

## APPENDIX V

El Centro, Calif., Area - 11 May 1952

## I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

In the El Centro, Calif., Area on 11 May 1952 four separate reports of unidentified aerial objects were made. They were as follows:

- a. 1115Z - Hovering over El Centro, five "flying saucers" as large as B-36's, with a light underneath, disappeared to the southwest at a terrific rate of speed. They were reported by the El Centro Sheriff's Office.
- b. 1115Z - An F4U pilot taking off from El Centro Naval Air Station reported what appeared to be a shooting star diving at an angle of 60°.
- c. 1142Z - A sheriff's car at Heland, Calif., sighted a strange object resembling a parachute flare over the south end of the Salton Sea.
- d. 1150Z - A control tower operator at Yuma, Arizona, sighted an orange and blue object 30° and 30 miles from his position. After hovering for a short time in one position, it changed to another position and began hovering again. Operator said it was sighted for too long a period to be a falling star.

## II. STATE OF INVESTIGATION

There were no AF fighters airborne at the time but four F4U's from El Centro Naval Air Station were airborne from 1100Z to 1130Z.

## III. CONCLUSIONS

- a. It is possible that the F4U's and what appeared to be a shooting star account for the first report.
- b. What appeared to be a shooting star was probably a meteor.
- c. No conclusions.
- d. The tower operator stated that he had observed the same phenomenon several times previous and is convinced that it is merely the reflection of automobile headlights on the highway at night.

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