

# RESEARCHING THE AMERICAN LANDINGS

Identification of 400 Type-1 reports in the USA

*Josephine Clark and Jacques Vallée*

Mrs. Clark, who makes her first contribution to the pages of the *Flying Saucer Review* with this article, is the editor of *Data-Net Report*, the monthly publication of a quiet but active UFO Amateur Radio Network, of which Michel Jaffe is the Director. Mrs. Clark lives in the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains, South of San Francisco. Dr. Vallée is a frequent contributor to *Data-Net Report*, where, it is rumoured, he has had published several humorous pieces under the pen name of "Frater Jacobus."<sup>1</sup>

SEVERAL important events have taken place in the USA since the Condon report and the subsequent closing of Project Blue Book. Although these events are not in themselves the main subject of our article, we feel the readers of *Flying Saucer Review* should be informed of these developments in order to place our research in perspective.

The first significant fact has been the appearance in the United States of a systematically-organised clipping service for UFO reports. At a time when official reporting channels became unavailable to researchers, and when the large UFO amateur organisations were failing to keep their members informed of the reports they were still collecting, such a service was naturally welcome. It was offered by the UFO Research Committee of Seattle<sup>2</sup> and provided coverage of those numerous American local papers where the most valuable reports are found. This service has now been extended beyond the U.S. press and it has become our main supplier of raw material concerning landing reports.

The second remarkable observation we can make is that research on American reports of UFOs *has not died*. Those investigators who did not "drop out" in 1970, when the Air Force closed Blue Book, were people who had been in the field for a long time, and who had known from the beginning that the problem was a difficult one, that no easy solution should be expected, and who had made no emotional investment in preconceived theories.

These American researchers were few, but they had graduated from the Condon era with a clear picture of what the UFO problem meant, and a clear picture of what it could do to people. Thus appeared a "second generation" of research groups: groups that were small and hoped to stay small, had a solid sense of humour and a very simple structure. They had a straightforward (even sometimes crude) philosophy: to gather and disseminate reports, all reports, as rapidly as possible, and to regard *research* as their number one activity rather than as a foggy goal at the end of a complex and cumbersome series of obscure political steps. Dr. Hynek's "Invisible College" played a quiet but effective role in supporting these groups through their initial growth

and in supplying them with some research elements and tools. When a piece of investigation reaches the completion stage (the present article is an example) such a small group requires access to a means of disseminating results, and they are then submitted to the *Flying Saucer Review*, which is acknowledged as the only publication of international stature in this field. It may still be too early to speak of a breakthrough, but the fact that such groups as *Skylook*<sup>3</sup> and *Data-Net* have each now published fifty issues of their monthly magazines (or a total amount of information that represents over twice the combined output of APRO and NICAP since their creation!) testifies to the remarkable character of this new aspect of American research.

## The study of U.S. Landings

Given this background, our article aims at presenting what the *Data-Net* group regards as its major activity, namely the documentation of American landing reports. Beginning with its issue No. 31 (January 1970) the *Report* published every month a list of known landings for several of the States, giving the date, time, a summary of each event and the names of the witnesses when they could be revealed. The objective was to provide *Data-Net* members throughout the country, who were in weekly contact through short-wave radio, with information about the known activity in their State.

Members were invited to pinpoint the location of these events, and if possible to visit the sites. Whatever new information was obtained was forwarded and compiled so that updated lists could be generated. The study was made more convenient through the use of computers where the details of the observations could be stored.

Such a study can be very frustrating for several reasons. First, it is impossible to evaluate a landing report unless an investigator is available locally to gather reliable information. But the local investigator does not have a total picture (he may even be unaware of events that have taken place a few miles from his own house) and it is very difficult to motivate a sufficiently large number of such persons to spend time on active research. *Data-Net* was fortunate to have the support of such members as Messrs. Jerold R. Johnson (WA5RON) in Texas, Mark J. Richardson (WAØZRG)

<sup>1</sup> *Data-Net Report*, 20 pages monthly, \$5.00 annual subscription, 7900 Harvard Drive, Rt. 2, Ben Lomond; California 95005 USA.

<sup>2</sup> UFORC, 3521 S.W. 104th, Seattle Washington 98146 USA. Approximately 15 xeroxed pages monthly.

<sup>3</sup> *Skylook*, published by the Midwest UFO Network, annual subscription \$4.00, Box 129, Stover, Missouri 65078. Monthly, 22 pages. Motto: "We tell it as it is . . ."

TABLE 1—Southern States: see map on page 7

Case	Date	Time	Location (State)	Event	
1.	Fri	07 / Jan / 1966	15.27	Wilmer (Alabama)	@
6.	Tue	20 / Apr / 1897	18.00	Homan (Arkansas)	@ □
7.	Wed	21 / Apr / 1897	01.00	Harrisburg (Arkansas)	@ □
8.	Fri	23 / Apr / 1897		Mckinney Bayou (Arkansas)	@ □
9.	Thu	06 / May / 1897		Hot Springs (Arkansas)	@ □
49.	Tue	19 / Aug / 1952		West Palm Beach (Florida)	@ □ †
50.	Wed	02 / Nov / 1955		Williston (Florida)	*
51.	Wed	09 / May / 1956	23.00	Jacksonville (Florida)	*
52.	Thu	22 / Aug / 1957	15.40	Cecil Naval Air Station (Florida)	*
53.	Sun	02 / Mar / 1958	19.45	Tampa (Florida)	@
54.	Wed	04 / May / 1960	09.15	Sarasota (Florida)	@
55.	Tue	02 / Mar / 1965	13.55	Brooksville (Florida)	□
56.	Mon	15 / Mar / 1965	01.00	Fort Myers (Florida)	*
57.	Wed	23 / Mar / 1966		Fort Pierce (Florida)	@
58.	Mon	04 / Apr / 1966	06.05	Hague (Florida)	@
59.	Fri	06 / Apr / 1967	12.45	Crestview (Florida)	*
60.	Fri	07 / Apr / 1967	09.45	Crestview (Florida)	*
61.	Fri	21 / Jul / 1967	02.30	Jewish Creek (Florida)	@
62.	Tue	08 / Oct / 1968	20.30	Medulla (Florida)	?* □
63.	Wed	19 / Mar / 1969	22.30	Hollywood (Florida)	*
64.	Sun	03 / Jul / 1955		Stockton (Georgia)	□
65.	Tue	07 / Jul / 1964	21.00	Tallulah Falls (Georgia)	*
66.	Tue	14 / Jul / 1964		Tallulah Falls (Georgia)	*
119.	Sun	21 / Aug / 1955	20.30	Hopkinsville (Kentucky)	@ □
120.	Mon	07 / Sep / 1959	02.30	Wallingford (Kentucky)	@
121.		/ Nov / 1957	23.00	Provencal (Louisiana)	@
122.	Wed	11 / Dec / 1957		Chestnut (Louisiana)	*
123.	Mon	18 / Apr / 1960	21.00	Lacamp (Louisiana)	@ †
124.	Tue	15 / Sep / 1964		Core Lane (Louisiana)	?*
125.	Fri	30 / Dec / 1966	20.15	Haynesville (Louisiana)	@
176.	Thu	07 / Nov / 1957	07.25	Meridian (Mississippi)	@ □
290.		/ Nov / 1906		Anadarko (Oklahoma)	*
291.		/ 1949		Tulsa (Oklahoma)	@
292.	Tue	29 / Jul / 1952		Enid (Oklahoma)	*
293.	Mon	30 / Jan / 1956	21.30	Lamar (Oklahoma)	*
294.	Sun	08 / Dec / 1957	17.50	Woodward (Oklahoma)	*
295.	Fri	11 / Sep / 1964	06.00	Ulysses (Oklahoma)	?*
296.	Mon	02 / Aug / 1965		Oklahoma City (Oklahoma)	*
297.	Tue	03 / Aug / 1965		Lake Hefner (Oklahoma)	@
298.	Wed	23 / Mar / 1966	05.05	Temple (Oklahoma)	@ □
299.	Sat	26 / Mar / 1966	24.00	Texahoma (Oklahoma)	*
300.	Fri	01 / Apr / 1966	22.40	Tangier (Oklahoma)	*
301.	Sat	21 / Oct / 1967	22.00	Duncan (Oklahoma)	□
322.	Thu	29 / Jan / 1953		Conway (South Carolina)	*
323.	Sat	14 / Feb / 1953		Loris (South Carolina)	*
324.	Thu	17 / Nov / 1966	04.00	Gaffney (South Carolina)	@ □
328.		/ 1944		Oliver Springs (Tennessee)	*
329.	Wed	06 / Nov / 1957	06.30	Knoxville (Tennessee)	@ □
330.	Mon	28 / Mar / 1966	20.00	Fayetteville (Tennessee)	*
331.	Tue	05 / Apr / 1966	24.00	Alto (Tennessee)	*
332.	Thu	22 / Apr / 1897	23.30	Rockland (Texas)	@ □
333.	Thu	22 / Apr / 1897	24.00	Josserand (Texas)	?@ □
334.	Sun	25 / Apr / 1897		Merkel (Texas)	* □ †
335.	Mon	26 / Apr / 1897		Aquila-Hillsboro (Texas)	*
336.	Sat	08 / Apr / 1950		Amarillo (Texas)	@
337.	Thu	20 / Apr / 1950		Lufkin (Texas)	*
338.		/ 1952		Martin County (Texas)	*
339.	Thu	18 / Jun / 1953	02.30	Houston (Texas)	□
340.	Fri	06 / Apr / 1956		McKinney (Texas)	@
341.	Thu	26 / Sep / 1957		Yellow Falls (Texas)	?@ □
342.	Sat	02 / Nov / 1957	03.30	Canadian (Texas)	@ □
343.	Sat	02 / Nov / 1957	22.50	Levelland (Texas)	*
344.	Wed	06 / Nov / 1957	18.00	Boerne (Texas)	*
345.	Thu	13 / Aug / 1959	21.30	Freeport (Texas)	@
346.	Mon	02 / Aug / 1965		Justin (Texas)	@
347.	Wed	04 / Aug / 1965	01.30	Dallas (Texas)	*
348.	Fri	03 / Sep / 1965		Damon (Texas)	*

For key to "Event" column symbols, see note 4, page 5

Case		Date	Time	Location (State)	Event
349.	Wed	30 / Mar / 1966		Pecos (Texas)	@
350.	Sun	17 / Apr / 1966		Millersview (Texas)	*
351.	Sun	24 / Apr / 1966	03.30	Pedernales River (Texas)	*
352.	Sat	06 / Aug / 1966	14.00	Xxxx (Texas)	* □
353.		/ Sep / 1966	03.30	El Campo (Texas)	@
354.	Sat	03 / Sep / 1966	14.00	Xxxx (Texas)	*
355.	Mon	05 / Sep / 1966		Xxxx (Texas)	* □
356.	Wed	02 / Nov / 1966		El Campo (Texas)	*
357.	Mon	28 / Nov / 1966		El Campo (Texas)	@

in Missouri, Robert O. Achzener (W9AUT) in Colorado, and several others. Their activity was coordinated by Michel Jaffe (WB6RPL) and Alternate Control Tom Thompson (W6BPV).

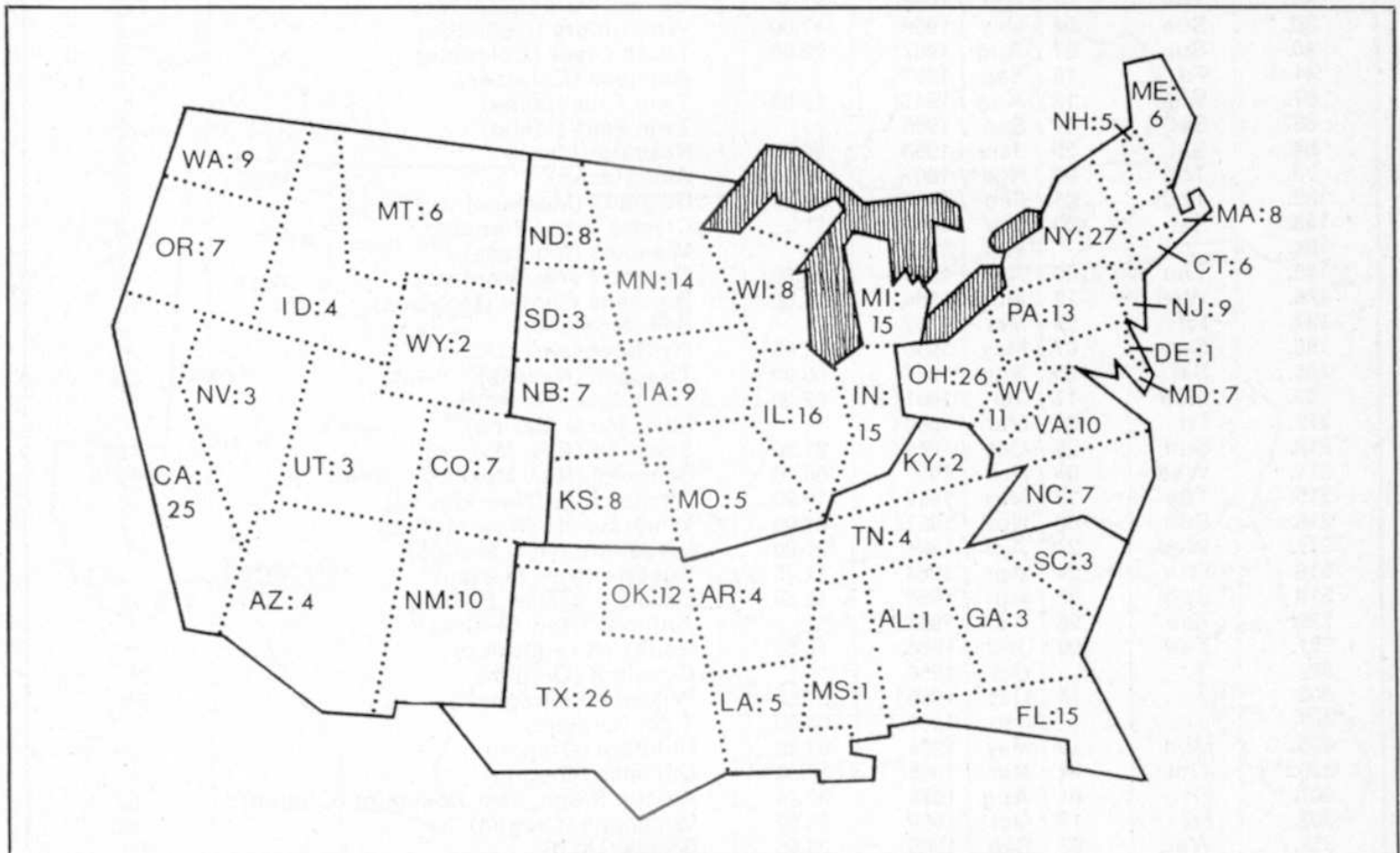
The second reason for frustration had to do with the data-gathering phase itself. Information about landings initially comes from a large variety of sources: typically it contains errors of date, place, names of the witnesses, not to mention inaccurate reporting of the events themselves. As we had to start from a nucleus of reports published in the UFO literature, we found that our data-base included many stories that enthusiastic writers, in their eagerness to extract the sensational element of their data, had forgotten to mention were out-and-out hoaxes! The reverse also happened, when reports explained away by the Air Force turned out to be genuine UFO observations; this included cases when full "confessions" had been obtained! Thus it would be misleading on our part to claim that we are presenting here either a complete or an accurate picture of the

American landings. We are simply publishing a map where we have pinpointed those reports we have been able to collect, together with some indication of the event (landing with or without occupant, traces, object on the ground or at ground level only) according to the same code we have already used for the Iberian landings (Ballester and Vallée, 1971).<sup>4</sup> A question mark indicates that we have been unable to find a precise location for some cases.

The general distribution of the 400 landing reports is shown on Fig. 1, in a state-by-state breakdown. For convenience we have divided the country into four major areas (West, Midwest, South and East) that have no special significance in terms of sociology or geography but contain comparable numbers of reports. For

<sup>4</sup> See FSR Special Issue No. 4, *UFOs in Two Worlds*:

- @ indicates that the object touched the ground,
- \* refers to objects seen at ground level only,
- designates reports of occupants,
- † signifies the existence of traces or marks.



Distribution of 400 United States landing reports



TABLE II—Western States: see map on page 8

Case		Date	Time	Location (State)	Event
2.	Tue	10 / Jun / 1947	23.00	Douglas (Arizona)	*
3.	Fri	27 / Jun / 1947	10.30	Bisbee (Arizona)	@
4.	Mon	30 / Jun / 1947	09.10	Grand Canyon (Arizona)	*
5.	Mon	09 / Oct / 1967	17.40	East Tucson (Arizona)	@
10.	Sun	06 / Nov / 1896		Camptonville (California)	@ □
11.	Tue	18 / Oct / 1927		Bakersfield (California)	@
12.	Tue	08 / Jul / 1947	12.00	Muroc Air Field (California)	*
13.	Fri	19 / Aug / 1949		Death Valley (California)	@ □
14.	Fri	02 / Nov / 1951	23.00	Mojave (California)	*
15.	Wed	20 / May / 1953	18.30	Brush Creek (California)	@ □
16.	Sat	20 / Jun / 1953	18.30	Brush Creek (California)	@ □ †
17.	Thu	22 / Apr / 1954	14.00	San Nicholas Island (California)	@
18.	Mon	22 / Aug / 1955	14.00	Casablanca (California)	@ □
19.	Wed	18 / Jan / 1956		Redondo Beach (California)	@
20.	Wed	06 / Jun / 1956	04.30	Banning (California)	*
21.	Fri	20 / Jul / 1956		Panorama City (California)	@ □
22.	Wed	06 / Nov / 1957	05.40	Playa Del Rey (California)	@ □
23.		/ Dec / 1957		El Cajon (California)	@ □
24.	Fri	14 / Mar / 1958	08.45	Healdsburg (California)	@
25.	Sat	20 / Aug / 1966		Healdsburg (California)	*
26.	Tue	22 / Dec / 1959	23.50	Oakdale (California)	@
27.		/ Sep / 1962	21.45	Orland (California)	*
28.	Thu	30 / Apr / 1964		Baker (California)	@
29.	Wed	13 / May / 1964		Rio Vista (California)	@
30.	Sat	05 / Sep / 1964	22.00	Cisco Grove (California)	@ □
31.	Mon	04 / Oct / 1965		Rio Vista (California)	* □
32.	Sat	30 / Jan / 1965	02.00	Manresa Beach (California)	@ □
33.	Thu	31 / Mar / 1966	06.00	San Francisco (California)	@ □
34.	Fri	02 / Jun / 1967		North San Juan (California)	@
35.	Sun	29 / Jan / 1950		South Table Mountain (Colorado)	@
36.	Thu	11 / Aug / 1960		Left Hand Canyon (Colorado)	*
37.	Mon	24 / Oct / 1962		Horsetooth Reservoir (Colorado)	? @
38.	Thu	07 / Apr / 1966	21.30	Daniels Park (Colorado)	? @
39.	Sun	01 / May / 1966	17.00	Walsenburg (Colorado)	@
40.	Sun	27 / Aug / 1967	23.20	Texas Creek (Colorado)	@
41.	Fri	15 / Sep / 1967		Alamosa (Colorado)	@ †
67.	Wed	13 / Aug / 1947	13.00	Twin Falls (Idaho)	*
68.	Sat	08 / Sep / 1956		Twin Falls (Idaho)	@
69.	Sat	29 / Jan / 1966	00.10	Rexburg (Idaho)	@
70.	Thu	02 / Nov / 1967	21.30	Ririe (Idaho)	@ □
182.	Thu	21 / Feb / 1963	02.30	Belgrade (Montana)	@
183.	Sat	09 / Mar / 1963		Crystal Lake (Montana)	@
184.		/ Apr / 1964		Missoula (Montana)	@ □
185.	Thu	30 / Apr / 1964	22.30	Canyon Ferry (Montana)	@
186.	Wed	12 / Aug / 1964	22.00	Brekken's Corner (Montana)	? @
187.	Fri	24 / Mar / 1967		Belt (Montana)	@
195.	Sun	07 / May / 1950	18.45	Ely (Nevada)	*
196.	Sat	23 / Nov / 1957	06.30	Tonopah (Nevada)	@
197.	Mon	17 / Jul / 1961	02.00	Las Vegas (Nevada)	*
212.	Fri	26 / Mar / 1880		Lamy (New Mexico)	* □
213.	Sun	25 / Oct / 1953	21.30	Santa Fé (New Mexico)	@
214.	Wed	06 / Nov / 1957	00.10	Santa Fé (New Mexico)	*
215.	Tue	18 / May / 1954	19.00	Cannon Afb (New Mexico)	@
216.	Sun	03 / Nov / 1957	03.00	White Sands (New Mexico)	@
217.	Wed	22 / Apr / 1964	21.00	Lordsburg (New Mexico)	*
218.	Fri	24 / Apr / 1964	17.45	Socorro (New Mexico)	@ □
219.	Sun	26 / Apr / 1964	12.30	La Madera (New Mexico)	@
220.	Tue	28 / Apr / 1964		Anthony (New Mexico)	*
221.	Tue	02 / Jun / 1964	16.00	Hobbs (New Mexico)	*
302.		/ Oct / 1950		Crowfoot (Oregon)	? *
303.		15 / Oct / 1960	07.55	Wildwood (Oregon)	? *
304.		/ Jan / 1961	03.00	Tiller (Oregon)	□
305.	Mon	18 / May / 1964	07.30	Hubbard (Oregon)	@ †
306.	Thu	04 / Mar / 1965	18.30	Corvallis (Oregon)	@
307.	Fri	01 / Aug / 1969	00.24	Reston Ridge, near Roseburg (Oregon)	@
308.	Fri	17 / Oct / 1969	24.00	Willamina (Oregon)	@
358.	Wed	07 / Sep / 1966	23.05	Glines (Utah)	? @

Case	Date	Time	Location (State)	Event
359.	Sat 24 / Sep / 1966		Glines (Utah)	?@
360.	Thu 11 / May / 1967	02.00	Saint George (Utah)	*
371.	Sat 21 / Jun / 1947		Maury Island (Washington)	* †
372.	Sat 21 / Jun / 1947	11.50	Spokane (Washington)	@
373.	Sat 23 / Mar / 1957		Puyallup (Washington)	*
374.	/ Oct / 1963	09.00	Whidbey Island (Washington)	@ □
375.	Tue 28 / Jul / 1964	22.30	Lake Chelan (Washington)	@
376.	Tue 12 / Jan / 1965	20.20	Custer (Blaine Afb) (Washington)	@
377.	Fri 13 / Aug / 1965	07.00	Renton (Washington)	□
378.	Sun 18 / Feb / 1968	01.00	Vashon Island (Washington)	@ †
379.	Thu 07 / Aug / 1969		Ridgefield (Washington)	@
399.	/ Jan / 1952	22.30	Weston (Wyoming)	*
400.	Sat 31 / Aug / 1957		East Thermopolis (Wyoming)	*

each region, we are giving a map with the location of each case and a number that refers to a list, broken down by State.

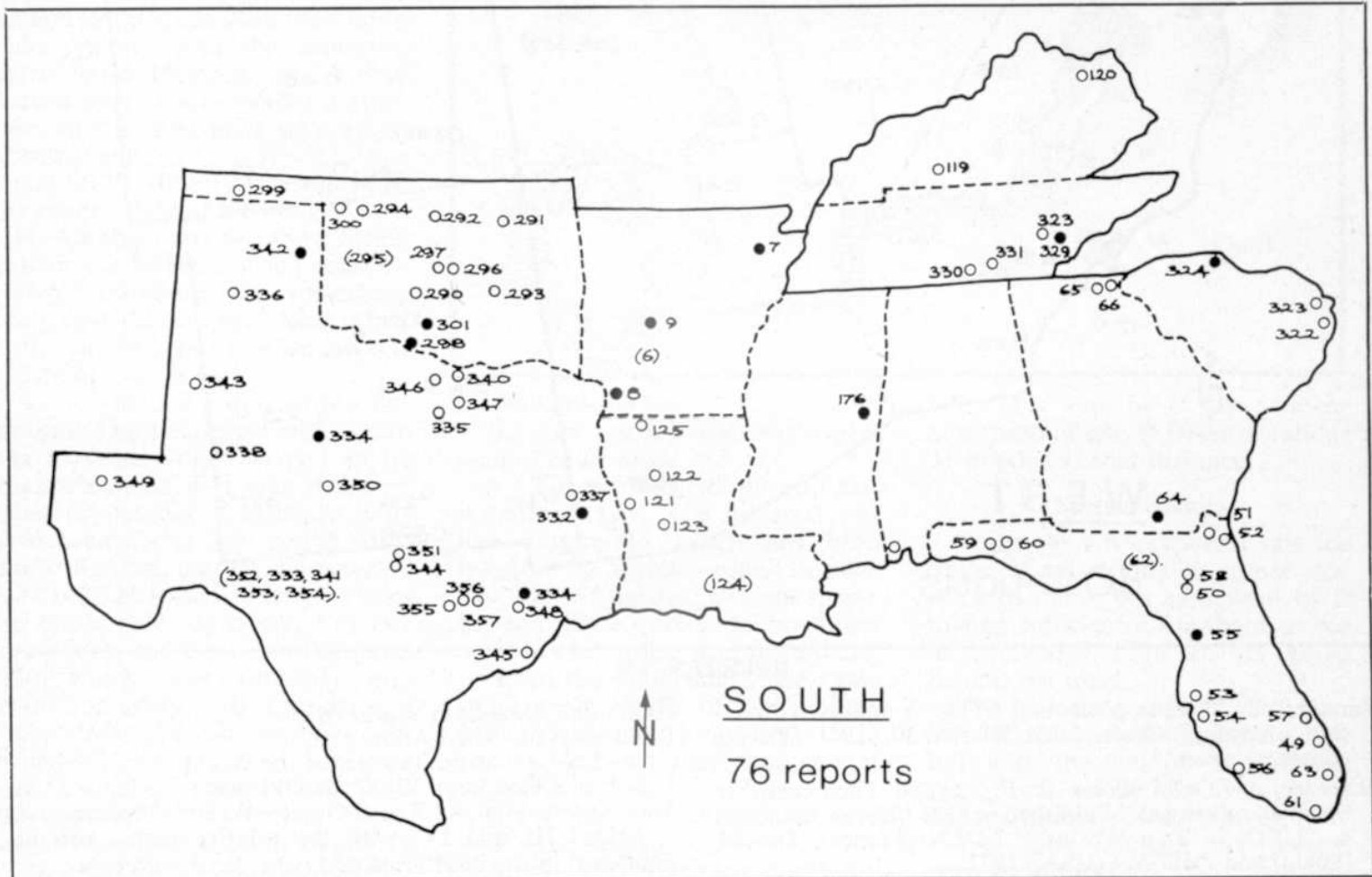
We are well aware of the limitations of a map in terms of correlation studies. Dr. David Saunders has reminded us of these limitations in a timely study entitled: "People, places and UFOs" in which he writes:

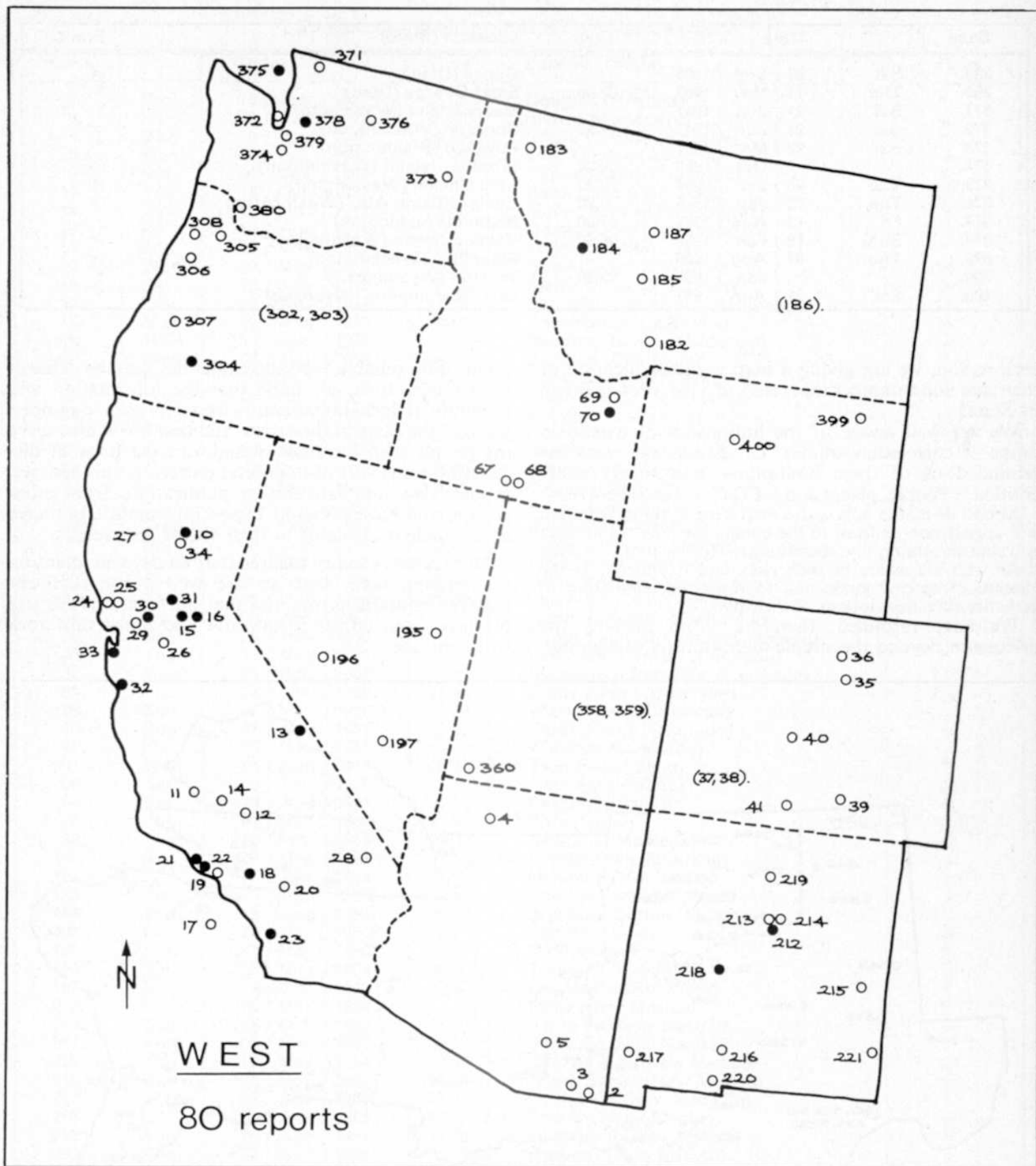
Almost no matter how such a map is made, the distribution will appear non-uniform to the human eye; the map-maker will almost certainly find something to remark about . . . Even those who are aware of such risks find it difficult, in the absence of specific guidelines, to resist the temptation to verbalize such descriptions of their data.

We have refrained, therefore, from pushing the discussion beyond the simple identification of sighting-

points until reliable "specific guidelines" can be defined. In the meantime, we hope that the information will be helpful to local investigators who may wish to re-open some of the cases in their area, and that it will also serve the people who have not abandoned the hope of discovering some sort of high-level pattern in this activity. It may also stimulate similar publications from other groups who have gathered Type-I information but have never made it available to their fellow researchers.

Our readers can rest assured that we have no intention of stopping here, that we are well aware that our material contains errors and that our methods are still primitive; our efforts to improve and refine this work will continue.





#### REFERENCES

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Ballester, V-J., and Vallée, J. F. "Type-I Phenomena in Spain and Portugal." Published in FSR (Special Issue No. 4, "UFOs in Two Worlds"), LDLN (France), *Stendek* (Spain) and *Data-Net* (USA), 1971.

Hammond's Standard World Atlas.

Rand McNally Road Atlas.

Columbia-Lippincott Gazetteer of the World.

U.S. Post Office Dept. Zip Code Directory.

State Description and Travel Guide—Writer's Projects.

Tables III and IV, with the relative maps, will be published in the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

# RECENT OBSERVATIONS OVER SOUTHERN SWEDEN

*Sven-Olof Fredrickson*

During July this year we had the good fortune to meet Mr. Fredrickson when he was on vacation in this country. Among many things that were discussed were the two cases which are dealt with in this article, and which had been investigated by the Göteborgs Informations Center för Oidentifierade Flygande Föremål (GICOFF). The author is Secretary of this group which operates from Kjellmansgatan 9, 413 18 Göteborg, Sweden.

**HUGO ABRAHAMSON**, head of a manufacturing firm, his son (19) and daughter (10), made a very good observation of a flying saucer on April 30, 1971. It was 7.45 p.m., and they were watching television at their home in Åsenhöga, Guosjö, a little place a few kilometres to the south of Lake Vättern.

Suddenly the daughter exclaimed excitedly: "Look . . . out there! What's that?"

Looking up, they perceived something quite unusual in the air. They rushed to the window. We'll take up their account as given during our subsequent investigations.

GICOFF members Erik and Anders Wahlström were the first to make contact with the witnesses. Later Björn Högman and I paid them a visit. Here follows a summary of the interviews with Hugo Abrahamson:

**GICOFF:** *Where were you when you caught sight of the object?*

**H. Abrahamson:** We were sitting watching television when my 10-year-old daughter saw something going past the window. We rushed to the window and saw the object.

**G.:** *How did it look?*

**A.:** It was like a disc with a flat bottom. On the upper side there was a dome which seemed to be transparent, as if it was made of glass, or perspex. I estimate it to have been about 2-3 metres from top to bottom, and its diameter to have been at least 10 metres. From the upper side, or dome, I'm not sure which, came a powerful green light which was rotating, one revolution every 5-10 seconds.

**G.:** *How did you estimate the diameter?*

**A.:** I watched it pass behind some treetops about 100 metres away, and as I saw the object as clearly as a car going by, it can't have been

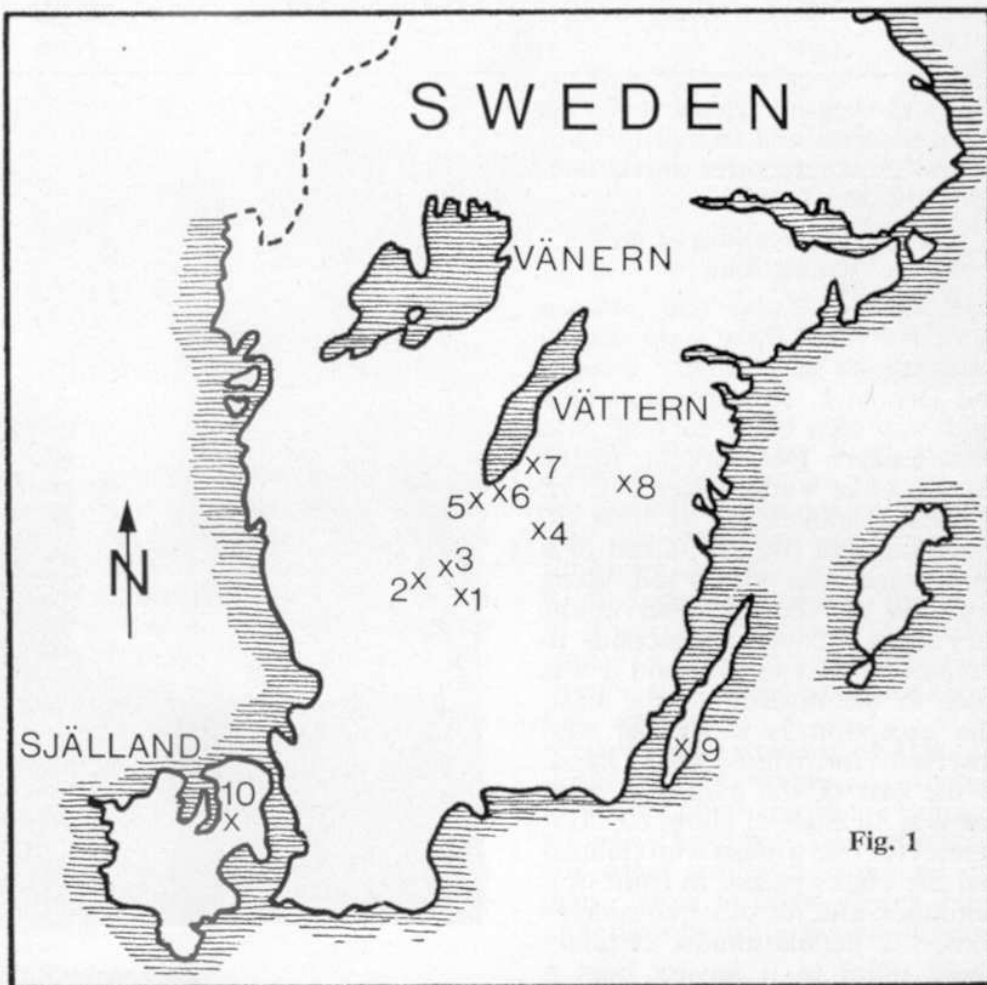


Fig. 1

far beyond the trees.

**G.:** *Can you say what material it seemed to be made of?*

**A.:** The sun was still up, so I saw it quite clearly. The material was like aluminium which has been lying out for a while—a dull surface. The edge of the disc was not sharp. Instead, there were small portholes close to each other, and from these, or from the underside, there came small green "puffs of fire". These were 30-40 cms. long, and 10-15 cms. wide, and they emerged at regular intervals.

**G.:** *What was the duration of your observation?*

**A.:** It's difficult to say, but I can

tell you it went by as fast as a car at a speed of maybe 60 km/h. (about 37 m.p.h.) at that distance.

## Further details

When the witnesses first saw the object it was tilting its upper side towards them, but as it went by it turned sufficiently for them to see its underside prior to its going behind the trees.

The direction of "flight" was SW-NE. The house stands on a little hill, with the window in question facing east, so the UFO went by at approximately the same level.

We have spoken to several persons who know Mr. Abraham-