A HELICOPTER-UFO ENCOUNTER
OVER OHIO

by
Jennie Zeidman
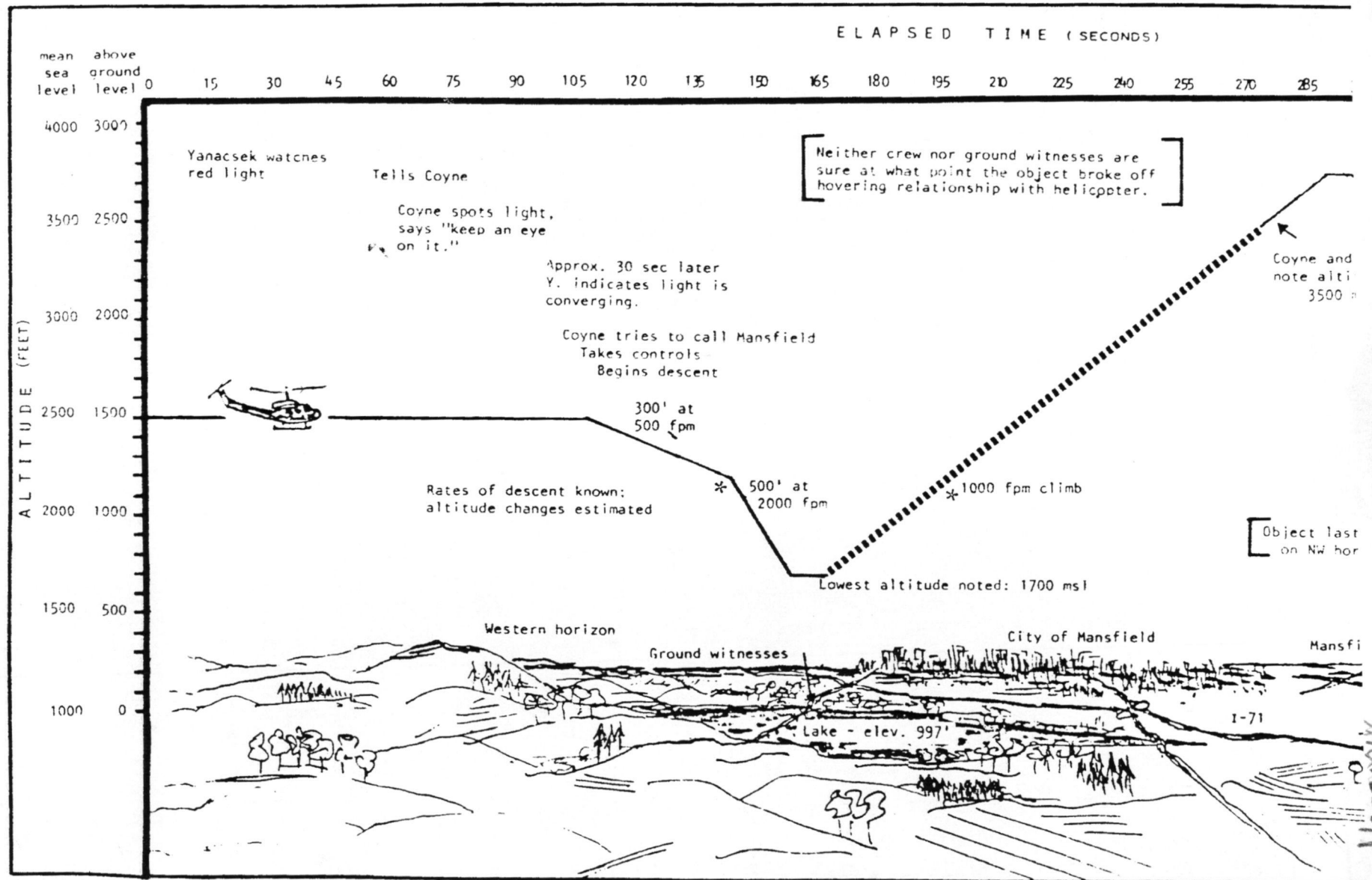
© Center for UFO Studies

FIGURE 17

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION FROM WITNESSES' ACCOUNTS

ELAPSED TIME (SECONDS)

mean above
sea ground
level level 0   15   30   45   60   75   90   105   120   135   150   165   180   195   210   225   240   255   270   285

4000 3000

Yanacsek watches
red light

Tells Coyne

Coyne spots light,
says "keep an eye
on it."

Approx. 30 sec later
Y. indicates light is
converging.

Coyne tries to call Mansfield
Takes controls
Begins descent

Neither crew nor ground witnesses are
sure at what point the object broke off
hovering relationship with helicopter.

Coyne and
note alti
3500 m

3500 2500

3000 2000

ALTITUDE (FEET)

2500 1500

300' at
500 fpm

Rates of descent known:
altitude changes estimated

500' at
2000 fpm

1000 fpm climb

Object last
on NW hor

2000 1000

Lowest altitude noted: 1700 msl

1500 500

Western horizon

Ground witnesses

City of Mansfield

Mansfi

1000 0

Lake - elev. 997'

I-71

* The descent and climb estimates do not take into account the additional times needed for acceleration or decelerat

57

Figure 16. ELAPSED TIME ANALYSIS

Description	Est. Time (seconds)		
	Short	Long	Median
Object Approach			
"It was so far away that I looked at it for some time before I mentioned it. I must have watched it for a minute, oh, a minute and a half, before I said anything" (Yanacsek).	**30**	90	60
"Yanacsek said, 'There's a red light on the horizon at about 3 o'clock--are there any radio towers over that way?' I told him to keep an eye on it" (Coyne).	**10**	15	13
"After approximately another 30 seconds, Yanacsek indicated that the light was converging on the helicopter" (Coyne on Report Form 2496).	**15**	30	30
Coyne looks over, evaluates, decides to take evasive action (Coyne).	**5**	5	5
Aircraft Descent			
2500' - 1700' =800' in two increments: 1st = 500 fpm; 2nd = 2000 fpm as consistently reported by Coyne. Altitude change in each segment unknown.	24 (a) 18	48 (b) 12	36 (c) 15
Closest Point			
"It damn near came to a stop right over us" (Healey). "It wasn't cruising, it was stopped for maybe 10-12 seconds, and I mean stopped" (Yanacsek). "It stopped over us, and then it just slowly moved" (Coyne). "The object came over the helicopter, and then it just stopped, for about 10 seconds" (ground witnesses).	**3**	10	8
Aircraft Ascent			
From 1700' to 3500' = 1800'@ 1000 fpm (Coyne).	108	108	108
Leveling, Regaining Control			
3500' to "near 3800'" "From the bottom position, I had to pull it up [the collective], push it down, and then the helicopter seemed to bump like it hit turbulence "(Coyne).		20	15
Object Departure			
"But the thing was way to the west. It was already in the Mansfield area when we began to settle. The first people we made contact with was Akron Approach, and I could see this object that was moved away" (Coyne). "I watched it depart for a couple of minutes" (Healey).		60	10
	213	398	300

(a) 200' @ 500 fp, = 24 (b) 400' @ 500 fpm = 48 (c) 300' @ 500 fpm = 36
    600' @ 2000 fpm = 18   400' @ 2000 fpm = 12   500' @ 2000 fpm = 15