

INVESTIGATION LOG: Case assigned 10/31/12. Witness contacted by telephone on 11/3 and email 11/4. At least two more email contacts before in-person interview on 11/8. In-person interview conducted on 11/8/12 at 1:30 pm. Interview lasted 45 minutes. Follow-up email sent 11/11 asking additional questions. No response. Same email with follow-up questions resent 12/7. Follow-up answers obtained on 12/9. Follow-up email sent 12/26 for additional information. Response received the same day.

FIELD INVESTIGATOR ID: 18426

CASE NO.: 43607

LONGITUDE/LATITUDE: -84.36xx / 34.34xx

SYNOPSIS: RP, her friend Xxxx and RPs two minor children saw a winged, silent flying object appear from over the horizon/treeline to the northeast, hover almost directly over their house at a height of 150-200 feet, and then take off to the north in a shallow climb until it disappeared from sight in the scattered clouds. Video was taken of the incident. Duration of the incident was approximately 30 minutes. This event occurred in Ball Ground, Georgia, on October 23, 2012 at 4pm.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS PERTINENT TO SYNOPSIS: RP and her friend were sitting on the front porch of RPs home watching RPs children play in the front yard. A UFO appeared over the treeline from the northeast flying in a straight line. Within 5 minutes, it was hovering almost directly over RPs house. Birds (the parties described them as falcons) were observed circling the UFO. Both RP and her friend began taking video of the object (video did not match UFO description given by parties; however, video clearly shows object flying in the sky). At its closest, the UFO was flying at about 150-200 feet over RPs residence and at an inclination from RPs viewing position on the front sidewalk of 75 degrees. Neither party saw the object cast a shadow on the ground. One neighbor pulled up in front of RPs residence in a vehicle, took one look at the object at RPs behest, said "I dont know what that is..." and then left the area. The object then made an abrupt turn and began to move off to the north in a slow but steady elevated climb. The UFO was in RPs sight for the entire time except for one brief pause when she went back inside her residence to get a video camera to shoot video of the object. Her friend E. Xxxx observed the object for the entire period. Both parties report that, at one point in the objects ascent, a small aircraft flew near the object in a straight path. RPs 6 year old daughter called the object a "spaceship." RP made inquiries downtown with locals during the following days whether anyone else saw the object; however, no one observed the UFO.

OBJECT DESCRIPTION: Object was (by witness RP's estimation) 10-15 feet long, had wings, but was flat if viewed from the side. Object was flat to very slight gloss black in color. It had small white lights around the periphery of the object that blinked in a random pattern. Witness Xxxx reported seeing a red light that illuminated on the body/fuselage of the object for approximately 5 seconds; however, this light was not observed by witness RP as she was inside the residence at the time it was observed by Xxxx. Object made no noise at any point it was observed by witnesses. Object appeared to be flying in a stable form and making controlled turns. Drawing was made of the object and is incorporated into this report as a file attachment.

WITNESS INTERVIEWS / STATEMENTS: Face to face interview was conducted on 11/8/12. Follow-up email information was obtained on 12/9/12 and 12/26/12.

NATURAL OR MAN-MADE PHENOMENON: Video evidence can quickly rule out any natural phenomenon explaining this event; thus, research was not conducted into this possibility.

As for man-made phenomenon - my initial (and still present) hypothesis as to what RP saw is some form of a drone. Drones are acknowledged to fly in Georgia airspace:

<http://blogs.ajc.com/political-insider-jim-galloway/2012/05/31/the-first-hints-of-flying-drones-in-metro-atlanta/>

Furthermore, drones can operate silently:

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/Drones-are-Ready-for-Takeoff.html>

The shape that RP saw was somewhat similar to the RQ-170 Sentinel drone that is already in use:
<http://aerowiki.blogspot.com/2009/12/rq-170-sentinel-drone-beast-of-kandahar.html>

RPs UFO bears some resemblance to a UFO that was spotted over Port Washington, WI in 10/1998 and was hypothesized to be military technology; however, the size differences between that reported item and RPs are extreme:
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/5897539/#.UNad63eROSo>

However, I have been unable to locate any other man-made technology that matches RPs description exactly.

WEATHER INFORMATION: Weatherunderground.com was consulted for weather data. The nearest station is Gilmer Memorial Airport (KGVL) in Gainesville, about 38 to 39 miles east of the sighting location. At 3:55 PM, the time closest to the sighting, observations were as follows: Temp 75.2 deg F, dew point 33.8, pressure 30.14 inches, clear skies with ceiling unlimited, visibility 10 miles, winds calm. These conditions match what witness recalls, are pretty typical for this time of year, and do not offer anything useful as far as explaining the sighting.

LOCATION: the location is a subdivision in a small city in North Georgia. The terrain is hilly. Power lines were observed running through the subdivision, but were not near RPs residence.

EVIDENCE / INVESTIGATION: the highest and best evidence regarding this report are the three separate video clips submitted by RP which show the UFO. RP reports that the clips were broken into three parts because she initially started shooting video with the camera function on her smartphone, which had limited available memory. After shooting two clips, RP opted to go inside the residence, get her video camera, and resume shooting with that instead. The third clip terminated because the object flew too far away to provide any good video detail.

Witness Xxxx attempted to shoot video of the item; however, it was of very poor quality and usefulness.

The video shows a dark object of spherical size flying basically stationary over the RPs residence. The object in the video does not appear to have the shape or flight characteristics of either a balloon or a bird. The video object differs greatly from the object details reported by the on-scene witnesses. The witnesses account for these discrepancies by the low resolution of the cameras used and the distance away from the object.

Additional evidence was obtained from the FBO of the nearest airport to Ball Ground, GA. That is Cherokee County Airport in Ball Ground, tel. no. 678-454-2090. The FBO was contacted on 12/26/12. The source at that location reported that the airport does not keep any log or report forms for UFOs or flying objects that are in any way aberrant. She did recall one person a couple months ago verbally reporting a UFO; however, this person said that what he saw was "probably" a weather balloon. She did also say the airport is on the approach to a military facility that utilizes Chinook aircraft; however, she did not know the name or location of that military facility.

Radar evidence was requested from Georgia MUFON HQ on 12/25/12. FI is awaiting results currently.

WITNESS CREDIBILITY: As for RP, FI found nothing to call into question her credibility as a witness. She is educated, well-spoken and genuinely perplexed by what she saw. She fully answered all questions that were posed to her, and did not exhibit any behaviors that would indicate falsification of the event.

This same analysis extends to Xxxx, in the FIs opinion. Although she is not as educated as RP and is currently unemployed, there was nothing in her interview to indicate evasive behavior or falsification of the event. All questions were fully answered. Xxxx had one previous UFO encounter at her father's residence in Murphy, NC years ago. However, that experience in no way matched the type of UFO she saw in 2012.

RP reported researching online for UFOs similar to the one observed by her and identifying two cases from Ireland and Netherlands as possibilities. RP was contacted to supply URLs for those cases. In response, she sent the following two links:

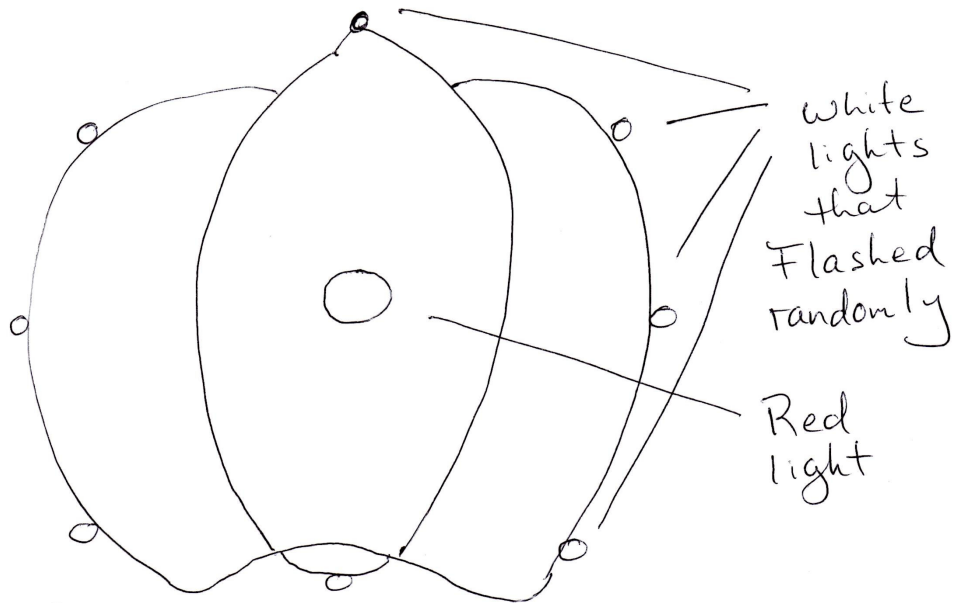
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OTPBLROnpE>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V3eynUF4vwA>

CONCLUSION: Unknown – UAV. The object observed by RP is clearly a manufactured phenomenon. The most likely explanation for RPs observation is a drone aircraft. However, according to FIs research, no drone aircraft exist which correlate to the behavior and characteristics of the UFO observed by RP. Thus, the only logical result is the object is unidentified and the technology unknown.

Drawing of UFO spotted by
Jennifer [redacted] and Elizabeth
[redacted] on 10/23/12.

Bottom view



Side view

