

IPACO expert report

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<i>Type</i> IFO	<i>Class</i> A	<i>Explanation</i> Bird	<i>Complement</i>
<i>Document</i> Photo	<i>Imaging location</i> Tulum, Mexico	<i>Imaging date</i> December 12, 2010 11:35:03'' PM local	





Close-up

I. Imaging circumstances

This photo was sent to the main MUFON site with the following comments:

“These two pictures were taken at the Mayan ruins of Tulum; both UFO's pictured were not visible to the camera at the time.

My father and I were accompanied by an entire tour group and snapping photos of the ruins and surrounding areas, in all we caught five unidentified flying objects above the ruins between both of our cameras that day.

These are unedited, raw photos. The tour was not the only one that day, yet no one seemed to notice any of the shapes in the sky. It was only now, a week later, after going through the photos that we see these objects.

In the first, the object is easily identified, just to the right of the face, and in the second, it is just off to the left of the building.”

Only the first photo will be studied here.

II. Camera settings

The camera model that was used is an [Olympus SP510UZ](#):

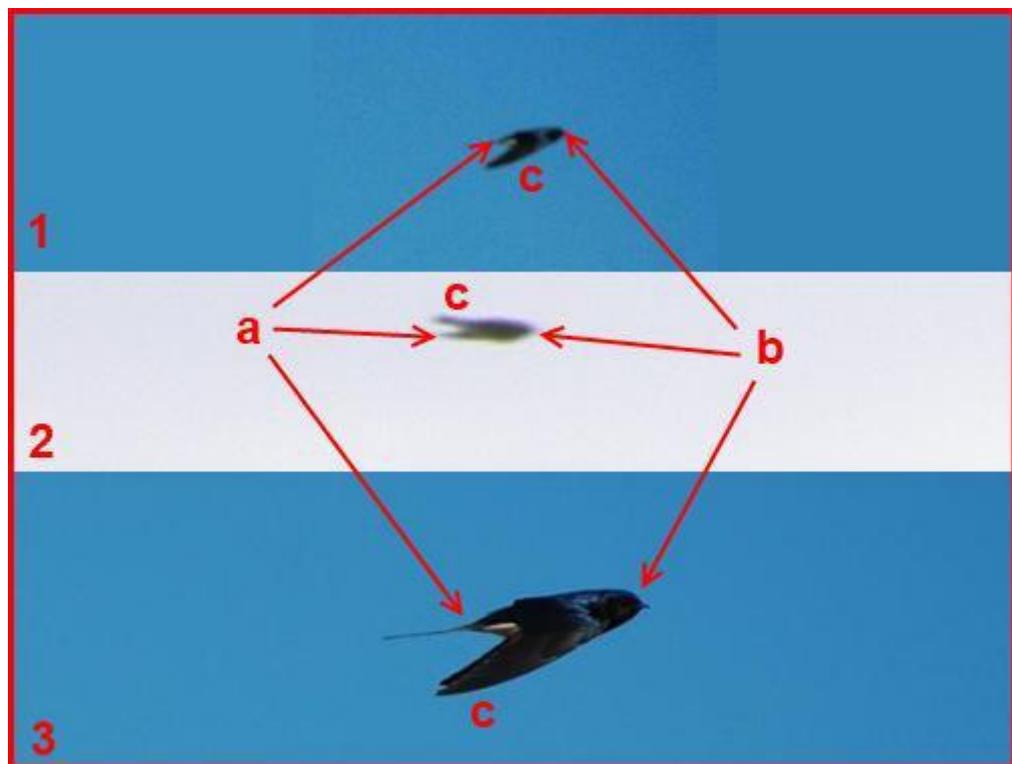


III. Data examination

The examination of the EXIF data with [EXIFTool](#) tells us that the exposure time during the shot was of 1/320 seconds.

No evident trace of manipulation of the image can be seen in these data.

Careful examination of the close-up above shows that the appearance of the object closely resembles that of a bird in flight, being in a certain configuration:



- 1 - Photo '3 'on which has been artificially added noise and focus blur.
- 2 - Magnified area of the photo with the object on.
- 3 - Extract from a photo test showing a swallow in flight photographed with a very short exposure time. (1/2000)

Each of the three extracts above has common features:

- a- Rear area of the bird comprising its tail.
- b- Bird's head + beak.
- c- Wings unfolded in flight, in their lower position in (1) and (3) and in the upper position in (2).

IV. Conclusion

Given the objective data provided by the examination of the photographic document, we can conclude that the object contained in this document is a bird in flight, photographed with a very short exposure time.

V. Technical explanation

A 1/320e exposure time, during a capture, literally “froze” any flying object during its quick move:



Birds photographed at 1/320s.

In addition, these “frozen” birds may appear in many shapes, which can sometimes be unusual:



This little extract above shows a flying bird. Larger shot:



Original photography in its entirety:



VI. Sources – Photo credits

The original photography and testimony come from the MUFON CMS system.