

3. For aid in investigative procedures. Police have proved helpful in assisting in investigations; by withholding witness names to protect them from unwanted publicity, in cordoning off areas to protect sites from "souvenir hunters" and so-called "UFO-investigators" until proper samples and photographs can be taken, in enlisting the cooperation of other official agencies in obtaining investigative equipment, and in the use of police personnel such as photographers and police artists. Additionally, because of the network formed by police and other official agencies, a light or object reported by or to police is often followed by independent official witnesses, their report thus containing more detailed and valuable information from additional witnesses.

4. To aid the police. The Air Force and the Federal Aviation Administration routinely refer reports to local police when, "If a citizen were actually to feel endangered by a supposed unidentified flying object, he might consult his local police department." [U.S. Air Force Bulletin] "If concern is expressed that life or property might be endangered, refer the individual to the local police department." [FAA Handbook, July 10, 1973]

By using UFO CENTRAL, the law enforcement agencies have an authoritative, scientific agency to which reports can be passed for appropriate action. This relieves the police officers of a major responsibility for "follow-up".

Updated directives and a letter to police chiefs were written January 1, 1975. These were sent to all Center investigators for personal delivery to their local police. The letter and directives will also be sent to all police departments who have used UFO CENTRAL during 1974.

On July 1, 1974, the Center also distributed the toll-free number to airlines participating in the Volunteer Flight Officers' Network (VFON). VFON, affiliated with the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, asks its members to report possible satellite reentries, bright fireball sightings, and unidentified sightings. H.E. Roth, Director of VFON, solicited the cooperation of VFON member airlines for the Center, and in his letter to them he stated: "Reports of