UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #198

ATIC NO. ----

AF NO. ---

WING NO. ---

DATE OF REPORT ----

TIME OF SIGHTING 1157

SHAPE ---

SIZE Normal for a/c

COURSE Circling

NO. IN GROUP 2

SOUND ---

PHOTOS --- SKETCHES -----

DATE OF OBS 6 Nov 48

LOCATION Wakkana, Japan

SOURCE Radar Operator

DATE IN TO ATIC -----

COLOR ---

SPEED --- From 160 mph to 240 mph Estimated

ALTITUDE ---- Measured

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 65 Minutes

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Radarscope

MANEUVERS Target at times gave impression of 2 Fighter a/c dogfighting. Continually changed course

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Preliminary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #198 -- Wakkanai, Japan -- 3 November 1948

This incident has no astronomical explanation.

The object has been independently identified from radar information as a Soviet aircraft.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

6 Nov 48

No. 198. No visual observation; radar blip moving at high speed and constantly changing direction. If radar report is accurate, couldn't possibly be a balloon.

HEADQUARTERS
AIR WEATHER SERVICE
Andrews Air Force Base
Washington 25, D. C.

In Reply
Refer To: AWS DSS

11 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO : Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. Reference is made to letter from your headquarters, MCIAXS, dated 9 March 1949, subject "Unidentified Flying Objects," and first indorsement thereto by this headquarters, dated 31 March 1949.

2. The incident summaries 173 through 233 have been checked against routine weather-balloon ascents made by the Air Force, Navy and Weather Bureau. Comments based on this review are inclosed.

3. It is recommended that the "Guide To Investigation Of Unidentified Aerial Objects" be changed as follows: Item 13, "Direction of Flight of Object," should be clarified so that vertical and horizontal motions are distinguished if possible, and so that motion is specified as the direction towards which the object appears to move. "Relative to Radar Settings" should include a statement of the type of radar set used.

FOR THE CHIEF, AIR WEATHER SERVICE

/s/ W. A. West
W. A. WEST
Lt. Col., USAF
Adjutant General

2 Incls:
1 - Incident Summaries
2 - Comments 173 thru 233

Target appeared in ground clutter area during entire period of observation. Target was not observed in station area, and was not observed visually at any time. At times the target appeared as 2 aircraft and at another time as a single aircraft. Gave impression of 2 fighter craft dog-fighting. Evaluated as Soviet aircraft conducting electronic reconnaissance mission. Thought to be a Soviet "Ferret" sine the object was computed to have held a speed of 240 MPH and since the size of blip on radarscope was normal for an aircraft. The unidentified aircraft circled (20 mile radius) continuously for one hour and five minutes immediately above radar site installed at Wakkanai. No authorized aircraft was in the vicinity. Weather conditions precluded visual observation.

INCIDENT SUMMARY SHEET

Incident No. 198

1. Date and Time of Observation: 6 Nov 1948 1157 hrs

2. Where Sighted: Immediately above Radar Site at Wakkanai, Japan

3. Observer's Position: Ground - operating radarscope
(i. e., ground, air, control tower, etc.)

4. Name and Address of Observer: N/S

5. Occupation and/or hobbies: Radarscope operator

6. Attention Attracted by: blip on the radarscope

7. Number of Object(s) Seen: Target at first appeared as single craft and at times as 2 aircraft

8. Size of Object(s): normal for aircraft on radarscope

9. Color of Object(s): N/S (Object was not observed visually at any time)

10. Shape (Sketch if Possible) N/S

11. Nature of Luminosity: N/S
(directed beam of light?)

12. Altitude of Object: Unknown
(estimated)

13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer: Could not be estimated

14. Estimated Speed of Object: Varying - from 160 miles to 240 miles per hour

15. Time in Sight: Circled radar site continuously for one hour and 5 minutes

16. Tactics: Target at times gave impression of 2 fighter aircraft dog-fighting. Continuously changed course.

17. Sound Made by Object(s):

18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) Circling

19. Apparent Construction: N/S

20. Effect on Clouds: N/S

21. Exhaust Trail (Color of): N/S

22. Manner of Disappearance: N/S

23. Weather Conditions at Time of Sighting: Low & high cloud formation forming very dense overcast of unknown height.

24. Peculiarities Noted: Blip at times appeared single and at times gave appearance of 2 aircraft in vicinity

25. Summary of Incident: (over)

(See attached page)

AMC Form No. 10-3 (Rev 29 Jul 47)

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET [redacted] AIR MATERIEL COMMAND

Use this form for inter-office correspondence within headquarters.

Number all comments consecutively.

Use entire width of sheet, both sides.

Use authorized office symbol to designate addressor and addressee.

Note warning signal at lower left of form. Remaining space is sufficient only for proper spacing of typewritten signature.

Place initials of dictator and typist, telephone number and location to right of signature.

Separate comments by horizontal lines across page.

SUBJECT Re Wakkanai Sighting

TO MCIAXF FROM MCIAXO-3 DATE 11-15-48 COMMENT NO. 1.

Attn: Mr. Claus

1. Reference is made to TWX from Commanding General, Far Eastern Air Force, 8 November 1948. See attached inclosure.

2. It is requested that the reporting agency be contacted through the most expeditious channels to obtain the following additional information:

a. At first radar reading of target aircraft, what was its altitude, azimuth, speed and heading?

b. Did readings vary as target approached station - were radar evasion tactics employed?

c. Size of blip on scope in comparison to that of known aircraft.

d. Did target enter station ground clutter area?

e. After leaving station ground clutter area was target again observed? What was altitude, azimuth, speed and heading of target while departing, and at what range was target lost?

f. Was aircraft observed visually or heard at any time? If so, what were details, (configurations) of aircraft.

g. Teletype sequences of local weather and winds aloft report at time of radar detection.

h. List of known aircraft or testing devices aloft in the vicinity at the time. Check of all local military installations.

i. Any further information that may seem helpful in determining type of aircraft, its mission and whether its origin is foreign or domestic.

1 Incl
1. Cy teletype

UNCLASSIFIED

C. A. GRIFFITH
Chief, Operations Section
Tech Intelligence Division
Intelligence Department

HWS/aw
6-5310
Bldg 288

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERV
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

T-73874-B 197

WF-L-18 MAR 48 2 Mil 500M

(CONTINUE ON OTHER SIDE)

TO MCIAXG-3 FROM [redacted] DATE 19 Nov 48 COMMENT NO. 2

The Commanding General, Far Eastern Air Force was requested 12 November 1948 to forward to this Command the information outlined in Comment #1.

UNCLASSIFIED

C. C. BROOKE
Chief, Foreign Liaison Section
Technical Intelligence Division
Intelligence Department

LRC/vrh
6-5322
P-2030
Bldg 288

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(DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE)

[redacted]

EQA-2
HA35
ALC 27

~~PP JEQ QWQP UAPLA~~

~~PP JEQTL~~ DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
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DOD DIR 5200.10

PP JEQAB 1948 NOV 8 19 38

PRIORITY

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FM UAPLA 16B/CG FEAF
TO QXN UAPBG/CINCFE
INFO JEQTL/CSAF
JEQAB/CG AMC
AF GRNC

[redacted] TE AX ONE ZERO NINE SIX OPNS-2 PD
SUBJECT IS UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT PD AT ONE ONE FIVE SEVEN HRS ON SIX NOVEMBER AN UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT WAS DETECTED AT FOUR FIVE DEGREES TWO FIVE MINUTES NORTH ONE FOUR ONE DEGREES THREE ZERO MINUTES EAST PD SUBJECT AIRCRAFT CIRCLED AT AN UNKNOPP ALTITUDE CONTINUOUSLY FOR ONE HOUR FIVE MINUTES IMMEDIATELY ABOVE RADAR SITE LOCATED AT WAKKANAI PD NO INTERCEPTION WAS ATTEMPTED DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER PD UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT IS EVALUATED AS SOVIET AIRCRAFT CONDUCTING ELECTRONIC RECONNAISSANCE MISSION PD

1- MCIA Dup
2- MCI Dup
3-
4- MCA QXM 21
T-13874

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CFN OPNS-2

[redacted] are not required. Handle as [redacted] respondence
per paragraph 51 i and 60a (4), AR 380-5

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CSAF ITEM 10 / [redacted]

MCIAXO-3 FROM OFNER

REFER CABLE AT 3827 15 NOV ON A/C [redacted]

SIGHTING AT WAKKANAI CABLE NR A-1228

A-2 FEAF 20 NOV STATES - EFFORTS ARE

BEING MADE TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO YOUR

QUERIES. RESULTS WILL BE FORWARDED

YOUR HQ IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT HERE.

END CSAF ITEM 10 / [redacted]

11/30
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T-79613

UNCLASSIFIED 98 #198

7 Dec '48

UNCLASSIFIED

CSAF 7 [redacted]

[redacted]

MCIAXC-3 FROM OFNER

12/7

NO ACTION BEING TAKEN HERE ON LTR 2 NOV

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DOD DIR 5200.10

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION, IN VIEW OF

RECEIPT OF FEAF CABLE NR 1267 OPS 24 NOV GIVING Concurs incl. 198

REQUESTED INFO. DO YOU CONCUR? REFERENCE IS

TO RADAR SIGHTING. REFER A-3865 IN REPLY.

END 7 [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED T-81932

IAT 3637 53262 Incl #183

UNCLASSIFIED

JEP SUPVR JEPAB
RDO TELETYPE CONFERENCE NR 180
FM CG AMC WRIGHT PAT AF BASE OHIO
TO USAF WASH 25 D C
SUBJECT REGULAR A-2 CONFERENCE
CLASSIFICATION BY ITEMS
PRESENT HERE

12/14

UNCLASSIFIED

MR COLEMAN

END OF HEADING

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ITEM 1 AMC / [redacted]

[redacted]

OTHER FROM MCIAXO-3
REF CSAF7 OF 7 DEC 48 AND A-3865. UNCLASSIFIED
CANNOT CONCUR. OUR LETTER OF 9 NOV SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION, REFERS TO A MATTER OTHER THAN THAT WITH WHICH FEAF CABLE NR 1267 OPS 24 NOV 48 EVIDENTLY IS CONCERNED CSAF-4 OF 30 NOV 48 CG, FEAF, IS IN RESPONSE TO AT 3827, 14 NOV 48. AT-3837, 14 NOV 48 WAS INITITED BY THIS SECTION, NOT AIRCRAFT SECTION. AT 3827 WAS A MESSAGE TO COMPTROLLER HQ USAF. AT 3837 IS NOT CONCERNED WITH THE SAME MATTER AS THE LETTER OF 9 NOV REFERRED TO ABOVE. NO RECORD OF FEAF CABLE NR 1267, 24 NOV 48 CAN BE FOUND HERE. HOW WAS CABLE RELAYED TO THIS COMMAND AND WHEN? UNCLASSIFIED

File in T
Carries Hq USAF
Outgoing

84242

END ITEM 1 AMC / [redacted]

[redacted]

CSAF ITEM 4 [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

MCIAXO-3 FROM OFNER [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

REFER ITEM 1, AMC OF 14 DEC TT.

RECORDS THIS HQ INDICATE AT 3827 WAS

LIST OF QUESTIONS RE UNIDENTIFIED A/C

SIGHTING OVER WAKKANAI, 6 NOV 48,

FORWARDED TO FEAF AS AFOIN 53417. DETAILS

OF REPLY, WHICH WERE INADVERTANTLY

OMITTED ON CSAF-4, 30 DEC, WERE

TRANSMITTED IN FULL ON MORNING

TECHNICAL TELCON OF 2 DEC TT

NBR 164.

YOUR LETTER HAS BEEN FORWARDED

TO FEAF AS A-3865

END CSAF ITEM 4 (SECRET) [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

14

16 Dec

XD-3

198

UNCLASSIFIED

T-84815

113

ltr of 2 Nov 48 and Clark Fld.

[redacted]

CONFERENCE NO. 164 - MORNING TELECON - 2 DEC 1948

UNCLASSIFIED

CSAF ITEM #3 [redacted]

SEF CSAF 4 CMA AFTERNOON TT NO 162 CMA 29 NOV 48 PD IN ERROR WAS STATEMENT THAT AMC WAS INFO ADDRESSEE OF FEAF CABLE ON SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT BY RADAR EVALUATED BY FEAF AS A SOVIET FERRET PD FOLLOWING IS QUOTE OF THIS CABLE: QUOTE SECRET CMA PRIORITY CMA PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED PD FROM FEAF SEMI COLON TO CSAF SEMI COLON NR CLN AX 1267 OPNS CMA 24 NOV 48 PD REURAD AFOIN 53417 CMA DATA AVAILABLE IN ANSWER TO YOUR QUERIES CMA AS LISTED CMA FOLLOW CLN A. ALTITUDE UNKNOWN AS NO HEIGHT-FINDING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE TO SITE WHICH DETECTED AIRCRAFT PD SPEED WAS APPROXIMATELY 160 MPH PD HEADING VARIED CONTINUOUSLY PD. B. BELIEVE RADAR EVASION TACTICS WERE EMPLOYED. C. SIZE OF BLIP ON SCOPE WAS NORMAL FOR AIRCRAFT. D. TARGET WAS IN GROUND CLUTTER AREA DURING ENTIRE PERIOD OF OBSERVATION. E. TARGET WAS NOT OBSERVED IN STATION AREA PD. F. AIRCRAFT WAS NOT OBSERVED VISUALLY AT ANY TIME. G. LOCAL JAPANESE WEATHER STATION REPORTED LOW AND HIGH CLOUD FORMATIONS FORMING VERY DENSE OVERCAST OF UNKNOWN HEIGHT. NO WINDS ALOFT AVAILABLE. H. NONE. I. TARGET AT TIMES APPEARED AS 2 AIRCRAFT CMA AT OTHER TIME AS SINGLE AIRCRAFT. TARGET CONTINUOUSLY CHANGED COURSE AND GAVE IMPRESSION OF 2 FIGHTER AIRCRAFT DOG-FIGHTING PD NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAIALBLE DUE TO PERMANENT ECHO CLOUDING VICINITY AND DIFFICULTY ENCOUNTERED IN TRACKING PD END PD CAF - IN CLN 1512 (25 NOV 48) DTG CLN 240215Z PD UNQUOTE

REQUEST AMC EVAULATION OF THIS MATERIAL BE FORWARDED BY TELECON TO DAB WHEN AVAILABLE PD DOES AMC CONCUR ON THE BASIS OF AVAILABLE EVIDENCE WITH FEAF THAT AIRCRAFT WAS PROBABLY A SOVIET FERRET QUERY.

END CSAF ITEM 3/ [redacted]

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DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

T-80239-6

[redacted]

[redacted]

CONFERENCE 169 7 Dec 1948 Warning Telecon

CSAF 4 [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

FOLLOWING INFO RECEIVED FROM FEAF BY TELECON IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR SUBSTANTIATING INFO FOR FEAF CONCLUSION THAT UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT OVER WAKKANAI ON 6 NOVEMBER WAS A SOVIET FERRET CLN QUOTE REASON FOR CONCLUSION UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT OVER WAKKANAI WAS SOVIET AIRCRAFT CONDUCTING ELECTRONIC RECONNAISSANCE. MISSION FOLLOWS:

(1) UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT WAS COMPUTED TO HAVE HELD A SPEED OF 240 MILES PER HOUR, AND, THEREFORE, WAS EVALUATED AS AN AIRCRAFT.

(2) SIZE OF BLIP ON RADAR SCOPE WAS NORMAL FOR AN AIRCRAFT.

(3) WEATHER CONDITIONS PRECLUDED VISUAL OBSERVATION.

(4) NO AUTHORIZED AIRCRAFT WAS IN THE VICINITY.

(5) UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT CIRCLED (20 MILE RADIUS) CONTINUOUSLY FOR ONE HOUR AND FIVE MINUTES IMMEDIATELY ABOVE RADAR SITE INSTALLED AT WAKKANAI.

REQUEST AMC EVALUATION OF FEAF CONCLUSION THAT A/C WAS A SOVIET FERRET PD PLEASE SEE CSAF 3 CMA TT 164 CMA 2 DEC 48 .

END CSAF 4 [redacted]

T-31899-6

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DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

   a. High probability:
   #26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

   b. Fair or low probability:
   #19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

   a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
   #3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

   b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
   #4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

   c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
   #39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

   a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
   #38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

   b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
   #1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.