AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1949

UNCLASSIFIED (CLASSIFICATION)

28/11/52 JHC

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
Korea	52-350	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
North Korea	Det 1, 6004th AISS, APO 970

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
28 November 1952	16 November 1952	B-4

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
1st Lt James F Power	6149th Tac Control Squadron

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
FEAF Letter, AG 350.07 dated 5 March 1952 USAF Ltr 200-5, 29 Apr 52

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

This report contains information concerning an unidentified flying object observed in the vicinity of CT795418.

APPROVED:

JOHN V. HEARN JR
Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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

w/5 incl (A-E)
ATIS 018
23 Jan 53

5 INCLS
1. Statement of Pilot
2. Statement of Observer
3. Overlay of Route
4. Drawing
5. Ltr fr Gp Intell Officer

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ATIC 10 24

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES
Det 1, 6004th AISS, APO 970	52-350	

On 16 November 1952, 1st Lt Layton S Bass, USAF, and 1st Lt Richard I Barnard, USAF of the 6149th Tac Con Sq, 6147th Tactical Control Group, were interviewed with regard to the sighting of an unidentified flying object.

At 1345I, 15 November 1952, Lt Bass, pilot, and Lt Barnard, observer, were flying a combat mission in a T-6 aircraft over the central sector of the friendly main line of resistance. At the time cited, Lt Bass was flying in the vicinity of CT795418 at 130 miles per hour indicated air speed, 10,500 feet, indicated altitude and in a northerly direction. The weather conditions were clear, with visability from 15 to 20 miles. The sun at this time of day is in a south, south westerly position from the incident area. Winds at 10,000 feet were generally from 240 degrees with velocities up to 20 miles per hour.

Lt Bass first noted the unidentified object moving north, apparently close to the terrain. The sighting (points #1 on attached map overlay) was originally made against the slope of Osang-San (Papa-San) at CT654455. The object, initially dismissed by Lt Bass as an aircraft, moved north approximately five (5) miles and then turned south and gained altitude. At the same time the T-6 aircraft, was orbiting "Ash can Control" awaiting the arrival of fighter bombers which they were to control in a strike. When the T-6 aircraft was at point #2 as indicated in the map overlay, Lt Bass again sighted the object and identified it as not being an aircraft. This sighting was to the right of the T-6, at an estimated 100-200 yards. Lt Bass described it as spherical in shape, silver in color and approximately 8-10 feet in diameter. He further described the object as lacking any visable means of propulsion and having no protrusions of any sort. The surface was smooth. There was no audible sound.

When Lt Bass saw the object, which was moving at approximately the same speed as the aircraft, he turned the aircraft towards it slightly at which time the object headed south and began climbing at a high rate of speed, turning into a left orbit around the aircraft. Lt Bass called the object to the attention of Lt Barnard who saw it as it went into it's left hand orbit.

He first saw the object at the ten o'clock level position. Lt Barnard differs with the pilot on one point, as to distance, in that he estimates the minimum distance of sighting to be from 500 to 1,000 yards, (Closer to the latter).

In explanation for the difference between the estimates of minimum distance of the sighting, Lt Barnard suggests that he did not see the object till it was to the left of the aircraft and that the pilot initially observed it at the same altitude when the object was to the right of the aircraft.

Lt Barnard's description of the object was that it was a silver spherical object, approximately the size of a man's thumb nail held at extended arms length. He further described the object as "shimmering" and having a "halo" which surrounded the object. The halo was only of hairline thickness. He further stated that the shimmering effect appeared to be more apparent when the object was between the aircraft and the general direction of the sun. The object appeared to Lt Barnard as being darker at the edges, as a translucent sphere would appear when held up to a light.

That the object was turning in a left hand orbit about a central point, with the aircraft flying a tighter circle within the path of the object, was confirmed by both sources. The diameter of the circle marked by the object in it's path appeared to increase as it moved. After the first complete circle the object began to climb more rapidly, and continued increasing the radius of its circle.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	
Det 1, 6004th AISS, APO 970	52-350	PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES

The altitude and full description of the object and it's actions were described by the pilot, by radio to "Mosquito Godfrey" a ground control, during the sighting.

The object circling three times to the left in a diameter ranging from 100 to 1000 yards gained considerable altitude, and then moved off at what both sources estimated to be 500 to 800 miles per hour in a south westerly direction towards the sun. Lt Base estimated the object was at approximately 18,000 feet when it was lost by both observers in the glare near the sun. Lt Base made the entire observation with the naked eye. Lt Barnard were government issue greenish brown glasses.

No optical device was used. The entire sighting extended over a period of 5 to 7 minutes, from 1345I to 1352I. The object was viewed against various colored backgrounds, the dark terrain, and blue sky and white clouds. It remained constant as to shape, size, and color.

Both sources state that the general motion of the object was steady and gave the impression of controlled flight. They stated that it did not appear to be moving on the motion of air current.

The pilot had flown 54 missions in this theater and the observer had flown 48 missions.

Statements were obtained and are attached to this report, along with the letter forwarded by the Intelligence Officer, 6147th Tactical Control Group, a map overlay of the area, which indicates the approximate flight paths of the object and the aircraft, and a drawing of the object, as seen by Lt Barnard. The statements especially that of Lt Barnard, are complete in that they include the points as covered in the several debriefings they received.

COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

1. Both sources are considered to be compitent observers and sightings reported by them are considered reliable. Both officers gave exact information and during the interview were certain on all points of the observation. Lt Barnard, gave considerable detail in his debriefing which is reflected in the extensive statement that he supplied to supplement this report.

2. During the inquiry conducted by the investigating officer, Lt Bass indicated verbally that during his radio contact with Mosquito Godfrey, they reported that no other object besides their aircraft was picked up by the radar covering that sector.

3. Lt Col Andrew Payton, Operations Officer, 30th Weather Squadron was contacted. He stated that the only weather station maintained by the Air Force in that area was at Chip'o-Ri CT5222, however the largest weather balloon utilized by this unit is a 30 gram "ceiling" balloon with a miximum inflated size of 15 in. diameter. He further stated that there was little possibility of a weather balloon of any size performing as the object is reported doing under the prevailing conditions.

4. At Tokchong, Korea, CS3089, approximately south west of the area in which the object was sighted, the 1st Artillery Observation Battalion, an army light plane unit, maintains a meteorological station. The officer in charge, Warrant Officer Larry Redden, stated that at 1257I on 15 November, 350 gram

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[redacted]
(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES
Det 1, 6004th AISS, APO 970	52-350	

The balloon released was a natural latex (white) color. The rate of ascent on this size balloon in approximately 1200 feet per minute. Major Decker of the Headquarters, Fifth Air Force, Weather Station, stated upon questioning, that at 10,000 feet a 350 gram balloon should maintain an approximate spherical shape unless one part of the balloon was weaker and should therefore bulge.

5. It is possible that the unidentified object could have been this 350 gram balloon.

JOHN H. CUMMING
Major, USAF
Commanding

D/I FEAF Comments:

1. The 350 gram balloon released 50 minutes previous to the sighting would not be expected to be at any visible altitude at the time of the incident unless it were leaking, (which would preclude the rapid climb described).

2. There have previously been a number of unidentified sightings in the CT and DT grid areas of Korea. Of these, at least 5 sightings have tentatively been identified as enemy balloons.

3. Vectoring an aircraft on a free balloon is actually difficult, and false impressions of rapid movement can easily be made. From the available information it appears that the object was probably a balloon, and possibly one launched by frontline enemy troops.

for CHARLES T. BANFILL
Brigadier General, USAF
Deputy for Intelligence

STATEMENT 18 November 1952

On 15 November 1952, I was pilot in a T-6 flying Ash Cake [illegible] in the vicinity of CT 9754. The weather at the time, 1345I, was [illegible] and visibility was 15 to 20 miles.

At 1345I, 15 November 1952, I sighted an unidentified object at CT 654455, on a heading of North and apparently flying close to the terrain. The object flew North for approximately five (5) miles at which time it turned back South and started gaining altitude. The object climbed to 10,500 feet and was approximately 100-200 yards West of my position. At this time, I observed that the object was not an aircraft, but was a spherically shaped silver colored object. It appeared to be about 2 to 10 feet in diameter. It had no external protrusions nor any visible means of propulsion. At this time I started to turn toward the object, when it suddenly headed South and climbed at a tremendous rate of speed, estimated between 500 and 700 miles per hour. The object began orbiting my position and climbing until it had made 3 complete orbits.

[illegible] Godfrey was immediately notified of the presence of the object.

Object was last seen headed in a Southwesterly direction, directly into the sun and estimated to be at approximately 18,000 feet.

Object was observed by the naked eye. I was not wearing sun glasses nor using any optical devices. Object was observed for approximately 5 to 7 minutes.

Tarter S. Bass
TARTER S. BASS
1st Lt., USAF
Pilot

STATEMENT

19 November 1952

At 1345L hours, 15 November 1952, I was flying as an observer with Lieutenant Layton S. Bass. At this moment we were orbiting above Ash Cake Control at an indicated altitude of 10,500 feet, awaiting the arrival of a flight of fighters which we were prepared to control in putting in a strike. We were making a steady, circular left hand orbit, and after reaching the mentioned altitude, continued to hold the altitude and the orbit. The time can be fixed because the scheduled time over target for contacting the fighters was set for that hour, and when our clocks indicated the scheduled time, Lieutenant Bass contacted Ash Cake Control and was informed that as yet they had negative contact with the fighters.

Shortly after this moment, certainly less than a minute, Lieutenant Bass drew my attention to the object. I do not recall his exact words, but they were in the nature of a brief, noncommittal, general comment like "Look at that" or "Do you see that?" There was no suggestion of what he had reference to, and the direction in which he was looking was my only clue as to the location of the sighting. He was gazing to our left front, and immediately I looked in that general direction, I sighted the object. It was an obvious sighting and seized my attention immediately. It was a silvery, shimmering, apparently perfectly spherical object, with a slight halo or corona. This halo was not thick in comparison to the diameter of the object, being a mere hairline in apparent thickness, a sort of hazy radiance, which did not, however, in any way or at any point blur or mar the hard, sharp outline of the sphere's circumference.

The sphere itself was rather darker around the periphery than at the center, as a globe of translucent substance will appear when silhouetted against a source of light. However, at no time during the sighting was the object actually in direct line between us and the sun, and there was no other conceivable source of light at the time. The surface of the sphere appeared to glint or shimmer, as if with reflected light. However, this shimmering appearance was, if anything, somewhat more apparent when the object was between us and the general direction of the sun, when presumably the surface presented to our view would be shadowed, than it was when we were looking at it with the sun [illegible] backs. The word "translucent" flashed into my mind spontaneously almost immediately upon sighting it.

At the precise instant that I personally sighted it, it was, as I have said, off our left front, and was at that moment at the closest range that it was to be during my own personal sighting. I am unaccustomed to estimating distances between objects at a high altitude in the open air, but I am inclined to believe, from my momentary first impression of the object in relation to the terrain that it was between 500 and 1,000 yards distant, probably closer to the latter figure.

Incl. # 2, page 1 of 4

Subject: Statement of Unidentified Flying Object.

About the size I do not care to venture an actual estimate; however, as an infantryman I am accustomed to estimating lateral measurements on distant terrain features in finger breadths. Judging by this method, I have the impression that the apparent size of the object was about the size of a man's thumb nail when it was at its closest.

At this point it might be pertinent to note a possible explain for an apparent discrepancy between Lieutenant Bass's estimate of size and distance by pointing out that he saw the object considerably before I did. He states that at one time the object was approximately 100 yards off our right wing, but this must undoubtedly have been before he directed my attention to it, because at no time while I had it in sight was it anywhere to our right side. I had to turn my head sometimes toward the front and sometimes toward the rear of the plane to keep the object in view, but always toward the left hand side.

When I first spotted the object it was in a position which I described to Lieutenant Bass as "10 o'clock level" (in order to confirm my belief that this was the object he had referred to in his initial comment), but of course this was an approximate description. It was actually somewhat lower, climbing rather fast, so I first saw it silhouetted against mountains on the horizon. It climbed to an approximate level with my heading in a general Southerly direction, that is opposite to our direction of travel at the moment. Being in a left hand orbit and having the object on our left flank, we were turning toward it, which meant that if it were traveling a straight heading, its position relative to us would shift from left flank to approximately straight ahead as our nose came in line with it. However, it continued to maintain pretty much the same position relative to us, which meant that it too was in a left hand orbit. It performed one full cycle of orbit on an approximate level with us, meanwhile receding slowly, which signified that it was lengthening its radius of orbit. It then began to climb rapidly, continuing its orbit and continuing slowly to increase its radius. It continued this process for at least two and possibly three full cycles (it is difficult to be precise on this exact point).

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Bass, who had reported the sighting to Mesquite Godfrey as soon as I had confirmed it to him, was continuously describing the object and its actions on the radio, and I heard him estimate its altitude at very short intervals (certainly not over a minute apiece), successively as 12,000, 13,000, and finally 14,000 feet, at which broke from its orbit and headed in a general Southwesterly direction toward the general neighborhood of the sun. We lost sight of it in the glare area surrounding the sun. It was slightly North of the sun's position when I lost it. I was wearing standard Air Force issue, greenish brown, sunglasses, neither particularly clean or particularly dirty. Lieutenant Bass wore no glasses and therefore doubtless lost sight of it sooner in the sun glare.

Incl. #2, page 2 of 4

Subject: Statement of Unidentified Flying Object.

Until the object left its orbit, it maintained an approximately uniform position in relation to us, varying a few degrees forward or aft of our left wing and, of course, higher as it began to climb. At one point it apparently had accelerated somewhat and its orbit gained on ours so that I was looking backward at about 45 degrees, but Lieutenant Bass either opened up the controls or tightened our orbit, or both, so that we brought it back approximately inline with our left wing. I had deduced at the outset that it was following a larger orbit concentric with ours, and this impression was confirmed. We were evidently at opposite ends of the diameter, and the fact that we held our same relative position for so long in spite of disparity of orbit diameter is significant in regard to its speed. In order to maintain the same angular velocity in a much larger orbit, its linear velocity must have been greater in direct ratio to the circumferences of the orbits. I have not developed any skill in estimating speed of objects in the air, but under the circumstances Lieutenant Bass's estimate of 500-700 miles per hour appears to fall within an entirely reasonable range of magnitude. The fact that it kept receding indicates that it was increasing its orbit, therefore it must have been accelerating rather uniformly and smoothly to maintain its same relative position.

The motion of the sphere during the entire period of observation was smooth and forceful, devoid of any jerkiness, wiggling, wavering, haziness, and there were no irregularities or deflection of travel which suggested influence by air currents. It is impossible for me, personally, to conceive of an inanimate object, obeying the laws of physics, to act in such a manner with out intelligent, artificial control and direction. I have also considered the possibility of light refraction phenomena, although not a graduate physicist, I am familiar with the general principles of optics, and unless it can be scientifically proved otherwise, refuse flatly to believe that any light refraction phenomenon can present such uniformity and definiteness in its appearance from such a tremendous variety of ranges, altitudes, angles of inspection, and optical conditions, for that its action over such a period of time (5 to 7 minutes) could continuously be so smooth and regular and lend itself so readily to an obvious theory of purposeful action.

It is impossible to point out, in this connection, that we saw the object against varying backgrounds of dark mountains in the distance, blue sky, and clouds, and that its appearance, like that of a known material object, contrasted light against the terrain, relatively dark against the clouds, and shiny against the blue sky.

On one previous occasion, while flying with another pilot, I had seen what I believe may well have been a refraction phenomenon (I was unable to point it out to the pilot). It appeared as a bright speck against a distance dark cloud bank, and apparently stood motionless for several minutes, then suddenly took off on a Northerly heading at a terrific rate of speed.

Encl. # 1, page 3 of 4

1

Subject: Statement of Unidentified Flying Objects

This type of conduct does not rest to instantaneous acceleration. It is possible for a light refraction phenomenon, but absolutely impossible for a material object possessing weight and mass. It is significant that the object observed by Lieutenant Bass and myself performed no instantaneous radical changes of speed or direction; its motion was everywhere characteristic of a material object under intelligent control.

In conclusion, I would like to point out, for what ever weight it may give my observations, that in civil life, I was a professional time study and methods analyst, with four years practical experience in industry, and in the course of my duties I frequently had to describe, subsequently, in writing, observations which it was not practical to record at the time. I had also, at the time of this sighting, flown forty some missions as a Mosquito observer, and have necessarily learned to observe quickly and draw conclusions from my observations.

Richard I. Barnard

RICHARD I. BARNARD
1st Lt., USA
Observer

Incl: #2, page 4 of 4

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[redacted]
(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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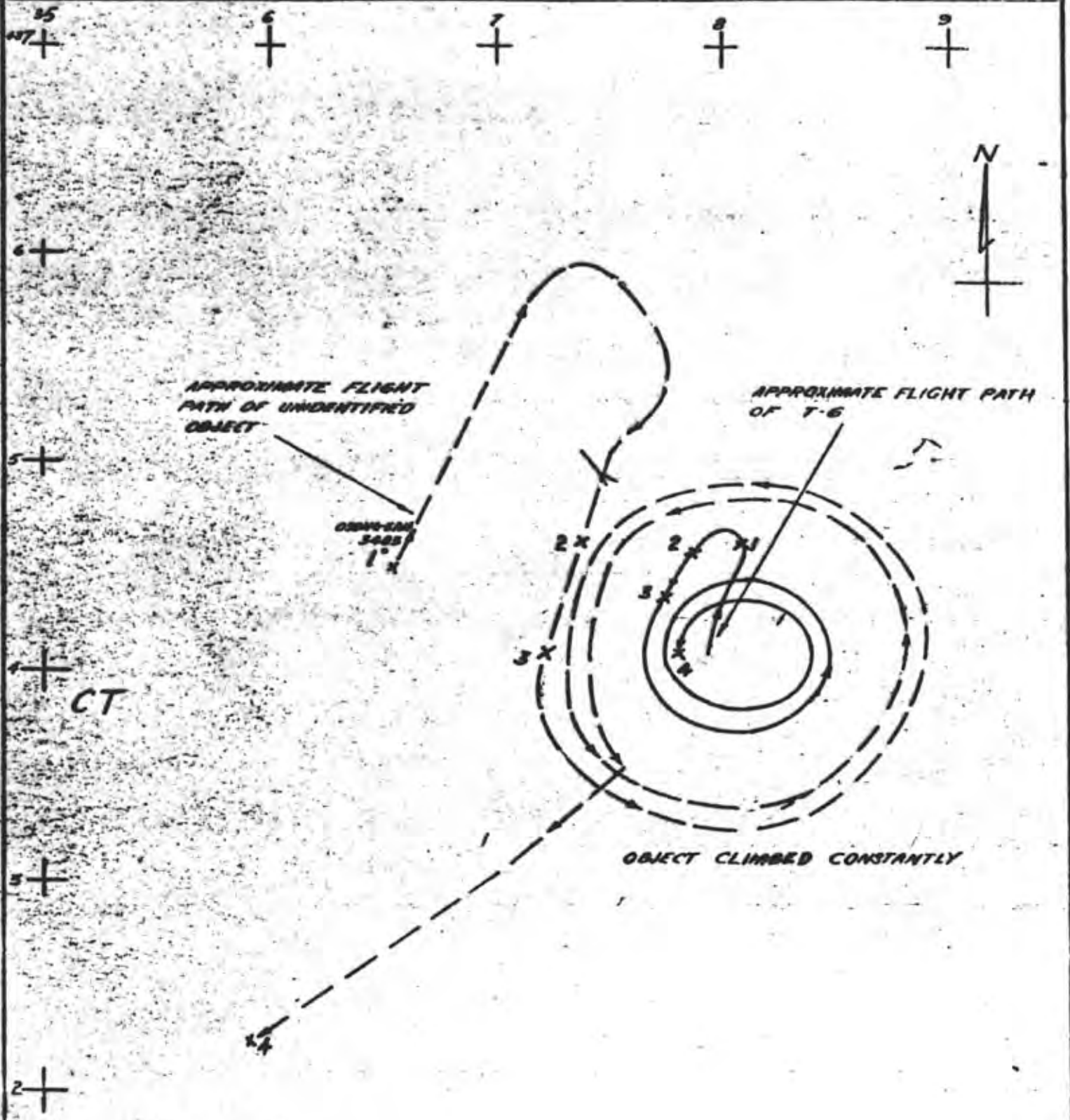


MAP OVERLAY OF
PYONGGANG (380 B III) G
USAF AERONAUTICAL APPROACH CHART
SCALE 1:250,000

NOTE:
NUMBERS IN FLIGHT PATHS OF T-6 AND OBJECT INDICATE POSITIONS

ATIC 102

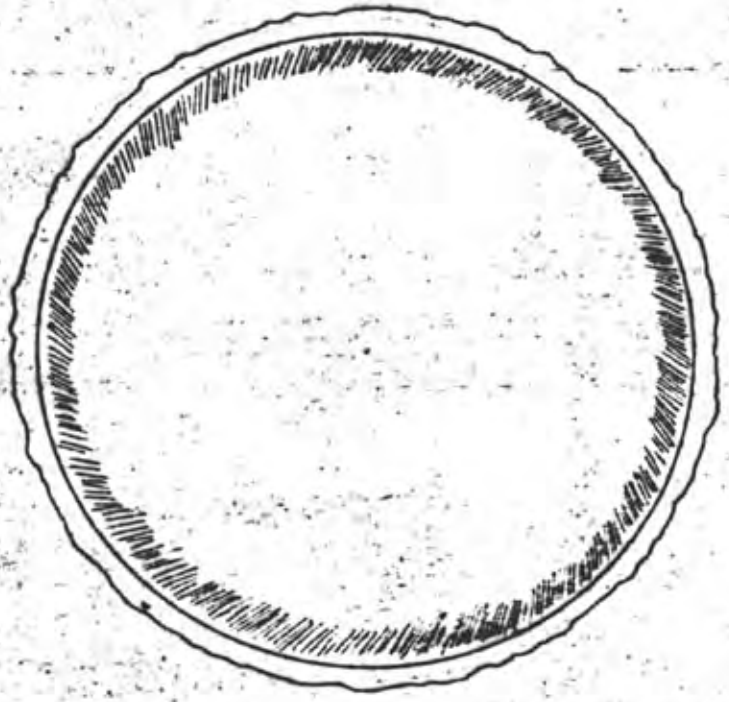
AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

[redacted]
(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 1 OF PAGES
	52-350	

SKETCH OF UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT SIGHTED BY 1ST LTS L. S. BASS AND R. L. BARNARD, OVER ASH CAKE CONTROL, 151345I NOV 52.



FOR COLOR AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS, SEE TEXT OF STATEMENT

102

GROUP INTELLIGENCE
6147TH TACTICAL CONTROL GROUP
APO 970

TCGI 18 November 1952

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

TO: Director of Intelligence
Fifth Air Force (Adv)
APO 970
ATTN: 6004th AISS, Det #1

In compliance with FEAF Letter AG 350.07, dated 5 March 1952 and in conjunction with investigation by 6004th AISS, the following report of an Unidentified Object is submitted:

1. Object was first sighted flying near deck off reverse slope of Papasan (CT 654455). Object was silver sphere and appeared to be translucent. There was no visible means of propulsion though the object appeared to be under control. There were no aerodynamic features nor identifying marks. Size of object was estimated by pilot to be from 8 to 10 feet in diameter. Object was heading North then turned and headed due South towards Mosquito aircraft. It orbited to left around Mosquito three (3) times at a distance of 100 yards to 1000 yards off right wing of Mosquito, at speeds ranging from 100 MPH (Estimate) to 700-800 MPH (Estimated). Object was last observed at approximately 18,000 feet, heading into the sun. No sound from object was heard.

2. Object was under observation for approximately 5 to 7 minutes from 1345I to 1352I.

3. Observation was visual, air to air from a T-6 aircraft flying at 10,500 feet, 130 miles per hour, in an orbit to left. Air Force issue sun glasses worn by the observer. No optical devices were used.

4. Object was at CT 654455 on initial sighting, flying close to the ground. It flew toward observers in the vicinity of CT 7754 coming within 100 yards, according to pilot.

5. Pilot was First Lieutenant Layten S. Bass who has flown 54 missions in Korea and the observer was First Lieutenant Richard I. Barnard who has flown 48 missions as a Mosquito observer. Observations of both are accepted as completely reliable.

Incl. # 5, page 1 of 2

#70

ATIC 1124222

[redacted] Unidentified Flying Objects

6. The weather at the time was clear with visibility at 10 to 15 miles. Winds at the time were generally from approximately [redacted] degrees with velocities up to 20 miles per hour at 10,000 feet.

7. [redacted]

8. [redacted]

9. [redacted] object was sighted approaching Mosquito, pilot kept in orbit to left to keep object in sight.

Francis C. Hanky

FRANCIS C. HANKY
Major, USAF
Intelligence Off.

4 Incls:
1. Statement of Pilot
2. Statement of Observer
3. Overlay of Route
4. Drawing

Encl. #5, page 2 of 2

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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

[redacted] (CLASSIFICATION)

28/11/52 JHC

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
Korea	52-350	AF459992

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT		
Unidentified Flying Object		
AREA REPORTED ON		FROM (Agency)
North Korea		Det 1, 6004th AISS, APO 970
DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
28 November 1952	16 November 1952	B-4
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1st Lt James F Power		6149th Tac Control Squadron

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
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SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

This report contains information concerning an unidentified flying object observed in the vicinity of CT795416.

APPROVED:

JOHN V. HEARN JR
Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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1 ea (5 incl)

5 INCLS
1. Statement of Pilot
2. Statement of Observer
3. Overlay of Route
4. Drawing
5. Ltr fr Gp Intell Officer

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1 cy ATIC, ATTN: ATIAA-2c
1 cy FEAF ATLO
1 cy Alaskan Air Com.

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4 Feb 53

DI, FEAF, cy 1
DI, 5 AF, cy 2
CO, 6004th AISS, cy 3
ATI, 6004th AISS, cy 4
ATLO, FEAF, cy 5
File, cy 6

ATIC 104032

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES
Det 1, 6004th AISS, APO 970	52-350	

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At 1345I, 15 November 1952, Lt Bass, pilot, and Lt Barnard, observer, were flying a combat mission in a T-6 aircraft over the central sector of the friendly main line of resistance. At the time cited, Lt Bass was flying in the vicinity of CT795418 at 130 miles per hour indicated air speed, 10,500 feet, indicated altitude and in a northerly direction. The weather conditions were clear, with visability from 15 to 20 miles. The sun at this time of day is in a south, south westerly position from the incident area. Winds at 10,000 feet were generally from 240 degrees with velocities up to 20 miles per hour.

Lt Bass first noted the unidentified object moving north, apparently close to the terrain. The sighting (points #1 on attached map overlay) was originally made against the slope of Osang-San (Papa-San) at CT654455. The object, initially dismissed by Lt Bass as an aircraft, moved north approximately five (5) miles and then turned south and gained altitude. At the same time the T-6 aircraft, was orbiting "Ash can Control" awaiting the arrival of fighter bombers which they were to control in a strike. When the T-6 aircraft was at point #2 as indicated in the map overlay, Lt Bass again sighted the object and identified it as not being an aircraft. This sighting was to the right of the T-6, at an estimated 100-200 yards. Lt Bass described it as spherical in shape, silver in color and approximately 8-10 feet in diameter. He further described the object as lacking any visable means of propulsion and having no protrusions of any sort. The surface was smooth. There was no audible sound.

When Lt Bass saw the object, which was moving at approximately the same speed as the aircraft, he turned the aircraft towards it slightly at which time the object headed south and began climbing at a high rate of speed, turning into a left orbit around the aircraft. Lt Bass called the object to the attention of Lt Barnard who saw it as it went into it's left hand orbit.

He first saw the object at the ten o'clock level position. Lt Barnard differs with the pilot on one point, as to distance, in that he estimates the minimum distance of sighting to be from 500 to 1,000 yards, (Closer to the latter).

In explanation for the difference between the estimates of minimum distance of the sighting, Lt Barnard suggests that he did not see the object till it was to the left of the aircraft and that the pilot initially observed it at the same altitude when the object was to the right of the aircraft.

Lt Barnard's description of the object was that it was a silver spherical object, approximately the size of a man's thumb nail held at extended arms length. He further described the object as "shimmering" and having a "halo" which surrounded the object. The halo was only of hairline thickness. He further stated that the shimmering effect appeared to be more apparent when the object was between the aircraft and the general direction of the sun. The object appeared to Lt Barnard as being darker at the edges, as a translucent sphere would appear when held up to a light.

That the object was turning in a left hand orbit about a central point, with the aircraft flying a tighter circle within the path of the object, was confirmed by both sources. The diameter of the circle marked by the object in it's path appeared to increase as it moved. After the first complete circle the object began to climb more rapidly, and continued increasing the radius of its circle.

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28/11/52 5 AF JHC

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COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

1. Both sources are considered to be compitent observers and sightings reported by them are considered reliable. Both officers gave exact information and during the interview were certain on all points of the observation. Lt Barnard, gave considerable detail in his debriefing which is reflected in the extensive statement that he supplied to supplement this report.

2. During the inquiry conducted by the investigating officer, Lt Bass indicated verbally that during his radio contact with Mosquito Godfrey, they reported that no other object besides their aircraft was picked up by the radar covering that sector.

3. Lt Col Andrew Payton, Operations Officer, 30th Weather Squadron was contacted. He stated that the only weather station maintained by the Air Force in that area was at Chip'o-Ri CT5222, however the largest weather balloon utilized by this unit is a 30 gram "ceiling" balloon with a miximum inflated size of 15 in. diameter. He further stated that there was little possibility of a weather balloon of any size performing as the object is reported doing under the prevailing conditions.

4. At Tokchong, Korea, CS3089, approximately south west of the area in which the object was sighted, the 1st Artillery Observation Battalion, an army light plane unit, maintains a meteorological station. The officer in charge, Warrant Officer Larry Redden stated that at 1257I on 15 November, 350 gram

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[redacted] (CLASSIFICATION)

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The balloon released was a natural latex (white) color. The rate of ascent on this size balloon in approximately 1200 feet per minute. Major Dooker of the Headquarters, Fifth Air Force, Weather Station, stated upon questioning, that at 10,000 feet a 350 gram balloon should maintain an approximate spherical shape unless one part of the balloon was weaker and should therefore bulge.

5. It is possible that the unidentified object could have been this 350 gram balloon.

JOHN H. CUMMING
Major, USAF
Commanding

D/I FEAF Comments:

1. The 350 gram balloon released 50 minutes previous to the sighting would not be expected to be at any visible altitude at the time of the incident unless it were leaking, (which would preclude the rapid climb described).

2. There have previously been a number of unidentified sightings in the CT and DT grid areas of Korea. Of these, at least 5 sightings have tentatively been identified as enemy balloons.

3. Vectoring an aircraft on a free balloon is actually difficult, and false impressions of rapid movement can easily be made. From the available information it appears that the object was probably a balloon, and possibly one launched by frontline enemy troops.

for CHARLES T. BANFILL
Brigadier General, USAF
Deputy for Intelligence

Subject: Statement of Unidentified Flying Object.

About the size I do not care to venture an actual estimate; however, as an infantryman I am accustomed to estimating lateral measurements on distant terrain features in finger breadths. Judging by this method, I have the impression that the apparent size of the object was about the size of a man's thumb nail when it was at its closest.

At this point it might be pertinent to note a possible explain for an apparent discrepancy between Lieutenant Bass's estimate of size and distance by pointing out that he saw the object considerably before I did. He states that at one time the object was approximately 100 yards off our right wing, but this must undoubtedly have been before he directed my attention to it, because at no time while I had it in sight was it anywhere to our right side. I had to turn my head sometimes toward the front and sometimes toward the rear of the plane to keep the object in view, but always toward the left hand side.

When I first spotted the object it was in a position which I described to Lieutenant Bass as "10 o'clock level" (in order to confirm my belief that this was the object he had referred to in his initial comment), but of course this was an approximate description. It was actually somewhat lower, climbing rather fast, so I first saw it silhouetted against mountains on the horizon. It climbed to an approximate level with us, heading in a general Southerly direction, that is opposite to our direction of travel at the moment. Being in a left hand orbit and having the object on our left flank, we were turning toward it, which meant that if it were traveling a straight heading, its position relative to us would shift from left flank to approximately straight ahead as our nose came in line with it. However, it continued to maintain pretty much the same position relative to us, which meant that it too was in a left hand orbit. It performed one full cycle of orbit on an approximate level with us, meanwhile receding slowly, which signified that it was lengthening its radius of orbit. It then began to climb rapidly, continuing its orbit and continuing slowly to increase its radius. It continued this process for at least two and possibly three full cycles (it is difficult to be precise on this exact point).

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Bass, who had reported the sighting to Mosquito Godfrey as soon as I had confirmed it to him, was continously describing the object and its actions on the radio, and I heard him estimate its altitude at very short intervals (certainly not over a minute apiece), successively as 12,000, 15,000, and finally 18,000 feet, at which broke from its orbit and headed in a general Southwesterly direction toward the general neighborhood of the sun. We lost sight of it in the glare area surrounding the sun. It was slightly North of the sun's position when I lost it. I was wearing standard Air Force issue, greenish brown, sunglasses, neither particularly clean or particularly dirty. Lieutenant Bass wore no glasses and therefore doubtless lost sight of it sooner in the sun glare.

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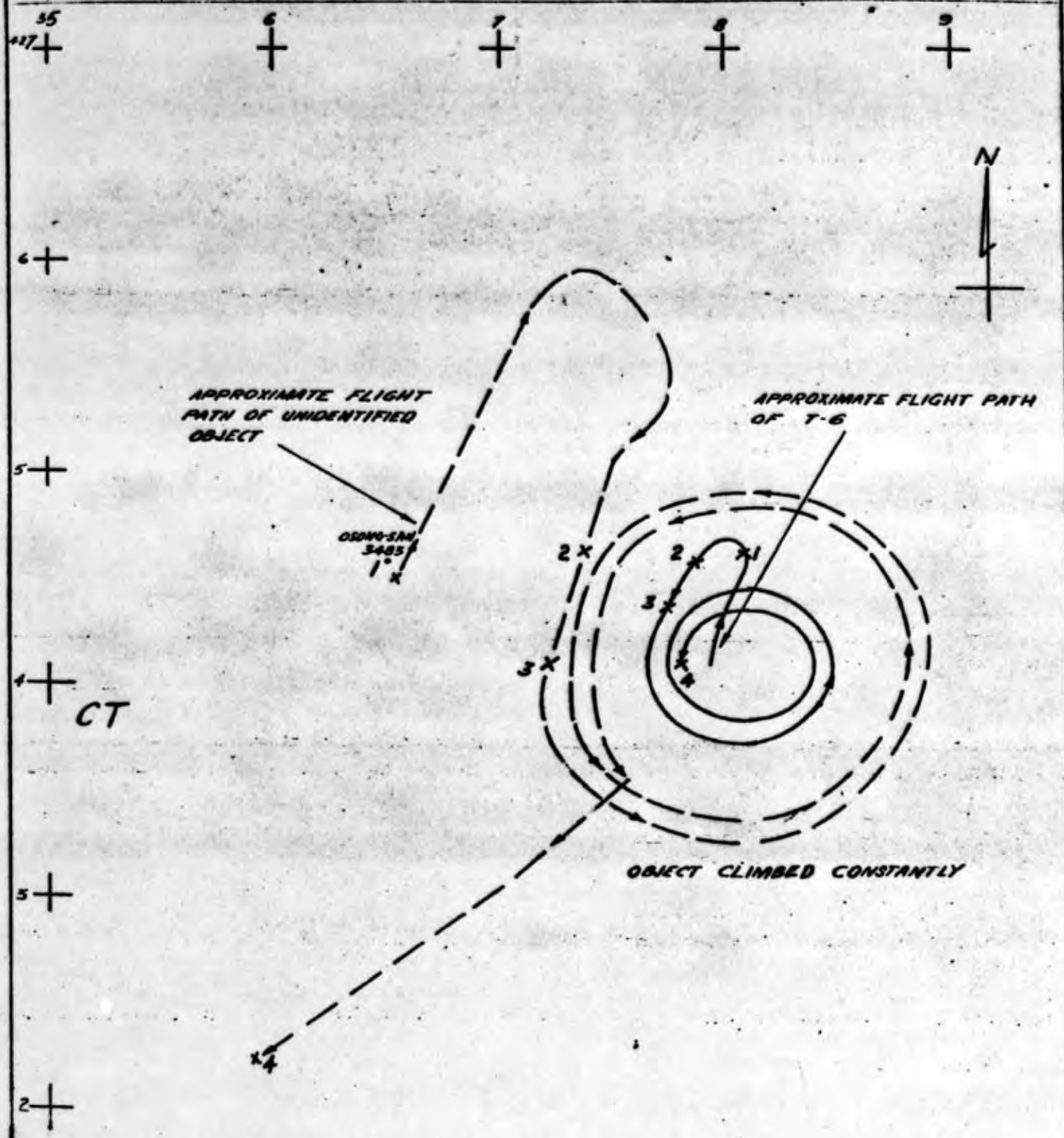

MAP OVERLAY OF PYONGGANG (380 B III) G
USAF AERONAUTICAL APPROACH CHART
SCALE 1:250,000

NOTE:
NUMBERS IN FLIGHT PATHS OF T-6 AND OBJECT INDICATE POSITIONS.

ATIC

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[redacted]
(CLASSIFICATION)

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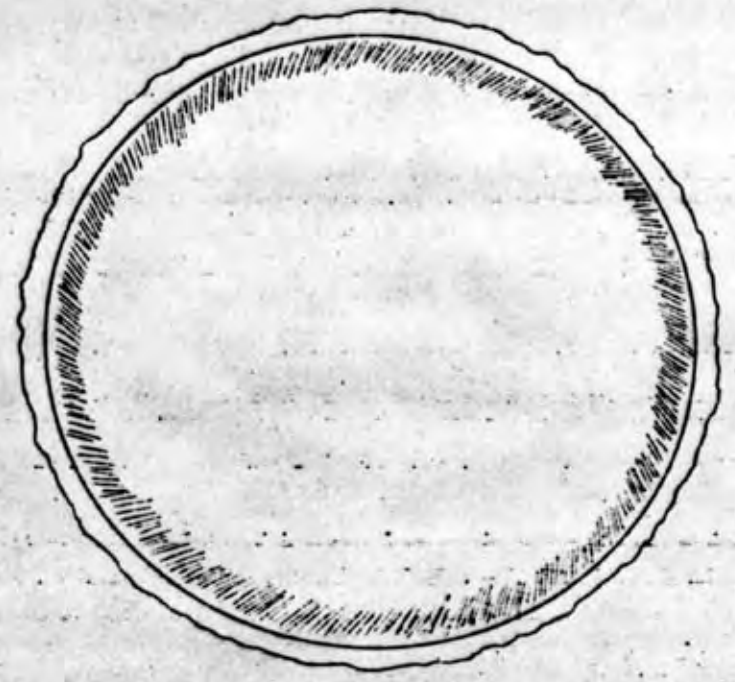
SKETCH OF UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT SIGHTED BY 1ST LTS L. S. BASS AND R. I. BARNARD, OVER ASH CAKE CONTROL, 1513451 NOV 52.



FOR COLOR AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS, SEE TEXT OF STATEMENT

AIIC 28540

[redacted]

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S T A T E M E N T 18 November 1952

On 15 November 1952, I was pilot in a T-6 flying Ash Cake #4 in the vicinity of CT 7754. The weather at the time, 1345I, was clear and visibility was 15 to 20 miles.

nl 1

At 1345I, 15 November 1952, I sighted an unidentified object at CT 654455, on a heading of North and apparently flying close to the terrain. The object flew North for approximately five (5) miles at which time it turned back South and started gaining altitude. The object climbed to 10,500 feet and was approximately 100-200 yards West of my position. At this time, I observed that the object was not an aircraft, but was a spherically shaped silver colored object. It appeared to be about 8 to 10 feet in diameter. It had no external protrusions nor any visible means of propulsion. At this time I started to turn toward the object, when it suddenly headed South and climbed at a tremendous rate of speed, estimated between 500 and 700 miles per hour. The object began orbiting my position and climbing until it had made 3 complete orbits.

Mosquito Godfrey was immediataly notified of the presence of the object.

Object was last seen headed in a Southwesterly direction, directly into the sun and estimated to be at approximately 18,000 feet.

Object was observed by the naked eye. I was not wearing sun glasses nor using any optical devices. Object was observed for approximately 5 to 7 minutes.

Layten S Bass
LAYTEN S. BASS
1st Lt., USAF
Pilot

of 15 7 9 2

Incl. #1

Incl #1

AFIC 10

SECRET

STATEMENT 19 November 1952

At 1345I hours, 15 November 1952, I was flying as an observer with Lieutenant Layton S. Bass. At this moment we were orbiting above Ash Cake Control at an indicated altitude of 10,500 feet, awaiting the arrival of a flight of fighters which we were prepared to control in putting in a strike. We were making a steady, circular left hand orbit, and after reaching the mentioned altitude, continued to hold the altitude and the orbit. The time can be fixed because the scheduled time over target for contacting the fighters was set for that hour, and when our clocks indicated the scheduled time, Lieutenant Bass contacted Ash Cake Control and was informed that as yet they had negative contact with the fighters.

Shortly after this moment, certainly less than a minute, Lieutenant Bass drew my attention to the object. I do not recall his exact words, but they were in the nature of a brief, noncommittal, general comment like "Look at that" or "Do you see that?" There was no suggestion of what he had reference to, and the direction in which he was looking was my only clue as to the location of the sighting. He was gazing to our left front, and immediately I looked in that general direction, I sighted the object. It was an obvious sighting and seized my attention immediately. It was a silvery, shimmering, apparently perfectly spherical object, with a slight halo or corona. This halo was not thick in comparison to the diameter of the object, being a mere hairline in apparent thickness, a sort of hazy radiance, which did not, however, in any way or at any point blur or mar the hard, sharp outline of the sphere's circumference.

The sphere itself was rather darker around the periphery than at the center, as a globe of translucent substance will appear when silhouetted against a source of light. However, at no time during the sighting was the object actually in direct line between us and the sun, and there was no other conceivable source of light at the time. The surface of the sphere appeared to glint or shimmer, as if with reflected light. However, this shimmering appearance was, if anything, somewhat more apparent when the object was between us and the general direction of the sun, when presumably the surface presented to our view would be shadowed, than it was when we were looking at it with the sun at our backs. The word "translucent" flashed into my mind spontaneously almost immediately upon sighting it.

At the precise instant that I personally sighted it, it was, as I have said, off our left front, and was at that moment at the closest range that it was to be during my own personal sighting. I am unaccustomed to estimating distances between objects at a high altitude in the open air, but I am inclined to believe, from my momentary first impression of the object in relation to the terrain that it was between 500 and 1,000 yards distant, probably closer to the latter figure.

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Subject: Statement of Unidentified Flying Object.

Until the object left its orbit, it maintained an approximately uniform position in relation to us, varying a few degrees forward or aft of our left wing and, of course, higher as it began to climb. At one point it apparently had accelerated somewhat and its orbit gained on ours so that I was looking backward at about 45 degrees, but Lieutenant Bass either opened up the controls or tightened our orbit, or both, so that we brought it back approximately inline with our left wing. I had deduced at the outset that it was following a larger orbit concentric with ours, and this impression was confirmed. We were evidently at opposite ends of the diameter, and the fact that we and it held our same relative positions for so long in spite of disparity of orbit sizes is significant in regard to its speed. In order to maintain the same angular velocity in a much larger orbit, its linear velocity must have been greater in direct ratio to the circumferences of the orbits. I have not developed any skill in estimating speed of objects in the air, but under the circumstances Lieutenant Bass's estimate of 500-700 miles per hour appears to fall within an entirely reasonable range of magnitude. The fact that it kept receding indicates that it was increasing its orbit, therefore it must have been accelerating rather uniformly and smoothly to maintain its same relative position.

The motion of the sphere during the entire period of observation was smooth and forceful, devoid of any jerkiness, wiggling, wavering, bumpiness, and there were no irregularities or deflection of travel which suggested influence by air currents. It is impossible for me, personally, to conceive of an inanimate object, obeying the laws of physics, to act in such a manner with out intelligent, artificial control and direction. I have also considered the possibility of light refraction phenomena, although not a graduate phycist, I am familiar with the general principles of optics, and unless it can be scientifically proved otherwise, I refuse flatly to believe that any light refraction phenomenon can present such uniformity and definiteness in its appearance from such a tremendous variety of ranges, altitudes, angles of inspection, and optical conditions, nor that its motion over such a period of time (5 to 7 minutes) could continuously be so smooth and regular and lend itself so readily to an obvious theory of purposeful action.

It is worthwhile to point out, in this connection, that we saw the object against varying backgrounds of dark mountains in the distance, blue sky, and clouds, and that its appearance, like that of a known material object, contrasted light against the terrain, relatively dark against the clouds, and shiny against the blue sky.

On one previous occasion, while flying with another pilot, I had seen what I believe may well have been a refraction phenomenon (I was unable to point it out to the pilot). It appeared as a bright speck against a distance dark cloud bank, and apparently stood motionless for several minutes, then suddenly took off on a Northerly heading at a terrific rate of speed.

Subject: Statement of Unidentified Flying Object.

This type of conduct from dead rest to instantaneous swift motion is possible for a light refraction phenomenon, but absolutely impossible for a material object possessing weight and mass. It is significant that the object observed by Lieutenant Bass and myself performed no instantaneous radical changes of speed or direction; its motion was everywhere characteristic of a material object under intelligent control.

In conclusion, I would like to point out, for what ever weight it may give my observations, that in civil life, I was a professional time study and methods analyst, with four years practical experience in industry, and in the course of my duties I frequently had to describe, subsequently, in writing, observations which it was not practical to record at the time. I had also, at the time of this sighting, flown forty some missions as a Mosquito observer, and have necessarily learned to observe quickly and draw conclusions from my observations.

Richard I. Barnard

RICHARD I. BARNARD
1st Lt., USA
Observer

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42-5512

GROUP INTELLIGENCE
6147TH TACTICAL CONTROL GROUP
APO 970

TCGI 18 November 1952

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

TO: Director of Intelligence
Fifth Air Force (Adv)
APO 970
ATTN: 6004th AISS, Det #1

In compliance with FEAF Letter AG 350.07, dated 5 March 1952 and in conjunction with investigation by 6004th AISS, the following report of an Unidentified Object is submitted:

1. Object was first sighted flying near deck off reverse slope of Papasan (CT 654455). Object was silver sphere and appeared to be translucent. There was no visible means of propulsion though the object appeared to be under control. There were no aerodynamic features nor identifying marks. Size of object was estimated by pilot to be from 8 to 10 feet in diameter. Object was heading North then turned and headed due South towards Mosquito aircraft. It orbited to left around Mosquito three (3) times at a distance of 100 yards to 1000 yards off right wing of Mosquito, at speeds ranging from 100 MPH (Estimate) to 700-800 MPH (Estimated). Object was last observed at approximately 18,000 feet, heading into the sun. No sound from object was heard.

2. Object was under observation for approximately 5 to 7 minutes from 1345I to 1352I.

3. Observation was visual, air to air from a T-6 aircraft flying at 10,500 feet, 130 miles per hour, in an orbit to left. Air Force issue sun glasses worn by the observer. No optical devices were used.

4. Object was at CT 654455 on initial sighting, flying close to the ground. It flew toward observers in the vicinity of CT 7754 coming within 100 yards, according to pilot.

5. Pilot was First Lieutenant Layton S. Bass who has flown 54 missions in Korea and the observer was First Lieutenant Richard I. Barnard who has flown 45 missions as a Mosquito observer. Observations of both are accepted as completely reliable.

AF 45 2912

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object.

6. The weather at the time was clear with visibility at 10 to 15 miles. Winds at the time were generally from approximately 240 degrees with velocities up to 20 miles per hour at 10,000 feet.

7. None

8. None

9. When object was sighted approaching Mosquito, pilot kept in orbit to left to keep object in sight.

Francis C. Haney

FRANCIS C. HANEY
Major, USAF
Intelligence Off.

4 Incls:
1. Statement of Pilot
2. Statement of Observer
3. Overlay of Route
4. Drawing