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Greensboro, North Carolina

15 December 1958

I. Description of Incident

An RF-4C Phantom II over Greensboro sighted a spherical object with a bright silver center at about 2200 NUT on 15 December 1958. It moved from a 12 o'clock high position to 6 o'clock high when the pilot lost contact with the unknown. Pilot was on a north heading at 25,000 feet travelling at 300 mph.

II. Discussion of Incident

Two aircraft from Shaw AFB were in the area at the time of sighting as was a balloon released from the weather station at Greensboro. The pilot probably could have recognized the aircraft but a silver, round, weather balloon might not be so easily recognized due to its small size. It appears that the latter explains the cause for this sighting.

III. Conclusion

Probably a balloon.

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