

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 February 1958		2. LOCATION Hokkaido, Japan		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other <u>Explosion</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 19/0059Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes Sketch ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 hours		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one			
		9. COURSE stationary			
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Radar report from Sea of Japan area. Return developed rapidly to a dense cloud that expanded to cover an area approximately 65 miles long and rose from an altitude of 3,000 ft to 46,000ft. Return similar to weather return except for speed of development. Five aircraft in area all turned toward the return and proceeded to the general area. Return resembled explosion of large munitions ship exploding.				11. COMMENTS Rapid development and a/c reaction rule out weather phenomena and equipment malfunction. Explosion possible cause correlated with IR 1886-58 as explosion. Observed by fishermen. Also seismic detection of nuclear explosion reported from Matsushiro.	

Set 1/1, Card 3/3

USSR [REDACTED]

MCI #: 23469

Rpt #: IR-100-58

3 Incls

1. Overlay

2. Scope presentation

3. Source's original report, 2 cys with incl 1 & 2, 1 cy each

[4B4 Annotation: 3 Incls Received]

UNCLASSIFIED

May 26, 1958

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

UNCLASSIFIED
[REDACTED]

Classification Cancelled

(or changed to UNCLASS)

Auth [Signature] LT COL, USAF

By [Signature] (UFO)

Date 24 Jan 69

AKR 265-1 para 1-12b

Country: USSR **UNCLASSIFIED** [REDACTED]
Subject: Unusual Radar Sighting Associated
With Russian Aircraft Activity
Source: Det #45, 613th AC&W Sqdn APO 181,
San Francisco, California
Preparing Officer: ROBERT C. LAIDLAW, Capt,
USAF

Set 1/1, Card 1/3

Info Spec: DE/MT/smh

Distr: 4E1/4E1a-6 cys/4E1d-3 cys/4F2/4B/4E1g

Entire Document

While conducting surveillance of Russian aircraft on 19 Feb 58 at 0059Z, operations personnel of AC&W Site #45 at Asoiwayama (GEOREF XJGP 3020) (Hokkaido) Japan observed the rapid development of an unusual radar return on FPS-64(HRI) height finding radar (see Incl 1). The radar return was from the area of 40° 30 min north, latitude, 137°30 min east longitude (in GEOREF Grid XJCQ) over the Sea of Japan approximately 80 nautical miles off the Russian Coast (Maritime). The return developed to a dense cloud that expanded to cover an area approximately

MT/Rel: UK and ACZ

MC #: 23469

AF #: 1165758

Rpt #: IR-100-58

Agency: Hq 39th Air Div Misawa AB
Japan

D.R.: February 27, 1958

D.I.: February 19, 1958

Eval: B-2

Ref: None Given

400
112H
110W
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UNCLASSIFIED
[REDACTED]

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

Classification Cancelled

(or changed to UNCLASS)

Auth: Quantanilla, Lt Col, USAF

By: TDPT (AFS)

Date: 24 Jan 69

AFR 205-1 para 1-12b

Set 1/1, Card 2/3

UNCLASSIFIED

USSR

Rpt #: 23469

Rpt #: IR-100-58

65 miles long from 44°10 min north 137°10 min east to 45°30 min north 137°40 min east and approximately 25 miles across which rose from an altitude of 3,000 feet to a final altitude of 46,000 feet. The return was similar to a weather return except for the speed of its development. It appeared at 0059Z and dissipated at 0300Z. All five Russian aircraft tracks in the area proceeded to the general vicinity of this phenomenon. Observers were unable to describe the return and associated Russian reaction in terms of any previous experience. Observers stated that it most nearly resembled a very large explosion such as that of a very large ammunition ship. A weak low pressure area was located in the Sea of Japan approximately 41° north latitude. Winds at Site at 20,000 feet were from 260° at 50 knots, weather was CAVU. The above data was furnished by Capt Henry Kolb, Det 45 Operations Officer, who witnessed the event along with 1st Lt. Thomas V. Cole, Ass't Operations Officer and Mr. [REDACTED], Tech Rep. on GEFPS-6. 30DOIC Comment: Rapidity of development plus apparent Russian aircraft reaction would appear to rule out a natural weather phenomenon or a radar malfunction. Veracity of witnesses is not questioned. No intelligence personnel are assigned at Radar Sites. Site 45 had no radar scope camera so a sketch of scope face was substituted. This report delayed due to late receipt in this Hq (26 Feb 58) and need for preparation of report on reproducible AF Form 112.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DDO [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification Cancelled
(or changed to UNCLASS)

Auth. Quintanilla, 15 Col, USAF

By TDPT (UP)

Date 24 Jan 69

AFR 205-1 para 1-12b

Country: Japan/USSR
Subject: Luminous Sightings off the
Hokkaido Coast
Source: Maritime Safety Board
Preparing Officer: Anthony M. Pereira,
Capt. USAF

Set 1/1, Card 1/3

Info Spec: DE/nd

Distr: 4E4g/4F3-3 cys/4B1a

Summary:

Entire Document

UNCLASSIFIED

MC #: None

AF #: 1170908

Rpt #: IR-1886-58

Agency: 6004th Air Intel Sv Sq

D.R.: April 2, 1958

D.I.: March 8, 1958

Eval: B-3

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1. The information contained in this report was obtained from Mr. Noboru ITC, Chief of the Aviation Administration Section and Mr. Toru SAHARA, Chief of the No. 2 Security Section, MARITIME SAFETY BOARD, as reported to them by Japanese fishermen off the HOKKAIDO Coast.

2. This report contains information on three luminous sightings of unknown origin.

LUMINOUS SIGHTINGS OFF THE HOKKAIDO COAST

1. On 8 March 1958 personnel of the Air Technical Intelligence Section,

Set 1/1, Card 2/3

Japan/USSR

MC #: None
Rpt #: IR-1886-58
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6004th AISS, visited Noboru ITO, Chief of the Aviation Administration Section and Toru SAHARA, Chief of the No. 2 Security Section, MARITIME SAFETY BOARD (MSA) for information on an alleged explosion off the SIBERIAN coast on 19 February 1958.

2. Recently, three unknown luminous sightings were made off the coast of HOKKAIDO by fishermen and reported to MSA. MSA has recorded these incidents but will not investigate the matter further. In each instance the sighting was made at night. There is no report indicating an explosion off the coast of SIBERIA on 19 February 1958.

3. At 1830 hours (JST) on 31 October 1957 fishermen observed a pillar of flame 100 m high, 1500 m west of EMETSU (4443N/14148E) for approximately 15 minutes. The color changed from red to blue then disappeared.

4. At 2034 hours (JST) on 1 March 1958 fishermen observed a luminous body that disappeared after 10 minutes at an altitude of approximately 2,000 m in the direction of NOTSUETO POINT (4344N/14525E) on KUNASHIRI ISLAND. The color was not determined. At 2103 hours (JST) on the same day, a luminous body was observed rising gradually for about 20 minutes then disappearing near ZAPADNAYA (ONNERUSU) (4345N/14526E). The color was not certainly identified, but was not red or green.

Ses 1/1, Card 3/3

Japan/USSR

MC #: None

Rpt #: IR-1886-58

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COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

5 At approximately 0959 hours (JST) on 19 February 1958 an unknown phenomena³ believed to have been an explosion, was detected at 4430N/13730E at a US radar site in JAPAN. The phenomena lasted approximately two hours. This office checked with the Meteorological Agency for barometric or seismic data on the premise that an explosion was detonated. It was learned that there were no barometric or seismic changes indicative of an explosion at the above time. Negative information was also obtained from the Maritime and Air Staff Offices of the Defense Agency.

6 Officials of the Meteorological Agency stated that any barometric change would be detected at weather stations in JAPAN. The seismic detection¹⁰ of a nuclear explosion at the MATSUSHIRO SEISMOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY is believed to have been instigated from this search. (Refer to 6004th AISS, IR 1885-58 for seismic detection of USSR nuclear explosion.)

May 20, 1958