

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 8-22-47

TO: BUREAU

FROM: SA, PORTLAND

SUBJECT: REYING DISC
SECURITY MATTER - X

The following investigation was conducted at Ganyonville and
Wylie Creek, Oregon on August 15, 1947.

SA WALTER WATKINS, Route 1, Box 122, Roseburg, Oregon, operator
of the City Airport, Wylie Creek, Ore on 8-15-47 at
approximately 10:15 while investigating a landing in a lake off the airport,
he noticed an object east of Wylie Creek which appeared to be from 2,000 to
3,000 feet in the air. The sky was completely clear and visibility was
excellent. He stated that the object glided and appeared to be of unusual
shape. Upon sighting it he had immediately taken over the controls of the
plane which at that time was at 400 feet, and proceeded to land in an attempt to
further observe the object. He advised that the object appeared to be
cylindrical and revolving about a high rate of speed when he was on a
circular in the plane at 1,000 miles per hour. He followed the object on the
horizontal in shape and recalled hearing a darker object to the right the first
time he saw it. He observed no vapor trails nor did he hear any noise from the
object. After searching the area for approximately 15 minutes WATKINS and
his student WALTER WATKINS returned to the airport and made another landing and
case off. In practically the same position at 400 feet altitude, both WATKINS
and WATKINS saw the object in approximately the same position as seen before.
He estimated the engine to be 30 feet in diameter and noted when that first
observed it it appeared to be so near he could fly right to it. However, the
object sighted the second time disappeared in the same manner as the first one.

It is noted that WATKINS served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy
Air Corps for about 12 years, flying constantly on the Atlantic seaboard. He
has a reputation in Douglas County and is reported to be a qualified
pilot.

WATKINS, Wylie Creek, Oregon, verified the above information
as given by WATKINS, stating that the first object sighted had been
sighted and WATKINS took over the controls of the plane at
about 400 feet, following his take off, but that they had both sighted the
object on the second take off at the same time. WATKINS described the object
as a "fatter ball" or "saucer" which he believed to be 2 miles east of Wylie
Creek, traveling east, and that the very first time it disappeared in general
direction. WATKINS stated the plane was being 30 feet in diameter and
also in his opinion appeared to climb rapidly.

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