

UFO Book—Lonnie Zamora KSRC Transcript 10/23/24

[For the Zamora case, the website should include the PBB report and transcript from this interview.]

Interview can be found here:

“Socorro, New Mexico, April 24, 1964. Officer Lonnie Zamora is interviewed by Walter Strode on KSRC R,” uploaded to YouTube by *UFO History*, October 7, 2018,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3dpJBC_IRk

DATE OF INTERVIEW??? [24th not accurate?]

Intro:

“This is Walter Strode, your roving reporter at KSRC radio in Socorro, New Mexico. We have with us this afternoon Mr. Lonnie Zamora, the Socorro patrolman that while chasing a car found himself in an area about two miles west of here and one mile east of KSRC radio station. At which time, he reports, he came upon an unidentified object resting on four legs. That as he drew closer, the object took off with a loud roar, spouting blue-red flames and disappeared in the sky. A great number of cars and Socorro people have gathered here in front of the studios of KSRC to catch a glimpse of Mr. Zamora as he arrives and welcome him with their car horns.”

Walter Strode (interviewer): Mr. Zamora, after coming upon this object, just what did happen?

Zamora: I went up a little road for about a ½ mile, I guess, and I came up to this [unintelligible, possibly bajada layer] on the side of the road. I sorta glanced out of the window and looked to my left and saw this white object on the ground. I thought it might be a car that had turned over.

Commented [1]: Everything happened fast & unexpectedly. It's typical to have a lot of uncertainty/error in recall in an incident like this.

Commented [2]: Something very interesting as the last 5 sentences of the PBB report:
"As my mike fell as I got out of car, at scene area, I heard about two or three loud "thumps," like someone possibly hammering _*or shutting a door or doors hard.*_ These "thumps" were possibly a second or less apart. This was just before the _*roar.*_ (Vrooom??) The persons were not seen when I drove to the scene area. Just before Sgt. Chavez got to scene, I got my pen and drew a picture of the insignia on the object." Also, the front overall person jumped as if startled when Zamora's car came into view. I think the PBB report is all that's needed. It sez itall.
PBB text:
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180409122718/http://www.ufocasebook.com/Zamorareport.html>

Commented [3]: I'm amazed at the # of copycats *after* the incident. One even included burning brush & tracks that looked like a "mountain lion" (exact copycat of wording in some of the Zamora noosepaper reports). There's the 10-year old who burned her eyes watching "it" for 10 minutes at school at recess, while other students ignored it. The guy who shot at it and at least 6 bullets noisily bounced off.
This is a gold mine of psych invention. We shud stick to a somewhat brief version in MS, but can give more copycat examples (how tall tales evolve) in www.

So it was [unintelligible] going up there to investigate, because I thought somebody might be hurt. At that time I saw a white egg-shaped looking object.

Strode: It looked something like an egg, you mean?

Zamora: Yes, from that distance, it looked like an egg to me.

Strode: About the size of a car, I think someone said.

Zamora: Yes, sir, it looked like a car that had turned over. It looked like the size of a car.

Strode: Were there any kinds of markings on it that you noticed?

Zamora: Yes, it did. Not from that distance, not from that far I didn't see the markings. When I went up closer to it, I did see the markings.

Strode: And someone said that the markings as you saw it was an upside-down V with three lines running through it?

Zamora: No, sir. I couldn't say that, because they [presumably, the AF investigators] don't want me to say nothing about that.

Strode: They don't want you to say anything about the markings. Alright, we won't question you on that. If we run into an area that they don't want you to talk about, well, you just say so. And this happened at about 5:30 Friday afternoon?

Zamora: It happened at about 5:50, about 10 minutes to 6.

Strode: About 10 minutes to 6. And you did place the call then to Sgt. Chavez of the state police to come on out and help you with the investigation?

Zamora: Based on the size of the object, I didn't know what it was, I placed a call to Sgt. Chavez of the state police. I told him to come out there and help me on this. He said, "Yes I'll be right there, in about a few minutes."

Strode: And he arrived just about 2-3 minutes after the object had taken off and left?

Zamora: Well, the object was still about the top of the mountain top there when he arrived.

Strode: And that's the direction it went? It went up over top of the mountain then? We've heard several reports that it flew low like it was dragging something. We've heard some, um—
[interrupted].

Zamora: It was very low to the ground. At the time I was seeing it, it was very low to the ground. Up to the perlite [mill], then it started gaining altitude.

Strode: Now, it was also reported to me that when you first drove up into the area, you sighted this object and the motors were running. And there were going [makes motor sound zzzttzzzzttt/bltttbltttbltt] or some such sound as that. Is that correct?

Zamora: Uh, I couldn't say, because it happened so fast. I started running. I was scared.

Strode: I couldn't blame you. The thought of it scares me yet. Now, you did say that you saw two what appeared to be people dressed in white uniforms. Did they have helmets on like spacemen or anything like that?

Zamora: No, sir. I wouldn't say they were people. I saw something white. White coveralls, that's all I can say.

Strode: It looked like something in white coveralls?

Zamora: Right.

Strode: But, you couldn't identify them as actually being a human being like you and I are?

Zamora: No, sir.

Strode: And you didn't know whether they turned and saw you, or what then?

Zamora: Well, I would say this white object turned and saw me.

Strode: Were there two of them?

Zamora: I would say there were two, because one was in front and one was in back.

Commented [4]: Altho the interviewer is forcing answers, it seems clear that Z was either too far away or everything happened so fast that he couldn't tell if people or something else were in the coveralls. Therefore, details about the car-sized object may have been difficult to discern accurately. Some reports say he was 100-200 ft away at closest. At that distance, there shud be no difficulty identifying that people are present in the white garb. Comparison: In a fraction of a second, I can easily tell if a person is standing 600 ft away in daylight. There may have been problems with sun angle and reflections off his glasses that reduced clarity.

Strode: Did you have a chance to notice what kind of a doorway they had to this object, this flying object?

Zamora: I didn't notice any doors, no.

Strode: And when it took off, it made a loud, loud roaring sound. Is that correct?

Zamora: It made a very loud noise, a roar sound.

Strode: And after it got up in the air about 20ft, the sound seemed to disappear?

Zamora: The sound did disappear. It got very, very quiet. You could hear a pin drop. (05:00-05:15)

Commented [5]: Typical observation after a sharp explosion, as opposed to a gradual roar. Hearing temporarily drops out.

Strode: And now, the markings it left on the ground, now the reports that I've had, and I haven't had a chance to get a take a look, and the winds probably spoiled a lot of that anyway, there were deep indentations in the ground approximately 10 inches wide and 6-8 inches deep, about 15 feet apart. Is that a correct report?

Zamora: I would say it was about 19 ft apart, the prints.

Strode: Uhuh, and were there any other prints like footprints around the area right after the take-off when you were making an investigation?

Zamora: There were some prints, but I wouldn't know if they were footprints or anything. Just prints, I'd say.

Strode: But, you couldn't identify them as actually being a footprint, indentations like maybe somebody might have walked there?

Zamora: Somebody walked around there, because I got there there was nobody around there yet.

Strode: According to a report on one of the television stations in Albuquerque claimed that they had a call just about 5:30 in Albuquerque of a sighting about flying objects flying in this direction. Did you hear anything about that?

Zamora: No, sir. I didn't.

Strode: Which if that be true means that someone in Albuquerque saw this object flying in this direction just prior to your sighting it. And which corroborates the fact that there was something here. Now, it's the feeling, I get the feeling, at least, Lonnie, the people who were out in the area, they are quite sure that something landed there, and something took off from this spot. Because of not only the imprints that it left in the ground, but the fires that it started and the method of which the fire or the power, whatever it was using, kinda spread itself as it took off. Is that right?

Zamora: I know there was something out there, because I seen it. [sic]

Strode: And what was your immediate reaction as soon as you realized this thing might be an object from outer space?

Zamora: Well, I don't think it would be an object from outer space, because I don't believe much in [things like this/that sort of thing]. (~07:15-08:03)

Strode: Well, it was something you'd never seen before and it was enough to scare you to run in the other direction.

Zamora: Well, what scared me was the loud noise and the flame that it had under it.

Strode: It had a large flame as it took off?

Zamora: Umhm.

Strode: Was it a yellow flame?

Zamora: Bluish-orange flame. The object was gonna blow up, that's when/why I started running back.

Strode: Did you notice whether these arms it was sitting on retracted back into the object as it flew away?

Zamora: No, I didn't have time.

Strode: You didn't have time. You were excited and running in the other direction. I would be, too. Are there any other things that you think our listening audience would be interested in or something you'd be allowed to tell us?

Zamora: No, that's all I saw.

Strode: Uh-huh. Did it disappear into the high sky after it got over around the perlites?

Zamora: Yes, sir. It flew low to the perlite mines and from there on it just drove fast, and you could barely hear it.

Commented [6]: HA HA

Strode: Straight up in the air, huh?

Zamora: [...changing to what you were looking at] [unintelligible] to see what it was doing.

[08:48]

Strode: Well, do you think we are going to get any more of 'em around here?

Zamora: I hope not. Not for me, at least.

Strode: It was quite an interesting experience, I'm sure, and it's caused an awful lot of comment. Did the investigators that were called in make any comments at all in one direction or the other, with the exception that they do not have any such object in this area?

Zamora: They are still puzzled themselves, yes.

Strode: And there's been no report on the samplings they took of the area around there from the burning brush and the area that the blast hit the ground? Any clue as to what kind of power was being used in this?

Zamora: No, sir. No.

Strode: Well, I think I've just about covered it here. Let's see...It wasn't dragging anything? We had a report that it was dragging something as it left.

Zamora: No, I wouldn't say it was dragging anything. It was just low to the ground.

Strode: And you can't think of anything else then about this flying object that our listening audience might be interested in?

Zamora: No.

Strode: Well, Lonnie, I'm sure you're been getting an awful lot of questions and a lot of inquiries. I can imagine you're beginning to get a little tired of it, actually. With so many people calling and asking you about it. Maybe this will be one way to keep too many people from having you have to go through the story over and over? Well, it's been a real pleasure talking to you, Mr. Lonnie Zamora. This is the gentleman, the Socorro patrolman, that Friday at about 10 minutes to 6 come up on an object, a flying object, an unidentified flying object, as the government prefers to call them—[interrupted].

Zamora: Excuse me, Walter. I've got some military people that want to talk to me now about the UFO... [?]

Strode: Well, you have some military people here who want to talk to you and ask you some more questions about this. And they have not in any way tried to indicate that they didn't want us to cover this type of a news story?

Zamora: No, sir. I just told them I was going to come here to talk to you.

Strode: Well, that's fine. We would be interested in knowing what they think about it. Ask if they will allow it and after they get through talking to you, if you could call back to KSRC with some of the information that they might allow you to let us broadcast.

Zamora: I would be glad to.

Strode: Well, Mr. Zamora, I hope you don't come upon any more of these objects. And that we find out exactly what they are. [Walter Strode tells Zamora it was a pleasure to have him in their studios and thanks the listeners. Before signing off, he notes that many listeners came to the

studio and are waiting outside to get a glimpse of Mr. Zamora, noting that Lonnie had become a local celebrity.]

[Garbled loudspeaker announcement at the end about Zamora.]

