[redacted]

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION RECORD

Incident #171

ATIC NO. ---

DATE OF INFO 3 Aug 1948

AF NO. ---

LOCATION Moscow, USSR

REPORT NO. ---

SOURCE Newspaper Reporter

DATE OF REPORT ---

DATE IN TO ATIC ---

TIME OF LIGHTING Sunset

COLOR Bright-shiny

SHAPE Long - Narrow

SPEED Fast

Estimated

Measured

Estimated

SIZE ---

ALTITUDE Very high

Measured

COURSE SW - NE

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED ---

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

SOUND ---

MANEUVERS ---

[redacted]

PHOTOS ---

SKETCHES ---

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Nov 52)

[redacted]

RESTRICTED

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #171 -- Moscow, Russia -- 3 August 1948

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident. Perhaps the Russians were experimenting with their own or a captured German dirigible.

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

[redacted]

T 56109

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident # 171

1. Date 3 Aug 48
2. Time Sunset
3. Location Moscow, USSR
4. Name of observer N/S - American Newspaper Reporter
5. Occupation of observer Newspaper reporter
6. Address of observer N/S
7. Place of observation About 25 kilometers (19 to 20 miles) NW of Moscow
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight N/S
11. Altitude Very high
12. Speed high but not excessive
13. Direction of flight Southwest-Northeast direction
14. Tactics N/S
15. Sound No sound
16. Size N/S
17. Color N/S - shone brightly
18. Shape long narrow
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction Apparently metallic since it shone very brightly
21. Exhaust trails N/S
22. Weather conditions N/S - sunny
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks: (over)

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

UNCLASSIFIED

T-56109

[redacted]

115

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

About Sunset on 3 Aug 48, about 25 Kilometers (20 miles) northwest of Moscow an experienced American newspaper reporter saw an unidentified object at very high altitude. It was long and narrow and proceeded at a high but not excessive speed in a generally south-west-northeast direction. It shone very brightly probably from reflected sunlight. No wings could be seen and no sound was heard. It looked like a rigid airship and was so identified by a Russian acquaintance who saw it at the same time. However, the reporter, in spite of the appearance of the object was of the opinion that it was not a rigid airship due principally to its high speed. He had no theory to offer

NA COMMENT: This object might have been anything. Its speed seems insufficient for a guided missile, but it could have been either a jet or conventional airplane as unusual light conditions and fore-shortening frequently give aircraft a freakish appearance. The possibility that it was a dirigible should not be excluded. Reference "A" should not be excluded.

REFERENCE "A": The upper winds in Russia are not published but it was noted that on the following morning there were high surface winds with storm predictions.

UNCLASSIFIED

90
20
540

160
240

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

[redacted]

T-56109

1150

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

Unidentified Object at High Altitude (AMC-499)

MCIAKO MCIAXF-2 3 Nov 1948 1

1. Reference is made to R&R dated 29 October 1948, subject, "Re Adapazari Incident."

2. Inclosed for your information is MA Moscow Report MA-123-48, NAD-27846, which was quoted in telecon CSAF, Item 1, dated 2 September 1948.

3. A request has been initiated to secure required information and it will be forwarded immediately upon receipt.

C. C. BROOKS
Chief, Foreign Liaison Section
Tech Intelligence Div
Intelligence Department

NAW/jc
6-5322
Bldg 2B8
Post 204D

2 Incls:
1. Rpt NAD-27846
2. Form #75 in trip.

- -

See NAD 27846

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

Incident 171

171

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

TO BE A ROCKET, AND THE DEBRIS WILL BE INSPECTED BY EXPERTS. OBSERVERS SAY THAT THE ROCKET, WHICH IS CLAIMED TONHAVE COME FROM THE NORTHWEST, WAS FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF 200 METERS OVER ADAPAZARI BEFORE IT FELL.

UNCLASSIFIED

"ACCORDING TO RUMORS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE ROCKET IS CONNECTED WITH THE FLYING DISC EXPERIMENTS BEING CONDUCTED BY THE RUSSIANS AT THE STATION ON MOUNT ALAGOZ CLOSE TO OUR EASTERN FRONTIERS."

SOURCE: NA, ANKARA, TURKEY, 10 MAY 1945, SERIAL 86-45, EVAL. F-6.

BADCOMMENT: AIR ATTACHE, ANKARA, TURKEY, HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE THIS INCIDENT FULLY AND ENCOURAGE TURKISH GENERAL STAFF TO DO LIKEWISE. WHETHER INCIDENT CAN BE CONFIRMED OR NOT AIR ATTACHE HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO DETERMINE SOURCES FOR INFORMATION CONTAINED IN YENI SABAH ARTICLE.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

2. MOSCOW, USSR. " AT ABOUT SUNSET ON 3 AUGUST 1945, ABOUT 25 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF MOSCOW, AN EXPERIENCED AMERICAN NEWSPAPER REPORTER SAW AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT AT A VERY HIGH ALTITUDE. IT WAS LONG AND NARROW AND PROCEEDED AT A HIGH BUT NOT EXCESSIVE SPEED IN A GENERALLY SOUTHWEST-NORTHEAST DIRECTION. IT SHONE VERY BRIGHTLY,

171

PROBABLY FROM REFLECTED SUNLIGHT. NO WINGS COULD BE SEEN AND NO SOUND WAS HEARD/ IT LOOKED LIKE A RIGID AIRSHIP, AND WAS SO IDENTIFIED BY A RUSSIAN ACQUAINTANCE WHO SAW IT AT THE SAME TIME. THE REPORTER, HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF THE APPEARANCE OF THE OBJECT, WAS OF THE OPINION THAT IT WAS NOT A RIGID AIRSHIP, DUE PRINCIPALLY TO ITS HIGH SPEED. HE HAD NO THEORY TO OFFER, AND COULD ONLY SAY THAT IT WAS A MYSTERY, LIKE THE AMERICAN 'FLYING SAUCERS'.

UNCLASSIFIED

NA COMMENT: "THIS OBJECT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ANYTHING. ITS SPEED SEEMS INSUFFICIENT FOR A GUIDED MISSILE, BUT IT COULD HAVE BEEN EITHER A JET OR CONVENTIONAL AIRPLANE, AS UNUSUAL LIGHT CONDITIONS AND FORE-SHORTENING FREQUENTLY GIVE AIRCRAFT A FREAKISH APPEARANCE. THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT WAS A DIRIGIBLE, AS SUGGESTED IN REFERENCE (A), SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED, (4-DAMVAT 7, ,& 85-00-43,5 SPEED FRO WINDS,

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

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REFERENCE (A), SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED, OBTAINING ITS APPARENT SPEED FROM HIGH WINDS. THE UPPER WINDS IN RUSSIA ARE NOT PUBLISHED, BUT IT HAS NOTED THAT ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING THERE WERE HIGH SURFACE WINDS WITH STORM PREDICTIONS".

SOURCE: MA MOSCOW, USSR, SERIAL 123-48, 4 AUGUST 1948, EVAL. B-2.

3. MOSCOW, USSR. "WHILE IN MOSCOW THE FRIEND HAD MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE MOSCOW IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL STAFF, AT WHICH TIME HE HAD LEARNED THAT THE CENTRAL PARTY COMMITTEE IS MAKEING A SPECIAL, SECRET STUDY OF THE AMERICAN "FLYING SAUCER" STORY AND THE "ROCKETS OVER SWEDEN" INCIDENT. SOURCE HAD NOT HEARD OF THE "FLYING SAUCERS" IN AMERICA AND SO WAS COMPLETELY IN THE DARK AS TO WHAT THE "SECRET STUDY" MIGHT IMPLY.

SOURCE: MA, MOSCOW, USSR, SERIAL 38-S-48, 10 JUNE 1948, EVAL. F-3.

REQUEST AMC CONTINUE ANY FOLLOW-UPS DEEMED NECESSARY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PROJECT "SIGN". INFORMATION RECEIVED BY HEADQUARTERS, USAF, REGARDING FOLLOW-UPS ON TURKISH REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED TO AMC.

END CSAF ITEM 1 (SECRET)

T-56109

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COPY

COPY

T-56109

JEQAB V JEQ

RTT CONF NR 0051

FM: CSAF WASH DC [redacted]

TO: CG AMC WRIGHT PAT AFTB OHIO

SUBJ: REG A-2 CONF

CLASS: BY ITEM

PRES: LT COL MCGINNIS
LT HUNNICUTT

ROGER IT IS SPECIAL A200

SORRY IT IS SPECIAL A-2 CONFERENCE

CSAF ITEM 1 (SECRET)

THE FOLLOWING REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED REGARDING FLYING OBJECTS AND ARE FORWARDED FOR PROJECT "SIGN" RECORDS:

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

1. ITEM FROM TURKISH NEWSPAPER YENI SABAH, ISTANBUL, 5 MAY 1948. "THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS LATELY TO THE EFFECT THAT SHINING OBJECTS LIKE METEORS, HAVE BEEN SIGHTED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. SOME PEOPLE SUGGEST THAT THESE MIGHT BE ROCKETS. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM AUTHORIZED CIRCLES REVEALS THAT SUCH A THING PASSED OVER ADAPAZARI AND WAS SEEN TO EXPLODE IN THE AIR. PARTS OF IT FELL INTO A VILLAGE NEARBY, AND KILLED A SHEEP DOG. THE THING WAS FOUND

Dec 1, 70

UNCLASSIFIED

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:
#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:
#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.