

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species: Golden Eagle Immature 2. Number: 1
3. Location: T90N R41W section 21 Cherokee Cou nty  
2 miles northeast of Washta along the Little Sioux River
4. Date: Feb. 17, 85 5. Time seen: 10:15 to 10:30
6. Description of size, shape, and color: Very Large. Bueteo shaped  
Dark brown with a light tail band similar to a Rough Legged Hawks.  
The gold on the back of the head and neck was evident.  
The tarsi were feathered.
7. Voice, if heard: None
8. Behavior: Perched in a large cottonwood preening.
9. Habitat: River bottomland woods mixed with pasture.
10. Similar species: Immature Bald Eagle. Dark phase Redtail or  
Roughleg.
11. Distance viewed at: 1/4 mile Optical equipment: 15-60X  
Bausch&Lamb Scope 13. Light: Sunny at our back shining on bird.
14. Previous experience with this species and similar species:  
I have seen many Golden Eagles in Wyoming and on CBC's in  
Arizona. Balds are common around here in the Spring and Fall.
15. Other observers: Jim Huber, Marion Brewer, Vernon Bierman
16. Did others agree: Yes 17. Other independent observers:
18. Books and advice consulted: Chandler & Robbins Birds of North America
19. How long after seeing this bird did I write this description:  
1 1/2 hour
- Signature: Vernon Bierman Address 901 Harris Cherokee Iowa 51012  
Date 02-17-85 City, State Cherokee Iowa