

1978: Portales to Lovington, NM

CEI (100' Egg) / Car Pacer.

On Friday, August 25, 1978, Jean (Coleman) Byars and I left Albuquerque, NM after work en route to Texas. Instead of turning south at Cline's Corners (the route I usually take), we went on to Santa Rosa, had dinner and then turned south through Ft. Sumner, reaching Clovis about 10:25 p.m. We turned south toward Hobbs and when about 5 miles out of Portales Jean asked, "what is that over to the right?". It was raining, there were no other cars on the road and it was a very "black" night (no stars). I told her it was probably lightning. She said "no" and then I said it was probably a reflection from some drill rig. I had caught a glimpse of lights flashing on and off, but it was very "mean" driving in the rain and I had to watch the road very carefully.

In a few moments Jean said "it is still there." With that, I took a good look. About 200 yards off to the right there was an egg shaped object about 100 feet high, with lights flashing on and off. The lights were not the regular kind of smooth lights we saw on the drill rigs, but sort of "jagged and uneven."

In a little while I said, is it still there? - it was! I speeded up to about 90 mph and it also speeded up - I slowed down to about 40 mph; it slowed down! Jean and I were very nervous because this "thing" was right with us - seemed to be following us. At one point it seemed to just "dart" around a drill rig to keep from hitting the rig. The thing made NO NOISE and very definitely could not have been a plane. The miles and minutes seemed endless - it is very terrifying to have something traveling right with you. We both prayed that we wouldn't have car trouble and have to stop. One funny moment was when I said to Jean - "be sure your door is locked; do you suppose it's the thing that has been mutilating cows?" I wasn't about to stop the car and get my camera out of the trunk.

We passed through Tatum, NM with our "friend" still on our trail. We had only seen two or three cars on the road (all going the opposite direction) since leaving Portales. It had been with us well over an hour by this time. We drove the 20 miles from Tatum to Lovington glancing over our right shoulders the whole time and getting more nervous because it was still there blinking at us.

When we got to Lovington, I took a wrong turn and had to make a U-turn. By the time I got on the main highway, there were several other cars and it was at this point that we finally lost our little "friend". We kept looking over our right shoulder all the way to Hobbs, however!

It was about 1:45 a.m. when we got to Hobbs. We checked into the Ramada Inn and it was at least two hours before we could get to sleep.

I feel that what we saw is probably a UFO and the best I can figure, it was with us at least 1-1/2 hours. I wanted to document it in writing even though we did not report it to news media because we didn't want any publicity. It must have been a friendly UFO since it had plenty of opportunity to make an encounter and only kept us under observation!

Jean Byars has also written her documentation of this sighting and this can be checked (I have not seen what she wrote, but feel they will be basically the same).

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I am enclosing an account of an event that happened on August 25, 1978. I did not want to report to the news media and have hesitated to even discuss it. I did write my account of what happened immediately afterwards so as not to forget any important details.

This may or may not be useful to you. If you care to discuss it further with me or Jean Byars, please feel free to contact me. We both work for governmental type agencies and are security cleared, so our reliability can be checked quite easily.



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