

(THIS SECTOR OF THE SKY IN DARKNESS)

PORTION OF BALLOON VISIBLE
OFTEN APPEARS DISC OR AS
"SAUCER SHAPED"

AIRCRAFT OBSERVING
ONLY PORTION
OF BALLOON

SUN BEHIND HORIZON

BALLOON AT MEDIUM
OR HIGH ALTITUDE

GROUND OBSERVER

(THIS SECTOR OF THE SKY IN SUNLIGHT)

Sketch purposely exaggerated to emphasize
the phenomena

4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "

1
00:00:39,910 --> 00:00:27,670

[Music]

2
00:00:44,549 --> 00:00:41,430

ufos and balloons

3
00:00:46,470 --> 00:00:44,559

by charles lear throughout ufo history a

4
00:00:46,869 --> 00:00:46,480

common explanation for sightings has

5
00:00:49,029 --> 00:00:46,879

been

6
00:00:50,069 --> 00:00:49,039

that the witness or witnesses saw a

7
00:00:52,229 --> 00:00:50,079

weather balloon

8
00:00:53,430 --> 00:00:52,239

this explanation has often been used in

9
00:00:55,510 --> 00:00:53,440

a ludicrous manner

10
00:00:57,270 --> 00:00:55,520

by authorities seeking an easy means of

11
00:00:58,229 --> 00:00:57,280

dismissal and this causes many

12
00:01:01,590 --> 00:00:58,239

ufologists

13
00:01:03,830 --> 00:01:01,600

to scoff at it in all cases the truth is

14

00:01:05,429 --> 00:01:03,840

that it has been convincingly proven

15

00:01:06,149 --> 00:01:05,439

that weather balloons and balloons of

16

00:01:08,469 --> 00:01:06,159

all sorts

17

00:01:09,190 --> 00:01:08,479

have been mistaken as anomalous flying

18

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:09,200

objects

19

00:01:13,670 --> 00:01:10,960

there is a classic project blue book

20

00:01:15,990 --> 00:01:13,680

case known as the gorman dogfight

21

00:01:17,109 --> 00:01:16,000

this incident occurred on october 1st

22

00:01:19,270 --> 00:01:17,119

1948

23

00:01:21,670 --> 00:01:19,280

and involved north dakota air national

24

00:01:23,830 --> 00:01:21,680

guardsman lieutenant frank gorman

25

00:01:24,789 --> 00:01:23,840

gorman described chasing a six to eight

26

00:01:27,270 --> 00:01:24,799

inch white light

27

00:01:28,070 --> 00:01:27,280

with sharp edges that was blinking on

28

00:01:30,710 --> 00:01:28,080

and off

29

00:01:33,270 --> 00:01:30,720

he chased it in an f-51 getting up to a

30

00:01:35,749 --> 00:01:33,280

maximum speed of 400 miles per hour

31

00:01:36,789 --> 00:01:35,759

and it eluded him the explanation in the

32

00:01:38,710 --> 00:01:36,799

blue book file

33

00:01:40,789 --> 00:01:38,720

is that gorman was chasing a lighted

34

00:01:43,429 --> 00:01:40,799

balloon but there are problems with that

35

00:01:44,789 --> 00:01:43,439

and even notorious skeptic donald menzel

36

00:01:46,469 --> 00:01:44,799

took issue with it

37

00:01:48,630 --> 00:01:46,479

what makes the balloon explanation

38

00:01:50,389 --> 00:01:48,640

doubtful is that two air traffic

39

00:01:50,870 --> 00:01:50,399

controllers saw the object from the

40

00:01:53,910 --> 00:01:50,880

ground

41

00:01:55,030 --> 00:01:53,920

and one described its speed as excessive

42

00:01:57,350 --> 00:01:55,040

adding to this

43

00:01:59,190 --> 00:01:57,360

a pilot in the vicinity flying a piper

44

00:02:02,310 --> 00:01:59,200

cub also saw the object

45

00:02:03,990 --> 00:02:02,320

and described it as moving very swiftly

46

00:02:05,990 --> 00:02:04,000

menzel resolved the problem by

47

00:02:06,789 --> 00:02:06,000

concluding that gorman was seeing a

48

00:02:09,669 --> 00:02:06,799

balloon

49

00:02:11,670 --> 00:02:09,679

and a mirage of the planet jupiter

50

00:02:13,030 --> 00:02:11,680

because this was at the very beginning

51
00:02:15,270 --> 00:02:13,040
of modern ufology

52
00:02:17,270 --> 00:02:15,280
the balloon explanation was off to a bad

53
00:02:19,270 --> 00:02:17,280
start and would continue to be used by

54
00:02:20,790 --> 00:02:19,280
the air force as a convenient way to

55
00:02:22,550 --> 00:02:20,800
dismiss a case

56
00:02:24,390 --> 00:02:22,560
this was unfortunate because the

57
00:02:25,750 --> 00:02:24,400
explanation is often correct

58
00:02:27,270 --> 00:02:25,760
and if the air force could have been

59
00:02:29,670 --> 00:02:27,280
trusted it would have been able to

60
00:02:31,509 --> 00:02:29,680
remove a lot of noise from the signal

61
00:02:33,910 --> 00:02:31,519
a blue book case involving what appears

62
00:02:35,830 --> 00:02:33,920
to be a genuine misidentified balloon

63
00:02:37,509 --> 00:02:35,840

appears in a scanned document from the

64

00:02:39,110 --> 00:02:37,519

collection of robert mercer

65

00:02:41,270 --> 00:02:39,120

the document can be viewed in the

66

00:02:41,990 --> 00:02:41,280

section from the desks of project

67

00:02:45,270 --> 00:02:42,000

bluebook

68

00:02:47,670 --> 00:02:45,280

on the blackvault website a pdf labeled

69

00:02:49,190 --> 00:02:47,680

balloons has an undated description of

70

00:02:51,990 --> 00:02:49,200

the above mentioned incident

71

00:02:52,790 --> 00:02:52,000

along with pictures the report states

72

00:02:55,910 --> 00:02:52,800

that there had been

73

00:02:57,430 --> 00:02:55,920

a rash of ufo sightings reported from

74

00:02:59,509 --> 00:02:57,440

golden colorado

75

00:03:01,030 --> 00:02:59,519

the case was solved when police found a

76

00:03:03,509 --> 00:03:01,040

homemade hot air balloon

77

00:03:04,550 --> 00:03:03,519

made of thin clear plastic with a

78

00:03:07,270 --> 00:03:04,560

saucer-shaped

79

00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:07,280

platform that supported candles weather

80

00:03:11,670 --> 00:03:09,360

balloons can often be identified by

81

00:03:14,869 --> 00:03:11,680

checking with local meteorologists

82

00:03:17,990 --> 00:03:14,879

however a case in japan from june 17

83

00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:18,000

2020 was not so easily resolved what

84

00:03:22,790 --> 00:03:20,000

looked like a large white balloon

85

00:03:25,030 --> 00:03:22,800

attached to two crossed propellers was

86

00:03:27,589 --> 00:03:25,040

reported over the city of sendai

87

00:03:29,430 --> 00:03:27,599

it remained motionless for several hours

88

00:03:30,149 --> 00:03:29,440

and then drifted out over the pacific

89

00:03:32,070 --> 00:03:30,159

ocean

90

00:03:33,670 --> 00:03:32,080

a spokesman for the local japan

91

00:03:36,149 --> 00:03:33,680

meteorological society

92

00:03:37,350 --> 00:03:36,159

denied it was theirs and japan's chief

93

00:03:40,070 --> 00:03:37,360

cabinet secretary

94

00:03:41,110 --> 00:03:40,080

yoshida suga also denied knowledge of

95

00:03:43,589 --> 00:03:41,120

its origin

96

00:03:44,229 --> 00:03:43,599

suga also did what he could to dispel

97

00:03:46,390 --> 00:03:44,239

rumors

98

00:03:48,789 --> 00:03:46,400

that the likely unidentified flying

99

00:03:50,149 --> 00:03:48,799

balloon was a nefarious device from a

100

00:03:52,229 --> 00:03:50,159

foreign government

101
00:03:54,229 --> 00:03:52,239
a frequent source of ufo reports is

102
00:03:56,390 --> 00:03:54,239
something known as a chinese lantern

103
00:03:57,990 --> 00:03:56,400
this is a paper bag with a support for a

104
00:04:00,710 --> 00:03:58,000
heat source at the open end

105
00:04:02,949 --> 00:04:00,720
and has over the last few years become

106
00:04:03,990 --> 00:04:02,959
popular in america at celebrations such

107
00:04:06,229 --> 00:04:04,000
as weddings

108
00:04:07,750 --> 00:04:06,239
a lantern misidentification in east

109
00:04:11,670 --> 00:04:07,760
liberty county texas

110
00:04:14,470 --> 00:04:11,680
made the news in 2013. around 8 30 p.m

111
00:04:15,830 --> 00:04:14,480
on sunday march 23rd the local police

112
00:04:18,229 --> 00:04:15,840
received a 9-1-1

113
00:04:20,469 --> 00:04:18,239

call from a person who reported seeing

114

00:04:22,310 --> 00:04:20,479

red fireballs up in the sky

115

00:04:23,510 --> 00:04:22,320

police responded and looked with the aid

116

00:04:25,830 --> 00:04:23,520

of magnification

117

00:04:27,670 --> 00:04:25,840

possibly binoculars not specifically

118

00:04:29,110 --> 00:04:27,680

identified in the news report

119

00:04:31,110 --> 00:04:29,120

while it seemed to them that they were

120

00:04:31,590 --> 00:04:31,120

looking at four hot air balloons in a

121

00:04:33,830 --> 00:04:31,600

line

122

00:04:35,590 --> 00:04:33,840

flying at a few thousand feet they saw

123

00:04:38,150 --> 00:04:35,600

no gondola underneath

124

00:04:40,310 --> 00:04:38,160

the ufos disappeared and then a second

125

00:04:42,150 --> 00:04:40,320

nearly identical line of four objects

126

00:04:43,909 --> 00:04:42,160

appeared and also vanished

127

00:04:46,070 --> 00:04:43,919

the police were mystified and concerned

128

00:04:46,629 --> 00:04:46,080

enough to contact the national weather

129

00:04:49,110 --> 00:04:46,639

bureau

130

00:04:51,590 --> 00:04:49,120

the federal aviation administration and

131

00:04:53,590 --> 00:04:51,600

even the national ufo reporting center

132

00:04:55,030 --> 00:04:53,600

the mystery was solved when members of a

133

00:04:57,189 --> 00:04:55,040

wedding party in the area

134

00:04:59,909 --> 00:04:57,199

came forward and explained the sighting

135

00:05:02,310 --> 00:04:59,919

as being lanterns that had been released

136

00:05:03,510 --> 00:05:02,320

another common source of ufo reports is

137

00:05:05,510 --> 00:05:03,520

mylar balloons

138

00:05:07,029 --> 00:05:05,520

there's a huge assortment of shapes and

139

00:05:09,029 --> 00:05:07,039

sizes available at present

140

00:05:11,270 --> 00:05:09,039

including numbers in every letter of the

141

00:05:13,110 --> 00:05:11,280

alphabet it is more than likely that it

142

00:05:14,950 --> 00:05:13,120

was a balloon of this sort that caused a

143

00:05:15,510 --> 00:05:14,960

great deal of embarrassment for chris

144

00:05:18,189 --> 00:05:15,520

mellon

145

00:05:19,510 --> 00:05:18,199

and to the stars academy in october of

146

00:05:21,830 --> 00:05:19,520

2017

147

00:05:25,189 --> 00:05:21,840

mellon was describing the tic-tac-shaped

148

00:05:27,270 --> 00:05:25,199

ufo encountered in san diego in 2004 by

149

00:05:29,189 --> 00:05:27,280

the crew of the uss nimitz

150

00:05:30,950 --> 00:05:29,199

with a picture of an object on a screen

151

00:05:33,430 --> 00:05:30,960

behind him mellon said

152

00:05:34,230 --> 00:05:33,440

clearly this is not a u.s experimental

153

00:05:37,749 --> 00:05:34,240

aircraft

154

00:05:40,790 --> 00:05:37,759

but whose is it in january of 2017

155

00:05:41,990 --> 00:05:40,800

the uk paper express broke the news that

156

00:05:43,830 --> 00:05:42,000

what was in the picture

157

00:05:46,150 --> 00:05:43,840

was almost certainly of terrestrial

158

00:05:48,950 --> 00:05:46,160

origin the photo was one of six that

159

00:05:50,469 --> 00:05:48,960

were taken in july 2005 by british

160

00:05:53,270 --> 00:05:50,479

researcher steve mara

161

00:05:55,430 --> 00:05:53,280

and posted on rents.com that same month

162

00:05:57,029 --> 00:05:55,440

after carefully examining the photos

163

00:05:59,029 --> 00:05:57,039

and comparing them with pictures of

164

00:06:00,710 --> 00:05:59,039

mylar balloons mira came to the

165

00:06:01,510 --> 00:06:00,720

conclusion that what he had taken a

166

00:06:03,749 --> 00:06:01,520

picture of

167

00:06:05,110 --> 00:06:03,759

was a silver mylar balloon shaped like

168

00:06:08,230 --> 00:06:05,120

the number one

169

00:06:10,390 --> 00:06:08,240

recently news of a leaked photo of a ufo

170

00:06:12,309 --> 00:06:10,400

taken from the cockpit of a fighter jet

171

00:06:14,390 --> 00:06:12,319

caused a stir in the community

172

00:06:15,830 --> 00:06:14,400

what was supposedly a clear image of a

173

00:06:18,150 --> 00:06:15,840

triangular craft

174

00:06:37,390 --> 00:06:18,160

has been convincingly identified as a