

MUFON CASE #:	50042		TODAYS DATE:	03/08/2014
FIELD INVESTIGATOR:	Robert Powell	ID# 10834		
DATE REPORTED:	08/21/2013	DATE OF INTERVIEW:	03/06/2014	
DATE/TIME OF EVENT:	9:45pm	DURATION:	2 minutes	
WITNESS(S):	[REDACTED]			
EVENT LOCATION:	Old Carriage Dr & Homer Watson	COORDINATES:	43°23' N 80°25' W	
City & State	Kitchener, Ontario	COUNTY:		
CURRENT ADDRESS:	[REDACTED]			
City & State	Kitchener, Ontario	COUNTY:		
CONTACT NUMBER:	226-[REDACTED]	E-MAIL ADDRESS:	[REDACTED]	
CASE TYPE:	CE-2	CASE CATEGORY:	2	CASE DISPOSITION: unknown

COORDINATES ACCURACY: The witness was traveling northwest on Homer Watson Blvd when he saw the object. [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] He stopped his car and pulled over in order to watch the object. The object was traveling northeasterly along Old Carriage Drive, crossed Homer Watson Blvd, and continued to the northeast.

WEATHER CONDITIONS AT TME OF SIGHTING

Sky Conditions: clear
 Temperature: 70° F
 Humidity: 83%
 Pressure: 30.12
 Wind: 7mph south
 Sunset: 8:16pm
 Civil Twilight: 8:46pm
 Astronomical Twilight: 10:03pm

BACKGROUND: Single witness observes a sharply defined spherical object at about 400 feet from his location. The witness and another unidentified witness were unable to use their cell phones during the event although there was no interference with their automobiles.

INVESTIGATOR NARRATIVE

Pre-interview n/a

Witness Background: The witness has an associate degree in computer software and worked at Research in Motion prior to becoming a truck driver. The witness was articulate during the phone interview and did not draw any conclusions as to the source of the UFO that he had witnessed.

Interview of Witnesses Regarding Unknown Object: The following is what the witness originally reported to MUFON. He made his report one day after the incident. I interviewed the witness almost six months later because there was never an investigation made by Canada-MUFON.

"August 20th, 2013, in the area of Old Carriage Drive and Homer Watson Blvd. in Kitchener Ontario. It was approximately 21:45, and I was driving home Northwest on Homer Watson Blvd. coming from Cambridge. After passing the traffic lights at Doon South Drive I noticed what looked like a very slow moving glowing orange/yellow light ahead of me passing over Homer Watson, coming from Old Carriage Drive. My apartment is on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] It was barely moving at all. Really just a very slow drift. Its position was roughly 30 to 35 feet above the utility poles and the object itself was also round/spherical and 30 feet in diameter. At first when I saw it I immediately thought it was a Chinese lantern because of the soft glow and slow movement that you see in them, but I quickly realized the size of it and the shape was spherical. Also, it did not flicker as it would from a flame. The glow was solid and did not pulsate or change at all. The object itself appeared to be solid with no features visible. I was in the left lane with a vehicle in front of me who quickly braked and I braked as well. The three vehicles in the lane to my right also braked and we all came to a stop on the road to observe this object. I did not take note of the lanes on the other side to see if anyone had stopped as I was watching the object intensely. I exited my car, along with the person in front and the person in the car to my right. I took out my cell phone to get a video as did the person in the vehicle beside mine. I could not access the camera or any other function of my phone. The person beside me said his phone was now dead and would not come back on, even though it was working just a moment ago. We observed the object for another 30 to 45 seconds. In that time it came to a brief stop (5-6 seconds) over the wooded area that lies between Homer Watson and Mill Park Drive. It just hung in the air, completely motionless, the treetops were illuminated very softly. Then the object resumed its very slow pace continuing in the same direction heading North. The objects movement was slow, deliberate and did not waver or indicate that it was affected by wind. It appeared to be controlled and very smooth in its motion. The person in the vehicle ahead of mine said he wanted to leave and was going to call the police when he got home. The person beside me said he wanted to leave now and got into his car and left, the vehicle ahead of him had already left. We did not communicate during the event except to say that our phones were not functioning. The traffic behind us had started to accumulate and cars were honking so I left and turned onto Old Carriage Drive to head home. I turned my vehicle around to face the wooded area to see if I could still see the object but it was out of sight at this point. I called the police when I got into my apartment who said no one had reported any such thing and the dispatch operator didn't seem interested in my call. I called the Breslau airport later that night and the person who took my call got the information from me and said that there were other calls about the same object but closer to the airport. They wouldn't provide me any other information so I ended the call. I cant say with any certainty what I saw, but Ill sum up the characteristics below; - orange/yellow soft glowing light approx. 30 feet in diameter - very slow moving, able to stop briefly then resume its course, indicating it was a controlled object and not a natural phenomenon - completely silent - no blinking lights or any other signals to indicate it was an airplane or helicopter - was approximately 70 to 90 feet above the ground Thats what I saw and Im still puzzled today. I wasn't frightened by the event, but I did feel unsettled and still do today. It just left me feeling very strange. Please feel free to contact me if you require any other details."

Attached to the CMS website is an audio interview of the witness. The audio interview includes all of the witness's description of what happened as well as a portion of my questions to the witness. The remainder of my questions were lost due to telephone transmission issues. However, the remainder of my questions are captured within the

text on this page and the following pages. Even though the witness's interview was six months after the event, there were no significant differences between his recounting of the event and his original reporting of the event in August of 2013.

There were two additional inputs that the witness provided me that were not in his original report. The first was a clarification question regarding his cell phone failure. He said that he always keeps his phone turned on 24/7 due to his job. When he tried to use his phone camera during the sighting, his phone was turned off and he could not turn it on. Once the object left, he was able to turn the camera on. The second input was after the sighting. Four days after this event occurred, the witness had a voice mail message on his phone but without an indication that a specific phone number had called him. The message was simply a sequence of ascending and descending beeps. Four days after this message, a second voice mail occurred just like the first. The witness is very familiar with phone systems since he worked at Research in Motion, which makes the Blackberry phones. He was unable to save the phone message so that it could be downloaded. He tried to make an audio recording of his phone as it played but he said that it was not a good replica of the original. The witness did not know the cause of these two messages but thought it was strange that they had come after this UFO sighting.

Investigation of the sighting area: The use of Google maps was helpful in identifying the exact location of the witness. Two Google map drawings of the object and the witness are in the appendix of this report.

Investigation of any photos or physical evidence: n/a

EMF Issues: The witness indicated that his phone would not work when he tried to take a photo. He said that as soon as he had lost sight of the object that his phone would work again. The witness stated that the unidentified witness who also stopped his car to get out and look at the object, also indicated that his phone was not operational even though it had been working earlier. The witness left his car running while he got out to observe the object. He indicated that the object did not cause his car engine to stop operation.

Shape and Size: The witness described the object as a perfect sphere with very sharply defined edges. He estimated its size at thirty feet in diameter. The witness's estimate should be reasonable since he saw the object pass near him and just above the trees, which would give him a comparison with which to measure the object's diameter. The witness's identification of the object's location as it crossed Homer Watson Blvd can be considered reasonably accurate as he could see that the object's glow illuminate the tree tops beneath it.

Based on the object's known location from the witness at 400' (See Figure 1 in the appendix. We know for certain the witness location and we know for certain the object's location because of the slight illumination of the tree tops.) **and the object's angular size of 5-7 degrees** (The witness indicated that it would require his fist at arm's length to cover the object and this seems reasonable as it would require a fairly close object to cause two cars to pull over to view an object.), **the size of the object would be between 30-40 feet. This was calculated using a known distance and a known angular size, which provides sufficient information to calculate the object's size using trigonometry.**

Sound: There was no sound and the witness was close enough at 400' to have heard any noise.

Speed and Altitude: The altitude of the object is estimated between 60 and 70 feet above the ground based on the witness's estimate of its altitude above the trees.

The speed of the object was estimated at about 6mph by the witness and I estimate it at 15 mph based on its travel distance of about ½ mile (See Figure 2 in the appendix which shows that due to a sudden drop in ground elevation at about ½ mile; the object would have been lost to the witness's line-of-sight.) and a travel time of two minutes. The witness estimated no more than 2.5 minutes of observation time but often witnesses will overestimate the time of a surprising or harrowing event.

The witness also noted that the object hovered for about 4-5 seconds after it first crossed the highway.

Light Configuration: There was a glow from the object but no specific points of light emanating from it.

Light Color and Intensity: The object was orange in color and glowed. The witness indicated that the brightness of the object was not quite as bright as the moon. Although the object lightly illuminated the tree tops that it passed over, the witness was somewhat surprised that the object's glow did not light up the ground below it.

Disappearance: The object disappeared once it dropped below the witness's line-of-sight.

Area of Operation: The object was seen in a suburban area.

Nearby Military Bases: Meaford Army Base is 80 miles to the north of Kitchener, Ontario. Borden AFB is 60 miles to the north northeast.

Investigation of Other Witnesses: No other witnesses available. A search for similar events using the MUFON and the NUFORC database did not pick up any other reports.

Outstanding actions still to be completed: None

Discussion of sighting investigation: A key issue is the apparent size of the object and its sharply outlined, spherical shape. If the object encompassed 5-7 degrees of sky then that eliminates the possibility that the witness confused the object with any other man-made object or any celestial object. There are two main points supporting the large apparent size of the object. One is the witness's estimate of the object's size at 30 feet. This number matches very well with the calculated size of the object based on its known distance of 400 feet and its angular size. There is high confidence that the witness was 400 feet from the object because the exact witness location is known and the location of the object is known because it lightly illuminated the tops of the trees. The object size of 30 feet is reasonably well known because the witness was able to compare it against the trees. The large angular size matches the 400 feet distance and the object size of 30 feet. The second reason supporting the large apparent size of the object is that the witness and another driver pulled their cars over to observe the object. One would expect that an

object would need to be quite spectacular in size for two witnesses to stop their car on a highway.

Normally I would consider a Chinese lantern as a likely explanation for a case such as this. The direction of the wind was from the south and the object was moving towards the northeast and the light being orange. Not a perfect match but close to support an argument as a Chinese lantern. I decided against this explanation for several reasons. The first is the angular size of the object as discussed in the previous paragraph. The second is that the witness first considered a Chinese lantern as what he was seeing when first observing it. The witness also described the characteristics of a Chinese lantern----flickering light and an indistinct shape. The witness was emphatic that the object's light was a solid glow and not a flicker. He was also certain that the object's spherical edges were very distinct. The third reason to dismiss the Chinese lantern theory is the object's level flight. The object was about 30 feet above the trees and the treetops were lightly illuminated by the object, which provides the witness a way in which to judge the object's movement. If it had been a Chinese lantern, its altitude should have been increasing and not traveling in level flight.

Conclusion: All the information provided by the witness argues against any type of man-made object or any celestial object. This report will be classified as "unknown."

APPENDIX



Figure 1: View of the witness location and the object's path as it crossed Homer Watson Blvd.



Figure 2: View of object's path where it would have dropped below sight of the witness after about ½ mile.