

FORM 30-MUFON FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

ANONYMOUS: yes [] no [X]

MUFON CASE NUMBER: 88735		FINAL REPORT DATE: 01/19/2018		CASE CATEGORY: CE-1-2	
FIELD INVESTIGATOR: >25726 – Steven Bates		DATE EVENT REPORTED TO MUFON: >12/12/2017		OTHER CMS FORMS NEEDED? >n/a	
SIGHTING DATE: >12/12/2017		TIME OF SIGHTING: >18:42 CST (GMT-6)		DURATION OF SIGHTING: >2 min	
SIGHTING LOCATION (TOWN): > 3213 South H Street, McAllen, 78503		STATE: >Texas COUNTY: >Hidalgo		LOCATION COMMENTS: >Suburban single story single family home TYPE OF COUNTRYSIDE: >City	
WITNESS NAME: >Raul Casanova		WAS THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY ANY ONE OTHER THAN THE WITNESS? N			
WITNESS ADDRESS (CURRENT): > 3213 South H Street		CITY: > McAllen	STATE: >TX	ZIP: >78503	COUNTY: > Hidalgo
ADDITIONAL NOTES ON WITNESS LOCATION: > n/a		LOCATION OF WITNESS? (Car, outdoors, etc.): > back yard			COORDINATES: >LAT: 26.170552 >LON: -98.214634
CONTACT NUMBERS: HOME : > n/a CELL : > 956-560-8420 FAX : > n/a		EMAIL: >raulcasanova77@yahoo.com		COMMENTS: >	CASE DISPOSITION: > IFO – Man Made

1. Synopsis:

[On 12/12/17 at approximately 18:40 CST the witness went into the back yard at his home located at 3213 South H Street in McAllen, TX. He saw an orange ball about the size of a beach ball moving across the horizon. The ball was soon followed by others trailing behind for a total of about 20 objects. The objects were roughly in pairs. The witness went inside to get his wife and when they returned there were even more objects. He went back inside a second time to get a camera. When he returned, the objects were still visible and moving in formation across the horizon headed south. He was able to get video and a still snapshot with his cell phone. His wife also witnessed the objects. The witness reported the incident to the local McAllen Police Department who sent an officer out who did view the video and the phone. The officers' name is unknown.]

2. Background:

[n/a]

3. Elevation:

[30m/100ft ASL]

4. Describe size, distance, directions, elevation and angular size in each instance:

[Size: Beach ball,
Distance: less than ¼ mile,
Elevation: 500 ft or less]

5. Evidence – physical:

[n/a]

6. Evidence – evaluation:

[n/a]

7. Evidence – Disposition:

[n/a]

8. Local airport, military base, space launch, MOA:

[TSA Military Base at McAllen International Airport, 1.57 miles, Azimuth: 283 degrees
Mid Valley Dusters (small crop duster airport), 5.05 miles, Azimuth: 103 degrees,
Mid Valley Airport-T65 (small regional airport) 15 miles, Azimuth: 87 degrees
Many local crop duster airports in all directions in a radius of approximately 10 miles mostly to the east]

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9. Weather information:

[Temperature: 63F
Dew Point: 37F
Wind: North 4.6mph
Visibility: 10mi
Conditions: Clear]

10. Any trace evidence including radiation, EM fields:

[n/a]

11. Evaluation of photographs or video evidence:

[Transcript Video 1:
00 Female: garbled
03 Female: "what is going on?"
05 Male: "look there's more!"
06 Female: Spanish
11 Male: "what the hell is that?"
30 Male: "look at this"
43 Male: "look at this shit like a triangle, like a, like look"
49 Male: "oh one of 'em just disappeared"
50 Female: "si" some Spanish "it just disappeared one"
55 Male: "what the hell is that?"
58 Female: "mom, " Spanish "they are lights uh..." continues in spanish
63 Male: "they are disappearing"
68 Male: Spanish
70 Female: Spanish "...UFO..." spanish

ELA and Metadata analysis of the photo indicates that it is the original photo from a ZTE Sonata 3 Z832 Smartphone and there is no obvious manipulation of the original photo.]

12. Related cases (MUFON, API, NUFORC):

[Possible relation to MUFON Case 88734]

13. Researched Websites, by name and findings:

[CMS, weather underground, google maps, general google search, sky map online, calsky, uapreporting.org, NOAA Surface and Upper Air maps]

14. Witness Background:

[Electrician, Forklift Operator, currently disabled and does not work]

15. Witness Interview:

[Went into the back yard and saw something out of the corner of his eye. His first thought was a "flashing or flaming candle", but that did not make sense. He witnessed about a total of 20 objects that were about the size of beach balls but were orange. The objects were generally in pairs and "just kept coming". He insisted that the total duration of the sighting was about 1 ½ minutes, but the video is 1.5 min and he says it is "just the end". He saw the objects, went inside to get his wife, came out with her and when she saw the objects she sent him back in to get the camera. He came back out and began to take video. The duration had to be at least several minutes. He said the objects went from east to west, but 4 broke off and went south towards Mexico. His wife called her mother during the sighting and can be heard talking to her mother on the video. He called the local McAllen police department immediately after the video. They called back 2-3 minutes later and all of the objects had disappeared. They sent an officer out to view the video, but the witness does not remember the officers name.]

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16. Witness' Original CMS report statement:

[cooking dinner for my family went outside to let the dog relieve himself when i saw to be a glowing orange ball flying across the horizon while i was trying to comprehend what I was seeing an identical object was trailing not far behind and then another quickly i realized what I was watching was not natural came inside got my wife and we both started watching more craft my wife told me to go get the camera which i really did not want to for being afraid of missing this awing sight but i went and retrieved my phone when I came out more objects were coming in formation looking like an eifel tower shape we also called family members that also viewed the objects and I also informed police who called back to ask if an officer could come by and view the video it was just a jaw dropping moment some of the objects blinked out going southwest while others stayed constant and headed south.]

17. Expert statement (if applicable):

[MUFON Field Investigators Manual, Version September 9, 2016 Section 7.2.2.1.b: Chinese Lanterns – Another source of UFO reports emanates from Chinese Wedding Lanterns that attain their life from a lighted candle. These hone-made balloons frequently are described as an orange, slow-moving ball, moving erratically and occasionally ejecting smaller, glowing objects before blinking out. Sometimes the balloon catches fire, giving the impression of a crashing flaming object.]

18. Field Investigator's summary and conclusions:

[IFO – Man Made: Chinese Lanterns. The objects are clearly visible in both the video and the photo. ELA and Metadata analysis of the photo indicates that it is the original photo from a ZTE Sonata 3 Z832 Smartphone and there is no obvious manipulation of the original photo. The video is shaky but Image Stabilization shows that the objects are moving slowly. Local wind speed and direction at the time are consistent with the speed and direction of movement of the objects as reported by the witness. Chinese lanterns are usually orange or yellow in appearance and tend to flicker or “wink” in and out. They are clearly visible in the night sky for miles around, but often hard to see in the daylight. When the fuel (usually a wax block) runs out, the lantern appears to disappear. This is consistent with the witness testimony. Chinese lanterns “float” on the wind and tend to move along in a group or one after another in a “train” formation with small slow local movements relative to one another. This is also consistent with the witness testimony. Numerous similar images can be found with a Google Image search.

FI also considered local radio tower lights but this is ruled out by the objects motions.

FI believes that the case should be changed from category CE-1-2 to FB-1-1.]

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SITE EVIDENCE LOG

Date	Evidence	Type	Location	Sent To

MUFON CASE ACTIVITY LOG

Date/Time	Contact Method	Activity	Notes/Comments
1/17/2018 16:50	email	FI: Asked for a good time to call	
1/19/2018 10:17	Call	FI: attempt to call	No answer, no voice mailbox, no message left
1/19/2018 10:25	Call	FI: Call to McAllen PD	Attempt to obtain police report, they will search and call me back
1/19/2018	Call	FI: call 2 nd witness	No answer, no voice mailbox, no message left
1/19/2018	Call	Witness returned phone call	Phone interview

APPENDIX

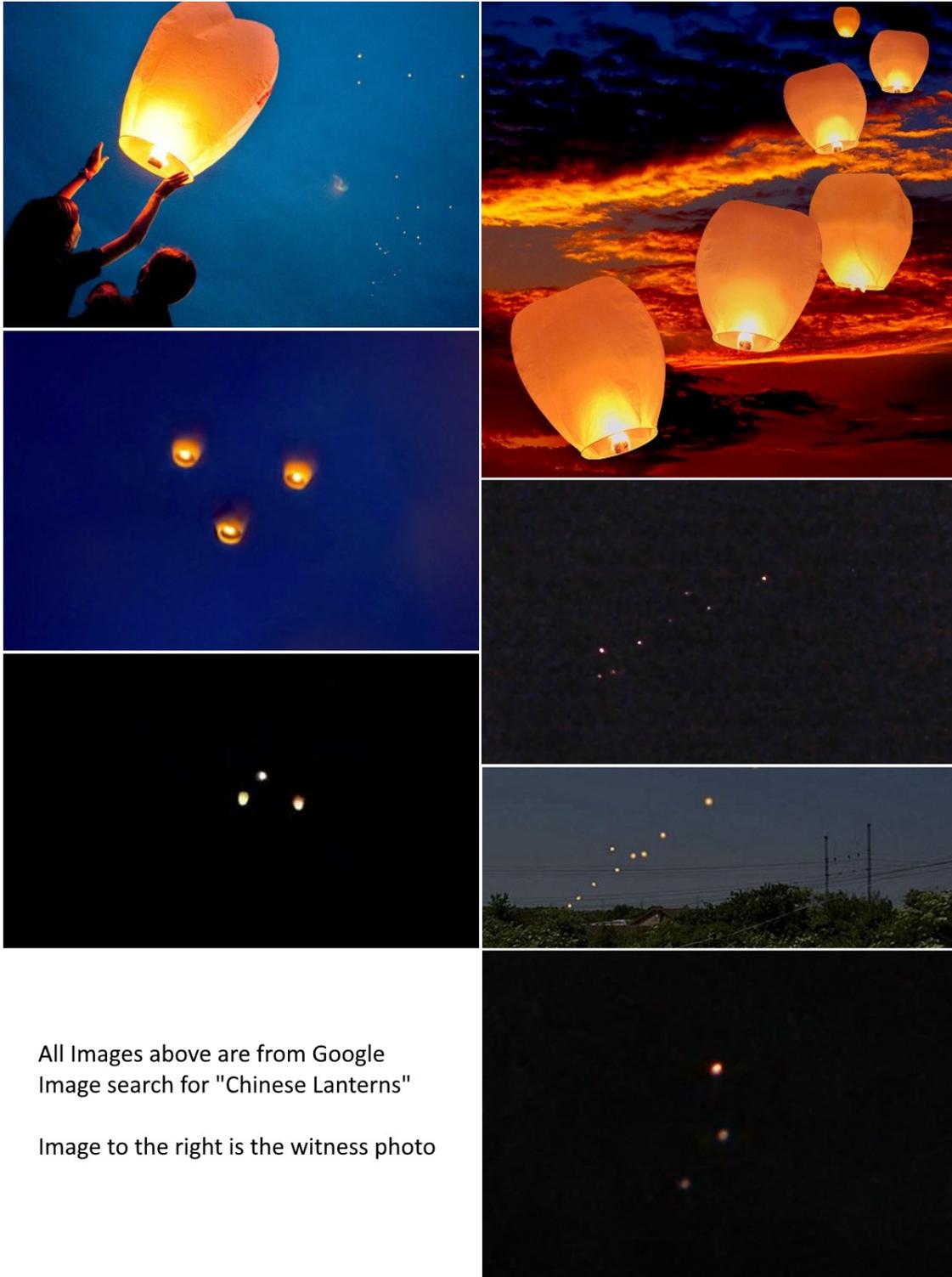
[Place all photos and other exhibits here including caption remarks below the exhibit or figure]

NOTE: This section relates to any copies of photos, figures, screen captures, or drawings related to this case. All material must be included in this document and not entered into CMS individually. A text only copy of this report should be added to the Report's text box merely by doing a copy and paste. Graphics, photos and videos will not be added when you do this. This supports search within CMS.

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Photo1 FotoForinsics.com Link:

<http://fotoforensics.com/analysis.php?id=801d27cc9fdafefba1418e684b48985673677bd7.263591>

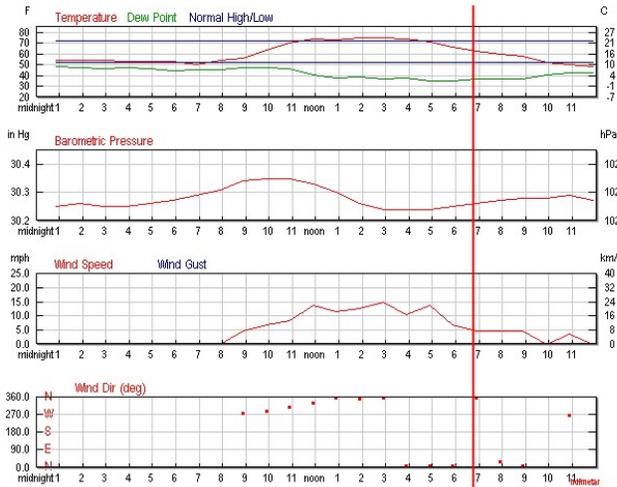


All Images above are from Google
Image search for "Chinese Lanterns"

Image to the right is the witness photo

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Daily Weather History Graph



Astronomy

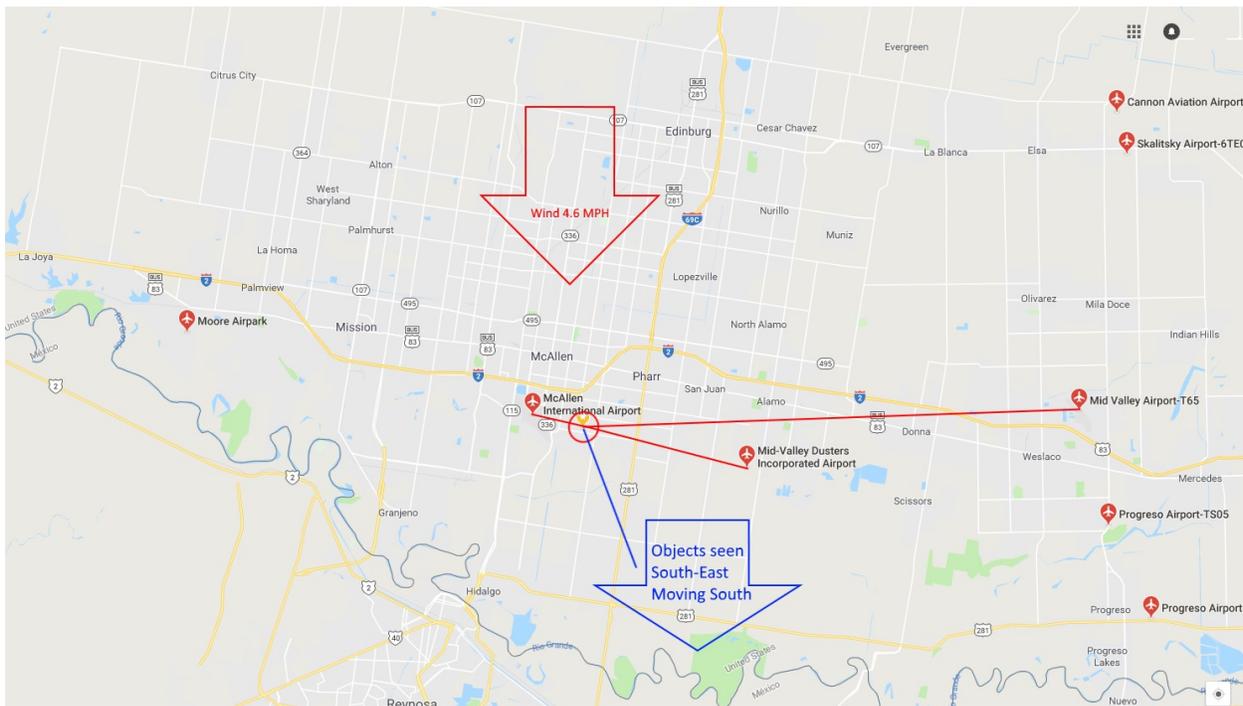
Dec. 12, 2017	Rise	Set
Actual Time	7:11 AM CST	5:42 PM CST
Civil Twilight	6:45 AM CST	6:07 PM CST
Nautical Twilight	6:17 AM CST	6:36 PM CST
Astronomical Twilight	5:48 AM CST	7:04 PM CST
Moon	2:11 AM CST (12/12)	2:21 PM CST (12/12)
Length of Visible Light	11h 22m	
Length of Day	10h 31m	

Waning Crescent, 26% of the Moon is Illuminated

Dec 12	Dec 18	Dec 26	Jan 1	Jan 8
Waning Crescent	New	First Quarter	Full	Last Quarter

Hourly Weather History & Observations

Time (CST)	Temp.	Dew Point	Humidity	Pressure	Visibility	Wind Dir	Wind Speed	Gust Speed	Precip	Events	Conditions
4:53 PM	71.1 °F	35.1 °F	27%	30.24 in	10.0 mi	North	13.8 mph	-	N/A		Clear
5:53 PM	66.0 °F	35.1 °F	32%	30.25 in	10.0 mi	North	6.9 mph	-	N/A		Clear
6:53 PM	63.0 °F	37.0 °F	38%	30.26 in	10.0 mi	North	4.6 mph	-	N/A		Clear
7:53 PM	60.1 °F	37.0 °F	42%	30.27 in	10.0 mi	NNE	4.6 mph	-	N/A		Clear
8:53 PM	57.9 °F	37.0 °F	46%	30.28 in	10.0 mi	North	4.6 mph	-	N/A		Clear



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