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Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

5 December 1958

I. Manifestation of Incident

While working over Lackland AFB a T-28 type aircraft sighted an unusual blue light of about half the intensity of the signal glow emitted by a T-35 position light. The time of sighting was approximately 2048 GMT under clear weather conditions with the wind at 4,000 feet from 25 degrees at 25 knots. The object's movement consisted of a counter-clockwise swirl over the air base, an apparent pass on the T-28 and finally an irregular rapid ascent and disappearance to the south. The pilot of the observing aircraft attempted an interception but was shot. The object was not sighted after 2056 GMT.

II. Description of Incident

Student flying in jet type aircraft was in progress at the time of sighting. The observing pilot saw three aircraft and could not have confused them with the unidentified object. A scheduled balloon launch from Lackland AFB was set for approximately 2100 GMT, very close to the time of sighting. In addition, the existing clock of the object as well as its general southerly heading (which time in with the wind shift) indicate that the unknown was probably a balloon. Project Blue Book has had many reports in the past of known balloons apparently intercepting investigating aircraft.

III. Conclusion

Probably a balloon.

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