

# UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Vol. III, No. 7

November - December 1973

## THE UFO FLAP IS ON

"I don't know if this story has ever been told," stated U.S. Air Force (AF) Chief of Staff Gen. George S. Brown at a Chicago, Ill., press conference, on October 16, "[but UFOs] plagued us in Vietnam during the war."

The four-star officer, while still appearing to take the old AF line that all UFO reports can be explained away, nonetheless came up with some scanty details of sightings that apparently triggered air, sea, and land battles.

In early Summer, 1968, near the demilitarized zone, Gen. Brown said, a series of sightings set off an air-sea battle in which an Australian destroyer was hit, according to a UPI story dated October 17, 1973.

Brown also stated there was "some shooting" after sightings near Pleiku in the Central Highlands in 1969. He added there was "no evidence" in either case that North Vietnamese troops were involved.

This admission from the AF's top man in uniform is, perhaps, indicative of the incredible spate of UFO reports now plaguing the U.S. -- and indications are strong that one of the biggest sighting flaps of all time is on. Certainly, it is the biggest flap (i.e., public interest, widespread news media coverage) since 1966 and the largest wave (i.e., large numbers of sightings, but low-keyed news media coverage) since 1967.

Two men -- later hypnotized -- who were abducted on board a UFO by creatures with crab-like hands; other occupant reports, including a creature that was photographed; Soviet scientists who picked up unusual radio signals they said could emanate from an extraterrestrial (ET) civilization; a state senator who asked a legislative committee to investigate UFO sightings; an object that was tracked on radar; another that reportedly killed two cows; a UFO that temporarily blinded a witness; an object that landed; another that "almost attacked a police car"; an object that forced a military police car off a road; and UFOs that were photographed, caused electro-magnetic (E-M) effects, animal reactions, emitted sounds, and frightened witnesses were the startling characteristics of sighting reports from at least 18 states since February. Witnesses included two state governors, a town mayor, a city councilman, a fire chief, state, local, and military police, a police radio dispatcher, a radar technician, military personnel, a television cameraman, a television newsman, a newspaper photographer, a school teacher, and nurses.

### *Creatures Abduct Fishermen*

Perhaps the most incredible UFO incident of recent years occurred around 8-9 p.m., October 11, at Pascagoula, Miss.

Calvin Parker and Charles Hickson, employees of W.B. Walker Shipyards, were fishing off a pier on the Pascagoula River when a strange, 20-foot long, oblong-shaped UFO emitting a bluish haze approached them and hovered just above the ground. The men, "scared to death and shaking all over," were abducted aboard the object by three five-foot tall, reddish creatures with large eyes, crab-like hands, pointed ears, and wrinkled skin who came floating out of the UFO. The witnesses were reportedly

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examined by "an eye-like scanning device." They said the creatures apparently communicated with each other by a humming-like sound. After the examination, the men said, they were released unharmed.

According to Hickson, who appeared on the November 2 "Dick Cavett Show," the creatures floated "over to where we were." Two of them grabbed Hickson under each arm and floated with him up into the craft. Hickson said he felt "a lot of fear."

The incident was reported to Sheriff Fred Diamond, who said the men were so frightened they were "on the verge of a heart attack."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory and former long-time chief UFO scientific consultant for the AF, and Dr. James Harder, professor of mechanical engineering at the University of California at Berkeley, rushed to the scene and Harder submitted the men to hypnosis. Harder said it was obvious the witnesses, while under hypnosis, were revealing a "traumatic" experience.

"Their emotions and very strong feelings of terror are impossible to fake under hypnosis," he stated.

Hynek was also convinced.

"There is no question in my mind that these men have had a very terrifying experience," he remarked. "Under no circumstances should they be ridiculed. Let's protect these men."

Then the prominent astronomer said flatly he thought the UFO was from some ET source.

"Where they are coming from and why they are here is a matter of conjecture," he remarked. "But the fact that they were here on this planet is beyond a reasonable doubt."

Hickson and Parker were taken to Keesler AF Base and checked for radioactivity, with negative results. Charles McQuiston, a Biloxi, Miss., psychologist, examined the tape recordings of the hypnotic session with the men and said Hickson and Parker were totally convinced their experience was real. On October 30, Hickson took -- and passed -- a polygraph test. Parker, in a state of collapse after the incident, has not, as of this writing, been submitted to a test. The investigation is continuing.

(Sources: *The* (New Orleans, La.) *Times-Picayune*, October 14 and 26, 1973; *The Miami* (Fla.) *Herald*, October 15, 1973; the *Washington Star-News*, October 17, 1973; and a UPI story dated October 20, 1973).

#### *UFO Causes E-M Effects on Oil Rig*

Mrs. Mary Grady and others in Oak Grove, Miss., said they saw a UFO that looked larger than a comet on the evening of September 7. The object hovered at first, then "took off at terrific speed," stated the *Hattiesburg* (Miss.) *American*, September 8, 1973.

In neighboring Louisiana, sheriff's deputies chased five orange-red objects through the woods near Pine during the night of October 15-16. According to Deputy Sheriff Michael Moore, the UFOs "almost attacked a police car."

"One of our deputies was scared pretty bad," the policeman stated in a UPI story dated October 16, 1973. "He turned on his red lights, and they came down at his patrol car. He turned them off and they just vanished in a cloud."

On the evening of October 17, Jack Columbo and another crewman on an offshore Chevron Oil Co. oil rig 60 miles south of Crowley, La., saw a blue, oblong-shaped UFO emitting "a whining sound" that flew to within 100 feet of their platform, *The Times-Picayune*, October 19, 1973, said. The object apparently caused an electrical blackout

on the rig. When the power returned, the men sent out a call for help, but, before a boat could arrive on the scene, the UFO had left the area.

Georgia continued to be surveyed by the mysterious flying craft (see *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. III, No. 6, p. 1).

On the evening of August 31, Robert Welch, a Camilla police radio dispatcher, saw several objects.

"The first two were like big white lights," he stated in the September 5, 1973, edition of the *Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat*. "One of them was moving in a zig-zag pattern."

Welch said the UFO shone bright lights and had green and red rotating lights.

Meanwhile, at Pelham, eight miles south of Camilla, Fire Chief Dabney Crosby and his son saw a red object "branch off" from a larger UFO and disappear.

#### *Senator Requests Probe*

Democratic State Sen. Franklin Sutton got into the act during the first week of the sightings in Georgia. In a tongue-in-cheek vein, he requested, on September 6, that a Senate committee investigate the reports, the *Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution*, September 7, 1973, stated.

"I feel I must ask for an investigation... of the high incidence of flying saucer penetration into the 9th senator district," he wrote in a letter to Sen. Culver Kidd, chairman of the Senate Committee on Economy, Reorganization and Efficiency in Government. "They have violated the air space of Norman Park, Doe Run, Camilla, Morgan, and Needmore. Not only that, they have interfered with one of our crop dusting planes. I don't know the reasons for them being in our area. It has been suggested that they were blown north of their regular routes by Hurricane Delia. Whether or not this is true, I am not in a position to say. I feel your committee can get to the bottom of this. This is the most reckless bunch of saucers that we've had to contend with. Due to their total disregard of safe operating procedures, they have flown into silos on the farms of Jim Mark Odom and C.O. Smith, Jr., and completely demolished them. It is also rumored that they are rustling cows and carrying them back to Mars to relieve the beef shortage there. Your immediate attention to this matter would be appreciated."

#### *Object Forces Military Police Car Into Ditch*

Early on the morning of September 8, Spec. 4 Burt J. Burns and Spec. 4 Randy Shade, military policemen (MPs), were cruising the perimeter of deserted Hunter AF Base, near Savannah, when a saucer 50-75 feet across came in at tree-top level and dove at their patrol car, forcing it into a ditch, ending a flight by the "terrified" MPs at speeds of more than 100 m.p.h. The object "skimmed off into the distance," but reappeared 15 minutes later, stated the *National Enquirer*, November 4, 1973.

That same evening, according to the September 8, 1973, edition of the *Seattle (Wash.) Post-Intelligencer*, a Savannah policeman saw "a large circular craft something like a flying saucer" with "a large spotlight which changed color from red to green" and smaller blue flashing lights.

Early the next morning -- September 9 -- a WAGA-TV, Atlanta, cameraman recorded a bright, hovering object that changed colors rapidly on 90 seconds of film.

The Atlanta area was the scene of several reports that same day.

At 4:40 a.m., Mrs. Virginia Smith, of Morrow, spotted a UFO after her cat apparently reacted to it.

"I saw something shiny sticking up from the top [of the object] like a pipe," she stated in the September 10, 1973, edition of the *Constitution*. "It stayed at the tree-tops for about 15 minutes and then moved quickly and silently to the northwest."

The orange object was as big as an airliner and had "pipes" extending from the bottom and both sides.

It was 7:30 that evening in Atlanta when James R. Wyatt II, director of the Civilian Saucer Information Bureau, saw three brilliant objects flying "in an erratic, zig-zag pattern." All the lights on his side of the street blacked out, Wyatt remarked. Mrs. Alma Ethridge saw the UFOs at the same time.

The UFOs were also reported in Carrollton and Palmerton.

Strange objects returned to Savannah the following evening -- September 10.

At 9:45, Burt Thorneberry and several others saw a "football-shaped object with one blinding light" that hovered, then "backed off," the *Savannah News*, September 11, 1973, reported.

Police said an unidentified caller reported, that same night, a flying object had landed on the gymnasium at Savannah State College "and was apparently attempting to converse with local residents in a strange language." An investigation produced negative results, however.

#### *Georgia Governor Spots UFO*



Georgia Governor  
Jimmy Carter

"I don't laugh at people any more when they say they've seen UFOs because I've seen one myself," stated Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter.

Gov. Carter was a dinner speaker at the Leary, Ga., Lions Club about three years ago when he and a number of others observed the object for 5-10 minutes.

"It was about 30° above the horizon and looked about as large as the moon," the state's chief executive said. "It got smaller and changed to a reddish color and then got larger again."

(Sources: the September 14, 1973, edition of the *Constitution*, and the *Wichita (Kans.) Beacon*).

Neighboring Alabama also had its quota of reports.

On the evening of February 20, Mrs. Bob Springer was driving near Lexington when she spotted several objects, including a yellow-orange disc that paced her car for over four miles.

"I would slow down, it would slow down; I would speed up, it would speed up," she stated in the *Birmingham, Ala., News*, September 11, 1973. "I was frantic. Then another one joined it as I came into Lexington. Several people saw it, including Pat Brown, one of the teachers."

Two of the UFOs approached each other and "set off a flurry of small green sparks between them."

"You have to see something like that to believe it," she continued. "I've always been skeptical of such stories..., but not anymore."

There were other reports from Alabama in September and October.

On the early morning of September 7, a huge disc "with red, green, and white lights blinking on and off" hovered above a cemetery in Carrville.

"It didn't make a sound and was high up in the air," stated Police Chief Ray Sides in the September 12, 1973, edition of the *Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser*. "But we know it wasn't an airplane. And, after a while, it began moving across town real slow. Then, suddenly, it just streaked away into the sky and disappeared."

Sides said the incident was reported by Officer Billy Clayton.

At 4 a.m. the next morning, police and others also saw objects in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

On the evening of September 9, Notasulga, Ala., City Councilman W.F. Delbridge and Police Sgt. Mid Giles saw two bright, multi-colored discs, according to the *Birmingham News*, September 11, 1973.



"Creature" photographed by Officer Jeff Greenshaw, October 17, 1973

(Courtesy: AP)

Police Officer Jeff Greenshaw, of Falkville, Ala., snapped a picture of a "metallic looking creature" when he was called to investigate a report of a UFO landing in a pasture on the evening of October 17, stated the October 19, 1973, edition of *The Times-Picayune*. (See photo, opposite). Greenshaw, "scared... to death," turned on his blue flashing light and the creature ran "faster than any human I ever saw." The witness reported he did not see the UFO.

#### *County Sheriff Sees Object*

Obion County, Tenn., Sheriff Nathan Cunningham saw three UFOs on the evening of September 29, near Hornbeak. He saw the first two over a Hornbeak riding ring and the third sped over his home emitting a humming sound, stated the October 1, 1973, edition of the *San Jose (Calif.) Mercury*.

Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. George Rogers were returning from Reelfoot Lake when they spotted an object so bright "it lit up an acre and a half of land." Mrs. Rogers said "it scared me pretty bad."

In Hollywood, Fla., Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burke observed, on the evening of August 18, what looked like a "moon-shot in reverse" -- a UFO with flames being emitted straight down from its bottom, the August 22, 1973, edition of the *Hollywood Sun-Tattler*, said.

Sighting reports over Maryland were investigated by John A. Lutz, president of the Odyssey Scientific Research Association (P.O. Box 2022, Baltimore, Md. 21203) and UFOR.

At 9:50 p.m., August 13, Mrs. Donald Williams and Mrs. Cathy Wright, of McHenry, saw a silver, cylinder-shaped object with a blue bubble light on top and a blue light on the bottom. The craft was an estimated 15 feet long and 7-8 feet high. It "rapidly ascended straight up into the night sky." "We are ruling this sighting as a UFO," Lutz stated in his report.

Police Officers Gary Holton and Mike Elmore and Jeannette Karmann watched a UFO north of Friendship International Airport, near Baltimore, at 4:45 a.m., September 11. The object was red on top and blue on the bottom and "just blinked off."

Odyssey ruled out conventional aircraft and labeled the object a UFO.

In California, Md., Mrs. Celeste M. Roby, her sons, Mike and Donald, and two others observed a triangular-shaped UFO with multi-colored lights at 9:05 p.m., October 16. The object disappeared behind some trees. Five minutes after the initial observation, Mrs. Roby told UFOR, a red light entered the area, dimmed and brightened a number of times, then, as it descended, appeared to grow larger and expand.

Mrs. Roby apparently suffered temporary loss of memory after the sighting. She said she has an above-average memory, but could remember almost nothing for the evening and the day following the incident.

#### *Rotating Disc in Pennsylvania*

Residents of Pennsylvania were continuing to see the objects (see *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. III, No. 1, p. 3, No. 2, p. 1, No. 3, p. 3, No. 4, p. 1, and No. 6, p. 4).

Glennda Egolf observed a disc with "a point on top of it -- something like a top" on the afternoon of September 5 in West Chester. The rotating object had red, blue, green, and white lights and moved "very slow," according to the *West Chester Daily Local News*, September 7, 1973.

At around 9:20 p.m., September 6, Mr. and Mrs. George Helms and Ronald Stackhouse, of Millville, watched a brilliant bluish-white saucer with "a haze around it" travel "at a high rate of speed" across the sky and emit "a whirling sound," stated the Bloomsburg Pa., *Morning Press*, September 8, 1973.

Six young people were driving near Titusville at approximately 8 p.m., September 9, when they saw a bright UFO "that changed from white to red" and "jumped from place to place," stated the September 10, 1973, edition of the Titusville *Herald*. The object disappeared below the horizon, then reappeared and ascended out of sight.

The following evening -- September 10 -- five nurses saw a brilliant object which sped away "like a streak" near Dillsburg, the September 12, 1973, edition of the Gettysburg, Pa., *Times*, stated.

UFOs also zeroed in on Ohio.

A UPI story dated October 11, 1973, said there were at least 15 sightings of objects with red, green, and blue lights "zooming about at tree-top level" in the Dayton-Cincinnati area on the evening of October 10. Witnesses included police officers.

Early on the morning of October 12, Mr. and Mrs. John Gedder, of Dayton, observed a "very bright" yellow object that emitted a sound "on a very low frequency like between a hum and a roar," stated a UPI story dated October 12, 1973. Gedder, a WKEF-TV newsman, said he photographed the UFO.

Another Dayton resident -- an unidentified woman -- "hysterically" told police an oblong-shaped object with blinking lights landed in a field and killed two cows on the evening of October 14, a UPI story dated October 15, 1973, stated. A search of the area revealed nothing.

#### *The California Reports*

California joined the rest of the nation in sighting reports:

- September 9. 9:07 a.m. Vallejo. An unidentified woman reported a "flying ash-tray," stated the Vallejo *Times-Herald*, September 11, 1973.

- September 12. Morning. Long Barn. Guy Davis and Don Hardin said they saw a silver-yellow-orange saucer 75-100 feet long, according to the September 18, 1973, edition of *The (Sonora, Calif.) Daily Union Democrat*.

- September 13. Near midnight. Sonora. Mrs. Ted DuPont saw the same or a similar object as that described in the Long Barn case, the same edition of the *Democrat* stated.

- September 18. Around 7:30 p.m. Twain Harte. A bicyclist said he observed a silver-blue object "blinking on and off" that "jumped back" and disappeared, the *Democrat*, September 20, 1973, said.

- September 21. 3:50 a.m. Sonora. A boy saw a large yellow-orange disc that came close to the ground, according to Paul C. Cerny, investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, who investigated the incident and sent a report to UFOR.

- September 23. Approximately 9 p.m. Near Sebastopol. Mr. and Mrs. David Severn and three neighbors watched two huge objects, one of which "compressed down into a round ball of light," then "spread out in a horizontal fashion," with its middle dropping "down into a bowl shape," stated the September 27, 1973, edition of *The (Sebastopol) Times*.

Theresa Deno reported seeing five UFOs near Silverdale, Wash., at about 9 p.m., September 17, the Bremerton, Wash., *Sun*, September 19, 1973, said. Two of the objects had red and blue lights and the other three red and silver lights. The UFOs were spinning above the tree-tops.

#### *The Michigan Sightings*

Michigan was also prey to the UFOs:

- July 17. 2:20 a.m. Little Traverse Bay. An unidentified witness saw a UFO that looked like "four bright slits of light in the sides of a large, faintly glowing

oval" fly "at an incredible speed" over the bay, according to the August 23, 1973, edition of the Charlevoix, Mich., *Courier*.

- August 27. Around 3:30 a.m. Near Athens. Calhoun County sheriff's deputies observed a yellow-white object that "was maneuvering and making erratic patterns in the sky," stated the Battle Creek, Mich., *Enquirer and News*, August 28, 1973. It disappeared and reappeared 20 minutes later, this time emitting red and blue lights and "making sharp circles."

- August 28. About 2:30 a.m. Athens. Two sheriff's deputies and at least seven others observed a UFO that moved "rapidly from side to side in a zig-zag pattern and also moved rapidly... up and down" and had a "super-brilliant searchlight," the August 28, 1973, edition of the Marshall, Mich., *Evening Chronicle*, reported.

- September 6. Approximately 3 a.m. Near Marshall. Once again two Calhoun County sheriff's deputies saw an object that performed much the same maneuvers as those in the Athens sighting immediately above, stated the *Evening Chronicle*, September 6, 1973. At one point, two planes approached the UFO, which sped away.

The most prestigious of the Michigan witnesses were Ohio Gov. and Mrs. John Gilligan. They were driving near Ann Arbor on the evening of October 15 when they saw a vertical-shaped, amber-colored object that "penetrated a cloud cover and disappeared when the cover broke up," stated *The Knoxville (Tenn.) Journal*, October 18, 1973.

Karen Raffelt and Debbie Halsted saw a UFO with a top "like a half moon" that "moved up and down" at approximately 9:45 p.m., September 10, in South Bound Brook, N.J., stated the Plainfield, N.J., *Courier News*, September 11, 1973.

At about 9:30 p.m., August 12, Douglas J. Griffiths, Schenectady, N.Y., observed three brilliant lights that moved up and down in unison, then flew away "very fast." The UFOs apparently caused E-M effects to his FM radio, Griffiths stated in a report to UFOR. The static cleared up when the objects left the area.

#### *Other Fantastic Incidents Reported*

Other reports from around the nation included:

- A woman near New Orleans, La., saw a UFO that looked like the Houston Astrodome hover over her house for three nights.

- Mrs. Ann Rodriguez and her daughters, of San Jose, Calif., observed a UFO land and emit flashes "like someone taking pictures of us."

- An Oakland, Calif., woman reported the landing of a spider-like object on the evening of October 16.

- A Civil Defense radar watcher at Columbia, Miss., tracked a UFO on radar during the evening of October 14. He said his screen and radio communications were jammed for 15-20 minutes, but, when the blip disappeared, they functioned normally.

- A cigar-shaped UFO flashed a light and stalled a Tennessee woman's car.

- In Missouri, a truck driver was temporarily blinded by a "seering light" from a flying object.

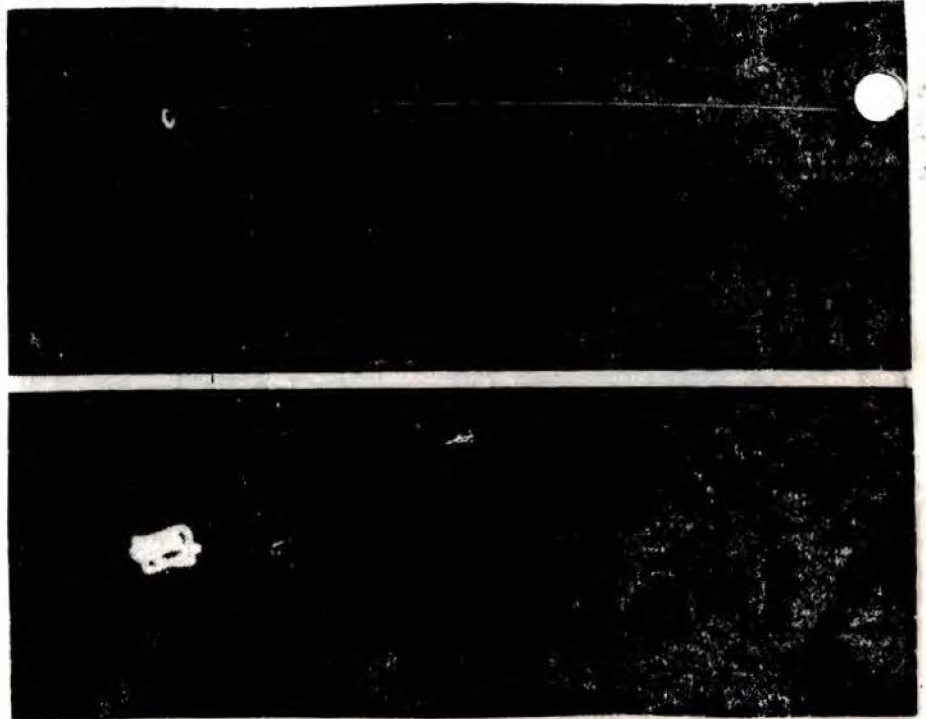
- Delaware state police said one of their helicopters pursued a yellow-orange UFO into Maryland.

- Munfordville, Ky., Mayor Jim Berry saw a "strange craft."

- Students and faculty members at the College of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Ark., saw a "ghost-like, bearded creature with long, gray hair who foams at the mouth."

- A *Columbus Evening Dispatch* photographer, Ken Chamberlain, Jr., took pictures on two separate occasions (October 17 and 19) of objects in the sky over Ohio. (See photos, p. 8).

If all of the above may be indications of future ET contact with earth, the fact is that it could be happening now -- in the Soviet Union. Unusual radio signals from space "of a type never heard before" have been received by Russian scientists, the Tass News Agency said on October 16. The signals are possibly from the upper regions of the earth's atmosphere.



UFO photographs taken by *Columbus Evening Dispatch* photographer, Ken Chamberlain, Jr., on the evenings of October 17 (left, above) and 19, 1973 (right, above)

"They come in pulses after definite lapses of time, last for several minutes, and are repeated several times a day," a UPI story dated October 16, 1973, stated.

Soviet scientists have ruled out earth-launched satellites as sources for the signals.

"It is not precluded that they may be sent by a technically developed extraterrestrial civilization," the report from the U.S.S.R. said.

First to pick up the emissions was Prof. Samuel Kaplan, of Gorky University. Other Soviet cities received them later.

#### SIGHTING CAPSULES

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

- June 9, 1973. Around 10 p.m. Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Don Campbell, investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, watched an object that emitted an orange glow, the *Mt. Pleasant News*, June 27, 1973, said.

- June 10, 1973. 5:50 p.m. Peterson Field, Colorado Springs, Colo. Five U.S. Air Force pilots saw "an orange ball of fire" as they were taking off, the *Denver, Colo., Post*, June 11, 1973, stated. (Possible explanation: fireball).

- June 10, 1973. 10:45 p.m. Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. Rosemary Robson and her son watched a half-moon-shaped disc with white and red revolving lights that moved very slowly, said the *Niagara Falls Review*, June 12, 1973.

- June 11, 1973. 10:31 p.m. Butte, Mont. The *Butte Daily Post*, June 13, 1973, said Mr. and Mrs. George Hamblin saw a flashing object that hovered, then sped away over the Continental Divide.

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NOTICE: Since a UFO flap is in progress -- UFOR has numerous reports it was unable to use in this issue -- the next edition of *UFO Research Newsletter* will be ready for mailing on or about December 15, 1973.