

UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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THE WHITE SANDS ENCOUNTERS

UFOs that chased launched missiles were reported in three separate incidents in the 1950s from White Sands Proving Grounds, N.M. While there have been other reports from White Sands during the same decade, these particular incidents, as far as we know, have never been made known to the general public. Long-time California UFO investigator, Paul C. Cerny, who obtained the startling details of the incidents mainly from eye-witness accounts, sent a report to UFOR. All dates (years) for the sightings are approximate.

In late Summer or Fall, 1955, during the day, a large ground-based missile -- possibly a Redstone or modified German V-2 -- was being prepared for launching. Ground crews, including radar and visual trackers, and missile-tracking cameras were ready.

"As the large missile fired and began to rise from the launching pad," Cerny wrote in his report, "a small football-shaped object about as large as the diameter of the missile suddenly appeared out of nowhere and positioned itself a few feet above and ahead of the missile. This object, seen visually by the ground crews and other personnel and recorded on movie film, maneuvered in this approximate position ahead of the missile on its way up into the sky and out of sight. The incident was hushed up and the films were confiscated by the authorities in command of the launch facilities."

In 1957, 30 to 40 personnel, including tracking and launch crews and other higher-ranking observers, were preparing for three days of test firings of the ground-based missiles. During the first day, the firings occurred without incident. On the second day, however, as the firings were in progress, "numerous small unidentified objects appeared on the radar scopes at higher altitudes."

UFO Chases Missile

"The third day, during the firing procedures," Cerny stated, "a large elliptical target was noticed on all the radar scopes... As the large missile was fired and sped upward on its flight path, the elliptical unknown object on the radar screens made for the missile, merged with it on the screens and was seen to become one object on the scopes. This quickly moved out of range of the scopes. No trace whatsoever was ever found of the missile."

The third incident took place at one of the upper White Sands ranges in 1958. Thirty tracking and range crew personnel watched as a jet bomber flew over the range.

"As the bomber approached fairly low," Cerny said, "a small ball-shaped object was seen approaching rapidly behind the jet bomber. As the bomber passed in line with the tracking systems, it released its airborne missile from under the wing. The trackers locked onto the missile as it zoomed outward and angled up into the sky slightly; the mysterious ball which had been pacing the bomber suddenly darted ahead and after the missile. The tracking equipment which had been tracking the missile became confused and locked onto the UFO. The UFO then veered off from the missile and sped upward with the trackers still locked on it. The missile was speeding on its merry way in another direction while *visual* trackers and observers watched. Some frantic moments were spent trying to swing the tracking equipment back onto the missile again. The strange ball continued on out of sight."

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UFO DETECTION INSTRUMENTS BEING DEVELOPED

Sensitive instruments designed to detect and monitor UFOs are being developed by a group of 18 scientists at the University of California at San Diego, according to the May 15, 1973, edition of the San Diego *Triton Times*. The instruments will be capable of detecting and measuring certain effects produced by the objects, stated J.F. Herr, group spokesman.

One concept, Herr stated, "is a central processing unit where the signals from the several instruments will be simultaneously recorded on magnetic tape cassettes." Persons with little technical knowledge can build each instrument, which will have a component cost limit of \$100. The group "has perfected a state-of-the-art magnetometer with a sensitivity of 0.05 gamma at a frequency of 1 Hertz," Herr said, making it capable "of measuring changes in the ambient magnetic field less than the natural geomagnetic variations." The instrument has a frequency range of 0.1 to 10 Hertz and employs a sensitive induction coil sensor.

Other instruments being developed include an electrometer, an automatic camera system, and a three-channel radio frequency interference detection system.

While the design effort is voluntary, a fund does exist to cover the cost of experimental prototypes.

SCIENTISTS INVESTIGATE MISSOURI SIGHTINGS

A scientific investigation of the sightings in Missouri (see *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. III, No. 1, p. 4, No. 3, p. 1, and No. 4, p. 3); a UFO detector that apparently confirmed the landing of an alien object; a UFO that caused electro-magnetic (E-M) effects; objects that lit up homes; others that made "incredible turns"; a UFO that was photographed; an object that responded to a car headlight signal; another that may have been chased by planes; and a UFO that apparently landed, leaving behind physical evidence, were characteristics of reports from five states and one foreign country during April-June. Witnesses included police officers, a county sheriff, newspaper reporters, and a former Air Force (AF) radar operator.

The state of Missouri continued to be the focal point of sighting reports.

At about 9:30 p.m., June 12, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baumbach, of St. Charles, Mo., saw four "brightly glowing balls of whitish light" that moved erratically through cloud banks and maneuvered at high speeds, stated the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, June 14, 1973.

Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Gettings were also observing the cavorting objects. They called to some neighbors and, at first, no one wanted to notify the police, fearing ridicule.

"My husband had a business and all the policemen know him," Mrs. Gettings explained. "He said if he called they'd laugh him right out of town, but he told me I could call."

At around 10 p.m., Baumbach, a former AF radar operator who had several pilots report UFOs to him, called Police Officer Ruben Abbington, who, in turn, notified the station. Five more patrol cars, a motorcycle patrolman, and several off-duty policemen rushed to the scene. All saw the objects.

"We must have had half the St. Charles Police Department out here looking at them," Baumbach stated. "I just wanted some authorities to verify this."

Detective Darrell Tullock and several other detectives and patrolmen saw the UFOs at about 11:30 p.m.

"Those were the weirdest things I've ever seen," Tullock remarked. "Weird, weird, weird."

Objects Make "Incredible Turns"

Tullock said the objects veered off at high speeds, hovered, and made "incredible turns." One light followed an airplane that had just taken off from Lambert Field. The UFO accelerated until it was flying as fast as the aircraft, then paced the plane, "finally shooting upward, then downward."

Mrs. Gettings said the objects appeared to be playing "chicken."

"Two lights would zoom toward each other on a collision course," the newspaper report stated, "then one would shoot up at a steep angle and the other down. At other times one of the lights would hop over another one. The number of lights in the game varied from three to four..."

Baumbach said the airport was notified when the one light followed the plane, but attempts to track it by radar were unsuccessful. The witness also said the lights appeared to be coming closer, flying low over the rooftops.

"All I know is that there is no aircraft in this country which will accelerate as fast as those things were going," he said.

The next evening, June 13, the Baumbachs and others also observed the objects "dancing in the sky."

Reporter Sees "Extraordinary Phenomenon"

In May, Robert H. Forister, who authors the "Smoke Rings" column in the *Lonoke* (Ark.) *Democrat*, and a friend drove to Piedmont, Mo., in hopes of seeing the objects that had been plaguing the area. During the late evening they observed an amber-colored UFO.

"We watched as it sped along," Forister wrote in the May 17, 1973, edition of his newspaper, "and no one needed to say that it could not be an airplane, a meteorite, or anything else explainable. It was an extraordinary phenomenon that made my unscientific mind feel that it had to be directed by another being. It suddenly disappeared as though someone had pulled a light switch; and I stood there in the cold wind, knowing that UFO watching is not as humorous as I'd previously believed it to be."

Hickory County, Mo., Sheriff W.V. Kennedy was among the witnesses of a UFO sighting at about 10 p.m., May 6, north of Nemo and southeast of Hermitage. The light changed colors from pink to red to green to blue, stated the May 24, 1973, edition of the *Bolivar* (Mo.) *Free Press-Herald*. Sheriff Kennedy said he watched it from his home until it disappeared around 11 p.m.

The sheriff also interviewed Mrs. Ernie Stout, who saw it near Hermitage. She said it was round "and moved at varying speeds." The UFO was "not too far above the treetops" and lit up the ground around her home.

Sheriff Kennedy notified Richards-Gebaur AF Base. Officials there said a plane would be sent to investigate.

UFO Hovers Over Plant

At 11:30 p.m., April 27, David Swaringim, Mr. and Mrs. Jim C. Miller and their two boys, saw a UFO "as big as two cars" hover approximately 100 feet over the stack of the American Smelting and Refining Plant at Glover. It had two red lights and one green one and appeared to be triangular-shaped. After about 10 minutes, it began to move north, with the lights blinking, until it disappeared, according to the *Ironton* (Mo.) *Mountain Echo*, May 3, 1973.

Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, of Charleston, had settled down to watch the 8 o'clock movie on television on the evening of April 6, when her set blinked out, then came

back on, stated the April 12, 1973, edition of the Charleston *Enterprise-Courier*. She saw a bright light flash through her house. Rushing to the back door, she observed an egg-shaped object. The top was red and the bottom white. The UFO was at treetop level. It moved in back of the Willis Forbey home and "traveled over the field back of his house."

In May, a small group of scientists from Southeast Missouri State University launched a three-week investigation into the state's sightings. Project Identification was headed by Dr. Harley D. Rutledge, head of the university's physics department, stated the May 17, 1973, edition of the *Ironton Mountain Echo*, and the June 7, 1973, edition of the *Fredericktown, Mo., Democrat-News*.

"We're a scientific group using scientific methods," Prof. Rutledge stated. "After we finish the investigation, it will take some time to analyze the data. If we get sufficient data, I would expect to report to the scientific community next fall."

The physicist said investigators set up observation posts employing telescopes, cameras with telephoto lenses, and electromagnetic and color spectrum analyzers. He added several members of the team had made sightings.

Other team members included Dr. James Sage, of Southeast Missouri State, and two students, Mike Mudd, of the University of Missouri at St. Louis, and John Wilson, also of Southeast Missouri State.

Object Reportedly Lands in Canyon

At 12:45 a.m., June 19, Vandenberg AF Base, Calif., air police received calls from Mission Hills that a pulsating UFO with alternating red and green colors flew over South Vandenberg, the *Lompoc (Calif.) Record*, June 19, 1973, stated. Witnesses said the object "moved at a variety of speeds, hovered, darted behind the local hills, and emerged again, and reportedly landed in Pine Canyon." Air police responded to the landing report, "but found nothing irregular."

Three young women and about a dozen others saw a silver-gray UFO emitting a green-yellow light at a rest stop on Interstate 80, five miles west of Princeton, Ill., at 3:38 a.m., June 15, said the June 15, 1973, editions of the *Ottawa, Ill., Times*, and the *LaSalle, Ill., News-Tribune*. The object was traveling toward the northwest. It executed several rapid maneuvers and, "just prior to the UFO's final disappearance, two other similar objects were seen with it." One man at the rest area reportedly photographed the unknown craft.

It was about 9:10 p.m., May 28, when approximately a dozen witnesses observed some "weird" lights outside their apartment building in New York City, the June 1, 1973, edition of the *New York City Home Reporter and Sunset News*, stated. Rushing to the roof, they saw "two dark clouds" through which lights were "flashing on and off -- as if responding to each other. Within each dark cloud was a small red light, constantly traveling, in circular motion, then straight up and down, the process being constantly repeated."

The sighting lasted until 10:30 and, during this time, seven or eight airplanes had passed by the area of the sighting. One woman speculated the aircraft may have been dispatched to investigate the lights.

UFO Apparently Responds to Signal

Mrs. Lera Washan, news editor of the *Pulaski (Ala.) Citizen*, and a friend were driving near Lexington, Ala., at 7:05 p.m., April 4, when they saw a "round and glowing" object, stated the *Nashville, Tenn., Banner*, May 17, 1973.

"As we watched the lights," Mrs. Washan said, "I asked [my friend] to flash the car lights off and on. When she flashed them the third time, the light in the sky disappeared as fast as a snap of your fingers."

A UFO detector has apparently confirmed that an alien object landed on the front lawn of a South African home.

At about 3:45 a.m., April 30, Mr. and Mrs. Derk Kruger, of Queenstown, were awakened by "a strange droning sound."

"It was the most eerie experience I have ever had," Kruger stated. "We could hear the thing -- and a dull light was shining into our bedroom. It lasted a little while and then disappeared. In all my years I have never had such a weird experience. There's something unnatural about it, something you can't explain."

That evening Mrs. Kruger discovered "pad marks" on the lawn.

"There we saw the four pad marks, or whatever they are," Kruger continued. "I got such a fright when I looked at them that the hair on my arms stood on end... Something definitely landed there."

The four oval marks were 23 centimeters long and 15 centimeters wide, according to the May 5, 1973, edition of the *Pretoria* (South Africa) *News*; the May 6, 1973, edition of the *Queenstown Sunday Tribune*; and the May 12, 1973, edition of the *Natal* (South Africa) *Daily News*.

The district's police commander, Lt. Col. L.K. Knox, admitted being completely baffled by the physical evidence.

Later, J.J. Gerber, Bill Dyke, and Miss G.D. Whitehead, inspected the site with a UFO detector belonging to Gerber. The machine recorded a negative magnetic field result, but the gamma rays test was positive -- proof an alien object landed on the lawn, according to Gerber. The investigators also found a scorched mark on a black brick pillar near the landing site.

MORE DETAILS ON FALLON CASE

UFOR has received a first-hand report of the UFO seen by Mr. and Mrs. William E. Fallon in Bradford, R.I., on the evening of February 10, 1973 (see *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. III, No. 3, p. 5). An additional sighting by Mrs. Fallon and others on March 1 was also included.

At around 6:30 p.m., February 10, Fallon left his home to pick up his daughter, but, a few minutes later, returned, exclaiming he was observing a UFO. William and Mary Fallon saw "two very large wide bright lights" and alerted a neighbor, Ann Gardner. Fallon said, after he left the house, he noticed the road and an area to his right were "bathed in light." Then he saw an object with "white lights."

"It then tilted and started upward," Mrs. Fallon stated in her report, "at which time [Fallon] could make out a round object approximately 30 feet in diameter with a dome in the center and a revolving platform around that. There were bright white lights around the perimeter. [Fallon] believes it was about 200 feet from him."

At about 7:30 p.m., March 1, the Fallons and some neighbors were traveling down the Shumackanuc Hill Road when they saw a bright light hover, then blink out.

"As I watched," Mrs. Fallon stated, "it proceeded to go from an oval fuzzy white light to a fuzzy horizontal line, back to the oval, then again the horizontal line, back to the oval. At this point, I made out a sharp, definite, white line with pinpoint of light around the entire perimeter of the oval, with the center glowing brightly... Then, within the next 10 seconds, it grew at least twice in brilliance, which lasted approximately 30 seconds, at which time two airplanes came into the area. The brilliant light commenced to dim in seconds to a very small red glow, so dim I could hardly make it out with binoculars. At this point I removed the binoculars from my eyes and watched the red glow for about a minute before it disappeared gradually upwards towards the east."

UFO CAUSES PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS, ANIMAL REACTIONS

A UFO that caused a witness to become violently ill and a dog to react strangely was observed shortly after 4 a.m., December 19, 1967, near Mahomet, Ill. The witness,

Maryellen Kelly, wrote of her bizarre and frightening experience in the June 15, 1973, edition of the Albany, Ore., *Greater Oregon*.

Mrs. Kelly first noticed her dog was highly agitated. After moments of apparent nervousness, the animal "bolted to the front door, barking hysterically." Looking out and to the north, the witness saw a UFO cross the road, clear some trees, and rise to the northeast.

"For a couple of seconds I stayed there just staring at this thing," she wrote. "It was moving off at what seemed an incredible speed."

After the sighting, Mrs. Kelly said her head started aching and she received a "shock" whenever she touched anything.

"My face started to get red," she said, "my eyes were bloodshot, my hands, too, were red, and the exposed area between the short slacks and boots I had been wearing... turned red, too. The pills I usually take for headaches did not help, and I could hardly stand the pain in my head. My left ear hurt and, when I blew my nose, it bled... We were invited out for Christmas dinner, and I managed to nibble through a delicious meal and, when I got home, I collapsed. I stayed in bed for several days, feeling dizzy and as if I were dying of thirst. I had such a horrible pain in my chest I had to sleep propped up on pillows... My face remained a red mess, but I went back to work for one day the next week. I was weak and found it difficult to stay up all day. My thirst persisted and I drank two and sometimes three cans of fruit juice a day."

OBJECT FRIGHTENS MISSOURI FAMILY

A report just received by UFOR concerns a Columbia, Mo., family that was badly frightened by a UFO. The object also caused E-M effects and animal reactions, emitted a blinding light, and left behind physical evidence, stated the June 28, 1973, edition of the *Columbia Tribune*.

Shortly before 1 a.m., June 28, James E. Richard, an animal care technician at the University of Missouri at Columbia, his daughter, Vanae, and young son, James, Jr., saw a large, bright, orange and white light that "lit up the whole area" so brilliantly "would blind you." Vanae first spotted the object and called her father, whose first move, he remarked, was "to load my guns and lock all my doors." As Richard searched for cartridges for his rifle and shotgun, Vanae kept observing the UFO, which was just beyond some walnut trees in a meadow beside the mobile home.

"These big trees were swaying back and forth, back and forth," Richard stated. "My son didn't say anything during the whole bit. He was speechless. And my dog went back under the house and he didn't say one thing; he didn't come out until the police came. Personally, a glow came over me, just a cold feeling where I was speechless. I couldn't even remember what I was saying at the time."

The witness added the object "stood there and went from side to side and went back and came into the trees. We tried to look around, but it was so bright we couldn't see." While the UFO was near the house, Richard said, "communications were cut off completely. All the electricity went out."

When the phone again worked, Richard called for help -- including the Federal Aviation Administration and the Columbia police.

"You could hear a rustling in the trees," he stated. "It was a thrashing... noise like we've never heard before."

Later that morning, strange, unknown tracks were found pressed into the meadow and grass had been flattened "as though by passage of some creature."

SIGHTING CAPSULES

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

● April 6, 1973. Around 7:50 p.m. Kirkwood, Mo. Peter Miller, Tim Riley, Wayne Granger, and Lea Gosnell "saw an object with a steady amber light moving north... at a height of about 100 feet," according to the April 7, 1973, edition of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

● April 8, 1973. Evening. Perth, Ontario, Canada. The *Perth Courier*, April 19, 1973, said a resident observed "a sparkling, yellow-orange to red, jerky but fast-moving object."

● April 8, 1973. Evening. Near Carmarthen, Wales. Mr. and Mrs. Ian W.H. Davies watched a "shining horse-shoe shaped object moving slowly towards the western horizon," the *Western Mail*, April 23, 1973, said. (Probable explanation: aircraft).

● April 9, 1973. 10 p.m. Colac, Victoria, Australia. The *Colac Herald*, April 11, 1973, stated Mrs. Margaret Elwood and three pilots saw a UFO with a "bright light trailing a heavy white cloud of smoke" going from west to east. (Possible explanation: meteor).

● April 10, 1973. 7:40 p.m. Athena, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Don Yount and their three children; Mrs. Erma Vanney; and Florence Wagner observed an object with white, red and amber lights that circled in the sky, stated the April 12, 1973, edition of the *Festus (Mo.) News-Democrat*. The white light "was almost blinding to look at."

● April 12, 1973. 9:15 p.m. Jersey Shore, Pa. According to the April 13, 1973, edition of the *Williamsport, Pa., Sun-Gazette*, Mrs. Sherry Bachman observed an object "like a star, but much larger and shinier" that changed color, then disappeared.

● April 17, 1973. Approximately 10 p.m. Los Molinas, Calif. Mike Henderson and two companions observed two large bright white lights which appeared to have "an aura or halo effect around them," according to a report to UFOR from investigator Paul C. Cerny.

● April 23, 1973. Around 8:30 p.m. Pevely, Mo. Mrs. John Massey and about 15 others saw approximately five objects "with a bright white light and flashing red and green lights," said the April 26, 1973, edition of the *Hillsboro (Mo.) Rocket*.

● April 23, 1973. 9:06 p.m. Collinsville, Ill. Richard Barker saw an object that emitted "a flashing red light, which changed to another color and then went back to red," the *Collinsville Herald*, April 30, 1973, stated.

● April 23, 1973. Approximately 10:30 p.m. Richwoods, Mo. Mrs. Irvin Phillips, Ricky Bliss, and Mr. and Mrs. Mark Farrow watched a luminous object "darting back and forth like a firefly," said the April 25, 1973, edition of the *St. Clair (Mo.) Chronicle*.

● April 27, 1973. Evening. Nanticoke, Pa. Mrs. Stella McGlynn and some neighbors saw a red flashing light, stated the *Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Times-Leader, Evening News, Record*, April 28, 1973.

● April 29, 1973. Morning. Northam, Goomalling, Konnongorring, Karratha, Port Hedland, and Roebourne, West Australia. Numerous witnesses observed an object with "lights that kept flaring and receding" that hovered for about 15 minutes, then rose and disappeared, the *West Australia Northam Advertiser*, May 3, 1973, reported.

● April 29, 1973. About 11 p.m. Shamokin, Pa. The *Shamokin News-Item*, April 30, 1973, said Mrs. David E. Ritzman and a number of others saw a UFO with a bubble and silver lights land on Burnside Mountain.

● April 30, 1973. Mid-day. Slough, England. Mrs. Celia Porter, Tom Fort, Tony Flood, and others reported a saucer "with a little red light at the back and smoke coming out of the bottom," according to the May 2, 1973, edition of the *Slough Evening Mail*; and the May 4, 1973, edition of the *Slough Observer*. (Possible explanation: fireball).

● May 2, 1973. 2 a.m. Reading, Pa. A police officer saw a "blinking object," stated the *Reading Times*, May 3, 1973. (Probable explanation: hoax balloon).

● May 7, 1973. Around 9:30 p.m. Lake Ontario, Canada. James Davis and Constable Angus Riddle saw lights that looked like they may have been reflected from a small community, the May 11, 1973, edition of the *Trenton, Ontario, Trentonian*, said. (Possible explanation: lights reflected from the ground).

● May 9, 1973. About 6:45 p.m. Ballarat, Victoria, Australia. Roslyn Smith watched a red glowing object that "traveled pretty fast," stated the *Ballarat Courier*, May 10, 1973.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Beginning with this issue, *UFO Research Newsletter* will be published on a bi-monthly, rather than monthly, basis. We regret having to take this action and the problem is simply that of time. The issues will continue to be numbered consecutively. The next issue will be dated October-November, 1973, the one following December, 1973-January, 1974, etc. Subscribers will continue to receive 12 issues.

If news of major importance breaks, we may return if only temporarily, to a monthly schedule, and we wish to reserve the right to return to a permanent monthly schedule, if possible, at some time in the future. Meanwhile, the bi-monthly schedule should enable your editor to devote more time to following up on sighting reports and newsletter stories, answering lagging correspondence, and the other necessities involved in publishing a newsletter. We also hope the newsletter will be improved by this step.

We thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Capsules (Continued from page 7)

- May 10, 1973. About 9:15 p.m. Schaumburg-Elk Grove Township, Ill. Numerous witnesses reported "very large and... pulsating lights," according to the May 11, 1973, editions, of *Chicago Today*, the *Chicago News*, *Sun-Times*, and *Tribune*; and the May 12, 1973, edition of the *Sun-Times*. (Possible explanation: aircraft landing lights).
- May 14, 1973. Approximately 2:30 a.m. Riverside County, Calif. Residents saw a large object "that broke into two chunks and exploded on impact with the earth," stated the May 15, 1973, edition of the *Los Angeles Times*; the May 17, 1973, edition of the Indio, Calif., *Daily News*; the May 29, 1973, edition of the Palm Springs, Calif., *Desert Sun*; and the May 31, 1973, edition of the Twenty Nine Palms, Calif., *Desert Trail*. (Probable explanation: breakup of a meteor).
- May 15, 1973. 6:40 a.m. Alexandra, Otago Province, New Zealand. Mr. and Mrs. C.D. Esdaile watched "a large round ball, with white lights, and a haze of some type on each side," stated the May 15, 1973, edition of the *Central Otago News*.
- May 15, 1973. 11 p.m. Carleton, Kirkby Stephen, Bleatarn, Musgrave, England. The Penrith, England, *Cumberland & Westmorland Herald*, May 26, 1973, said witnesses observed an oval-shaped object "about twice the diameter of the moon" in size which became "elongated and changed position very slightly."
- May 17, 1973. 6:45 a.m. Temuka, Canterbury Province, New Zealand. An unidentified couple saw objects pass over during an 11-minute period, *The Timaru* (New Zealand) *Herald*, May 18, 1973, reported.
- May 18, 1973. Around 10 p.m. Pekin, Ill. According to the May 19, 1973, edition of the *Pekin Times*, the Charles Phillips family watched an object with a dome emitting an orange light that hovered at first, then turned and headed toward the Illinois River.
- May 18-19, 1973. 9 p.m. and 12:10 a.m. Springfield, Mo. Susan Lederer and Steve Potter saw a blue, cylindrical, fast-moving object with "lights on all sides of it," stated the *Springfield News & Leader*, May 20, 1973.
- May 20, 1973. 6 a.m. Motu, Auckland Province (South), New Zealand. The May 21, 1973, edition of *The Gisborne* (New Zealand) *Herald*, said two hunters saw four bright objects travel to the northeast. (Possible explanation: aircraft).
- May 26, 1973. 5:35 p.m. Morwell, Victoria, Australia. Ken Wallace saw an object crash into an overhead high voltage wire, disrupting electrical service to half the town, according to the May 30, 1973, edition of the Morwell *Latrobe Valley Express*. (Explanation: hoax balloon).