

Interviewed Roy Porter - 19th April, 1992.

Mr. Roy Porter lives at Riverside which is situated 3 miles East of the Murchison River Bridge (Galena Bridge) and it was from this location that he observed the following -

Mr. Porter states he was walking down from his Shearing Shed towards the house a few minutes after sun-down, when he noticed a column of coloured smoke in the Western sky .... he stopped to observe this phenomon. He states the column of smoke was at its full when first seen because it stayed intact for a short period of time, then began to drift with the prevailing wind, forming a big letter "S" then just faded away, leaving no indication of a smoke column.

He cannot say for sure of the exact date, but did add that a few days later he was carting wheat into the Siding at Binnu along the Coastal track (Northwest Coastal Highway) when he was asked to pull off the road to allow a Convoy to pass ... there were many trucks in the Convoy - some Army, some Civilian. He didn't see the trucks return, but was told they did return with German Prisoners from the Kormoran.

Compass Bearing taken from position on walking path a little left of a now dead tree, to a position on Horizon where smoke column was seen is 295° .

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Before I had interviewed Mr. Porter I had read a report in the Brisbane Courier Mail dated 31st October, 1987, of his sighting this column of smoke.

Re the column of smoke - my opinion is that it would have required a force at the base for it to have ascended unaffected by the prevailing wind until reaching it's full height, at which time this was first sighted by Mr. Porter. I consider the force would have to be very powerful for the column to have ascended high enough for Mr. Porter to have seen it from his property, Riverside, which is approximately 35 miles from the Coast.

I believe this to be the same column of smoke Mr. Jerry Rose reported seeing from Drummonds Cove and maintained that it was a Cordite burn. I believe it was the Magazine of the Kormoran going up.

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