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30 June 1953

Detroit, Michigan

Description

At 0310 EDT on 30 June 1953 an AFMTC model at Wayne University observed one large bright object that was white or light yellow in color, round in shape and larger than a star. This object moved from a high westerly position in a falling arc toward the north and then leveled off and proceeded at a high rate of speed in a straight line. This object made these maneuvers in a period of 30 seconds and disappeared over the northern horizon. The object, though bright, cast no beam nor left any trail or exhaust. No sound was noticed.

Discussion

Moments of this object and length of observation eliminate the possibility that it was of astronomical origin. Checks with airports in the vicinity revealed that there was one aircraft in the area. This was a DC-4 enroute to Chicago on a heading of 270 deg and was probably not in the area. A check was made with the weather bureau to determine whether or not they had a balloon in the area. A balloon was released at 0300Z, but it could not have caused the sighting since it burst before 0410Z (time of sighting).

Conclusion

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