

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 25 May 1952	2. LOCATION Walnut Lake, Mich. 42034 N	11. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Art Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Not Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possible Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Not Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical Other Insert Sight Data for Evaluation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2115 EST GMT 0315 Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS	6. SOURCE Civilians (7)	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 30 Min	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. ALTITUDE 3700
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Color: White to yellow orange Shape: "Moon" Report is good--balloon launched at 0800 from Selfridge but would be difficult to see balloon weather in area was bad. over open country.	11. COMMENTS Report detailed--observer saw object and followed it in car.	

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
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HEADQUARTERS
4708TH DEFENSE WING
SELFRIDGE AIR FORCE BASE, MICHIGAN
UNCLASSIFIED

DOI 319.1

SUBJECT: Transmittal of AF Form 112

TO: Chief
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. In compliance with ADCL 200-1, 11 April 1951, the inclosed Air Force Forms 112, part one (1) and two (2) are forwarded.
2. Upon removal of inclosures, this correspondence becomes unclassified.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

Lawrence W. Schaffer

- 1 Incl
Statement by Mr. Hoffman (in dup)

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87-616-6

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AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Reporting of Information on Unconventional Aircraft		
AREA REPORTED ON Pontiac, Michigan	FROM (Agency) DOI 4708th Def Wg, Selfridge AFB, Michigan	
DATE OF REPORT 28 May 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 23 May 1952	EVALUATION P-0
PREPARED BY (O/N/T) Gerald C. Neely AFUS, Asst Intel Officer	GRADE Civilian	
REFERENCES (Control number, director, previous report, etc., as applicable) NONE		
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give references in text and enclose paragraphs. List enclosures at lower left. Give last of report on A.F. Form 112—Part II.) On 25 May 1952 between ¹⁶ 2115 and 2145 hours, Mr. John Hoffman observed an unconventional object in the sky proceeding from vicinity of Pontiac, Michigan, towards Flint, Michigan. It was reported at 2200 hours to the Officer of the Day, in this case the reporting officer.		
0 INCL		
DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS: DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5200.10		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR 2 cys CG Air Material Command 1 cy CG Air Defense Command 1 cy CG Eastern Air Defense Force		
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) DOI 4708th Defense Wing Selfridge AFB, Michigan	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
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On 25 May 1952, at 2115 hours, Mr. John Hoffman observed an unusual object in the sky from the backyard of his home on Walnut Lake. With him were his wife, Beatrice Hoffman, Mr. William Mienk, Mrs. William Mienk, and Mr. Hoffman's three children. Coordinates of Walnut Lake are 42° 34' N - 83° 20' W. Object was initially thought to be the moon, but was then observed to be drifting slowly to the west. The party then followed it by car for 1/2 mile when it changed directions and headed north. They estimated it to be 4000 feet high. Mr. Hoffman stopped the car on a promontory and took a photo of the object. They saw that it would soon enter a large cloud and proceeded to Pine Lake to observe this. Pine Lake is 2 miles north of Walnut Lake. Observers reasoned that if the object was the moon, it would be passed by the cloud in a natural manner. The object entered the cloud and Mr. Hoffman detected a red glow within the cloud at one time. Other members of the party did not notice this. The object did not appear on the opposite end of the cloud. It then showed up suddenly at a point beneath the cloud, roughly halfway between the earth and the cloud. It had been under observation for approximately 20 minutes preceding its entrance into the cloud, and, after it reappeared, it was watched for 10 minutes. Another photo was taken at this time. When it was seen to be drifting north again the watchers entered the car and drove to US highway 24 to follow it, but in moving from the Pine Lake area to the highway the object was lost and could not be found, although the car was driven at a fairly high rate of speed.

Mr. Hoffman describes the object as larger than the moon, white to yellow orange in color, and noiseless, with no trail of any kind following it. It moved slowly at all times. The observers estimated it to be 200 feet in diameter and 20 feet thick. It seemed to have light and darker areas on its periphery, suggesting windows. These were described as looking like "the side of an accordian." The weather in the area was described as hazy, with stars dimly visible; the sky very black, making for great contrast between the object and the sky.

Mr. Hoffman reported a similar object on 27 April 1952. This was reported on AF Form 112 submitted by this headquarters on 1 May 1952. He is employed as an advertising manager of a paint company in Detroit. Mr. William Mienk is employed at The Detroit Tank Arsenal.

Mr. Hoffman was contacted on 27 May 1952 and stated that, although the photos were developed with special care by a friend of his who is a photographic technician, they were of no value. He indicated that the camera he used was inadequate and time exposures were not taken.

A check was made with the 661st AC & N unit here and nothing unusual was reported in the area at the time of observation. An SA-16 from this base was over the sighting area at approximately 2100 hours at 6000 feet and reported nothing unusual. The crew reported weather bad in the area.

Northern lights phenomena were reported visible on the nights of 26 and 27 May in this general area.

Mr. Hoffmans address is 5499 Putnam Drive, Pontiac, Michigan. His residence phone number is Mayfair 6-3396.

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Gerald C. Neely
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4708th Defense Wing