

1. DATE/TIME OBSERVED

LOCATION

2. SOURCE

10. CONCLUSION

3. NUMBER OF OBJECTS

4. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION

11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

5. TYPE OF OBSERVATION

7. COURSE

6. PHOTOS

9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Object was round, black or some dark color, about the size of a barrel and resembled a large balloon. The three expressed the opinion that at first it was thought the object was some type a/c with only a portion of it distinct, however, as it started to ascend, they decided it was possibly a balloon or some object released from an a/c. When first observed the object was just off the water, within a few minutes it began to ascend until it appeared to be 15-20' above the water, then slowly to descend until almost on the water again. This rising and descending occurred until it disappeared. Each cycle of ascending and descending lasted approximately 10-60 seconds. The object was observed close to the surface for approximately 3-4 minutes before it started its last ascent and was in view for approximately 30 seconds.

UNCLASSIFIED

IR-280-50

USA-MATS

## AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Sighting of Unidentified Object, St. George's Bay, Newfoundland

Newfoundland (St. George's Bay)

Intelligence Division, Hqs, MAFFS  
Andrews AF Base, Washington 25, D. C.

27 September 1950

30 August 1950

C-3

A. G. Love, Captain, USAF

Newfoundland Employees of USAF

IR-255-50, IR-256-50, USA-MATS

Report contains details of a 30 August 1950 sighting of an unidentified object over St. George's Bay, Newfoundland.

APPROVED:

*William L. Travis*  
WILLIAM L. TRAVIS  
Lt. Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Intelligence  
Division

UNCLASSIFIED  
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Intelligence Division, Hqs, MATS	IR-380-50	2	3	3

The Intelligence Officer, 1226th Air Base Group, Ernest Harmon AF Base, Newfoundland, has reported the 30 August 1950 sighting of an unidentified object near Sandy Point, Newfoundland, by three (3) Newfoundland native employees of the Water Transportation Section of Ernest Harmon AF Base. The three (3) observers were John Kasel, 36 years old, employed on the base for five (5) years; Fred Messervy, 45 years old, employed for one and a half years (1½); and Jim Smith, 42 years old, also employed by USAF for one and a half years (1½).

"The sighting was made from approximately two miles off Indian Head (48° 29' N, 58° 30' W). The object's position was approximately three miles southwest (48° 27' N, 58° 33' W) and approximately 1 to 1½ miles off shore.

"The crew sighted an object just off the water and was described by all three men as being round, black, or some dark color, about the size of a barrel and resembled a large balloon. The three expressed the opinion that at first it was thought the object was some type aircraft with only a portion of it distinct, however, as it started to ascend, they decided it was possibly a balloon or some object released from an aircraft. When first observed the object was just off the water, within a few minutes it began to ascend until it appeared to be 15-20 feet above the water, then slowly to descend until almost on the water again. This rising and descending occurred a total of three times, then the object started to ascend and continued straight up until it disappeared. Each cycle of ascending and descending lasted approximately 40-60 seconds. The object was observed close to the surface for approximately 3-4 minutes before it started its last ascent and was in view from approximately 1630Z to 1650Z.

"The Water Transportation Officer, Captain W. Bouefield, rated all three men as very reliable, stating that all were quiet and truthful.

"At approximately 1910Z, 30 August 1950, Mr. William Alexander reported to T/Sgt J. S. Strong at the Kippens Receiver Site that an object, thought to be a submarine, had been sighted 3 miles off the shore of Kippens, Newfoundland at approximately 1700Z. The object was described as having the appearance of a barrel with a periscope, or long pole attached.

"At 1920Z, ARS dispatched a helicopter to reconnoiter the area from the base to Port au Port with negative results. The area around Indian Head was also checked with negative results.

"Questioning of the witness at Kippens at 2200Z, 30 August 1950, disclosed the following information:

"Mr. William Alexander, age 65; his son, Bill Alexander, age 24; and nephew, Austin Alexander, age 26, were fishing from a dory approximately 1½ miles off shore at Kippens at 1700Z when they observed an object an estimated 1½ to 2 miles out from the dory.

"The object was described by all three men as appearing about the size of a dory and looked like a large target balloon with either a black (elder Mr. Alexander), or brownish-yellow (other two) color. It was approximately 15 to 20 feet above the water and had a pole extending from its center to the water line and was travelling north-northeast at an estimated speed of 3 to 5 mph.

"The object was in sight approximately five minutes before it moved over the horizon. There was no smoke, exhaust noise, or markings evident.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
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FORM (Army)

REPORT NO.

Intelligence Division, Hq. MATS

IR-280-50

PAGE

3-249646

OF

PAGES

\*All three men have a limited education with no military experience. The association of the object with a large target balloon was due to the fact that William and Bill Alexander had observed aircraft target practice conducted in the area during the last war. No effort was made to investigate and the three men left for shore believing that there might be aerial gunnery conducted in the area.


\*The object was observed momentarily from high ground on shore, but no significance attached to sightings until later after casual remarks to other persons and then it was decided that the incident should be reported to military authorities.

\*A possibility exists that a weather balloon may have descended in this area, however, it is the opinion of weather personnel that none of the locally released balloons would be in the area. Only one radiosonde balloon was released that day (1600Z) and it was white and approximately 7' x 8' in size. Ceiling balloons released and the radiosonde balloon all headed northeast after release until lost.

\*The Control Tower and GCA personnel were questioned with negative results.

\*Local weather sequences were as follows: 1) 1630Z, 30 August 1950, ceiling 2,000 feet overcast, visibility 15 miles, pressure 29.89 inches high, temperature 58°F, dew point 50°F, wind north-northwest at 10 knots. 2) 1655Z, 30 August 1950, ceiling 2,500 feet broken, visibility 15 miles, wind west-northwest at 6 knots. 3) 1730Z, 30 August 1950, ceiling 2,500 feet broken, visibility 15 miles, pressure 29.89 inches high, temperature 61°F, dew point 48°F, wind north-northwest at 7 knots.

\*Control Tower and Operations report no aircraft in area at time of sighting. Three aircraft (a E-29, a TCA DC-3, and a KLM DC-3) were over field and tracked across the GCA scope prior to observation of the unidentified object.

  
ARTHUR G. LOVE  
Captain, USAF

JULY 1950 SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
Jul (Info)	Cincinnati, Ohio (CRIFO)	Anonymous	
18 Jul	Pullman, Wash	Fruitt	Insufficient Data
1 (Info)	Fairbanks, Alaska (Newsclipping)	Meteor Rpt	
1	Chicago, Ill	Vatter	Astro (Meteor)
2	Raleigh, N Carolina	Polier	A/C
5 (Info)	Los Angeles, Calif (Newsclipping)	Grant	
5	Hill AFB, Utah	Military	A/C
7	Topeka, Kansas	Schumaker	Balloon
7	Weisbaden, Germany	Gd RADAR	A/C
8	Barrow Strait, Alaska	Juntunen, Others	Balloon
10 (Info)	Wilmington, Ohio (Newsclipping)	Harcus, Henry, Curtis & Others	
10	Ft McPherson, Ga	Hall, Doering, Reilly	Balloon
11	Jacksonville, Fla	Vereka & Others	A/C
13	Saudi Arabia	Military Air	Astro (Meteor)
13	Ft Peck, Montana	Military Air	Balloons
13	Redstone Arsenal, Ga	Washburn	UNIDENTIFIED
13	Jacksonville, Ga	Multi	Astro (Venus)
14	Vandalia, Ohio	Kook	A/C
15	Los Alamos, N Mexico	Hodgson	A/C
20	Detroit, Mich	Girl Scouts	A/C
22	Ladd AFB, Alaska	Military	Balloon
22	Spartanburg, S Carolina	Ovym	Astro (Star/Planet)
25 (Info)	Los Angeles, Calif (Newsclipping)	Leisher, Clark	
27	Weisbaden, Germany	Prethe	Insufficient Data
29 (Info)	Williamsville, Ill (Newsclipping)	Graham	
30	St John's Newfoundland	Multi	Astro (Meteor)
31	St John's Newfoundland	Multi	Astro (Meteor)

AUGUST 1950 SIGHTINGS

Aug (Info)	Tucson, Ariz (CSI)	Mrs ESO	
2	Belle Vernon, Pa	Indef (PHYS SPEC)	Balloon
3	Los Alamos, N Mexico	Quiland, Mackey	Astro (Meteor)
4	North Atlantic	Ship Marcala	UNIDENTIFIED
4	Pine Bluff, Arkansas	Gatlin & Others	A/C
6	Chicago, Illinois	Harris	Insufficient Data
7	Santa Fe, N Mexico	Frazier	A/C
7	Pacific Ocean	Ship Minerva (Wulf)	Astro (Meteor)
11 (Info)	Washington, Oregon, Idaho	Menzel (AMS Rpt)	
11	Japan	Multi	Astro (Meteor)
12	Bogalusa, La	Hines	Astro (Meteor)
12	Flat Rock, Newfoundland	Allen	Astro (Meteor)
14	Croser, England	Military Air	Other (Contrails)
15	Great Falls, Montana (FOLDERS)	Marinena (PHOTOS)	A/C
20	Nicosia, Cyprus	Choraley, Brown, Brewer	UNIDENTIFIED
20	Astoria, Washington & Area	Jensen, Walker & Others	Astro (Meteor)
21	Stuttgart, Germany	Scarlett	Balloon
23	Philadelphia, Pa	Barringer	Astro (Meteor)
24	Bermuda	Air (RADAR)	UNIDENTIFIED
27	Brockton, Mass	Early	Balloon
30	Ernest Harmon AFB, Newfoundland	Gd (RADAR)	Other (WX Returns)
30	Sandy Point, Newfoundland	Kaecl, Alexander, Others	UNIDENTIFIED
30-31	Holloman AFB, N Mexico	Air Vis & (PHOTOS)	Insufficient Data