



## Not-a-Plane Crashes into a Train!

by Rick Troppman

It's summertime, and the living is easy. Fish are jumping, and the cotton is high. Your daddy's rich, and your momma's good ... well ... never mind. But I'm thinking that just maybe you are getting my drift. I am excited because this month, June 21, at 18:11 UTC, summer solstice will occur here in the Northern Hemisphere where I reside in the Seattle area.

Yes indeed, summer is my favorite time of the year. Living does indeed become much easier in the summertime, with the nice warm weather, good for late night telescope and star-gazing sessions, camping, fishing and tons of other water sports.

It is the best time of the year for UFO hunting as well! And UFO hunting is one of my favorite pastimes, to be sure. Before we jump into this month's UFO sighting reports, I think I will discuss with you the art of UFO photography a little bit. In the recent few years, I have noticed multitudes of reports such as the following:

### Photographs Moon; Notices UFO When Viewing Pictures

*December 23, 2006; Virginia Beach, Virginia.* When I saw a new moon—merely a sliver—behind the bare branches of the tree, I decided to try to photograph it. I took three photos, each slightly to the right of the first. When I printed the photos (I am using a digital camera), I was amazed to find what looked like the full moon.

On closer inspection, I discovered two other less-bright circular objects. I still don't know what I captured on digital film. When I took the photo, I was so concentrating on the composition and trying to capture the new moon behind the branches that I did not see anything else. It was not until I printed the photo that I discovered that there was something else in the frame.

### UFO Discovered after Download

*August 25, 2001; Port Angeles, Washington.* I am a K-9 search and rescue coordinator. I was working up on Hurricane Ridge in The Olympic National Forest doing some training and was taking a photograph of the mountain range west of my location on Hurricane Ridge. I did not see or hear anything.

When I got home, I downloaded the digital photodisc onto my PC and found a triangle image on the photograph hovering at approximately one thousand feet. It was metal in ap-

pearance and triangular in shape. I've blown up the image, and it is neither a bird nor a jet. I have no clue as to what it is. It is not a camera-lens artifact. I didn't even know it was there when I took the photo.

### Disk and Other Object Photographed

*October 5, 2002.* I took four pictures of the mountains to the west of Las Cruces, New Mexico. The camera was a Canon G2 digital. The last shot taken at 4:49 P.M. was enlarged after downloading to a computer. Only then were the images of two objects noticed in the sky. One in the upper left was disk-shaped and appeared metallic in luster. A second object, below and to the right of the first, was apparently much smaller or further away. A previous shot taken two minutes earlier showed no objects.

### Cigar-Shaped Object Photographed

*October 31, 2004.* I was taking pictures at a scenic view on the new I-26 highway between Asheville, North Carolina and Johnson City, Tennessee. I took a picture of an overlook; seconds later I took another picture in relatively the same direction. Once I downloaded the pictures I found a cigar-shaped object in the second picture that was not in the first. The position of the people and the clouds show the time between the two shots to be, at most, five seconds. I did not see this while I was taking the picture, only after I was showing the pictures of the fall colors to a friend.

### Strange Saucer-Shaped Object Caught

*May 4, 2004; Mexico City, Mexico.* I was in Mexico City for a business trip and decided to take photos to show my wife what the view from the hotel looked like. I took the best photo possible of the landscape, focusing on a large building on the horizon. When I returned home I downloaded the photos from my digital camera and zoomed in on the building. I noticed an egg- or saucer-shaped object above the building, with a dark line going diagonally across the center and pointed edges on either side.

### Triangular UFO Silhouetted Against Moon

*June 27, 2001; Rockville, Maryland.* I was photographing the moon with my Fuji S1 Pro digital camera and 1,000 MM f/11 Mead mirror lens. I took a series of perhaps ten photographs, two of which showed the anomalous shape. I heard no sound; in fact I didn't even see the anomalous object until

I downloaded the images to my computer. The object had moved to the far edge of the moon in the second image, which was taken approximately thirty seconds after the previous one.

### Analysis

The above reports are but a very small sampling of similar recent reports. With the proliferation of digital cameras and the rapid advancements in digital-camera technology, it is becoming very common to capture “something else” in the frame that was not originally noticed or visible while the photo shoot was underway.

I recently had a brief conversation with the great David Sereda regarding UFO photography. I was lucky enough to successfully wrangle him away from his busy schedule to answer a couple questions. He informed me that with the quickly improving digital photography technology, many of the newer cameras available to consumers are able to see much more of the light spectrum than can the unaided human eye.

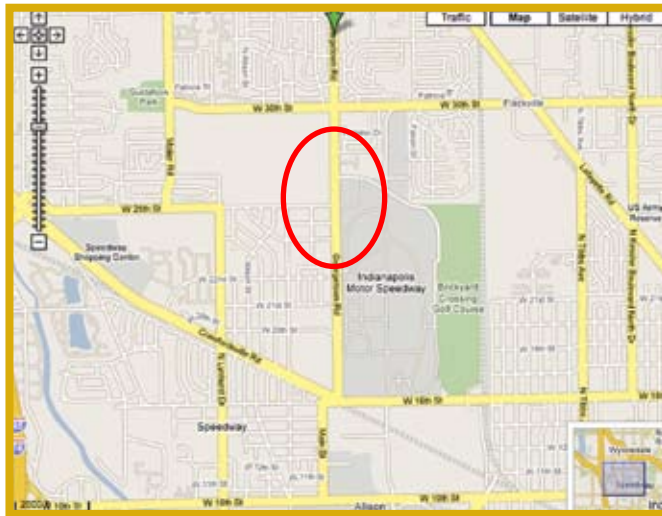
He said that some of the new digital cameras can actually see well into the infrared, the ultraviolet, and even into the far ultraviolet spectrums. Obviously, anything out there resonating in the infrared and ultraviolet spectrums will very often not be visible to the unaided human eye. That is precisely the reason why the photographers in the above reports were capturing objects that were not visible to them at the time the photographs were being taken. It is only after the pictures are downloaded from the camera and viewed on the computer or printed that these strange objects become apparent.

When asking Sereda which camera he would recommend that readers of *UFO Magazine* use for their UFO photography endeavors and which camera would give them a good chance of successful UFO photography, his answer was quick: “Get the Fuji Pro UV IR camera, 10 megapixels.” He says that this camera is actually certified in the infrared, ultraviolet, and far-ultraviolet spectrums, which is obviously where many of the current UFOs are operating or resonating.

So a big thank you goes out to David Sereda for this great information. Be sure to visit his website [www.FromHeretoAndromeda.com](http://www.FromHeretoAndromeda.com). He was kind enough to take time out from his *From Here to Andromeda* film project, which should be finished sometime in 2007 and may very well already be released by the time this article goes to print.

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Not all UFO pilots are the greatest drivers in the universe. In fact, the pilots of these strange craft are very often rather



reckless in their driving habits. I am hoping for their sake that they are hooked up with a reliable insurance company. To make my case, I submit the following exhibits for your examination and reading enjoyment. This first report occurred in the late morning hours at around 11:30 A.M. local time, May 25, 2005 at the Indianapolis Speedway in Indiana.

### Stealth Bomber Struck by Glistening Bell-Shaped Disk

A family member and I decided to walk around the outside of the Indy

500 racetrack. We were walking southbound on Georgetown Road on the left side of the street when we overheard people saying the Stealth is almost here and were pointing it out. I could not see the Stealth bomber yet myself. I suggested that my cousin and I cross the street to try to catch a better view of the airplane, which does a flyby every year before the Indy 500 race.

Anyway, now we are midway between 30<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> streets by the Pepsi parking lot when I can now see the Stealth bomber coming straight over Georgetown Road. I looked up over my head and saw what looked like a disk moving like a chrome ringing bell. It hovered in one spot, and was blinding, similar to how the sunshine reflects off of chrome.

The craft appeared to be higher in altitude than the Stealth. As the Stealth was approaching the racetrack—the disk or whatever it was—seemed to be waiting for it. As the Stealth was flying under the hovering disk, the disk seemed to actually attack the Stealth bomber.

I could see it hit the Stealth airplane from my point of view. We were right under both aircraft when this occurred. The unknown craft stopped glistening and smoked a little, as it hit the right wing of the Stealth. Then the craft started shining once again.

The Stealth bomber circled the track one lap, then headed west in the direction of the Indianapolis Airport. After the impact, the right wing had some smoke coming from it. Maybe this is normal, but the first 12 seconds of this event was really something to see.

There was a couple leaving the Pepsi lot for the race. The female looked at the disk or bell and said “Cool!” After I saw the smoke from the wing of the Stealth, I could no longer spot the unknown craft. There were so many people there with camcorders that I would think someone had to have recorded this event.

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Well I would say that must have been one exciting event to behold, to be sure! According to this next extremely odd report, these UFO operators need to start paying a bit more attention to what they are doing, particularly when operating on or near railroad tracks.

## Early Morning Train Collision With Disk-Shaped UFO

At exactly 2:47 A.M. on January 14, 2002, while working a coal train en route from Russell, Kentucky to Shelbyana, Kentucky, our trailing unit and first two cars were severely damaged as we struck an unknown floating or hovering object. I know the time was 2:47 because my watch froze, and to this day it continues to show that time. Along with my watch, the entire electrical systems on both locomotives went haywire.

Approaching a bend near milepost CMG-42 in an area referred to as the “wild kingdom” because of the many different types of animals spotted there, my conductor and I saw lights coming from around the way. This ordinarily means another train is coming and will pass on the other track. The outlay of the area is this: the river, Number 1 track, Number 2 track and a straight-up mountainside, carved out for the laying of these tracks.

I killed our lights so as not to blind the oncoming crew. As we rounded the corner, our onboard computer began to flash in and out, the speed recorder went nuts, and both locomotives died. Alarm bells began to ring and that’s when we saw the objects. Apparently scanning the river for something, these objects—at least three of them—had several searchlights trained there. The first object hovered at about 10 to 12 feet above the track.

The objects were metallic silver in color with multiple colored lights near the bottom and in the middle. There were no windows or openings of any kind that we could see. They were approximately 18 to 20 feet in length and probably ten feet high.

With both engines dead as we rounded the corner, we made very little noise. The first object did not respond in time, possibly because they did not hear us coming. I estimate that we hit the object at 30 MPH with 16,000 trailing tons behind us. The craft or object clipped the top of our lead unit and then skipped back, slicing a chunk out of our trailing unit and first two coal cars. The other two objects then simply vanished into thin air.

Our emergency brakes had initiated due to the loss of power and we stopped approximately a mile and a half or two miles after the impact. Our power restored after we were stopped and we notified our dispatcher, located in Jacksonville Florida, of what had happened.

We were told to inspect the cars to see if they’d hold the

rail and to try to limp into milepost CMG-60, which used to be the Paintsville Yard and is no longer in full operation. We checked everything out and found that the cab of the rear locomotive was demolished and smoking. The second two cars looked as if they had been hit with a giant hammer but looked like they would hold the rail.

We pulled into Paintsville Yard at approximately 5:15 A.M. The huge overhead lights lining the yard were noticeably dark and the only lights came from what we assumed were railroad official’s vehicles parked near the end of the track. We pulled to a stop and began unloading our grips off the wounded train.

We could hear what sounded like an army of workers immediately tending to our train. Vehicle doors were slamming, guys were running by in weird outfits and lights were glaring

from all directions. The one thing missing was railroad officials.

A guy named Ferguson shook my hand and asked me to follow him into the old yard office. We did, and once inside, they—and by *they*, I mean I have no idea who these people were—began to ask us hundreds of questions. They then told us, for our own protection, we’d be medically tested before we would be allowed to leave.

I asked repeatedly to talk to my road foreman

or trainmaster. Not only were these requests denied, but they also confiscated my conductor’s cellular phone.

Hours later we were led outside of the old yard office. The strange things continued to happen. The two locomotives and two cars were removed from the rest of the train that we had brought in. My only guess was that it must have been moved and now parked four tracks over under a huge tent-like structure, which was buzzing with activity. We were lead off of the property and told that due to national security, our silence on this matter would be appreciated.

We were then put into a railroad vehicle and taken to Martin, Kentucky, where we went through questioning again with railroad officials. After that we were then drug tested. After all of this, we were sent on to Shelbyana, where we took a rest for eight hours, after which we worked another train back to Russell. While we were working back, we passed by Paintsville. There were no longer any sign of the engines, the cars, the tent, or the people. There was nothing!

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All I can say about that report is: Wow! I am glad the U.S. government no longer has any interest in investigating unknown aerial phenomena. Do you detect a note of sarcasm in my last statement? I have no idea if the people securing the



train were government or military personnel, but it is a safe bet it was at least one or the other, if not both.

So moving on, to close out this month I have an interesting report of a disk-shaped object which was apparently in distress. This event occurred in El Reno, Oklahoma at about 1:30 A.M. on New Year's morning, 1981:

## A New Years Day Crashing Disk

I was walking across the band-practice field on South Bickford, across the street from Ette Dale Junior High on New Year's morning at approximately 1:00 A.M. from my girlfriend's house. I noticed to the far northwest an object that looked like a rocket launching. I was completely surprised and taken back by this.

I continued to watch this event as I walked across the field.

As the object came closer to my position, I changed my mind on what it was to an airplane on fire. As it came yet closer to the high school, I changed my mind once again to an USSR missile. I could see bits and pieces were falling off of it! I was stuck not knowing whether to run home to warn my mother, or run back to warn my girlfriend. I just stood there watching this object coming closer to me.

Two huge beams of light from the object lit up the town. It was looking to me like it was possibly searching for a place to land. Again I had changed my mind as to what it was to a crashing plane. It came to my mind that no plane that I know of has searchlights on it. As the object was continuing to scan the area, the searchlight beams were reflecting off the silver roof of the high school.

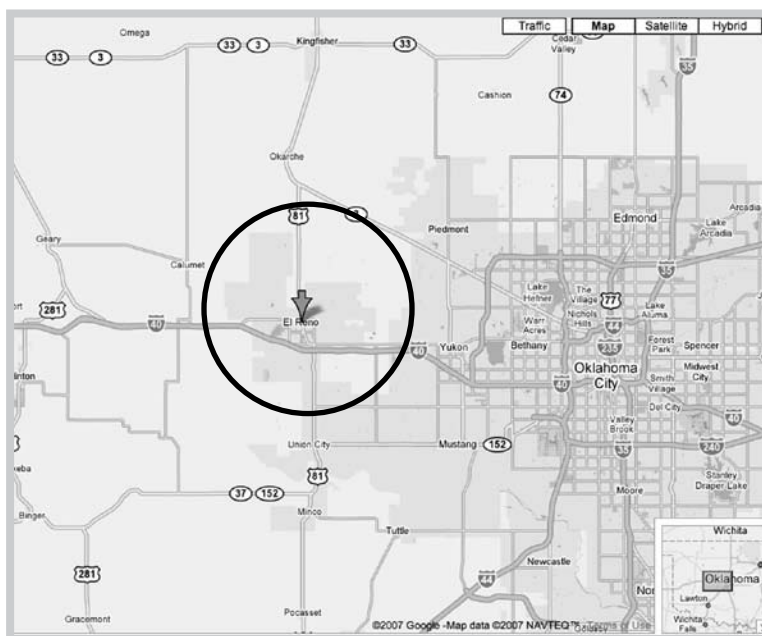
At this point I still didn't know what it was, until both light beams merged on me in the middle of the field. I was temporarily blinded by a bright bluish-white light. Cars stopped on the street behind me on South Rock Island Street. People got out yelling, "What is that?"

I looked up and saw a craft with the back end blown off of it. It looked like a cookie with a bite taken out of it, with bits of white flakes falling off of it and disappearing before they reached the ground.

I saw windows running the length of the ship and red emergency lights in the background. People or beings inside it were running from the back to the front of the craft. One being stopped and saw me looking up at him. I wanted

so badly to communicate with him, so I waved to him. The being waved back in response. Another being ran by, then stopped and looked at me. Then that being pulled the being I was waving at away from the window.

As the craft continued on to the southeast, seven alternating disks of multiple colors shot off out of the craft to the southwest. The disks changed colors: white, red, blue, green, yellow, then back to white again. I continued to watch the now crewless ship proceed to the southeast when it split into three segments and was gone. I rushed home and told my mother what had happened, then rushed to a friend's house. He was watching TV, and the announcer came on saying "If you have seen a strange sight in the sky—" She was cut off by a special report from *NBC World News*. Tom Brokaw came on to say it was a Russian rocket booster. It didn't look like a rocket booster to me!



I hope the entities occupying that craft in distress had access to a good mechanic back at their base, because it sounds like they were definitely going to be needing one.

That brings us to a close for this month. As usual, a big thank you goes out to the one and only Peter Davenport and his National UFO Reporting Center at [www.ufocenter.com](http://www.ufocenter.com) for the high-quality reports in this month's article. If you have a sighting of your own, please visit NUFORC to report your experience with the world.

Or if you prefer, you can share your experience with me at [rick@ufopicks.com](mailto:rick@ufopicks.com) and I would be glad to report it for you at NUFORC, if you like. Your identity will always be protected. Also, be sure to stop by my website at [www.ufopicks.com](http://www.ufopicks.com). Also stop by often at [www.jerryippin.com](http://www.jerryippin.com) for the latest *UFO Files Report* show, which features one of my picks on every weekly program and a whole bunch of great interviews with all the big names in the UFO community that can be downloaded or listened to on site.

Don't forget to bookmark us. Don't forget, whenever you are outside, be sure to look up. You just never know what you might see up there. The sky is our window to infinity, and as you know, the sky is the limit. **UFO**

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**If you have an experience or know of someone who has and you want to report it to me, please email me at [rick@ufopicks.com](mailto:rick@ufopicks.com).**

**My website: [www.ufopicks.com](http://www.ufopicks.com); hear Jerry and Larry read more of my picks on the great weekly *UFO Files Report Show*: [www.jerryippin.com](http://www.jerryippin.com)**