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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Mexico City UFO vs. Hasenboel UFO

From: **Jim Deardorff** <deardorj@proaxis.com>
Date: Thu, 19 Mar 1998 18:38:45 -0800 (PST)
Fwd Date: Fri, 20 Mar 1998 12:24:10 -0500
Subject: Mexico City UFO vs. Hasenboel UFO

>Date: Tue, 17 Mar 1998 00:36:43 -0500
>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac@compuserve.com>
>Subject: UFO UpDate: Mexico City UFO program April 8th
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>

>Below is a preliminary report on the video analysis. This will be
>published in the next issue of the MUFON Journal along with the
>graphs/figures referenced herein.

> THE MEXICO CITY, AUG. 6, 1997 VIDEO
> OF AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT (UO)
> by
> Bruce Maccabee

> \$#@& !!! (Expletive deleted.) Its just a model hanging on a
> string...a stupid hoax!!

> That was my immediate reaction watched the beginning of the
> Mexico City video for the first time back in early November,
> 1997. Its wobbling and rotating saucer seemed just as big as
> life...but not as real. What immediately popped into my mind
> was a vision of a 1950s movie portrayal of flying saucers... the
> movie with rotating saucers that crash into the U. S. Capitol
> building (Invaders from Space?)! I was disgusted!!!>>

> Five seconds later I was no longer disgusted. Instead, I was
> surprised.

> During the first seconds of the video I had envisioned a small
> model saucer rotating and wobbling as it was hanging from a
> string.

> Then it abruptly moved to the right.

> Thats no hanging model, I thought as it accelerated without any
> swinging back and forth characteristic of the pendulum motion of
> a small model at the end of a string. As the video continued I
> watched carefully for any evidence of swinging.

> There was none.

> I then reversed the video and watched the image of the
> Unidentified Object (UO) as it moved to the left toward its
> starting position.

> Suddenly it stopped moving...as if running into a brick wall
> (crash dummies inside?).

> I ran it back and forth several times.

>Each time I became more convinced that the acceleration was very
>rapid, perhaps even instantaneous. Suffice it to say that I
>watched the rest of the video with more respect. ...

Hi Bruce,

I'm sure many others also appreciated your research on this.

Here I'd like to refresh your memory about this kind of maneuvering on film being predated some 21 years by the Meier-case 8mm film of 29 March, 1976, near Hasenboel-Langenberg, Switzerland. No -- I'm not suggesting that the 1997 Mexico City video must therefore be a hoax! It's just interesting to look at the similarities.

This Hasenboel scene was on a windy evening shortly after sunset; a limb of a foreground fir tree can be seen to rustle about continually in the wind. This is the film where the UFO moves from off the left side to center-right of the frame, stops (as if scarcely slowing down before crashing into an invisible brick wall) and hovers motionless there, then suddenly accelerates back to the left to a speed of up to 15 UFO widths per second in some small fraction of a second. It then repeats this maneuver a few times, with small rocking oscillations (apparently about a horizontal axis at right angles to the direction of motion; circa 4 cps) superimposed at various times.

The trajectory is arced somewhat, with its lowest point being approximately where it stops and hovers before retreating back to the left. The fairly small curvature of the arc implies, if it were a suspended model, an estimated suspension length of some 50 model widths (or a pendulum period of some 10 seconds for a model of 1-foot width). However, unlike a simple pendulum motion, it's missing the right-hand halves of the pendulum oscillations. Most impressive therefore is the fact that on its repeated maneuvers the UFO, when coming to a speedy hovering halt, or when suddenly accelerating back towards the left, does so without executing any random oscillations suggestive of the suspension point having been moved.

Also impressive is the absence of wind-induced motions while it is hovering perfectly still. Any model suspended by a long string could not have been hovering motionless in a breeze in excess of 10mph, but would instead be bouncing up and down somewhat as well as rocking about different horizontal axes, and also twisting about the vertical axis. However, the lack of high resolution of the video of the copy of the film permits the lack of twisting to be deduced only for the two or three occasions when one or two white light beams flashed out from the UFO. The light beams appeared to be columnated and can be viewed for a short distance away from the UFO; they did not sweep out oscillatory paths during the brief periods they were turned on as they would if the object had been twisting about on a string. Of course, the existence of the lights themselves is quite impressive in ruling against the possibility of a model. All in all, one sees why no anti-Meier fan has attempted to duplicate such a series of maneuvers while filming a suspended model UFO on a windy day.

The impression an open-minded skeptic could gain is that the pilot of the UFO was saying: "We've followed a trajectory that could look like half of a repeated pendulum motion if a 25-meter pole suspending a model were being cleverly maneuvered around, and we've added in a rocking motion to make it seem like it was a model with a particular moment of inertia. All this while staying mostly within the field of view of Meier's movie camera. That should satisfy the negative skeptics and ensure that our actions here will not cause the whole UFO coverup to come unraveled prematurely. Now, however, let's see if any thinking ufologist will eventually notice that we accelerated rapidly without any subsequent jerks and similarly stopped smoothly, hovered motionless, and turned on a couple of our columnated lights."

Would you or another on this list be interested in looking into it more quantitatively than I can do with my old VCR and with no means of computerizing it? The film sequence is in the "Beamship: The Movie Footage" video that Genesis III has available. I mean, what else have you to do now that you've looked carefully into the Mexico City video? :) An additional

qualification you'd need is the ability to withstand the heat upon investigating a politically-incorrect topic. The one advantage the Meier film has over the Mexico City video is that Meier's movie-film camera was mounted on a fixed tripod. Another might be considered to be the knowledge, from swirled-grass landing traces, that the UFO's diameter was about 7 meters.

Jim Deardorff

"Truth is sometimes painful, but is necessary and critical if we are ever to achieve full understanding."

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