000-3000 feet.
- b. The object moved at a rapid rate of speed, estimated at about 250-300 miles per hour.
- c. The object was in sight for only a few minutes before it disappeared from view.
- d. The object was oscillating at a rapid rate and the only time it could be seen was when the flat side was toward the observer.
- e. The object reflected a high intensity of light.
- f. No sound or any other distinguished noise could be heard coming from the object. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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

UNCLASSIFIED

*William S. Rider*

WILLIAM S. RIDER  
Captain, USAF  
Intelligence Officer

*Incl # 2*

FAIRBANKS ALASKA WEATHER 13 APRIL 1943  
1255AST -0/33 22/334  
1323AST -0/33 291/19/15 23/333

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY  
*Lewis L. Howes*  
LEWIS L. HOWES  
1st Lieut., USAF  
Weather Officer

*Encl #3.*

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:

#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94,  
95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140,  
147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216,  
219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:

#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100,  
112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192,  
199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:

#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115,  
126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163,  
169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198,  
200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:

#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107,  
108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):

#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:

#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118,  
125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213,  
229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:

#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71,  
75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162,  
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,  
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

[REDACTED]  
~~RESTRICTED~~

Incident #114 -- Fairbanks, Alaska -- 18 April 1948

There is nothing astronomical in this incident.

The description answers that of a maneuvering plane reflecting sunlight. One inconsistency is noted: report states, "Weather clear and visibility unrestricted," whereas weather sequence shows partial cloud coverage. This would not, of course, necessarily have prevented sun reflection from aircraft.

~~RESTRICTED~~

4-21-48

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AIR TECHNICAL SERVICE COMMAND

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CABLE AND MESSAGE SECTION--ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

**INCOMING MESSAGE**

rephrase not required. Handle as  
*copy* correspondence  
paragraph 51i and 60a (4), AR 380-5

*WE*  
*7/24*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM: LABD FLD FAIRBANKS ALS

INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OFF

TO: WRIGHT -PAT AFB ATTN MCI

INFO: DIR INTELLIGENCE DIVISION YUKON SECTOR  
DIR INTELLIGENCE DIVISION ALS AIRCMD

IN REPLY CITE: 1

Report of flying disk sighting par A North of Fairbanks Als approx 1 mile. One  
eight April 1948 at 1306 hours. Para B weather was clear and visability unrestricted.  
Para C Witnesses was 1st Lt Aylco M Johnson 375 Relon Sq (VLR) Wea Ladd Air Force  
Base. Para D no photographs available. Para E No sketches available. Para F  
object sighted. Subpara 11. Sub para 2 round and flat. Sub para 3 Appeared to be  
8 inches in diameter. Sub para 4 silvery brilliant reflection from object. Sub para  
5 approx traveled 500 feet in 1 or 2 seconds. Sub para 6 from north east toward  
south west. Sub para 7 Oscillating movement from a horizontal plane to a vertical  
plane very rapid. Sub para 8 approx 2,000 feet altitude. Sub para 9 No sound.  
sub para 10 no trails of any kind. Para G at approx time of sighting a number of  
aircraft were flying in local area. This sighting may have been reflection of  
sun from wings of these aircraft

**ACTION COPY**

**COPY No. 1**

23

DISTRIBUTION: EJK

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - action
2. MCAACM21 ~~THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN~~

Only such extracts as are absolutely necessary will be made and marked T-19823  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ This copy will be safeguarded with the greatest care and  
will be returned to ~~CLASSIFIED CABLE & MESSAGE SECTION~~ without delay.



## CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

- Incident # 114
1. Date 18 Apr 48
  2. Time 1306 hours
  3. Location Approx 1 mile north of Fairbanks, Alaska
  4. Name of observer Lt [REDACTED]
  5. Occupation of observer 1st Lt (discharged f/USAF as per authority  
Para 1, SO. 60 dated 23 May 48)(see)
  6. Address of observer Ft Worth, Texas
  7. Place of observation Over city of Fairbanks, Alaska
  8. Number of objects 1
  9. Distance of object from observer N/S
  10. Time in sight few minutes
  11. Altitude 2000-3000 ft
  12. Speed 250-300 miles (traveled 500 feet in 1 or 2 seconds)
  13. Direction of flight Northeast toward southwest
  14. Tactics Oscillated from horizontal plane to vertical plane at very  
rapid speed)
  15. Sound No sound
  16. Size 8" in diameter
  17. Color silvery
  18. Shape round and flat
  19. Odor detected N/S
  20. Apparent construction N/S
  21. Exhaust trails no trails of any kind
  22. Weather conditions Weather clear and visibility unrestricted
  23. Effect on clouds N/S
  24. Sketches or photographs none
  25. Manner of disappearance N/S
  26. Remarks: (over)

*M. C. Bess Card  
& file complete*

Object observed at altitude of about 2000-3000 on NE-SE heading.  
It appeared to be some 8 inches in diameter and gave off a silvery  
brilliant reflection. It oscillated from a horizontal plane to a  
vertical plane at a very rapid pace. Estimated speed: about 250-300  
MPH - (traveled some 500 feet in 1 or 2 seconds) No sound could be  
heard nor were there any trails of any kind.

NOTE: This sighting may have been the reflection of sun from wings  
of these aircraft. At the approximate time of the sighting a  
number of aircraft were flying in the local area.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5-293

BASIC: Ltr, Hqs Ladd Air Force Base, Office of the Intelligence Officer,  
APO 731, c/o PM, Seattle, Washington, Subj: Report of "Flying Disc",  
dtd 26 Apr 1948, To: CG, AAC, Thru: CG, Yukon Division.

AACIN-1 000.9

2nd Ind.

3 MAY 1948

HEADQUARTERS ALASKAN AIR COMMAND, APO 942, c/o Postmaster, Seattle, Wash.

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force  
Base, Dayton, Ohio.  
Attention: TSDIN

*Handwritten mark*

*SB*  
G.B.

~~RECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS~~  
~~DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS~~  
DOD DIR 5200.10

*Handwritten: 10-10-48 3:55*

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

105

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS, LADD AIR FORCE BASE  
A-2, OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER  
APO 731, C/O POSTMASTER, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

26 April 1948

SUBJECT: Report of "Flying Disc"

THRU : Commanding General  
Yukon Division  
APO 731, U. S. Army  
ATTN: Director of Intelligence

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

TO : Director of Intelligence Division  
Alaskan Air Command  
APO 942, U. S. Army

1. In compliance with letter, Department of the Air Force, Headquarters, USAF, Subj: Reporting of Information on "Flying Discs", dated 6 February 1948, the following information, in addition to radiogram sent from this office, 18 April 1948, is hereby submitted:

a. The object was sighted North of Fairbanks, Alaska, approximately one mile from the Cheechako Hotel. It was sighted on the 18th of April 1948 at 1306 hours.

b. The weather was clear and the visibility was unrestricted.

c. The witness was 1st Lt. ~~John M. [redacted]~~ Jr, 375th Bom Sq. (VLR) Weather, Ladd Air Force Base, APO 731, C/O Postmaster, Seattle, Wash.

d. No photographs available.

e. No sketches available. Object was described as being in the shape of a "discus" as used in track meets.

f. (1) Number: one.

(2) Shape: As described in "e" above.

(3) Size: Object appeared to be approximately 8 inches in diameter when sighted.

(4) Color: A silvery brilliant reflection was seen to come from the object.

(5) Speed: The object travelled approximately 500 feet in 13 seconds.

(6) Heading: The object travelled from Northeast to the southwest.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

R7C

5-293

BASIC: Ltr, Hdqrs, Ladd Air Force Base, A-2, Office of the Intelligence Officer, APO 731, C/O PM, Seattle, Wash., Subj: Report of "Flying Disc", Thru: CG, Yukon Div, APO 731, U. S. Army, Attn: Dir of Intelligence, TO: Dir of Intelligence Div, AAC, APO 942, U. S. Army, dtd 26 Apr 1948.

- (7) Maneuverability: Oscillating movement from horizontal plane to a vertical plane. Movement was very rapid.
- (8) Altitudes: Approximately 2000 feet.
- (9) Sounds: No sound was heard.
- (10) Exhaust Trails: No trails of any kind were noted.

g. General Remarks: At approximate time of sighting, a number of aircraft were flying in local area. This sighting may have been the reflection of the sun from the wings of these aircraft. At the time of the sighting, Lt. Aytch M. Johnson was in his room at the Cheechako Hotel looking through his window. Lt. Johnson's wife was with him at the time, but did not observe the object that Lt. Johnson did.

*John J. Clark*  
 JOHN J. CLARK  
 1st Lt., USAF  
 A-2

YKIMT 319

1st Ind

27 April 1948

HEADQUARTERS YUKON AIR DIVISION, ALASKAN AIR COMMAND, APO 731, US Army

TO: Director, Intelligence Division, Alaskan Air Command, APO 942, US Army

*Howard A. Bueh*  
 HOWARD A. BUEH  
 Major, USAF  
 Intelligence Officer

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVIEW  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
 EOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

R7C

[REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten mark]*

INT \_\_\_\_\_

7 May 1948

SUBJECT: Reporting of Information on "Flying Discs"

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTENTION: TSDIN

In compliance with Department of the Air Force unnumbered letter dated 6 February 1948, subject: Reporting of Information on "Flying Discs", the attached report is forwarded for your information and necessary action.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 Incl:  
1. "Sighting of  
Flying Discs"

RONALD P STEWART  
Captain, USAF  
Adjutant

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]