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INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. T - IR - 11 - 53

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object Sighting

COUNTRY & AREA: Greenland, Thule Air Base Area

DATE OF REPORT: 10 December 1953 DATE OF INFORMATION: 9 December 1953

PREPARING OFFICER: Harold R. Miller, Captain, USAF

SOURCE(S): See Below

REFERENCES: 6612th Air Base Group Messages THOPI 7624 and THOPI 7627

The following information was elicited in interrogation of James N. Hendon, 1st Lt., pilot and Walter O. Rich, 1st Lt., radar observer of the 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Thule Air Base, Greenland. Both observers concur in details.

Observers were on an airborne training mission at the time of sighting, approximately 092220Z. They were making a radar approach in an F-94 aircraft at 2,500' altitude, heading 340°, speed 200 knots at a position approximately 8 miles North West of Thule Air Base. Lt. Hendon was looking around, saw the object and called it to the attention of Lt. Rich. The object was a green light the size and shape of a navigation light. No tail, trail exhaust or sound were noted. When first sighted, the object was at the same altitude as the observer aircraft, 1 - 1½ miles away at an azimuth of 120° to starboard. The flight path of the object was parallel to the observer aircraft, straight and level at a speed of approximately 400 knots. The object appeared to go out with no fade out at the same altitude of the observer aircraft on an azimuth of 20° to starboard. The object was observed by Lt. Hendon for 5 - 7 seconds and by Lt. Rich for 2 seconds. No interception was attempted or airborne radar contact established. The only known traffic in the area at the time of sighting was 1 F-94 aircraft, 6 miles West of observer aircraft and 1 C-47 aircraft, 12 miles West of observer aircraft. Negative information available from other sources. Weather sequence was clear, 10 miles, surface winds East at 5 knots, 10,000' - 080° at 10 knots, 20,000' - 020° at 10 knots and 30,000' - 240° at 5 knots. Both observers stated they did not believe object to be a meteor. Observers can be considered fairly reliable.

Preparing officer's evaluation - Probably astronomical phenomenon.

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