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Bomber, Alabama

26 February 1953

I. Description of Incident

Two civilian men at this location sighted an unidentified object as 1500 EDT while watching the flight of a B-47 aircraft across their field of vision. A metallic looking object appearing round at one instant and flat the next was seen at an altitude of about two-thirds that of the B-47 which AFSC learned was at 20,000 ft. The maneuvers consisted of climbing, diving, and sharp angle turns to the left and right in and around a few scattered clouds and it appeared to be faster than the B-47. Total time of sighting was two to three minutes.

II. Discussion of Incident

Although the Maxwell Radio Range Station reported no known aircraft other than the B-47 in the area AFSC feels that, on the basis of the description submitted by the two relatively inexperienced observers, they probably sighted a fighter type aircraft, possibly an F-96, maneuvering in the air space below the B-47. To support this conclusion is the fact that the clouds mentioned in the original report around which the object was sighted, were determined to be at 20,000 ft. At this altitude a fighter aircraft would be hard to distinguish. The observers did state, however, that the object appeared to have swept-back wings.

III. Conclusion

Possible aircraft.

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