

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

DATE

**ROUTE SLIP**

2-19-87

| TO: NAME                | ROUTING SYMBOL |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| FOIA Coordinator, AAL-5 |                |
|                         |                |
|                         |                |
|                         |                |
|                         |                |

|                                               |                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PER YOUR REQUEST     | <input type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR SIGNATURE          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR INFORMATION | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PER OUR CONVERSATION | <input type="checkbox"/> TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN      | <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE ANSWER               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSS WITH ME      | <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR SIGNATURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR APPROVAL    | OF _____                                             |

REMARKS: FOIA -- UFO Sighting, JAL FL. #1628, 11-17-86

Regarding your Request for Identifiable Records from the Director's office on the above subject, I believe I earlier responded, with attachments, as the records that were in our office associated with this sighting, other than copies of records that are in AAL-5, -200, -500 and -700 files (see table of contents also attached). This is to confirm that original correspondence.

3 Enclosures

|                                                                                           |               |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| FROM:  | TELEPHONE NO. | ROUTING SYMBOL |
| Don Keil                                                                                  | 5652          | AAL-2          |

FAA Form 1360-13 (4-67) FORMERLY FAA FORM 2641

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1983 674-792/650

DEC 31 1986

INFORMATION: ALERT REPORT

Director, AAL-1

Administrator

NOV.17, 1986, "SIGHTING": At 6:19 pm AST, JAL #1628 Cargo, B747, FL350 enroute to Tokyo via Reykjavik, Iceland, and Anchorage, reported observing lighted air traffic, in close proximity. Flight crew unable to determine shape but est. size, based on flashing yellow, amber, green, lights (no red lights) to be equal to B747. ARTCC controller advised him that there was no known air traffic, but did report intermittent radar targets. (Subsequent regeneration of radar tapes revealed no valid traffic data.)

Air crew sighting continued for over 350 miles until object left in eastern direction. Pilot also was able to view object using onboard color radar. US Air Force, Elmendorf AFB, reported having the JAL and an occasional primary target on ADC radar (military informing media that it was "clutter"). JAL pilot requested and performed 360-degree turn and object continued with him. UAL #69 and military C-130, volunteered to be vectored in attempt for visual sighting, both with negative reports.

JAL flight crew interviewed by FAA upon landing. Crew determined to be professional, rational. We have been coordinating with the military.

National and international news media inquiries mounting after inquiry by Kyodo News Service.

*Don Kell*

Franklin L. Cunningham

(K)

1.2 87

KEIL - GEN NICHOLS

1. "A HEADS UP"-

- (A) REVIEWERS ADMINISTRATORS INTEREST/DESIRE TO:
- (A) REVIEW WITH CONTROLLER (ORAL)
  - (B) INTERVIEW WITH AIR CREW (TAPED IF POSSIBLE)

2. (A) AF INTERPRETED INCIDENT AS  
SPURIOUS SIGNALS ON A.F. RADAR

(B) NICHOLS IS LOOKING INTO WHETHER THEY  
HAVE "REUSED" TAPE - HE IS NOT CERTAIN  
THAT THEY WOULD HAVE KEPT IT.

(C) AF DID NOT SCRAMBLE

3. NICHOLS HAD COPY OF "WASHINGTON POST"  
STORY.

4. APPRECIATED CALL

553-3401-5103

1:30 PM COL Jim WICK CALLED AS  
FOLLOW ON TO ABOVE. TAPES HAVE BEEN  
REFUSED - ADVISED WE HAD COPY FOR THEM  
AND WOULD PROVIDE. WE ALSO THIS PM  
WERE REVIEWING WHOLE 55 MIN OF TAPE

COL  
Wingard

Keil

1.2.87

KEIL - CAPT. Jim CRICKENBERGER  
FTS - 267-9429

HAD "COL" FROM PENTAGON ON LINE, WANTED TO  
CONFERENCE CALL, I INDICATED I WAS NOT  
READY FOR CONF (SINCE I HAD NOT YET  
TALKED TO GEN NICHOLS).

NATURE OF THEIR QUESTIONS WAS

1. DID AF SCRAMBLE?

2. WHAT TYPE RADARS?

- FAA IS MURPHY DOME AF  
"FPS-93A" SEARCH ONLY  
WITH "MODE C".

- AIR FORCE - SAME AS ABOVE

- JAL - TYPICAL JAL 747  
AIR BORNE RADAR (COLOR)

AKS

## ALASKAN REGION - CHECKLIST

ROC. AAL-6

ACCIDENT    INCIDENT    OTHER LFODTG 180721 FM ZANIDENT JA-1628 TYPE B747DUTY OFFICER   

OVER Pole To BIKF reported  
30 SE FYW at 350  
TFC 1 mi with white  
+ Yellow STROBE Light,  
Military ADVISED.

ActL LANDED 0328Z  
No other ActT with  
him.

AAL #

NAME/TIME

12..5645 Cunningham5..5296 STUCKE 0349

6.....

7..5269

10..5471

200..5514 Wastall 0255

300..5431

400..5616

500..5464 LANKIN 0233

600..5438

700..5557 Derry 0256

FSDO

61.FAI.474-0276

62.JNU.789-0231

63.ANC.243-1902 Powers 0234

NTSB

ANC..5001

SEA..399-3782

WOC..989-5940 Brockman 0414

ATCSCC.426-3636

FBI..276-4441

APD..911/264-4123

AST..269-5711

ARPT SEC.243-5111

SARCC.552-3437

EDF CMD CNTR.552-4410/3013

CG.JNU.586-2680

NWS..5105

ACR CERT RGN ROC.(SEE LIST)

ANM-6.TRANSPORT ACFT.(SEE LIST)

444-7912

11.17.86 SIGHTING JAL/UFO  
BACKGROUND TABLE CONTENTS

- | <u>ITEM</u> |                                                                                                                         |
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| 4.          | CONTROLLERS STATEMENT (11.19.86) (500)                                                                                  |
| 5.          | ROUTE STRUCTURE MAP DEPICTION (500)<br>NEWS DEPICTION OF INCIDENT (ILLUSTRATIONS BY PILOT)                              |
| 6.          | JAL'S PILOTS DRAWING (700)                                                                                              |
| 7.          | 700's INVESTIGATORS REPORT OF<br>11.17.86 INTERVIEW                                                                     |
| 8.          | PILOTS DRAWINGS PROVIDED 1.12.87<br>AND JAL <sup>PILOT'S</sup> REPORT IN JAPANESE (WITH <sup>ENGLISH</sup> TRANSLATION) |
| 9.          | MEDIA ITEMS - AAL 5                                                                                                     |
| 10.         | 11.17.86 NOTIFICATIONS BY <u>ROC</u> (FAA Duty Officer)                                                                 |
| 11.         | 12.31.86 ALERT TO ADMINISTRATOR                                                                                         |
| 12.         | R. GORDON FSDO 65 INTERVIEW WITH PILOT 1.12.87                                                                          |