RECORD AND ANALYSIS OF THE SPANISH "NEGATIVE" LANDINGS

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INVESTIGATORS of UFOs frequently find in their work a number of reports which do not fit within the "unidentified" category. These are the ones which have a conventional origin: frauds and hoaxes, misidentifications of astronomical bodies, natural phenomena, and several miscellaneous items. This is true also for the students of *landings*, and in this field it takes a specialist of great experience to recognise the negative cases from the factual ones, and to separate the "noise" from the "signal". Unfortunately, as Dr. Jacques Vallée has already noted, nobody has so far tried to throw any light on this matter, and plan a catalogue of negative observations, consequently the mistakes appear over and over again in the literature and this in turn causes new errors to arise.

In the ccurse of two years of data-gathering and studies on the theme of the landing phenomenon in the Iberian Peninsula, we have maintained a separate file with all the *identified* Type-I cases that we have collected. We considered that when a sufficiently large sample had been collected, it would be interesting to study the data in order to ascertain whether or not there was any degree of similarity between the *unreal* cases and our census of supposedly reliable landings. Our main question is this: How do the negative reports compare with the statistically important cases?

The source of information for most of these cases has been the press, but occasionally we have had first-hand references. A list of summaries of 60 cases has been compiled for *Stendek*. In this list we give all the important details, the adequate explanation and a precise source, but it is not necessary to record them here. We believe it is useful to make a complete record of the results of the analysis performed on these reports and the conclusions which we have reached.

Table I is the index of 60 negative landings in Spain and Portugal. From left to right, the data distribution is as follows: date, time, location and province, and a simple descriptive code where a point (.) means that the object was reported close to the ground, L indicates that the object touched the ground, B means "beings", and T that there were landing traces. The catalogue covers the period 1936-1971.

(For Table I, see pl 32)

Statistical treatment of the data

1. Time distribution of the negative cases

Fig. 1 shows the time distribution of the negative cases. This information is known only for a third of the total. However, an examination of the graph gives us the following facts:

(i) There is no regularity in the frequency of occurrence of these cases. The highest point is located at 17 hours and the points immediately below this occur at 3, 10, 19, 20, 21 and 24 hours.

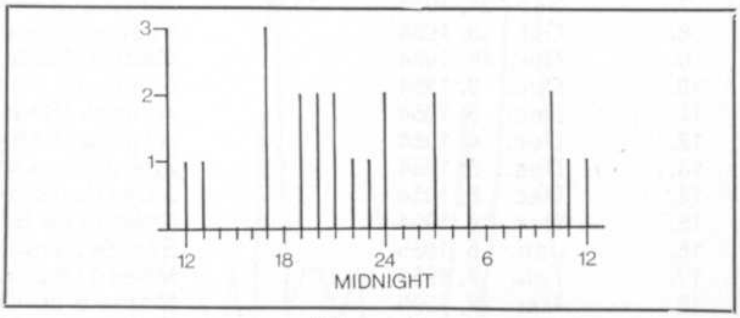

Figure 1

(ii) A preliminary comparison of such a distribution with the one found in the most recent time studies of Type-I phenomena (1), (2) and (3), registers a notable difference in their frequency. Working on landings, Vallée, Ballester and Vallée and Phillips have independently, and with precision, reconfirmed their nocturnal character. This nightly pattern contrasts with the unequal distribution offered by the negative Type-I events in Spain, which do not display any special tendency to follow a consistent form.

2. Yearly distribution

We shall depict graphically the distribution data for the 60 Iberian cases in the negative sub-catalogue, and those for the Iberian catalogue (120 cases in its latest version, September, 1971). Figs. 2 and 3 represent the annual frequency. A number of features immediately become apparent:

(i) In 1954, UFO activity was very low, at least compared with that experienced in France. However, the proportion of general observations increased considerably, forcing the Spanish public to report the strange aerial events they saw.

(ii) 1954 was also the most explored year in the CEONI project "Operation Antiquity" (a national search for hidden reports); this could have helped form the sharp "crest" we see in Fig. 3.

(iii) Another maximum is located in 1965, a world-wide wave year, which means that much of the activity was reflected in the pages of our press.

(iv) The local 1968/69 wave is also shown in the distribution of the 60 negative cases, but without the magnitude of the real one.

This leads us to formulate the theory that the three "crests" of the identified sample are due to the real cases' influence on the population. The increases exist because the repeated UFO information put out by the press causes the public to lose, temporarily, their

TABLE I

œ Catalogue of 60 "negative" Type-I reports in Spain and Portugal

1.	Apr. 14, 1936	17.00	Villarojo de Fuentes (Cuenca, Spain)	.	T	
2.	Sept. 1937		Valls (Tarragona, Spain)	.		
3.	Mar. 31, 1950	20.00	Sigues (Zaragoza, Spain)	L	T	
4.	Dec. 28, 1950	03.45	Las Hermitas (Cordoba, Spain)	L	B	T
5.	Jun. 13, 1952		Cordoba (Cordoba, Spain)	B		
6.	Jun. 23, 1952		Torre de la Sal (Castellon, Spain)	L	T	
7.	Sep. 24, 1954	10.00	Almaceda (Beira Baixa, Portugal)	L	B	
8.	Oct. 13, 1954		Castelo Branco (Beira Baixa, Portugal)	L	B	
9.	Nov. 16, 1954		Madrid (Madrid, Spain)	L	B	T
10.	Dec. 3, 1954		Granja de Torrehermosa (Badajoz, Spain)	L		
11.	Dec. 3, 1954		Azuaga (Badajoz, Spain)	L		
12.	Dec. 4, 1954		Azuaga (Badajoz, Spain)	L	T	
13.	Dec. 5, 1954		Zuera (Zaragoza, Spain)	L	B	T
14.	Dec. 8, 1954		Sale (Barcelona, Spain)	L		
15.	Dec. 14, 1954		Cañada de Benatanduz (Teruel, Spain)	L	T	
16.	Jan. 5, 1955		San Sebastian (Guipuzcoa, Spain)	L		
17.	Feb. 17, 1956		Mataro (Barcelona, Spain)	L	T	
18.	Mar. 22, 1956		Monte Siat, Carps (Gerona, Spain)	L	T	
19.	Mar. 17, 1957		Spain: undetermined location	B	T	
20.	Oct. 30, 1957	23.15	Tarragona (Tarragona, Spain)	L		
21.	Mar. 27, 1958		Ponferrada (Leon, Spain)	L	T	
22.	Apr. 16, 1959	10.00	Hinojal (Caceres, Spain)	L	T	
23.	Aug. 8, 1959	17.00	Cobas (La Coruña, Spain)	L	T	
24.	Sep. 8, 1963	00.00	Ginzo de Limia (Orense, Spain)	L	B	T
25.	May 8, 1964	11.00	Guardo (Palencia, Spain)	L	B	T
26.	Jan. 25, 1965		Pantano de Alloz (Pamplona, Spain)	L		
27.	1965		Madrid (Madrid, Spain)	L		
28.	Jul. 28, 1965	20.00	Rumoroso (Santander, Spain)	L	T	
29.	Dec. 6, 1965		Lora del Rio (Sevilla, Spain)	L	T	
30.	Dec. 1965		Fuente de Cantos (Badajoz, Spain)	L	T	
31.	Feb. 3, 1966	12.30	Malaga (Malaga, Spain)	B		
32.	Feb. 1, 1967	21.00	Boadilla del Monte (Madrid, Spain)	L		
33.	May 16, 1967	13.00	Nieva (Segovia, Spain)	.		
34.	Jul. 15, 1967	05.00	Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain)	T		
35.	Oct. 1967		Observatorio Fabra (Barcelona, Spain)	L		
36.	Feb. 15, 1968		Vilovi (Gerona, Spain)	B		
37.	Jul. 1968		Armental (Orense, Spain)	B		
38.	Jul. 1968		Sagunto (Valencia, Spain)	L	T	
39.	Aug. 7, 1968		Betanzos-Villalba (La Coruña, Spain)	,		
40.	Aug. 23, 1968		Port del Comte (Lerida, Spain)	B		
41.	Sep. 6, 1968		Barcelona-Vich (Barcelona, Spain)	B		
42.	Oct. 1968		Sierra Guadarrama (Madrid, Spain)	L	T	
43.	Oct. 1968		Cuacos de Yuste (Caceres, Spain)	L		
44.	Nov. 1, 1968	19.00	Urastegui (Bilbao, Spain)	L		
45.	Nov. 10, 1968	17.40	Puerto de Espadan (Castellon, Spain)	L		
46.	Nov. 13, 1968		Castillo de Alarcon (Cuenca, Spain)	L	B	
47.	Dec. 3, 1968	22.30	Dueñas (Palencia, Spain)	.		
48.	Dec. 28, 1968		Santuario de Linares (Cordoba, Spain)	L	B	T
49.	Mar. 1969		Madrid (Madrid, Spain)	L		
50.	May 1, 1969		Las Planas (Barcelona, Spain)	.	T	
51.	Jun 1969	21.00	Sepulveda (Segovia, Spain)	L	T	
52.	Aug. 1969	00.15	Monte San Pedro, La Coruña (La Coruña, Spain)	L		
53.	Sep. 5, 1969		Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain)	L	T	
54.	Oct. 1, 1969		Arevalo (Avila, Spain)	B		
55.	Mar. 23, 1970		Tudela (Pamplona, Spain)	T		
56.	Apr. 1, 1970		Badalona (Barcelona, Spain)	L	B	T
57.	Aug. 16, 1970	03.00	Madrid (Madrid, Spain)	B		
58.	Feb. 23, 1971	19.00	25 miles north San Sebastian (Guipuzcoa, Spain)	L		
59.	Feb. 25, 1971		Chiclana de la Frontera (Cadiz, Spain)	T		
60.	Jun. 29, 1971		Tortosa (Tarragona, Spain)	L	T	

For summaries and sources of these cases, see the Spanish magazine *Stendek* (C.E.I., Apartado 282, Barcelona, SPAIN).

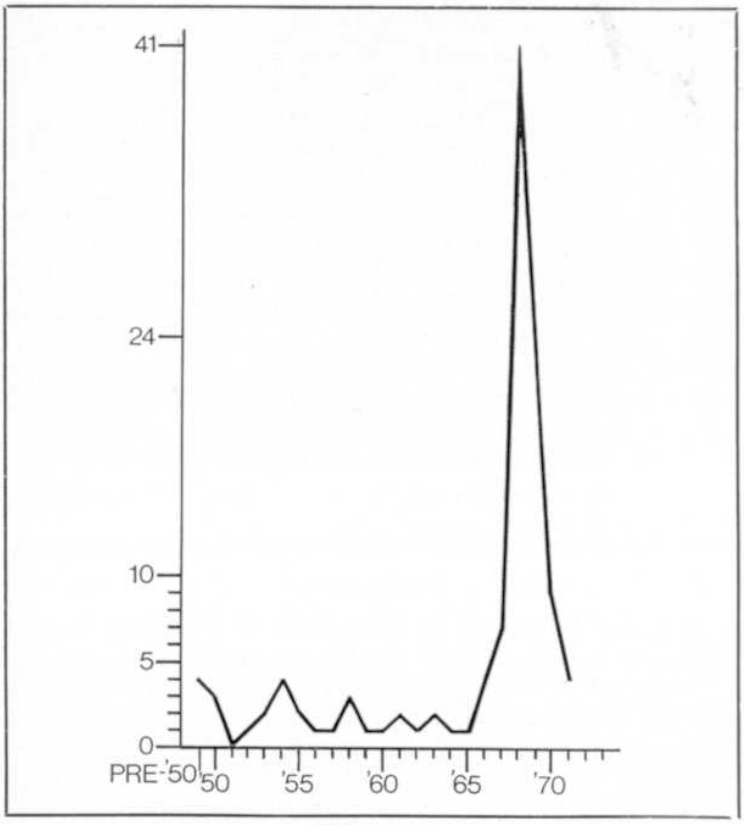

Figure 2

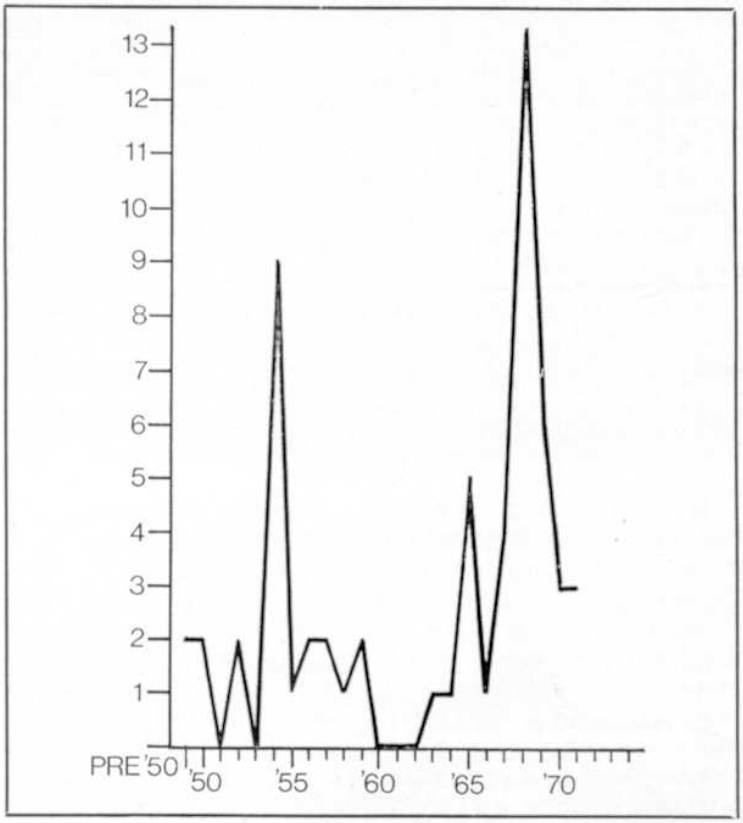

Figure 3

habitual apathy and their traditional fear of ridicule, so that they are more inclined to report their sightings.

We shall attempt to confirm the above statement by using two different but complementary demonstrations:

(a) If the "wave" periods are engendered by a widespread psychosis that favours the invention of "saucer hoaxes", then the proportion of this type of explanation within the negative catalogue must be *much greater* in the "wave" years than in the quietest years. Table II gives the number of frauds per year, and the percentage for wave years and for the other years. We observe that the proportions are very far apart; they are 43% in the former example and 30% in the latter.

Year	*Number of frauds*	*Total of cases*	
Pre 1950	0	2	Percentage of frauds in "wave" years: 43%
1950	1	2	
1952	0	2	
1954	4	9	
1955	0	1	
1956	0	2	
1957	1	2	Percentage of frauds in the remaining years: 30%
1958	0	1	
1959	0	2	
1963	1	1	
1964	1	1	
1965	1	5	
1966	0	1	
1967	2	4	
1968	7	13	
1969	2	6	
1970	2	3	
1971	0	3	

TABLE II

Yearly distribution of fraudulent cases and percentages

(b) In a previous analysis of 100 Iberian landings, we saw a consistent distribution pattern followed by the cases in the 1968/69 wave. We found a peak month (August, 1968) and a successive, nearly exponential decrease. We understand that this model is only followed by authenticated cases. Fig. 4 is the graph of the distribution of the negative cases in both years and its disposition is totally at random.

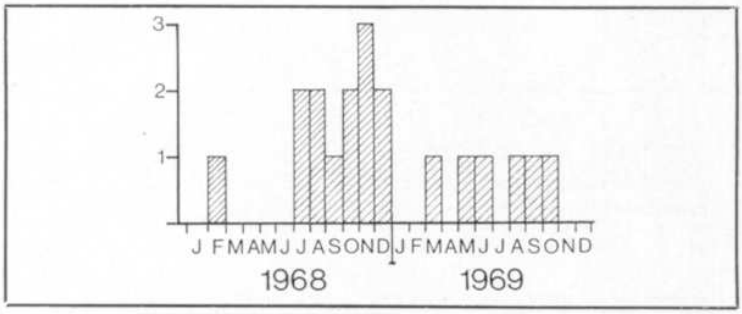

Figure 4

3. Distribution per category

In the study of 100 Spanish Type-I events, a strong correlation was found between the percentages of "touched ground", "near ground", "beings", and "no objects" cases. The comparison was made between 1,176 non-Iberian sightings and our 100 Iberian landings. In view of the existence of such an invariable, we have compared again this world-wide catalogue of Dr. Vallée, the Spanish section of it (120 cases) and the 60 explained events. Theoretically, if the categories are distributed with the same percentages for the three lists, you can speculate that all the samples are of the same nature and come from the same origin. Table III gives the percentages that we found. The following facts are immediately apparent: