

# DISPOSITION FORM

30327 INFORMATION

FILE NO.	SUBJECT
	Comments on Incident of False Targets at Ladd AFB January 22 and 23rd.

TO	FROM	DATE	FORM NO. 1
AJCID Attn: Capt. T. J. Flanagan	Operations Analysis	4 February 1962	

1. From the evidence presented by the various participants it may be concluded that the cause existed in the atmosphere and not from interference. As Mr. Bangs indicated the possibility is remote that F-1 signals reflected from Mt. McKinley caused a target indication at F-2. The detection and tracking of such spurious targets by the F-94's (x-band radar with high perf compared to CPS-68) plus the fact that they have been so detected at other times and places indicates that interference from F-1 was not the cause.

2. Considering that the target provided sufficient return to provide long range detection and good tracking by the F-94 but disappeared after the F-94 flew near the target location would indicate the possibility that a "blob" of atmosphere temporarily was in a condition to provide radar reflection and passage of the jet dispersed the "blob". It is doubtful that this "blob" could be one of high moisture since the ground radar measured speeds of 1500 to 2400 knots. It might be an ionized "blob".

3. It is recommended that the following actions be taken.

a. That since this is a phenomenon which is observed periodically, pilots and RPs provide reports on each occurrence reporting altitude, initial range of detection, quality of tracking, weather and visibility, condition of Aurora Borealis. Also, when the opportunity is present it is recommended that instead of closing on the target that the pilot fly around the target and determine whether it appears from all directions around the area.

b. That the information concerning the subject incident be transmitted to laboratories specializing in propagation studies for comment.

c. That if the phenomenon is found to occur sufficiently often, a requirement be established for an investigation to determine the cause.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ Arvid G. Wedin  
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