

6/18/2015

Location: WOOLI, NEW SOUTH WALES Ca. 22 MAY 2015

Witness: Kevin (Last Name with held)

Investigators: Paul Dean, Ivan Rigoni

Report:

The witness contacted the VUFOA telephone hotline. As a result of the contact, he emailed three photographs to VUFOA. These showed a skyline of trees, with a mainly cloudy sky. The clouds appear to be relatively high altitude ones, interspersed with patches of blue sky. The Sun was visible in the photographs.



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Response email to the witness, asking a series of questions, went unanswered.

Further information:

1. The date is only known approximately as 22 May 2015.
2. The time was said to be between 1400-1600hrs.
3. The location was Wooli, New South Wales.
Latitude 29.86 deg south. Longitude 153.27 degrees east.
It is north of Coffs Harbour.
4. Weather from the nearest Bureau of Meteorology station at Grafton, 26.2kms away for 3pm on three different days was:

21 May 2015:

Temp 15.8 deg C; 97% relative humidity; 8/8 cloud; Calm;
1017.5hPa.

22 May 2015:

Temp 19.7deg C; 44% relative humidity; 2/8 cloud; wind from WSW
at 19km/hr 1013.5hPa.

23 May 2015:

Temp 20.4deg C; 51% relative humidity; 6/8 cloud; wind from south
at 20km/hr; 1024.6hPa.

5. Sunset was at 1659hrs on 22 May 2015.

Analysis:

1. The Sun is to the right of the centre of the pictures.
2. A coloured patch of light is to the left of the centre of the pictures.
3. Below the coloured patch, is a green blob of light.

4. The coloured patch is at the same angular elevation above the horizon as the Sun.

5. Keith Basterfield who viewed the photographs advised that based on personal observations of similar things in the past, he was of the opinion that:

a. The coloured patch in the photograph is of a “Sundog.” A “Sundog” is an atmospheric phenomenon, being one of a range of solar halos, created by light from the Sun interacting with ice crystals in the atmosphere. They appear as a coloured patch of light, either to the left or the right of the Sun at an angular separation of some 22 degrees from the Sun. Estimating the distance from the Sun in the photograph arrives at a similar figure of 22 degrees.

b. The green blob of light is a reflection, of either the Sun or the “Sundog,” in the lens elements of the instrument used to take the photographs, i.e. camera or mobile phone camera. One can establish that the witness moved between taking at least two of the photographs by the angular separation of one tree and the Sun. As the witness moved one way the green blob moved the other way.

6. Professional Photographer Raymond Freeman looked at the pictures and stated that they most certainly contained both an impressive “Sundog” and a single lens flare of low-to-moderate strength.

Conclusion:

The coloured patch of light is a “Sundog”.

The green blob is an internal camera lens reflection.