

'It Was Oblong And Lit Up All Around'

Strange Object Seen in Sky

GUYMON (AP) — Multi-colored lights in the sky were reported early Thursday by nine different law enforcement agencies in northwest Oklahoma and southwest Kansas.

The dispatcher for the Oklahoma Highway Patrol's Guymon district said officers from at least nine different agencies reported a cigar-shaped object glowing white on the ends and with flashing red, blue and green lights in the middle.

"One said it looked like a football, another said it looked like a sock, but it was oblong and lit up all around" Shattuck police dispatcher Bill Goodwin said.

"I figured it might be a blimp going across, but it stayed stationary for a real long time and then started moving slowly northeast. I finally gave it up as a night-mare," he said.

Shattuck officer Mike Oliver wasn't sure what it was, but he radioed back he was convinced it wasn't a weather balloon or an airplane, Goodwin said.

Goodwin said it was in the northeast and appeared to be about 40,000 feet up.

Sightings continued from Guymon to Liberal, Kan., and eastward all the way to Woodward from about 3:30 a.m. until shortly after daybreak.

Ron Outwater, an air traffic controller at the Gage Flight Service, said he observed the strange-looking lights through high-powered binoculars for about 90 minutes.

"It was very small from where I was and it remained stationary. It had a different lighting cast to it, but I think it was just a star that looked odd because of some type of meteorological phenomenon," Outwater said.

He said his radar at Gage and Dalhart, Texas, did not pick up anything.

One Alva resident said it looked like a weather balloon.

"We see these things out here every so often," the Guymon dispatcher said. "We've called the FAA to check to see if there was a weather balloon or some other explanation, but so far we haven't heard anything back."

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