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PROJECT [illegible] RECORD

[illegible]	2. LOCATION [illegible], OHIO
[illegible]	10. CONCLUSION [illegible]
[illegible] NUMBER OF OBJECTS	
[illegible] LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS At 1851[illegible], 1 Aug 52 the 554 ACW Sq painted a target 20 mile [illegible] of Wright-Patterson AFB and traveling on a course of 240 deg at 400 knots. Two F-[illegible] were vectored toward the target but the radar did not, however, have a height finder. The two jets were flying at 30,000 ft and when they reached the area the controller requested them to get a visual. At approximately this time the ground radar failed. The two pilots sighted an object far above them and one pilot managed to photograph the object but they could not reach the altitude of the object because it was too high.
[illegible] TYPE OF OBSERVATION [illegible] radar	
[illegible] COURSE	
[illegible]	
[illegible] PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	Comments: The original object painted by the radar was an aircraft flying out of Cleveland. The object sighted by the pilots was later positively identified as an upper air research balloon.

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CASE #9

1 August 1952 Bellefontaine, Ohio

Description of Incident

At 1551Z a radar track appeared 20 miles NNW of W-P AFB. The course was 240 degrees at 400 knots. Two F-86's under GCI control were then SW of that position. The fighters were vectored and made visual contact at 1555Z. Fighters stayed with the object until 1613Z.

Interrogation of sources, an AF major and lieutenant, reveal the following:

a. The F-86's climbed to 48,000', fell off, and then made a second climb to 48,000'. The pilot made a camera run. The major estimated the object at 50 to 70,000'. The object's size, accepting source's estimate of distance was 24-40' in diameter and source said his optical sight just covered the object. The films were not sufficiently clear. The object appeared as a fuzzy, small image in the upper right hand corner with discernable motion to lower left.

b. Two important facts were established. Re-affirmation that the UFO moved at 400 knots and indication that the two F-86's and UFO appeared simultaneously on the ground radar scope. It is obvious that all eyes and antennas were fixed on the same object.

Comments

The object was not a balloon, since the speed was too fast. A rawinsonde was released at 1500Z and moved off to the east. The object moved s@ against the wind. The blip size was that of a normal a/c. The object was not a known a/c because the altitude was too high. The object was not astronomical as dual radar returns eliminate this. Electronic or visual mirage of meteorological phenomenon is out of the question as the radar set was on high beam, and both would not occur simultaneously in the same place. The sighting occurred "above the weather".

Conclusion

Unknown

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Information Only

Solution: Balloon

Source: Military

1 Aug 52
Bellefontaine, Ohio

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2. Bellfonteine, Ohio - 1 August 1952

At 1551Z on 1 Aug 52 ground radar from Wright-Patterson AFB sighted an unknown object on its scope. Two F-86's from the 97th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron were vectored into the area and observed a silver round object. Airborne radar contact was not made but attempts were made to get gun camera shots. The object was above the climbing capability of the F-86's and appeared to be steadily gaining altitude when the fighters returned to base for fuel.

The gun camera film showed a moving object which is too indistinct for further analysis.

Solution: Was a balloon. There were local balloon releases prior to the sighting.

(17)

1 August 1952 Bellefontaine, Ohio

Description of Incident

At 1551Z, a radar track appeared 20 miles NNW of W-P AFB. The course was 240° at 400 knots. Two F-86's under GCI control were then located ten miles SW of that position. The fighters were vectored and made visual contact at 1555Z. Fighters stayed with the object until 1613Z.

Interrogation of sources, an AF major and lieutenant, reveal the following:

a. The F-86's climbed to 48,000', fell off, and then made a second climb to 48,000'. The major made a camera run the second time and received a weak return on his radar gunsight. The lieutenant's sight was "caged" so he received no return. The major estimated the object at 12,000-20,000' above his altitude of 48,000'. This estimate was substantiated by the range capability of the radar gunsight. The object's size, accepting source's estimate of distance, was 2½-4' in diameter and source said his optical sight just covered the object. The films were not sufficiently clear. The object appeared as a fuzzy, small image in the upper right hand corner with discernable motion to lower left.

b. The AC&W Squadron established two important facts: Re-affirmation that the UFO moved at 400 knots and indication that the two F-86's and UFO appeared simultaneously on the GCI scope. It is obvious that all eyes and antennas were fixed on the same object.

Comments

The object was not a balloon, since the speed was too fast. A rawinsonde was released at 1500Z and moved off to the east. The object moved against the wind. The blip size was that of a normal aircraft. The object was not a known aircraft because the altitude was too high. The object was not astronomical as dual radar returns eliminate this. Electronic or visual mirage of meteorological phenomenon is out of the question as the radar set was on high beam, and both would not occur simultaneously in the same place. The sighting occurred "above the weather".

Conclusion

Unknown

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1 August 1952 Bel[illegible]ntain, Ohio

An unidentified object was observed ~~at the~~ on radar, and fighters were vectored in for an attempt to identify the unidentified radar return. Fighters were able to see the object, but were not able to get near it because of the altitude of the object. The object ~~in~~ observed in this sighting has positively been identified as a type of upper air research balloon. This object actually consisted of four balloons attached to one "load". ~~a~~ this load wieghed approximately 500 pounds, ~~[illegible]~~ and consisted of metal measureing devises that would give a radar return.

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Classified [redacted]
Headquarters: [illegible]
By Authority of: CG, 30th AL
Date [illegible]
Initials [illegible]

ATIC [illegible] ATIAA-5 Subj: (Incl) [illegible]

ATIAA-5 (2 Oct 52) 1st Ind

HEAD [illegible], [illegible] Bellefontaine, Ohio

TO: Commanding General, Air Tech Intel Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

In compliance with paragraph [illegible], basic letter, the [illegible] Observation Data Sheet is completed and forwarded for your information.

[illegible]

Incl
n/c

Chester H. [illegible]
[illegible]
1st Lt., [illegible]
Adjutant

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AUTH: CG, ATIC
BY: E.J. RUPPELT
Capt, USAF
DATE: 29 Sep 52

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

In reply refer to
ATIAA-5

OCT 2 1952

SUBJECT: (Uncl) FLYOBRPT

TO: Commanding Officer
664th AC & W Squadron
Bellefontaine, Ohio

1. With reference to your unidentified flying object report (FLYOBRPT) of 0115502 August 1952, it is requested that you complete the inclosed Radar Observation Data Sheet. You may omit questions 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 of Part II as the Air Technical Intelligence Center is already in possession of the complete weather data.

2. However, question 8, Part II, is extremely important. Specifically, it is necessary to know if the unidentified flying object and the two F-86's appeared simultaneously on the radar scope.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL

James Paschal
JAMES C. PASCHAL
1st Lieut, USAF
Asst Air Adjutant General

1 Incl
Radar Observation
Data Sheet

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I. QUESTIONS REGARDING DETECTING RADAR EQUIPMENT
1. What type radar equipment is involved? **AN/FPS-3 Search Radar**
2. Has there been any recent maintenance difficulties? If so, describe. **Negative**
3. What type modulator (i.e., spark gap, hard tube, etc.) is used in the radar equipment? **Hydrogen Thyratron (hard tube)**
4. Was the AFC (automatic frequency control) circuit of the receiver operating properly? **Yes - in auto position**
5. Has interference from another radar set been observed recently, and are personnel familiar with the effects caused by an interfering signal? **None observed, and personnel are familiar with adjacent station interfering signals.**
6. What type indicators, "A scope", "B scope", etc., were used to follow the target? **PPI Scope**
7. What was the radar scan rate? **3.3 RPM**
8. What was the approximate frequency of the transmitter? **1290 Mc**

II. GENERAL QUESTIONS
1. What were the general weather conditions at the time unidentified target was observed? **X**
2. What weather data from nearby U.S. weather stations is available on temperature vs altitude, humidity vs altitude, and wind velocity vs altitude? **X**
3. Was the target observed by any other nearby radar equipments? If so, give details. **No**
4. Are the operator and the supervisor familiar with the effects of anomalous (duct-effect) propagation as they pertain to this type radar? **X**

ATIC Form 332 (18 Jun 52) [redacted] Page 1 of 2

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5. Has anomalous propagation been observed to extend the range of ground clutter by this radar at this site, and did this condition exist during or near the time that unknown target was observed?

X

6. What effects of rain storms and lightning have been observed on this radar?

X

7. Were any checks made to determine if unknown target could have been one of our own aircraft?

Yes. Aircraft were directed to the target by the controller. Target was believed to be another jet aircraft until observed by the flight leader.

8. Was any interception attempted? If so, give details.

Intercept was successful, but target was too high for the aircraft to get close for positive identification. Pictues were taken.

III. SPECIFIC TARGET QUESTIONS

1. What technical personnel observed the unknown target? Have they been questioned thoroughly? What was their opinion? Maj. Smith, Flight Leader and Lt. Lott, Controller were observers. The target intercepted was not the target on the PPI Scope it must have been flying the same course at the same time.

2. Was a permanent record "track" made of the target positions as they appeared on the indicators? If so, attatch to this report.

None

3. At what range, azimuth, altitude, and time was the target observed?

Range 25 miles, azimuth 230°, altitude unknown. High beam was used - target was above 10,000 feet.

4. How did the target appear in size and shape as compared with conventional aircraft targets?

Normal

5. Was the target of consistent size, or did it change rapidly?

Yes, until about one minute after intercept.

6. Was the speed of the target constant or variable? Explain.

Speed consistant about 400 knots.

7. Did the target appear "fuzzy" or clear and sharp as compared with a known aircraft target?

Clear until fade.

8. What other (aircraft) targets were observed in the same general area, altitude, and time as that of the unknown target?

2 F-86's from 97th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, at 30,000 feet, M.S.L.

ATIC Form 332 (18 Jun 52)

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PROJECT 10073 WEATHER DATA SHEET

1. DATE OF OBSERVATION	2. TIME OF OBSERVATION	3. STATION OBSERVING

4. WINDS ALOFT:

ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)	ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)
0			25,000		
1,000			30,000		
2,000			35,000		
3,000			40,000		
4,000			45,000		
5,000			50,000		
6,000			55,000		
7,000			60,000		
8,000			65,000		
9,000			70,000		
10,000			75,000		
12,000			80,000		
14,000			85,000		
16,000			90,000		
18,000			95,000		
20,000			100,000		

5. WAS AN INVERSION LAYER NOTED? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, at what altitude? _____)

6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, at what quadrant? _____)

7. CLOUD COVER:

_____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet.
_____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet.

8. VISIBILITY WAS _____ MILES.

9. COMMENTS:

AFIC Test Form 333 (13 Aug 52)

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PLYOBRPT - 1 Aug 52 - Bellefontaine, Ohio

I. Interrogation of Maj Smith and Lt Hemmer by Lts Flues and Olsson revealed following:

A. F-86's climbed to 48,000 ft., then fell off, then made a second climb to 48,000 ft. Maj Smith made a camera run the second time and received a weak return on his radar gunsight. Hemmer's sight was "caged", so he received no returns. Smith estimated object at 12-20,000 ft. above him at 48,000 ft. This estimate is substantiated by range capability of radar gunsight.

B. Objects size, accepting Smith's estimate of distance, is 24-40 ft. in diameter, as computed from the fact that the gunsight is two mils in diameter and Smith said pip just covered object.

C. The films were not sufficiently clear. Object appeared as fuzzy small image in upper right hand corner with discernable motion to lower left.

II. The object is not:

A. Balloon speed too fast. 1500Z radiosonde release moved off to east. Object moves against the winds. Blip size is that of normal aircraft.

b. Known aircraft. Altitude too high.

c. Astro. Dual radar returns eliminate this.

d. Electronic or visual mirage or meteorological phenomena. Radar set is on high beam. Both would not occur simultaneously in same place. Sighting occurs 'above the weather'.

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Summary

CASE #9

1 August 1952 Bellefontaine, Ohio

Description of Incident

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Conclusion

Unknown

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DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any) [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

FILE NO.

SUBJECT: (Restricted) Project Blue Book, Gun Camera Film

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

FROM: Dept of the Air Force, Hq USAF - AFOIN-2A

DATE: Maj Fournet/ 71016

COMMENT NO. 1

SE

1. Returned herewith is gun camera film taken of an unidentified flying object by the 97th FI Squadron.

2. Prints were made of four frames by OSD-CPI and declassified by Security Review, OSD. It is understood that a print of two of these frames will be furnished TRUE magazine in answer to their request.

1 Incl:
Roll 16mm film

WILLIAM A. ADAMS
COLONEL, USAF
Chief, Topical Division
Deputy Director for Estimates
Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

Secret
restricted

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DD FORM 1 FEB 60 96 REPLACES NME FORM 96, 1 OCT 48, WHICH MAY BE USED

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(17)

1 August 1952 Bellefontaine, Ohio

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Conclusion

Unknown

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AF FORM 112
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT

AREA REPORTED ON: [illegible] | FROM (Agency)

DATE OF REPORT | DATE OF INFORMATION: 1 [illegible] 1952 | EVALUATION

PREPARED BY (Agency) | SOURCE

REFERENCES (Control number, direction, previous report, etc., as applicable)

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

[illegible] WELS

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