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Fops Air Force Base, South Carolina

30 December 1958

I. Description of Incident

From 2100 to 2115 a ground radar station picked up an unidentified object on its scope. It appeared as a stationary object with a slight circular motion which did not cancel out when the moving target indicator was employed. The display showed that its altitude was 8,000 feet at 4 1/2 miles from the station. Weather conditions were fair with light condensation clouds, no temperature inversions present in the area. Light instrument aircraft flew through the area during the radar observation and an F-81 was directed to investigate. The pilot saw nothing unusual. The radar operators involved have had several years experience.

II. Location of Incident

Photographs were taken of the FIC scope but have not been received by AFIC. There is a possibility that local cloud conditions may have caused a spurious radar return. Other than this there appears to be no plausible explanation for the incident.

III. Conclusion

Possibly weather phenomena.

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