



HAVE YOU FOUND A RADIOSONDE?

Thank you for your inquiry. The instrument you have found is called a radiosonde, a meteorological device launched from the ground. The radiosonde measures pressure, temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, and wind direction from the surface to approximately 100,000 feet.

The radiosonde is carried into the upper atmosphere by a balloon, filled with either hydrogen or helium gas. At some point during the ascent the balloon bursts and the radiosonde falls back to the ground, along with the used balloon and parachute (if used).

Throughout the ascent the radiosonde regularly transmits the measurements of atmospheric pressure, temperature, and relative humidity to ground receiving equipment. This ground equipment, called a sounding system, processes and displays the radiosonde data for weather forecasters, then generates meteorological messages that are circulated to the worldwide weather network. Radiosondes can also be equipped with external sensors to measure additional parameters in the atmosphere, such as ozone concentration and radiation levels.

If you find a Lockheed Martin Sippican radiosonde, there is no need to be concerned – the instrument is not dangerous or harmful.

What should you do if you find a Lockheed Martin Sippican radiosonde?

- If the cover of the radiosonde includes instructions for returning the instrument, please follow these directions.
- If the instrument does not include return instructions and you do not wish to keep it, you can dispose of the radiosonde, following your area's guidelines for the disposal of electrical waste.
- If you would like to keep the radiosonde, remove the battery and dispose of it as you would for other used batteries.

If you would like more information on Lockheed Martin Sippican radiosonde products, please e-mail us at metsupport.dl-sippican@imc4.ems.lmco.com .