

UNCLASSIFIED
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18 July 1958

Patrick AFB, Florida

Description of Incident

At approximately 2045 EST on 18 July 1958 seven people, three officers and four airmen, observed a series of unidentified lights near Patrick AFB, Florida. The lights were described as being much brighter than a star and amber-red in color and similar to a star. The first light was observed at a 15° angle of elevation west of the air base. It remained stationary for approximately one minute, then began to slowly move north. It stopped, then moved south at a slow speed. While observing the first light, a similar light was observed about 90° below the first light and moving north at a much higher speed.

As the first light continued to move south, a third light was seen over the base traveling in a westerly direction at high speed. Before this light had faded in the distance, a fourth light was observed following the same path as the third. At this time, all the lights except number four had disappeared.

A fifth light appeared in the west and came directly over the airfield where it appeared to make a gradual 180° left turn and head toward the west until it faded from view. This light appeared coming over the base and disappeared in 15 seconds.

Comments

An attempt was made to pick up the object on AFQ-15 radar, but the attempt was unsuccessful. It should be noted that AFQ-15 is not a search radar, consequently, the fact it could not make contact is not significant.

A balloon was in the area but the balloon was tracked continuously and drifted west of the air base. At no time was it over the observers. It is possible that a balloon could drift into the area from another location, but the number of reported lights, their motion and the winds aloft do not substantiate this theory.

Air traffic was checked and there were no aircraft in the area.

Conclusion

Unknown

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