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Tomb City, Arizona

1 February 1950

I. Description of Incident

At 1300 GMT a meteorological aid for the U.S. Weather Bureau was searching for a lost weather balloon with the aid of a theodolite when he sighted a solid white, oblong object at a direction of  $157.2^\circ$  and elevation of  $55.3^\circ$ . The size of the object consisted of one minute of arc.

The object appeared to be ascending straight up, then levelled off and at this point was joined by a second object of exactly the same description. The second object left the field of the theodolite twice but returned each time to join the original. They both disappeared simultaneously at an angle of  $306.1^\circ$  at an elevation of  $59.2^\circ$ . At  $204.1^\circ$  the sky was covered by cirrus clouds at approximately 25,000 ft.

The objects remained in vision for five minutes. The observer stated that the objects rose more rapidly than any balloon he has ever seen and furthermore moved against the prevailing westerly winds. There appeared to be no glimmer or reflection from the sun from the objects.

II. Discussion of Incident

From the observer's obvious experience in tracking balloons, it is concluded that these objects could not have been balloons especially since they were seen to move against the wind. There were aircraft in the area but the observer states he was aware of them and could not have confused them with the unknown objects. Because of the maneuver and the time of day, astronomical activity must be ruled out. MITC has not been able to find an answer to this sighting.

III. Conclusion

Unknown.

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