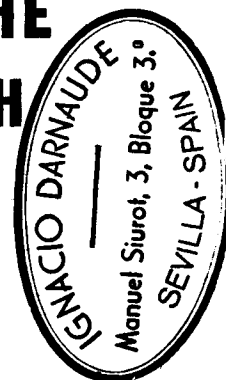




A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF THE ENTITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPE 1 SIGHTING

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-

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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

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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	Perpignan	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/Suippe	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	Montluson	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	Figüères	"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	Nîmes	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 Everitts-town 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	
Example	Jussey	Chaleix	Quarouble	Fontenay	Erchin
Definition	Giant of human form; height 2 metres 50	Normal men, unknown language	Wide "Diver's Suit," armless; Face invisible	"Diver's Suit" with arms; Face human	Hairy Dwarf with protruding eyes
Names used by the eyewitnesses and by the newspapers	"Aluminium Men"	"Aluminium Men" or "Luminous Men"	"Robots"; "Phantoms in sheet-metal"; or "Divers"	"Dwarf wearing helmet and mask"	"Hairy Martian" or "Hairy Dwarf"
Words or Sounds		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"	
Attendant features		Flashing globes, ray-boxes, pistols, etc.		Ball of violet fire? (uncertain)	None
Average time of day at which seen	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
Psychology	Numerous broad gestures; exuberance	Friendly, Handshakes	Avoid all contact	Demonstrations of friendship, curiosity, hugs	
Number of Beings	4	52	16	60	6
Number of Sightings	2	19	11	29	6
Date of First Appearance	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

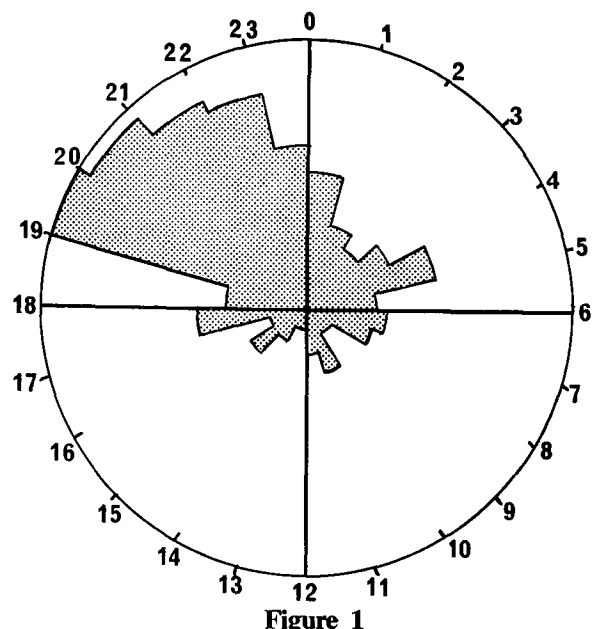
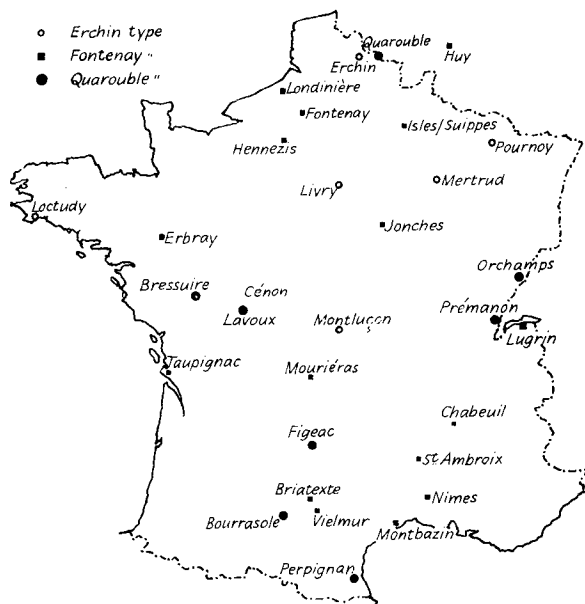


Figure 1

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

HUMANOÏDES

ENTITIES ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE 1 SIGHTINGS

PART TWO

THE SCIENTIFIC INTERPETATION

by Jacques Vallée



IN the first part of this article, published recently in the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* (January-February, 1964) we have taken into consideration a certain number of popular accounts of "landings" and we have tried to present a clear statistical picture of the "entities" described in these reports.

In order to make this description, we had to refrain from judging the reports, and from discussing the reliability of the accounts, except in a few extreme cases where obvious hoaxes and misinterpretations of the evangelist type were involved. Having now established such a general description, we can review the statistical characters we have found and discuss them in terms of scientific interest.

1.—Description of "giants" and "men"

We have already noted, in the first part of our article, the high probability that the descriptions of "giants" were misinterpretations due to psychological causes, pure imagination or effects of perspective. The descriptions of "men" were more reliable.

It has been shown that fifty-two "men" had been mentioned in nineteen cases of alleged "landings." We will obviously be inclined to evaluate these cases in the light of the most detailed and well-known among them, i.e. the eight French cases. Their analysis is very unrewarding. The more one tries to go into the details of the facts, the more contradiction one finds in the descriptions.

First of all, we should exclude the Carcassonne case and the Chemin-Long case, on which we have at present very little information. In the Guyancourt case, the examination of the facts

shows that the reliability of the witness is poor. In Herblay there was only one witness, a twelve-year-old boy. In Diges, the case has already been the subject of a considerable amount of discussion. Nobody disputes the fact that the witnesses observed the landing of an object. But this object could have been a Bell 47 Helicopter. Of course, it is very difficult to undertake a new investigation now: these cases certainly show the necessity of a local official organisation (such as the American A.T.I.C.) to check the facts as soon as they are reported and to evaluate precisely the reliability of the witnesses and the conditions at the time of the observation.

As far as the French cases are concerned, we are left with only three sightings: La-Roche-en-Breuil, Bouzais and Chaleix: they give very little information on which a serious investigation could be based. No official file has been established; and the accounts published in the newspapers do not provide any evidence tending to indicate that these observations are other than misinterpretations or hoaxes. They certainly do not provide any evidence of the extraterrestrial origin of the phenomena.

2.—Description of "dwarfs"

The problem of the descriptions of "dwarfs" is different. When the American astronomer C. Sagan evaluated the mathematical probability of visitation of the Earth by extraterrestrial civilisations, he found that such a visitation could be expected once every 1,000 years: could our accounts of "landings," and the descriptions of "little men," be interpreted in the light of these calculations? Does any proof exist of the reality of the "entities" so described? From the data

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we have at the present time, the answer is negative.

If we first consider the "Erchin entity," we find that the best description was made by Starovski: unfortunately, the witness was alone, and his reliability can be challenged. The Loctudy case is known only indirectly. More generally, we find similar reasons to eliminate all other descriptions as being due to pure imagination. We are left with only one type of "dwarfs": those in a "diver's suit." Can imagination account for them?

A typical case is that of Quarouble. For many students interested in the phenomenon who were in France when the "Quarouble psychosis" developed, there is little doubt that imagination alone is not the cause of the rumour. Marius Dewilde had "seen something." Whether he really saw a craft from outer space and two "pilots," or some classical phenomenon seen under unusual circumstances, is another question. In order to evaluate such an account on a concrete basis one would need a complete psychological description of the witness. This experiment, to the best of our knowledge, has never been done.

3.—Science and the Fantastic

In the first part of our article, we carefully noted all features, devices and characters associated with the apparitions. We have found a certain number of "space suits," luminous glows, flashing lights and "balls of violet fire." We have found "luminous men" and small people "grunting like pigs." The fact that these descriptions come from the layman, and not from trained science-fiction enthusiasts, is interesting in itself to the psychologist, and we followed the psychological approach in this preliminary description. (Obviously, no physicist will discuss these aspects of the descriptions unless he is given material elements on which to base an investigation, such as physical evidence or photographs.)

There exists one theory which can explain all descriptions of "landings": in this theory it will be said that the witnesses either have misidentified classical phenomena, or have perpetrated hoaxes. This has already been shown to be true in many cases of "Venusians" and it is obviously a convenient explanation in many cases included in our present survey.

However, we feel that a complete rejection of all sightings on this basis would be dangerous. We have no indication that the descriptions are related to "extraterrestrial" phenomena. But we have no proof, on the other hand, that they are *not* related to an interesting natural phenomenon

of some sort: many accounts of "landings" or objects close to the ground have been shown to relate to ball lightning and electrical effects; in such cases the "entities" could have been imagined by emotional persons.

During the Middle Ages, comets were described in a very fantastic manner. Rains of blood were said to accompany them, and Flammarion quotes a description of a comet in which people saw the hand of God, holding a sword, and surrounded by numerous heads of angels. Behind these "fantastic" popular descriptions was a scientific fact. Rejecting them because of their highly imaginative details would have resulted in a loss of information on the (now) ordinary natural phenomenon which was the origin of the rumour. In our opinion, UFO accounts present a similar situation to the modern scientist: angels armed with swords have been replaced by spacemen in diving suits armed with electronic guns.

4.—Conclusion

We will resume the general survey of the accounts of landings with "pilots" by the following statements:

- 1/In this survey of 80 sightings of "pilots" (where 153 "entities" have been described) we have not discovered any evidence of the extraterrestrial origin of these "entities."
- 2/We have found serious indications of the "nocturnal" character of the apparitions (Part I, figure 1, of my article in the January-February, 1964, issue).
- 3/We have estimated the descriptions of "giants" as extremely unreliable.
- 4/We have been unable to show that the descriptions of "men" were other than misinterpretations of ordinary landings of, say, helicopters due to psychological causes.
- 5/In our investigation of descriptions of "dwarfs" we have found more agreement between the witnesses, but a very small amount of data which could be used in a more elaborate theory of the origin of these "entities," if their existence is accepted. In our opinion, *the witness himself* is the most interesting element in these cases and his psychological character should be investigated before any new hypothesis is put forward.
- 6/We admit that the attribution of all the cases to hoax and hallucination is a logical explanation. Sightings prior to 1954 seem especially unreliable.
- 7/However, we wish to point out that the "fantastic" character of a popular description cannot be taken as a criterion for the rejection, by the scientist, of that description. A

→ HUMANOIDES



of any saucer was taken into consideration by Michel—but not by himself.

If Dr. Menzel had taken into account the chances of three or more sightings falling on the same straight line and involving an object travelling to within a certain angular limit, say 1° in 180° (or what he will), then the chances of this taking place would have been far less—he can work that out for himself I am sure. Those saucers sighted in a stationary attitude would not, of course, apply but they are, I believe, in a minority and their effects may also be obtained mathematically. Arguments based on this so far forgotten fact are many and I am sure if both Menzel's and Michel's attentions were drawn to it they will use them all.—M. G. Maunsell, 218A, Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts.

Menzel versus Michel

Sir,

Dr. Menzel is not really in a position to accuse others of being unfair in an argument when his own methods are not above suspicion. I would like to point out that he has been less than fair to Aimé Michel (see the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, March - April issue) when he accuses him of lack of method in including those 1954 French sightings alleged to be "poor." Michel was well aware of the need for discipline and makes this perfectly clear in his book on page 51 when he writes: "Applying the methods always used by investigating committees up to that time, I discarded all the poorly reported, poorly proved, and doubtful cases." It was Jean Cocteau who persuaded him to include *all* the sightings and the patterns then emerged. There is surely nothing wrong in this. What Michel did, in fact, was to remove the subjective element from the survey. No scientist can complain and, in any case, Michel has been quite open about the method he employed. If Dr. Menzel had wanted to be wholly fair he would have mentioned all the circumstances or, better still,

refrained from making an unjustified innuendo.

While Jean Cocteau *may* have expected a pattern to emerge it is wrong to suggest, on the evidence available, that Michel sought deliberately to impose it by unfair selection. — Charles Bowen, 8 Paxton Gardens, Woodham Lane, Woking, Surrey.

The 'entities': the facts and the legend

Sir,

Thanks to Aimé Michel and some of our friends in France and in the U.S., new information has been gathered about the reports of alleged "landings." Although this is not worth a new article, we feel that the readers of the Review should know about these developments. On the basis of these new documents, we are able to reject as hoaxes a number of the "contact claims" considered in our original statistical description. This is the case in the Mertrud (October 5, 1954, witness Narcy) observation, in the Kearney (Nebraska, November 5, 1957) incident and in the Sierra Gardunha sighting in Portugal, September 24, 1954: this point was the famous "seventh point" on BAVIC, discussed by Dr. Menzel. It is definitely a hoax. In addition, we recommend the rejection as probable hoaxes or illusions of the following cases: Jussey (October 1, 1954), Loctudy (October 5), Roverbella (October 5), Brovst (September 12, 1953), Greenhills (August 25, 1955), Everittstown (November 6, 1957) and the Province of Salta case of October 24, 1960 (insufficient information or conflicting data are the reasons of these rejections).

By checking against original sources we have also found a mistake in the G. Quincy catalogue: the sighting at Ste Marie d'Herblay (October 16, 1954) should be disregarded; the child named Gilbert Lelay is the witness in the October 12 case at Erbray, and the story is definitely another hoax.

As a consequence of this improvement and clarification of

the files, the category of the "giants," already very dubious (see FSR of January-February 1964, page 9) can be completely disregarded now, as a product of pure imagination. And the "Erchin Entity" (A dwarf with no diver's suit) should be considered with renewed caution: we are still unable to show that all six cases of "hairy-faced martians" were hoaxes, but: the Mertrud case was definitely one; the Loctudy case is far from clear; there was only one witness in the Montluçon (October 10) case; no UFO was seen in the Erchin case, only the "dwarf," and there was only one witness . . . and we might add that big fat apes do get loose from time to time! None of the alleged "contacts" of this category can be considered very seriously from the data we now have. In our opinion, the investigation about the entities associated with Type I sightings narrows now into the more simple problem of checking only two categories of reports: the descriptions of men of the Chaleix type and the descriptions of "dwarfs with diver's suits." Obviously, the discussion about the real meaning of these incidents in connection with the Arnold Phenomenon remains open.—J. Vallée.

The Fourth Dimension

Sir,—The article written by Luis Schoenherr was fascinating in its attempt to explain some of the most mysterious aspects of UFO manifestations. And every attempt to discuss the evidence scientifically is to be encouraged. It is, however, everyone's duty to examine the truth and plausibility of each hypothesis. Besides the methodology of science there is philosophy as an additional tool. It is proposed to show, using a little elementary philosophy, that the basic assumption in this article is not true. I refer to the hypothesis based on the "Fourth Dimension."

It is now proved beyond all scientific doubt that the Special and General Theories of Relativity are "true" in their fields.

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