

SECRET

S T A T E M E N T

11 January 1949

On 29 October 1948, GCA was standing twenty-four hour watches on the search scopes. I came on duty at 0800Z, 0400 local. At 0812Z I noticed a target on search scope #2. I checked #1 scope and it also showed a target. I then called Goose Tower and asked if there were any planes in the air. They gave me a negative reply.

I then called the GCA Shop and requested S/Sgt Messina to come out to the unit immediately. Upon his arrival, the target disappeared from the scope after a total time of about five minutes on the scopes. S/Sgt Messina remained in the unit and I checked in with the Air Police to have them check the dock and bay area for ships in the bay at that time. I then reported back to the unit.

I had just arrived at the unit when S/Sgt said that another target had just appeared on the scope. The time was then 0819Z. S/Sgt Messina remained on #1 search scope and I was on #2 scope. We followed this target until 0825 when it faded from view.

S/Sgt Messina and myself remained in the unit, keeping constant watch on both scopes. Again at 0916Z we sighted a target. After about four minutes (0920Z) it faded from view into the ground clutter of the field.

During the time that we noticed these targets there were no aircraft in the air or ships or boats in the bay. I do not know what caused these targets but the target that we saw was very clear though small.

Frank D Boerngen
FRANK D. BOERNGEN
M/Sgt, USAF

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On the 29th October last I was standing watch in GCA Unit. I had been alerted by previous operator that unidentified blips were being observed at irregular intervals. I soon observed a small blip east of the field in the Lake Melville area. I notified the GCA shack and continued my observation. During my watch several blips were observed. I observed as many as three at one time. There seemed to be no set course although the speed of each blip was approximately thirty miles per hour. The wind was checked and it was found that they travelled upwind and crosswind. Most blips were observed to the east and south of the field, although some were seen to the north and west.

Attempts were made to observe the blips on the precision elevation scope but all were unsuccessful. The Air Police were also notified at the observance of the first blips by M/Sgt Boerngen and a check of the dock area was made but all ships were secured.

I observed unknown blips on one other occasion. Once with S/Sgt Messine my attention was called to two objects south west of the field moving away. They disappeared at about six miles. One of these was a very strong target.

The exact times of my observations are unknown but during my two hour watch six were seen.

Leon Chelette Jr.

LEON CHELETTE
S/Sgt, USAF

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