

## **Mufon Case # 59680**

**Field Investigator:** Tom Lyford    **Today's Date:** 11/18/2014    **Case Type:** CE1    **Case Category:** 2

**Date Submitted:** 9/9/2014    **Submitter:** Husband and Wife    **County:** Somerset

**Date/Time of Event:** Sunday 09/07/2014, 8:00 pm local / Monday 09/08/2014, 12:00 am UTC/GMT

**Event Location:** I-95 between Exits 109 and 112

**City & State:** Augusta, ME

**County:** Kennebec

**Latitude:** 44.325911

**Longitude:** -69.815453

**Duration:** 20-25minutes

**Case Disposition:** Unknown UAV

### **Weather Conditions (from wunderground.com/history):**

Temp 63.0    Dewpoint: 48.9    Humidity 60 F    Pressure: 30.14 in    Visibility: 10.0    Wind Dir: NW  
Wind: 5.8 mph    Precip: NA    Conditions: Clear

**amsmeteors.org/observations:** There are no reports of fireballs or any other similar observations on this date on this website.

### **Considerations from seeandavoid.com:**

The Augusta Airport is situated approximately one mile to the east of I-95's Exit 109.

The Maine Army National Guard training base (once known as Camp Keyes), headquarters to the Adjutant General, is situated adjacent to, just east of, the Augusta Airport.

AUGUSTA Heliport, Latitude: 44.2675688888889, Longitude: -69.7817111111111

LAKESIDE MARINA Heliport, Latitude: 44.3209019444445, Longitude: -69.8894930555556

There is a single, straight-line Low Level Training Route (LLTR) that crosses WNW to ESE, right over Hallowell, about 8 miles south of Augusta.

### **Short and Long Descriptions from MUFON's CMS Case # 59860:**

**Short Description:** "Hovering triangular UFO"

**Long Description:** "We had just gotten on I-95 north in Augusta, Maine, at exit 109. The sky was clear. It was dusk. The sky was still bluish pink from the sun setting. We all noticed something hovering in the sky on the opposite side of the highway in front of us. It was triangular. It was not moving. At each vertex of the triangle there was a white light. The three lights appeared equidistant from each other. We could see a flat bottom and the light allowed us to see a 90 degree angle where the bottom met the edges that then moved up to give the object height. Most of us couldn't stop looking at the edges because they were not anything like any aircraft that we are familiar with. We could see that the object was a flat metal color. It had no shine to it. Where the light hit the object, it looked like a tin color. There were no color lights at all. My wife was driving, but she could see it out her window, but not for as long as I could see it from the passenger seat. My three children were in the backseat. All three children saw the object."

I saw it out the front window first, then through the back window, and then I took off my seatbelt and stuck my head out the roof through the sunroof. When I stuck my head out the roof, I could not hear anything more than the wind caused by driving. No airplane sound at all, at anytime. The object never moved, it just hovered. My wife was afraid to pull over, so we lost sight of it as we drove away. We do not look for UFO's. This object was so out of place that it was difficult for us not to notice it. All of us noticed it at the same time, and we were all in shock as we stared at it for as long as we could. My daughter even became frightened; it was that real to her. I did not try to take a photo because there was not enough time, and I would have lost a lot of the time I had to observe it. All we had was our cell phones, and we didn't think a cell phone picture would have shown anything more than the lights, so we just watched the object as we drove away from it."

#### **Interview (9/27/2014):**

The witnesses' interview was conducted around the family dining room table, and lasted one hour and twenty minutes. Four of the five of them were present, as follows: the father, age 44; the mother, age 49; one son, age 14; and one daughter, age 9. The eldest son, age 16, could not be present. I asked for, and received, permission to record the session on a digital recording device.

The father, a mathematics educator who holds a Ph D., did the near majority of the reporting, but the mother (a postal clerk) and two children liberally expressed their memories and impressions, throughout, of what they had seen and experienced on that Sunday night at 8:00 pm. It was very much a family affair.

The incident began after shopping at or around Augusta's Target store. The mother was driving, the husband had the front passenger seat, and the three kids were in the rear seat. They had just swung onto I-95 North at Exit 109 and were merging into traffic. Somebody asked what time it was because they were concerned about arriving home by a certain time. The entire family remembers someone checking and saying it was 8:01. It was turning dusk, but the sky overhead was still blue, and clear, except down low at the horizon where some "blue-gray clouds" were gathered over the tree line. Immediately facing them up ahead was the Western Avenue overpass. And immediately beyond and above that barrier, some bright white lights caught their attention on the other side of the overpass.

Excerpts transcribed from the digital recording:

**Husband:** (This is) "when we noticed these white lights. Not too high up in the sky but they were, you know, high enough where we could see them... and I think all of us noticed them at once. I remember saying, "Why are there just *white* lights in the sky? What has just *white lights*?"

**Wife:** "Yeah, and it was kind of like, '*What is that thing* flying over there?'"

**Husband:** "Well it was just *stationary*... It almost looked like it *belonged*. But it completely *didn't*."

They all agreed the object, because it was gray-ish, blended right into the sky which was also graying at sunset, makingg the object challengg to spot (except for the lights).

**Son:** "The lights looked so close, to perspective."

**Husband:** "They were. They were close to *us*."

**Son:** "They didn't seem like stars."

**Husband:** “No, no, they were way, *way too low*. This is like a hundred and fifty feet over the sky, I mean over the trees. And they were a very constant bright.”

**Wife:** “Those headlights that you see, that are so white...?”

**Husband:** “Like the halogens.”

**Wife:** ...that you’re like, ‘Why are they so white?’”

**Husband:** Yeah. Not flickering. Nothing. They were just stationary.”

Then they drove under the overpass and got a better look at what was there on the other side. It was off to their left.

**Husband:** “Right away we could see it was a triangle. And it had three lights. It had a light at every vertex. And... the light seemed to *be* the vertex itself. It wasn’t like there was a triangle with little lights on the ends; it seemed to be *so* bright on the vertex part, that you really couldn’t see how the edge was defined... Then we started to notice that it had height to it. You could see the height. ...It had like (and it’s funny because when we were talking about it later, we both used the exact same word to define what it looked like, do you remember [to the wife] what it was...? The color? *Tin*. It looked like *tin*) ... The height part, the part of the ship that was height. What I could notice was there were kind of like two seams, that it seemed like it was triangular-shaped, but were two seams that maybe changed the angle slightly. (I can draw it. It would make more sense.)... [see drawings accompanying this report] And the height of it... I mean, it was so solid looking, it was... it just... it looked like we were looking at a solid object, and it was just stationary, not moving, there was nothing underneath it, nothing attached, nothing above it, and it just, it was so solid, you could be convinced something was holding it there, because it just wasn’t moving with any air. She slowed down...”

**Wife:** “He wanted me to pull over but...”

**Husband:** “She did *not* want to pull over. The kids were getting... [the daughter’s name] was getting nervous...”

**Wife:** “I don’t like to do that...”

**Husband:** “Well not on the highway...”

As they drove past it, the husband released his seatbelt and pushed his head out through the sun roof, or sky-light, and looked at it as it dropped away in their wake behind them. He re-confirmed that it had three lights and was a tin color, but his wife had noticed one other characteristic that he had not.

**Wife:** “I saw in the *middle*, underneath, that it... either... I think it came out, like, bubbled out a little bit, like right in the very center...” She was unable, she said, to distinguish whether the “bubble” went up or down, i.e., whether it was convex or concave. “But I could see something circular in the middle of it... It kind of looked like, like he said, *tin*. It kind of looked like, you would think it was maybe like *thin kind of metal* because it... you could see the angles of where it was poking out a little bit, like if it was galvanized steel kind of, you know what I mean?”

Then they were past it, and the husband began to say, “Let’s turn around.” Which they did when they got to Exit 112, three miles north of where they had entered onto I-95. They hit red stop lights, but eventually got back on the highway heading south. Now it was getting dark, not pitch black, but much darker. They drove past where the object had been and could no longer see it there, but there *was* an “object” in the sky now, far away, that was just a white light. And it was stationary. They wondered, even suspected, that it might be the same object they had seen before, but considered perhaps they were now viewing a common plane. But there seemed to be a rotation of white lights going on underneath it.

They could no longer make out the shape of this “object” however. And then suddenly, according to the husband, “...it just took off! Straight across the sky.” And when that happened, a big, red light appeared on the bottom of it. And the red light was “bigger. Much bigger than the white lights.” The red light was located right where the wife had claimed to see the convex, or concave, bulge.

**Husband:** “And that’s what made me think... at first I’m thinking *Oh, this is a plane landing at the airport now*. But then...”

**Wife:** “It went faster than...”

**Husband:** “It did, it went really fast straight across...”

The family then drove up onto the hill at Target’s parking lot to watch the thing. It headed south until they lost it going over the horizon, not that it was going down or landing, just continuing on. At one point they thought maybe it was going to land at the airport, but then they realized that the airport was actually behind them now as it was dwindling off into the south.

The husband was apologetic that he hadn’t taken a picture. All they had were their cell phones, he explained, but he knew the quality of a cell phone camera, shot from a moving vehicle, would not do the object justice; they would just get a dot of light, and it would probably be blurred.

**Husband:** “I wasn’t about to be wasting my time doing this, because I want to get as much detail as I can see because, otherwise, we’re never going to see this again. And it was not just like seeing lights. It was an object, a clear object.”

I reminded him that in his initial CMS report, he had estimated the relative size of the object when seen at first, by Exit 109, as being about the size of a golf ball (“actually a little bigger,” he told me), held out at arm’s length. So I asked him to estimate the relative size of the object when seen coming back down I-95 in the southbound lane. “About a penny,” he said. However, when seen at first, up close, he estimated that the real, actual height of the thing was two stories high, as in a two-story building. The son estimated it at least one-and-a-half stories high, and the mother chimed in that for sure, this wasn’t some object about the size of a car or anything. They all agreed it was at least “as big as our house.”

When they’d gotten home, the son began recording one of the UFO shows on the TV, just to see if he might find an image that looked just like what they had seen, and overall the family retrieved a number of triangular UFO photos off the internet that matched their experience. The biggest differences between the internet photos and what they had actually seen were that (a) those of the internet were pretty much all highly aloft, overhead, while the one they had seen at Exit 109 was a lot closer down to eye-level, so that they were witnessing it more from the side than from underneath, and (b) they appeared more black in the internet photos, whereas what they had witnessed was gray.

When I asked about the nine-year-old daughter having been frightened (mentioned in the CMS report), she immediately tried to pooh-pooh that away until her dad reminded her that she’d had a little trouble getting her to sleep that night, and they’d had to reassure her that the aliens didn’t know who their family is, didn’t know their address, and didn’t even know if their family had seen them or not.

The wife tried calling the airport a number of times that night, but could only get a recording of their hours. She tried again the next day, off and on, but the phone just kept ringing. Nobody picked up. She tried several times to call over the next week, but finally just gave up.

During the closest part of their encounter at Exit 109, the husband reported that they could hear no sound whatsoever, but reminded me that they were not in a sound-free environment either. With his head stuck out the sun roof, he could hear the wind around his ears, but he believed that he could have heard the noise of a helicopter, if that had been what this thing was. Their radio was not turned on at the time. They experienced no loss of power in the vehicle, not even a flickering of the lights, nor did

they feel any unusual sensations as they might in a magnetic, or static electricity, field. There was no unusual smell. Everything had remained totally normal for them inside the car.

### **Thoughts on the Case Disposition ("Unknown – UAV"):**

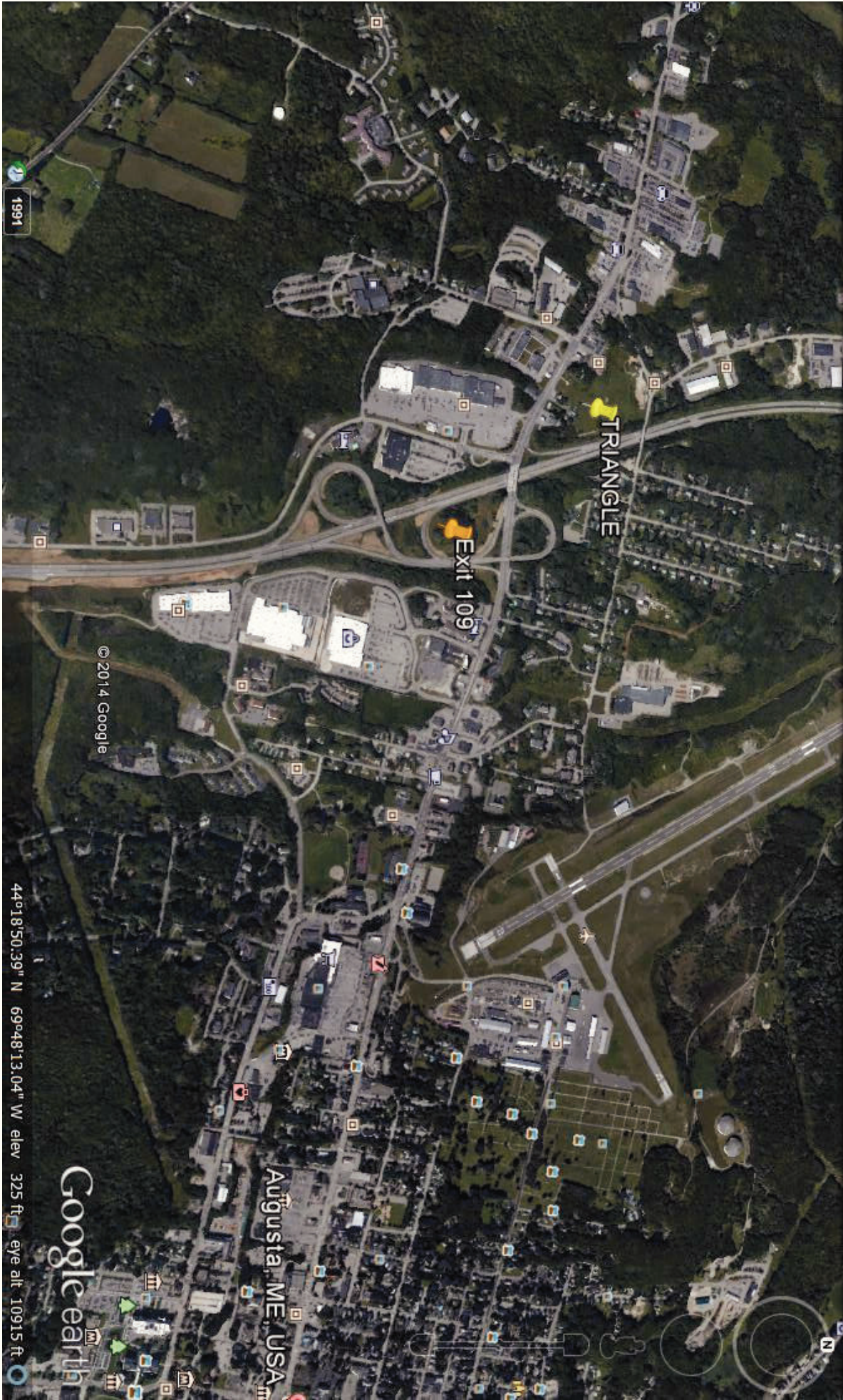
There were five witnesses in total. That adds credibility to the sighting, as does the fact that the husband is a mathematics educator who has a Ph D, and the mother is gainfully employed as a postal clerk.

All five witnesses observed this 'object' fairly close up, allegedly 100-150 feet above the trees and the shopping center light poles. They were close enough to judge its relative size as "slightly larger than a golf ball," and close enough to discern two markings that appeared as vertical "seams" on one of the "heights," or sides (see witness drawing, included), close enough to see that it appeared metallic (a tin-gray, or galvanized steel color). They all agreed that it appeared to be a solid object hovering in the air, and not just a solid object but a *huge* one between one-and-a-half and two stories high in depth, as large as their house if not larger. They all agreed that it had three white lights at the three vertexes, lights so bright they actually could not make out the points of the triangles tri-corners. Only the mother, however, noted a convex or concave bulge in the bottom-center of the thing.

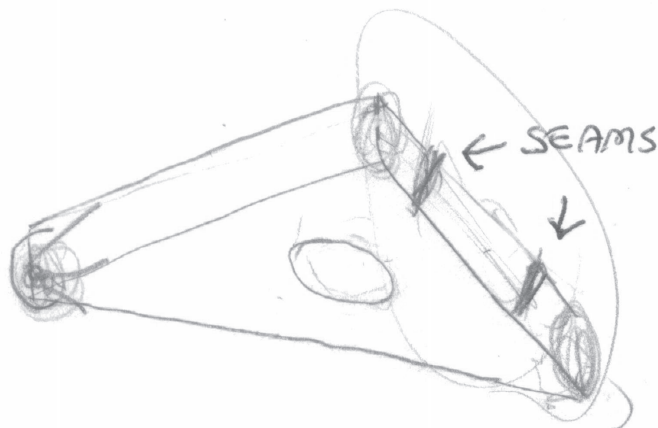
The sheer size of the thing alone, along with the fact that it moved as if under intelligent control, is a strong argument for a craft or a vehicle. First it was hovering motionlessly to the left of I-95 as the family drove north from Exit 109. By the time they'd returned to the same area, having travelled the six-mile round trip to Exit 112 and back, it was no longer in that spot. Instead, they subsequently witnessed an "object" far away in the sky, yet still with a relative visual size of a "penny." A penny is obviously greatly larger than a pin-point of light, or a star-like object. Although it was never confirmed that this object was the same triangle seen minutes earlier, the rotating white lights beneath it would correspond directly to the position of the triangle's bright white lights, and the big red light centered below the object and among the rotating white lights also corresponds with the position of the bulbous protrusion or hollow that the wife had reported seeing earlier. I say "moved as if under intelligent control" because it didn't slam down into the earth as a meteorite would have, due to gravity. It wasn't bumping into houses and mountainsides. No, both the triangle and the penny-sized brightly lit object were seen "hovering," and then the latter object was seen streaking off across the night sky, as a craft or vehicle would do.

This family has a nice home and a very good relationship, judging from the sharing, the good humor, and the sense of caring for one another that I was witnessing going on around the table as I sat with them during the hour and twenty minutes. They struck me as sincere, honest, and credible in what they shared with me. The sighting had obviously made a huge impression on all of them, and they related it to me with a sense of excitement and wonder. The fact that they want to remain anonymous tells me they aren't seeking attention, prestige, or financial rewards of any kind due to their making this report. At one point, I listened to the father gently remind the daughter that she really shouldn't be sharing this incident with her friends at school. These struck me as people who would have much more to lose through disclosure than to gain.





# DRAWINGS BY THE ADULT MALE WITNESS:



TOO BRIGHT  
AT THE CORNERS  
TO TELL IF  
THE TRIANGLE  
HAD POINTED  
ENDS OR  
ROUNDED...