

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 20 Jan 52	2. LOCATION FAIRCHILD AFB, WASH.	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 20/1920 PST GMT 21/0320 Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct 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	8. SOURCE 3 Airman	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Astronomical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical (1st 700) <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 Sec.	8. NUMBER OF SUBJECTS 1	9. COURSE S
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Brilliant bluish-white, circular shaped object leaving a blue trail, traveled at a high rate of speed on a horizontal course. Object appeared to be traveling approximately 500 ft. below the clouds.		11. COMMENTS 1. Object meets the description of a meteor which was at a low altitude.



UNCLASSIFIED



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OFFICE SYMBOL AND  
FULL SIGNATURE IN  
APPROPRIATE BLOCK  
CG, CO OR DEPUTY

ATIC, AFOIN-ATIAA-2c, Subject: (Restricted) Additional Information on  
Sighting of Unidentified Object

AIR INSPECTOR

requested, however, that the answers to the questions in paragraph 2 be  
obtained as nearly accurate as possible so that the sighting may be  
evaluated.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

*S. H. Kirkland, Jr.*

S. H. KIRKLAND, JR.  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Technical Analysis Division  
Air Technical Intelligence Center

PUBLIC INF. OFFICE

COMPTROLLER

PERSONNEL & ADM.

RESEARCH & DEV.\*

INTELLIGENCE

SUPPLY AND MAINT.

PROC. & IND. MOB.  
PLNG.\*

OTHER

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
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20 JAN FAIRCHILD AFB, WASHINGTON

ASTRO (METEOR)

EXTRACT FROM STATUS REPORT # 1

DATE: 20 Jan 52

TIME (Local): 1920

LOCATION: Spokane, Wash.

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 2 Sec.

SOUND: None

SPEED: High

ALTITUDE: Below 500'

HEADING: Unknown

SOURCE: ~~Four~~ airmen

ACTION OR COMMENTS: Conclusions pending

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: A brilliant meteor-like object was observed traveling at a high rate of speed under a 500' cloud ceiling.

7-3712-42



COUNTRY		REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
<b>AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT</b>			
SUBJECT			
AREA REPORTED ON		FROM (Agency)	
DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION	
PREPARED BY (Officer)		SOURCE	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)			

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

1. At 1930 hours, 30 January 1952, I was leaving the 50th Bomb Wing Headquarters Squadron barracks with 2/Sgt Harry A. Cavagnaro and S/Lt Robert T. Barnes.

As we were about to turn from the sidewalk to the road, I looked at the beacon light to the North and saw what I thought was a shooting star slightly above the water towers.

I called Sergeant Cavagnaro's attention to it, and he remarked "That's no shooting star, Cliff." As I continued to look, I knew the object could not be a shooting star, for it was travelling at a high rate of speed -- three times the speed of any jet I have ever seen -- parallel to the earth's surface.

The object was below the clouds, which I estimated at a height of 500 feet, moving silently from North to South. It was oval shaped and seemed to pulsate as it left a sharp blue intermittent flame at approximately 6 foot intervals.

The color of the object was a bright blue-white and appeared to be the size of a grapefruit from a distance of approximately 300 feet.

Sergeant Barnes did not see the object, for it was visible for only about two seconds.

**Comments of Preparing Officer:**

2. Since the S/Lt making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the 50th Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

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DOD DIR 5200.10**

INCL.

*Henry B. Barclay*  
Supervisor of Intelligence

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10**

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unusual Object

AREA REPORTED ON: NW United States (Spokane, Washington) FROM (Agency): Hq 57th Air Division, 92d Bomb Wing H

DATE OF REPORT: 23 January 1952 DATE OF INFORMATION: 20 January 1952 EVALUATION: B-2

PREPARED BY (Officer): HAROLD D. NELSON, 1/Lt., USAF SOURCE: T/Sgt Harry A. Cavagnaro, 92d Bwg Intell

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable): Hq 57th AD 92ID Subject: Sightings of Unusual Objects, dtd 4 Oct 51

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

1. At approximately 1920 hours on 20 January 1952, I was walking from my quarters with M/Sgt Aluridus C. Holm and S/Sgt Robert T. Barnes. My attention was called by Sergeant Holm to an unidentified object travelling below the clouds at approximately 500 feet.

The object was moving silently at a terrific rate of speed as compared to any jet aircraft I have ever seen. It appeared circular in shape and was brilliant blue-white in color. I estimate that the object was approximately 3/4 to 1 mile away, and at the distance from where I stood it appeared to be slightly larger than an orange.

The object left a blue trail which was broken. The trail appeared to be coming from the object in spurts.

Height of the clouds was estimated by a beacon light on Fairchild Air Force Base. The beacon was projected vertically in a stationary position, the flying object travelling parallel to the earth.

Sergeant Barnes was behind Sergeant Holm and me and did not see the object.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

2. Since the NCO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

APPROVED:

MARY B. BAILEY Major, USAF Supervisor of Intelligence

UNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS DOD DIR 520010

INCL.

Handwritten initials 'nc'



T/Sgt Cavagnaro

At approximately 1920 hours on 20 January 1952 I was walking from my quarters with M/Sgt Aluridus C. Holm and S/Sgt Robert T. Barnes. My attention was called by Sergeant Holm to an unidentified object travelling below the clouds at approximately 500 feet.

The object was moving silently at a terrific rate of speed as compared to any jet aircraft I have ever seen. It appeared circular in shape and was brilliant blue-white in color. I estimate that the object was approximately 3/4 to 1 mile away, and at the distance from where I stood it appeared to be slightly larger than an orange.

The object left a blue trail which was broken. The trail appeared to be coming from the object in spurts.

Height of the clouds was estimated by a beacon light on Fairchild Air Force Base. The beacon was projected vertically in a stationary position, the flying object travelling parallel to the earth.

Sergeant Barnes was behind Sergeant Holm and me and did not see the object.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Since the NCO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.

ATIC # 42749

AF 404333



m/sgt Holm

At 1920 hours, 20 January 1952, I was leaving the 92d Bomb Wing Headquarters Squadron barracks with T/Sgt Harry A. Cavagnaro and S/Sgt Robert T. Barnes.

As we were about to turn from the sidewalk to the road, I looked at the beacon light to the North and saw what I thought was a shooting star slightly above the water towers.

I called Sergeant Cavagnaro's attention to it, and he remarked "That's no shooting star, Cliff." As I continued to look, I knew the object could not be a shooting star, for it was travelling at a high rate of speed -- three times the speed of any jet I have ever seen -- parallel to the earth's surface.

The object was below the clouds, which I estimated at a height of 500 feet, moving silently from North to South. It was oval shaped and seemed to pulsate as it left a sharp blue intermittent flame at approximated six foot intervals.

The color of the object was a bright blue-white and appeared to be the size of a grapefruit from a distance of approximately 3000 feet.

Sergeant Barnes did not see the object, for it was visible for only about two seconds.

• COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Since the NCO making this report is a very reliable individual who holds a responsible position within the Wing Intelligence Section, and since the sighting was witnessed by another person, this report appears well-founded.



~~SECRET~~ EXTRACT STATUS REPORT 5  
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APPENDIX II

Fairchild AFB, Washington - 20 January 1952

I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

At approximately 1920 MST on 20 January 1952, two Wing Intelligence airmen noticed a bright spherical object traveling through the sky. At first it was assumed to be a meteor but then it was noted that it appeared to be traveling beneath a cloud layer. The object was traveling at a speed much faster than a jet aircraft. The object, which made no sound, was traveling in a path horizontal to the earth at an estimated 500 feet and left a blue trail. The trail seemed to come from the object in spurts. The object disappeared from sight behind a building.

The two airmen observers, a Tech Sergeant and Master Sergeant are considered reliable observers.

II. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

This incident is interesting due to the fact that there was an eight-tenths cloud coverage at 4,700 ft. It is possible that the object was viewed between a break in the clouds and that it was extremely high, indicating that the sighting was a meteor. However, the sources indicated that they believed the object was below the cloud cover, and if this is true the slant range of the object can be computed to be about 7,300 ft. This would eliminate the possibility of the lighted object being a conventional aircraft, since no sound was heard. The possibility of a meteor is also nil because a meteor would not be traveling horizontally at 7,300 ft.

A request was made for the angular measurement of the arc made by the object, however, this information could not be obtained. It is presumed that the sources were not available for questioning.

III. CONCLUSIONS

If the object was beneath the cloud cover it was not a conventional aircraft or meteor, and no conclusions can be made as to its identity.

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ATTC, AFOIS-ATIAA-2c Subject: (Restricted) Additional Information  
on Sighting of Unidentified Object

92ID 000.9 (23 Feb 52) 1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS 57TH AIR DIVISION, Fairchild Air Force Base, Fairchild,  
Washington 13 MAR 1952

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTC: ATIAA-2c, Wright-  
Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

1. As requested in paragraph 2 of basic communication, the fol-  
lowing information is submitted:

- a. Forty (40) degrees.
- b. Two (2) seconds.
- c. Object both appeared and disappeared at an elevation angle  
of forty (40) degrees.
- d. Disappeared behind messhall.
- e. Sighting occurred 1920 hours, 20 Jan 52. Reported weather  
for 1830 hours on that date follows:

(1) Single seven tenths (.7) cloud layer at three thousand  
(3,000) feet (est); visibility: Twenty five (25) miles;  
temperature: Twenty three (23) degrees Fahrenheit;  
wind: South South East at fourteen (14) knots (est).  

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Weather as of 1930 hours 20 Jan 52: Single eight tenths  
(.8) broken cloud layer at four thousand seven hundred  
(4,700) feet; visibility: Twenty (20) miles; temper-  
ature: Twenty four (24) degrees Fahrenheit; dew point:  
Twenty one (21) degrees Fahrenheit; wind: South South  
East at fifteen (15) knots (est).

f. Viewed from 1/2 mile, the object appeared to be four (4)  
inches in diameter.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*Donald B. North*

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DOD DIR 5200.10

DONALD B. NORTH

Comd'g Gen

ASST Adjutant GENERAL

3

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4480



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ATIAA-2c/EJR/vs

AIR INSPECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
AFOLN-ATIAA-2c

SUBJECT: (Restricted) Additional Information on Sighting of  
Unidentified Object

PUBLIC INF. OFFICE

TO: Commanding Officer  
92d Bomb Wing  
Attn: Supervisor of Intelligence  
Fairchild Air Force Base  
Fairchild, Washington

COMPTROLLER

PERSONNEL & ADM.

1. Reference is made to AF Form 112, Report No. 92 IL-1-52, dated  
23 January 1952, subject: "Sighting of Unusual Object".

2. It is requested that the following information be forwarded  
directly to the Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Attention:  
ATIAA-2c, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio:

RESEARCH & DEV.\*

a. Azimuth angle (from true north) at point of initial sighting  
and point object disappeared.

b. Time, in seconds, object required to traverse above angle.

c. Elevation angle at point of initial sighting and point at  
which object disappeared.

d. How object disappeared. Did the object disappear by getting  
smaller such as an aircraft disappearing in the distance or did it suddenly  
'go out' like a light being turned off?

e. Measured ceiling and detailed description of cloud coverage,  
such as altitude of various layers and tenths coverage.

f. Relative size of the object such as a one inch diameter  
circle viewed from six feet, pinpoint of light, etc.

3. It is realized that due to the lapse of time since the observa-  
tions were made that it may be difficult to obtain accurate data. It is

INTELLIGENCE  
*Permit to view  
Seymour*

SUPPLY AND MAINT.

PROC. & IND. MOB.  
PLNG.\*

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