

PROJECT NEWS RECORD CARD

223  
27 Feb 52

1. LOCATION  
NORTH MALENA (SINUITU)

2. CHECK BOXES
- 1. Visual
  - 2. Radar
  - 3. Photo
  - 4. Audio
  - 5. Other
  - 6. ...
  - 7. ...
  - 8. ...
  - 9. ...
  - 10. ...
  - 11. ...
  - 12. ...
  - 13. ...
  - 14. ...
  - 15. ...
  - 16. ...
  - 17. ...
  - 18. ...
  - 19. ...
  - 20. ...

3. DATE-TIME GROUP  
23/2335 I  
3/215 #

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION  
A Ground-based  
B Aerial  
C ...

5. DURATION OF OBSERVATION  
45 seconds

6. NUMBER OF OBJECTS  
2-22 Navigator  
one

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 guidance device, however, the exact identity is unknown.



~~SECRET~~

EXACT STATUS SECRET U

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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 FEAFF. 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 INTERVAL  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

T52-5836

~~SECRET~~







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 2665 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: ~~Original~~ 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

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TO: CG, FEAF  
Tokyo, Japan  
RADNOTE

INFO: Director of Intelligence  
Hq USAF  
Washington 25, D. C.  
RADNOTE

ATIAA-2c

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 6200.10

752-5079-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 OF 1 PAGES



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

29 February 1952

Mr. C.F. Zimmerman, ATIA

AF01N-A  
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~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Reference ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ <sup>CABLE</sup> 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)

(LEAVE BLANK)

*Handwritten:* Rocket  
af 421027  
11

COUNTRY Korea	REPORT NO. IR-1-52	(LEAVE BLANK)	
<b>AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT</b>			
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 118-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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*Signature: I. O. Mitchell*  
I. O. MITCHELL  
Captain, USA  
Interrogating Officer

APPROVED:

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

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0 INCL.

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(CLASSIFICATION)

*Handwritten:* 042649



AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM: <b>FEAF BomCom</b>	REPORT NO.: <b>IR-1-52</b>	PAGE <b>2</b> OF <b>2</b> PAGES
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At 23151, 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 counter-measures. 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, Jr.*  
WILLIAM B. MERRILL, JR.  
Lt. Col., USAF  
Deputy for Intelligence

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07888



AMC ITEM 9/ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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.

INFORMATION

END AMC ITEM 9/

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