## FEBRUARY, 1978 – MADISON COUNTY <u>KENTUCKY</u>

The "Bluegrass Triangle" UFO Blitz – 1978 – Central Kentucky.

In 1978, a flurry of UFO activity in the Fayette and Madison County area earned the region the nickname "The Bluegrass Triangle". In one instance, Madison County firemen were called to put out a fire that turned out to be a glowing flying saucer UFO that they pursued for over an hour. In another encounter, a preacher and his wife claimed that a craft "...about 10 stories high and 20 stories wide, with a zillion lights on it" approached their car while they were on their way to church. A teenager named Terry Kirby took a Polaroid of what he says was a large, glowing saucer that descended near him while he was chopping wood. In all, over 20 reputable citizens reported similar experiences in the region during the same time-frame. And the proximity of the Blue Grass Army Depot has led many of them to speculate that it could be the source of the mysterious activity

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From *The Enquirer* of February 27, 1978: Big UFO Blitz in Kentucky's Baffling 'Bluegrass Triangle' by John Cooke, staff member.

A pulsating, multicolored UFO was tracked for hours by a Kentucky state trooper in the latest sighting in Kentucky's bizarre "Bluegrass Triangle," where a baffling series of UFO encounters are taking place. People in the area are convinced they're the target of a "UFO blitz" – and the latest sighting by Trooper Jim Whitaker has strengthened that belief.

"Estill County is noted for UFO sightings," said Whitaker. "There are too many by too many people to explain it away."

Added a physics professor at Eastern Kentucky University, who has been collecting details of sightings:

"The number of encounters goes without end... we've been besieged by UFOs. We're talking about a UFO blitz!"

Here are just some of the astounding events that have taken place in the Bluegrass Triangle:

- Two firemen called out to fight a "grass fire" discovered a blazing red UFO and chased it for over an hour.
- A preacher and his wife encountered a gigantic, dazzling UFO on the way to church.
- A UFO hovered over a 16 year-old schoolboy (Terry Kirby) long enough for him to grab a camera and take a picture of it.

Trooper Whitaker came upon his UFO February 19 while patrolling near Irvine, Ky. He said the craft was hovering over a field when he first spotted it.

"I'm 100 percent certain that what I saw was a UFO," he told THE ENQUIRER. "It was rectangular and glowing red, white, blue and green. It was about the size of a medium sized car, and there was no noise.

"When it changed color, the whole UFO changed color, pulsating every second-and-a-half."

Whitaker, a veteran of 1,500 flying hours in Navy helicopters, said the craft definitively wasn't a helicopter or airplane. He said he started toward the UFO – and it moved away "as if it were trying to get away from me."

The officer followed the strange object in his car and kept it in sight for more than two hours. "One thing I noticed," he said,

"was when an aircraft approached it, the intensity of its lights would die down... and once the aircraft flew away, the lights returned."





Left: Trooper Jim Whitaker in his cruiser Right: Terry Kirby and his photograph



## **Reliability evaluation:**

