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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:24,000

I can see a thing going up or down or over anyway.

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00:00:24,000 --> 00:00:40,640

It all started early this morning when Oregon State Police Trooper Thomas McCartney was

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00:00:40,640 --> 00:00:45,520

notified by another officer after 5 a.m. in the St. Helens area that a glowing light had

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00:00:45,520 --> 00:00:48,040

been spotted over the Columbia River.

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00:00:48,040 --> 00:00:53,200

And I went ahead and went down to the Columbia County jail area there at the courthouse and

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00:00:53,200 --> 00:00:57,560

we were observing it from across the Columbia River, appeared to be in Washington area.

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00:00:57,560 --> 00:01:03,480

It was a glowing light that seemed to be about behind a hill, kind of a dome-shaped light,

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00:01:03,480 --> 00:01:06,160

orange, diffuse.

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00:01:06,160 --> 00:01:11,920

And at times when the fog would come across it would kind of settle down and get almost

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00:01:11,920 --> 00:01:15,480

so you couldn't see it and then it would clear up and it was a little brighter.

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00:01:15,480 --> 00:01:20,560

We watched it for a little while and listened to a man on his CB by the name of Lucky 13

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00:01:20,560 --> 00:01:24,920

who indicated to us that he was right underneath it or very close to it at any rate.

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00:01:24,920 --> 00:01:30,720

We were trying to get some information from him to find out what was going on.

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00:01:30,720 --> 00:01:38,200

And he indicated to us that he had looked out his window and he had saw this large orange

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00:01:38,200 --> 00:01:43,600

glowing ball coming down towards him or his home.

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00:01:43,600 --> 00:01:46,680

And then we decided to go up to a higher vantage point which was 2nd Street.

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00:01:46,680 --> 00:01:48,320

We went up there.

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00:01:48,320 --> 00:01:54,440

There was about five or six of us, four or five officers and several people.

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00:01:54,440 --> 00:02:01,480

And from that point of view we could see the ridge off the, would be the east of the courthouse

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00:02:01,480 --> 00:02:07,200

in St. Helens, almost in the same area of Mount St. Helens.

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00:02:07,200 --> 00:02:14,840

And then off to our immediate south towards Portland we could see another very bright orange

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00:02:14,840 --> 00:02:16,640

look like a ball.

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00:02:16,640 --> 00:02:21,880

It was very bright orange almost like it was on fire.

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00:02:21,880 --> 00:02:28,080

And it was then that we realized that this Lucky 13 was describing that orange ball.

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00:02:28,080 --> 00:02:36,120

And we watched it briefly and started looking at the hill again for the other orange light.

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00:02:36,120 --> 00:02:41,280

And when we turned around the other ball, the very bright ball, which seemed to be over

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00:02:41,280 --> 00:02:44,200

the river itself, was gone.

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00:02:44,200 --> 00:02:48,000

The operator then told Trooper McCartney he thought the object had gone into the Columbia

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00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:49,000

River.

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00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:52,120

McCartney radioed headquarters that a plane may be down in the river.

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00:02:52,120 --> 00:02:55,960

Portland airport officials could not verify any aircraft on radar.

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00:02:55,960 --> 00:02:59,600

And in that area the state trooper looked again where the object supposedly went to the

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00:02:59,600 --> 00:03:01,400

river and found nothing.

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00:03:01,400 --> 00:03:04,120

McCartney doesn't know what it was that he saw.

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00:03:04,120 --> 00:03:05,880

I don't really know if it was a UFO.

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00:03:05,880 --> 00:03:09,160

I don't really know if I even believe in that kind of thing.

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00:03:09,160 --> 00:03:12,520

But it was certainly something that I hadn't, wasn't used to seeing before.

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00:03:12,520 --> 00:03:16,360

And I haven't been able to verify anything else about it.

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00:03:16,360 --> 00:03:33,560

He did, however, record the sound emanating from the area where the object was spotted.

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00:03:33,560 --> 00:03:37,800

There is some speculation that the object may have been some aircraft involved in illegal

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00:03:37,800 --> 00:03:40,960

drug operations that just vanished from the area.

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00:03:40,960 --> 00:03:42,520

Trooper McCartney doesn't think so.

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00:03:42,520 --> 00:03:44,800

Well I don't know.

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00:03:44,800 --> 00:03:46,320

It's a possibility.

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00:03:46,320 --> 00:03:47,560

I wouldn't rule it out.

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00:03:47,560 --> 00:03:51,080

But I would think that if you were dealing in drugs you wouldn't want to illuminate yourself

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00:03:51,080 --> 00:03:52,280

out there at night like that.

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00:03:52,280 --> 00:03:55,560

The Coast Guard would send a helicopter and vessel to the location.

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00:03:55,560 --> 00:03:58,000

Also came up empty handed according to Mike Dyer.

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00:03:58,000 --> 00:03:59,480

But we did search the area.

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00:03:59,480 --> 00:04:02,480

An auxiliary vessel and the Coast Guard vessel with negative results.

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00:04:02,480 --> 00:04:04,480

Quite extensive search.

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00:04:04,480 --> 00:04:07,320

And nothing was seen whatsoever.

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00:04:07,320 --> 00:04:12,080

So that's the story of one possibly two bright orange objects eluding Coast Guard, state

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00:04:12,080 --> 00:04:16,960

and county police, and airport radar over the metropolitan area this morning.

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00:04:16,960 --> 00:04:18,840

Jeff Grimes, KXL News.