PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	.OCATION	2. CONCLUSIONS
26 Aug 51	Larson AFB, Washington	☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other Elec Interference ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local ____ GMT 26/1628Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 8 Min	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE ø

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Speed 950mph. Object tracked continuously for a period of six minutes. Object was on a course of 340 deg with only slight deviations enroute. Alt 13,000 ft but accuracy of measurement questionable due to brief length time the object was detected. F-86 scrambled but radar contact with the object was lost before a/c were airborne. Visual search conducted with negative results. Weather conditions were not favorable for anomalous microwave propogation at time of sighting.

11. COMMENTS

Review of this incident by the Electronics Section of ATIC concludes that the return was possibly due to interference. This was concluded becuase of the apparent path of the object, directly approaching the station, and the fact that the target was observed on only the low beam of the AN/OPS-1 radar set.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

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SECRET
By Auth of CO 637th
Init: WWS Date: 24 Aug 51

DETACHMENT 1
637TH AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON
162D AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING GROUP
Larson Air Force Base
Moses Lake, Washington

32

DET-1-ACW-37

30 August 1951

SUBJECT: Report of Unconventional Object

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIS

The attached Air Intelligence Information Report is submitted in compliance with Air Defense Command Letter 200-1 dated 11 April 1951.

WILLIAM W. SHARP
Captain USAF
Commanding

2 Incls
Incl 1 - AF Form 112 Part 1 (dup)
Incl 2 - AF Form 112 Part 2 (dup)

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515-126284

7-3112-36

AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
United States	1	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: Report of Unconventional Object

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)	
25th Air Division - Subsector C	Detachment 1 637th Aircraft Control & Warning Sq	
DATE OF REPORT	**DATE OF INFORMATION**	**EVALUATION**
30 August 1951	26 August 1951	
PREPARED BY (Officer)	**SOURCE**	
Captain Ernest W. Rees	Radar	

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
Air Defense Command Letter 200-1 dated 11 April 1951

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. An unidentified flying object was detected by radar sited at Larson Air Force Base, Washington, and tracked continuously for a period of six (6) minutes. The object traveled approximately ninety-five (95) miles during this period for an average ground speed of 948 miles per hour. No reliable altitude information was obtained. Size or composition could not be determined. Scramble action was taken and a search conducted with negative results.

2. Present active Air Defense equipment is not capable of coping with targets of this nature, in the opinion of the reporting officer.

U = PST =

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

(CLASSIFICATION) UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	
Detachment 1 637th AC&W Squadron	1	PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

This report follows the outline of paragraph 5a(1) of Air Defense Letter 200-1 dated 11 April 1951.

(a) An unidentified flying object was detected by radar 26 August 1951. It held a nearly constant heading directly toward the radar station, with an average ground speed of 948 miles per hour. This object was in continuous radar contact from detection to fade.

(b) The initial pickup was at 0828U. The last plot was at 0836U.

(c) The object was observed electronically from the surface with AN/CPS-1 and AN/CPS-4 type radar. This observation was accomplished on low beam only of the AN/CPS-1. Detection was attempted with the high beam of the AN/CPS-1 without success. Observation was accomplished with the AN/CPS-4 for a very brief period of time only. An electronic signal was received from this object that appeared to be a Mode One response from an AN/APX-6 transponder. This response was received twice at approximately 115 miles and once at approximately 80 miles from the radar station. The weak, blurred appearance of these signals leaves some doubt as to their true identity or origin.

(d) The observing radars are located at 47° 12' N latitude and 119° 18' W longitude. It followed a course of approximately 340° magnetic with only small deviations enroute. A measured altitude of 13000 MSL was obtained from the AN/CPS-4. The accuracy of this altitude is questionable because of the very brief length of time this object was detected by the AN/CPS-4.

(e) Captain [redacted] Controller on Duty at time of this incident, has vast experience as a GCI Controller. His report on this object is completely reliable.

(f) Weather sequences for 0830U:

Pendleton, Oregon - E180 ⊕ 280 ⊕ 15 69/44 →13/985

Larson AFB, Washington - 6-⊕15 65/38 ←5/994 K Layer Aloft

Winds Aloft for 0322U:

Ellensburg, Washington - 10000 feet 280 - 12 K
18000 feet 270 - 27 K

(g) None

(h) None

(i) Two (2) F-86 type aircraft were scrambled to attempt interception. Radar contact with this object was lost before the fighters were airborne. A visual search was conducted from 17000 feet to 25000 feet with negative results.

(j) No local aircraft were airborne during the time of this sighting.

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S. .ET
AUTH: CO, ATIC
BY: Lt Col N.R.Rosengarten
DATE: 5 Sep 51

Air Technical Intelligence Center 051330Z
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

PRIORITY

Commanding Officer
Larson Air Force Base
Moses Lake, Washington

x

DET-1-ACW-37

For Detachment 1, 637th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, 162D Aircraft Control and Warning Group, Captain William W. Sharp.

Reference your radar sighting of 26 August 1951, please advise immediately whether weather conditions prevalent in your area at that time favor the phenomena of anomalous micro wave propagation which results in spurious target signals. Particularly, was there a temperature inversion and/or favorable moisture variation with altitude; what was the approximate shape of radar target return; are photographs of the target return available.

COORDINATION:
ATIAA_____
ATIA _____

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513-126284-C-3

1 1

Lt J.W.Cummings

MURRAH S. STURGIS, Capt, USAF

TIAA-2A

52270

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[redacted]

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PRIORITY

NBR 28 08 SEPT 51

C-1 SECRET PRIORITY 1951 SEP 8 05:17, Cate.

FROM LARSEN AFB MOSES LAKE WASH

TO AMC WPAFB DAYTON OHIO

DET 1-ACW-37 SPACE 1089 REF UR MESG DTG AT 7086 FR ATSC.
WEECOCND AT TIME OF SIGHTING DID NOT FAVOR ANOMALOUS MICRO WAVE
PROPAGATION. NO TEMP INVERSION WAS RED AND LOW MOISTURE CONTENT WAS
PRESENT AT TIME OF SIGHTING APPROX SHAPE TGT WAS
RATHER LARGE IRREGULAR SHAPED BLIP/NOT ROUND OR ELONGATED/ NO PHOTO
OF TGT RET ARE AVAL

AT-7086-515-126284-C

515-126284-D

Info to ATI

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[redacted]

Status Report #1

Appendix III

LARSON AFB, WASHINGTON - 26 August 1951

On 26 August 1951 at 0836 PST, an unidentified flying object was detected by an AN/CPS-4 and AN/CPS-1 radar sets. The object was tracked continuously for a period of six minutes and made a timed ground speed of 950 mph. The object was on a course of 240° with only slight deviations enroute. An altitude reading of 13,000 feet was obtained but the accuracy of the measurement is questionable due to brief length of time the object was detected.

The F-86 aircraft were scrambled but radar contact with the object was lost before the aircraft were airborne. A visual search was conducted from 17,000 to 25,000 feet with negative results.

The operator of the radar set, an Air Force Captain, is considered to be an expert operator.

Weather

Weather conditions at the time of sighting were not favorable for anomalous microwave propogation.

Status of Investigation

Review of this incident by the Electronics Section of ATIC concludes that the return was possibly due to interference. This was concluded because of the apparent path of the object, directly approaching the station, and the fact that the target was observed on only the low beam of the AN/CPS-1 radar set.

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