

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <del>25 Apr 52</del>	2. LOCATION Fargo, North Dakota		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>2100 CST</u> GMT <u>26/0300Z</u>	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 several civilians		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 4 seconds	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS varied	9. COURSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>DUCKS</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING  Reddish color. Round. Straight and level maneuvers. Proved to be ducks. Reflecting city lights		11. COMMENTS  Several flights of V-shaped formation.	

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DETACHMENT 2  
4572d Ground Observer Squadron  
Fargo Filter Center  
Fargo, North Dakota

UNCLASSIFIED

62  
15

27 April 1952

SUBJECT: Report of Unconventional Airborne Objects

TO: Commanding General  
Air Material Command  
Attention: MOIS  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton Ohio

1. In compliance with ADCL 200-1 dated 11 April 1951, the following report is respectfully submitted.

2. The following information is not the result of an observation of the undersigned; simply hearsay evidence from citizens of Moorhead, Minnesota and Fargo, North Dakota.

a. On or about 2145 hours 25 April 1952, a call from the Fargo Police Department was received by this writer. The reason: Airborne objects that glowed were seen "Very High" directly over the City of Moorhead Minnesota between 2100 and 2145 hours. The glowing objects ~~was later referred to as~~ "Disks" appeared in wide "V" formation consisting of five (5) disks per flight in five (5) flights approximately eight (8) minutes apart. Direction of flight was consistently South to North. No shape, other than "round" was apparent. Size could not be determined since disks were travelling very high. No trails of vapor or exhaust were seen. No obvious means of propulsion were apparent nor was there any noise made by any disk. Formation was described as wide "V" but irregular, or more specifically, rather sloppy, in that the disk pilots, if such is the case, appeared to have trouble maintaining constant speed and altitude.

b. Time of observation between 2100 and 2145 hours. Actual sighting time per flight of disks; about four (4) seconds, after which time disks suddenly disappeared.

c. Manner of observation was visual and no binoculars or other optical assistants were employed. Speed, altitude and type of aircraft were unknown. Form surface of disk unknown. Only description pertinent to same was "a glowing ball." No electronic equipment was available for use.

d. Location of observer was on Southwest corner of Third Avenue South and Sixth Street South in Moorhead Minnesota. Objects were sighted directly overhead moving north. Altitude unknown.

7-3712-416

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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Det # 2, 4672A Ord Obs Sq. Subject: Report of Unconventional  
Airborne Objects 27 April 1952

e. The following were observers (adults listed only) of the  
disks.

Patrolman [REDACTED]	Moorhead Police Dept.
Mrs [REDACTED]	[REDACTED], Moorhead Minn
Mrs G [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Moorhead Minn
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Moorhead Minn
Al [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Moorhead Minn
[REDACTED]	Fargo Fire Department, Fargo ND
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], KFSD, Fargo ND
Doctor [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] College, Fargo ND

f. Weather was excellent, No ceiling or clouds, Wind from  
the south, four (4) miles per hour.

g. There were no activities, meteorological or otherwise  
which might have accounted for the flight.

h. No photographs were taken of the sightings. There were no  
no fragments or physical evidence of the sightings.

i. No interception was made or attempted, nor was identifi-  
cation by the proper authorities possible.

j. There was no local aircraft activity at the time of the  
sighting. Northwest Airlines flight from Minneapolis to Fargo passed  
through the area and was sighted by the majority of the parties that  
are mentioned in par e., on or about 2110 hours. This is the normal  
approach time for that commercial flight.

3. This report, classified confidential, was prepared at 0900  
hours, 27 April 1952 and will go forward via airmail to the pres-  
cribed headquarters. This headquarters awaited arrival of ADGL  
200-1 which was flown in promptly to accomplish this report.

PAUL J GADBOIS  
Captain USAF  
Detachment Commander

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DETACHMENT 2  
4572nd Ground Observer Squadron  
Fargo Filter Center  
Fargo, North Dakota

UNCLASSIFIED

29 April 1952

SUBJECT: Report of Unconventional Airborne Objects

TO: Commanding General,  
Air Material Command  
ATTN: ICIS  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio

1. In compliance with ADCE 200-1, dated 11 April 1952, the following follow-up action on report, same subject as above, dated 27 April 1952, is respectfully submitted.

2. The information below was gathered by the undersigned and observed first hand, rather than as hearsay as was submitted in report 27 April 1952.

a. The Airborne objects referred to as disks by several citizens of Moorhead, Minnesota and Fargo, North Dakota, seen traveling "Very High, Very Fast, Bright Red and Orange, etc.," on or about 25 April 1952, have turned out to be Mallard and Teal Ducks.

b. To satisfy his own curiosity, the undersigned proceeded to the top (10th floor) floor of the Black Building in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, about 2030 hours on 28 April 1952, equipped with binoculars, high speed camera, telescope, etc., and awaited the mysterious flights.

c. On or about 2115 hours several Teal Ducks passed over, high, fast, and bright orange. Identification was positive via flapping wings. Geese followed, also illuminated and were positively identified by "honking". Phosphorescence was picked up by the fowl from the neon lights in the City thus causing the strange illumination.

d. Observation heretofore had been from the ground level with lighting glare. The difference in both of these factors caused the objects to show up more clearly.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; PAUL J. SADBOSIS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. Captain, USAF  
DOD DIR 5200.10 Detachment Commander

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STATUS REPORT 7

UNCLASSIFIED

APPENDIX I

Fargo, North Dakota - 25 April 1952

**I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

Between 2100 and 2145 hours on 25 April 1952, eight observers reported sighting unidentified flying discs which appeared in a wide "V" formation. There were five discs per flight and a total of five flights at eight minute intervals. The direction of flight was consistently south to north.

The formation was described as a wide "V", irregular or more specifically, sloppy, in that the disc pilots, if such is the case, appeared to have trouble maintaining constant speed and altitude.

**II. STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION**

The Commanding Officer of Detachment 2, 462nd Ground Observer Squadron, Fargo Filter Center, Fargo, North Dakota, followed up the report personally. He proceeded to the top (10th floor) of the Black Building in Fargo, North Dakota, at about 2030 hours on 28 April 1952 equipped with binoculars, high-speed camera, telescope, etc., and awaited the mysterious flights. A number of local citizens shared his vigil with him.

**III. CONCLUSIONS**

The unidentified discs seen traveling very high and fast and of bright red and orange color were identified by the above observers (II) as being migrating mallard and teal ducks.

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T52-11949

DETACHMENT 2  
4672d Ground Observer Squadron  
Fargo Filter Center  
Fargo, North Dakota

UNCLASSIFIED

27 April 1952

SUBJECT: Report of Unconventional Airborne Objects

TO: Commanding General  
Air Material Command  
Attention: MCIS  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton Ohio

1. In compliance with ADCL 200-1 dated 11 April 1951, the following report is respectfully submitted.

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a. On or about 2145 hours 25 April 1952, a call from the Fargo Police Department was received by this writer. The reason: Airborne objects that glowed were seen "Very High" directly over the City of Moorhead Minnesota between 2100 and 2145 hours. The glowing objects hereinafter referred to as "Disks" appeared in wide "V" formation consisting of five (5) disks per flight in five (5) flights approximately eight (8) minutes apart. Direction of flight was consistently South to North. No shape, other than "round" was apparent. Size could not be determined since disks were travelling very high. No trails of vapor or exhaust were seen. No obvious means of propulsion were apparent nor was there any noise made by any disk. Formation was described as wide "V" but irregular, or more specifically, rather sloppy, in that the disk pilots, if such is the case, appeared to have trouble maintaining constant speed and altitude.

b. Time of observation between 2100 and 2145 hours. Actual sighting time per flight of disks; about four (4) seconds, after which time disks suddenly disappeared.

c. Manner of observation was visual and no binoculars or other optical assistants were employed. Speed, altitude and type of aircraft were unknown. Form surface of disk unknown. Only description pertinent to same was "a glowing ball." No electronic equipment was available for use.

d. Location of observer was on Southwest corner of Third Avenue South and Sixth Street South in Moorhead Minnesota. Objects were sighted directly overhead moving north. Altitude unknown.

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Det # 2, 4672d Grd Obs Sq. Subject: Report of Unconventional  
Airborne Objects 27 April 1952

e. The following were observers (adults listed only) of the disks.

Patrolman [redacted]	Moorhead Police Dept.
Mrs [redacted]	Moorhead Minn
Mrs [redacted]	Moorhead Minn
[redacted]	Moorhead Minn
Al [redacted]	Moorhead Minn
[redacted]	Fargo Fire Department, Fargo ND
[redacted]	KFGO, Fargo ND
Doctor [redacted]	ND Agricultural College, Fargo ND

f. Weather was excellent, No ceiling or clouds, Wind from the south, four (4) miles per hour.

g. There were no activities, meteorological or otherwise which might have accounted for the flight.

h. No photographs were taken of the sightings. There were no fragments or physical evidence of the sightings.

i. No interception was made or attempted, nor was identification by the proper authorities possible.

j. There was no local aircraft activity at the time of the sighting. Northwest Airlines flight from Minneapolis to Fargo passed through the area and was sighted by the majority of the parties that are mentioned in par e., on or about 2110 hours. This is the normal approach time for that commercial flight.

3. This report, classified confidential, was prepared at 0900 hours, 27 April 1952 and will go forward via airmail to the prescribed headquarters. This headquarters awaited arrival of ADCL 200-1 which was flown in promptly to accomplish this report.

*Paul J. Gadbois*

PAUL J. GADBOIS  
Captain USAF  
Detachment Commander

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DETACHMENT 2  
4672nd Ground Observer Squadron  
Fargo Filter Center  
Fargo, North Dakota

29 April 1952

**SUBJECT:** Report of Unconventional Airborne Objects

**TO:** Commanding General  
Air Material Command  
ATTN: NCIS  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio

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Detachment Commander

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