



Colorado MUFON Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR



Wow, I don't know about all of you, but this has been one busy holiday season! Our brainstorming initiatives, facilitated by our newly appointed Assistant State Director, the fabulous and hard-working Tina Dill, have set the stage for an exciting year ahead. Congratulations, Tina, on being awarded the ASD position! As they say in the business world, "If you want a promotion, do the job as if you already have it." Tina embodied this mantra, even though I don't think she expected to be offered the role. Your Colorado MUFON leadership team now consists of Seth, Nancy, and Tina.

We have big plans to expand our services and offerings to the Colorado community this year. Part of these plans includes creating volunteer positions to help bring our initiatives to life. We are forming three teams for volunteer opportunities:

**** Outreach:** This team will write or research relevant articles for the monthly newsletter, distribute materials, participate in volunteer recruitment events, recruit members and volunteers, staff the check-in table at meetings, and send notifications to members.

**** Web & Digital Media :** This team will focus on website development and maintenance, social media posts (Facebook, Meetup, and X), merchandise development, and brand design.

**** Event Planning:** This team will coordinate speakers, organize special events, handle setup and cleanup for monthly meetings, assist at the annual picnic or holiday party, staff vendor booths at local community fairs, write newsletter articles, market events, write press releases, and conduct outreach to press or elected officials.

We are seeking volunteers who are excited to contribute in these capacities. Volunteers can choose the team that best matches their interests. Currently, we have an urgent need for a Web & Digital Media Team member who can create digital monthly meeting notifications for our website and social media. Additionally, we are looking for a digital artist to join the branding design team.

One other important update: our signature event, the **First Annual MUFON Photo Forensics Boot Camp in the Rockies**, has encountered a small challenge. The planning team has determined that we need to provide a luncheon featuring keynote speaker Marc DiAntonio. Unfortunately, this cost was not accounted for in our initial pricing. We are seeking corporate sponsors to help cover the expense by donating \$500, \$1,000, or the full \$3,000. These tax-deductible donations come with associated benefits. For volunteer opportunities or sponsorship details, please contact Seth at Seth@claybritchesranch.us. Thank you so much for your continued support of Colorado MUFON! Let's make this a fantastic year together!



COLORADO MUFON STATE MEETING

Programs are held on the second Saturday of every month



Next meeting: Saturday January 11 2025

1:00 PM

**7272 S Eagle St
Centennial, CO 80112**

Special Guest Speaker

Jim Myers

Owner/Operator of the Sasquatch Outpost in Bailey, Colorado.

Stay tuned for our exciting lineup of presenters for 2025!

COMUFON PERSON OF INTEREST



JIM MYERS

Jim Myers brings an incredibly diverse and adventurous background to everything he does. Growing up in Kenya from the age of 11 until his high school graduation, Jim developed an early appreciation for different cultures and environments. After graduating from college, he spent an additional 20 years living in West Africa and France, further broadening his global perspective. Jim is fluent in French and conversational in both Swahili and Wolof, a West African trade language. His career has taken him to over 45 countries, allowing him to amass a wealth of cultural and experiential knowledge that enriches all of his endeavors.

In 2009, Jim and his wife, Daphne, returned to the U.S., where Jim was finally able to pursue a lifelong interest: Sasquatch. For the past 11 years, Jim has dedicated himself to Sasquatch research and public speaking, focusing on the existence and behavior of these mysterious Forest People.

Together with Daphne, Jim founded the Sasquatch Outpost in Bailey, Colorado, with the vision of becoming "Sasquatch Central" for the Western United States. The Outpost features a large gift shop and is home to the Sasquatch Encounter Discovery Museum. The museum is designed to educate visitors about Sasquatch through exhibits and evidence collected from years of research. Far from being an "armchair expert," Jim spends as much time as possible exploring the forests and mountains of Colorado. His hands-on approach has allowed him to gather extensive data and firsthand experience, which he shares passionately with others.

Jim and Daphne live in Bailey, Colorado, nestled in the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, where they continue their work and enjoy the beauty of the natural world.

Colorado's Hottest UFO/UAP Hot Spot

An investigative opportunity on par with Skinwalker Ranch!

By
John Craig

Colorado has more than one UFO hot spot. Recent episodes of "Beyond Skinwalker Ranch" focused on the Thomas Miller Ranch, a few miles east of Trinidad, and on an unnamed ranch east of the Denver area near Elbert. Both of these sites have cattle mutilations, strange radio and other electromagnetic anomalies, and multiple visible sightings of UAP (Unidentified Anomalous Phenomenon) objects covering many years. These events have characteristics that overlap with those at the famous Skinwalker Ranch in Utah.

The San Luis Valley is at the top of the list

But there's one area in Colorado that is extremely ripe for further in-depth investigations, as there's a ton of high strangeness in years of accumulating stories and events. Conveniently located near the center of all of this valley's events is the UFO Watchtower, near Hooper, Colorado, but there's more to the story than just the Watchtower.

Mount Blanca

South-east of the UFO Watchtower a few miles, and highly visible from the tower, stands Mount Blanca.



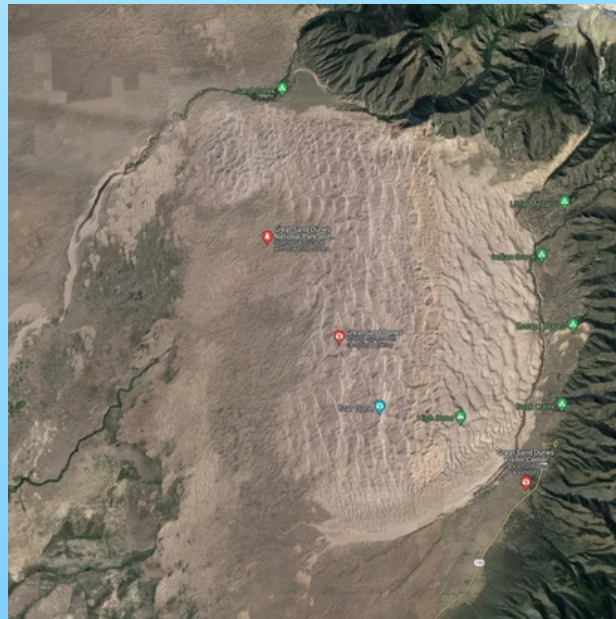
Image courtesy F.P. Dorchak

There are many stories of military and UFO aircraft landing on or even disappearing into Mount Blanca over the years. The earliest mention I could find was of a great-great-grandmother who reported seeing a UFO descend into the top of the mountain back in the late 1800s, although most reports are of more recent incidents. Pretty much every year someone reports lights, jets, or other UFO objects "entering" this mountain.

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Sand Dunes

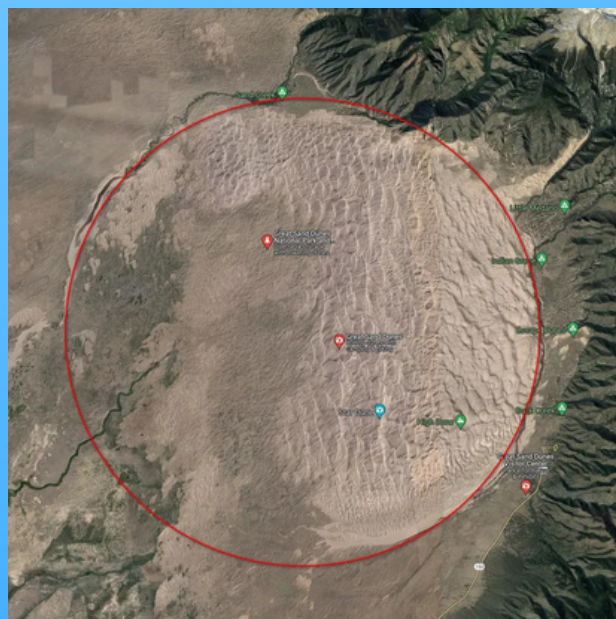
Located just east of the UFO Watchtower, and also highly visible from the tower, are the massive piles of sand in the Great Sand Dunes National Park. There have been many reports of objects darting around, on, or near these dunes, but let's just take a look at the strangeness of the dunes themselves.



Courtesy Google Maps

The amount of sand in these dunes is staggering; about 6.5 billion cubic meters, or 1.5 cubic miles in volume. Imagine a giant tunnel-boring machine that could carve out a tunnel about 42 meters (140 feet) in diameter. If such a machine could turn all the rock it encountered into sand, and were to deposit that sand into one big pile the size of the Sand Dunes, then that huge tunnel could span the entire continental United States from coast to coast. That's a lot of sand!

Take a look at how nearly perfectly circular the Sand Dunes pile of sand is, or was at one time, before about a third of it perhaps eroded away along the southwest edges...



Courtesy Google Maps

To be fair, geologists have come up with a complex scientific explanation for the how these dunes probably formed over the past 12,000 years since the last ice age, but the explanations are somewhat forced, and a lot of questions do remain. For example, is it realistic for over 50,000 cubic feet of sand to accumulate each and every day, on the average, for the past 12,000 years in order to form this big of a pile?

Cattle Mutilations

Starting in 1992, researcher Christopher O'Brien has investigated over one thousand paranormal events reported in the San Luis Valley, working with law enforcement and other agencies to attempt to unravel the mysteries. A lot, but not all, of his research has centered on the many still unexplained cattle mutilations. His books are very informative and very well researched. Here's a link to his author page on Amazon, I do highly recommend his books: <https://amzn.to/48B4Qu8>



Christopher O'Brien, courtesy Amazon Authors Page

Snippy The Horse

One of the more well known animal mutilations happened in September of 1967, when a horse named Lady (more commonly referred to as "Snippy") turned up dead under very mysterious circumstances. This happened a few miles south of the UFO Watchtower on the Harry King Ranch. There was no blood on the ground, or in the horse, and all tissue, including brain matter, had been removed from the bleached white, bare skeletal remains from the shoulders up. The rest of the body was apparently untouched. The skeleton of this famous horse is on display today at the UFO Watchtower, and it can be seen in documentary episodes such as Ancient Aliens.



Snippy the Horse and friend — Image courtesy the UFO Watchtower

UFO Watchtower

Just north of Hooper, Colorado, along highway 17, and 274 miles due south-east from SkinWalker Ranch, is the UFO Watchtower (<http://www.ufowatchtower.com/>) The owner, Judy Messoline, is always ready to share the latest sightings reported by campers and visitors to the site. She's also been featured in a bunch of the UFO documentary and UFO investigative news shows as well.

Over 300 sightings reports in one place

On the counter top in Judy's education center/gift shop is a thick 3-ring binder full of hundreds of hand-written sighting reports, left by visitors over the years. These sightings are mostly from the Watchtower, or from nearby around the Valley. In the summer of 2023 these documents were scanned and published in book form, now available on Amazon and at the Watchtower.

More research is needed!

Strange sounds, electromagnetic effects, and other high-strangeness phenomenon are often reported from around the San Luis valley, but a lot of these reports are overlooked simply because the more obvious UFO sightings get more attention. I strongly suspect research at the level of that provided at SkinWalker Ranch would reveal a multitude of important, correlating data for researchers.

Many of the sightings presented in the book UFO Sightings from the UFO Watchtower, both verbal and in some scanned photos, show tiny white orbs high in the blue skies above the valley. In appearance and behavior, these resemble the white dots in the sky above SkinWalker Ranch. This is just one of the compelling reasons why more research is needed.



Visit the UFO Watchtower for a great educational experience!

What you can do

If you're in the area, be sure to stop by the UFO Watchtower to ask Judy Messoline about the latest unexplained events in the area. It's pretty much a guarantee she'll always have something new to report! If you wish to research the history of the UFO/UAP events around the valley, be sure to check out Christopher O'Brien's books, and for a fascinating collection of over 300 raw, mostly uninvestigated sightings reports, be sure to read UFO Sightings from the UFO Watchtower.

COMUFON FIRST ANNUAL PHOTO FORENSICS BOOTCAMP



This inaugural event will be held May 16-18, 2025, in Cripple Creek, Colorado at the four-star Chamonix Casino Hotel Resort. MUFON Photo Analysis Team (PAT) members will teach the advanced arts of photo forensics to MUFON field investigators in good standing. The training will include hands on work with practical applications.

To register and for more information, visit our website at COMUFON.org

Not a field investigator, but think you might be interested in becoming one?

Contact Colorado MUFON at info@comufon.org.



JOIN THE QUEST FOR THE TRUTH: BECOME A COLORADO MUFON FIELD INVESTIGATOR



Colorado MUFON is looking for Field Investigators to join our team and dive into one of the most exciting adventures on Earth—investigating UFO sightings! As a Field Investigator, you'll be on the frontlines, uncovering the mysteries behind UFOs, and joining one of the world's top UFO research groups. If you're curious, love exploring new things, and want to be part of something amazing, this could be your big chance!

Why Become a MUFON Field Investigator?

Be a Part of Real Science: As a Field Investigator, your work goes straight into MUFON's huge database, one of the world's best sources of UFO info. You'll help us all understand UFOs better and play a role in real scientific research!

Learn Cool New Skills: MUFON will train you on how to interview witnesses, check out evidence, and write up reports. These skills aren't just for UFOs—they can also make you feel confident in other areas of your life!

Join a Worldwide Community: MUFON has members in over 40 countries, so you'll connect with others who love UFOs just like you. You'll get to share stories and even team up on investigations, making friends from all over the world.

Explore the Unknown: Ever wonder what's out there when you look up at the night sky? This is your chance to be part of the search for answers. Every investigation is a new adventure, and who knows what you might discover!

Do You Have What It Takes?

Curiosity and Open-Mindedness: You're excited to explore the unknown!

Attention to Detail: You're good at looking closely and taking careful notes.

Communication Skills: You'll need to chat with witnesses and write reports that clearly explain what you find.

Commitment: Investigating UFOs takes about 6 hours a month, and it's worth every minute!

How to Get Started

To begin, you'll need to:

Become a MUFON International member.

Buy the Field Investigator Manual for training.

Study, take the test, and pass a background check.

Complete courses at MUFON University.

Work with experienced investigators to tackle your first five cases and get certified!



BOOK REVIEW

UFOs: A Scientist Explains What We Know (And Don't Know)

By

Robert Powell

Reviewed by Nancy Carre'

Robert Powell's book is a fascinating and well-researched look at the mysteries surrounding UFOs, or UAPs (unidentified aerial phenomena). The author takes readers on a journey through the history, science, and recent developments in the study of UFOs, offering a thoughtful and balanced perspective.

Powell, a respected researcher with years of experience, begins by exploring some of the most famous UFO stories, including the 1947 Roswell incident and the 1961 Betty and Barney Hill abduction. These accounts are presented clearly and factually, giving readers a strong foundation in UFO history. He also examines modern sightings like the 2004 USS Nimitz encounter and the Navy pilot reports from 2019, where objects were observed performing maneuvers beyond our current understanding of physics. Powell uses these cases to explore what we do and don't know about UFOs in a way that feels grounded and credible.

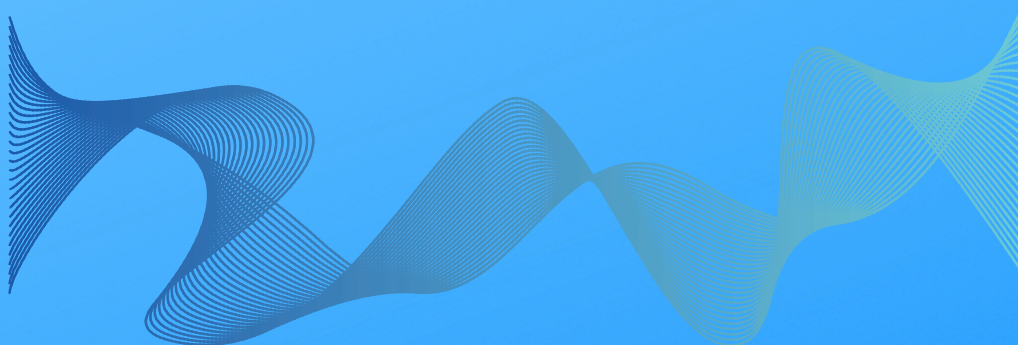
What sets this book apart is Powell's ability to explain the science behind UFOs in simple terms. He discusses how advances in technology and science can help explain some sightings, like atmospheric phenomena or radar errors, while acknowledging that some cases remain unexplained. Instead of jumping to conclusions, Powell highlights the importance of continuing scientific research to understand these phenomena.

The book also addresses the recent release of UFO-related information by the Pentagon, making it feel timely and relevant. Powell calls for a more serious approach to studying UFOs, urging scientists, governments, and institutions to work together to investigate these occurrences. His writing is clear and easy to follow, making the book a great read for both longtime UFO enthusiasts and those new to the topic.

UFOs: A Scientist Explains What We Know (And Don't Know) is a must-read for anyone curious about the unknown. Powell's thoughtful and evidence-based approach strikes the right balance between skepticism and open-mindedness. This book is a great way to learn more about UFOs and the ongoing efforts to understand them, making it perfect for readers who want a clear and realistic perspective on one of humanity's greatest mysteries.

222 pages.

Available on Amazon.



Dear COMUFON Members,

We want you to help bring our community closer together! Our newsletter is a platform for each of us to share insights, experiences, and the stories that fuel our passion for the unexplained. Whether you've had a sighting, witnessed an unusual phenomenon, or simply have thoughts on the latest in UAP research, we want to hear from you!

By contributing, you're not only enriching our collective knowledge, but you're also helping to build a stronger, more connected community of enthusiasts and researchers. Imagine the impact of your story, sparking curiosity, insights, and maybe even a few lively debates among fellow members!

Send us your articles, photos, theories, and reflections—no matter how big or small. Let's make this newsletter a vibrant showcase of what makes COMUFON so unique. Together, we'll continue to push the boundaries of knowledge and wonder.

Join the conversation, inspire others, and be a part of our shared journey. Your voice matters!

Looking forward to hearing from all of you,
The COMUFON Newsletter Team



REPORTED IN THE ANOMALIST

by
Bill Murphy



Note: This “News Roundup” summarizes Anomalist UFO-related articles from October 21 to November 26. It reflects my opinions and not necessarily those of others or any organizations to which I belong. For further information, contact me at murphybillufo@gmail.com

If our last news cycle with its two Congressional hearings and an AARO Annual Report was “truly historic” for government engagement with the UFO/UAP question, the **“Drone Dilemma” eclipses all other aerial anomaly** news in this cycle. Last time, we covered the early part of the current sensation with November 20th overflights of three NATO military bases in England. But things really “took off” very quickly after that, and continue developing concerning sidebars. While the heavily populated U.S. northeast, particularly New Jersey and New York, get most attention, important military bases and private infrastructure elsewhere in this country and Europe seem targets. This flap completely overshadows last year’s January 28-February 12, 2023, “Balloongate” events in length of time, geographic extent, and public outcry. Like “Balloongate” and contrasting with the general furor ignited by the classic December 16, 2017, New York Times and Politico articles about a secret Pentagon UFO study program and the release (then) of two older government-taken UFO videos of previous UFO encounters, this “unidentified” sensation springs from current sightings, and amateur videos filled social media and mainstream online news sources. Like previous UFO “flaps,” most of the footage and general excitement was assuredly due to misidentifications, which federal officials were clear to emphasize. Not to mention earthbound idiots using lasers to “illuminate” the drones and actually striking legally flown airplanes and affecting their crews. But just as certainly—and only ultimately acknowledged by said agencies—a disturbing proportion were/are clearly drones. And these “buzzers” come in a variety of sizes and apparent capabilities, and when they invade the airspace over military bases and sensitive, even nuclear, governmental and non-governmental installations, they pose the potential of serious safety and security risks to uncountable thousands of people in heavily populated areas. Their presence constitutes, at the very least, a surveillance potential damaging to the interests of the United States and its allies, not to mention legal questions about incapacitating them. And the brazenness and coordination displayed by some drones, particularly those over English NATO bases, backed up by their apparent immunity to tracking and “downing” by our protective resources or to mitigate the incursions, bespeak a frightening disregard for what is commonly called the most powerful nation on Earth.

Almost as scary to many, **the official federal response is characterized by a lack of candor, which only invites the formation of “conspiracy theory”-type thinking.** Example: one Congressman, on the authority of unnamed people, claimed the Iranians were launching drones from off our Eastern seaboard. He had to back off a bit after an expert in maritime operations showed a “live” satellite picture of the two Iranian “mother ships” (actually refurbished commercial tankers) still undergoing trials off the Iranian coast. But even that “fizzled” claim illustrated that “bad actors” with money and their own interests at heart were developing “asymmetric” techniques against which organized governments had insufficient defenses. And The War Zone, which has for quite a long time (as the writers note) sounded the alarm against drones, continues decrying the insufficient U.S. and other organized nation preparation for this kind of espionage/terrorist/warfare. Even the incredible resourcefulness of the Ukrainian people against the Russian behemoth, with Ukrainian counter-drone and drone-using innovations, has apparently not prompted much Pentagon interest.

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“Hybrid warfare” through proxies (criminal or lesser states) funded and/or equipped by unfriendly powers—most commonly named being the People’s Republic of China—became more than a bad dream, but a real possibility. The PRC is rumored to have bought up land around some sensitive U.S. installations, which could be used to launch spying operations. There’s even suggestions legally purchased drones from the Chinese DJI company could communicate useful intelligence through “back-door” digital means to that nation. Russia, angered by apparent U.S.-British moves toward beefing up nuclear strike capabilities in Britannia, is also regarded as reacting with its own hardware or through others. One English expert even suggested the Kremlin was somehow “hoodwinking” local hobby or commercial groups to spy for it. Next: a single Senator scuttled a bipartisan Senate move toward equipping the federal government with a better response to the problem. We’ve learned that around 900,000 drones are legally in use in the U.S. and another 300,000 in Canada. The cheapness of drones in general has made them useful in many legal ways, but Canada’s CADORs (Civil Aviation Daily Occurrence Reporting System), some of whose aerial anomalies The UFO Talker podcast covers every week, is showing an alarming number of close sightings by commercial aircraft. A now-mandatory reporting system for nuclear power plant sites is also indicating a skyrocketing rise in drone incursions in the U.S.

What can be said about the “truly anomalous” drones? There may very well be more than one explanation for the reports more resistant to “write-offs” such as birds, airplanes, poorly estimated size/distance cases, etc. The really concerning drones seem to be generally larger than hobby types. Some seemingly demonstrate one or more of the classic UAP “Observables.” Former government insider Chris Mellon described a drone “mothership” with apparent capabilities beyond what might be regarded as “cutting edge.” Some seem to possess state-of-the-art preset, autonomous movements and don’t need to communicate with their senders in ways detectable through traditional means. And experts warn that the increasing implementation of artificial intelligence in drones will create a “whole new ball game.”

Other news includes The UFO Talker host Michael Ryan uncovering documents alluding to a formal Canadian governmental military unit that, in the 1960s at least, was investigating UFOs. Michael has also unearthed more information about a 2015 multinational, simulated recovery of a downed Cessna aircraft in the Lake Winnipeg area, many of whose documented features sound much more than just a fairly standard practice crash-retrieval exercise. In early December, AARO gave a closed-door secure room briefing to members of the House Oversight Committee. This is a follow-up to the November 13th meeting we covered last time, but we at least heard nothing about what was discussed or attendees’ reactions. And in early December, a United Airlines and a medevac airplane reported three or four “red circular lights zipping around” at different altitudes over Oregon.





FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S CORNER

CASE 139164

The witness, while on a hunting trip, observed an unusual aerial object after returning to camp from scouting the terrain. The sky was transitioning from dusk, with faint light in the west and darkness in the east. Facing southeast, the witness noticed an object traveling steadily from north to south at a very high altitude. Initially suspecting it might be a satellite due to its height and complete silence, the witness noted that, in the remote area, sounds typically carried well, and he could hear jets passing overhead at similar altitudes. Unlike jets, this object emitted no sound, and its lights remained steady.

Intrigued, the witness used binoculars for a closer look. He observed three lights forming a triangular pattern with a steady yellow light in the center. The object maintained its trajectory until it disappeared into the distance. The witness recorded the time of the sighting and created a quick sketch for reference.

Three key observations stand out regarding this incident:

Witness's Expertise: The witness is a highly trained observer with a professional background in aviation inspection, making him well-versed in navigation lights and FAA regulations. This expertise lends credibility to his account and his ability to distinguish between conventional aircraft and anomalous objects.

Diligent Documentation: The witness demonstrated methodical observation by carefully noting the time of the sighting and creating a quick sketch. This indicates a deliberate effort to document the event accurately, reinforcing the reliability of his account.

Consistency with Prior Sighting: The object described by the witness matches an earlier report from Moffat County this year. Despite not capturing a photograph, the details of his description, including the triangular pattern of lights and silent operation, are identical to the previous sighting, suggesting a pattern or connection between the two events.

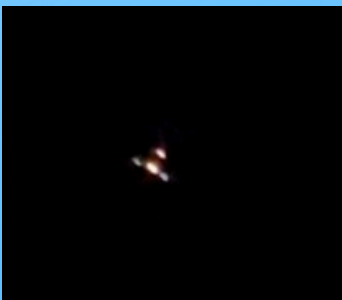
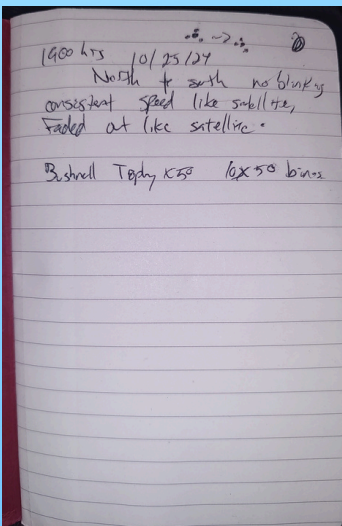
Upon reviewing the available data:

Satellites and Aircraft: The observed object's trajectory did not align with the direction of satellites overhead or transponding flights, ruling out these conventional explanations.

Witness Reliability: The witness's expertise in aviation inspection and methodical documentation underscores the credibility of the account.

Correlation with Moffat County Sighting: The object's description closely matches a previous sighting in Moffat County, identified as a UAV. The consistent details, including its triangular light pattern, silent operation, and high altitude, strongly support this connection.

Given the witness's reliability, the lack of alternative explanations, and its resemblance to a confirmed UAV sighting, categorizing the disposition as Unknown: UAV is appropriate.



COMUFON BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

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COMUFON Field Investigator meetings take place from 12:00 to 12:45 on the second Saturday of the month at 7272 S Eagle St, Centennial, CO. Field Investigators and anyone interested in becoming an FI are welcome!

COMUFON BOARD MEETINGS

Colorado MUFON Board quarterly meetings are held at 7272 S Eagle St. in Centennial, CO. All members of COMUFON are welcome to attend these meetings. Copies of the minutes can be obtained by emailing Rich Evans, Secretary, at r.evans@comufon.org

