

USA - MATS

IR-364-53

UNCLASSIFIED

FLYOBREP

Southwest Guam (1342N - 13711E)

Hq PACD, MATS, APO 953, c/o FM, San Francisco, California

17 June 1953

5 June 1953

A-1

Major John E. Rhode, USAF

USN Personnel

PACD FLYOBREP #2, based on information forwarded in INTREP, dated 3 June 1953, from Naval Air Station, Agana, Navy 943. Distribution to MATS headquarters; other neces. distribution to ATIC.

Sources: Lt JG R. W. Illgen, USN 483956
Lt JG P. A. Tufo, USN 505451

Scientific Intelligence

1. At 1330Z, 5 June 1953, in area 1342N - 13711E at 9,000 feet while flying MATS trip P 232/05, the aircraft commander, LtJG R. W. Illgen observed a green light which appeared to extend over a considerable area. The object was moving too slowly for a meteor and too fast to be a flare. At 1340Z, green light was observed dead ahead at a distance of approximately 20 miles. The green light came from above 12,000 feet plummeting straight down, and lighted the ocean for miles around.

2. At 1430Z, 5 June 1953, in area 0928N - 16223E, at altitude of 8000 feet, while flying MATS trip P-231/04, the aircraft commander, LtJG P. A. Tufo, observed what seemed to be a green flare at flight level.

Comment: It is believed by the preparing officer that what the two aircraft commanders saw was a portion of a meteor burning itself out in the atmosphere, since numerous meteors have been observed by other MATS personnel on recent dates. It is not felt that this sighting was a distress signal since there were no reports of any other aircraft or surface vessels in distress in this vicinity at this time.

JOHN E. RHODE
Major, USAF
Actg Chief, Intelligence Division

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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