

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 11 May 53 12/0310Z	2. LOCATION Seattle and Renton Washington	
3. SOURCE Civilians	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON Sighting characteristic of balloon observation.	
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One		
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported		
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual (TK)	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Round, white object was observed through a four power telescope shifting back and forth, disappearing over the horizon. One observer stated that the object was at 10,000 ft and other estimated the objects altitude as 20,000 ft. High altitude balloons were reported in vicinity of the sighting. Balloons were at a heading of 5 deg. Winds aloft were 20 deg at 10,000 ft and 360 deg at 20,000 ft.	
7. COURSE Erratic		
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No		

USA-MATS

UNCLASSIFIED
IR-323-53

Unidentified Flying Object Near Renton, Washington

State of Washington, USA

Flight Service, MATS, 3800 Newark
Street, N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

13 March 1953

11 May 1953

F-2

Gerald E. Tyler, Major, USAF

Civilian observers of Seattle and
Renton, Washington

Teletype FLYOBRPT 120500Z May submitted by McChord Flight Service Center

Report contains information on the sighting of an unidentified flying object
in the vicinity of Seattle and Renton, Washington.

GERALD E. TYLER
Major, USAF
Intelligence Officer

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

Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c

UNCLASSIFIED

Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

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1. Date of sighting: 11 May 1953
2. Time of sighting: 1910PST - 2100
3. Place of sighting: Seattle and Renton, Washington
4. Weather at the time of sighting: Clear, visibility 15 miles.. Winds aloft 10,000 feet 20° 30 knots, 20,000 feet 360° 40 knots.
5. Witnesses: Mr. [REDACTED], (street address unknown) Seattle, Washington, telephone [REDACTED]
Mr. [REDACTED], Renton, Washington, telephone [REDACTED]
6. Type of sighting: Ground observation. Object was viewed through a four power telescope.
7. Object sighted:
 - a. Number - one
 - b. Shape - round
 - c. Size - reported as the size of a marble
 - d. Color - white to opaque
 - e. Speed - unknown
 - f. Altitude - One observer estimated 20,000 feet, and the other observer estimated 10,000 feet.
 - g. Sound - no sound was heard
 - h. Exhaust trail - no exhaust trail, no observed propulsion system.
 - i. Heading - object shifted back and forth, then disappeared over the horizon.
 - j. Observer location - Town of Renton, Washington
 - k. Length of observation - unknown
 - l. Object position in relation to observers: No bearing was given.

General Remarks:

The four power scope used was a rifle scope. One observer reported the object was glowing and lighted. No interception was attempted, no physical evidence was produced, no photographs or sketches were submitted. However, high altitude balloons were reported in the general vicinity of the sighting. Seattle NAS VHF/DF facilities reported that at 1830PST a balloon which they were tracking was on a balloon to station bearing of 60°, a class B fix. At 1900PST the balloon to station bearing was 60°, and at 1930PST the balloon to station bearing was 50°, still a class B plot. Several aircraft were flying locally at the time of sighting but none were reported at high altitude.

1830 PST

check bearing from Seattle
against location of Renton, Wash.
on a map.

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