

~~TOP SECRET//SI//TK//RSEN/REL TO USA, FVEY~~

# (S//REL) Sentient Operations Highlight:

[Redacted]

## Detection of Possible UAP Near [Redacted]

[Redacted]

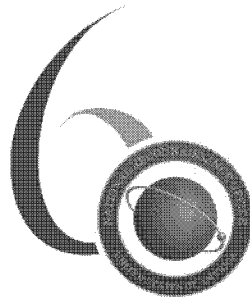
6 May 2021

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04 Jun 2021

DRAFT

[Redacted]



Briefers  
AS&T [Redacted]

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ABOVE AND BEYOND

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## (U) Background

~~(S//REL)~~ At 0038:17Z 6 May 2021, Sentient [redacted] image processing detected a possible airborne object ~78km southeast of [redacted] in a [redacted] image

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~~(S//REL)~~ The object was small (<10m), and did not match the visual signature of typical aircraft detections

- The object did, however, vaguely resemble similar detections of airborne objects by US Navy aircraft and surface vessels in the [redacted] and [redacted] Operating Areas (“Unidentified Aerial Phenomena” / UAP)
- There is a rough similarity to the previously-reported “tic tac” shape
- The object was likely not a sensor artifact or focal plane anomaly
- The object was also detected / visible in a second overwater image shot in the same area ~15 sec later

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~~(TS//SI//TK//REL)~~ There were no correlating air or maritime tracks present in [redacted] reporting, nor were there any correlating ELINT/SIGINT [redacted] detections in [redacted] reporting, despite time-coincident [redacted] access/collection

- Sentient processing did, however, detect the presence of the prob [redacted] in the same imagery ~25km to the west of the object
- In recent reporting<sup>1</sup>, the [redacted] has been associated with command-and-control (C2) activities, as well as more traditional telemetry and space functions – the simultaneous presence of this high-interest vessel is notable, although possibly merely coincidental

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~~(TS//SI//TK//REL)~~ This detection has been shared with the UAP Task Force [redacted] and NGA [redacted] [redacted] for further analysis and coordination

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## (U) Conclusions and Way Ahead



~~(S//REL)~~ There are a range of potential hypotheses regarding the identification of the object, none of which can be completely ruled in or out at this time

- [ ] Air Force aircraft (e.g. [ ] from tail-on aspect
- Weather balloon
- Space debris much closer to imaging vehicle
- Other

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~~(S//REL)~~ These detections and supporting data were shared across NRO directorates, with NGA, and with UAP Task Force elements

- Feedback has been extremely positive and appreciative of the contribution
- Detection is illustrative of the utility of [ ] algorithms when processing large image files; tremendously reduces (but does not eliminate) human exploitation burden

~~(TS//SI//TK//REL)~~ The same Sentient [ ] processing strategy that resulted in this detection could be applied to [ ] EO collections off of [ ] in areas where multiple detections have been previously reported

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- Discussions are underway with NGA on approaches for execution
- Takes advantage of existing Sentient infrastructure and processing capabilities

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