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MEMO FOR THE RECORD

30 October 1968

Subj: Telephone conversation with Col Pullen, Hq SAC

On 29 October 1968 at 1530 hours, Col Quintanilla telephone Col Pullen, Hq SAC, autovan 631-3600 (regular ext 2828, however he was at 4336). Col Pullen wanted a brief run down on the Minot sightings. Col Quintanilla told Col Pullen that he thought that the aircraft transmission receiver might also have caused the blip since it occurred for only a short period of time. The weather could have been a factor since there was an inversion. Also, the complete sighting is listed as having occurred for almost two hours and fifteen minutes. I feel that some of the men were looking at celestial bodies because of the inversion, causing scintillation. There were a number of stars in the area at the time. Col Pullen said he would like to receive a preliminary report giving a quick look. Col Quintanilla told him he would however we have to get the times. This business of two hours is too long to make an accurate report. There was an inversion between 2 and 5 and haze. I'm (Col Quintanilla) pretty sure it was either caused by an internal radar malfunction that also caused the blip or because of the inversion he might have also picked up an anomalous blip. Unfortunately, Col Werlich wasn't able to have them pull a quick inspection of the set. Col Pullen wanted to know if we sent anybody up there to investigate the sighting. We did not send anybody up because I only have four people on my staff, myself, an assistant, a secretary and an admin sergeant. I talked to Col Werlich for over thirty minutes and since this didn't appear to be unusual I didn't send anyone up. Col Pullen requested that Col Quintanilla send a preliminary report so that he could give it to General Stewart to get this thing simmered down. Send it SSO SAC, attention Col Pullen. He requested that Col Quintanilla hit a little heavy on what has happened to other aircraft on occasions like this, this would help to play the issue down.

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