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UFO INCIDENT REPORT

The following display represents the current record in the database:

PRIMARY DATA:

Date : 930713
Time : 2130
Locat: WOLF LAKE
State: IN
Hynek: NL
Witn : 03 of
Descr: LTS+COPT
Sound: COPTER
Durat: 2M/5M
Vall : IV

SECONDARY DATA:

Status : IC
Berliner :
Speiser :
Forms : 1
Needs : 1
FI : ENGSTROM
District : 09
County : NOBLE
Wit Name : MYERS
Reference:

Copies Filed:

ORIGINAL, DDI ()
UFOFC COPY ()

COPY, REGIONAL DIRECTOR ()
FI COMPUTER COPY ()

COPY, CUFOS HQ ()
This form dated:

11
[Index B]

10-Feb-08:40 AM

Date: February 5, 1994
To: Francis Ridqe, SD MUFON
From: Bruce Engstrom, FI MUFON
Re: Interview with Melinda Myers

At your request, I scheduled a face-to-face interview with one of the witnesses of the July 13, 1993, incident where several people saw a number of red lights that evening.

The first interview of Melinda Myers occurred last year near the end of July. It came as a result of Ms. Myers and several family members observing some red lights the night in question, and seeing my name and phone numbers listed in one of the local newspapers as a person to contact if anyone had information concerning this activity. She called me and left her name and phone number on my phone answering machine. I returned her call and interviewed her over the phone. This was during the time of a number of personal interviews and at the time did not seem as if it had anything special to add to other, seemingly, more interesting reports. Her report appeared to "fit" with several other reports of red lights moving northwest in Noble County, Indiana, that evening which appeared to be following U.S. Route 33 from Fort Wayne to the northwest. She indicated that several family members did see the red lights. One odd thing about her report was that she claimed to have seen two sets of red lights separated by about 15 minutes. The first batch did not make any sound and the second were definitely helicopters. I did not follow up with this report, similar to a number of others, which did not appear to have any obvious measure of unusualness to it. At your encouragement I did send her a Field Investigator's form (form 1) in the mail and asked her if she would mind filling it out and return it to me. I included a self-addressed stamped envelope. She did not respond and I assumed that she had nothing more to add.

Recently, I received from you, feedback from CUFOS indicating that they would like to have this particular sighting interviewed face-to-face. After receiving your letter requesting me to do that, I set up an initial interview for January 27, 1994. The day before that was to occur, the weather forecast appeared to be so severe, with below zero temperatures, wind, and blowing snow, that I contacted Ms. Myers and requested a postponement of the interview. She agreed and indicated that the rural roads around her house were ice packed and dangerous with severe blowing snow. We agreed to reschedule the interview for Thursday, February 3, 1994.

I did complete this interview yesterday, on the date indicated above with Melinda Myers, age 30, (note the correct spelling of her last name ... I believe that I spelled her name Meyers on my initial reports), her husband Douglas, age 34, and one of their young daughters, somewhere around age 10. A younger daughter, who also witnessed the red lights, was sick in bed. The interview occurred at their home in rural Noble County, at 7686 West Knapp Lake Road, (mailing address is: Kimmel, Indiana, 46760). I left for their house about 5:10pm, after work, on the 3rd, and arrived at their house about an hour later. It was nearly dark by the time I arrived. Their home is located in rural Noble County, Indiana, about 5 miles due west of the small town of Wolf Lake, which is located directly on Route 33. The closest farm is about 1/2 to 3/4 miles away. There is a small thin wooded area to their direct west, but their south, east, and north are clear, nearly to the horizon. Melinda met me at the door. I introduced myself and presented her with my Indiana driver's license and my MUFON membership card (which I have had laminated). After stepping inside, I also presented these same forms of identification to her husband. I wanted to make sure that they were

comfortable with the fact that I was who I claimed to be. They were and the interview proceed very well.

Both husband and wife were very serious and did not take this lightly. Both were very savvy to what they see in the skies around their home. They are aware, as was the oldest daughter, that military helicopters, as well as other types of military aircraft, fly over their home from time-to-time. Some fly at "reasonable" altitudes, but on occasion some fly at near tree-top level, including jet aircraft. Additionally, they sometimes see the "Good Sumeritan" helicopter fly over their area when it is dispatched from Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Commercial aircraft are seen at any time of day over their home, but are usually at a higher altitude than the military craft. They easily recognize the landing lights and the navigation lights of those aircraft at night. On rare occasion, but recently has been happening with more regularity, they have seen helicopters flying just above ground level looking for marijuana (sp?) fields. Occasionally these helicopters will land near their house to investigate close up. There did not appear to be any change of intent in their story yesterday as opposed to what what related to me last July. They did have some difficulty remembering some specifics, but I really believe that they were sincere and did the best they could. The summary of what they related to me is as follows:

Please refer to the detailed map of the area surrounding the location in question for this interview. Route 33 runs diagonally from the lower right hand corner to the upper left hand corner. Just above the map is the town of Ligonier, Indiana, on Route 33, and below the map is the town of Churubusco, Indiana, also located on Route 33. The first of two sightings occurred between point A and point B on the map.

Four Myers family members (Mr., Mrs., and two young daughters) were travelling west on the county road indicated on the map. They had just left a 4-H meeting where the oldest daughter was involved in some activity. They estimated that the time of this first sighting was between 9:00pm and 9:30pm. They left the meeting shortly after 9:00pm, but were not sure of the exact time. They all rode in the family pickup truck ... they had the radio playing at the time, and the windows were open. At point A on the map, one of the young daughter caught sight of three red lights in the sky to their southwest, and drew her father's attention to them. There were three flashing red lights, not unlike what they had seen before on helicopters. The lights moved parallel to their movement and appeared to be moving to the northwest. They did not feel that just the westward motion of their truck caused they red lights to appear to move with them, they appeared to be moving across the sky. When they made their left turn onto another country road, at point B, the red lights continued to move off to the northwest, and quickly were hidden by trees. The lights were always to their southwest and appeared to move from point C on the map to point D. The distance between the individual lights varied slightly indicating to them that these were three distince separate things they were looing at, not one solid object. They estimated that they were about 2 miles away because they could not see any sort of silouette behind the three red lights. They did not hear anything, but they did have their radio going at the time. The lights appeared to them to be nothing unusual from what they had seen in their area before, and assumed that by the intensity of the red lights, their flying in formation, the speed of the lights, and their direction, that they were nothing more than the usual helicopters. They estimated that the red lights were about 15 to 20 degrees above the horizon, which, after some trigonometry, results in an altitude of between 3,000 and 3,500 feet. This assumes exactly 2 miles distance. They dismissed the event after they lost sight of the

formation.

They then drove south through Wolf Lake, made a short jog onto Route 33, then turned west, towards their home, on Wolf Lake Road. After travelling the five miles to their home, they parked their truck in the driveway and walked to the front of their house, point E on the map. The elapsed time from the first sighting of red lights was estimated to be between 10 and 15 minutes. As they approached their front porch, they all noticed two red lights approaching them from straight east of their location, moving from their right to their left, which would be from a southeasterly direction to a northwesterly direction. They all walked onto their front porch, which is really an open deck with a hand rail all around, and completed their observation from that location. Their view, as I mentioned above, to their south, east, and north is unobstructed, nearly to the horizon ... just open farm fields. This time they only saw two red lights, but since they were out-of-doors at this time, they definitely heard the sound of helicopters approaching them. At closest approach, which was to their northeast, the lights were only about a half mile away. They gave this estimation because they could now see the outline of two helicopters easily. They all agreed that this is what they saw. The speed of the lights was what they would have expected from a normal helicopter. They claimed to have seen a moon shine in the south at this time, but in checking my Canadian Observer's Handbook, the moon on the 13th of July last year was two days past third quarter, and could not have been seen at that time. I left that reference in the Form 1 because that is what they told me.

When I asked Mr. Myers to estimate how large the helicopters were, he tried several things at arms length, but could not get it right until he picked up an 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch piece of paper, and held that at arms length. The length of that paper is how large they appeared to him. Everyone else agreed. He estimated the angle above the horizon of the helicopters at closest approach was about 10 degrees. With a bit of trigonometry, this makes the helicopters only 500 feet above the ground, and if they were closer than the 1/2 mile, they would have been even closer to the ground. The length, as described, is suspect because if we again resort to trigonometry, the length of the paper (the 11 inches) at arms length, subtends an arc of about 22 degrees, making them about 1,065 feet long. Even if the angle were reduced to 15 degrees and the distance reduced to 1/4 mile, the objects were 353 feet long. My suspicion is that what they saw were helicopters at a fairly close range, and the time span between July and yesterday did not lend itself to accurate estimation of how large they were.

Speed of the helicopters was not unusual from what they have seen before and since. They all watched them until they went out of sight behind their house to their north. They were continuing to fly in a straight line to the northwest. After losing sight of them, they retired to their home and did not give the experience a second thought. There was no question in their mind that this second sighting was in fact helicopters.

The Form 1 may be a bit confusing, because I included both of the sightings on the same form. The first encounter with the red lights, when they were in their truck is indicated as #1, and the second encounter with red lights at their home, is indicated as #2.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Engstrom, FI MUFON

Bruce Engstrom