

# THE AUSTRALIAN SPHERES

A number of readers have asked us for latest information concerning the mystery spherical objects which fell on Australian soil during 1963. Brief reference was made to these incidents in the World Round Up section of the **FLYING SAUCER REVIEW**, but no further evidence of a conclusive nature has been received. We print the following summary of the mystery with due acknowledgements to the **UFO Investigator** (June-September issue), the official bulletin of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena of Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

The odd metal "space" spheres found in New South Wales and Australia, in April and mid-July 1963, still have not been identified, according to the Australian Minister of Supply, Mr. Allen Fairhall. Minister Fairhall stated that his inquiries to the U.S. and U.S.S.R. space agencies have drawn a blank.

The first mystery ball, 12lb. hollow sphere 14 inches in diameter, was discovered on April 8, 1963, in a desolate part of Bouilla Station, New South Wales. Mr. J. McLure, who found it, said no one else had been in the area for 50 years. Scientists failed in their efforts to open the sphere with files and hacksaws.

On April 30, Minister Fairhall told the House of Representatives that the sphere had been definitely identified as part of a space vehicle. He said it had not yet been opened as it might contain

"something of scientific interest." He added, "It's a million-to-one chance that a piece of orbiting hardware should survive the temperature of re-entry and be recovered in one piece." Australian scientists said later it might have been protected by a heat shield.

On June 28, the second "space ball" fell, in New South Wales, 60 miles from the first location. This one weighed 18 lb. and was 16 inches in diameter. It was made of the same puzzling metal.

The third sphere fell on July 12, near Muloorina, in South Australia. It was six inches in diameter and had an opening in it.

Earlier, Australian officials had said the first sphere would be cut in half for scientific examination. To date, so far as NICAP can learn, there have been no further announcements.

The highly technical work and cost required to build such spheres seems to rule out any hoax answer. Both the U.S. and U.S.S.R. have denied any connection. Even if the spheres were earth-made, all three would hardly fall by accident in this one area. To drop them there deliberately would require precise re-entry by remote-control, also retro-firing jets, which the spheres did not have.

If they were extraterrestrial, some more advanced control mechanism might be used. In this case, the Australian Government may have found the answer—and possibly a clue to their purpose—on opening the spheres. To the best of our knowledge, Australian officials have been silent as to what was discovered.

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## Awards for Essays on Gravity

In 1964 for our Fifteenth Year the Trustees are offering Five Awards for short Essays for the purpose of stimulating thought and encouraging work on Gravity. The stipulations follow:

(1) These Awards will be made by us on June 1, 1964 for the best 1500 word essays \* on *what Gravity is, how it works and how it may be controlled.*

(2) **The First Award will be \$1000.00; the Second Award will be \$300.00; the Third Award will be \$200.00; the Fourth Award will be \$150.00; the Fifth Award will be \$100.00.**

(3) Essays must be received before April 15, 1964. One essay only will be accepted from anyone who is seriously interested in the application of Gravity to practical uses for the benefit of humanity.

(4) All essays must be typewritten, double spaced, in English, *with two carbon copies.*

(5) The decision of the Judges will be final. No essays or copies can be returned but writers are free to publish after June first. Preference will be given to essays written especially for these Awards.

(6) Please write a title covering the area of thought expressed in your essay; and a summary paragraph of 100 words or less on a separate sheet.

(7) Please attach a separate sheet giving a short biographical sketch of yourself for use by the press in case you earn an Award.

*Address:* Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H.  
George M. Rideout, President.

\* It may be less than 1,500 words; but if more the judges have the right not to accept same.

# A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF THE ENTITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPE 1 SIGHTING

by Jacques Vallée

## (1) The Problem of the Type — I Sightings

The Flying Saucer phenomenon is not included among the scientific questions held to be important. And yet a detailed study of it could perhaps lead to a considerable modification in our conceptions of the Universe.

Among the few scientists who take a more or less clandestine interest in the saucer problem it remains an open question whether or not sightings of UFOs were made in times previous to our own epoch. But the majority of investigators concern themselves with the sightings that have occurred since World War II. If we assemble together, in a general list comprising several thousands of statements of evidence, the whole of the material that has been published or has been communicated to the principal commissions of enquiry, and if we collate this material and subject it to a serious critical study, we are able to perceive several great "phases" in the history of the saucer phenomenon.

From 1947 to 1950, we had apparitions of objects (or of images interpreted as objects) located at great heights. These sightings were made, in general, by aeronautical specialists or by air-borne pilots, and supported by the much-discussed radar-fixes. In 1950 we had the first great wave over the United States, together with a peak of sightings across Spain and North Africa. Then, in 1952, a second American wave appears (coinciding with a fresh spurt of sightings in France), and it triggers off the first great controversies among officials, scientists, and the press. In 1954 we have the great French wave which constitutes the pinnacle of the whole history of the saucer phenomenon, and which reveals that phenomenon to us in its most astonishing aspect, inasmuch as the great majority of the sightings occurred at moderate or low altitudes or, indeed, upon the ground. Since that date, the phenomenon seems to have retained its biennial pattern—with the exception of the sudden peak in October-November 1957—but the volume

of activity shows a clear diminution, and sightings in the vicinity of ground-level become rare.

Disussion of the nature of the Saucer Phenomenon is meaningless unless we establish a system for the classification of the sightings, supported by a detailed description of cases. In a recent article, I presented such a system of classification, as well as a method of coding the sightings for the purpose of statistical study. In my classification system, I defined a "Type—I Sighting" as follows: "A manifestation of the saucer phenomenon consisting in the observation, by the witnesses, of an unusual image, this image being a machine, of spherical or discoidal form or even more complex, on the surface of the ground or in proximity to the ground."

### The "Martians"

Among these Type—I sightings, which attained their maximum intensity during the French wave of 1954 although they are in no way confined to that period, there appear a certain number of cases of the "Adamski" type and of obvious errors, which in our opinion should be automatically ruled out. After eliminating these, we have been able to index a total of over 350 Type—I sightings. The most interesting for the psychologist and for the investigator are the sightings in which reliable witnesses affirm that, in the vicinity of the object described by them as a "machine," they have perceived forms in human shape which they hold to be the "pilots" of these machines and which we find popularised in the press—rightly or wrongly—under the familiar name of "Martians."

The problem is an important one, from both the human and the psychological angle. When we have excluded from the list the small number of those who encounter Venusians in the desert and whose own psychological description presents no question, the witnesses reveal themselves to be individuals of very varying circumstances, belong-

ing to all races, and of all the different character-types. If their eyewitness accounts are coherent, must we then proceed from there to the conclusion that hallucination, vision, or hoax, acting in combination with the phenomena of the press have assumed an entirely new role in our modern civilisation? That modern man, whatever his circumstances or his formation, finds it necessary to adhere to fantastic new myths? Or should we rather take the trouble to set our statistics in operation and investigate more seriously the physical nature of the apparitions, while not excluding the hypothesis—repugnant as it is, however, to the scientific spirit—that certain entities have indeed come,

across Space, “to visit” our planet?

If we confine ourselves to the study of the statistical aspect of the question, and if we seek to reduce our study of the lists and files to rough figures, we find that at least 153 “Martians” have been seen on the soil of our planet, this figure being broken down as follows: 16 prior to the 1954 wave, 97 during that wave, and 40 since. Are these sightings coherent and what picture of our “visitors” do we get if we seek to extract the chief features from these accounts? This is what we now propose to do. Let us begin by giving the complete list of sightings at our disposal in this investigation.

## (2) List of Sightings of Unknown Objects accompanied by “Pilots”

Date	Place	Country	Witnessed by	Description of “Pilots”	Total
18 May, 1909	Caerphilly	Gt. Britain	Lethbridge	2 beings; foreign language .....	2
1921	Marseilles	France	—	2 people in diving - suits (Abduction?) .....	2
23 July, 1950	Guyancourt	France	—	2 beings, height 1 metre 70 .....	2
30 June, 1952	Hasselbach	Germany	O. and G. Linke	2 men in metallic one-piece suits examining soil, one of them with a sort of flash-lamp on his chest .....	2
12 Sept., 1952	Flatwood	U.S.A	Mrs. K. May	Red monster, 3 metres height, spat fire, emitted nauseous vapours .....	1
15 Oct., 1952	Le Vigan	France	—	Helmeted and masked figures ..	2
16 Nov., 1962	Castel-Frc.	Italy	Nelle Ferrari	3 men, clad in rubber .....	3
12 Sept., 1953	Brovst	Germany	—	2 humanoids, limbs emitting golden light; rough and cold like fish-scales .....	2
20 Aug., 1954	Oeydalen	Norway	N. Solvang and Jacobsen	pilot draws signs on a piece of paper .....	1
23 Aug., 1954	Lugrin	France	Elise Blanc	2 small beings 1 metre 20 in height, silvery clothing, grunt- ing like pigs .....	2
Sept., 1954	Otton	France	a municipal councillor	“An airman got into the saucer and flew off” .....	1
10 Sept., 1954	Mouriéras	France	Mazaud	A being of medium height, helmet without ear - pieces, approaches gently while gesticulating with his arm above his head, hugs him and shakes hands .....	1
10 Sept., 1954	Quarouble	France	De Wilde	2 beings; very wide “divers’ suits”; no arms; less than 1 metre .....	2
17 Sept., 1954	Cénon-Voun	France	Y. David	Very small man in “diver’s suit” strokes his arm, emits unintelligible and non-human sounds .....	1
19 Sept., 1954	Oberdorff	France	Paul & Moll	a silhouette figure .....	1
20 Sept., 1954	Santa Maria	Azores	Watchman	Pilot, incomprehensible lan- guage .....	1
22 Sept., 1954	Diges-Jolive	France	Mlle. Fin	Man of average height .....	1
24 Sept., 1954	Sierra Gardunha	Portugal	—	2 “aluminium men”, 2 metres 50 in height; gestures inviting witnesses to get into their machine .....	2

26 Sept.,	1954	Chabeuil	France	Mme. Lebœuf	Small man in "diver's suit" 1 metre to 1 metre 10 in height; appeared to be wearing transparent plastic material; head blurred; eyes larger than human eyes	1
27 Sept.,	1954	Figeac	France	children	"an unknown"	1
27 Sept.,	1954	Perpignau	France	schoolboy	2 beings	2
27 Sept.,	1954	Prémanon	France	child named Romand	phantoms in sheet-metal	2
28 Sept.	1954	Bouzais	France	Mercier	3 men	3
1 Oct.,	1954	Jussey	France	2 young people	2 men "dressed all in white and very tall," get out of the saucer gesturing	2
2 Oct.,	1954	Jonches	France	—	2 humanoids	2
3 Oct.,	1954	Bressuire	France	Angelo G.	being of small stature, wearing "divers' suits"	1
3 Oct.,	1954	Vron, Somme	France	Devoisin	. . . man dressed in a "diver's suit"	1
4 Oct.,	1954	Chaleix	France	Garreau	2 normal men in khaki overalls, speaking unknown language, handshake	2
4 Oct.,	1954	Vil-Tilleul	France	Bertiaux	an unknown	1
5 Oct.,	1954	Mertrud	France	A. Narcy	a hairy dwarf	1
5 Oct.,	1954	Roverbella	Italy	a fisherman	an individual dressed in red; unknown language	1
5 Oct.,	1954	Loctudy	France	P. Lucas	a hairy "Martian," 1 metre 20 in height, touches arm of witness	1
7 Oct.,	1954	Hennezis	France	Lanselle	2 beings	2
7 Oct.,	1954	Isles/Suiippe	France	M. Roy, etc.	small dark form, moving about	1
9 Oct.,	1954	Huy	Belgium	a postman	2 silhouetted forms of roughly human appearance	2
9 Oct.,	1954	Carcassonne	France	J.B.	2 human forms	2
9 Oct.,	1954	Pournoy-Ch.	France	G. Calda, etc.	Sort of man, height 1 metre 20, head hairy, big eyes	1
9 Oct.,	1954	Lavoux	France	Barrault	Strange being in diver's suit, height 1 metre 50	1
9 Oct.,	1954	Münster	Germany	Willy Hoge	4 beings, height 1 metre 20	4
9 Oct.,	1954	Briatexte	France	J. P. Mitto	2 beings of height of a 12-year-old child	2
10 Oct.,	1954	Montlusion	France	—	A being, either very hairy or wearing hairy clothing. Incomprehensible language	1
11 Oct.,	1954	Taupignac	France	3 witnesses	4 beings	4
11 Oct.,	1954	Montbazin	France	—	1 being	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Montluçon	France	Laugere	1 being	1
12 Oct.,	1954	For. Mamora	—	—	man dressed in shiny overalls	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Perpignan	France	—	a person	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Orchamps	France	M. Beuc	a pilot	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Erbray	France	a 13-year-old child	midgets holding a flaming ball	2
12 Oct.,	1954	Vielmur	France	Stramare	3 beings	3
13 Oct.,	1954	Bourrasole	France	M. Olivier	"diver's suit" with metallic reflections	1
14 Oct.,	1954	Perpignan	France	Figuères	"Diver" near a machine	1
14 Oct.,	1954	St. Ambroix	France	—	7 tiny beings, mysterious seeds	7
14 Oct.,	1954	Chemin Long	France	—	man in asbestos clothing	7
14 Oct.,	1954	Méral	France	a peasant	black shape	1
14 Oct.,	1954	Bois d'Erchin	France	Starovski (aged 33)	See description in text	1
15 Oct.,	1954	Livry/Seine	France	—	A being covered in chestnut-coloured hair	1
15 Oct.,	1954	Nimes	France	—	helmeted & masked silhouettes	1
16 Oct.,	1954	Ste. M. Herbl.	France	G. Lelay (aged 12)	A man of medium height, dressed in grey, holding a flashing globe	1
16 Oct.,	1954	Londinière	France	Dr. Robert	an individual of 1 metre 20	1
17 Oct.,	1954	Isle of Capri	Italy	R. Castello	4 "visitors"	4
18 Oct.,	1954	Fontenay-To.,	France	a couple	An individual, height one metre, squat, wearing helmet	1



26 Oct.,	1954	La Madière	France	A. Bousard	A "diver," height 1 metre 20	1
1 Nov.,	1954	Poggi	Italy	Rossa Letti	2 midgets in "diving-suits"; human faces, small teeth, incomprehensible words	2
5 Nov.,	1954	Roche-Breuil	France	Raymond R.-	3 men, height 1 metre 50, in dark grey overalls, carrying a ray-box; hum of a transformer	3
13 Nov.,	1954	Curitiba	Brazil	a railway-worker	3 midgets in tight-fitting overalls, examining ballast of permanent way	3
14 Nov.,	1954	Isola	Italy	A. Lorenzini	2 midgets in "diving-suits"	2
25 Aug.,	1955	Greenhills	U.S.A.	—	A midget, height 1 metre 13 (!) big shining yellow eyes, black face, shining green body, claws (!)	1
16 Sept.,	1955	Puy de Dôme	France	—	2 occupants of a disk	2
5 June,	1957	Uriman	Venezuela	—	2 "bellicose dwarfs"	2
5 Oct.,	1957	Cotes-Nord	France	—	2 dwarfs or midgets seen through port-hole of their machine	2
5 Oct.,	1957	Reims, Marne	France	—	a silhouetted figure	1
9 Oct.,	1957	Schenectady	U.S.A.	—	two dark dwarfs	2
10 Oct.,	1957	Quebra-Coco	Brazil	—	7 human beings, in shining clothing	7
5 Nov.,	1957	Kearney, Nebraska	U.S.A.	R. Schmidt	4 men and 2 women, speaking a sort of German	6
6 Nov.,	1957	Everittstown	U.S.A.	Mr. & Mrs. Trasco	An individual about 2 or 3 feet high, with green hat, gloves, prominent nose, big eyes, deep voice, with European (!) intonation	1
7 Nov.,	1957	Meridian	U.S.A.	Malvan Stevens	2 men and 1 woman, height 4½ ft. friendly, amber-coloured hair	3
8 Nov.,	1957	Waterloo	U.S.A.	P. Rutledge	2 forms in the cockpit of a machine	2
23 Nov.,	1957	Espigao-Toca	Brazil	Zili and Ermani	6 men of medium height, in tight-fitting grey clothes	6
24 Oct.,	1960	In virgin forest Province of Salta	Argentina	—	"Cyclopean monster"	1
Total Number of Sightings : 80						
						Total 153

### (3) Statistical Interpretation of the Sightings

If we seek to extract from these records a coherent interpretation of the facts, we must agree first of all to divide these "beings" seen by the eyewitnesses into two groups. On the one hand there are men resembling ourselves, and, on the other hand, dwarfs measuring about 3ft. 6in. in height. The agreement as to this small stature is unanimous. The existence of a third kind of being (giants as were seen at Jussy and in the Sierra Gardunha) is supported by only two sightings, and in these cases hoax or an error in perspective may well have been involved. We will keep them however for the record.

We can consequently give a rough description of the foregoing list of sightings by saying that, of the 153 "beings" described in the eyewitnesses' accounts of 80 Type-1 sightings, 4 of the "beings" were giants, 52 were men, and 44 were dwarfs, while in the remainder of the cases the description was insufficient for making a classification. These are minimum figures. It is to be particularly noted that not once has a being resembling a man been described as wearing a "diver's suit" or a respiratory apparatus\* and this fact strikes us as very remarkable. This distinction with regard to the respiratory apparatus seems essential when we attempt to classify the "dwarfs."

If we are to be completely strict in our classification, we must distinguish three categories of "dwarfs," although the possibility is by no means excluded that one of these categories may ultimately be comprised within another. We will distinguish the following:

- (a) dwarfs wearing a thick, heavy "diver's suit," armless, whose faces cannot be seen, as at Quarouble.
- (b) The dwarfs wearing a light "diver's suit" or light respiratory apparatus, sometimes described as "transparent clothing," like a covering of plastic material, or like a simple mask. These "beings" have human faces. Specifically, this was the case at Lugin and Fontenay.
- (c) The hairy-faced dwarfs, wearing no respiratory apparatus, and corresponding to the description given in the Bois d'Erchin case (see list).

The Quarouble entity is always described as appears as "a phantom in sheet-metal," or even as being like a very broad diver, in an armless diving-suit. In the eyes of the children, he appears as "a phantom in sheet-metal," or even as "a lump of sugar with the lower half cut in two." In the newspapers he is sometimes termed a "robot." All this suggests a strongly built metallic shell, as would for example be dictated by the necessity for maintaining an atmospheric pressure very different from the one prevailing on the surface of our planet, and indeed for the retention of a gas very different from what we breathe. The "face" of these creatures has never been described, which may possibly be explained by the late hour at which all the sightings in this category have taken place, and by the nature of the creature's "diving-suit" itself. (See figure 1).

#### A "marked dwarf"

The Fontenay entity seems to be like a man, but of reduced stature. He has a human face, and wears a "diving-suit" with movable upper limbs. Is it perhaps the same kind of being as the Quarouble one, but wearing a lighter suit? He is sometimes described simply as "a helmeted and masked dwarf."

The Erchin entity is, of this series, the only creature reminiscent of Science-Fiction. We cannot reject it, however, for the sightings of this type of entity are comparatively numerous and are very coherent, and some of the eyewitness accounts are extremely good. If such a being exists, it can be well understood that his sudden appearance round

a bend in the road could leave on witnesses an impression difficult to forget. The best description that we have of this entity is given by the miner Starovski (aged 33):

The witness was just about to enter the Erchin forest (Bois d'Erchin), which lies some 700 metres N.W. of Erchin itself, when he suddenly beheld, at a distance of 4 metres from himself a being 3ft. 6in. in height, with a large head, wearing a brown skull-cap forming a fillet a few inches or so above the eyes. The eyes were protruding, with a very small iris, and were slit. Long hair fell down from under the skull-cap on to the shoulders. The nose was flat, and the lips were thick and red

The characteristics of these various categories of beings can be summed up in the general table on page 11.

This table represents the totality of the sightings of which we possess details, with the exception of 5 cases in which it seems that there may well have been, if not hoax pure and simple, at least a process of systematic distortion of the occurrence, either by the press, or by the witnesses themselves when under the influence of fear or excitement. These five cases to which we refer are (1) the Flatwood (Virginia) case with its somewhat too fantastic account of a horrible monster 9½ft. in height; (2) the attempted kidnapping at Brovst; (3) the Roverbella incident, the description of which is so vague; (4) the Greenhills dwarf (which was probably only a large bird); and (5) the Everittstown goblin, although his gloves and green hat and deep voice (with a European sound) make him a most elegant looking Martian and certainly a most attractive one! It is to be hoped that these mythical creatures, born of the popular imagination and possessed unquestionably of a very fine artistic value—even though their scientific value is nil — will be studied in greater detail by the psychologists. These modern legends are we may be sure, linked only indirectly to the problem with which we are concerned. But what a fine illustration they provide of the eternal nature of the popular imagination!

We may also note, without however attributing anything more than an indicative value to such considerations, that the "Men" seen in the Type-1 sightings are frequently in groups of more than three, and sometimes indeed in large groups of 6 or 7 during the more recent period. It has been noted too that starting in 1957 in the USA, women have been described as being included in these groups; but this point seems to me rather suspect, and the closeness of the dates at once suggests that

	GIANTS	MEN	DWARFS	No "Diver's Suit"	
<b>Example Definition</b>	<b>Jussey</b> Giant of human form; height 2 metres 50	<b>Chaleix</b> Normal men, unknown language	<b>Quarouble</b> Heavy "Diver's Suit" Wide "Diver's Suit," armless; Face invisible	<b>Fontenay</b> Light "Diver's Suit" "Diver's Suit" with arms; Face human	<b>Erchin</b> Hairy Dwarf with protruding eyes
<b>Names used by the eyewitnesses and by the newspapers</b>	"Aluminium Men"	"Aluminium Men" or "Luminous Men"	"Robots"; "Phantoms in sheet-metal"; or "Divers"	"Dwarf wearing helmet and mask"	"Hairy Martian" or "Hairy Dwarf"
<b>Words or Sounds</b>		Unknown language, sometimes likened to Russian or German, while Americans regard it as "a broken language, as if they come from Europe"	No Sound	Unintelligible or non-human sounds: "Grunting like pigs"	
<b>Attendant features</b>		Flashing globes, ray-boxes, pistols, etc.		Ball of violet fire? (uncertain)	None
<b>Average time of day at which seen</b>	No special time	On the whole before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.	10 p.m.	In the evening	At dawn or in the afternoon or the evening
<b>Psychology</b>	Numerous broad gestures; exuberance	Friendly, Handshakes	Avoid all contact	Demonstrations of friendship, curiosity, hugs	
<b>Number of Beings</b>	4	52	16	60	6
<b>Number of Sightings</b>	2	19	11	29	6
<b>Date of First Appearance</b>	24 Sept., 1954	Described in all periods and epochs	10 Sept., 1954	23 August, 1954	5 October, 1954

the Press may have had something to do with it, or that it was a question of hoaxers. It is however of greater interest to note that the dwarfs in diving-suits are usually seen in twos, while the dwarfs of the "Erchin being" type are always described as being alone.

### Time Distribution of the Type-I Sightings

(Based on 211 sightings for which the time is known).

**Note:** (1) The almost total absence of sightings between 5 a.m. and 7 p.m. (2) The main peak of sightings between 7 and 8 p.m. (3) The secondary peak at dawn.

The decrease in the number of sightings during the night, with the minimum around 2 a.m. and the second peak at dawn clearly corresponds to the average times at which we work and sleep. One might with good reason assume that UFO activity remains constant during the ten night hours between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m., and that we are consequently missing about 50% of the Type-I

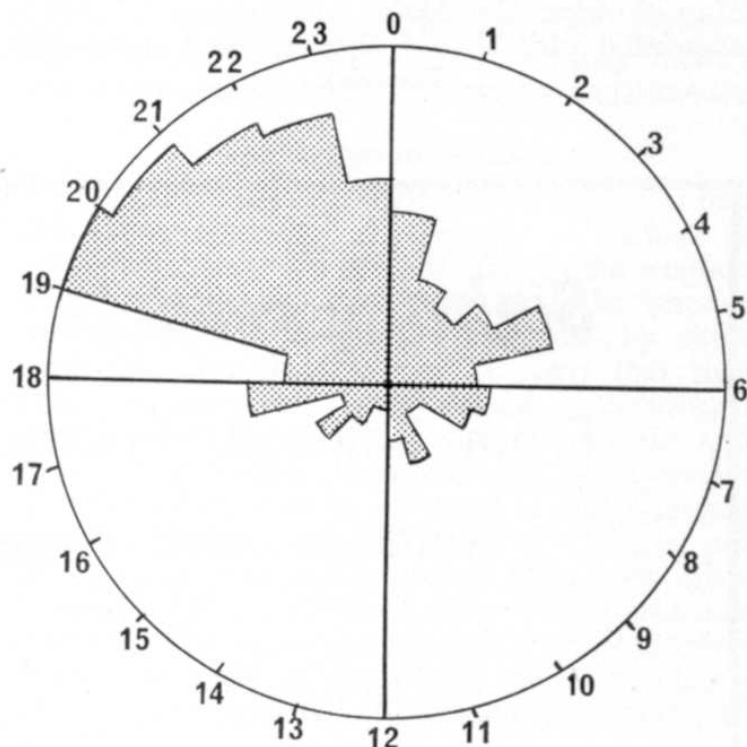


Figure 1

sightings, whereas the sightings of the other types (which are not necessarily nocturnal) are less affected by this selective factor.

According to these statistics, the total number of "landings" that must have occurred on our planet

—of which only approximately one half were seen and reported—would be in the neighbourhood of 700. But this figure takes no account of the landings that must take place in the desert regions of the Earth, or in the countries from which we receive but little information.



Map I

Map showing the Main Appearances of MEN associated with Type-I sightings in France. (All Periods).



Map II

Map showing the Appearances of DWARFS associated with Type-I sightings in France (All Periods).

## Sighting reports . . .

From England, France, the United States of America, the Argentine and Australia

*. . . in this issue*