

# The Pattern Behind the UFO Landings

Report on the Analysis of 200 documented observations made in 1954

BY JACQUES VALLEE

Author of the best-selling *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (Henry Regnery, Chicago: Neville Spearman, London: Ace Books—paperback—U.S.A.), Jacques Vallée has just completed a revised version of the translation of his second book *Les Phenomenes Insolites de l'Espace* (Table Ronde, Paris). Known as *Challenge to Science*, it is published by Regnery. French born and educated Mr Vallée is at present living in the United States. He is an astronomer and an expert on computer techniques, and is a consultant to NASA on the Mars Map project.

Interest in landing reports is rapidly rising among the public and among UFO students. Several factors contribute to the development of this interest. First of all, the recent wave, with its maximum in July-August 1965, has confronted us with a remarkable number of incidents of this category, thus forcing many to accept the reality of accounts they previously denounced as hoaxes. In the second place, it has become obvious that such reports represented the UFO mystery in its most crucial form, because they confront us with a clear choice between the reality of an unprecedented phenomenon (and the strong suggestion of its intelligent origin) and the hypothesis that all witnesses are absolute liars of the most extreme psychological type. In contradistinction to the reports of the landings, accounts of objects seen in flight are always open to discussion in terms of natural effects and are thus less responsive to analysis.

In the third place, it is fast becoming obvious that no theory of the origin and nature of UFOs can afford to ignore the accounts of landings, of which several hundreds have been published, and which contain descriptions of the objects and their alleged 'operators' seen at close range.

## Sources of Information

Descriptions of landings can be found in many specialised journals and in many books, including the earliest ones. Charles Fort mentions a few such incidents. An American researcher, Mr. Orvil Hartle (of 118 Oberreich Street, La Pote, Indiana 46350) has published several accounts of early twentieth century landings of a remarkable character in his book, *A Carbon Experiment*. Similar cases have been noted during the 1946 Scandinavian wave and the great 'American' period of 1947-52.

Ruppelt, who was in charge of the U.S. Air Force's investigations in 1952, considered himself to be plagued by reports of landings, as he writes in his

book *The Report on UFOs*, and his team conscientiously eliminated them. It is only when reliable civilian researchers like Leonard Stringfield (author of the excellent *Inside Saucer Post* and Coral Lorenzen of APRO (3914 E. Kleindale Rd. Tucson, Arizona) started to investigate the American landing cases that proper light was cast on the subject.

In the meantime, however, something of the greatest significance had happened in Europe. The 1954 wave reached its peak in Western Europe, producing thousands of reports, and among them a large number of accounts of landings. All reports circulated freely. Witnesses told their stories with considerable naivety, having never heard of 'flying saucers' before. Valuable details, first-hand documents and personal interviews were promptly centralised by able researchers, such as Charles Garreau, a professional newspaperman with *La Bourgogne Republicaine*, a local daily sold in the East of France, who made numerous field trips with his photographer, meeting hundreds of witnesses and publishing the whole story in concise, accurate articles (Figure 1). Not only France, but Italy, Spain and Northern Africa also produced a wealth of data.

Elsewhere in this issue, other researchers are reporting on the development of the problem of the landings in recent years. But the 1954 reports appear naturally as the nucleus of any general study. We have chosen to limit our analysis to two hundred of the most significant cases. They were selected from an extensive material: first, collections of newspapers and the files of letters from readers of several large dailies, made available by the news media. Next, the personal files of early sightings compiled by Messrs. Raymond Veillith, a well-known astronomer and the publisher of the lively periodical *Lumières dans la Nuit* (his address is: 'Les Pins', Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, Haute-Loire, France), Charles Garreau, mentioned earlier, and

# LA BOURGOGNE

## RÉPUBLICAINE

Directeur : Jean BOUHEY

ADMINISTRATION ET RÉDACTION  
11, avenue Maréchal-Foch (Téléphone 61 74.10)  
B.P. 100 — PARIS-15<sup>e</sup> — 3, rue Cuvier (Tél. Centre 23.42)

PUBLICITÉ  
DUMH : Avenue NAYAL, place Berry (Tél. 61 42.35)  
PARIS : Près Pasteur, 5, rue d'Alsace (Tél. 61.42)

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### M. MENDES-FRANCE posera éventuellement la question de confiance au cours du débat sur les accords de Londres

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — La plus grande partie des débats de la Commission des ministres chargés d'examiner les accords de Londres, et dont les travaux se sont prolongés jusqu'à peu près 14 heures, a été consacrée au large exposé que M. Mendès-France a fait sur les travaux de la conférence de Londres.

Le chef de la délégation française a exposé les raisons qui ont poussé le gouvernement à accepter les accords de Londres, et a souligné les avantages qu'ils offrent à la France. Il a également évoqué la question de la confiance que le gouvernement doit avoir en ses partenaires, et a annoncé qu'il posera éventuellement cette question au cours du débat.

### A ANVERS UNE FEMME ÉTRANGÈLE SES QUATRE ENFANTS ET SE PEND

Anvers, 6 JANVIER. — Une femme étrangère, âgée de 45 ans, a été trouvée morte dans sa chambre d'hôtel à Anvers, avec ses quatre enfants. Elle avait été étranglée et se pendait à un meuble. Les enquêteurs ont découvert des traces de sang et des empreintes de pas dans la chambre. L'affaire est considérée comme un suicide.

### L'AFFAIRE ÉVOQUÉE au conseil des ministres

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — L'affaire évoquée au conseil des ministres hier soir, a été l'objet de discussions vives. Les ministres ont examiné les propositions de loi relatives à la réforme de la justice, et ont décidé de les renvoyer à la commission des lois.

## BARANÈS MAINTIEN SES ACCUSATIONS CONTRE MM. D'ASTIER ET DUCLOS « Mensonges et provocations répliquent les deux députés - Delarue se présente chez le juge d'Instruction



Alfred Delarue, le journaliste qui a écrit les articles de la "Libération" sur le dossier de la "Libération".

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — Vers 9 h. 30, ce matin, M. Emmanuel d'Astier de la Vignière, directeur du journal "Libération", est arrivé en voiture à la chambre de Raoul et, pour employer une expression un peu vulgaire, son "sang n'a fait qu'un tour" quand il a vu dans l'antichambre les journalistes.

« Au lieu de vouloir tout le monde à la fois, vous avez voulu tout le monde à la fois », a dit d'Astier, qui a déclaré que les journalistes ont voulu pousser à la démission de M. Mendès-France. Il a également reproché à M. Duclos d'être allé voir M. Mendès-France chez lui, et d'avoir essayé de le convaincre de démissionner.

M. Delarue, le journaliste qui a écrit les articles de la "Libération" sur le dossier de la "Libération", a été entendu par le juge d'instruction. Il a déclaré qu'il n'avait rien dit de ce qu'on lui reproche, et qu'il a été victime de mensonges et de provocations.

## UN ENGIN mystérieux s'est posé, lundi soir à Poncey-sur-l'IGNON (Côte-d'Or)

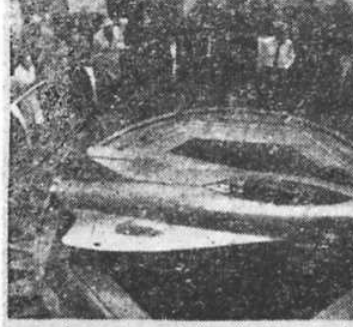
L'un des témoins lui assigne la forme d'un cigare  
Des traces très nettes d'atterrissage  
ont été relevées

DE NOTRE ENVOYÉ SPÉCIAL CHARLES GARREAU  
De la fenêtre de la chambre à coucher, Mme Thérèse Fournier, la Maitresse le pré qui s'étend au fond du village, a vu, à 21 heures, un objet blanc, d'une forme indéfinissable, se poser dans le jardin. L'engin était très silencieux et n'a émis aucune lumière.



C'est l'engin du ciel qui s'est posé à Poncey-sur-l'Ignon, le 11 janvier 1954. L'engin était très silencieux et n'a émis aucune lumière.

### Le "clou du Salon"



Mort de M. Emile Male de l'Académie Française  
M. Emile Male, 82 ans, est mort à Paris le 4 janvier 1954. Il était un éminent écrivain et un membre de l'Académie Française.

### LA VÉRITÉ "toute simple"

LA VÉRITÉ "toute simple" est un ouvrage de E. MARLOT, édité par les Éditions de la Vérité. Il traite de la recherche de la vérité dans la vie humaine.

### LA MORT DEMANDÉE CONTRE OBERG ET KNOCHEN



Paris, 6 JANVIER. — De la région de la Moselle, un homme a demandé la mort pour un crime qu'il a commis. Il s'agit d'un cas de suicide par demande de mort.

### Une famille empoisonnée par des champignons UN MORT

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — Une famille de quatre personnes a été empoisonnée par des champignons. Un des membres de la famille est mort. Les enquêteurs ont découvert des restes de champignons dans la cuisine.

### contre toute attente Suicide concluent les enquêteurs dans l'affaire STOCCHI

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — Les enquêteurs ont conclu que le suicide est la cause de la mort de M. Stocchi. Ils ont découvert des traces de sang et des empreintes de pas dans la chambre.

### Da meilleur ...au pire

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — Un homme a été tué par un autre homme. Les enquêteurs ont découvert des traces de sang et des empreintes de pas dans la chambre.

### Le nez retrouvé son propriétaire...

Paris, 6 JANVIER. — Un nez a été retrouvé dans un champ. Le propriétaire du nez a été identifié. Il s'agit d'un cas de nez volé.

Figure 1: An article by Charles Garreau on the front page of a French local paper. The article described the investigation of the landing of a UFO in Poncey (case 56).

Roger Verisch; the early compilation of similar data by the team of Ouranos, under the direction of Marc Thirouin; the special catalog on landings of M. Guy Quincy, a most systematic and clear presentation of the observations; the files of Aimé Michel, so extensive that it took four years to analyse them in sufficient detail; and, of course, the fine presenta-

tions published in book form by Michel himself (*Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*) and later by M. Michel Carrouges (*Les Apparitions de Martiens*).  
With such sources, the present article can hardly have any ambition at originality. The only new aspect in our study is the very large amount of data



compiled into one compact presentation, and the fact that the precision of dates, locations, times and other data has been greatly refined. Exhaustive documentation will also be listed here for the first time.

#### Four unanswered questions

In this article, we will address ourselves to the following four questions:

1. Who makes a report of 'landing'? What are the numbers, ages and professions of the witnesses?
2. What are the conditions of the observations? How far from the witnesses were the alleged objects when they landed? At what time of the day and in what type of site do most landings take place? How long do the objects remain on the ground? How do they disappear?
3. Do witnesses describe the occupants of the alleged craft? If so, in what terms? Are their descriptions consistent?
4. What are the main characteristics of the alleged craft as deduced from the reports?

#### Observational data

We are now going to list the essential features in our two hundred accounts. It is proposed to publish a table for statistical purposes in a future issue of the REVIEW. This may be used as a reference.

*Case no. 1, Jan. 4.* Fireman at Marignane airport saw a round, luminous object slowly coming down, called the control tower to report it. When he came out again, the object had taken off. (The same airport had been the scene of an earlier landing on Oct. 27, 1952.)

*2, Apr. 22.* American military personnel see a cigar-shaped object of grey colour coming to the ground on San Nicholas Island (California). Smoke was seen to rise where the object had landed. Search gave no result.

*3, May 19.* Nigel Frapple saw a disc which took off rapidly towards the North-west of Bruton, Somerset, England.

*4, July 20.* Near Oslo, Norway, two men were 'chased by an object' and stopped their car to observe it. After the incident, the watch of one of the witnesses was no longer working. The man who repaired the watch stated it had been exposed to intense magnetic effect. Paint on the car had allegedly changed colour, effect attributed to proximity of the object.

*5, Aug. 23.* In Lugin, near Thonon (France) a man approached an object which looked like an aluminium trailer with two small beings in silvery dress, grunting like pigs, standing close by. The craft took on a fiery colour and flew away.

*6, Sept. 3.* Many workers in the fields near Souk-el-Khemis (Tunisia) saw an object apparently made of transparent plastics which flew over the habitations, stopped in a vertical position like a disc on edge and swung like a pendulum a few metres above the ground. It made several erratic jumps, then re-

sumed its horizontal position and flew away.

*7, Sept. 7.* Between Harponville and Contay (France) two bricklayers saw an object floating in mid-air over a field: 'it looked like an unfinished haystack, with a plate turned upside down on top of it'. When they came close it took off.

*8, Sept. 10.* A farmer who was coming back to Mourieras (France) at nightfall was suddenly confronted with a helmeted being of average height who made friendly gestures, then went back into the brush and entered a cigar-shaped object about four metres long, and took off.

#### Marius Dewilde Case

*9, Sept. 10.* Quarouble (Nord): A metal worker comes out of his house as dog barks and sees a dark object on the railway tracks, thinks it is a carriage. Then notices two small beings walking towards it, tries to stop them but finds himself paralysed when strong light is projected upon him. Object took off.

*10, Sept. 15.* Near Feyzin (Isere) a white light suddenly swept the road in front of the witness, who observed it was emitted by a large dark object hanging about ten metres above the ground. It flew away with the noise of a wet firework, throwing sparks compared to those of magnesium.

*11, Sept. 17.* Near Cenon a farmer meets a being in a diving suit who makes friendly gestures. This individual was very small and had a voice 'inhuman and incomprehensible'. The witness was unable to move throughout the encounter. The being entered an object which was sitting on the road and took off 'like lightning', throwing a greenish light.

*12, Sept. 18.* A small grey disc flies over a car in Casablanca (Morocco) at extremely high speed. It is followed by currents of cold air.

*13, Sept. 19.* A bright light is seen East of Oberdorff (France) and it comes to the ground, becomes dimmer: it is then seen as an object the size of 'a small bus'. Remains on the ground about one minute. A figure was seen.

*14, Sept. 20.* A guard on Santa Maria Airport (Azores Islands) witnesses the landing of a craft from which emerged an individual who talked to him, but was not understood. The object took off very fast.

*15, Sept. 23.* Near a place called 'Le Jou', north of Bourges, the Patient family saw a bright object giving off a light similar to magnesium. When on the ground, it emitted a red glow and a narrow beam of light. A moment later it took off again, became bright once more, came towards the witnesses and followed their car until they reached the village of Fontland. Independent observations were made by the police in Plombieres and by several other persons. Object flew erratically over the area for one hour.

*16, Sept. 24.* Two women made independent reports of a dark grey disc seen in a clearing in the woods near Becar. A man of normal height was standing close to the object, which took off without noise.

17, Sept. 24. Mme. Vignolles saw a luminous object coming down quickly without noise and landing in a field in Lencouacq. It took off again, very fast, after a few seconds.

18, Sept. 24. At the farm Lachassagne, near Ussel, a farmer who was coming back with his tractor saw a luminous object which flew very low over him.

19, Sept. 26. In Chabeuil, Mme. Leboeuf was suddenly confronted with an individual who looked like 'a child in a plastic bag, with eyes larger than human eyes'. This individual entered a flat circular machine which took off towards the north-east with a soft whistling sound.

20, Sept. 27. At Foussignargues, people in a bus first saw a reddish object coming down from the sky. Later M. and Mme. Roche noticed an object on the ground, softly glowing, a small distance from their home, but were afraid to approach it. The object remained there several hours. It was described as 'a sort of glowing tomato, with antennae on top'.

21, Sept. 27. In Figeac, children saw 'a box' with 'an unknown man' standing close by. The object took off.

22, Sept. 27. In Lassus Road, in Perpignan, a college student saw a circular object on the ground. Two beings came out, then re-entered the craft, which took off. Witnesses in a state of shock.

#### Premanon "Ghost"

23, Sept. 27. Four children in Prémanon (Jura) come out of their home as dog barks furiously. They find a large object on the ground and a small being (called a 'ghost') who makes friendly gestures. The children threw stones at the intruder.

24, Sept. 28. In Froncles, three witnesses observed a large bright object which oscillated, then landed and changed colour.

25, Sept. 28. In Bouzais ('Le Grand Tertre') a 'mass of light' suddenly fell from the sky in front of the witness, who found himself unable to move. Three figures moved around the light.

26, Sept. 28. Two railroad engineers were bringing a locomotive from Nantes back to Auray when, near Saint-Nicolas-de-Rendon ('La Butte Rouge') they saw a dark object which took off, glowing with a purple light, and followed the locomotive.

27, Sept. 30. Near Marcilly-sur-Vienne (Indre-et-Loire) eight construction workers saw a disc on the ground, with a small humanoid wearing a helmet, standing close by.

28, Sept. 30. The crew of a ship at sea between Roven and Brest observed an object which came to touch the surface of the sea, then took off vertically, gave off a red flame and vanished.

29, Sept. 30. The operator of a ferry was crossing the river Seine when he saw a large white sphere with a smaller green sphere below, hanging motionless above the river for twenty minutes. It flew away towards the south-west; no noise was heard.

30, Sept. 30. As he was returning home near La-Flotte-en-Re (Isle of Re, France), a man suddenly saw a bright light and, fearing a fire, rushed to the scene, to see a luminous sphere of about 12 metres' diameter floating less than one metre above the

ground. The sphere became red, then blue, and took off vertically at extreme high speed. 'It did not make more noise than a flock of birds'.

31, Oct. 1. A woman in Dhubri (India) reports she has seen a 'luminous plate' land in a field, then take off.

32, Oct. 1. A cigar-shaped object takes off vertically as two bricklayers approach it, on the road between Blanzay and Montceau (France). It made a noise compared to a soft whistling.

33, Oct. 1. A man and his dog are 'paralysed' as a luminous object dives from the sky towards them. It takes off with an equal speed. Sighting took place at Bry (Nord), only 10 km. from Quarouble (Case no. 9).

34, Oct. 1. A farmer observes a white object in a field near Ressons-sur-Matz (Oise).

35, Oct. 1. Two young men see a luminous white disc moving about the sky near Jussey. It dives to the ground and two men described as very tall and dressed in white emerge from the craft and make gestures. The witnesses run away in fear.

36, Oct. 1. Two businessmen who were coming back from Royan saw a small individual crossing the road in front of their car in the vicinity of 'La Roulerie'. Having stopped at once they saw the figure disappear into the woods.

37, Oct. 1. Coming home in the evening near Branges (France) a man saw on the side of the road a lighted object which had a flat section with a sort of 'mushroom' on top. As he approached it, the object became dark and took off vertically with a soft whistling sound.

#### "Paralysis" Case

38, Oct. 1. Returning home at night, a Bergerac fireman saw an oval light in the sky, then lost sight of it. But later he was alarmed when his yard seemed to be ablaze: rushing out, he saw a disc rise from the ground with a whistling sound. It flew up to a moderate height, then became luminous and took off 'at a dizzying speed'. Early the next morning he asked his neighbour, a retired man, about any unusual observation he might have made. The neighbour reluctantly admitted that, as he was closing his garden gate, he suddenly found himself paralysed and observed a disc about three metres in diameter, resting on three legs in the yard. Almost immediately it took off and was lost to sight, with a rush of air.

39, Oct. 2. Two women in Levroux (Indre, France) made independent reports concerning a luminous disc about three metres in diameter, which flew very low over the houses of the village.

40, Oct. 2. At Jonches, near Auxerre, two humanoids were seen on the ground and two hours later a luminous red object was observed at the same spot at very low altitude.

41, Oct. 2. Near Louhans, in the immediate vicinity of Case no. 37, a craft with a dome on top was seen on the ground between the road and the railroad tracks. Openings, through which a strong yellow light was shining, were observable.

42, Oct. 2. At Croix d'Epine, a young mechanic was riding his motorscooter when he saw a bril-



liantly illuminated object, shaped like an egg, which landed on the left side of the road about 15 metres away from him. He thought he could see short, dark shapes 'like potato bags' moving about the object. He sped up and, reaching the top of the hill, he looked back: then he saw the object, compared to a 'small bus' in size, whose colour had changed from orange to blue and then to blue-grey, and which took off. The witness was in a state of shock when he arrived in the village, and fainted when he told his story. Two women made independent reports of the object.

43, Oct. 2. A disc which emitted a weak green glow landed in a field near Guebling (France). Two witnesses.

44, Oct. 3. A man and his wife see a luminous red object which takes off as they come close to it near Benet (close to Nessier, Vendee).

45, Oct. 3. At dawn, a circular craft of about three metres in diameter is seen near Bessuire (France) by a 55-year-old man who was going to work. A small figure, wearing a diving suit, was seen close by. The object took off at tremendous speed.

46, Oct. 3. Three men were riding bicycles near Vron (France) when they saw an orange object shaped like a honeycomb, on the road ahead of them. A man wearing a diving suit was standing close to it. The object took off as they came within 70 metres of it. The sighting took place on road D.27 between Rue and Quend (See case no. 48).

47, Oct. 3. The crowd at the Fair in Chereng saw a luminous object arrive very fast, stop in its flight, emit sparks and come down towards the ground. It took off again as witnesses rushed to the scene.

48, Oct. 3. About 2½ hours after case no. 46, an orange object chased a car, flying extremely low over the road between Rue and Quend. For 8 kilometres it followed the car, driven by a butcher, M. Galant, then it flew away.

49, Oct. 3. Between Montmoreau and Villebois-Lavalette, near the village of Ronsenac, a circular craft was seen which seemed to be sliding on the ground. It showed some luminous sources but was not completely illuminated. At it took off, however, it became entirely luminous.

50, Oct. 4. An object is said to have landed in Limoges, in the yard of M. Montagne, a railroad employee.

51, Oct. 4. Between Lagrasse and Villemagne (near Lezignan, Aude) two men driving a truck saw a luminous flying object which came slowly to the ground, then suddenly took off with a burst of light.

52, Oct. 4. A farmer, M. Garreau, saw an object the size of a carriage which landed in his field in Chaleix (Dordogne). Two individuals of human type and normal height, wearing coveralls, emerged from the craft and spoke to the witness in a language he could not understand.

53, Oct. 4. In the evening, several inhabitants of Tregon noticed an object which seemed to hover near the top of a hill. They drove to the site, but the object flew away. What seems to be the same object was also seen at Megrit, about fifteen miles south-west of Tregon, hovering above a farm. It

was described as metallic, flat and emitting light.

54, Oct. 4. About twenty persons saw a circular, luminous object rise from the vicinity of the railroad tracks near Montceau-les-Mines (exact location: Les Chavannes). It took off vertically and disappeared.

55, Oct. 4. A ten-year-old child named Bertiaux saw an object 'shaped like a tent' which had landed near Villers-le-Tilleul (Ardennes). An unknown individual was standing near it.

### Earth "sucked up"

56, Oct. 4. At Poncey-sur-Lignon, a housewife ran away as an orange object, circular and about three metres in diameter, swung in mid-air and landed near her farm (Figure 1). When her neighbours arrived, armed with rifles, they found the earth had been 'sucked up' over a quadrilateral area, in such a way that the idea of a hoax had to be abandoned. Extensive researches and analyses were made by the police and the French air force. The object, as well as the traces it left, remain unexplained.

57, Oct. 5. In Loctudy (Finistere) a baker was drawing water from the well in the middle of the night when he noticed, some distance away, an object about three metres in diameter from which emerged a dwarf who had an oval face covered with hair and eyes which were 'as large as the eggs of a raven'. The unknown individual touched the witness on the shoulder and spoke to him in a language he could not understand. As the young man called his boss the dwarf went back into the craft and flew away.

58, Oct. 5. Near Mertrud, between Voillecomte and La Neuville (Haute-Marne) a roadmender named Narcy saw an object near the road. A hairy individual entered the craft. Traces were found where the object had landed.

59, Oct. 5. About 10 km. from Beaumont, near Clermont-Ferrand, several persons saw an object coming towards them and getting brighter. When about 150 metres from them they felt 'a strange sensation' and found themselves unable to move. The object left a smell compared with that of nitrobenzene.

60, Oct. 6. At nightfall near Mouchamps (Vendee) two persons from Paris saw a circular craft described as a 'fiery sphere' landing.

61, Oct. 6. Near the military barracks at La Fere (Aisne) soldiers saw a strange object which had landed 300 metres away. As one of them approached the site, he was mysteriously prevented from approaching. The object was luminous.

62, Oct. 16. Two women saw a whitish light in the western sky. It seemed slowly to come towards the ground, and indeed was later seen between the railroad station and the bridge, as it had landed about 100 metres away from their home in Villers-le-Lac (Doubs). When the object moved, a very bright light was seen under its dark mass. It gave off a flow of sparks and rose, remained motionless in mid-air for a moment, then flew away very rapidly.

63, Oct. 7. Hennezis, Eure: the Lansselin children witnessed the landing of a luminous, red object shaped like 'one half of an egg'. Two 'pilots' were seen. They were of normal stature.

64, Oct. 7. Plozevet, Finistere. The crews of several fishing boats saw a luminous, orange-coloured spot in the sky over the coast. It seemed surrounded by dense smoke. According to villagers, who saw the object independently, it came about 10 metres above the ground, then flew away towards the south-east.

65, Oct. 7. Beruges (near Poitiers, Vienne). A farmer, M. Thebault, saw a luminous object on the ground. It was circular, about three metres in diameter, and emitted a beam of light which swept the countryside.

66, Oct. 7. Jettingen (Haut-Rhin). A railroad employee saw an object in a field, three metres away from the road, one metre above the ground. It was mushroom-shaped and about three metres in diameter. A luminous rectangle, like an opening or a door, was seen on the side. It took off and flew about five metres above the witness, following him to the next village.

67, Oct. 7. A truckdriver saw an intense blue light coming towards him near Saint-Jean-d'Asse (Sarthe) on the road from Le Mans to Alencon. The object was cigar-shaped, red and blue. The truck engine stalled, headlights died.

**Prickling sensation**

68, Oct. 7. Ten minutes later, employees of the Renault Motor Co., who were going to work early in the morning, saw, near the road east of Le Mans, a luminous object on the ground, and felt 'pricklings' and 'a sort of paralysis'. The object emitted a burst of green light and flew away very low over the fields.

69, Oct. 7. In the afternoon, M. Margailon saw an object which had landed in a field in Monteux; it was shaped like a hemisphere, about 2.5 m. in diameter. The witness gasped for air and felt 'paralysed'.

70, Oct. 7. In the evening, M. Marcel Guyot was coming from work near Saint-Etienne-sous-Barbuise (Aube) and his son Jacques was following the same road, ten minutes behind. Both of them saw, at a railroad crossing, three objects which gave off a bright white light. Jacques Guyot confirmed his father's observation, adding that the three objects were still on the tracks when he saw them. One was circular, the others cigar-shaped.

71, Oct. 7. In Bompas, M. Sebelli saw an object which landed in the village about midnight. He called his neighbours and they observed the departure of the craft.

72, Oct. 8. On the road to Boulogne, near Calais, a bluish object, seen clearly with a dome on top, dived towards the ground. It then went away, became white. The next morning, several people in Calais saw a bright object which did not land.

73, Oct. 9. In Belgium, near Huy, a mailman saw a cigar-shaped object which landed. Two silhouettes, 'approximately human', were seen aboard the craft.

74, Oct. 9. Between Montaren and Uzes, one kilometre from the farm 'Le Mas Blanc', a doctor, a farmer and six other persons saw an orange, ovoid object 'oscillating' in mid-air, a small distance above

the ground. It was very bright and 'fiery'. No structure was seen.

75, Oct. 9. People who were hunting in the vicinity of Dreux saw a luminous sphere which took off and flew towards the south-west.

76, Oct. 9. Several inhabitants of Soubran (Charente-Maritime) saw a luminous spherical object, which landed in a pasture.

**UFO "mechanics" at work?**

77, Oct. 9. In the evening, Herr Hoge, a projectionist, saw four occupants of an object which had landed about 69 metres from the road near Rinkerode, in the vicinity of Munster (Germany): he was returning home when he observed a blue light on the side of the road and what he thought was an aircraft which had made an emergency landing. But the object which gave off the light was cigar-shaped; four men, who seemed to be wearing rubber coveralls, were working under the craft. They were about 1.20 m. tall, had a very large chest and a large head. Their legs were small and thin.

78, Oct. 9. In the evening, M. Christian Carette saw for about ten seconds, near Beauvain (Orne), in the vicinity of the pool of Laneforet, a fiery sphere which was flying at tree-top level. Its diameter was about 4 metres and it had a protuberance on top.

79, Oct. 9. As he was driving on a road near Carcassonne (Aude), M. Jean Bertrand saw on the road ahead of him a bright, metallic sphere whose top half seemed made of a transparent plastic, for he could easily see two human-like figures standing inside. The object took off rapidly, flying east.

80, Oct. 9. Four children living in Pournoy-la-Chetive (Moselle) report: 'We were roller-skating, about 18:30, when all of a sudden we saw something luminous near the cemetery. It was a round machine, about 2.5 metres in diameter, which was standing on three legs. Soon a man came out. He was holding a lighted flashlight in his hand and it blinded us. But we could see that he had large eyes, a face covered with hair and that he was very small, about 1.20 m. He was dressed in a sort of black sack like the cassock M. le Curé wears. He looked at us and said something we did not understand. He turned off the flashlight. We became afraid and ran away. When we looked back we saw something in the sky: it was very high, very bright and flew fast.'

81, Oct. 9. In Lavoux (Vienne) a farmer who was riding his bicycle suddenly stopped as he saw a figure dressed in a diving suit, aiming a double light beam at him. The individual seemed to have 'boots without heels', and very bright eyes. He walked on the road for about one minute, then went into the forest and did not reappear. No object is described in connection with this encounter. The witness was 'paralysed' throughout the incident. The entity had a very hairy chest and carried two 'headlights' placed one below the other on his chest.

82, Oct. 9. "I was coming back from Toulouse to my parents' home in Briatexte and I was with two



cousins. After the turn at La Caiffe we saw two little figures—the height of an eleven or twelve-year-old child—crossing the road about 5 metres in front of the car; they jumped into a pasture. I applied the brakes and stopped about twenty metres later. We had just got out of the car when we saw a large convex disc which took off vertically. It was about six metres in diameter, orange in colour, and it was literally 'sucked up' into the sky."

83, Oct. 9. In Beyrouth, the representative of a German firm, M. Max Favell, saw an object land. It gave off a white light. It took off vertically, with a spinning motion, and was lost to sight.

84, Oct. 10. Between Epoisses and Toutry, about 13 km. from Semur-en-Auxois, two men saw a luminous sphere, 3.5 metres in diameter, which was on the ground.

85, Oct. 10. Near Charmes-la-Cote (Meurthe-et-Moselle) a man who was riding a motorcycle suddenly saw in his headlight an aluminium coloured object shaped like a plate, with a dome and two 'portholes'. The object was about two metres in diameter, one metre high, and it took off immediately. The witness is a jailer in Ecouvres.

86, Oct. 10. M. Bon, a mathematics professor in Lisieux, observed early in the afternoon, in the vicinity of Saint-Germain-de-Livet, about 200 or 300 metres on the side of the road, a silvery disc, about seven or eight metres in diameter, which rose without making any noise. The object was spinning. It dived to the ground from an altitude of about 800 metres, then flew off horizontally at 'a dizzying speed'.

87, Oct. 11. Near Elliant (Finistere) a 58-year-old farmer saw a strange object flying at about 200m. altitude. Afraid, he ran away. About one kilometre from the scene he looked back and saw the object coming very close to the ground. He was unable to give an estimate of the size or a description of the shape.

88, Oct. 11. Farmers near Doncourt-Village (Meurthe-et-Moselle) were awakened by a strange whistling sound. They saw a flat object which had landed close to the woods: soon it rose very fast, vertically, and flew away. The ground was found calcined. Samples were taken by officials for analysis.

89, Oct. 11. Two men who were riding motorcycles at about 3 a.m. near Acquigny saw, on the tracks of the railroad line Evreux-Louviers, a machine shaped approximately like a bell, about 2.5 metres high, and about one metre above the ground. The lower side of it was like a ring, and the object gave off reddish and greenish sparks. A burst of orange light was observed as it jumped about ten metres high, then it remained motionless in mid-air for about one hour, during which time a third witness joined the first two. It finally turned brighter and flew away in an easterly direction.

90, Oct. 11. A man who was making the daily collection of milk in Fonfrede (Loire) was suddenly stopped as the engine and the headlights of his truck died. He got out and saw a light in the sky

above him. After it crossed the road, the headlights came on again and the witness was able to restart his car.

91, Oct. 11. In Lacanche (Cote d'Or), M. Labonde, who was driving his car, was followed by a sort of luminous globe, which was surrounded with a strange reddish glow, about two metres in size.

### Three creatures seen after car stopped

92, Oct. 11. A salesman from Clamecy, who was driving to the Corbigny fair with a friend, reported that the engine and the headlights of the car died suddenly. He felt something similar to an electric shock and then saw a craft which had landed in a pasture about fifty metres away from the road. It was cylindrical, fairly large in diameter and three small people were standing close by. The only light seen was a small reddish light compared to the end of a cigarette. Both witnesses were unable to move. Then the craft took off, and they were able to continue their journey.

93, Oct. 11. At the same time (dawn), four persons in Heimersdorf, near Mulhouse, saw a luminous craft on the ground. When they approached the machine, it became fiery red in colour and flew away.

94, Oct. 11. At the same time, near Bauquay (Calvados), a large red object was seen which flew very fast over the tops of the trees as the cattle panicked in the pastures. Three witnesses.

95, Oct. 11. Within half-an-hour of the three preceding cases, a large disc flying very low over a road scared two truck-drivers in Lavarande near Oran (Algeria). They stopped their vehicle and ran away into the fields while the object flew towards Medea. Their truck was carrying gasoline.

96, Oct. 11. At nightfall, a very bright object came close to the ground in Saillat-sur-Vienne. It was seen by all members of a family.

### Four entities near Taupignac

97, Oct. 11. Three men were driving near Taupignac when they suddenly observed an intense red sphere in the sky. They stopped and got out of the car to watch it. Then they discovered, about 200 metres away from the road and 10 metres above the ground, a round machine with a dome, about 6 metres in diameter, giving off a yellow-red light. It was perfectly motionless and made no noise. Suddenly it moved horizontally over a small distance and landed behind a wood. Two of the witnesses walked toward it and soon were able to observe the strange craft again. Four little men, about one metre in height, seemed to be busy in the vicinity of the machine. When the witnesses arrived within 15 metres of the craft the four entities rushed into the disc by its opposite side. The two men were blinded by a sudden burst of light, first blue, then orange, then red, and the thing took off vertically at a fantastic speed.

98, Oct. 11. About two hours later, four persons who were driving near Birac saw two luminous spheres, one much smaller than the other, flying in

the same direction. Having stopped and manoeuvred in mid-air, the large sphere took a deep red colour, then turned to an intense white with a red aura; both then landed vertically. The witnesses did not wait.

99, Oct. 11. In Monbazin (Hérault) a luminous disc, five metres in diameter, was seen on the ground. One operator was observed.

100, Oct. 11. At 10 p.m. in Montbazens (Aveyron), a round craft four metres in diameter landed in a pasture. It gave off a powerful red light, took off with a formidable acceleration when witnesses approached it.

101, Oct. 12. In Teheran (Iran), a disc-shaped object came very close to the ground in a densely populated area. Chasim Faili, one of those who witnessed the incident, screamed when he thought he was going to be 'kidnapped': a crowd gathered and the craft took off. The report continues with a description of the operator of the machine, said to be small and dressed in black.

102, Oct. 12. At 4 a.m. in La Croix Daurade, two men saw a luminous object rising from a field, giving off a strong light and leaving the grass flattened on a five metre area.

103, Oct. 12. In the afternoon, in the Mamora forest (Morocco) on the road to Port Lyautey, a French engineer in his car saw a small being, about 1.20 metres in height, entering an object which soon took off. The individual was wearing silver coveralls.

104, Oct. 12. About 9 p.m. in Orchamps (Jura), a farmer, M. Beuc, saw an object with a small pilot, who entered the machine. The craft glided over the road for about 30 metres, then rose rapidly.

105, Oct. 12. A railroad employee in Monlucon saw a torpedo-shaped, metallic craft on the ground near a gas-oil reservoir. An individual, covered with hair, was standing nearby. He emitted sounds which were not understood. The witness went to gather his friends but when they returned the thing had disappeared.

106, Oct. 12. In Leguevin (Toulouse area) a mechanic who was in his shop at night saw a luminous disc, about 6 or 7 metres in diameter and 2.5m. thick, which landed. The witness tried to approach it but it then rose vertically at a fantastic speed.

107, Oct. 12. Near Dompierre-les-Tilleuls, Mr. Vieille, a business man, saw a circular flying machine which gave off a yellowish and purple light. It lost altitude, came close to the ground, changed its course to southwest and rose again in the sky.

108, Oct. 12. Shortly before midnight, M. Roger Ramond, a nightwatchman in Vielmur (Tarn) saw a great light and noticed an oval object which landed about 300 metres away from him. It looked like a fiery orange ball and illuminated the vineyard with 'a violet light'. It remained there for nearly three hours, then assumed a vertical position, rose slowly, stopped about thirty metres above the ground for a few seconds and finally took off at a dizzying speed.

109, Oct. 13. In Castelibranco (Portugal) two witnesses saw two individuals dressed in shiny clothing

who emerged from a craft and gathered flowers, shrubs and twigs, then took off.

110, Oct. 13. In Crocq (Creuse), five persons saw a round craft which manoeuvred, gave off a blinding light and had some sort of openings or portholes. It appeared to land, but far from the witnesses.

#### **Enormous-eyed creature**

111, Oct. 13. Practically at the same time, in Bourrasole, near Toulouse, M. Olivier (a former pilot), M. Perano and a third witness saw a reddish disc about four metres in diameter with a small being close by. This individual was about 1.20 metres in height and was wearing a diving suit: 'His head was large with respect to the rest of the body, and he had two enormous eyes. The suit was bright and shiny like glass'. The craft was surrounded by a sort of glow. One of the men approached within twenty metres of it, but was paralysed. The craft took off, throwing him on the ground, and it rose very fast.

112, Oct. 14. Saint Ambroix (Gard): Several witnesses saw seven small beings who fled into a 'phosphorescent' object when they came nearer. The object took off immediately.

113, Oct. 14. Lewarde (Nord), Erchin wood: a miner meets a strange being of small height and bulky figure, with large slanted eyes, the body covered with fur. No craft described.

114, Oct. 14. Jose Casella, a municipal employee, was riding home in Biot, when he suddenly found in front of him on the road an oval-shaped, aluminium object about five to six metres in diameter, one metre in height. As he applied the brakes, the object took off with a fantastic velocity. Several persons confirmed the sighting.

115, Oct. 14. A farmer in Angles (Vendee) saw a bright object which came almost to the ground, but when he tried to approach it, the craft produced an intense 'screen of light' and vanished without noise. Several persons in Angles observed the same phenomenon.

#### **Sticky cloud**

116, Oct. 14. Practically at the same time, in Meral, a farmer observed an orange sphere which landed. Upon approaching it, he found it was shaped like a flattened dome, five to six metres in diameter, which gave off a blinding light, illuminating the countryside over about 200 metres. The machine was transparent and a dark figure could be seen inside. It remained close to the ground, motionless, for about ten minutes, then flew off to the North. The witness went to the site and observed a sort of bright cloud, slowly falling on the ground. Upon arriving home he noticed that his clothes were covered with a white film of an adhesive substance, not unlike paraffin wax.

117, Oct. 14. At nightfall, in Saint-Germain-du-Bois, M. Lonjarret observed a luminous dome, orange in colour, on the ground near a corn field.

118, Oct. 14. In the Chazey Wood, south of Gueugnon, Messrs. Jeannet and Garnier observed 'a reddish fireball' which flew over their car whilst their engine and headlights died. Time: 19.30.

119, Oct. 14. At nightfall again, and a small distance



away from the Chazey Wood, M. Andre Cognard, who was coming from Gueugnon, was blinded by a light as a disc flew over his car.

120, Oct. 14. At nightfall, near Saint-Romain, another car engine died and the driver saw a circular craft in the shape of a disc turned upside down. In the same area (which is very close to the site of the previous two incidents) an engineer saw a luminous object coming to the ground and reported it to a scientific journal.

121, Oct. 14. At 20.10, on the road between Beauvais and Thieulloy-la-ville, an object flew over a car and the headlights failed. Then it started towards the North.

122, Oct. 15. In Perpignan (Saint-Assisclé) near the swimming pool, a retired man was walking with his dogs when a luminous, reddish sphere was seen to land about 30 metres from them and an individual in a diving suit walked around it. The dogs barked at him. He boarded the machine and it flew away without noise.

123, Oct. 15. In Southend (England) a young girl saw an object which landed in a park.

124, Oct. 15. At 19.50 near the Nimes-Courbessac airport, a yellow cigar-shaped object with brilliant 'portholes', about thirty metres long, six metres in diameter was seen on the ground. Figures with helmets covering the head could be seen inside. A sort of haze was observed at both ends of the craft.

#### **Intense heat at Rovigo**

125, Oct. 15. In an area called Boaria, province of Rovigo (Italy), a farmer who was leading cows to the pond suddenly saw a object flying over his house. The cows panicked and ran away, throwing the farmer's daughter to the ground, while the object emitted a blast of light. The farmer ran to the house and fainted, while three other witnesses saw the craft depart. The machine itself was dark, surrounded by short blue and yellow flames. It was egg-shaped and flew about fifteen metres above the ground. It was an intense source of heat. The little pond was found dessicated, and haystacks took fire, while the cattle suffered strange burns.

126, Oct. 15. In Saint-Pierre-Halte, near Calais, a baker saw a brilliant yellow craft which came down rapidly and landed on the railroad tracks. It was shaped like a mushroom, about four metres in diameter, two metres in height.

127, Oct. 15. In the afternoon, in Po-di-Gnocca (Italy), farmers saw a disc-shaped machine which landed, then took off vertically: where it had landed was found a deep crater about six metres in diameter. Poplar-trees which grew near the landing site were found partially burnt. Official investigation was made. (Observe similarity with case no. 56.)

128, Oct. 15. At nightfall, in Isbergues, a steelworker observed a luminous sphere which landed in the countryside, then emitted lights of various colours.

129, Oct. 15. At night, in Fouesnant, a truck driver saw a flat machine shaped like an inverted plate, which flew very low towards the sea. A second disc followed shortly thereafter, going in the same direction. Both emitted a reddish glow.

130, Oct. 16. In Thin-le-Moutier, near Mezieres, an object landed about thirty metres away from a woman, who fainted. The witness is said to have suffered from a skin disease following the incident.

131, Oct. 16. In Cier-de-Riviere, a young farmer who was coming back from the fields, leading a mare by the bridle, was surprised when the animal became restless. Rising from the side of the road, a grey object about 1.5 metres in diameter flew over them: the mare rose about three metres in the air and the witness had to release the bridle. Then the animal fell like a mass and for ten minutes was unable to move. At last, it rose and attempted to walk, but it was still trembling and stumbling with fear. The object had long flown away at very high speed. The witness himself had not felt anything.

132, Oct. 16. At 17.30 in Mazaye, on road D52-E, M. Bachelard was driving a light truck between Chanat and Couhay when suddenly the engine seemed to slow down with no apparent reason and the driver felt 'like paralysed'. Then he saw in a field near the road a brown object, about ten metres long, 2.5m. in height, making no noise, giving off no light and showing no opening.

#### **Dr. Robert's experience**

133, Oct. 16. At nightfall, Dr. Henri Robert, who was driving through the village of Baillolet, saw four flying objects at about 300 metres altitude. They flew slowly one above the other, but all of a sudden one of them dropped to the ground with a dead-leaf motion about 100 metres ahead of the car. Then the witness felt 'an electric shock', the engine stalled and the headlights died. The car stopped as the object touched the ground. Incapable of movement, Dr. Robert saw a figure, about 1.20m. in height, moving in the light of the object, then all went dark. Some time afterwards, the headlights of the car came back on, and the witness could see the craft taking off towards the north, along the road. Dr. Robert called the authorities as soon as he arrived in Londinieres, where he lives, and an investigation was started.

134, Oct. 16. At 21.45, in Dompierre (between Flaucourt and Herbecourt), Messrs. Deschamp and Laclotre saw a craft about twenty metres in diameter, two metres in height, which came to four or five metres of the ground for three or four minutes. The light it gave was yellowish and it made a glow about four metres around the object.

135, Oct. 17. In Saint-Cyr-sur-Mer, near Bandol, M. Leon B., a city council member, saw a circular, orange craft, which took off.

136, Oct. 17. In O Alvito (Portugal), a hunter, Manuel Madeira, saw an object which flew away as he approached it, rose in the sky and was rapidly lost to sight.

137, Oct. 17. At 14.30 in Cabasson, near Corbieres, a 65-year-old man was hunting with his dog near the junction of the Brillance Canal and the Durance River, when he suddenly found himself confronted with a grey-coloured object, about four metres long and one metre high, which was on the ground forty metres from him. The machine supported a dome, and he saw two helmeted beings emerge from it.

The witness fled, but his dog ran towards the object; he soon retreated, however, and walked in an awkward way for some time, as if partially paralysed. *138, Oct. 17.* At 20.30 in Varigney, several witnesses, including a policeman, saw a luminous object, bright red in colour, shaped like a dome or hemisphere, which came very close to a landing about twenty metres away from them. Red and white lights were emitted from the underside of the object.

#### **Visitors at Capri**

*139, Oct. 17.* At night, an artist who was walking near Cape Massulo, on the island of Capri, is said to have observed a disc, about five metres in diameter, which landed on the property of writer Curzio Malaparte. The witness first thought it was a helicopter, but upon approaching the object saw four little beings emerge from the craft. They were dressed with coveralls and remained outside the machine for half-an-hour. The object made a soft whirring noise, rose lightly, then flew away very fast. Blue sparks were emitted by the machine.

*140, Oct. 18.* In Cisternes-la-Forêt, two men saw an oval object with a dome, emitting a bright white light, which had landed in a field. When they approached it, it rose vertically, leaving a reddish trail.

*141, Oct. 18.* In Pont-l'Abbe-d'Arnoult, M. Meunier, a construction supervisor, was terrified by a strange craft which rose from the ground vertically. He said he had never been so afraid in his life, even during the war.

*142, Oct. 18.* At 20.40, in Fontenay-Torcy (Oise) a man and his wife saw a cigar-shaped light, red in colour, in the sky. All of a sudden the light dived towards them, leaving a reddish trail, and it landed not far from the road, but was hidden by some bushes. Upon reaching the top of a hill, the witnesses found themselves confronted with a bulky individual, human in appearance but only about one metre in height. He wore a helmet and his eyes were glowing with an orange light. One of the witnesses lost consciousness. There are four other witnesses who saw the machine in flight from a different location. A third group of independent witnesses in Sanson-la-Poterie saw the craft fly away at tremendous speed. The countryside was illuminated over an area two or three kilometres wide. The craft flew away in a westerly direction. The sighting is reported here for the first time.

*143, Oct. 18.* At 21.00, in Royan, on road N.150 near Saintes, M. and Mme. Labassiere and other witnesses saw two discs in the sky, orange and red in colour, with a sort of luminous bridge between them. They landed, and then one little being emerged from each of the two machines and went to the other without any sign or hesitation. After this exchange both machines flew away with a tremendous flash, leaving the witnesses completely amazed.

*144, Oct. 18.* At 22.45, near the lake of Saint-Point (Doubs), Mlle. Bourriot saw a bright light on the road and three beings: two of them were dwarfs: they crossed the road ahead of her. The third one was human in appearance, slightly smaller than average.

*145, Oct. 20.* In the village of Jean-Mermoz

(Algeria), M. Gaston Blanquere, who was driving his car, saw a machine with a dome on top. The dome gave off a yellow light while the underside emitted a beam of blue light. The light swept the countryside like a powerful searchlight.

*146, Oct. 20.* M. Lucien Fisch saw an object land in Issenheim, near Guebwiller (Haut Rhin). It was luminous.

*147, Oct. 20.* In the Lusigny Forest, an oval-shaped object about six metres in size was seen at tree-top level by M. Roger Reveille, who at the same time felt an intense heat emanating from the craft (see case no. 125). The object took off vertically at great speed. In the wood, the heat had become intolerable. As it was raining, a cloud of dense steam was forming where the object had come close to the ground. For about fifteen minutes, the heat prevented M. Reveille from reaching the site. When he did, he found the trees, the grass and the ground as dry as in full sunshine.

*148, Oct. 20.* Several unidentified craft manoeuvred for two hours in the area of Saint-Valery and Mers-les-Bains (Somme). One of them was brilliantly luminous and landed in a pasture. Two others were seen near the cliff in Mers-les-Bains. They seemed in communication by light signals with objects in the first group.

#### **Luminous being near Como**

*149, Oct. 20.* In Parravicino d'Erba, near Como (Italy), a man had just put his car in the garage when he saw a strange being covered with a luminous suit, about 1.30m. in height, who was standing near a tree. Upon seeing him, this individual aimed a beam from a sort of flashlight he was holding at him (see case no. 80), and the witness was paralysed until a motion he made when clenching his fist holding the garage keys seemed to free him, and he rushed to attack the stranger. The intruder then rose from the ground and fled. A soft whirring sound was heard. The witness was 37 years of age, and known as trustworthy. He arrived home in a state of great shock and had to go to bed as if running a high fever. Other interesting details are as follows: the 'visitor' had the lower half portion of his body inside a kind of funnel at the bottom of which was a disc having the same diameter as a bicycle wheel. On the ground an oily dark spot remained for some time and was photographed by police.

*150, Oct. 20.* M. Schoubrenner, of Sarrebourg, was driving in the vicinity of Turquenstein when he saw a fairly bright light in the distance. The time was about 18.30, and as he kept driving, he found his road blocked by a large object as the engine suddenly died. At the same time he found himself paralysed: 'my hands were as though glued to the wheel'. However, he was able to apply the brakes. The craft looked like an inverted cone, with the lower part phosphorescent, the middle flat in colour, the top luminous with a yellow or orange point, like an antenna.

*151, Oct. 21.* Pons: An egg-shaped object, about 5 or 6 metres in diameter, hovered and landed near the road. Two small beings, about 1.25m. in height,



emerged from it, went back inside almost immediately, and the craft took off vertically, leaving a red trail.

152, Oct. 21. Criteuil-la-Madeleine: A large ball of fire stopped the car of a bricklayer, M. Fillonneau, and the witness felt a violent air displacement. 'The car battery was dead and the bulbs of the headlights were burnt out.' The police made a thorough investigation.

153, Oct. 21. Pouzou: a man from Cherbonnieres who had his 3½-year-old child in the car with him suddenly felt painful prickings similar to electric shocks. They grew more and more painful as the car continued, and suddenly the engine died and the headlights went off and the child started crying. They were blinded by a strong red light which turned orange, and came from an object hovering over the road. The object soon flew away.

154, Oct. 23. In Saint-Hilaire-des-Loges, Mme. Boeuf, who was coming out of the farmhouse, saw a luminous disc in the sky and called her husband and children. All saw the disc come closer and, in fear, locked all doors and spent a night of terror in the living room, not daring to go to sleep. They did not come out until the next morning when neighbours, alarmed by the strange silence of the farm, came to investigate.

155, Oct. 24. On the beach at Ain-el-Turck (near Oran, Algeria) a small man with glowing eyes was seen.

156, Oct. 24. In Sainte-Catherine (Rhone, 'Les Egots') a child saw a man who emerged from a craft. He was 'dressed in red, his clothes looked like iron. He walked with his legs stiff, had long hair and a hairy face. His eyes were large like those of the cows.'

157, Oct. 24. Between Effiat and Biozat, on the road from Clermont-Ferrand to Vichy, the engine of a motor-scooter stalled as an egg-shaped object took off from the side of the road and rose without noise, leaving a bright trail.

158, Oct. 25. M. Treussard and a friend were almost blinded by a bright disc which landed in a pasture near Plemet (Cotes-du-Nord).

159, Oct. 25. In Arroye-et-Han, near Nancy, a 'phosphorescent craft' shaped like a brooder was seen, about two metres in diameter and one metre in height, which rose vertically from the road, leaving a luminous trail.

160, Oct. 26. Early in the morning, on the road Paris-Angouleme, about 18 kilometres from Angouleme, a sort of huge cauldron the size of a truck (six to eight metres) was seen at 50m. distance and took off without noise, leaving a white trail.

#### **Another twin-beam light ray**

161, Oct. 26. In the evening, a 47-year-old farmer at La Madiere was suddenly confronted with an individual of normal height wearing a sort of diving suit with a pale green light on either side of the helmet. This individual aimed the beam of two blue lights at the witness, who was thrown backwards. No flying craft described.

162, Oct. 26. In 'Les Metaires', a cluster of farms near Saint-Quirin (Moselle), two farmers and their

meter and three metres in height, which flew over. The mother observed an orange craft six metres in diameter as the tractor engine died. The lights also went out. The battery of the tractor was found dead (See case no. 152).

163, Oct. 26. Two witnesses in Heiteren, near Colmar, saw a flying object come from the West and land one kilometre away from them.

164, Oct. 27. In Linzeux, a very bright object flying very low stopped the engine and turned off the lights of a car driven by a shopowner, while the driver and his employee felt an electric shock.

165, Oct. 27. At dawn, policemen in Mezieres saw a craft which took off.

166, Oct. 27. In Les-Jonquerets-de-Livet (Eure) a farmer saw an elongated object with one light at each end which had landed in a pasture, but did not dare to investigate. Two hours later, a young man fell from his motorcycle when it suddenly stalled. The men in the village took lights and went back to the pasture to investigate, found the object had moved slightly. Going closer, two of the men saw two individuals about one metre in height who were very stiff when they walked and wore clothes as bright as armour. The craft took off without noise.

167, Oct. 27. In Moussey (Vosges) a craft was seen on the ground by a schoolboy and by his school director. Triangular traces reported.

168, Oct. 27. In Oye-Plage, a very bright cigar-shaped object was seen flying very low, following the turns of the road at 20m. altitude. It was seen for 15 minutes, then turned at right angles from the road and flew away.

169, Oct. 29. In Mesples, near Montlucon, a disc standing on edge and spinning rapidly came swiftly towards the ground. There were two witnesses as it suddenly vanished in mid-air. The time was 7.50 a.m.

170, Oct. 31. In Long (Somme) at a place called 'Corrompu', an oval orange object was seen on the ground by three people. The lights of a tractor went out when it took off emitting a very bright light, comparable to a welder's torch. Diameter: 4 to 5m. It came back, then turned and flew to the south-west. Noise compared to that of bees in a bee-hive.

171, Nov. 1. In Poggi-d'Ambra, near Arezzo (Italy), an object shaped like a hemisphere was seen, about two or three metres in height. Two dwarfs were seen close by, who had human faces and small teeth, and spoke an unknown language.

172, Nov. 3. The paper *Maroc-Presse* reports that one of its employees, the driver of a delivery truck, 'a man of sane judgement and of excellent eyesight' has seen an unusual flying object in Oued Beth, near Meknes at 7 a.m. "I saw it flying over the valley of the Beth river. I am positive it was not an aircraft or any known machine, but a circular, flat craft which had the appearance of copper. It flew normally for some time, then it suddenly flipped over. Therefore I was able to see the whole disc, and was amazed when it came down into a field where it landed on edge, very gently. Almost immediately, it rose into the sky at great speed,

resumed a horizontal position and was quickly lost to sight."

173, Nov. 4. At night, a Brazilian fisherman saw a luminous object land close to his position, near Pontal. Three small men dressed in white, wearing sorts of caps emerged from a door. They seemed to have dark skin, gathered leaves and grass, took some water in a tube, and the craft flew away.

174, Nov. 5. Near La Coruna (Spain), a man who had stopped his car saw, 150 metres away from him, a large shining disc which rose with a slight noise like an explosion, and flew away at fantastic speed.

#### Armed entities?

175, Nov. 5. Near La-Roche-en-Brenil, a craft which made a noise like a large transformer and gave off an orange light was seen in a pasture. Three men dressed in dark coveralls were standing near it. One was holding a sort of box 'which emitted a beam of light three metres long'. The other two were holding objects which looked like weapons. One of the witnesses fled, after feeling pricklings on his face. Four photographs of the scene were allegedly taken by the other witness hidden in the bushes.

176, Nov. 7. In Monte Ortobene, near Nuoro, Island of Sardinia, Italy, a man fell from his motorcycle (see case no. 166) when he saw a disc-shaped machine land near the road. A tax driver stopped and walked towards the object, which gave off a soft whirring sound, and soon took off. Farmers on the other side of the mountain saw it fly away. Diameter: about 15 metres. The disc was made of a metal described as rough and silvery. It supported a dome with a kind of porthole. Some elliptical ports were also visible on the lower portion of the object; they were covered with a grating similar to that of a motor car radiator.

#### 150 Monza witnesses

177, Nov. 8. In Monza (Italy) a man saw a light in a stadium and soon a crowd of 150 people gathered, destroyed the barriers and rushed to have a closer look. They saw a disc set on three legs, emitted a blinding white light. Figures dressed in light colours and wearing transparent helmets were standing close by. They seemed to communicate with 'guttural sounds'. One of them had a dark face and a sort of trunk, or hose, coming up to his face. The craft flew away without noise.

178, Nov. 8. In Voussac, near Doulouvre, reliable persons have reported seeing a luminous sphere which landed at the edge of the forest and became dark. The next morning, investigation disclosed that an area four or five metres in diameter had no leaves, while the ground elsewhere was covered with them. The ground seemed to have been dug up. No noise had been heard.

179, Nov. 8. In La-Tessoualle, near Cholet, at dusk, a man who was returning home saw a blue disc in the sky, while his engine stopped and his lights failed. The disc came closer and the witness, who was surrounded with an intense blue light, was unable to move for several minutes, could not articulate a word, and felt pricklings in his hands 'in

spite of his gloves'. As soon as the blue light was turned off, he was able to move and to start his engine, but the light reappeared 200 metres away and he decided to approach it: as he did so the object became dark again and flew away with a soft whistling. It was a cone, about 5 or 6 metres in size, rose vertically, then flew horizontally to the North.

180, Nov. 10. Near Porto Alegre, Brazil, an agricultural engineer and his family saw a disc from which two men, normal in height, having long hair and dressed in coveralls emerged. They came towards the car with their arms raised, but the frightened witnesses sped away.

181, Nov. 13. Near the local airport in Berck (France) a craft shaped like a round hut was seen to take off, about 300 metres away from the witnesses. No noise was heard.

182, Nov. 13. Near Buchy, a luminous craft took off while witnesses were paralysed and felt pricklings (see case no. 179). The engine of the car slowed down, but did not stall.

183, Nov. 13. Near Curitiba (Brazil) a lens-shaped object was seen on the railroad tracks. Three dwarfs wearing tight-fitting suits were looking at the tracks with a light. When witnesses approached the machine, it took off very fast.

184, Nov. 14. Between Wasmes and Audemets (Belgium) a gardener saw a craft which had landed near the road at night, and gave off a very bright light. His clothing was partially burnt when he went close to it.

185, Nov. 14. In Forli (Italy) a strange beam of red light, apparently emitted by some flying machine, was reported sweeping the countryside. As it illuminated two tractors, one of them stalled, but the other, a diesel, continued. The beam was seen for about one hour by a large number of persons.

#### Dwarfs investigate rabbits

186, Nov. 14. In Isola (near La Spezia, Northern Italy), a farmer saw a bright cigar-shaped craft land near him and hid himself. From the machine came three dwarfs dressed in metallic diving suits, who centered their attention on the rabbits in their cages while speaking among themselves in an unknown tongue. Thinking they planned to steal the animals, the farmer slipped away, returned with his rifle, and aimed at the dwarfs. Then two things happened: first the rifle failed, and at the same time it became so heavy that the farmer had to drop it. He also found that he was unable to move or speak, while the intruders took the rabbits and left, their craft leaving a bright trail. As they departed the farmer was able to move again: he picked up his gun and fired, but it was too late. He told his story to his close family only, but it soon spread. The witness is known as sober and reliable.

187, Nov. 22. In Santa Maria (Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil), a radio operator at the air base saw a huge dark object, about thirty metres in diameter, hovering at tree height. With four other persons, he saw it for several hours, sometimes softly glowing, some-



times coming down almost to the ground.

188, Nov. 28. Two truck drivers found their road blocked between Caracas and Petare (Venezuela) by a luminous sphere over three metres in diameter, hovering two metres above ground. Coming out of the truck they met a small creature with claws and glowing eyes coming towards them. One of the witnesses, named Gonzales, grabbed the being, found it surprisingly light (about 35 pounds) and observed its body was very hard and covered with fur. The creature pushed him back with one hand in spite of its small weight. The second truck driver rushed to the police. Two more creatures emerged from the brush and leaped into the sphere, carrying stones and other samples, while the first individual attacked Gonzales again. Now terrified, he tried to defend himself with a knife, but the blow did no harm to the hard skin of the entity. Then one of the dwarfs in the sphere blinded Gonzales with a light while the others re-entered the craft, which took off.

### Gunfire to no avail

189, Early in Dec. The director of the Barquisimeto (Venezuela) College was chased by a luminous disc as he was driving near Guanare. He fired at the object with his revolver, to no effect, then stopped another car containing a lawyer and two policemen. All four saw the machine fly away.

190, Dec. 1. In Bassoues (Gers) an oval light, very bright, illuminated the countryside early in the morning hours. After some manoeuvring and oscillations in mid-air it landed for a couple of minutes, about 2.5 kilometres away from the witness, then flew away to the East.

191, Dec. 4. Twelve workers in Zuaga, near Badajoz (Spain) saw what they described as a square machine, ten metres in size, which landed and took off at great speed, flying towards the South.

192, Dec. 9th. A farmer in Linha da Vista, near Venancio Aires (Brazil) observed a stranger standing near a machine which was almost on the ground, shaped 'like a tropical helmet', cream-coloured and surrounded by haze, making the noise of a sewing-machine. Another individual was looking at the fence, while a third one was inside the craft with his head and arms visible. As the witness dropped his fork, one of the men picked it up and handed it back after examination. They went back inside the machine, motioning the witness not to come close, and took off. They were of average height, had broad shoulders, long hair, very white skin and slanted eyes. They wore brown coveralls ending with shoes which had no heel.

193, Dec. 10. A doctor from Caracas who was driving with his father near Floresta (Venezuela) stopped his car as two little men were seen running into the bushes. Soon thereafter a luminous disc rose from the side of the road with a sizzling sound, and flew away.

### Violence in Venezuela

194, Dec. 10. Having seen a bright object land near

the Trans-Andian Highway near Chico (Venezuela), two young men approached it, found it was shaped like two bowls glued together, about three metres in diameter, and the underside was a source of fiery light. Four small beings attacked them, apparently in an effort to kidnap one of them. His companion hit the attackers with his rifle, but broke it. The dwarfs were extremely strong, and their bodies were covered with hair. As the witnesses resisted, the intruders fled into the machine, which took off. An official investigation was made.

195, Dec. 11. In Linha Bela Vista, near the site of observation 192, two beings, human in appearance and dressed in sorts of 'yellow bags' took a plant of tobacco and a chicken, then flew away, leaving the farmer amazed.

### Bellicose Dwarf

196, Dec. 16. In San Carlos (Venezuela), three young men saw a small being, which attacked one of them before fleeing into a disc-shaped machine which took off immediately. The witness suffered wounds attributed to the creature's claws and was treated in the hospital (Gonzales, in case no. 188, had suffered similar wounds).

197, Dec. 17. A woodcraftsman who saw a very bright light on the road between Bersaillin and Colonne (France) first thought it was an American car with its headlights on, but soon observed it was produced by a dark object about eighty metres away: the light became brighter, the witness felt an intense heat wave and thought he was going to die. But the light at last went away. (see 125)

### More "Paralysis"

198, Dec. 19. In Valencia (Venezuela) a jockey saw six small creatures loading stones into a disc-shaped machine. He tried to turn round and run away but was paralysed by a violet beam of light aimed by one of the little men, while the others entered the craft, which took off.

199, Dec. 20. The same night, shortly after midnight, in the same town, an employee at the sanatorium saw an object on the ground but did not report his sighting. Another employee saw the craft three hours later. It was luminous and took off soon afterwards.

200, Dec. 29. At 21.00, a man who was going to Gardonne (France) saw in the vicinity of Bru an oval, red object fifty metres away from him. When he tried to approach it, he found he was unable to move. When this 'paralysis' subsided he ran to the house where his brothers lived, 300 metres away, and came back with them. When they approached, the object became white, then red, rose and flew away towards the East. It had been on the ground for 15 minutes at least. Strange traces were found at the site, as if the ground had been dug up, and small trees near the river were found cut, apparently with a knife. (see 178)

## An avenue of research

This article is intended as a compact presentation of reference material for use by specialists, and certainly not as light reading. But we are not unaware that the above enumeration tends towards tedium, and at this point we would do well to pause and reflect upon the character of the observations before we attempt to develop a method of analysis; for it promises to be a most formidable task, and many will give it as a futile and hopeless endeavour. Nor do we believe that these observations are in themselves convincing: the natural feeling is certainly one of shock and disbelief at first, and it does not seem possible to introduce any semblance of order in events so far out of the ordinary. Two comments, however, will open an avenue of discussion:

i) While reading the above reports we observe that the main series of events started with a clear, sudden burst of activity in September, and tended to subside early in November. At the same time, we notice that the centre of this activity shifted geographically during the second half of October, with the most remarkable reports coming from Italy and South America rather than France: this is *the first hint* that this activity, strange as it may appear, may be linked to some real, physical or psychological reality which can thus be studied with profit. At the same time, we are led to consider with caution the fact that a majority of reports comes from France: quite possibly sightings were made with equal density in other countries, but they may not have received equal attention.

ii) Then, an obvious explanation comes to mind: the cause of the reports (the 'stimulus') is indeed real: it is psychological in nature. In other words, all the witnesses were victims of their imagination. This theory was formalised by Professor Heuyer in a celebrated communication to the French Academy of Medicine: people are the victims of a 'flying saucer psychosis': the stories they read in the newspapers have a strong effect on their imagination: under this influence, feeble-minded individuals start generating rumours which spread from building to building and from one area of the city to another. Such rumours, of course, are typical of the tensions of modern, over-crowded population centres.

In the present article, we shall give conclusive evidence of the falsity of this theory. We shall show that there is indeed order in the sightings, and that what seemed an inorganised mass of rumours is in reality correlated very strongly with phenomena which are undoubtedly of a physical, rather than psychological, nature.

The above considerations, general as they are, define very clearly the plan of this article: we shall first exhibit negative correlations with all the factors upon which the psychological theory could be based. Then, we shall consider the laws of the phenomenon: we shall find them of great coherence, and consistent with the hypothesis that the great majority of the reported incidents were real. This conclusion will

open the way to some interesting speculations, and we hope these, in turn, will contribute to eliminate some of the obscurities which have been hanging over the UFO mystery for nearly twenty years.

## The First Negative Law: Population Density

The 'flying saucer psychosis', as described by Heuyer, would obey very strict rules, because psychoses are not erratic, random phenomena: they are observed only in those areas where conditions favourable to their development are gathered. In the fall of 1954, the conditions for such a craze would have been found in the Paris agglomeration, where rumours circulate very quickly and are easily amplified, where political and social conditions were in a poor state (see on figure 1 the report on the 'Baranes Scandal') and where a public existed for science-fiction ideas. To a lesser degree, the crowded areas of Marseille, Bordeaux and Lille and the heavily industrialised regions of the East would have been vast reservoirs of potential Heuyeritis victims.

Now, we have plotted on figure 2 all the French landings of 1954. Not only is there no heavy concentration around Paris: the six departments of: Seine, Seine-et-Oise, Seine-et-Marne, Marne, Meuse, Loiret and Loir-et-Cher, which should have given Dr. Heuyer the greatest contribution in terms of psychotic elements, and include nearly one third of the total French population, *did not contribute a single report*. Such a graph clearly puts an end to the discussion, because the other densely populated regions (with the single exception of the Lille area) are similarly 'avoided' by the phenomenon, in direct contradiction with Heuyer's theory. This allows us to state our first law:

**"THE GEOGRAPHIC REPARTITION OF THE LANDING SITES IN 1954 IS INVERSELY CORRELATED WITH POPULATION DENSITY."**

## The Second Negative Law: Witness Reliability

A typical Heuyeritis victim would be an unstable, probably single or unhappily married clerk with little or no responsibility, or a college student filled with youthful enthusiasm, or some spiritualist soul in quest of unearthly experiences. Such a person would perhaps go out at night in the hope of 'seeing the saucers', and wishful thinking would thus be responsible for many reports. And indeed this is the phenomenon we observe among the noisy crowd of the American 'contactees': Typically, these persons go out at night, alone, in the desert or some out-of-the-way spot, led by strange 'mental impulses', and they find what they were looking for: contact with beings from other planets. And they hurry back to town to organise a series of lectures, complete with slides and tape recordings from Jupiter Area 7. Did the landing reports of 1954 originate from such sources?

*They did not.* And for the first time, we have the documents to prove it: the sightings reported in the local press give the number of witnesses, their names,



addresses and professions, and often their age. Statistics compiled on this basis are impressive.

In case no. 13 for instance, where a machine 'the size of a small bus' was seen to land, the main witnesses were Messrs. Rene Paul, an electrician, and Louis Moll, a policeman. There were two groups of independent witnesses in villages two kilometres apart. In Marignane (case no. 1) and Santa Maria Airport (14) the witnesses were guards on duty.

In Le Jou (15) the object was reported by two policemen from Plombieres who were unaware of the sighting made by the Patient family: Mr. Patient is a Post Office Inspector in Bourges, a man with a responsible position.

Case no. 16 is an example of a report made by two women, who saw the craft independently as they walked by the clearing where the machine had landed: widow Geoffroy, 59-years-old, was going to wash clothes at the public washing place, and Mlle. Gisele Fin (16 years of age) came fifteen minutes later, leading her goats to the pasture: these are indeed likely science-fiction addicts!

In Foussignargues (case no. 20), Mme. Julien and her son Andre saw the object come down from the sky. So did all the people in the bus. Their report is quite independent from that of M. and Mme. Roche, who saw the object on the ground from their house on the hill.

And the man who went to the police in Wassy (case 58) to report he had just seen the pilot of a strange machine, was no hit-and-run contactee: we learn that he is 48-years-old, the father of seven children, and has been a roadmender in Wassy for nineteen years.

In the celebrated series of October 14, at nightfall, we have the following situation: four groups of witnesses who have never heard of each other make independent reports to different newspapers. One of the reports, signed by M. Mouillon, an engineer, was published in *l'Astronomie* and the correlation with the other three sightings was discovered by accident ten years after the observation! Yet the object in question was a reddish disc which flew very low, causing cars to stall and headlights to die.

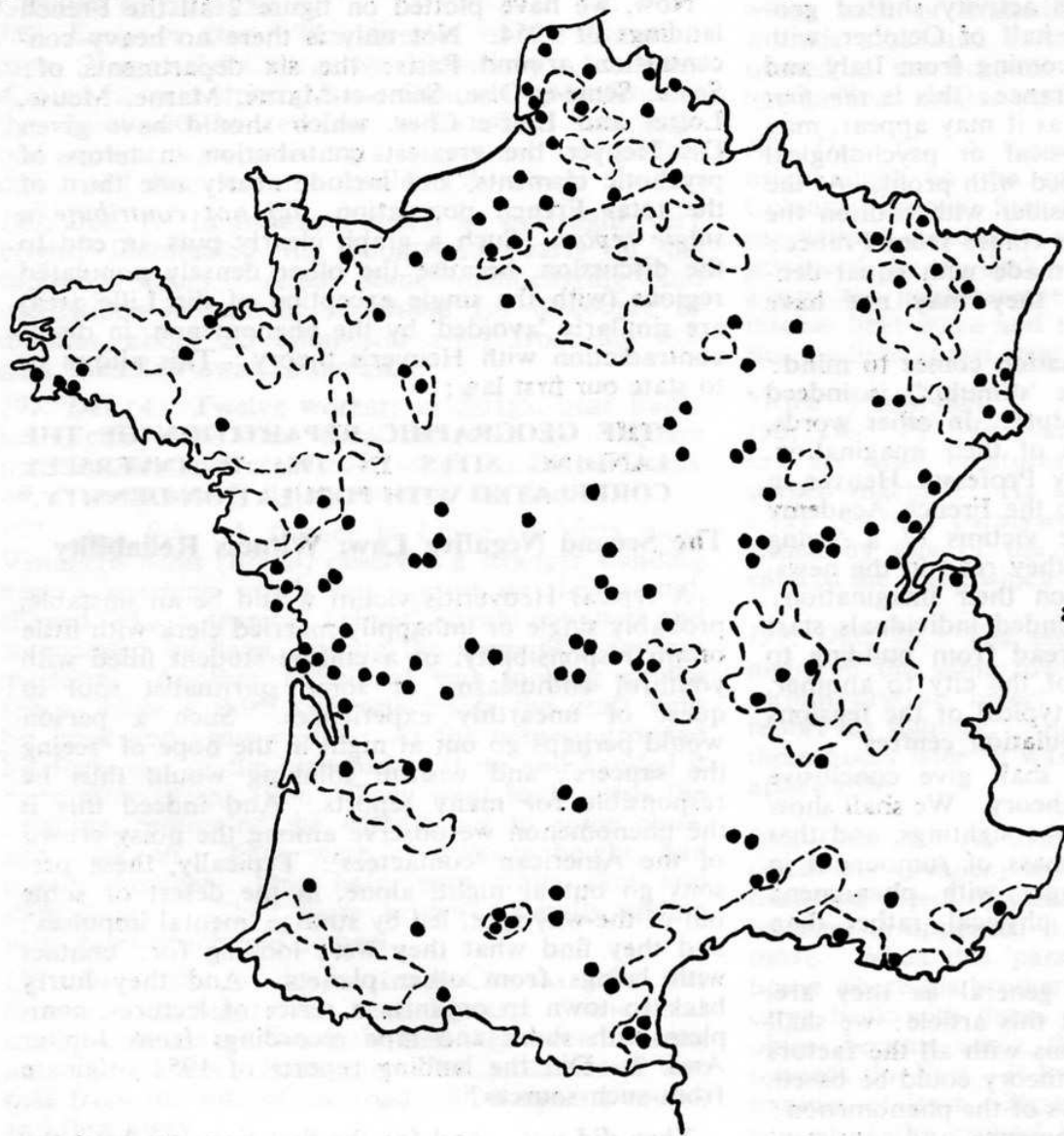


Figure 2 The landing sites of 1954 plotted against population density

○ population density above 60 per square kilometer

These strange happenings are reported by normal people, who had normal occupations at the time of the sighting, were generally not known, had no interest in flying saucers and were seeking no publicity: When people told Celeste Simonutti (case 30) that he had seen a 'flying saucer', they had to explain to him what it was: he is an Italian citizen working in a tiny island off the French Atlantic coast, he speaks French only with great difficulty, and does not read any newspaper. Before September 30, 1954, he had never heard of 'saucers'. As for Jose Alves (case 173) he does not believe in them even now, and maintains that the little people he saw while he was fishing were ordinary devils!

a) Thus most witnesses are identified by name (71%) and are well known where they live. Most are family men: observations by the whole family, or by the family and its neighbours, are not rare.

b) The report from the main witness, who describes an object on the ground, is often confirmed by independent witnesses, i.e. persons who did not see the first witness and did not know of his observation: 18 cases (7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 20, 38, 39, 42, 64, 70, 114, 142, 166, 176, 188, 199). In four cases (16, 70, 166, 199) objects which remained on the ground were seen by different persons at intervals of ten to twenty minutes. In most French cases, the police were called immediately, and took statements from the witnesses within an hour of the sighting.

c) Practically in all cases, the site of the observation was quite familiar to the witness. In 22 cases the machine landed literally in his backyard or in the immediate vicinity of his house or property (field, pasture). In no less than 75 cases it landed directly on the road or in the immediate vicinity of the road which he used for going to and from work. In 15 cases it landed where the witnesses (firemen, night-watchmen, military personnel) were working.

d) In 43 cases the witnesses were at work when they saw the object for the first time. In 9 cases they were going to work. In 21 cases they were returning from work. In 12 cases witnesses were officials (guards, firemen, policemen) *on duty*: 1, 2, 13, 14, 15, 61, 73, 108, 138, 165, 187, and 189.

e) Reports are made with equal frequency by persons of both sexes. There is no abnormal frequency of certain age groups. Reports made by children do not differ significantly from reports made by men or women, except in wording, as would be expected.

f) In 21 cases the main witness showed signs of extreme terror, and in four cases he fainted either during the experience or immediately afterwards (42, 125, 130, 142). In six cases he had to receive medical attention (26, 130, 149, 188, 194, 196). The reaction of animals is also one of panic in many cases.

g) Out of a minimum of 624 persons connected with the 200 reported landings *only 98 were alone* when they observed the object. This figure corresponds to a proportion of 15%. In terms of sightings this means that less than half of the observations (exactly 49%) had only one witness:

and this is not surprising when we take into account the time of the observations and their rural character. In 13 cases (6, 7, 13, 15, 20, 47, 53, 54, 64, 101, 176, 178, 185) there were no more than ten witnesses. In case no. 191, twelve witnesses. In case no. 177 there was a crowd of about 150. (In 25 cases there was an unknown number of witnesses, and we assumed an average of two.)

These statistics speak very eloquently in favour of the real character of the reported phenomena. We can summarise them as follows:

**IN THE 1954 LANDINGS, THE SPECTRUM OF WITNESSES IS TYPICALLY RURAL, WITH A NORMAL PROPORTION OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN. MOST WITNESSES HELD STEADY JOBS, OFTEN POSITIONS OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, AND OBSERVED AN UNUSUAL PHENOMENON WHILE ENGAGED IN THEIR USUAL OCCUPATION AND IN THEIR USUAL ENVIRONMENT."**

This law is further illustrated by the diagram of figure 3, where we have plotted the number of witnesses versus the distance of the object, i.e. the minimum distance between the main witness and the object. Both of these figures are known in 66 cases. The filled circles represent observations with physiological effects ('paralysis').

It is interesting to observe that the dots are scattered through the diagram with no special pattern: in particular, very close sightings are not necessarily 'one-witness' cases. The distribution thus reinforces our conclusion that the 'stimulus' is not psychological.

### **The First Positive Law**

We cannot be satisfied with such a victory, however complete, over the 'psychological' theory: we have now established that Heuyer has not explained the reported observations. But neither have we explained them. And the statement that the phenomena were caused by 'spaceships of some sort' or 'extraterrestrial intelligence' is indeed far too easy a way out! Any person with common sense will find such an idea totally unjustified on the basis of the observations alone, and will demand to see the proof of such a bold conclusion, which raises immediately a number of questions which leave the 'ufologists' strangely silent.

Now, if by 'spaceship' is meant a machine, and unless it is the product of an intelligence so totally foreign to Mankind as to border on the unobservable, any machine must be engineered according to precise principles of design. And if this is so, it must be possible to test the objectivity of the phenomenon by reference to the reports themselves. In other words: there must exist, in spite of differences in wording, certain invariants in the characteristics of the craft which could not have been faked, and which can be retrieved analytically.



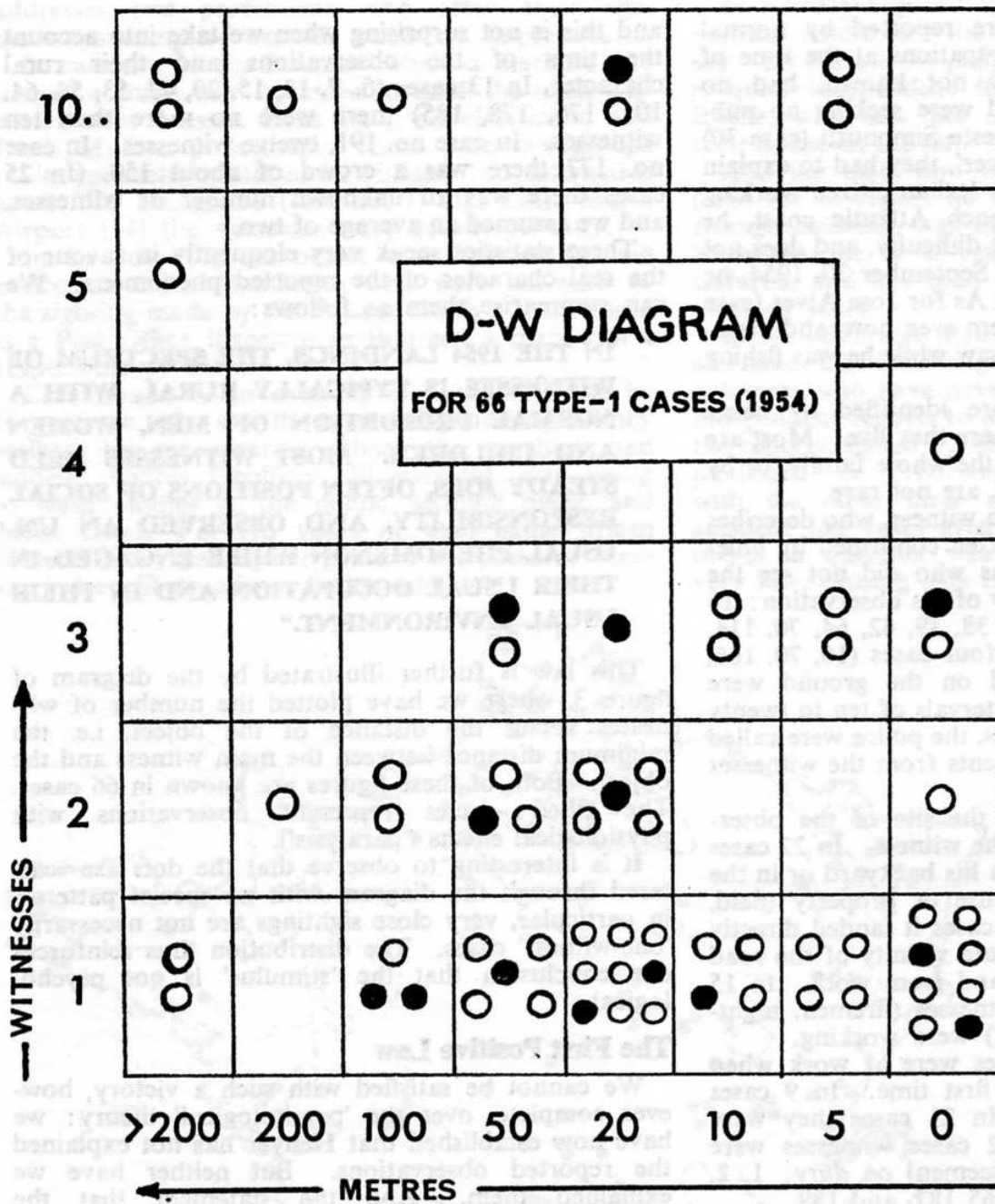


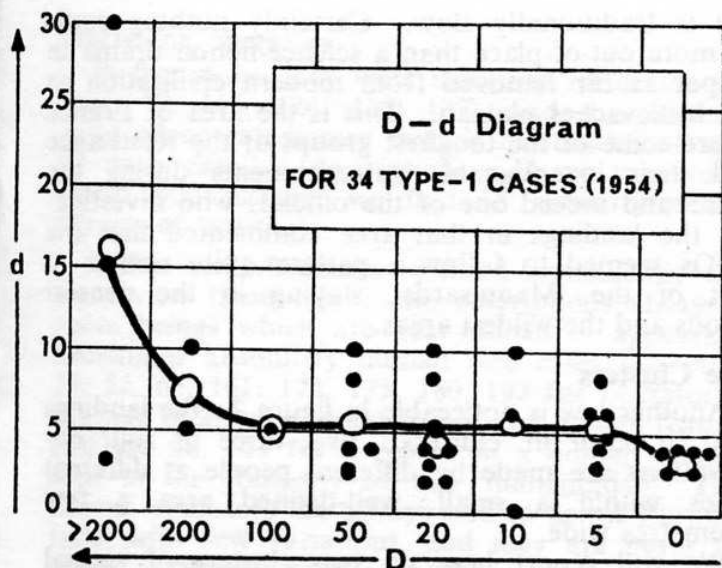
Figure 3: Distance of object vs. number of witnesses.

It is true that we could find some comfort, as an American compilation (*UFO Evidence*) remarks, in the fact that all the objects present a symmetry of revolution, and produce strong electromagnetic effects. But this is not enough: even in the 1954 cases, where witnesses had not been exposed to many descriptions of 'saucers', they had nonetheless some idea of Kenneth Arnold's sighting and the notion of flying discs from Mars was not unknown. At the end of the wave, it had become the most popular idea in Europe. Therefore, neither the shape, nor the manoeuvrability, nor the physical disturbances in the vicinity of the object, are strong invariants, and the opponents of UFO reality would have no difficulty in throwing such 'evidence' out of court on psycho-sociological grounds.

Of more interest are the luminous phenomena connected with the objects. It appears that the

reported craft can be observed under what we call two 'phases': a *dark phase*, during which they are seen as dull, metallic, sometimes emitting short sparks: then, witnesses speak of 'machines', solid bodies, sometimes supported by legs and showing luminous openings. And there is a *bright phase*, which makes the object appear as 'a fiery sphere', a globe of fire, whose centre is sometimes seen as a transparent envelope, inside which dark figures are observed. Many witnesses had their attention attracted to these objects because they thought a house was suddenly afire (cases nos. 30, 38, etc.).

It is extremely interesting to study the *transitions* from the dark phase to the bright phase in connection with the reported manoeuvres of the craft and hypotheses concerning its technology. These are indeed very consistent, and they lead to several strange results: the 'inside' of the craft, for instance, is often described as illuminated with an intense



D	n	max. d	min. d	max-min	$\bar{d}$
0	6	4	3	1	3.7
5	6	8	3	5	5.3
10	3	10	1	9	5.7
20	8	10	2	8	4.8
50	5	10	3	7	5.8
100	1	5	5	0	5.0
200	2	10	5	5	7.5
>200	3	30	3	27	16.0

figure 4.

light, similar to that of a magnesium flare. The source of the light, we are told, is so powerful that it is able to light up the countryside over an area several kilometres in radius for several hours. Not only is there nothing in our technology which can duplicate this performance in a small volume and in perfect silence, but we would think that the conditions inside such a machine would be quite intolerable for a human being.

But the strongest law will be found in another characteristic of the craft: the diameter of the machine itself. Here we should have a reliable estimate if the object is material, because it was seen on the ground, or very close to the ground, and against a familiar background of buildings and trees. It is much easier to estimate measurements in such circumstances than when the object is a celestial one. Here, we have observations of a motionless object on the ground. Let us consider all the reports which give both an estimate of the diameter and also the distance from the witnesses: do we obtain a coherent picture?

Indeed we do, and a most remarkable one! On figure 4 we have plotted these reports along with the average of each class. The result is extremely

interesting. We find that the estimated diameter of the craft is a constant for all witnesses whose closest approach was between five and one hundred metres. Witnesses who came very close give a slightly smaller figure, and witnesses very far give a much higher estimate. The latter phenomenon is well-known to psychologists and to astronomers: it is called the 'Moon Illusion' because the rising moon is always given a much exaggerated apparent diameter. But if the objects in question were not real, physical objects, our diagram would not show the 'Moon Illusion'! If the witnesses were liars, or the victims of a delusion, no such effect would appear. This leads us to our third law:

**"THE DATA ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE HYPOTHESIS THAT PHENOMENA REPORTED BY THE WITNESSES OF THE 1954 LANDINGS HAD A SYMMETRY OF REVOLUTION AND AN ACTUAL DIAMETER OF ABOUT FIVE METRES."**

This is, of course, a result of the utmost importance. The estimated size of the UFOs which have displayed other types of behaviour (those which did not land) is much larger than 5 metres. Does this mean that the craft in question were specifically designed to come to the ground? How come they are not generally observed in flight? Should we consider with renewed attention those accounts (see case 169 and the Valensole sighting) where the craft was said to 'vanish' in mid-air?

Too many questions remain unanswered: we need the discovery of many other laws, or technological principles, before we can ascertain the physical nature of these phenomena. *But these laws are within reach.* Certain elements of the answer have already been found, but are still too fragmentary to be reported here. Besides, the body of good observations is still too small. In 80 cases only do we have a description of the arrival of the object: the other reports in our list involve objects which were already on the ground and generally took off when witnesses came near (This opens, by the way, another avenue for research: incidents of the second group show the activity of the UFOs interrupted by human intervention). We need much more detailed reports in order to obtain the scientific data which would make such conclusions indisputable.

### The Second Positive Law

This scientific investigation appears even more imperative when we discover that not only the objects' dimension, but other parameters of the phenomenon as well, follow well-defined rules. We will report here on two such patterns. The best established is the *Law of the Times*, which is illustrated in figure 5. Here we find that only a vanishingly small number of landings take place during the day: the same is not true at all of the sightings of other types. The sudden burst of activity at dusk, and the total disappearance at dawn is thus another characteristic which is specific to the



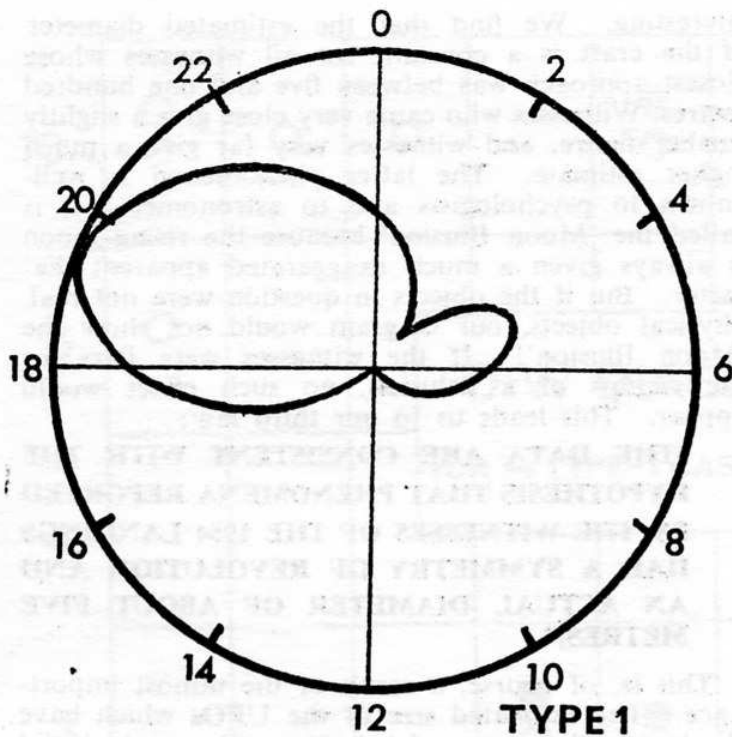


Figure 5: Law of the Times

landings. During the night, the reports *as we see them* decrease in number until about 2 a.m., and become more frequent again at dawn. This is clearly caused by the fact that the number of potential witnesses varies precisely according to this law. Hence the activity of the objects may be a constant throughout the night, while we observe only that portion of it which falls during hours when we are awake. It would be interesting to make the same study on a larger sample of data, to determine whether or not the boundaries of this 'activity period' follow the times of sunset and sunrise.

Another pattern, which is evident on figure 2, is that of the landing sites. So far, we have only insisted on the *avoidance* of population centres: there is, as we have said, a large avoidance area which includes six Departments in a diagonal band from Belgium to the Atlantic. North of that zone, there is an area of fairly uniform density along the English Channel from Le Havre to Boulogne, extending about 200 kilometres towards the interior of the land. There is also a very loose distribution of sightings in the South. But the great majority of the landing sites are situated within a diagonal band about 250 kilometres wide, between the lines Metz-Nantes and Bordeaux-Geneva: no less than 80 landings took place in that band, or 51% of the 1954 landings in France. This observation cannot be correlated with any obvious regional characteristic: the band in question stretches from busy Alsace-Lorraine, where most of the sightings were made in dense woods, to the valley of the beautiful and quiet Loire river. It includes wild, sometimes desolate areas of the Vendee and the central plateaux: oddly enough, the density of landings is no higher in those hard-to-reach spots, where people have little or no interest in current events, and where

life is traditionally slow. Certainly nothing could be more out-of-place than a science-fiction drama in a spot as far removed from modern civilisation as the Millevaches plateau. This is the area of France where some of the toughest groups of the Resistance had their inexpugnable entrenchments during the War: and indeed one of the officials who investigated the landings in that area commented that the UFOs seemed to follow a pattern quite similar to that of the 'Maquisards', staying in the densest woods and the wildest areas.

### The Clusters

Another law is noticeable in figure 2: the landings tend to occur in 'clusters': two, three or four observations are made by different people at different times within a small, well-defined area a few kilometres wide.

We will report here on two clusters of special interest: the Mezieres cluster and the Saint-Quirin cluster.\* Of the three observations near Mezieres, none has ever been reported in a national newspaper, nor in a specialised publication. Two come from local papers, the third one is a police report. They were unknown to Aimé Michel and to Carrouges when they wrote their books. They have received no publicity. The sightings took place on October 4, 16 and 27—roughly twelve days apart. The first case (no. 55) is the report of a child—the object was shaped 'like a tent' and an unknown individual was seen nearby. In the second case (130) a woman fainted as she saw a craft land within 30 metres of her. In the third case (165) gendarmes saw a flying object take off at dawn, in the immediate vicinity of the other two sightings.

Same situation in the dense woods of Alsace, near Saint Quirin, Schirmeck and Moussey: six days after the observation of M. Schoubrenner (150) a tractor was stopped as an object flew over at low altitude and the next day (167) a boy and a school director saw a craft on the ground, which left traces forming a triangle.

This pattern of 'multiple sampling' is observed in many other cases, in the Northern regions, in Brittany, also near Toulouse and Perpignan, but mainly inside the diagonal band which we have indicated earlier. Indeed, this is a very general phenomenon: this recurrent property of the type-I sightings is not, from the data we have, a sociological artefact, but the indication of *meaning* behind the activity of the objects.

### The Operators

Out of 200 landings considered here, 156 took place in France and 133 of these involved objects which actually stopped in flight. 118 landed on the ground (while others remained at very low altitude) and were observable in that situation for an appreciable duration which is sometimes expressed in seconds, sometimes in hours. Out of these 118 cases, 42 involved descriptions of the 'pilots' of the

\*A special investigation of this point is in progress within the framework of a complete study of the distribution of the landing sites over the French territory.

craft—the operators.

In five cases, they were described inside the craft (nos. 79, 116, 124, 133, 137), and this leaves 37 cases of operators seen outside the object, of which 23 gave detailed descriptions. If we turn to the world-wide picture, we find 18 similarly detailed reports of 'entities'.

A first remark comes to mind immediately when we review these cases: the descriptions always involve beings which are near-human in appearance, sometimes absolutely human (see cases nos. 8, 16, 35, 52, 63, 161, 173, 175, 180, 192 for operators of average or above-average height and human features, and see no. 144 for a report of a human operator seen in the company of two 'humanoids'). These human operators are always said to be 'of European type' with few variations, and they are never described as wearing respiratory devices.

In the opinion of many, this constitutes a setback to the theory of the 'extraterrestrial' origin of UFOs as it is usually stated. Beings from other planets—in the imagination of the most popular writers of fiction—are seldom of human form. When H. G. Wells or Brian Aldiss think of 'Martians' they do not see them as humanoids. The human body, biology teaches, is typical of this planet. It is characteristic of its gravity, of the pressure and chemical composition of its atmosphere and of its oceans, of its distance from the sun.

Not only the human operators, but some of the humanoids as well, are described as air-breathing

creatures. In at least eight instances (nos. 57, 58, 80, 105, 113, 156, 188, 194) have been described as dwarfs whose faces and bodies were covered with an abundant dark hair. None of these entities was said to wear a respiratory device. We do find descriptions of 'diving suits'—but they are reserved to the second category of entities, dressed in suits which are alternately compared to 'armours', 'glowing suits', or 'shiny coveralls': 'It was a small creature,' said Mme. Leboeuf, 'with a normal human face, from one metre to 1.20 metres tall; he was wearing a transparent suit which covered him completely: he reminded me of a child who would have been wrapped in a cellophane bag.' (case no. 19.)

It is a fascinating aspect of the study of these phenomena, that no theory of their origin and nature can be constructed without reference to theories of the origin of man and the nature of life. It would be presumptuous indeed to claim that we have enough data to add to the body of existing knowledge on these subjects. *But the facts must be recorded*—they may be only interesting bits of folklore—or they may involve the future development of civilisation. At least, we can say this much: the witnesses are not insane people. They are perfectly normal, simple men and women who did not choose to play a role in this mystery. They are not inclined to prophecy, and they returned to anonymity after telling their stories. Should we take their strange silence as proof of delusion, or as a sign that their minds have closed themselves to an awareness which came too early?

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# The Landing at Villares Del Saz

BY ANTONIO RIBERA

Senor Ribera has been writing for FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for more than ten years. He has recently had published *El Gran Enigma de los Platillos Volantes* (Editorial Pamaire, Barcelona and Buenos Aires); it is to be hoped that an English language version will follow.

*Translated from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton*

On July 12, 16, 19 and 26 of 1953, the newspaper *Ofensiva*, published in Cuenca, Central Spain, carried a series of amazing reports describing in great detail the strange happenings witnessed by a cowherd in the village of Villares del Saz, Cuenca (40° 05 N, 2° 10 W, E.S.E. of Madrid, in New Castile).

Boiled down to its essentials, the case is as follows:

A boy cowherd, Máximo Muñoz Hernáiz, aged 14, illiterate,<sup>1</sup> the son of Felipe Muñoz Olivares, farm-hand, and his wife Amalia Hernáiz, was tending some cows one day in the early part of July, 1953, when he witnessed the occurrence. We give the details as he related them to the editor of the newspaper *Ofensiva* when he was interviewed.

—Well, my boy, at what time did you leave home on the day of this occurrence?

—A bit later than other days.

—At what time?

—At about ten<sup>2</sup> o'clock by the sun.

—You were going to watch the cattle, weren't you?

—Yes, Sir.

—Had you had a lot of sleep the night before?

—Just the same as usual.

—Were you sleepy when you went out?

—No.

—What you saw doesn't exist. So how do you explain it?

—I *did* see it. I *did* see the little chaps.

—At what time did you see the machine?

—At one<sup>2</sup> o'clock.

—What were you doing at that moment?

—I was sitting down, watching the cattle to see that they didn't get on to the crops.

—Did you hear any sound beforehand?

—Yes, but slight. So I didn't turn round.

—You had your back turned in that direction?

—Yes, Sir.

—What did you hear?

Máximo Hernáiz said that he had heard a faint, muted, intermittent whistling.<sup>3</sup> When he turned round in that direction, the machine had already landed.

—What did you do when you saw it?

—Nothing. I thought it was a big balloon<sup>4</sup>—one of those that they let off at fairs. Then I realised it wasn't. It glowed very brightly.

—Did it glow the whole time?

—Less when it was stationary than when it moved off.

—What was its colour?

—Like the colour of the light standards.

—Was it grey?

—Yellow.

In the boy's home the walls are adorned with a number of pictures. We asked Máximo to point out to us with his finger the colour nearest to the colour of the object. From this we deduce that it was clear and brilliant grey, like the colour of steel when the sun strikes it.

—What was its size?

(the boy indicates, with his hand, a height of 1m. 30 cms.)

—Its shape?

—Like a small water-jug this wide (indicating a radius of 31 centimetres).

—Did it remain there on the ground long?

—A very short time. As I thought it was a balloon, I went over to grab hold of it. Before I had time to reach it, a door opened and little chaps<sup>5</sup> started coming out of it.

—What were the little chaps like?

—They were tiny.—Like this (about 65cms.).

—Were their faces like ours?

—Their faces were yellow, and their eyes were narrow.

(The painter Luis Roibal, who was with the newspaper editor, made a number of sketches of little men according to the lad's description.)

—Yes, like that, but more *chaparrete*.<sup>6</sup>

(the features of the faces are completely Oriental.)

—How many little men came down out of the balloon?

—Three.

—Where did they come out?

—Through a little door that the *thing* had on top.

—How did they get down?

—They did a little jump.<sup>7</sup>

—Then what did they do?

—They came over to where I was.

—Did they speak?

—Yes, Sir, but I couldn't understand them.

—How did they stand?

—One on one side of me, one on the other, and the one who spoke to me was in front of me.

—Did they do anything to you?

—When I didn't understand what he said to me, the one standing in front of me smacked my face.

—And then what?