Marfa Light, How Bright!

The intelligence exhibited by *Marfa Lights* is what I mean by "how bright," and this seems to me to be a good time for examples. We'll examine some sightings of *Marfa Lights* in light of the possibility that they are guided by intelligence, in particular that they are from the bioluminescence of flying predators that are highly intelligent, according to Whitcomb.

We begin with a report by James Bunnell, a highly-respected scientist who has devoted years of work and thought to these mystery lights of Marfa, Texas. I quote from his book *Hunting Marfa Lights* (published in 2009), pages 91-92:

> *May 8, 2003 . . . Temperature was around 60 degrees F. . . . at 10:22 PM the ML returned; I will call this ML (D). ML (D) began moving west . . . the final location was west of the railroad tracks . . . the distance [it flew] measured eleven miles . . . This ML event is also unique because of the explosive-like expansion that resulted in the light going out and then resuming at a much lower altitude.*

Note that Bunnell assumes that the "resuming" flying light was the same thing that had been flying at a much higher altitude just a little earlier. It's an easy assumption to make, for the flight direction may have been identical and the timing for that flying object to have turned off its glow and then soon afterwards to have turned back on its glow, while still flying, seems perfectly relevant. But I propose something else.

Note that other observations of CE-III mystery lights (a designation Bunnell gives to certain lights around Marfa: lights that travel and exhibit combustion-like attributes) sometimes involve light "splitting." Whitcomb's *Marfa Light* hypothesis includes the proposition that this is a sort of optical illusion for distant human observers: There were

two objects, one glowing but not the other; the non-glowing one turns on its bioluminescence just before the two flying creatures separate.

Now take Whitcomb's idea one step further. ML (D), observed by Bunnell on May 8, 2003, and photographed by more than one camera, could have involved two flying predators, with only one of them glowing at a time. How I arrived at this possibility requires additional explanation.

The distance from start point to end point was, according to Bunnell's triangulation calculations, eleven miles, and the time of travel was eighteen minutes. That makes the average speed about 37 mph, assuming a straight flight, which it seems to have been. That speed is critical to the reasoning that follows.

Some birds can fly 37 miles per hour, but most do not fly that fast, at least not for long. Barn owls are not known for flying straight for many miles, even if one of them could keep up a pace of 37 mph. But the *ropen* of Papua New Guinea is said to fly "faster than birds but slower than airplanes."

Now, assuming *Marfa Lights* are flying creatures somewhat similar to *ropens*, what would cause a large bioluminescent flying creature to fly eleven miles straight at 37 miles per hour? Only one possibility comes to my mind: A frightened intruding male is being chased by a dominant male who is protecting his females.

Now remember Bunnell's observation that the second light-appearance flew at a "much lower altitude." How does that correlate with my ropen-chasing-ropen hypothesis? (Actually I don't know if these flying creatures are closely related to the ropen or not, but I believe they are flying predators.) We now look at this in stages.

First, if one flying animal is chasing off another smaller one of the same species, and the locomotion is flight, which

animal would be willing to take more chances? Of course: the one in danger, the smaller one being chased. That smaller one (even if the size difference is minimal) could very well fly just above the ground. The dominant male need not take any chances flying into something like a tree at night; he would have flown higher. This is somewhat similar to some plane dogfights in which, in desperation, the fighter plane pilot being tailed dives down near the ground to try to throw off his pursuer (I have some knowledge of this).

Second, when would a high-speed, long-distance chase be more likely to take place for flying predators? Not in the dead of winter, when everyone is too stressed and too low on energy (with fewer opportunities for catching food). May 8th, at 10:22 PM, when the temperature is 60 degrees F., seems like a good time for this chase to take place. Both the pursuer and the pursued had a few weeks of opportunities to eat better than they had in the winter.

Third, when would be the most logical time for a pursued bioluminescent flyer to turn on his glow? This may be more speculative, but I'll make a suggestion. I suspect there are two possibilities: The pursuer ran out of the a needed-secretion or he turned off his glow to surprise the one pursued. Whatever it was, I suspect the larger one dived down onto the smaller one that had been below him. That caused the pursued one to turn on its glow, for it was no longer possible to hide in the dark, not with that big male almost clawing on his backside.

I said that I would give "examples," but I've run out of time, having given only one, so this sighting of May 8, 2003, with my interpretation, will have to do for now. This sighting seems to me to be much easier to explain with my hypothesis than with something involving earth lights or other non-living energies.