

UFOB INDEX CARD

AISS-UFOB-247-55

1. DATE 30 July 1955	2. LOCATION Shelby, IOWA		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 30/0600Z July 1955	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS ☒ Yes 20 IMAGE ☐ No	6. SOURCE Civilian		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Still in sight AT least 2 1/2 hours	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One (1)	9. COURSE Stationary	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One (1) object, the size of a quarter penny at arms length, appeared to be red, white, green, and flashing. The object seemed to remain stationary throughout the duration of sighting. Photographs taken. Pilot over the area stated he could see no object.		11. COMMENTS Due to the duration of the sighting and the description of the sighting, and the fact that pictures were taken an investigation was authorized to Detachment #2, 4602d AISS. The results of investigation to be recorded on this card upon receipt of AF Form 112 on this case.	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

ARFA REPORT CONCERNS

SHELBY, IOWA, USA

AGENCY OF ORIGIN

Flight 2-A, 4602d AISS
St. Paul 11, Minnesota

DATE OF REPORT

8 August 1955

B287907

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

MR. THOMAS M. STOKER

DATE OF INFORMATION

30 July 1955

PREPARING OFFICER

WALTER E. SAMPSON, 2/Lt., USAF

EVALUATION

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

SUBJECT

UFOB

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 112a.)

I. CONTENTS:

PART ONE: Description of sighting by Mr. [REDACTED], Shelby, Iowa, [REDACTED] at Farmer's Savings Bank, Navy Veteran.

PART TWO: Supplementary Investigative Efforts.

PART THREE: Comments of Preparing Officer.

II. SUMMARY: Object was sighted by a group of observers at GOC KILO METRO 33 BLACK post at Shelby, Iowa (GEOREF FJKM 3531). Object was kept under surveillance until 30/1000Z. Members of the group were: Mr. [REDACTED], 33, Manager, Shelby Fertilizer Co.; Mr. [REDACTED], 18, works for Mr. [REDACTED] and owns camera with which pictures of object were taken; Mr. [REDACTED], 16, also works for [REDACTED]; Mr. [REDACTED], 20, an accountant for O Gage City Steel Co., Omaha, Nebraska and Mr. [REDACTED], post supervisor who reported the sighting.

III. INVESTIGATORS: CAPT HANS BISCHOFFS AO 784842
LT WALTER E. SAMPSON 26233A

Library Subject & Area Codes

Nodex

WALTER E. SAMPSON
2/Lt., USAF
Officer in Charge

X 0 INCLS. (See individual parts)

APPROVED:

JOHN M WHITE JR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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ATIC 233303

PAGE TWO RJEDNG 20A

30K SCTD (C) SCTD (D) NONE (E) SCTD (F) NONE (8) NONE (9) NONE

(10) NONE (11) IDAHO DIRECTOR BALLOON OR STOR WARREN S HAYES 1/LT

USAF 30/0730 AB25 AF 8170 OFF TO MSP POSSED WITHIN FIVE MILES OF

OBJECT HAD RADIO CONTACT WITH IDAHO PILOT REPORTED HE COULD SEE NOTHING

30/0830Z LOOKS LIKE ON COMING CAR ONE MILE AWAY 30/0845Z NEW AND

ADDITIONAL SIGHTING NE OF SHELBY IOWA SOME CHARACTERISTICS FIVE

PERSONS WATCHING OBJECTS. (12) PHOTOGRAPHS W/B MAILED UPON RECEIPT

BY THIS HQ P END MSG

BT

01/1633Z AUG RJEDNG

THESE ARE THE RESULTS OF THE SEARCH

FOR THE BALLOON WHICH WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN

SEEN IN THE AREA OF SHELBY IOWA ON 30/0830Z

AND ON 30/0845Z. THE RESULTS OF THE SEARCH

WAS AS FOLLOWS

THE RESULTS OF THE SEARCH

WAS AS FOLLOWS

END

ALL INFORMATION IS UNCLASSIFIED

Handwritten notes and stamps at the bottom of the page, including "11/1/50" and "11/1/50".

BT

GXU N C L A S S I F I E D / OIN 1855A PD UFOB PD(1) DESCRIPTION OF THE
OBJECT (AL UNKNOWN (BL ONE FOURHT PENNY AT ARMS LENGTH-10/15A 2 MI E
GOC POST (C) RED WHITE GREEN FLASHING (D) ONE (E) NO (F) NONE (G) NONE
(H) NONE (I) NON (2) DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT (A) FLASHING LIGHTS
B(B) 10/15A 2 MI EAST OF GOC POST (C) STILL UNDER OBSERVANCE (D)
MOTINLESS (E) NONE (F) 29/2400C-30 /0024C-30/0230C- OBJECT STILL
UNDER SURV (3) MANNER OF SOBSERVANCE (A) GRUND VISUAL (B) SEVEN
POWER (C) NONE (4) TIME AND DATE (A) 30/0600Z B) NIGHT (5) FJKM
3531 SHELBY IOWA (6) IDENTIFYING INFO (A) MR ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ BANKERS FARMERS
SAVINGS AND TRUST SHELBY IOWA (B) NONE (7) WEAHTER AND WINDS ALOFT (AL
SCATERED VIS GOOD NEG RAIN OR OTHER (B) SCATTERED 110 DEGREES AT

ACTION

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049

RR RJEDEN RJEDWP RJEPHQ

DE RJEDNG 20A

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FM COMDR 31ST ADIV SNELLING AF STA ST PAUL MINN
TO RJEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRING COLO
RJEDWP/COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO
RJEPHQ/D/I HQTRS USAF WASH D C

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 30 Jul 55		2. LOCATION Shelby, Iowa		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical Vega, Capella ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 30/0600Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION still in sight after 2½ hrs		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE stationary	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One obj, size of quarter penny at arms length, appeared to be red, white, green, and flashing. Obj seemed to remain stationary throughout duration of sighting. Photographs taken. Pilot over area stated he could see no obj.				11. COMMENTS Capella in NE, 50 deg az 30 deg elevation. Vega in NW at 300 deg az, 30 deg elevation.	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

REPORT NO. 2A-UFOB-2-55

PART ONE

Flight 2-A, 4602d AISS

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Address: Shelby, Iowa

Occupation: Cashier, Farmer's Savings Bank, Shelby, Iowa.

Qualifications: GOC Post Supervisor

II. RELIABILITY: Not possible to judge from information available.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: Source noticed flashing lights in sky "north east 10 miles and high." Lights "Changed from red to green to white as lights changed on this object. Once in awhile a light beam would come in front to a point. Also a shadowy white beam coming to a point would show below the object." At 30/0845Z another object with the same characteristics was sighted to the northwest. The size of the first object appeared to be that of a "pea" held at arms length. The object did not appear to move. Observation through 7 power binoculars did not reveal any details. At 30/0830Z it looked like an oncoming car, one mile away. Weather was scattered clouds, but good visibility, wind was estimated 30 knots from 110 degrees. Pictures of the object (See Incl. 1) were taken with an 81mm Compar lens camera Reflex 1 Compco single picture type, 620.

1 Incl:
Negative

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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Flight 2-A, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

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PART TWO

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SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

1. Upon assignment to Detachment 2 for investigation Capt Bischofs began to conduct the investigation, however, he was unable to develop any leads. The investigation was then turned over to Flight 2-A since the initial report and photographs had gone to the D/I 31st Air Division.

2. Checking with research agencies in this area revealed that there were no ballons from Minneapolis over Iowa at the time. Also the lights carried on ballons are generally white or possibly red and white flashing.

3. At 30/0730Z July 55 a B-25 type aircraft, #AF8170, passed within five (5) miles of the object and was asked by the AC&W site at Omaha if they could see the object. The pilot reported he could not see it.

4. When the film was developed by the 514th Materiel Sqdn Photo Lab nothing showed. (See Part One, Incl 1)

5. It is believed that Moby Dick ballons carry only a white light.

6. The U. of Minnesota Observatory said that there was nothing astronomical that would cause such a sighting on that night.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

REPORT NO. 2A-UFOB-2-55

PART THREE

Flight 2-A, 4602d AISS

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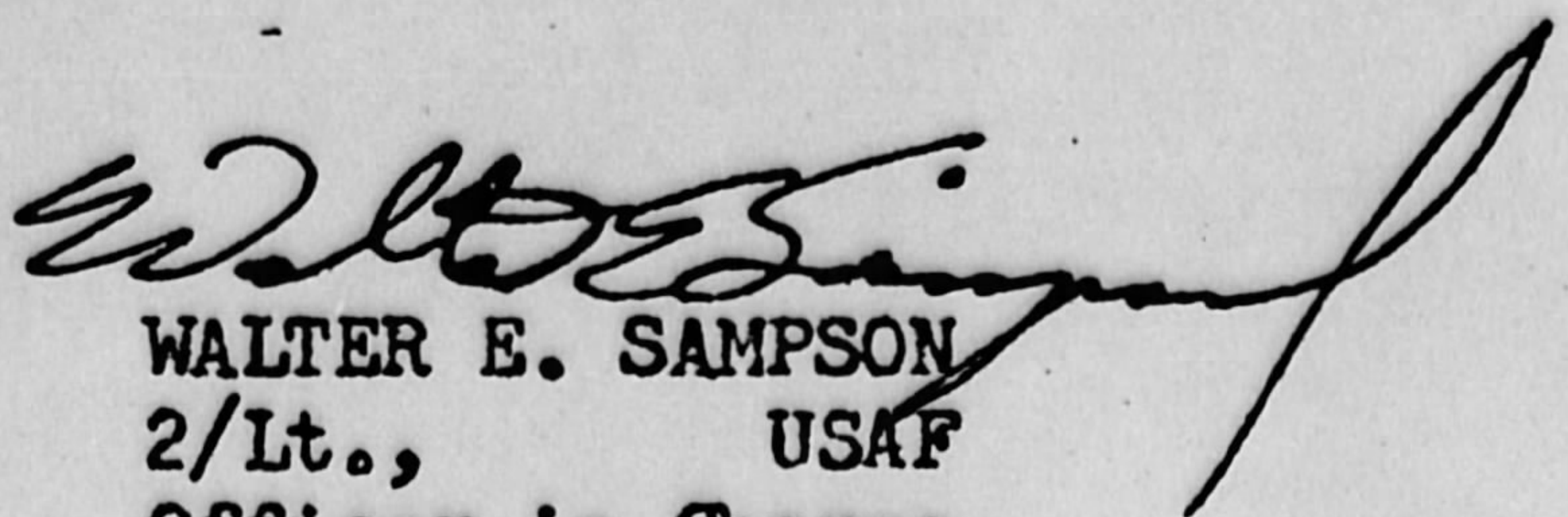
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COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

1. In the opinion of the Preparing Officer, this sighting was possibly caused by an airplane, for the following reason:

- a. The color of the lights and their flashing would be those of an aircraft
- b. The lack of motion could be explained by wind or by a helicopter or a convertiplane.
- c. The description of the white lights sounds like landing or maybe search-lights.
- d. Investigation discovered no ballon or astronomical activity that would account for the sighting.


WALTER E. SAMPSON
2/Lt., USAF
Officer in Charge

COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

1. - This headquarters does not agree with the possibility of an aircraft generated sighting as set forth by the Preparing Officer for the following reasons:

- a. The duration of the sighting was too long for that of an aircraft sighting.
- b. The object appeared to remain motionless for more than two and one-half hours.

2. This headquarters offers the hypothesis that this sighting was possibly caused by a balloon for the following reasons:

- a. The object remained high and motionless for a long period of time.
- b. Viewing of ordinary white light through low power optical instruments such as the binoculars used can induce colors which the object does not actually possess.
- c. Balloons of the rawinsonde type, released from Air Force Weather Stations and detachments thereof daily, can be seen after dark up to an altitude of forty thousand feet without visual aids.
- d. The revolving of the balloon or oscillation of the suspension train (carrying the modulator unit), caused by wind currents, could account for the flashing lights and the beams of light which at times came from the object.