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AF FORM 112—PART I

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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COUNTRY JAPAN	REPORT NO. IR - 3 - 53	(LEAVE BLANK) 2/540779
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS		
AREA REPORTED ON ASHIYA AIR BASE, KYUSHU, JAPAN	FROM (Agency) 483d Troop Carrier Wing (M), APO 75	
DATE OF REPORT 14 March 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 7 March 1953	EVALUATION C-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) ROBERT W. MOORE, 2nd Lt., USAF	SOURCE 1955-1 AACS Detachment	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, dated 29 Apr 52, SUBJ: Intelligence-Unidentified Flying Object Reporting.		
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.)		

One unidentified flying object observed both visually and by GCA by eight (8) personnel at 2137 ITEM, 7 March 1953 at Ashiya Air Base, APO 75, Kyushu, Japan.

Other flying objects observed until 2212 ITEM by GCA only, one (1) F-94 and one (1) crash boat dispatched to the area both reporting negative sightings.

1 R
1 ag (8 incs)

APPROVED:

John J. Brinley

JOHN J. BRINLEY
Captain, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

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INCLS.

DECLASSIFIED	
USAF	memo 7/3/78
By W. G. Lewis	WARS, Date 4/12/79

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AF FORM 112—PART II
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
483D T. C. WING (M), APO 75	IR - 3 - 53	2	3	

1. On 8 March 1953 unidentified objects were sighted on GCA radar scopes of the 1955-1 Detachment AACCS, Ashiya Air Base (133° 54' N - 130° 398' E) from 2137 I until 2212 I. The first object was observed visually and by radar by GCA operators and visually by control tower operators who were called. It appeared as a definite "blip" on the GCA scope, the same size as a aircraft. It appeared for a period of between eight (8) to ten (10) minutes at an altitude of 1,000 feet. It gave the appearance of a white unfocused light. For quite some time it appeared motionless and then descended to an altitude of 500 feet, changing to a yellow color. After descending to 500 feet it climbed to its original altitude and disappeared at 2145 I. Its estimated distance was six (6) miles away going from an east to a northwest direction. No unusual sounds were heard.

2. The control tower called Itazuke AFB, a JADF base, which dispatched an F-94 to the area. The aircraft arrived in the area around 2150 I and made between six (6) and eight (8) runs from the north end of the runway to eight (8) miles out at sea. The plane stayed in the area for twenty (20) minutes and reported negative on both visual and radar sightings of flying objects.

3. The GCA had similar sightings on their scopes from 2205 I until 2212 I. These "blips" appeared similar to the first except they appeared sometimes in pairs and closer in, (from 1/4 to 3/4 of a mile). None of these latter "blips" were sighted visually by either the GCA unit or the control tower. At no time were these "blips" and the F-94 observed at the same time. They moved across the scope from 240 to 300 mph from altitudes of 200 to 1,000 feet, direction from northwest to southwest and from east to northwest. No unusual sounds were audible.

4. The crash boat at Ashiya was alerted and searched the area from 1/4 of a mile off shore to 2 1/2 miles from 2200 I until 2230 I. They made no sightings of flying objects except the search plane that was in the area. There were two (2) sardine boats moving in an eastern direction towards Ashiya where they are currently stationed. They have white Carbide running lights, at no time did they appear yellow. They were from 1/2 to 2 1/2 miles off shore.

5. Weather at the time of the observation: Sky clear, visibility ten (10) miles, winds west ten (10) knots, altimeter reading 30.17.

6. There were eight (8) men making these sightings ranging in experience from 1/2 to 4 1/2 years and ranging in rank from A/3C to M/Sgt.

COMMENTS of the Preparing Officer:

1. The chance of a reflection from a light on a fishing boat is one possibility, but the fact that there were no clouds and clear visibility precludes that possibility.
2. For the other objects; they were closer in, they were not sighted by either the crew of the crash boat or the F-94's airborne radar.
3. If they were the size of an airplane as they appeared on the scope and as near as they were with a clear night they would have been seen with or without a light.

DECLASSIFIED
USAF memo 7/31/84
by W. G. Lewis WARS, Date 4/12/88

Robert W. Moore
ROBERT W. MOORE, 2nd Lt., USAF
Asst Wing Intelligence Officer

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

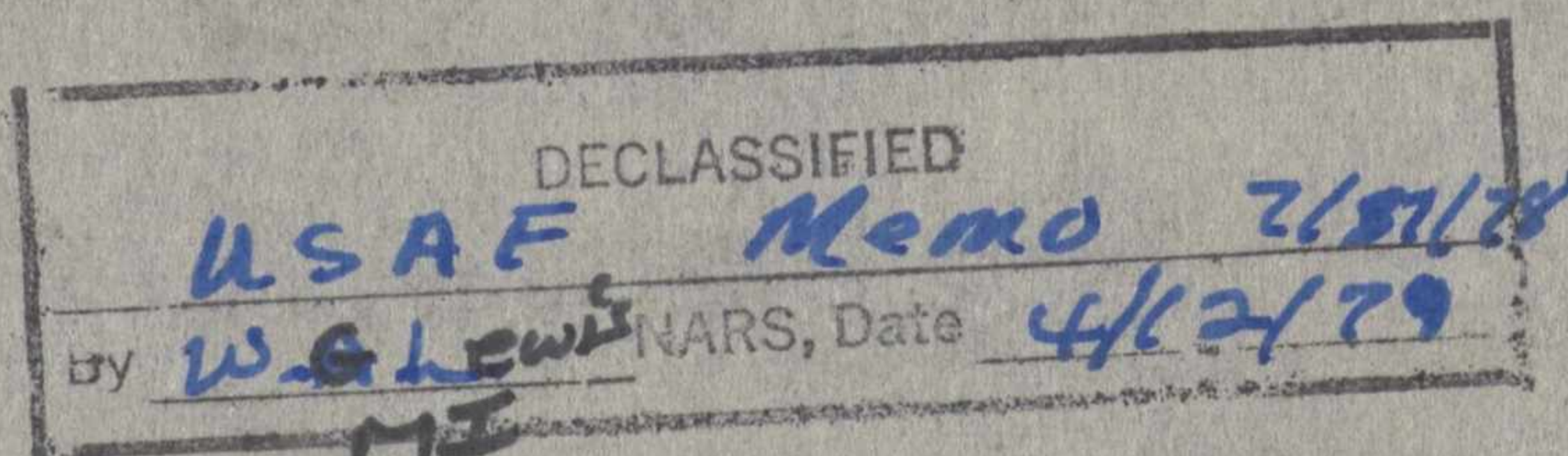
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COMMENTS of the Approving Officer:

1. A Japanese fishing fleet of several hundred vessels is normally anchored from two to six miles off shore of Ashiya Air Base. Occasionally a few vessels operate within a few hundred yards of shore. These vessels carry many lights, mostly those employing carbide as a source of illumination. Movement of these lights as the vessels roll with the swells occasionally causes these lights to appear to be emitting coded signals. Lights aboard these vessels are normally at deck level therefore a navigation light carried at the masthead would possibly appear to be considerably higher than the majority of the lights. These lights are a possible source of the visual sighting of a lighted object believed, by the observers to be from "500 to 1,000" feet in elevation.

2. Gulls which normally feed in the vicinity of the fishing fleet off Ashiya provide a possible source of the radar targets observed.

J.J.B.



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Following statement furnished as required by APL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

STATEMENT

At approximately 1237 Z, 8 March 1953, GCA called tower and asked if any aircraft were in the vicinity. Tower saw a light off the end of Runway 12 at approximately 1000 feet. The light stayed in the vicinity for approximately 10 minutes. The light seemed to change color, descend rise rapidly and then disappear. Base operations advised no aircraft in the vicinity. Base weather advised no balloons were loose. Weather at time of observation: clear sky; visibility 10 miles; winds west 10 knots.

The undersigned has approximately two years as control tower operator.

James L. Kuebelbeck

JAMES L. KUEBELBECK
A/IC, USAF
AAGS Detachment 1955-1
APO 75

Encl #1
of 540779-1

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

At about 2137 I, 8 March 1953, three ^{4B}men and myself observed a light off the end of the runway. Light appeared too low to be a star. We checked our scopes and had a stationary target at 6 miles on all indicators. Target was at an altitude of 1000 feet. Target descended to an altitude of ~~1200~~ ^{9B}500 feet and came back to 1000 feet and disappeared at about 2145 I. Other targets were tracked but I did not observe these.

Arnold Blair
ARNOLD BLAIR
A/30, USAF
Detachment 1955-1
APO 75

9540379 - 2

Ind # 2

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

Ref AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52, par 7 c. (1): Objects presented target similar to aircraft on radar scopes. No definite formation and as many as two objects were seen at the same time. Speed of objects estimated at speeds of 240 MPH and 360 MPH. Movement from Northwest to Southeast and from East to Northwest at altitudes ranging from 200 feet to 1000 feet.

Par 7 c. (2 & 3): Objects were observed on AN/MPN-1 Ground Control Approach Unit (GCA) #20 on search, azimuth and elevation indicators. Times of sightings were from 2157 to 2212 8 March 1953.

Par 7 c. (4) Objects were observed from the GCA site, Ashiya Air Base, APO 75.

Par 7 c. (5) First object sighted appeared as a yellowish light, disappearing after about 3 minutes. Other objects not sighted visually. The undersigned has had three and one half years experience in AN/MPN-1 type radar presentation.

Par 7 c. (6) Weather at the time of observation: Sky - clear; visibility - 10 miles; winds - West at 10 knots; altimeter reading - 30.17.

Par 7 c. (7) No logical explanation for the objects.

Par 7 c. (8) No evidence such as photographs or fragments exist.

Par 7 c. (9) Pilot of intercept aircraft reported sighting nothing but boats.

Par 7 c. (10) No reported local traffic in the vicinity at time of sightings.

Martin J. Walsh
MARTIN J WALSH
M/Sgt, USAF
AACS Detachment 1955-1
APO 75

g 540779 -3

Quel #3

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

Ref AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52, par 7. c. (1): Objects presented target that appeared to be aircraft on radar scopes. There was no formation and as many as two objects appeared at the same time. One definite target appeared at 6 miles from the station at about 1000 feet stationary. Dropped to about 500 feet, climbed again to about 800 feet before disappearing.

Par 7. c. (2 & 3): ^{now} Objects were observed on AN/MPN-1 Ground Control Approach (GCA) Unit #20 on search, azimuth and elevation indicators. Times of sightings were from 2137 to 2212 1 March 5, 1953.

Par 7. c. (4) Objects were observed from the GCA site, Ashiya Air Base, APO 75.

Par 6. c. (5) First object sighted appeared as a yellowish light, disappearing after about 8 minutes. Other objects not sighted visually. The undersigned has had four and one-half years experience in AN/MPN-1 type radar presentation.

Par 7. c. (6) Weather at the time of observation: Sky - clear; visibility - 10 miles; winds - West at 10 knots; altimeter reading - 30.17.

Par 7. c. (7) No logical explanation for the objects.

Par 7. c. (8) No evidence such as photographs or fragments exist.

Par 7. c. (9) Pilot of intercept aircraft reported sighting nothing but boats.

Par 7. c. (10) No ^{now} reported local traffic in the vicinity at time of sightings.

Delbert D. West
DELBERT D WEST
S/Sgt, USAF
AACS DETACHMENT 1955-1
APO 75

af 540779 - 4

Encl #4

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

At 2100 I, 8 March 1953, I observed targets on the precision scopes similar to ~~plane~~ targets. Northwest of Ashiya at speed estimated from 240 MPH to 360 MPH off the approach end of Runway 12. Altitudes ranging from 200 to 1000 feet. Predominately from one-quarter to three quarter miles out and 200 feet altitude.

Targets were observed on AN/MPN-1 GCA Unit #20 on azimuth, elevation indicators. GCA site located at Ashiya Air Base, APO 75.

I had no visual contact (I did not enter the unit until 2150 I after visual contacts had been made).

Weather: Sky clear, visibility 10 miles, winds West 10 knots, altimeter 30.17.

No explanation for the object.

No evidence such as photographs or fragments exist.

Crash boat and interceptor aircraft saw nothing.

No reported traffic in the vicinity at the time.

The undersigned has had approximately one and one-half years experience as mechanic on AN/MPN-1 type equipment.

James L Frank
JAMES L FRANK
A/1C, USAF
AACS DETACHMENT 1955-1
APO 75

y 540779-5

Ind 45

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

At approximately 2137I, 8 March 1953, Ashiya Air Base, APO 75, GCA unit called tower and asked if we could see an object off the end of Runway 12 at approximately 6 miles; 1000 feet. Five persons in tower at time observed a light at approximately reported position. It's first color was white, it then changed to yellow. ^{like} It remained on for approximately 10 minutes. Negative sound.

At 2150 I, GCA again called and reported other objects on their scopes at the same approximate position. Tower unable to observe such objects.

I have 6 months duty in tower; all time at present station.

William J. Craft
WILLIAM J CRAFT
A/3C, USAF
AACS Detachment 1955-1
APO 75

af 540779 -b

Encl #6

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

First object observed from control tower at Ashiya Air Base, APO 75 at 2137 L, 8 March 1953.

Object first appeared as slightly yellowish and changing colors from red, green and back to yellow. Disappeared after observation of about 10 minutes. The undersigned has been a tower operator at Ashiya Air Base for 3 months.

Weather at the time of observation: Dky clear; visby 10 miles; winds were West at 10 knots and altimeter was 30.17.

No explanation for the object.

No evidence such as photographs or fragments exist.

Crash boat and interceptor aircraft sighted nothing.

No reported traffic in vicinity at time.

WILLIAM R CARUSO
A/30, USAF *wcc*
AACS DETACHMENT 2955-1
APO 75

William R. Caruso

9540779 -7

*End
#7*

Following statement furnished as required by AFL 200-5, dtd 20 Apr 52.

S T A T E M E N T

At approximately 2137 I, 8 March 1953, CGA called the tower and asked if we had any aircraft in the vicinity. Tower saw a light off the end of Runway 12 at approximately 1000 feet.

The light stayed in the vicinity for approximately 10 minutes. The light seemed to change color; descend; rise rapidly and then disappear. Base operations advised no aircraft in the vicinity. Base weather advised no balloons were loose in the area.

The undersigned has approximately one year experience as tower operator.

Joseph Seymore
JOSEPH SEYMORE
A/30, USAF
AAGS Detachment 1955-1
APO 75

aj 540779-8

Encl
#8

