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APPENDIX II

Fairchild AFB, Washington - 20 January 1952I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

At approximately 1920 MST on 20 January 1952, two Wing Intelligence airmen noticed a bright spherical object traveling through the sky. At first it was assumed to be a meteor but then it was noted that it appeared to be traveling beneath a cloud layer. The object was traveling at a speed much faster than a jet aircraft. The object, which made no sound, was traveling in a path horizontal to the earth at an estimated 500 feet and left a blue trail. The trail seemed to come from the object in spurts. The object disappeared from sight behind a building.

The two airmen observers, a Tech Sergeant and Master Sergeant are considered reliable observers.

II. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

This incident is interesting due to the fact that there was an eight-tenths cloud coverage at 4,700 ft. It is possible that the object was viewed between a break in the clouds and that it was extremely high, indicating that the sighting was a meteor. However, the sources indicated that they believed the object was below the cloud cover, and if this is true the slant range of the object can be computed to be about 7,300 ft. This would eliminate the possibility of the lighted object being a conventional aircraft, since no sound was heard. The possibility of a meteor is also nil because a meteor would not be traveling horizontally at 7,300 ft.

A request was made for the angular measurement of the arc made by the object, however, this information could not be obtained. It is presumed that the sources were not available for questioning.

III. CONCLUSIONS

If the object was beneath the cloud cover it was not a conventional aircraft or meteor, and no conclusions can be made as to its identity.

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APPENDIX III

Kansas City, Missouri - 11 February 1952I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

On 11 February 1952, between 1205 and 1215 CST the source, a civilian woman, was watching a B-36 fly from East to West over Kansas City. While watching the B-36, she noticed a round bright object just north of the vapor trail left by the aircraft. The object was observed for ten minutes through 6 x 30 binoculars and during this period it drifted over the observer and continued south of Kansas City.

II. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

Two balloons were launched in the general area prior to the time of sighting. A pi-ball balloon was launched from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, at 0930 CST and a Rawinsonde balloon was launched from Fairfax Airport, Kansas City, at 1130 CST. It is doubtful if the balloon launched at 0930 would be in the area at 1205 CST as they usually burst within an hour after the launching.

The balloon launched at 1130 CST could have been observed, however. In the 35 minutes between the time of the balloon launch and the observation, the balloon would have ascended to approximately 30,000 feet and would have traveled approximately 15 miles. (The wind was from 315° and averaged about 30 knots.) This would mean that the balloon passed near the source. If some allowance is made for an error in time, it is very possible that the balloon could have passed directly over the observer. (See inclosed overlay.)

The fact that it could be observed at 30,000 ft. is probably due to the fact that the sun caused the balloon to glow.

III. CONCLUSIONS

The object observed by the source was very possibly a Rawinsonde balloon launched from Fairfax Airport.