

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 17 August 53 17/2045Z	2. LOCATION Peoria, Illinois
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Checks was made with airfields in the vicinity precluded that there were no aircraft in the area. Check with upper air balloon tracks
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 30 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS upper air research balloon over Peoria at the time of sighting.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	Spherical shaped brilliant white object appeared to be suspended 30 deg above horizon at a position of 120 deg from true N then slowly moved away.
7. COURSE 000	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	
17 Aug	Peoria, Ill. Balloon ? o-8

UNCLASSIFIED

17 August 1953

Peoria, Illinois

Description

Two civilian observers at different locations in Peoria saw an unidentified flying object at 1445 CST 17 August 1953. The object appeared the size of a baseball with a very brilliant white color. No trail or exhaust was observed and the object seemed to be suspended in the air and then slowly moved away. The speed of the object was unknown. The object was observed south of Peoria and moved off south-southeast. At the time of this sighting, personnel of the 791st AC&W Squadron, Hanna City, Illinois, observed a half-moon shaped object in the same vicinity. Total time of observation was 30 minutes.

Discussion

The AC&W Squadron at Hanna City did not pick up any unusual tracks on radar in the area mentioned. Checks with local weather station for possible release determined that there were no weather balloons in the area. Checks made with airfields in the vicinity precluded that there were no aircraft in the area. Check with upper air balloon tracks reveal that there was an upper air research balloon over Peoria at the time of sighting.

Conclusion

Was balloon.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
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DOD DIR 5200.10

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1953 AUG 18

03:57

RDS15 E

WPB014

YDA315

CED038

YMB031

JEDNG 001

2V4 002

OO JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JEDKF 444

DE JEDNG 02D

O 172327Z ZNJ

FM COMDR 791ST ACG SQ HANNA CITY ILL

Action

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

1. Attn
3.
4. R. F. Hule

phoned Cdo
18/01/363
Cbe

TO JEPHQ/CG USAF WASH 25 D.C. ATTN DIR OF INT

JEDWP/CG WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB CMA DAYTON OHIO ATTN ATIAA-2C

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS CMA COLO

JEDKF/CG CADT KANSAS CITY MO

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/R [REDACTED] 91-17-H-02 PD(FLYORPT) REF PARA 7C CMA AFL

230-5 CMA DTD 29 APR 52 CMA THE FOL INFO IS SUBMITTED: REPT OF VISUAL
OBSERVATION OF UNKNOWN OBJECT WAS REPORTED TO THIS UNIT BY A MR WEBSTER
1225A HANSSLER PLACE CMA PEORIA CMA ILL 089 DEG 36 MIN WEST 042 DEG 36
MIN NORTH AT 1745Z 17 AUG 53PD OBJECT APPEARED THE SIZE OF A BASEBALL
CMA WITH A VERY BRILLIANT WHITE COLORPD NO TRAIL OR EXHAUST OBSERVED
PD OBJECT SEEMED TO BE SUSPENDED IN AIR AND SLOWLY MOVE AWAY PD SPEED
OF OBJECT UNKNOWN PD OBJECT WAS OBSERVED FOR APPROX 30 MIN PD OBJECT
WAS OBSERVED BY SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS INCLUDING THE GOC POST AT PEORIA

Question 100X

PAGE 2 OF JEDNG 02D

**DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
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AIRPORT 089 DEG 42 MIN WEST 042 DEG 36 MIN NORTH PD THIS OBJECT WAS
OBSERVED SOUTH OF PEORIA CMA ILL AND MOVED OFF SOUTH SOUTH EAST PD
AT TIME OF THIS SIGHTING PERSONNEL OF THIS UNIT OBSERVED A HALF MOON
IN THE SAME VICINITY PD REPORTING AGENT DID NOT OBSERVE THE MOON AT
TIME OF REPORTING OBJECT PD

17/2343Z AUG JEDNG

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ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

COMDR ATIC

TO:

COMDR 791ST AC&W SQ HANNA CITY ILL

JEDN 4

INFO:

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: AFON-ATIAE-8-9-8

DATE-TIME GROUP

191315Z AUG 53

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

ROUTINE

INFORMATION

☐

BOOK MESSAGE

☐

ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐

MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐

YES

☒

NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

791-17-H-02

CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

Ref your message 791-17-H-02 dtd 172343Z Aug 53. The Air Technical Intelligence Center requests the following info be obtained and included on the AF Form 112 required by AFL 200-5: 1) Obtain azimuth and elevation readings from the observers. 2) Submit chart of the area pinpointing locations of the observers. 3) Time of sighting is near the scheduled balloon release time. Check with any agencies releasing balloons in the area of sighting to determine possibility of a weather balloon causing the sighting. 4) Check with local air fields and determine type and location of any aircraft in the area at the time of sighting. 5) Did your radar pick up the unidentified object? Request that this info be forwarded as soon as possible.

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

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DOD DIB 5200.10

COORDINATION:

ATIAE-5

(A/LC Futch)

Date

19 Aug 53

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Proj 10073

ATIAE

(Col Johnston)

Date

19 Aug 53

ATIA

(A/LC Futch)

Date

19 Aug 53

DRAFTER'S NAME (Last, first, middle initial)

A/LC MAX G. FUTCH/RWC/hrs

SYMBOL
ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE

65365

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT C. BROWN, MAJOR, USAF
ADJUTANTDD FORM 173
1 OCT 49REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48
WHICH MAY BE USED.

16-55000-3 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Note: Sent Uncl - had to go Western Union

1953 AUG 18

10:05

8 AUG 53 14 36Z

RE286

WPA282

YDA133

CBC276

YDD268RJEDNG 027

2V4 001

OO JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JEDKF 444

DE JEDNG 21DS

O 181335Z

FM COMDR 791ST AC&W SQ HANNA CITY ILL

TO JEPHQ/CG USAF WASH DC

JEDWP/CG WRIGHT PATTENSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

JEDKF/CG CADF KANSAS CITY MO

8-18 PD ZUI MY MSG DA JEDNG 22D/O/172327Z PD ZUI LINE FIVE GR FOUR PD

TIME ELEMENT SHOULD READ 1445 CMA 17 AUG 53 CST RPT 1445 CMA 17 AUG

53 CST PD

18/1335Z AUG JEDNG

Action
2. Attn
3. 4R file

AT/C

AF FORM 112—PART I
approved 1 June 1953

(Classification)

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Country	United States	Report No.	(Leave Blank)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
Subject	Report of Unknown Flying Object		
Area Reported On	Peoria, Illinois	From (Agency)	791st AC&W Squadron, Hanna City, Illinois
Date of Report	21 August 1953	Date of Information	18 August 1953
Prepared by (Officer)	WALTER J BARROW Jr 2nd Lt, USAF	Source	
References (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AF Form 112 dated 19 Aug 53, Same subject.			
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.)			
Reference message received from Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, the following additional information is rendered on Report of Unknown Object received by this Unit from Robert F. Webster and Margaret M. McIlvaine on 18 August 1953. Object was observed at approximately 120 degrees (from true North) from position where (R) was observing object. In reference to elevation from observers position, it was estimated object was approximately 35 degrees above the horizon. M report coincides with information above.			

This organization did not pick up any unusual tracks on Radar in area mentioned.

A check was made with local weather station for possible release of weather balloon. Was informed no weather balloons had been released.

No aircraft was in same area at time of sighting.

1 Incl:
Map pin-pointing
position of Observers

Walter J Barrow Jr.
WALTER J BARROW JR
2nd Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

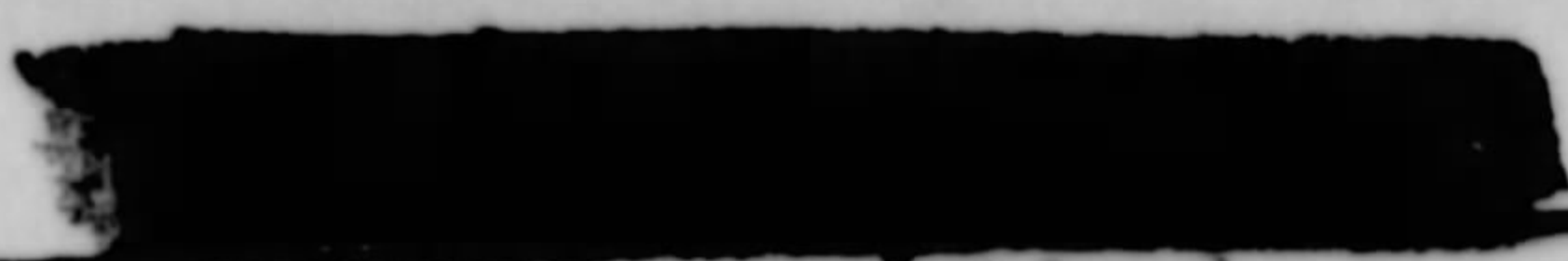
WAS UPPER AIR TRACKS

~~DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVALS;~~
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

Distribution by Originator

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(Classification)