Incident # 254

ATIC NO. ---

AF NO. ---

DATE OF INFO 23 Jan 1949

LOCATION Tillamook, Ore.

SOURCE Male Civilian

DATE OF REPORT ---

DATE IN TO ATIC ---

TIME OF SIGHTING 1100

COLOR Silver

SHAPE ---

SPEED Jo Movement

Stationary
Non-uniform
Distinct
Hazy

SIZE 12' - 15' Diameter

ALTITUDE 35° (50')

COURSE ---

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 2 1/2-5 minutes

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Automobile

SOUND ---

MANEUVERS --

PHOTOS ---

SKETCHES ---

Preliminary ATIC Form 329
(1 Jan 52)

Aircraft

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-30

DATE 27 April 1949

REPORT MADE BY HARRY B. PATERSON

REPORT MADE AT DO #20, McChord AFB

PERIOD 11 April 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #20, McChord AFB

STATUS RUC

TITLE

PROJECT "SIGN"
Flying Object Over Tillamook, Oregon - 23 & 24 January 1949

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Letter from 5th District OSI, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, dated 25 February 1949, File #5D 24-1.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation predicated upon request of DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. On 11 April 1949, Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] were interviewed at their homes at Rt. #2, Box 168, Tillamook, Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] described a shiny object which they had seen at 1100 hours, 23 January 1949 while driving south on Highway 101 toward Pleasant Valley, Oregon. Mr. [redacted] described a silvery object which he had seen while hanging out his wife's wash at [redacted], Tillamook, Oregon, on 24 January 1949. The object appeared at about 1100 hours directly overhead and traveled in a northeastern direction until lost to view. It was also noted that on 23 January 1949, the radio station at Tillamook, Oregon, called the airport and the Coastway School of Aeronautics at the old Naval Air Station, which is located about six miles from Pleasant Valley, to ascertain if their pilots had observed any flying objects. About fifteen minutes prior to the call, the Coastway School of Aeronautics had sent a silver colored airplane to McMinnville, Oregon, via Hebo, Oregon; and the path of the plane would have been about the same as where the flying object was seen on 23 January 1949.

RUC

DISTRIBUTION

CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB (Action Copies) 2
DO #5 2
Hq, OSI 2
File 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General, AMC,
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIARO-3

APPROVED

for Capt A Stf

RICHARD D. MELCHER
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STATION [redacted] (Note)

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 1948

9-1073, AF

[redacted]

Case #24-50

northeast direction at an altitude of about 1400 to 2000 feet. [redacted] states he saw this object at a 45° angle, however, he also states it flew directly over his head). The object was going at approximately 30 to 35 miles per hour in a direct northeast path. It did not turn or rotate, but seemed to float without motion through the air. The sun's reflection made the object look like polished silver, and [redacted] watched the object for about one minute, during which time it went approximately 800 feet; when, because of the distance involved, it was lost to his sight. There was no sound nor odor, no trail, and [redacted] did not see any projections of any kind. The weather was clear, bright, no clouds, and no ground haze. The object went in a straight line to the northeast, and did not vary from this line. [redacted] is a pensioner from the Spanish-American War, wears thick spectacles, and is partially deaf. Map coordinates show the place of observation to be latitude 45° 22' 4", and the longitude as 123° 43' 7".

4. The Tillamook Police Department and the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office were contacted, but had never heard of either [redacted]

5. On 11 April 1949, Mrs. [redacted], wife of Mr. [redacted] owner of the [redacted] Grocery and Filling Station, Pleasant Valley, Oregon, was interviewed at the grocery store. She stated that [redacted] is a quiet, reliable man, and not given to bragging or drinking in any manner. [redacted] is a good worker in his repair shop, and Mrs. [redacted] believes that he did see the flying object as he stated. Mrs. [redacted] further advised that 23 January 1949 was a clear, sunny day.

6. On 11 April 1949, Mr. [redacted], flight instructer of the Coastway School of Aeronautics, located at the old Naval Air Station about six miles from Pleasant Valley, Oregon, stated that on 23 January 1949, at approximately 1100 or 1115 they received a telephone call from the radio station at Tillamook, Oregon, asking them if any of their instructors or students in the area had seen any "flying discs", as one was reported in the Pleasant Valley Area. The school stated that they did not see any. It was revealed by [redacted] that a silver colored, aluminum finished airplane had departed for McMinnville, Oregon, about fifteen minutes prior to the telephone call; and that it had flown to Hebo, Oregon, where it turned to go through the low passes enroute to McMinnville, Oregon. This plane would have flown through the area where [redacted] say the flying object at approximately the same time he reported seeing it. On 24 January 1949, the same airplane had been flying between 0930 and 1234, however, it is unknown as to where the ship was flying, as no flight plan was made for the flight.

AGENT'S NOTE:

It is believed by this agent that [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Case #24-30

see some object in the sky. Noting the airplane that flew over, and the lack of any shape to the object LOCKINGTON saw, it could easily have been the plane shining in the sun. The plane drawing away from LOCKINGTON would not seem to move, and the sound of the [redacted] automobile motor would drown out any sound of the plane's motor.

[redacted] is 32 years old, does not wear glasses, and does not appear to be the type of a man that would state he saw something for the sensation it would cause. [redacted] is about 65 years old or over, wears thick spectacles, and is a little deaf. It is believed that he might have prepared the story so as to relieve his daughter's and her husband's feelings when people in the area ridiculed the story in the newspaper.

RETURNED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ENCLOSURES

Flight plan of Luscombe Skypal airplane, dated 23 January 1948, (actually 23 January 1949).

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

FLIGHT PLAN

****

TILLAMOOK OREGON

DATE 1-23-48

NAME AND ADDRESS [redacted] (Rt. 2 R. Fink)

TELEPHONE NUMBER 527J1

PILOT LICENSE NUMBER

COLOR OF AIRPLANE Silver

NC NUMBER

TYPE OF AIRPLANE Luscombe

POINT OF DEPARTURE Tillamook

ROUTE OF FLIGHT 120°

DESTINATION MacMinnville

CRUISING AIR SPEED 100

RADIO FREQUENCIES

TIME OF DEPARTURE 1015

ESTIMATED TIME ENROUTE 2 hrs.

FUEL IN HOURS AND MINUTES 4 hrs

REMARKS

LET'S MAKE IT A PRACTICE TO FILE AND CLOSE A FLIGHT PLAN COSTS YOU VERY LITTLE AND IS THE BEST ASSURANCE FOR YOUR PROTECTION AND SAFETY.....

COASTWAY SCHOOL OF AERONAUTICS

******

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Earl D. Jameson

EARL D. JAMESON
2d Lt, USAF
Primary Court.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Encl. #1

Incident 254

Name and address of observer:

Mr. and Mrs. [redacted], Tillamook, Oregon

Occupation and hobbies:

Machinist
Housewife

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

Appears quiet and reliable

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 11 April 1949, Mr. [redacted]on, occupation machinist, was interviewed at his repair shop beside Hughes Grocery and Filling Station, Pleasant Valley, Oregon; and at his home at R[redacted]2, Box 168, Tillamook, Oregon. [redacted] stated that at about 1100 hours, 23 January 1949, while driving south on Highway 101 below the old Naval Air Station, which is approximately four miles south of Tillamook, Oregon, his attention was attracted to a shiny object glinting in the sun. The object seemed to be stationary, was a silver color, and seemed to have no distinct shape. The map coordinates show the place of observation as latitude 45° 22' 17", and the longitude as 123° 48' 12". [redacted]aw the object through the windshield (which was clean) of his car at about a 35° angle from the ground. It seemed to be about 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile from him to the southeast, and the altitude seemed to be about 500 feet. It was in view for about 2 1/2 or 3 minutes, during which time [redacted]drove to Pleasant Valley, about 1/2 miles away, and went into his shop to get his binoculars. By the time he returned outside the object had disappeared. It did not seem to move the entire time of observation, had no sound or odor (His automobile motor was running, and sound would not have been distinguished from the motor), and its size seemed to be about 12 or 15 feet in diameter. [redacted]states that the object was about the size of his open hand at arm's length from his eyes from where he saw it. It left no trail and did not maneuver. [redacted]compared its brilliance with the effect of the sun shining on a sheet of stainless steel and reflecting from it. The weather was pleasant, no ground haze, clear, very good light; and [redacted] not see any clouds in the sky. The only witness wit[redacted] was his wife ROSE, interviewed at their home at Rt. #2, Box 168, Tillamook, Oregon, whose account did not differ from [redacted]s. It was noted that [redacted]does not wear glasses, and in hiswwork as a mechanic he does a lot of welding with an arc welder. [redacted] was not in the armed services in the war, as he was deferred because of nerves. However, he did do duty as a civilian defense air raid observer.

AGENT's NOTE:

It is believed by this agent that [redacted] and his wife did some object in the sky. Noting the airplane that flew over, and the lack of any shape to the object [redacted] saw, it could easily have been the plane shining in the sun. The plane drawing away from [redacted]would not seem to move, and the sound of the [redacted] automobile motor would drown out any sound of the

INCIDENT NO. 254

1. Date of Observation 23 Jan. 1949 Date of Interview 11 April 1949

2. Exact Time (local) 1100

3. Place of Observation 4 miles south Tillamook, Oregon 45° - 22'-17" North 123° - 48' - 12" West

4. Position of observer Ground - in auto

5. What attracted attention to object. Glinting light

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size 12-15 Ft. dia. (size of open hand at arms length)

8. Color of object silver

9. Shape not ascertainable

10. Altitude 35° elevation 500 ft.

11. Direction from observer

12. Distance from observer 1/2 - 3/4 miles

13. Direction of flight of object(s)

14. Time in sight 2 1/2 - 3 minutes

15. Speed no movement

16. Sound and odor none noticed (auto motor was running)

17. Trail

18. Luminosity Reflected light like sun shining on sheet of stainless steel.

19. Projections

20. Maneuvers No movement

21. Manner of disappearance disappeared while observer was getting binoculars.

22. Effect on Clouds

23. Additional Information Concerning Object- See agent's note under Narrative.

24. Weather Conditions. Pleasant, clear, no ground haze nor clouds.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

Mr. [redacted] Rt. #2, Box 168,
Tillamook, Oregon

Occupation and hobbies:

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

[redacted] is about 65 years old or over, wears thick spectacles, and is a little deaf. It is believed that he might have prepared the story so as to relieve his daughter's and her husband's feelings when people in the area ridiculed the story in the newspaper.

On 11 April 1949, Mr. [redacted], father of Mrs. [redacted], was interviewed at the [redacted] home at [redacted], Tillamook, Oregon; where, with his wife, he lives in a small house to the rear of the [redacted] home. [redacted] stated that at about 1100 hours on 24 January 1949 he was hanging his wife's wash on the line behind his home. While putting an article of clothing on the line, his attention was attracted to a silvery disc the shape of a saucer and about the size of the full moon going directly over his head in a definite northeast direction at an altitude of about 1400 to 2000 feet. [redacted] states he saw this object at a 45° angle, however, he also states it flew directly over his head). The object was going at approximately 30 to 35 miles per hour in a direct northeast path. It did not turn or rotate, but seemed to float without motion through the air. The sun's reflection made the object look like polished silver, and [redacted] watched the object for about one minute, during which time it went approximately 500 feet; when, because of the distance involved, it was lost to his sight. There was no sound nor odor, no trail, and [redacted] did not see any projections of any kind. The weather was clear, bright, no clouds, and no ground haze. The object went in a straight line to the northeast, and did not vary from this line. [redacted] is a pensioner from the Spanish-American War, wears thick spectacles, and is partially deaf. Map coordinates show the place of observation to be latitude 45° 22' 4", and the longitude as 123° 48' 7".

AGENT's NOTE (Cont'd)

plane's motor. [redacted] is 32 years old, does not wear glasses, and does not appear to be the type of a man that would state he saw something for the sensation it would cause. [redacted] is about 65 years old or over; wears thick spectacles, and is a little deaf. It is believed that he might have prepared the story so as to relieve his daughter's and her husband's feelings when people in the area ridiculed the story in the newspaper.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

"PORTLAND OREGONIAN"
January 24, 1949

'SAUCER' VIEWED NEAR TILLAMOOK

TILLAMOOK, Jan. 24 (Special - The flying saucers are back.

Mr and Mrs Burt Leckington, driving south on highway 101 at 11:05 a. m. Sunday, saw a silvery object in the sky above them at an elevation of about 2000 feet, they reported.

Mrs [redacted] first discovered the object about one quarter mile southeast of Pleasant Valley. She called her husband's attention to it and they watched it as they drove slowly to the store at Pleasat Valley.

There the store operator, Allen Hughes, went with Leckington to observe it, but by that time it had disappeared. A check of the airport here indicated that a yellow plane was the only one in the air at the time.

Mrs. [redacted] described the object as round and silver. She said she could not tell whether it was moving.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Case #24-20

DETAILS:

1. Investigation predicated upon request of DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio.

AT TILLAMOOK, OREGON

2. On 11 April 1949, Mr. [redacted]N, occupation machinist, was interviewed at his repair shop beside Hughes Grocery and Filling Station, Pleasant Valley, Oregon; and at his home at Rt. #2, Box 168, Tillamook, Oregon. [redacted] stated that at about 1100 hours, 23 January 1949, while driving south on Highway 101 below the old Naval Air Station, which is approximately four miles south of Tillamook, Oregon, his attention was attracted to a shiny object glinting in the sun. The object seemed to be stationary, was a silver color, and seemed to have no distinct shape. The map coordinates show the place of observation as latitude 45° 23' 17", and the longitude as 123° 48' 12". [redacted] saw the object through the windshield (which was clean) of his car at about a 35° angle from the ground. It seemed to be about 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile from him to the southeast, and the altitude seemed to be about 800 feet. It was in view for about 2½ or 3 minutes, during which time [redacted] drove to Pleasant Valley, about ½ mile away, and went into his shop to get his binoculars. By the time he returned outside the object had disappeared. It did not seem to move the entire time of observation, had no sound or odor (His automobile motor was running, and sound would not have been distinguished from the motor), and its size seemed to be about 12 or 15 feet in diameter. [redacted] states that the object was about the size of his open hand at arm's length from his eyes from where he saw it. It left no trail and did not maneuver. [redacted]N compared its brilliance with the effect of the sun shining on a sheet of stainless steel and reflecting from it. The weather was pleasant, no ground haze, clear, very good light; and [redacted] did not see any clouds in the sky. The only witness with [redacted] was his wife ROSS, interviewed at their home at Rt. #2, Box 168, Tillamook, Oregon, whose account did not differ from [redacted]'s. It was noted that [redacted] does not wear glasses, and in his work as a mechanic he does a lot of welding with an arc welder. [redacted] was not in the armed services in the war, as he was deferred because of nerves. However, he did do duty as a civilian defense air raid observer.

3. On 11 April 1949, Mr. [redacted] father of Mrs. ROSS [redacted], was interviewed at [redacted] home at Rt. #2, Box 168, Tillamook, Oregon; where, with his wife, he lives in a small house to the rear of the [redacted] home. [redacted] stated that at about 1100 hours on 24 January 1949 he was hanging his wife's wash on the line behind his home. While putting an article of clothing on the line, his attention was attracted to a silvery disc the shape of a saucer and about the size of the full moon going directly over his head in a definite

UNCLASSIFIED

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Op-322V
P16-3/QN
CONFIDENTIAL
Serial 0487P32

8 Feb 1949

From: Chief of Naval Intelligence
Director of Intelligence, U. S. Air Force
Air Intelligence Requirements Division
Attn: Collection Branch

SUBJECT: Report on Flying Discs

Reference: (a) DI/USAF Conf ltr AFOIR-CO-5 dtd 14 Oct 48.

Inclosure: (A) DIO 13MD Conf ltr Serial 0349-C/C dtd 25 Jan 49, with enclosure attached thereto.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith as a matter of interest to your office in compliance with reference (a).

R. H. RODGERS
by direction

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
[redacted]

B/L fm ND, CNO, dtd 3 Feb 49, subj: Report on Flying Discs

AFOIN-CO-14 (L-2-32) 1st Ind

Dept. of the Air Force, Hq. USAF, Washington 25, D. C. 16 FEB 1949

TO: Commanding General, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Wright Field, Ohio
ATTN: MCI

By W. Berg

1 Incl.
n/c

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED
[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

"PORTIAND OREGONIAN"
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UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon - Incident 254

5D OSI
Attn: Maj Farrell

MCIAXO-3

23 Feb 49

1. This office is in receipt of inclosed news clipping from "Portland Oregonian" of Tillamook, Oregon, as of 24 Jan 1949, reporting the sighting of an unidentified aerial object in vicinity

2. It is requested the OSI initiate an investigation of this sighting. Three (3) copies of "Guide to Investigation" are inclosed as an aid to the interrogating officer.

2 Incls
1. Clipping
2. Guide to Inves
(3 cys)

W. R. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Tech Intelligence Division
Intelligence Department

GWT/aw
6-5310
Bldg 288

MCIAXO-3 file

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

B/L fm ND, CNO, dtd 8 Feb 49, subj: Report on Flying Discs

AFOIR-CC-14 (1-2-52) 1st Ind 18 FEB 1949

Dept. of the Air Force, Hq. USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Wright Field, Ohio
ATTN: MCI

/s/ W K Ohm

1 Incl.
n/c

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

DIO/13ND/JACKET
Serial 0349-C/C

25 January 1949

From: District Intelligence Officer, THIRTEENTH Naval District

To: Chief of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: "Flying Discs".

Ref: (a) CNO Conf ltr Op-322V P16-3/QN ser 044422P32 of 4 Nov 48.

Encl: (A) Copy of newspaper clipping "PORTLAND OREGONIAN" 24 Jan 49

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded for information.

A.E. JARRELL

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Encl. (A)

UNCLASSIFIED
[redacted]

B/L fm ND, CNO, dtd 8 Feb 49, subj: Report on Flying Discs

AFOIR-CO-14 (L-2-82) 1st Ind

15 FEB 1949

Dept. of the Air Force, Hq. USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Wright Field, Ohio
ATTN: MCI

/s/ WBM

1 Incl.
n/c

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS:
DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

UNCLASSIFIED

Op-322V
P16-3/QN
Serial 0487P32

8 Feb 1949

From: Chief of Naval Intelligence
Director of Intelligence, U. S. Air Force
Air Intelligence Requirements Division
Attn: Collection Branch

SUBJECT: Report on Flying Discs

Reference: (a) DI/USAF Conf ltr AFOIR-CO-5 dtd 14 Oct 48.

Inclosure: (A) DIO 13ND Conf ltr Serial 0349-C/C dtd 25 Jan 49, with enclosure attached thereto.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith as a matter of interest to your office in compliance with reference (a).

R. H. RODGERS
by direction

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

DIO/13ND/JACKET
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From: District Intelligence Officer, THIRTEENTH Naval District

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A.E. JARRELL

UNCLASSIFIED

C O P Y

Encl. (A)

[redacted]

INCIDENT NO. 254A

1. Date of Observation 24 Jan. 1949 Date of Interview 11 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1130
3. Place of Observation Rt. 2, Tillamook, Oregon
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Light
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size Size of full moon.
8. Color of object Polished silver
9. Shape Saucer or Disc
10. Altitude 45° - also overhead 1400-2000 Ft.
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) NE
14. Time in sight 1 Minute
15. Speed 30-35 M.P.H. (Also stated to have moved 500 ft. in 1 minute which would have been less than 6 M.P.H.)
16. Sound and oder
17. Trail
18. Luminosity Reflected Suns lights
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Appeared to float.
21. Manner of disappearance Faded in distance.
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object- See Agent's Note, under Narratives
24. Weather Conditions. Bright, no clouds, no haze

(over)