

UFO MAGAZINE NEWS BULLETIN

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As we suspected in our last issue just as we were going to press, the great wave of UFO reports would continue to pour into our office. Indeed they have, as we are being forced to cull less significant reports from these pages because of our lack of space. Added to this dilemma we have received certain "hidden reports" which took place several weeks before the actual "flap." However, we will delay publishing these cases until our next issue, because we wish to continue our chronology of the fall UFO wave.

As stated in our last issue, we invite comments and/or short UFO investigation-related articles from our readers. We very much wish to get other opinions into these pages in future issues, so as to attain a better understanding of this elusive enigma.

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UFOs Visit Northern Ohio in Force (10/17/73)

Our office phone literally rang off the hook on the evening of the 17th, with friends telling us that the UFOs were back again for a concentrated visit to the north of Ohio.

First reports came in at about 7:15 P.M., when an off-duty Akron patrolman, Henry Bertolini, told of an object hovering over his west Akron home. He said it had red and blue flashing lights and was as big as a car.

At about the same time, Akron Police Sgt. A. W. Fields said that patrolmen in Car 10 reported seeing a hovering oblong object that suddenly sped away.

Patrolman Lee Frasher and Joseph Gause, in Car 57, reported by radio of seeing a cigar-shaped object "with two red glowing lights" moving through the night sky. "I was a helicopter crew chief in the Army," Frasher later told reporters. "It wasn't a chopper."

At the time of these Akron sightings, five families in Willoughby reported a bright light over their homes, followed by a loud explosion. One of the witnesses, Wallace Zawacki, said that his 18-year-old daughter, Laura, saw the yellowish light through the front window.

Zawacki and some of his neighbors checked the area and found no evidence of an explosion. Officials at nearby Lost Nation Airport said that there were several takeoffs and landings at the time of the reported incident, but had no reports of engine trouble or explosions.

Also on the same evening, William Grizer was driving home when "this thing came down and landed on the top of the car." Grizer was driving south on Massillon Road when the strange incident occurred.

Grizer said that the object was about half the size of the car hood. "I know it doesn't make sense, but that's the way it came out," he said. He described the object as "solid white, with kind of a rainbow effect. It scared me, I hit my brakes and it came up off the car."

Upon later examination he found four scratch marks on the hood of his car.

Central Ohio Reports Same Night (10/17/73)

Many persons were "made believers" in UFOs during the recent flap, including Mrs. Atlee Schonauer of Millersburg...

"I was sitting at my desk near a window when I looked up and saw a very bright white light which I thought was a star, until it began to move," said Mrs. Schonauer. "It got bigger and bigger, glowing white with some bluish-green in it, until it got about 50 feet from the house. Then it suddenly moved sideways and disappeared behind a hill in back of the house," she reported.

Mrs. Schonauer, who said she was "frightened out of my mind," told newsmen that she would never again make fun of persons who report spotting UFOs. "No more," she said. "I just hope I never see anything like it again."

On the same evening an unidentified woman called a Steubenville newspaper to report that she was temporarily blinded after looking at a large UFO that descended upon her house.

UFOs Visit Toledo, Ohio Area (10/18/73)

A scattered number of reports came in from the northwestern area of the state. Williams County Sheriff's deputies said they received several calls around 3:00 A.M. They came from the Montpelier area, telling of a very bright cigar-shaped UFO traveling very slowly southwest of that town. Toledo airport radar noted nothing unusual on their scopes, however.

A Lakeside woman reported to Ottawa County Sheriff's deputies that she saw a bright object over Lake Erie at 8:33 P.M. She said it started sparking and added she heard a loud blast. After the blast the strange object was gone, she stated. Two other residents reported that they also heard the blast. A man witnessed a white light hovering over the Catawba Island ferry dock a short time later.

A Landing in Sheffield Lake, Ohio ? (10/18/73)

Boys playing football in a Sheffield Lake field sighted a strange object at about 7:15 P.M. Reports made by the young boys indicate that

the UFO may have touched down on the ground.

Said Dave McCormick, 15, "It came over the trees from the west. It went past us, then stopped dead over the Knickerbocker Apartments (across from the field). It swung back, stopped right over us for two or three seconds, and then seemed to go down behind the apartments." He said the object had orange and yellow flashing lights.

Another boy, Tom Miller, who lives on a street behind the apartments, said that he was watching television when his dog's barking made him look out the window to the woods behind his home. Miller could only see the lights on the object. " (the lights) were flashing-red, white and blue. Just like a fire truck," he said.

The Coyne Incident (10/18/73)

Possibly the most significant report of the entire flap occurred when an Army helicopter had a strange close-up encounter with a cigar-shaped UFO over Mansfield, Ohio.

"I've made one significant decision since the experience," said Captain Lawrence Coyne, the copter's commander. "I've told my pilots not to take dangerous evasive actions in trying to avoid one of these things. So far UFOs have been harmless as this one was. They have not struck or collided with anybody."

Coyne and his crew were cruising at 2,500 feet when they spotted a distant red light off to the right on the eastern horizon. The light started to close in fast. Coyne put the chopper into a shallow power dive to evade the oncoming object.

"But the light was travelling in excess of 600 knots," Captain Coyne remarked. "It came from the horizon to our aircraft in about 10 seconds. We were on a collision course. At 1,700 feet, I braced for the impact with the other craft. It was coming from our right side. I was scared. There had been so little time to respond. The thing was terrifically fast!"

Coyne waited, but there was no impact with the strange visitor.

"We looked up and saw it stopped right over us. It had a big, gray, metallic-looking hull about 60 feet long. It was shaped like an airfoil or a streamlined fat cigar. There was a red light on the front. The leading edge glowed red a short distance back from the nose. There was a center dome. A green light at the rear reflected on the hull. This light swiveled like a spotlight. It was shining brightly through the bubble canopy of our helicopter, completely flooding out our instrument lights and turning everything inside green."

Coyne tried to contact nearby radio posts, but with no success. The radio refused to transmit or receive during the incident. "All radios were functioning, but I couldn't get the keying sound and there was no reception. This was while we were diving."

He never did apply control or engine power to halt the dive.

"As we stared in awe at the green light glaring into the cabin, the thing slowly moved off to the west. I looked at the altimeter and could hardly believe it was reading 3,500 feet, climbing to 3,800. I had made no attempt to pull up. All controls were set for a 20 - degree dive. Yet we had climbed from 1,700 to 3,500 feet with no G-forces or other noticeable strains. There was no noise or turbulence either."

The nocturnal visitor then continued west toward Lorain, to rapidly climb up into the night sky.

Pascagoula UFO Goes Underwater ? (11/6/73)

Near the spot where the two shipyard workers had the strange encounter with weird creatures and a strange UFO, Raymond Ryan was in his boat fishing. Suddenly, claims Ryan, an underwater light became visible and began following his boat on the Pascagoula River. Becoming frightened, Ryan repeatedly tried to beat the light away with an oar. However, all this splashing only made the light grow dimmer, as if submerging to avoid damage.

At first, Ryan decided not to tell anyone about the strange underwater light, lest he find himself being called a liar or publicity hound. But finally Ryan summoned his twin brother, Rayme, and the two of them went back to the brackish waters and poked at the light with oars again.

After no further developments the two decided to report the incident to the Coast Guard.

"At 9:40 P.M. the Coast Guard at Pascagoula dispatched a 16-foot boat to investigate the object," an official related. "The object was located in six feet of water, moving at 4-6 knots." Officers on the boat described it as "an amber beam, 4-6 inches in diameter, attached to a bright metal object." Coast Guard officials said they tried to snare the object, but "it would appear to go out and move away and then reappear."

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