

**PROJECT 10073 RECORD**

<b>1. DATE - TIME GROUP</b> 23 Aug 49 23/0630Z	<b>2. LOCATION</b> Misawa AB, Japan
<b>3. SOURCE</b> Military	<b>10. CONCLUSION</b> AIRCRAFT
<b>4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS</b> ONE	
<b>5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION</b> Not Reported	<b>11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS</b> Object appeared to resemble a tow target. Observers report that the object could not have been a Japanese kite due to the speed, and also that it was not an a/c due to its shape. Observers were four pilots. Three T-6s and five F-80s were airborne at the time of sighting. These pilots reported no unusual objects.
<b>6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION</b> Ground-Visual	
<b>7. COURSE</b> Not Reported	
<b>8. PHOTOS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

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AF FORM 117 - PART I

SECRET

Japan

II-216-49

*105 674*

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Unidentified Object

Northern Japan

Headquarters Far East Air Forces,

September 1949

23 August 1949

B-2

Captain Samuel F. Hepford

Four (4) USAF Flying Officers

Air Memorandum Number 4, dated 15 February 1949

An object which appeared to resemble a tow target was observed by four (4) F-30 pilots from the steps of the operations building which is located along the ramp at Misawa Air Force Base. The observers agree that the object resembled a tow-target, however, no tow plane was seen. Sighted on 23 August 1949 at 1530 K.

There were three (3) F-6 and five F-30 aircraft airborne at the time of sighting. Personnel flying these aircraft in the area report that they saw no unusual objects.

Anti-aircraft units were contacted and reported that there were no training aids airborne at the time of sighting.

Radar site in the area was inoperative due to routine maintenance.

Observers report that the object could not have been a Japanese kite due to the speed, and also that it definitely was not an aircraft due to its shape.

There are no roads in the area which would allow the object to have been towed from the ground.

U. S. Navy reports that they had no activity in the area at time of sighting.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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*437*

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*Air Force*

*1-3712-23*

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## AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Headquarters, Far East Air Forces

IR-266-49

2-1-5

Report of sighting of an unidentified object 23 August 1949 at  
 Misawa Air Force Base in accordance with AIR Memorandum Number 4, dated  
 15 February 1949.

GENERAL

1. 23 August 1949
2. 1530 K
3. a. Ground
  - (1) Misawa Air Force Base, Japan
  - (2) Front steps 49th Fighter Group, Operations Building, located on the ramp approximately two thirds in from the west end.
  - (3) Lat. 40°32'N, Long. 141°21'E.
- b. Air
  - (1) Personnel airborne at time of sighting report nil sightings.
- c. Sea
  - (1) U. S. Navy reports that they had no activity in the area at the time of sighting.
4. One object. (See attached sketch).
5. Observable celestial phenomena, none.
6. Approximately three miles from observers.
  - a. Laterally
  - b. Angle of elevation from horizon 10 degrees.
  - c. Altitude, 100 feet from terrain, sea level elevation of terrain 119 feet.
7. Time in sight, approximately 30 seconds.
8. Appearance of object.
  - a. Yellow or silver
  - b. rectangular
  - c. Apparent construction unknown
  - d. Size:
    - (1) Estimates size 6 feet high, 30 feet long, depth not observed.
    - (2) Appeared to be the same size as a tow-target.
9. Direction of flight was 10 degrees changing to 350 degrees.
10. Apparent horizontal flight.
11. No exhaust observed.
12. No apparent effect on scud clouds which were at 800 feet.
13. No lights observed.
14. No apparent support.
15. Propulsion not observed.
16. Control and stability. Object moved on a steady even course however no fins or stabilizers were observed.
17. No air ducts observed.
18. Speed - very fast - estimated at from 300 to 500 MPH.
19. No sound was heard, however, this may have been due to an F-30 warming up within 200 feet of observers.

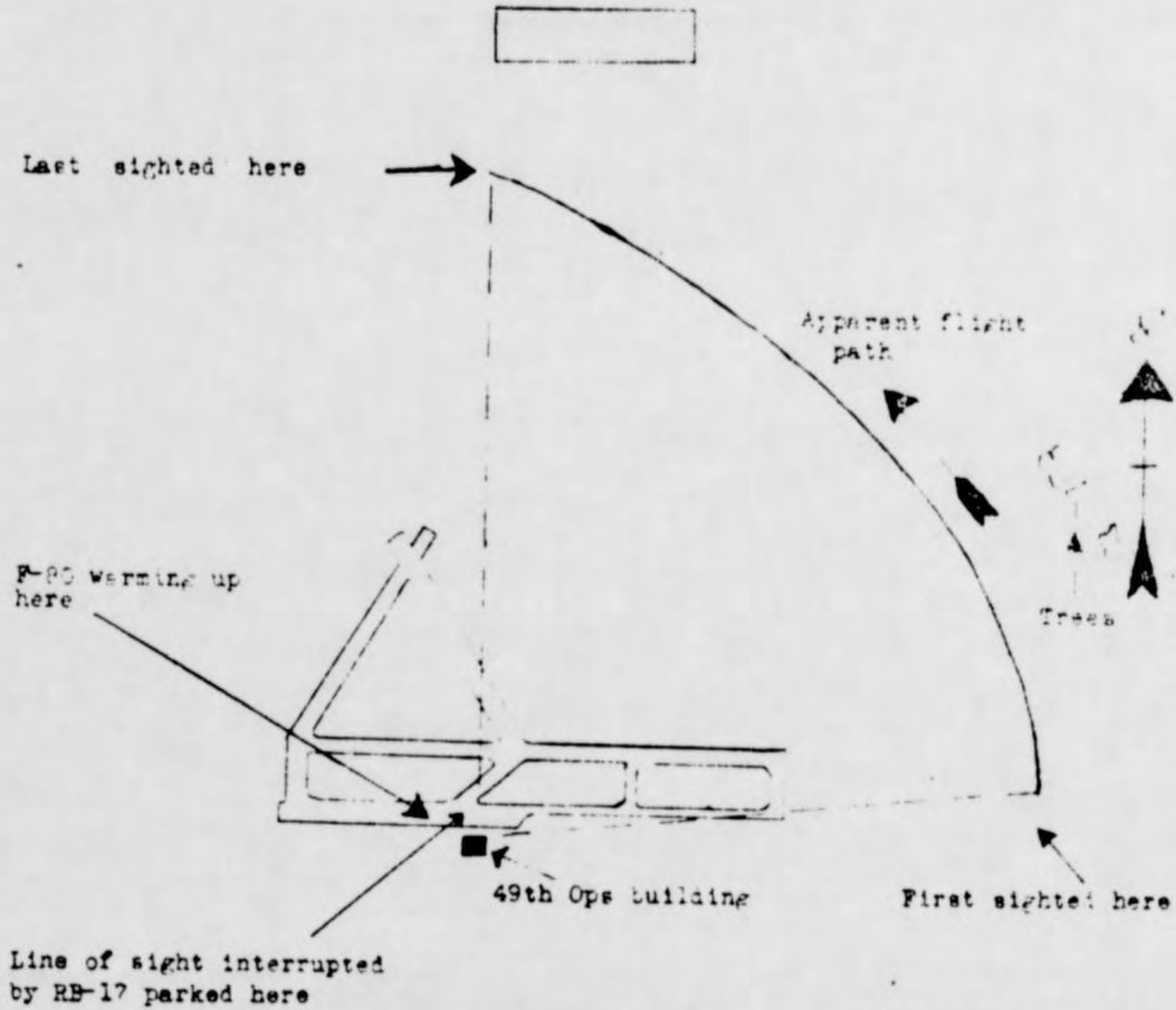
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

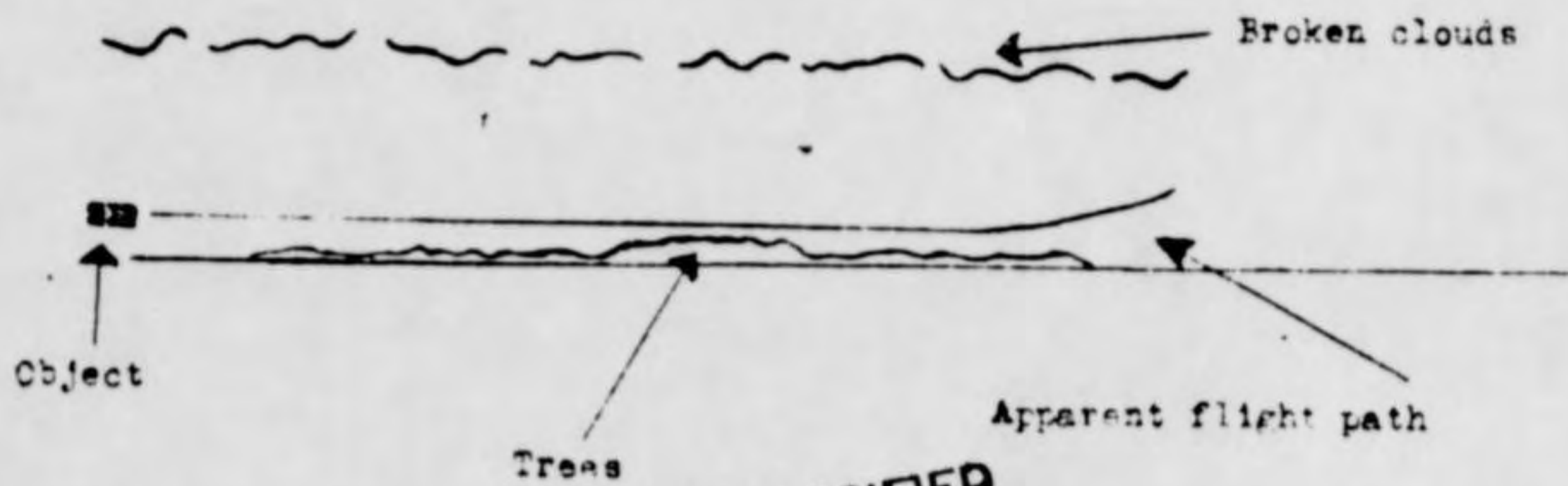
3-5-5

Object seen at three (3) miles --- six (6) feet by thirty (30) feet



MISAWA AIR FORCE BASE

APPROXIMATE SCALE 1-25,000



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## AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Headquarters, Far East Air Forces

IR-266-49

4-1005

20. The object disappeared behind an RB-17 which was parked on the ramp and was not observed again possibly due to heat waves caused by the F-80 warming up on the ramp.

RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVERS

1. Major [REDACTED] AG-34280  
 Captain [REDACTED] AG-40948  
 Captain [REDACTED] AG-45766  
 Lieutenant [REDACTED]
2. 49th Fighter Group, 49th Fighter Wing, APO 919
3. F-80 pilots.
4. Misawa Air Force Base.
5. Flying and related subjects.
6. These officers are qualified F-80 pilots one of which has 1400 fighter hours. These officers are capable of estimating size and speed with a good degree of accuracy.
7. Observers are completely reliable.
8. The attention of Lieutenant [REDACTED] was drawn to the object by its color and motion. Lieutenant [REDACTED] in turn called it to the attention of the other three officers who were standing near by. Discussion as to its identity took place while the object was still in sight.
9. Same as above.
10. Observers appear to be intelligent and capable of making accurate and reliable observations and reporting on such observations.

RELATIVE TO RADAR SIGHTINGS

1. There were no radar sites operating in the area at the time of sighting due to routine maintenance.

GENERAL

1. Weather conditions. - Broken, ceiling estimated 800 feet, winds at 10 knots at 100 degrees temperature 72 degrees, dew point 68 degrees.
2. Winds aloft.  
 1000 feet 60 degrees 6 knots, 5000 feet 260 degrees at 11 knots, 10,000 feet 260 degrees at 5 knots, 20,000 feet 230 degrees at 24 knots, 30,000 feet 260 degrees 40 knots.
3. There were no commercial flights in the area at the time of sighting. There were three (3) T-6 and five (5) F-80 aircraft airborne at the time of sighting. One F-80 flew across the objects apparent flight path at right angles approximately one minute after observers sighted object.
4. No evidence could be found of the possible releasing of testing devices in the vicinity.
5. No evidence could be found that the object contacted the earth.
6. Not applicable.
7. Camera not available at time of sighting (See sketch).
8. Signed statement attached.
9. Not obtainable.
10. No projections or extensions were observed.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Headquarters, Far East Air Forces

IR-266-49

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C E R T I F I C A T E

At approximately 1530 hours on 23 August 1949, the undersigned observed a light or silver-colored rectangular object traveling at an estimated speed of 400 miles per hour. This object did not resemble an aeroplane but appeared identical to a rectangular tow-target.

The object was traveling in a northerly direction at approximately 200 feet altitude or less and paralleling the coast line. This officer was about three miles from the object and observed it during approximately five miles of travel.

This officer was in the company of Maj. [REDACTED], Capt. [REDACTED], and Capt. [REDACTED] on the front steps of the 49th Fighter Group Operations when this sighting was made. Upon my calling attention to this object, these three officers discerned the object immediately and all admitted a confusing lack of recognition.

The object disappeared behind an RB-17 parked on the ramp. Shortly thereafter, this officer noticed a local F-80 in the same vicinity at a higher altitude and in the opinion of this officer there was no similarity in appearance or lightness of color to the object in question.

/s/ [REDACTED]

1st Lt., USAF

I certify that I have read the statement of Lt. [REDACTED] and find the information correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

/s/ [REDACTED]

Major, USAF

/s/ [REDACTED]

Captain, USAF

/s/ [REDACTED]

Captain, USAF

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