[redacted]

Incident #111

UNCLASSIFIED

ATIC NO. ----

DATE OF INFO 1 April 1948

AF NO. ---

LOCATION 124° 3' E, 12° 52' N

REPORT NO. ---

SOURCE USAF Pilot

DATE OF REPORT ---

DATE IN TO ATIC ------

TIME OF SIGHTING 0955

COLOR silver

SHAPE half moon resembling flying type a/c turtle back and indistinct dorsal fin

SPEED 200 mph

Estimated

Measured

SIZE wing span 30', length 20'

ALTITUDE 1,000'

Estimated

Measured

COURSE 27°

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 60 secs

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION aerial

SOUND ----

MANEUVERS revealed great acceleration

PHOTOS

SKETCHES

UNCLASSIFIED

BIRD

~~Unidentified~~

(SEE FEAF COMMENT)

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

[redacted]

Incident No. 111 — 1 April ~~1947~~ 1948, 0955 Hours, Central Phillipines. An F-47 pilot leading three other aircraft at 1500 ft saw an object approximately three miles away at 1000 ft. Object appeared to be a flying wing thirty by twenty feet, silver in color. The pilot turned to intercept the object and the object turned on nearly the same course and disappeared from sight in five seconds. Object appeared to have a dorsal fin but distance was too great to note any other features. The report does not reveal whether any of the other pilots saw the object.

ATIC Opinion: No definite explanation. However, every pilot has experienced the sensation of seeing an aircraft obliquely at nearly the limit of vision and then losing sight at the same range when the aircraft presented, in stern view, a smaller surface.

With 194 incidents thus eliminated, there remain thirty-four which contain some evidence but have no apparent ready explanation. This statement is true only under the assumption that the evidence is accepted as reliable and accurate. When psychological and physiological factors are taken into consideration, all of these incidents can be explained rationally, as pointed out by Rand Corporation and Dr. Fitts of Air Materiel Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (see Appendices "E" and "G").

Air Materiel Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (Dr. Paul M. Fitts 212 Incidents considered)

There are sufficient psychological explanations for the reports of unidentified flying objects to provide plausible explanations for reports not otherwise explainable. These errors in identifying real stimuli result chiefly from inability to estimate speed, distance, and size.

All of the remaining 34 incidents are treated in detail in this report. These incidents form no pattern in regard to area of sighting, type of object, or manner of performance. There are indications, however, that some sightings were influenced by earlier reports, and probably would not have been considered unusual or reported had been no publicity.

APPENDIX I

Project Grudge

Summary of AMC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

VII. Summary of AMC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

The remaining unexplained incidents (see Appendix "I") exhibited few common characteristics. Two of them, by statements of the reporters, could not have been made had the witnesses not read of the Mt. Rainier incident (Incident No. 17). Most were distributed without pattern throughout the United States. A few were outside the U. S. No two descriptions of appearance or performance were exactly alike. The reported sightings occurred at various times of day and year.

APPENDIX I

In the following section of this report, each remaining unexplained incident is considered separately. It is not the intent to generally discredit the character of observers, but each case has undesirable elements, and these cannot be disregarded. The numerical designation is merely the categorical order of the incident in the project files.

1, 10, 17, 21, 29, 35, 37, 40, 51, 56, 62, 64, 66, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84,
111, 122, 134, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 236.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Incident #111 -- Philippine Islands -- 1 April 1948

There appears to be nothing astronomical in this incident.

At a distance of 3 miles an object 20 feet long would subtend an angle of slightly more than 4 minutes of arc, and hence would be very near to the limit of the resolution of the eye. The object must have been very much larger, if the distance is correct, for the observer to discern its shape and its turtle back.

Since the object was seen by only one person, and since the description is contradictory, it seems to this investigator that not much weight can be given to the incident.

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

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 111

1. Date 1 April 1948
2. Time 0955
3. Location 124° 3' East, 12° 52' North
4. Name of observer 1st Lt. Robert W. Meyers
5. Occupation of observer P-47 pilot
6. Address of observer 67th Fighter Sq, 18th Fighter Group
7. Place of observation Phillippine Islands - sighted object from plane
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer 3 miles
10. Time in sight Approximately 60 seconds
11. Altitude 1,000 ft
12. Speed 200 MPH - disappeared in 5 seconds, indicating great acceleration)
13. Direction of flight 270°
14. Tactics Revealed great acceleration
15. Sound none
16. Size wing-span 30 feet, length 20 feet
17. Color silver
18. Shape A half moon closely resembling a flying wing type aircraft, turtle back and an indistinct dorsal fin.
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails None observed
22. Weather conditions scattered cumulus, base 3000 ft, tops 6000 ft
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs none
25. Manner of disappearance Object leveled out on a 270° heading, accelerated rapidly and disappeared from sight.
26. Remarks: (over)

3-2190

On 1st April, at 0955, 1st Lt Meyers was leading a flight of 4 P-47 aircraft of the 67th Fighter Sq, 18th Fighter Group. He was flying a heading of 180°, altitude 1500 feet, position 124° 3' East and 12° 52' North, when he sighted an unidentified object approximately three (3) miles east of his position and at an estimated altitude of 1,000 ft, heading 360°. The object appeared to be a flying wing type aircraft, its shape resembled a half-moon. What appeared to be a dorsal fin was barely perceptible. The span of the object was estimated to be 30 feet, length 20 feet. The object was silver in color. Upon sighting the object, Lt Meyers immediately started a left turn with the intention of intercepting and to more positively identify the phenomena. While Meyers was making a 240° turn the object made a 90° left turn, then leveled out on a heading of 270°, accelerated rapidly and disappeared from sight in approximately 5 seconds. There was no sound heard, and no exhaust trails were observed. At the time of the sighting visibility was unlimited, scattered cumulus, base 3000 ft, tops 6000 ft.

NOTE: Because of the distance from which the sighting was made no distinguishing features, i. e., power units, landing gear, armament or cockpit were observed.

The interview with Lt Meyers indicated that he is a reliable non-excitable individual who appeared quite positive in his statements. He was the only witness to this incident as he could not contact his wing men since his radio was out. Apparently the maneuvers performed by his 3 wing-men prevented their observation of the object.

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

BASIC: Ltr Hq 13th AF, APO 719, Subj: "Rpt of Sighting of Unidentified Aircraft and/or Flying Object," dtd 8 Apr 48.

AG 452.1 A-2 1st Ind 15 APR 1948

HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST AIR FORCES, APO 925,

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attention: MCI

1. Reference is made to letter Headquarters United States Air Force, subject: "Reporting of Information on 'Flying Discs'" dated 26 February 1948.

2. Evaluation of sighting described in basic communication by this headquarters is that in view of the circumstances surrounding the incident, the object was probably a bird.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

C. N. STEWART
Capt, AGD.
Asst Adj Gen

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

UNCLASSIFIED

T-22190

AF AG REG # 2624 [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS, THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE
CLARK AIR FORCE BASE
APO 719

B-2/am

8 APR 1948

AG 452.1

SUBJECT: Report of Sighting of Unidentified Aircraft and/or Flying Object.

TO : Commanding General,
Far East Air Forces,
APO 925,
U. S. Army.
ATTN: AC/S, A-2

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

1. In compliance with "Intelligence Requirements - Unidentified Aircraft" and letters, your headquarters, AG 452.1 A-2, 3 November 1947 and AG 452.1 A-2, 20 March 1948, the following incident is reported.

2. At 1630 hours on 1 April 1948, the S-2 officer of the 18th Fighter Group contacted the A-2 Division, this headquarters, and reported that 1st Lt. Robert W. Meyers had sighted an unidentified flying object. His story is as follows.

3. On 1 April, at 0955, 1st Lt. Meyers was leading a flight of four (4) P-47 aircraft of the 67th Fighter Squadron, 18th Fighter Group. He was flying a heading of 180 degrees, altitude 1500 feet, position 124 degrees 3 minutes east and 12 degrees 52 minutes north, when he sighted an unidentified object approximately three (3) miles east of his position and at an estimated altitude of 1000 feet, heading of 360 degrees. The object appeared to be a flying wing type aircraft, its shape resembled a half moon, what appeared to be a dorsal fin was barely perceptible, the span of the object estimated to be thirty feet, length twenty feet and silver in color. Upon sighting the object, Lt. Meyers immediately started a left turn with the intention of intercepting and to more positively identify this phenomena. While Meyers was making a 240 degree turn, the unidentified object made a 90 degree left turn, then leveled out on a heading of 270 degrees, accelerated rapidly and disappeared from sight in approximately five seconds. There was no sound heard, and no exhaust trails were observed. At the

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FILE NO. REG: 2624

T-22190

UNCLASSIFIED

B-2, AG 452.1, Subject: "Report of Sighting of Unidentified Aircraft and/or Flying Object."

time of the sighting visibility was unlimited, scattered cumulus, base 3000 feet, tops 6000 feet.

a. Because of the distance from which the sighting was made, no distinguishing features i.e. power units, landing gear, armament or cockpit were observed.

b. The interview with Lt. Meyers indicated that he is a reliable, non-excitable individual and appeared quite positive in his statements. It must be taken into consideration however that he was the only witness to this incident, as he was unable to call the object to the attention of his three wing-men because of their maneuvering in the turn, plus the fact that his radio was out.

3. Above incident reported your headquarters, 2 April 48, in radio, cite K4243H.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

ROBERT F. DE LONG
1st Lt. USAF
Acting Asst Adjutant General

FEAF
FORWARDED
82-937
8 APR 1948
HQ XIII AF
FI

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2624

T-22190