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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT "Flying Saucer" Sighted By Swedish Pilot		
AREA REPORTED ON Sweden	FROM (Agency) OAIrA, Stockholm, Sweden	
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PREPARED BY (Officer) BURT ROWEN, Major, USAF (MC)	SOURCE Press and Personal Contact	
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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.) This report forwards information on the "unknown" object sighted on 17 December 1953 by Captain Ulf Christiernsson, near Hassleholm, Sweden. Included is a translation of Captain Christiernsson's description of the incident, as reported in an interview with the local press. There is also a brief character sketch of Captain Christiernsson. APPROVED: <div data-bbox="178 1066 576 1219"><div>DECLASSIFIED</div><div>Authority: NND 57597</div></div> <div data-bbox="981 1044 1316 1224"> HERBERT J. ROGERS Lt. Colonel, USAF Acting Air Attache</div> LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES Index IR INCL. B DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR A-2 USAFE; USArma Stockholm		

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1. On Thursday, 17 December 1953, while flying near Hassleholm, Sweden, Captain Ulf Christiernsson sighted an "unknown" object. The following is the translation of a newspaper account of the incident:

"The chief pilot of Transair, Capt. Ulf Christiernsson, and his crew chief, Olle Johansson, had a strange meeting over Hassleholm at 1437 hours Thursday. A shining metal spherical elliptical object came toward them traveling in the opposite direction from their machine at an estimated speed of sound and approximately 600 meters below their DC-3, which was on its way from Bulltofta to Bromma. It was visible six to seven seconds; Capt. Christiernsson, who had good silhouette recognition, stated that what he saw was something absolutely new, possibly an unmanned robot.

"The Transair plane was automatic controls when the meeting occurred. Capt. Christiernsson did not have time for any measures other than to report to Bulltofta and the Defense Staff, which later sent out the following communique:

"The air crew of a civil aircraft observed on Thursday at 1437 hours over the area of Hassleholm an unknown object moving in the opposite direction from the airplane. The object was observed for six to seven seconds. At that time and altitude the weather was clear. Because of the low lying cloud formations the object is not thought to have been seen from the ground. The Defense Staff does not know of any Swedish plane that was in that area at the time in question. An investigation is being conducted."

"Previously I have been extremely skeptical about all the stories of mysterious objects -- called flying saucers -- that have been seen at diverse points, said the Captain. Now I don't know exactly what to think; but it did seem to me that we had seen a robot of some kind. When I first caught sight of the object, which like us was in the civil air corridor, I thought it was a jet. We had, however, received no word that any such thing was on the way.

"The object came toward us at what I would say was the speed of sound; we were flying at an altitude of approximately 2,150 meters and the object was around 600 meters below us. It was going in a southwesterly direction and disappeared after six or seven seconds.

"The object had a strong metal shine; the crew chief, Johansson, who could see it longer than I, thought it was almost phosphorescent. The flying weather was excellent above the clouds, which were at an altitude of about 1500 meters, and the sun was shining brightly. The object was proceeding just above the clouds.

"The first silhouette I got diagonally from the right was narrow. When it was nearly directly under us, however, I saw that it was nearly round, just slightly elliptical.

"The object, which could definitely not have been a meteor, gave off no waste gases or condensation traces.

"Was I afraid? No, but curious, very curious, concluded Captain Christiernsson.

"Christiernsson has seen just about everything in aviation and has very good silhouette recognition. From 1942 to 1946 he was a volunteer serving in

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the Royal Air Force. He finished as a captain in the British Air Force, after making some thirty raids in a Mosquito against enemy territory, in both North Africa and Italy.

"Air Force Chief, General Nordenskiöld, announced that it had been ascertained that the object could not have been any Swedish aircraft.

"We are now investigating," he continued, "what our radar stations might have spotted."

2. Captain Christiernsson is 41 years of age and was born in Skåne in the southern part of Sweden. An extremely reliable source in the Royal Swedish Air Board, who was born in the same town and who is a life-long acquaintance of Capt. Christiernsson's, has stated that Christiernsson is charming and well-liked, but that he is also most untrustworthy and was dismissed from a former position for "financial difficulty". During the last war, Christiernsson tried to take a Swedish Air Force B-18 and fly to England, but was intercepted at Gothenburg and was put in jail. Although it is generally agreed in the Swedish Air Force that Captain Christiernsson is one of the best (and most discussed) pilots in Sweden today, he has never served with the RSAF except as a reserve captain.

3. Although the source above personally doubts Christiernsson's story, the newspapers report that the Defense Staff is continuing its investigation of the incident. This office is attempting to obtain further information on the occurrence.

Burt Rowen
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