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13 May 1952

Greenville, South Carolina

Description of Incident

On the night of 13 May 1952 at 2055 EST, four amateur astronomers observed a diamond formation of four oval-shaped objects. The objects were observed visually from the ground. The objects were sighted nearly overhead and disappeared at an angle of about 12° in three seconds. They were described as being reddish-yellow or reddish-brown in color. They were relative in size to a half dollar, quarter turned, at arm's length. The objects appeared to wobble in their flight and being oval-shaped appeared to be flying sideways.

The night was extremely clear. The observers stated that there was haze and ground illumination near the city, but that they were on the Furman University campus and that there were no ground lights near nor haze.

One observer was inclined to believe these were geese.

Comments

The description of this incident is very similar to others from drive-in theaters and one from Fargo, North Dakota, on 23 April 1950, that were geese. In this case, however, there were no ground lights in the area to reflect from a bird. This is borne out by the fact that these people had set up their telescopes in a dark area, which is essential for good astronomical observing.

It is not known how much light a bird will reflect, but it seems logical that a relatively bright ground source of light would be needed.

As was stated, one source was sure they were geese but the other three were just as sure they were not.

The possibility of aircraft is nil since they passed directly overhead with no sound.

Conclusion

Unknown

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