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SUBJECT Aircraft Observed over Kaunas

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- 1. In October 1950, [redacted] from the southern sector of Kaunas (23°55'E/56°55'N), Baltic PD, three jet planes flying close together. The planes headed northeast, then climbed rapidly, and returned at a low altitude after 10 to 15 minutes. Individual aircraft of the same type were observed flying and practicing dives at high altitudes.
- 2. The aircraft observed were midwing monoplanes with very narrow wings fitted rather far to the rear. The wing tips were slightly rounded off and the leading and trailing edges were straight. The stream-lined cabin was mounted in front of the leading edges of the wings.
- 3. From 1949 up to May 1951, flying was continuously observed over Kaunas. All the planes observed took off and landed south of the city. After the fall of 1950, jet planes, mostly flying in formations of three, were seen. In April and May 1951, formations of 20 to 30 jet planes were observed. The aircraft were low-wing monoplanes with cigar-shaped fuselages with cut-off front and rear sections. The wings were straight, their rear edges were tapering, while the leading edges were straight. The leading edges of the elevator assembly had a pronounced sweep-back. The rear of the stream-lined cabin was in line with the leading edge of the wing. The cabin projected only slightly above the fuselage. *

* Comment. The existence of the field and its occupation was previously known. The presence of jet fighters is, however, reported for the first time. The type of these jet fighters cannot be determined from the descriptive information [redacted]

a sweep-back of wings, the characteristic feature of the MiG-17 and MiG-15. A fighter regiment is believed to be stationed at the airfield.

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