

UNCLASSIFIED
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10 June 1953

Detroit, Michigan

Description

At 2310 EST on 10 June 1953 an AFROTC cadet at Wayne University observed one large bright object that was white or light yellow in color, round in shape and larger than a star. This object moved from a high westerly position in a falling arc toward the north and then leveled off and proceeded at a high rate of speed to the north in a straight line. This object made these maneuvers in a period of 60 seconds and disappeared over the northern horizon. The object, though bright, cast no beam nor left any trail or exhaust. No sound was noticed.

Discussion

Movements of this object and length of observation eliminate the possibility that it was of astronomical origin. Checks with airports in the vicinity revealed that there was one aircraft in the area. This was a DC-4 enroute to Chicago on a heading of 270 deg and was probably not in the area. A check was made with the weather bureau to determine whether or not they had a balloon in the area. A balloon was released at 0300Z, but it could not have caused the sighting since it burst before 0410Z (time of sighting).

Conclusion

Unsolved

16 June 1953

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San Antonio, Texas

Description

Several airmen in the control tower at Kelly AF Base observed an unidentified flying object at 1945 CST 16 June 1953 for approximately 5 minutes. This object was elliptical shaped and appeared to be equal to the size of a $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inch envelope held at arm's length. No aerodynamic features, trail, exhaust, or propulsion system were noted. Object disappeared quickly in much the same manner as would a light being extinguished. Observers stated that object was quite similar to a cloud or smoke through which a light was shining.

Discussion

A check with airfields in the vicinity determined that there were no aircraft in the area at the time of sighting. The local AC&W squadron was contacted with no results. The observer's statement -- "Due to the physical makeup of the object, this sighting could be explained as the reflection of the sun on a high cirrus cloud."

Conclusion

Other - Probably light reflection on cloud.

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24 July 1953

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Key West, Florida

Description

Between the hours of 2200 and 2230 EST, a student at the Fleet Sonar School, United States Naval Base, Key West, Florida, observed an unidentified flying object in the sky over the town of Key West. The object appeared to be approximately the size of a pin point or a star, very bright white in color, proceeded rapidly from low on the western skyline to a point directly forward and overhead. The object then blinked out momentarily before descending below the eastern skyline. No aerodynamic features, trail, exhaust, propulsion system, or sound were noted. Speed was reported as unknown, since the observer did not know the object's true size or its distance from him. The observer stated that the object appeared to move in regular smooth circles.

Discussion

Inquiry was made as to the observer's general reputation and character. His supervisor in Sonar Operations stated that he had no knowledge of the observer except during duty hours. The supervisor gave him a character rating of "very good", "above reproach", and described him as a quiet, conscientious, good student - not outstanding but above average. The interviewer stated that the observer appeared to be stable, well-adjusted, and very consistent with his answers after considerable questioning.

The weather at the time of the observation was reported as a broken overcast. Clouds were reported to be solid to the west where the object disappeared. A check with CAA office of U.S. Weather Bureau at Boca Chica Key revealed a ceiling of 22,300 feet.

There were several aircraft in the area and one of them was equipped with a searchlight. There is a probability that the observer saw the searchlight scanning the area.

Conclusion

Other - Probably searchlight on aircraft.

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