

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 20 Aug 51		2. LOCATION Spokane Washington		12. CONCLUSIONS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 20/1910Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		6. SOURCE Not Given		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20 Minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE S	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Object was elliptical & seemed flat in appearance. 2 ft long & 8 to 10 inches width. Color white or aluminum. No trail or exhaust. Climbed slowly. Weaving or fluxations not noticed. Witness judged object to be about 2 mi before disappearance.			11. COMMENTS Case evaluated as a balloon.		

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4751ST AIR BASE SQUADRON
Geiger Field
Spokane, Washington

25

GFG 319.1

22 August 1951

SUBJECT: Report of Information on Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
ATTN: ~~MCIS~~ *ATIAA*
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. In accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5, Air Defense Command Letter 200-1, dated 11 April 1951, subject as above, the following report of an unconventional aircraft or object, which was sighted in this area, is forwarded for your information.

a. Description- The object was elliptical and seemed to be flat in appearance. Observer judged object to be about two (2) feet long and 8" to 10" in width. Color was white or aluminum. No trail or exhaust were noticed. If object emitted any noise, none was heard due to a busy highway very near to point of observation. When first seen the object was 50 to 75 feet in the air going straight up slowly. The point of origin seemed to be amidst a sparse growth of trees near the bottom of a hill and approximately 1/4 mile from observer. When the object reached a height equal to or slightly greater than the top of the 200-300 foot hill, it changed direction to the south and started a 30-40 degree climb. The movement at all times was very steady and even, no jerky motions, weaving or fluctuations being noticed. The object continued in a steady 30-40 degree climb to south until out of sight. Witness judged object about two (2) miles away when disappeared from sight and had appearance then of a star, probably due to sun reflecting on the bright surface of object.

b. Object sighted approximately 1110P, 20 August 1951. Duration of sight was approximately 20 minutes.

c. The object was sighted with the naked eye from the ground only. Speed was very slow and observer unable to judge height when object disappeared from view. Observer stated no aircraft were seen during this observation.

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d. The point of observation was 47 degrees 35' N and 117 degrees 24' W or in reference to a known landmark, approximately 1/4 mile south of the junction of Washington State Highway #195 with Washington State Highway 31. This location is also approximately 7 1/2 miles SE of Geiger Field and on airways (Blue 1). The object when first seen in respect to the observer was SW 1/4 mile from observation point.

e. Neither observer professed much knowledge of aircraft stating that neither one had even been up in an airplane; however, due to their proximity to Geiger Field, they stated they could readily identify various types of aircraft that every day flew over this area.

f. 1130P GEG O30 169/82/47-9/007

g. In the opinion of the station weather officer, neither the convective activity nor the synoptic situation over the area could likely have caused an object this size to float or ascend at time of incident. The air was dry and stable, no clouds whatsoever being in the area at the time. The witnesses stated that at the point of observation the wind was calm as the clothes on the line were not even fluttering.

h. A thorough inspection of the area from which the object apparently arose was made on foot. No physical evidence or fragments were found.

i. None.

j. Aircraft airborne in local area at the time of observation:

The Navy Operations at Geiger Field reported three Navy SNB's that might have been in the area at the time. The SNB's each landed at Geiger at separate times, the first at 1225P and the last at 1232P. They filed from Seattle, being airborne sufficient time to do some local flying in this area.

Spokane Radio reported the arrival of three aircraft at Fells Field, two Cessnas landing at 1155P, one Stinson arriving at 1150P, all arriving from Boise via airways (Blue 1) and all under 4,000'. There were no aircraft from Geiger Field airborne at the time of observation.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

ROBERT R. HEPKER
WOJG USAF
Adjutant

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