

## PASSPORT TO MONIHEYA

About 5ft. tall, "looked like a diver."  
Kind of stocky, like the suit was thick  
and heavy.

No expression on face, "just stared."

Turned and walked in human fashion when  
returned to craft. (Tank on back; no  
visible or audible discharge from it).

March 2, 1965  
Brooksville, Fla.

Witness: John Reeves

1:55 P.M.

Dark covering on head  
(no hair visible) →

Very tan, smooth looking  
skin

← Glass helmet, rested  
on shoulders

Eyes "far, far apart...  
close to ears." Nose  
and mouth seemed human.  
Saw eyebrows. Saw white in  
one eye, but could not tell  
eye color. Chin came to a  
point.

One-piece suit, silver-  
gray, "like canvas," kind  
of shiny. No buttons, or  
zippers, etc., visible. Seams  
were visible (i.e., folds). Knees  
were baggy, suit tight-fitting  
around lower legs.

Fingers, covered  
with light material  
like gloves →

Black object, raised  
to chin level, flashed.

Normal size footprints,  
but symmetrical front  
and back.



Dark shoes →



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# UFO FLAP IN ZIMBABWE

BY CYNTHIA HIND

Wednesday, September 14, 1994, was an exciting night for southern Africa. Between 8:50 and 9:05 p.m., a pyrotechnic display of some magnificence appeared in the almost clear night skies of this part of the continent.

The first sighting seems to have been made from Kempton Park, near Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg. Radio 702, the commercial radio program in this area, was receiving phone calls from people near to the airport, but in actual fact, the lights in the sky were so brilliant and so clearly visible that sightings started pouring in from Botswana, Zambia (in the southern area) and Zimbabwe, covering a time period of approximately 10–12 minutes.

I first became aware that *something* was going when on I heard a loud explosion at 9:04 that night. I went outside immediately, but saw nothing, and a little later on, when my phone started ringing with excited reports from all over the country, I drove in my car with Maria Sullivan and my granddaughter Ianthe around the northern suburbs of Harare, to see if anything was happening. But all was quiet and orderly—even the dogs were not barking as furiously as they usually do. Later I learned that it was a sonic boom as pieces of debris entered our atmosphere.

Shortly after arriving back home, I called the night editor of the local paper. Had he heard any reports and what did he think? He told me that there were dozens of calls coming in, but they had already resolved the problem.

It was a meteorite shower of some magnificence and, of course, it was being seen from several countries.

I use the *MUFON UFO Journal*'s column, "The Night Sky," given monthly in advance by Walter Webb, for reference and there was certainly no indication of a spectacular meteorite shower in September. Still, UFO investigators are far lesser mortals than amateur astronomers, so I accepted what I was told. However, almost immediately afterwards and certainly for several days running, the reports continued to come in to me. And if meteorites they were, what strange and unconventional behavior!

The general consensus of opinion was that the lights

were preceded by a ball of fire which seemed to have a point to it, with a long tail of sparks. It was of a white or golden color and lit up brilliantly in the sky. Some people saw three huge lights at the front, with smaller lights behind; the count of the smaller lights varying from 8 to 20. Many reported that the objects were travelling very fast from north to south; others that it moved slowly, and one man actually walked along with it for more than a hundred meters.

There were definitely a great variety of reports—in fact, so varying that I have decided to pick out some of the more graphic ones from reliable witnesses and record them here. Mainly, because I feel that not all the reports referred to the same objects. And if there was more than one object involved, how do we account for the others? What disturbed me most was that if a report was made by an amateur astronomer, air traffic controller, or newspaper reporter, it was many times more acceptable than if it was made by a private individual, however reliable and acceptable that person might be.

For instance, the identification of it being a meteorite shower was made by an amateur astronomer in Harare who said, "It was the most spectacular shower of several I have seen." At first, he said, he saw only single meteors but then it hotted up with at least two showers. Bigger chunks were breaking up and scattering their fragments.

Dr. Euen Nisbet, a Zimbabwean who is professor of geology at London University, was working in the Mberengwa area with his colleague, Ms. Kathy Silva. They took bearings on the largest light (which he thought was a meteorite at the time) from their camp in Zvishavane. He said the largest light rose above the horizon due north of them and disappeared over the horizon about 20 degrees east of south. It was about 65° to 70° above the east horizon at the highest point of its path. From the bearings the two were able to plot a rough trajectory that showed the shower was moving along a path angled about 10° away from the north to south line. It took about a minute to cross the sky although it seemed longer. The event started a few minutes before 9:00 p.m. The fireball of the large flame was about one-fifth the moon's diameter and the whole shower was contained in a band several moon diameters long and one to two moon diameters wide.

The two scientists thought the sonic boom was two to four minutes later (it was 9:04 p.m. on my watch in Harare). This would suggest the debris was at least 50 km high and could have been even higher. Dr. Nisbet saw the debris as

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white, turning orange as the path neared the horizon, while Ms. Silva saw definite shades of deep orange. They both said the light faded abruptly and this made them wonder if the meteors could have skipped out of the Earth's atmosphere. (This information appeared in *The Herald*, Harare, Zimbabwe, September 17, 1994.)

By this time I had received dozens of calls and the stories made me rethink the meteor identification, particularly the calls from Lake Kariba, the largest man-made lake in southern Africa. This is situated in the northwest corner of Zimbabwe, and apart from forming a series of wonderful holiday resorts for local people and tourists, it also provides a lucrative fishing industry, supplying fresh fish (freshwater bream and kapenta—a small fish not unlike a sardine, which is sundried and an excellent source of protein for the people). There are many boats on Kariba, from small powered speedboats to large passenger pleasure craft. Many of the sightings were made from the decks of these.

One person, in charge of a radio nerve center for most of the boats on Kariba, said that the kepanta fishermen who operate at night had seen a very bright light with two side lights, travelling slowly. There was no sound. The light was orange-red with "tails" trailing behind. The movement was to the south-southeast.

The warden-in-charge at Matusadona National Park said the light was above the treeline, and he watched it for 2 1/2 minutes. Steve Edwards, of Kariba Bream Farm, took a video of the light but it still did not reveal its true identity.

Alexander L. saw the object from the Cutty Sark Hotel at about 9:00 p.m. Appearing over the horizon, he saw an object moving from north to south. There was a group of lights with orange streamers or tails behind them. There was a dark, almost black center with about 14 lights flashing around it. It was the size of Alexander's thumbnail when held at arm's length and took more than a minute to pass over, travelling very fast. He could feel a definite vibration from the object.

Other people thought it was an aircraft on fire, flying very low as though about to crash. The lights were extremely bright and moved slowly, similar to the speed of a Boeing 747. These observers involved an aircraft pilot and the medical doctor for a large Zimbabwean company.

A friend of mine, Jo Hensman, was on shore when she decided to go aboard the family sailboat. They had been having a barbecue on the beach alongside their boat, when Jo borrowed her husband's powerful flashlight to go aboard. It had a complicated mechanism for the on-off switch. As Jo moved towards the boat, she could suddenly see this light in the sky; it looked like a small plane, but what shook her most of all was that it was coming directly towards her. She could feel the panic rising; realizing that her flashlight was still on and that she couldn't switch it off quickly, she was sure that the object was attracted by the brilliant light in her hand.

Immediately, she hid it behind her back and watched with relief as the object turned away and, following the treeline, went off along the lake shore. At this stage she could

see it was enormous, several times bigger than a Boeing 747. She saw it lift over some hills, and she breathed a sigh of relief.

There were many reports of the object flying at treetop level (which *might* have been an optical illusion). There were also numerous reports of the lights moving slowly.

An excellent observation was made by Rex Taylor of Kariba Yacht Safaris, from the deck of the Cutty Sark Hotel. Taylor said: "It appeared in the northern sky at about 8:15." (I am amazed at the discrepancy in times. Either watches were not working properly, which I find difficult to believe, or else UFOs were somehow affecting local time.) Taylor continued:

At first it seemed like a rocket, but in seconds I could see it was not. The fiery tail emitting sparks and a faint trail was accompanied by a row of green lights and a *second* smaller rocket.

The green lights were in a regular pattern, almost like a series of windows lit from within. There was no noise. The object was traveling on an approximate heading of 195° (magnetic)—say 188° true. It was 20° east of the vertical. As the object hurtled south, the larger burning "rocket" burnt and flared as it disappeared into the distance. As it was almost overhead, its apparent size covered an arc of about 30° from "nose to tail" and about 1/5 of that from "top to bottom."

I made these measurements mentally at the time and checked out the heading the following morning with an accurate compass; I used my arm (600mm) to estimate the "size," fore and aft, 300mm. It was impossible to guess at the altitude. There were two aviators in the group with me, and we concluded that because there was no noise, it had to be on the very edge of our atmosphere. This was borne out by the information we heard the following day that it had been seen as far south as Johannesburg.

I can only guess at its speed at the time of being seen. From the time I first saw it to the time it disappeared, it was about 15 seconds.

Assuming it subtended an angle of 30° on the edge of the atmosphere, say at 88,000 ft or 24 km; then the object was 12 km long and 2 1/2 km wide. The mathematicians can calculate its speed. My calculation ran out of digits, so I'll say it was "very fast." It was by my approximate estimate over the latitude of 20° South (Masvingo). If anyone further south could estimate its angle above the horizon, or from the vertical, we could pinpoint its position and height.

The incredible point to me is that although most of the reports are similar, it seems that the witnesses were viewing two or three different objects. The main sighting seems to be a cone-shaped object, or perhaps more than one, followed by numerous smaller lights like stars. (One possible candidate is the reentry of a Russian nose cone that was jettisoned over southern Africa on September 14.) ♦