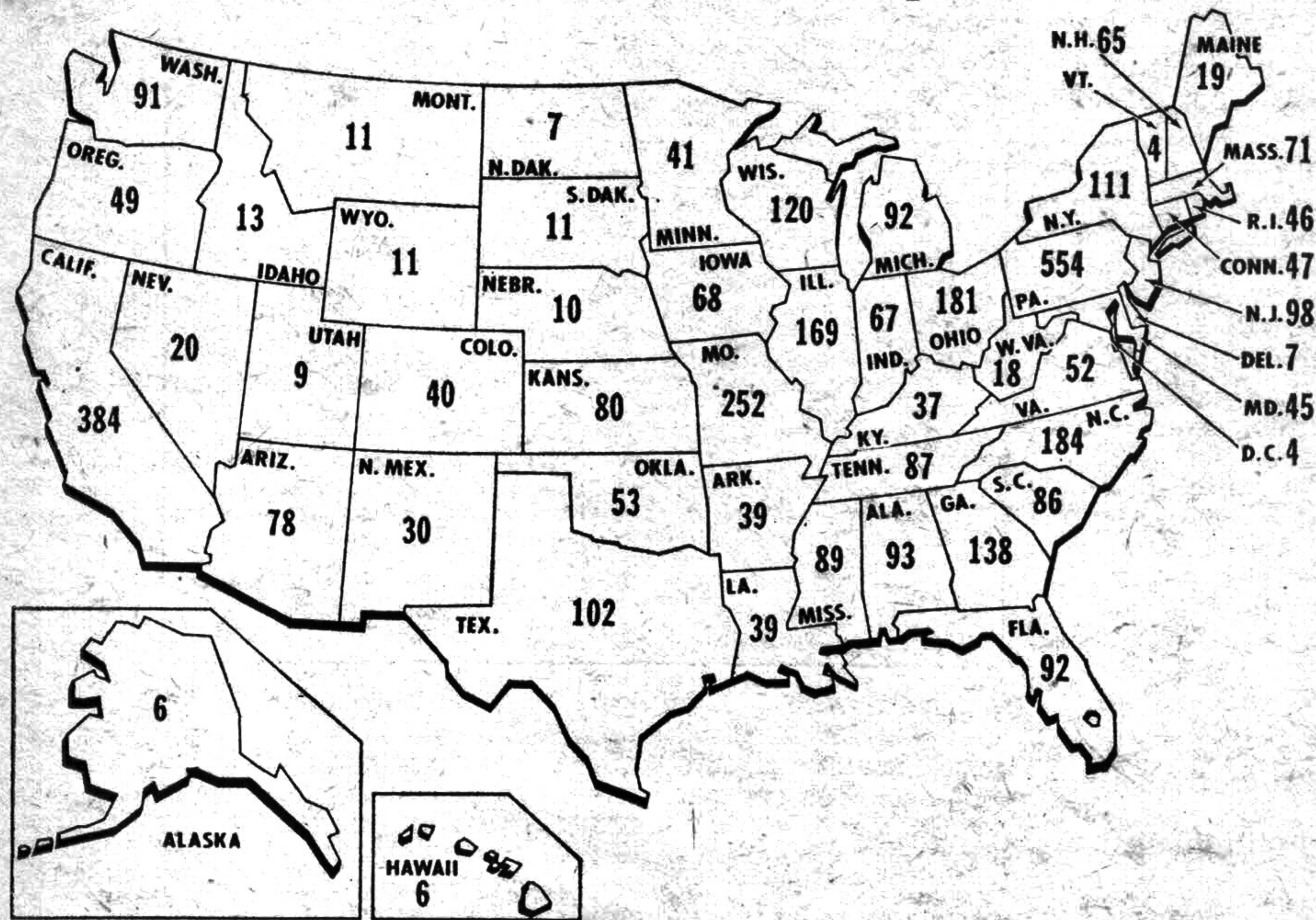


# ENQUIRER

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## UFO Sightings, State by State



In the five-year period ending April 1977, 4,026 UFO sightings in the U.S. were reported to the Center for UFO Studies, a nonprofit organization based in Evanston, Ill.

The organization analyzed these UFO reports by state and type of incident, and supplied data for The ENQUIRER. The map above shows the total number of UFO reports state by state. The table below lists only those incidents which involve "occupant reports" and "other close encounters." Occupant reports are those in which beings were sighted inside or near UFOs. Close encounters are incidents in which witnesses had a very close view of the UFO, usually from 500 feet away or less.

The Center for UFO Studies maintains a computerized catalog of UFO incidents around the world called UFOCAT. It contains a total of 83,000 entries covering about 55,000 individual UFO encounters. Figures cited in the map and table are drawn from UFOCAT.

Says Fred Merritt, a vice-president of the center: "No catalog of UFO reports can ever be complete, (but) UFOCAT is the largest such catalog that we know of. We believe that the totals for each category (shown here) are substantially less than the number of reports potentially available for this period."

State	Occupant Reports	Other Close Encounters	State	Occupant Reports	Other Close Encounters	State	Occupant Reports	Other Close Encounters
Alabama	4	25	Kentucky	5	8	N. Dakota	3	1
Alaska	—	—	Louisiana	3	17	Ohio	14	37
Arizona	3	25	Maine	2	5	Oklahoma	2	20
Arkansas	4	4	Maryland	1	8	Oregon	—	15
California	15	89	Massachusetts	2	20	Pennsylvania	33	88
Colorado	1	2	Michigan	1	12	Rhode Island	—	6
Connecticut	3	9	Minnesota	1	8	S. Carolina	3	26
Delaware	—	2	Mississippi	3	18	S. Dakota	—	2
Dist. Columbia	—	2	Missouri	8	42	Tennessee	6	24
Florida	2	24	Montana	—	5	Texas	3	32
Georgia	8	30	Nebraska	1	1	Utah	1	3
Hawaii	—	3	Nevada	4	—	Vermont	—	—
Idaho	—	3	New Hampshire	8	12	Virginia	3	10
Illinois	4	42	New Jersey	8	20	Washington	3	24
Indiana	11	17	New Mexico	2	7	W. Virginia	1	6
Iowa	2	7	New York	1	21	Wisconsin	7	23
Kansas	2	9	N. Carolina	10	43	Wyoming	1	2

## U.S. Government Still Recording Reports of UFOs

The Defense Dept. has revealed that it is still recording reports of UFOs — even though the U.S. government's official probe of UFOs ended eight years ago.

Thomas B. Ross, assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, told The ENQUIRER that the Defense Dept. has never ceased reporting UFOs that affect military installations.

"I don't know how many such reports have been made or with what frequency, but clearly there are reports," Ross declared.

However, Ross said, "there is no central office" that collects or studies UFO reports.

"They are to be reported to the national military command center, to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to the various pertinent commands, and they're treated there as any message would be treated," he said.

The Air Force ended the government's official investigation into UFOs in 1969, when it concluded that continuing the extensive study of UFOs was not justified.

Asked if this remained current Pentagon policy on UFOs, Ross replied: "Nothing has come forward in the intervening years that would lead us to reassess our position. So our position is essentially the same."

And an Air Force spokesman said: "No evidence has been presented to indicate that further investigation of UFOs by the Air Force is warranted. There is no likelihood of renewed Air Force involvement in this area."

— BOB PRATT

*Nat Eng 11/8/77*