

PROJECT KIDS RECORD CARD

23 21 Feb 52	2. LOCATION NORTH KOREA (Soviet)	3. WEATHER ☐ Clear ☐ Partly Cloudy ☐ Cloudy ☐ Foggy ☐ Rain ☐ Snow ☐ Thunderstorm ☐ Other
1. DATE-TIME GROUP 23/2315 I 23/2315 S	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground Visual ☐ Air Visual ☐ Radar ☐ Other	5. COMMENTS ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Possibly ☐ Definitely ☐ Indefinitely ☐ Unknown
6. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 45 seconds	7. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	8. COMMENTS ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Possibly ☐ Definitely ☐ Indefinitely ☐ Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Cylindrical shaped bluish object with a tail traveled at high altitude at high speed. Object made various turns then leveled off disappearing by fading out.		11. COMMENTS 1. Possible rocket with electronic guiding device, however, the exact identity is unknown.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT STATUS REPORT 4

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APPENDIX IV

Korea - 24 February 1952

I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

On the night of 24 February 1952, at 2315 local Korean time, the navigator of a B-29 observed an unidentified aerial object. The B-29 was picked up by searchlights and about 45 seconds later the navigator sighted an object approaching from 7 o'clock. The object was estimated to be over Antung at this time. The object appeared to be cylindrical in shape and had a rapidly pulsating gaseous type of exhaust trail. The exhaust trail was approximately three times the length of the object with both the tail blast and the object bluish in color.

When first observed the object appeared to be climbing at 45°, however, it leveled off approximately 4,000 ft. from the B-29 and turned toward the B-29 as if taking up an interception course. The object continued to close on the B-29 at high velocity for approximately 15 seconds after which time it broke off level flight and headed down, passing under the B-29 at a gradual angle. As the object began to descend the flame diminished in size and got brighter. The navigator estimated that the object came within 3000 ft. of the aircraft and "it appeared to be the size of an automobile". (Assumed to mean the same size as an automobile viewed from 3,000 ft.)

The B-29 was flying at 22,000 ft. altitude and at a speed of 200 knots.

The searchlights stayed with the aircraft for approximately four minutes and weak inaccurate flak was encountered during the entire incident.

Weak electronic signals were picked up by the electronic counter-measures operator for a short time.

II. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

More details on the sighting have been requested from FFAF. Since the object resembles a surface-to-air guided missile, the incident has been referred to the ATIC guided missiles group.

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

17
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T52-5836

~~SECRET~~

V

AIR 08
AFM DE AIR
TAGA A03
AIR DE AGA
AIA B01
AGA DE AIA
JAPYC B71

RR JEDWP JEPHQ 222
DE JAPYC 23B

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PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE COMPTO CENTER
BEFORE 1500Z 23 FEB 73
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DOD DIR 5200.10

FM CC FEAF TOKYO JAPAN
TO JEDWP/CG ATIC WPAFB OHIO
ZEN/CG ADC ENT AFB COLO
INFO JEPHQ/HQ USAF WASHDC

/S E C R E T/CRYPTOPRECAUTION APPLIES/ A2671 INT-EVAL PASS TO
AFOIN PD FOLG IS GIST OF PRELIMINARY REPT RECD FR FEAF BOMCOM
COVERING OPRS OF NIGHT OF 24 FEB CLN QUOTE AT 2315/I CMA B-29
OVER XE 2838 CMA HEADING 30 DEGREES CMA ALT 22000 FEET CMA
WAS PICKED UP BY TWO SLTS CENG ON RIGHT SIDE OF ACFT CMA
WITHIN 45 SECONDS NAV SIGHTED OBJ APPROACHING FR 30 DEGREES LEFT
REAR SMCLN PSN OF OBJ OVER GRD AT TIME OF INITIAL SIGHTING ESTD
AT XE 2342 PD NO LAUNCHING BLAST OBSRD PD AS OBJ APPROACHED
CMA IT WAS OBSRD TO BE CYLINDRICAL IN SHAPE W/RAPIDLY PULSATING
GASEOUS TYPE PRPLS BLAST APRX THREE TIMES THE LGTH OF THE FWD

NOTED AND
COMMENT FWD
TO DE/OSAF
(AND R WARE
ATT GEN PORT)
J. G. G.

1. AT/AA
2. AT/A
3. AT/
4. Central File

ACTION

PAGE TWO JAPYC 23B

MASS PD BOTH TAIL BLAST AND OBJ BLUISH IN COLOR PD CRSE OF OBJ
INITIALLY 45 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZ SMCLN HOWEVER CMA OBJ LEVELLED
OFF APRX 4000 FEET FR B-29 AND TURNED LEFT AS THOUGH CORRECTING
TO INTCP UN CFT AT PREDICTED PT PD OBJ CONTD TO CLOSE TO POT
INTCP PT AT HIGH VEL FOR APRX 15 SECONDS AFTER WHICH IT BROKE
OFF LEVEL FLT AND HEADED DOWN PASSING UNDER B-29 AT GRADUAL ANGLE PD
EXHAUST RAPIDLY DIMINISHED IN SIZE AND BECAME BRIGHTER IN COLOR
WHEN OBJ BROKE OFF LEVEL FLT PD CLOSEST DIS TO B-29 CLN 3000
FEET AT WHICH PT OBJ APPEARED TO BE SIZE OF AN QUOTE AUTOMOBILE
UNQUOTE PD NAV ONLY CR/M TO OBSR OBJ PD B-29 REMAINED AT 22000
FEET CMA SPEED 200 KNOTS PD SLTS IN TWO AND FOUR LIGHT MULTIPLE
PICKUPS CONTD TO ILLUMINATE B-29 FOR APRX FOUR MINUTES AND MEAGER
CMA INACCURATE FLAK WAS ENCOUNTERED DURING ENTIRE INCIDENT PD
ECM OPR RECD WEAK ELECT SIGS CMA BUT WAS UNABLE TO TAKE ELECT
COUNTER MEASS PD B-29 EVASIVE ACTION SERIES OF QUOTE S UNQUOTE
CURVES FOLD BY SHALLOW DIVE AT WHICH TIME SLTS ANDIFLAK CEASED
PD WEA CAVU PD UNQUOTE NO INFO AT THIS TIME TO DETERMINE
WHETHER OBJ WAS ACFT CMA CRD TO AIR TO AIR-TO-AIR MSL PD
REINTERROGATION OF CREW UNDERWAY AND FULL INVES WILL BE MADE
26/2345Z FEB JAPYC

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732-507

CSAF ITEM 1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TT 53
27 FEB 52
CSAF ITEM 1
ATIAA

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TO ATIAA-2C RUPPELT FROM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET

FEAF CABLE AX 2663 INT-EVAL DTD 26 FEB 52

REFERS TO CYLINDRICAL OBJECT WITH BLUISH

TRAIL TRAVELLING AT HIGH SPEED SIGHTED BY B-29

OVER KOREA. SINCE CG AMC IS ONE OF ADDRESSEES,

ASSUME YOU CAN OBTAIN COPY. 81,95, PLEASE

ADVISE AND WE WILL FURNISH YOU WITH EXTRACT.

END CSAF ITEM 1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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ATIAA

ACTION

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

FROM: ~~CG, ATIC~~DATE TIME GROUP
282000Z Feb 52

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

Routine

INFORMATION

Routine

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

A2671

CLASSIFICATION

TO: ~~CG, FEAF~~
Tokyo, Japan
R A D N O T EINFO: Director of Intelligence
Hq USAF
Washington 25, D. C.
R A D N O T E

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Reference your message A2671 dated 262335Z Feb 52. Request that results of reinterrogation of crew be forwarded in most expeditious manner as more details are needed to evaluate incident.

Preliminary analysis indicates the object may be a subsonic surface-to-air missile possibly similar to German Schmetterling design.

Form 112 No IR-1-52 dated 27 Feb 52
from FEAF Bom Com has been prepared. ATIC
does not have it yet.

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DOB DIR 5200.10

T52-5079-A

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

Lt. E. J. Ruppelt/peg

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SYMBOL

ATIAA-2c

TELEPHONE

54261

OFFICIAL TITLE

PAGE

2

1 PAGES

DD FORM 173
1 OCT 49REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 42
WHICH MAY BE USED:

16-58933-3 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

ATIAA-2c

~~SECRET~~
AUTH:CO,ATIC
By: F.E.Smith
Capt, USAF
29 Feb 52

29 February 1952

Mr. C.F. Zimmerman, ATIA

AFON-A
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~~Reference~~ ^{Cable} Reference ~~Message~~ from CG FEAF JAPIC-23B

dated 26 February 1952, re sighting of object on night of 24 February 1952. Based on performance deduced from the reported information, object appears to be a subsonic surface-to-air guided missile, possibly of the German Schmetterling type. Current estimates credit the Soviets with the capability of having an operational surface-to-air guided missile of this type now, although until this time there has been no intelligence on which to credit the Soviets with more than a capability. A more complete evaluation of this sighting will be made upon receipt of complete information from FEAF.

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DOE DIR 5200.10

Mr. C.F. Zimmerman, ATIA

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(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY Korea	REPORT NO. IR-1-52	(LEAVE BLANK) af 421027 11
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Ground to Air Missile, Possibly Guided.		
AREA REPORTED ON North Korea	FROM (Agency) FEAF BomCom	
DATE OF REPORT 27 Feb 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 23 Feb 1952	EVALUATION B-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) Captain I. O. Mitchell, Flak Intel. Officer	SOURCE Captain R. W. Smith, 345 B.S. 98th B.W.	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) NONE		

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.)

A navigator on a B-29 leaflet drop mission flown on the night of 23 Feb southeast of Sinuiju observed a ground to air rocket with flight guiding characteristics.

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I. O. Mitchell
I. O. MITCHELL
Captain, USA
Interrogating Officer

APPROVED:

William B. Merrill, Jr.
WILLIAM B. MERRILL, JR.
Lt. Col., USAF
Deputy for Intelligence

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(CLASSIFICATION)

11163—FEC P&PC—J 51—21M

AF 49640

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM: Agency	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
FEAF BomCom	IR-1-52	2	2	

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At 2315L, a B-29 on leaflet mission at XE 2838 heading 030°, altitude 22,000 ft, was picked up in searchlight beam by two lights on right side of acft. Within 45 seconds after acft was illuminated by searchlights, navigator observed object approaching acft from position on ground estimated to be at XE 2342. No launching blast was observed and object appeared to approach acft at an angle of 30° from the left rear. When observer initially spotted object, it appeared to be round in shape and bright blue in color. As it came closer to the acft, the shape appeared cylindrical with tail approximately three times length of the forward mass of object. The color of the tail was the same as object and appeared to be a rapidly pulsating gaseous type propulsion blast. Observer saw object for an estimated 45 seconds. The course of the object was at an angle of 45° from horizontal, of high velocity, flat in trajectory until it leveled off approximately 4000 ft. from acft. It assumed level flight characteristics, turned to the left as though making a correction to intercept acft at a predicted point. The object continued to close in toward interception point on level with acft for about 15 seconds and then broke off in flight and head down and underneath acft at gradual angle. At the closest point, the object appeared to come within approximately 3000 ft. of acft and appeared to be the size of an automobile. As it broke off from level flight, the tail diminished rapidly in size and became brighter in color. The indicated air speed of acft was 200 knots and acft remained at 22,000 ft. altitude. Searchlights continued to illuminate acft and meager, inaccurate flak was encountered during entire period object was observed. Searchlights worked in multiples of two and four light pickups, and kept ship illuminated for approximately four minutes. ECM operator received weak electronic signals, but was unable to take electronic countermeasures. Pilot executed evasion action in a series of "S" curves, then made a shallow dive and searchlights and flak ceased. Weather was clear and visibility unlimited.

Navigator who observed object is experienced. Served in WW II, holds grade of Captain and has flown 15 combat missions over North Korea. Has never observed an object previously and is of the opinion that he saw a rocket. He is positive that object was not searchlight reflection or another acft. He is the only member of the air crew who reported observing anything unusual. He is considered extremely reliable and rational.

Comments of Interrogating Officer. Bright blue flame suggests possibility of alcohol and liquid oxygen fuel. Changes in course of flight of rocket indicate possibility of electronic guiding device.

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I. O. Mitchell
I. O. MITCHELL
Captain, USA
Interrogating Officer

APPROVED:

William B. Merrill
WILLIAM B. MERRILL, JR.
Lt. Col., USAF
Deputy for Intelligence

AMC ITEM 9/C
FROM ATIAA-2C/ LT E. J. RUPPELT
TO AFOIN-V/TCB CAPTAIN FOURNET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

TT 56
28 FEB 52

~~SECRET~~ REFERENCE IS MADE TO YOUR ITEMS
IN TELECON OF 27 FEB 51. ATIC HAS WIRES ON BOTH KOREAN
INCIDENT OF 24 FEB AND IRANIAN
INCIDENT OF 10 FEB.
KOREAN INCIDENT HAS BEEN TURNED OVER
TO ATIC GUIDED MISSILES GROUP, BUT
NO EVALUATION HAS BEEN MADE
AS YET. DESCRIPTION IRANIAN INCIDENT INDICATED
THE POSSIBILITY OF A METEOR, ALTHOUGH
INFORMATION WAS SKETCHY.

END AMC ITEM 9/C

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