

UNCLASSIFIED
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Chatham, England - Dover, England

11 November 1952

I. Description of Incident

At 1615Z (local time) on 11 November 1952, approximately 40 civilians observed an object which they reported first to be oval-shaped then changing to a conical shape, then changing back to an oval shape. It disappeared in a bright flash. The color and apparent size and speed was not reported. There was no sound. The observers were located at 51°26'N-00°45'E. The object was observed to the SE and was seen several times over a five-minute period.

At 1600Z on the same day, a police sergeant and 20 police recruits observed an object described as a slowly moving small oval "nucleus" (i.e., body) brilliant reddish-white, and with a long fiery tail ten times the diameter of the main body. The observers were located at 51°05'N-01°10'E. It was first seen on the western horizon, moving to the north. The object disappeared into a heavy stratus cloud layer after being observed for ten minutes.

II. Discussion of Incident

A plot shows that the police that made the observation were 2 1/2 miles south and 29 miles west of the civilians. The civilians reported making their observation to the SE and the police stated that what they saw was west of them traveling to the north. There is a time discrepancy of five minutes in the reported times but this is not unusual since there could very well be errors in estimating the time or in a difference between two watches or clocks. It can be reasonably assumed that both parties observed the same thing.

The data received is very sketchy but indicates that the object may have been the vapor trail of a jet aircraft. More details on the sighting would be necessary before a definite conclusion can be reached, however.

III. Conclusion

Insufficient data for evaluation.

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Ophion, Montana - Glasgow, Montana

13 November 1952

I. Description of Incident

At 0243 MST on 13 November 1952 a weather observer taking a theodolite reading on a weather balloon at Glasgow, Montana, reported he observed five oval-shaped objects with "lights all around them" flying in a V-formation. Each object seemed to be changing position vertically by climbing or diving, as if to hold formation. The speed appeared to be very fast, the total time of observation being 20 seconds. The reported objects came from the NW, went straight over the center of the town, made a 90° turn, and departed toward the SW.

At 0220 MST an ACW Station obtained an unidentified radar track beginning at 47°48'N-108°05'W and lost it at 0348 MST at 47°58'N-105°05'W. The altitude was estimated to be 158,000' and the speed was 210 knots.

II. Discussion of Incident

If these data are plotted it shows that it is doubtful that the track observed on radar and the reported visually observed objects were the same. While the radar "blip" was going straight east, south of Glasgow (Glasgow being north of the radar track), the observer saw something come in from the NW, turn, and go to the SE over his position.

Since the objects were reported directly over the observer and no sound was heard, it is doubtful as to whether the objects were aircraft.

III. Conclusion

There was not a combination radar-visual sighting of the same object. There are no conclusions as to the nature of the reported visual sighting. The radar track, however, could be due to weather.