

# UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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## SPECTACULAR EFFECTS MARK RECENT REPORTS

UFO reports are still pouring in, disclaiming any pronouncements that sightings have noticeably decreased. An object that possibly landed near an abandoned strip mine and took off the next morning, causing animal reactions and possible physiological effects; another that landed, "blowing snow up," then ascended; about 40 UFOs that were observed by 42 witnesses over a lake; UFOs that appeared to emerge from a lake; an object that was seen hovering over a transformer at a power generating station; another that frequently followed a truck driver; a huge UFO that hovered over telephone wires; a witness who saw an object with occupants straddle a road; and UFOs that appeared to signal each other, caused electro-magnetic (E-M) effects, were photographed, paced cars, left behind physical evidence, emitted sounds, and frightened witnesses were characteristics of sightings in late 1972 and early 1973 from 11 states and two foreign countries. Witnesses included policemen, a commercial and private pilot, an engineer, a managing editor of a newspaper, newspaper reporters, a photographer, a former city councilman, a minister, and a high school basketball coach.

Two separate sightings of apparently the same object in and around Oakland, Md., was investigated by John A. Lutz and Courtney Jordan of the Odyssey Scientific Research Association (P.O. Box 2022, Baltimore, Md. 21203). Lutz sent a report to UFOR.

At approximately 7:15 p.m., December 17, 1972, about 20 people in several mining towns saw a "blue rocket-shaped object with a white vapor trail emitting from its tail and what appeared to be sparks coming from its underside only, descending, and there was no sound from it." When first sighted, the object was ball- or grapefruit-shaped. Its altitude was between 100-150 feet and Mrs. Louise Clark, of Kitzmiller, thought it was preparing to land. The length of the UFO was estimated at 40-50 feet.

### *Witnesses See Object Ascend*

The next morning -- December 18 -- at 6:05, Mrs. Madella Mae Martin, of Oakland, was drinking coffee in her home "when she observed an orange-red cigar-shaped object hovering no more than 10 to 15 feet above a partially snow-covered field in front of three hemlock trees." It was moving erratically over a two-acre area and emitted sparks from its perimeter. After a minute or two, the UFO moved to tree-top level and "remained almost stationary." It changed color to a "brilliant blue, similar to a welder's torch." Then it moved across the field and rose slowly up the west side of Table Rock Mountain, changing to a "blue-silver metallic color."

Mrs. Martin called her neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. George Shaffer, when the object moved to tree-top level. Mr. Shaffer said it looked like a "chubby cigar."

"My God, that must be one of those flying saucers, and it's a big one," he remarked to his wife.

Shaffer added the UFO was "bigger than a snowmobile but smaller than a truck." He also said the light from the object was so bright that it hurt his eyes.

The weather was clear and cold (3° F.), with one to four inches of snow on the ground. Visibility was from 15 to 18 miles.

The Odyssey investigators reported some interesting side effects: the day of the sighting, Mrs. Martin's electric alarm clock gained five minutes while the Shaffers'

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### NORTHROP SAYS UFOs REAL, ATTACKS AF POLICY

UFOs are a real phenomenon; the U.S. Air Force (AF) has issued ridiculous explanations for sighting reports; and the University of Colorado UFO Project (UC-UFO) was a "far from... open-minded investigation," stated early aviation pioneer John K. Northrop in a January 23 lecture entitled "UFOs -- Yes? or No!" at the Arthur Amos Noyes Laboratory of Chemical Physics of the California Institute of Technology. Robert B. Klinn and David Branch, who have been writing a series of excellent weekly articles on UFOs, reported

Northrop's views in the February 1 and 7, 1973, editions of *The* (Santa Ana, Calif.) *Register*.

"I'm interested in the UFO subject because I believe that this is a phenomenon that exists," the founder of Northrop Aircraft, Inc., and co-founder of Lockheed Aircraft, said. "And there's no answer to it in our present scientific fields that I know of. And if we are going to admit it's there, we have to admit that the understanding of it, and the capability to do what is done by these flying objects, would be of enormous use to mankind."

Northrop said a new scientific program to discover and utilize the motive power of UFOs should be established and he knocked AF investigatory methods.

"The most quickly available explanations were often given, whether they had any relation to the truth or not...", the aging aircraft expert declared. "Project Blue Book was nothing but a recording and excusing operation with no facilities for investigation of the countless sightings reported, and an off-again, on-again policy for release or repression of information."

Nor did Northrop have much good to say about the UC-UFO report, released in January, 1969.

"The project failed and has suffered the same skepticism and controversy as Project Blue Book...", he stated. "I cannot but conclude from information I have read -- and I have read thoroughly -- that the University of Colorado study -- far from being a once-and-for-all open-minded investigation -- was prejudged from the start by those in control."

#### *Friend's Sighting Stirs Interest*

One of Northrop's close friends is Max R. Stanley, formerly an engineering test pilot for Northrop Aircraft. In April, 1950, Northrop reported, Max was flying in the vicinity of Memphis, Texas, with two observers in an M-61C plane when local Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) operators informed him of a UFO in the area. Investigating, Stanley and the others observed a spheroid-shaped object. It had "a silver metallic color with a translucent quality," with "prominent effects at the top and bottom" and "a dark streak or shadow connecting them." A check with the CAA found that the object had been at an altitude of approximately 80,000 feet.

"Now I've never seen such an object," Northrop continued. "But Max Stanley's report to me is sounder proof that such exist than if I had seen one myself. Certainly his qualifications for evaluating the circumstances were beyond question. Certainly the possibility of a deliberately planned hoax is non-existent... I am convinced that there was a phenomenon in the sky at that time which did not show characteristics which could be explained by physical laws as we knew them or know them now."

"It is possible, of course, that our government knows a great deal more on the subject than its representatives say they do."

Northrop's expertise and achievements in the aviation field probably exceed those of anyone still living. He is a trustee of the Northrop Institute of Technology and

past president and Fellow of the highly prestigious American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. His name is a prominent addition to the growing list of space experts and scientists who have recently expressed a positive interest in UFOs.

*Spectacular Effects (Continued from page 1)*

clock lost five minutes. Also, the Shaffers' six calves would drink no water that morning (their normal consumption rate is one-half a bucket apiece). Their 30-35 chickens average 18-24 eggs daily, but, on Monday evening, there were only three eggs.

*Multiple Witness Reports From Pennsylvania*

At least 42 witnesses saw close to 40 UFOs in and around the Saylor's Lake, Pa., area, on the evening of March 1, 1973. There were other sightings on the 4th and 13th of the month. Clarence W. Stackhouse, of Bethlehem, Pa., investigated the incidents and sent a detailed report to UFOR.

It was about 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Shirley Pfeiffer and her son, Alan, of Saylor'sburg, saw 34 red, white and blue objects. Mrs. Pfeiffer was in her home when Alan saw the first one.

"Mom, mom, come outside and look at this thing in the sky," he exclaimed. "I never saw anything like it."

Outside, Mrs. Pfeiffer saw, directly overhead, a large round object with blazing white lights.

"It was bigger around than my house," she remarked.

Meanwhile, James Uccio and his girl were driving by when they also saw the UFO -- and approximately 20 others that passed above Saylor's Lake from west to east. Mrs. Pfeiffer's neighbor, Mrs. Ann Young, also saw them.

"They had white lights in a circle and they were moving much too fast to be planes," Mrs. Young stated.

A state policeman was among the witnesses.

"Don't ask me what they were," he said. "It was like a Christmas tree flying in the air."

Mrs. Pfeiffer added that the objects "came in slowly from the west, then picked up a tremendous speed and went like the dickens until they were out of sight."

Bruce P. Frassinelli, the suburban editor of the Easton, Pa., *Express*, described what he saw.

"I saw eight of the UFOs as I left my Stroud Township home at 8 o'clock," he wrote in the March 2, 1973, edition of the newspaper. "Flying in a 'V' formation in a south-westerly direction, the objects seemed to be rounded masses, maybe 10 times the size of [Venus] on a bright, cloudless night. The objects seemed to emit a bluish-white light with a pinkish glow. They stopped periodically as if assessing the situation, then moved a bit further, stopped again. They continued doing this until they disappeared..."

A Defense Department spokesman said no military flights were scheduled for the area that week.

*Later Reports Add to Mystery*

James Uccio saw three more objects later -- at about 8 p.m., March 4, over nearby Stroudsburg. They were brightly lit and noiseless, he said.

At about 7:15 p.m., March 13, residents observed 12 discs crossing over Saylor's Lake. They reportedly illuminated the sky "like daylight." In Bethlehem, a youth said he saw two triangular-shaped, silver UFOs fly over Stefko at approximately 8:50 p.m.

"The very fact that the UFOs were absolutely without any sound whatsoever indicates quite clearly... that they were *not* propeller-driven or turbo prop airplanes, jet airplanes, or helicopters," Stackhouse stated in his report. "Additionally, their low hovering capability, unique luminosity characteristics... and... configuration do *not*

conform to any conventional aircraft of any nation in the world. All UFOs flew west to east. Two hovered. Two joined together. Two were larger than the others."

(Other information sources for the sightings: the March 2, 1973, editions of *The* (Stroudsburg) *Pocono Record*, *The Bethlehem Globe-Times*, *The* (Allentown, Pa.) *Morning Call*, the *Philadelphia Daily News*, and the Hazleton, Pa., *Standard-Speaker*; and the March 5, 1973, editions of *The Morning Call* and the *Allentown Call-Chronicle*).

#### *UFO Over Power Station Transformer*

There have been hundreds of UFO reports from the Piedmont, Mo., area -- and in Illinois -- since February 21, 1973, according to a UPI wire story dated March 24, 1973, and the *St. Louis* (Mo.) *Globe-Democrat*, March 8, 1973. There were reports of "strange flashing lights either high in the sky or at tree-top level." Some witnesses said they saw objects surface from Clearwater Lake, near Piedmont. A common description is that of a red light that "turns multi-colored while spinning white, green, red and amber lights."

Reggie Bone, a Piedmont High School basketball coach, said a brilliant light paced his car. It stopped, hovered over a field, then "suddenly rose and disappeared at a high speed."

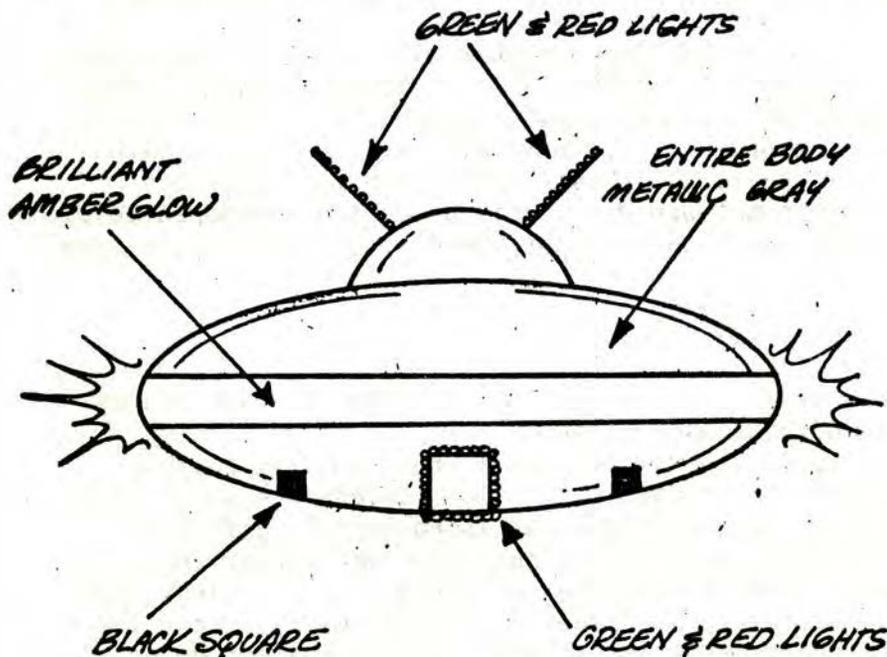
Maude Jefferies, a photography teacher at Clearwater High School, said she snapped a picture on March 14 from her house. It "shows an object shaped like a child's top or gyroscope hanging in the night sky."

There was a report from Grand Tower, Ill. Oscar Wills, an operating engineer at the Central Illinois Public Power Co. power generating station on the Mississippi River, said he saw an object hovering over a transformer on March 22. Wills, who said he didn't believe in UFOs, "was dumbfounded."

Four different sightings of a clearly defined UFO were made in Santa Ana, Calif., on the evening of January 2, 1973, according to the January 25, 1973, edition of *The* (Santa Ana) *Register*. Mrs. Ann Druffel, of Pasadena, investigated the incidents.

#### *Object with Antennae Seen*

At approximately 6:35 p.m., a Santa Ana housewife saw a large, amber UFO speed from the northeast. Then it "dropped straight down and hovered above telephone wires." It



was "a metallic silvery gray in color, elliptical in shape like two saucers fastened rim to rim." A broad, bright amber band encircled the middle and the UFO "spun like a child's top." A dome with two antennae was on top. There was a "door" outlined by green and red flashing lights on the bottom. The object hovered for about seven seconds, then flew southwest "at a terrific rate of speed," emitting "a hum like an electric generator."

Ten or 15 minutes earlier, the witness said, her daughter and niece saw the UFO two blocks north. The girls said the object descended and hovered over a tree. The frightened children ran into a market and continued to watch as the UFO tilted and spun. It flew away as the girls ran home.

Newspaper artist's sketch of Santa Ana UFO, seen on the evening of January 2, 1973

(Courtesy: The Register)

Meanwhile, a mile to the southwest, a third group of witnesses, including a Santa Ana woman and her three children, saw the UFO hovering over a nearby house. The startled observers watched as it moved west.

#### *Truck Driver Focal Point of UFO Activity*

Gerald Summey, a truck driver for Akers Motor Lines, Charlotte, N.C., has been the center of attraction in a number of UFO sightings in his state, South Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland. Other truck drivers, newspaper reporters, a photographer, a minister and even a commercial and private pilot have joined him in his search for the identity of a UFO that has apparently been following him for several months.

The activity started around mid-October, 1972, according to the January 23, 1973, edition of *The Charlotte News*. Summey was in the vicinity of Charlottesville, Va., when he first saw it -- an oval-shaped object which "glowed like fluorescent lights." He got out of his truck at Lynchburg and watched it.

On another trip he was with a fellow driver, Mike Robinson, when he saw "things like sparklers."

"I crossed Lake Gaston and back to the left of the lake it looked like it came out of the woods," Summey related. "It skimmed over the top of the water and I could see the reflection in the lake. I woke up Mike. The thing would come down at angles; then it would back off. It fired something like... tracer fire..."

Robinson was also puzzled.

"I've never seen anything like it," he admitted. "It was a big object with lights all around it. It would stop and go, then, swish, it would come right up to you and hover above the tree-tops. It was fast, right spooky like."

Max Rhom, another trucker, also saw it with Summey.

"Max watched to see if it followed, but it didn't," Summey said. "Later, about 15 miles out in the country, I saw the oval begin to drop down. Max saw it. We stopped and it looked like it landed in a field. I pretended to walk toward it. It just sat. I was scared, so I got back in the truck and we drove off. It lifted and followed."

On another occasion, near Woodbridge, Va., Summey and Pleasant Walter saw the object, which "seemed to turn its dome light off and on."

Norman Self, another driver, also saw it with Summey near Rock Hill, S.C. It descended straight down from out of the clouds, then "whisked back up."

Trucker Douglas Pye also saw it once alone. He said it looked like "a big Esso sign" and went "sideways, anyways." Pye has since teamed with Summey and was with him when Edith Low and Tommy Franklin, reporter and photographer, respectively, for *The Charlotte News*, accompanied them on a trip to Harrisburg, Pa., in an attempt to track down the elusive object and photograph it.

#### *News Staffers See and Photograph Object*

Summey, Pye, Low and Franklin left Charlotte at 7:30 p.m., January 17, 1973, in the truck and a car. A two-way radio was in both. Just before reaching Concord, N.C., they saw it for the first time. Edith Low said it was "an oval-shaped blur of bright greenish white light with a rosy glow near the center." It danced up and down rapidly.

They saw it again at Rustburg, Va. Franklin said it was "like a tire spinning with the treads toward us."

Then, at 6:40 a.m., January 18, the party was near Thurmont, Md. They spotted it again and Franklin began taking pictures.

"It was almost like a ferris wheel spinning, its lights a blur of rosy red, greenish white..." Edith Low explained. "Tommy and I felt a sense of awe at the sight. This was not a plane, nor a weather balloon, nor a stationary light. Of that we were certain."

The Rev. James Borom, assistant to the rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Greenville, S.C., and Vern Binger, a salesman and private pilot, traveled to Charlotte and saw the object with Summey.

"It would hover and move in close to us...", Rev. Borom declared. "We drove out into the country and Gerald got out of the car and walked into a field. We were standing on a hill above him and we could see the thing heading straight for him. It had followed us along the highway all the way out here."

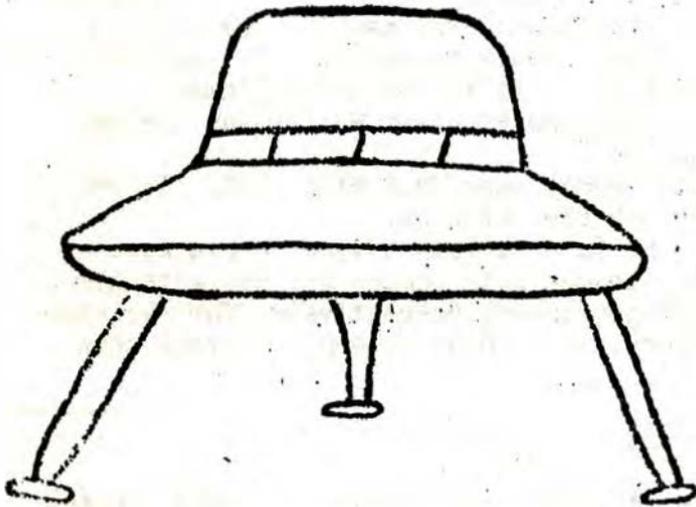
Rev. Borom said Summey seemed to know where the object was without seeing it.

"He'd tell us it was over behind some trees," Rev. Borom said. "We looked and couldn't see anything. Then it would rise up from behind the trees... Whatever it was followed us up and down the road. Wherever we went, it went."

On another occasion, stated the February 26, 1973, edition of the *Greenville News*, Summey and an unidentified Eastern Airlines pilot were in the country using walkie-talkies to discuss their sighting when the radios stopped functioning as the UFO moved close to them.

### *Startling Reports From South Carolina*

There were a rash of startling UFO reports from South Carolina in January and February. Residents of Gaffney, Draytonville, Macedonia, Beaverdam, White Plains, Asbury-Rehoboth, Sarratt, Grassy Pond, Corinth, Cashion Crossroads, Ninety-Nine, and other areas were among the witnesses, stated the February 21 and 23, 1973, editions of *The Gaffney Ledger*. A newspaper reporter, farmers, businessmen, school teachers, housewives and others saw them. The reports, far too numerous to detail, include UFOs that paced cars; others that caused E-M effects and emitted sounds; an object that landed while another hovered above it; UFOs that flew in formation; and clearly detailed objects with super-structures and domes. But the most bizarre sighting occurred at about 11:25 p.m., January 19, stated *The Gaffney Ledger*, January 26, 1973.



Sketch of UFO Seen by Youth Near Gaffney,  
S.C., January 19, 1973  
(Courtesy: *The Gaffney Ledger*)

An unidentified Cherokee County youth was traveling about 13 miles south of Gaffney when he saw a saucer straddling the middle of the road. It was standing on three legs and covered three quarters of the 22-foot highway. It emitted a dark yellow glow and had a large dome on top. The UFO had a curved bottom, "like a plate." There was a band of flashing red, white, blue, and green lights around the base of the dome. Its height was about the same as its width and it "appeared to be constructed of a material resembling fiber glass."

Surrounding the UFO were about a dozen "men" dressed in garb "resembling white coveralls on which were various buttons, buckles and belts." The apparent occupants had "jet black" hair and appeared humanoid. They stood still near the object, but "those who were facing in another direction away from the witness slowly turned their heads and looked at

the approaching car, but showed no particular interest in it." The "men" appeared to wiggle "like a worm" or waver "much as an object appears to do when viewed through the heat radiating from a heater."

There were other reports from the area during the month, including one on the same evening.

At approximately 10:15 p.m., January 8, Billy Gowan, of Ellensboro, N.C., was talking on the phone when he noticed his radio "started acting funny, squealing." Looking outside, he saw a UFO, "tilted slightly," that was descending to the ground.

"It hovered a bit, blowing snow up, and then I watched it land," he stated in the January 10, 1973, edition of the Forest City, N.C., *This Week*.

The object was red and gold and a "flame" came from it. The small, square-shaped object was about a foot high and four or five inches in diameter.

"I hung up the phone, grabbed my camera, and ran outside," Gowan explained. "I stopped and took a picture of it sitting on the ground, but, then, as I started to move closer to it, it took off. It was like -- well, you've seen them take off from the moon and all that stuff blows up -- it looked like that. It went straight up for about 50 feet and then there was a sound like a shotgun firing, and it took off real fast and flew away."

The UFO left a hole in the snow approximately three inches across. There were "little black particles in the snow around it, and this greenish-looking stuff in the hole." There was also an obnoxious odor.

John Satterlee was traveling near Corvallis, Ore., at 10:20 p.m., March 4, when he observed an object about 40 feet in height and 15 feet in diameter that was blue on one side and white on the other, according to the *Corvallis Gazette Times*, March 5, 1973. The large bullet-shaped UFO descended rapidly, "then tipped on its side and sped away."

#### *Another Object Photographed*

An unidentified couple near Metter, Ga., saw "a large, silvery object shaped like an upside-down saucer" at about 9 a.m., December 12, 1972. It maneuvered and hovered above a wooded section near their home. After about 30 minutes, "the top of the object glowed red as it took off at a great speed and... disappeared." The couple took 11 photographs of the UFO, stated the December 19, 1972, edition of the Savannah, Ga., *Morning News*.

Two unidentified women were traveling near Del Camino, Colo., early on the morning of November 5, 1972. They saw a UFO "like a bright light with antennas on it" pace their car into Longmont, the *Loveland (Colo.) Reporter Herald*, November 7, 1972, stated. The frightened witnesses reported the sighting to the Longmont police.

Members of three separate families said they saw a UFO at about 7:45 p.m., January 2, over Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada, according to the *Fort Erie Times Review*, January 10, 1973. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hall, Mrs. Dan Henries and her two children and a member of another family saw an object which flashed, in sequence, a series of lights. After hovering for about 10 minutes, it rose "very quickly" and shot across the sky.

A group of plate welders in Faversham, England, said they saw "a cigar-shaped object shoot across the sky" on November 28, 1972, the *Faversham News*, December 1, 1972, said. The following day -- November 29 -- they witnessed two spheroidal objects "plunge down about a thousand feet and turn into the shape of a cigar." Police reported the incidents to the Ministry of Defence, which reportedly classified the objects as UFOs.

#### SPACE EXPERT CLAIMS EZEKIEL REPORT REAL

The Hebrew prophet Ezekiel saw a large UFO with four helicopter motors descend to earth "from an earth-orbiting mother ship around 592 B.C." So stated Joseph F. Blumrich, chief of the systems layout branch of the program development office at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Ala., in a UPI wire story dated March 21, 1973. Though the theory that the prophet saw a UFO land is nothing new to UFO researchers, it is significant that someone of Blumrich's caliber should come to this conclusion.

Blumrich did not arrive at his conclusion hastily. He has studied the Book of Ezekiel, from the Old Testament of the Bible, for three years.

"My conclusion is that [what Ezekiel saw] was what we nowadays call a shuttle vehicle," Blumrich stated. "It was dependent on an orbital station and size and performance match the shuttle vehicle that goes from that orbital station to the ground and back. The thing is a very feasible vehicle and a very good design. There's good engineering behind the entire design."

Blumrich believes Ezekiel's UFO was more sophisticated than anything modern technology will be able to come up with for the next one to three decades. Looking at it technologically, rather than psychologically, the engineer said the prophet's "fiery chariot with wheels and winged beasts can be interpreted quite straightforwardly as a sort of cone-shaped central body 70 feet high and about 75 feet across, with four landing legs that could be detached and flown independently in helicopter mode," according to the March 22, 1973, edition of *The (New Orleans, La.) Times-Picayune*. Except for the ancient object's power plant, Blumrich said, its design coincides with the work Blumrich has been doing for NASA for the past several years.

### NASA/AF OFFICIALS ADMIT UFOs SEEN

Officials from both NASA and the AF have admitted that UFOs have been seen by reliable witnesses, including astronauts while in orbit, according to the January 23, 1973, edition of *The Charlotte (N.C.) News*.

"I think I saw [a UFO], but I have no place to take it," stated Col. William D. Hatcher, information officer for the AF Secretary, in reference to the closing of Project Blue Book in late 1969. "I'm a pilot and I've been sent out of the traffic pattern to see if I could see something that was reported to the base."

Col. Hatcher also confirmed reports that UFOs had been seen by astronauts while in orbit.

"There have been cases when groups of people -- including airline pilots, who are usually pretty stable -- [saw] things at the same time," said Terry White, public information specialist for NASA at Houston, Texas. "Obviously these people aren't hallucinating. [They] could have seen anything..."

### SIGHTING CAPSULES

The following sighting reports have also come to UFOR's attention:

- September 28, 1972. 6 p.m. Bloomington, Ind. Nearly 200 people saw an object "emitting a ghostly light" that "drifted through town," the Bloomington *Indiana Daily Student*, September 29, 1972, reported. (Probable explanation: weather balloon).
- October 7, 1972. 6:10 p.m. Near Eau Claire, Wisc. In a letter to the editor of the Marshfield, Wisc., *News-Herald*, October 28, 1972, Mrs. Lyle R. Miller said she and her husband spotted a football-shaped UFO that glistened in the sun and "vanished" in a few seconds.
- October 25, 1972. Evening. Yellowknife, Northwest Territory, Canada. Canadian Forces Northern Region Headquarters investigated reports of a bright, orange-white object trailing sparks, according to the November 16, 1972, edition of the *Yellowknife News of the North*. (Possible explanation: meteor).
- October 25, 1972. Evening. Belpre, Ohio. The Parkersburg, W. Va., *News*, October 26, 1972, reported that witnesses saw "two oval pools of light... projecting beams of light." (Probable explanation: two high-intensity spotlamps from a Sohio gas station reflecting off low-lying clouds).
- October 25, 1972. Evening. South Meriden, Conn. Randall Short, James O'Brien, and Joe Letteli saw a blue light move across the sky, the Meriden-Wallingford *Record*, October 26, 1972, stated. (Possible explanation: aircraft).
- October 27, 1972. Evening. Wausau, Wisc. Mike Knuth told police he saw a bright object hovering over his home, said the Wausau *Record-Herald*, October 28, 1972. (Probable explanation: light on a television antenna).
- October 29, 1972. About 5:45 p.m. Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. In a letter to the editor of *The (Campbell River, British Columbia) Upper Islander*, November 15, 1972, James Underwood said he and three others observed a white light that "changed into a black shape, roughly square, which grew larger... as we watched it descend behind the hills."