THE UFO WAVE OF 1973

Some Early Statistics

Jacques Vallée

T HIS is simply a note to alert readers of this publication to the sudden rise in the level of UFO activity taking place in the United States, in Western Europe and possibly in other parts of the world as well.

The statistics reported here were gathered by the author during a four-week research trip from California to France with extended stops in Washington and in London (Organizations visited included the Flying Saucer Review and Lumières dans la Nuit). Data regarding the frequency of American reports until October 1973 were kindly contributed by Mr. Ted Phillips, of the Midwest UFO Network (MUFON). French data, plotted on the same scale on the attached graph, are based on the statistics of Mr. F. Lagarde of LDLN.

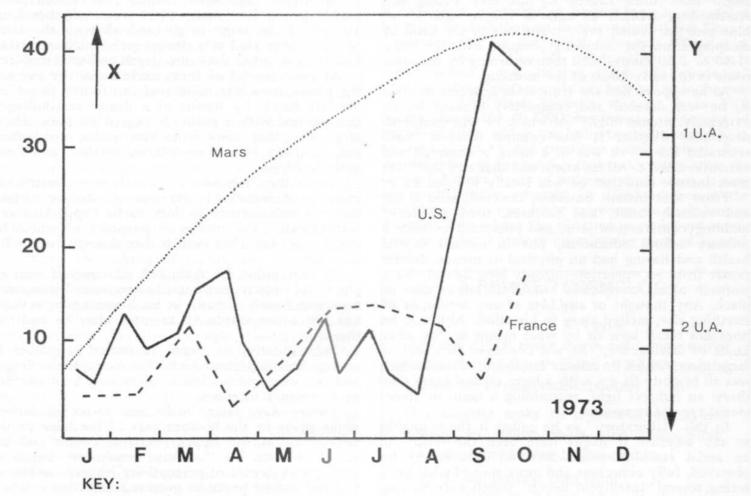
Two facts stand out when these graphs are examined:

1. A Western European wave is just beginning at the time of writing, with a number of landings, close-encounter cases and fly-overs observed by many witnesses, including policemen. It lags about two months after the American wave.

2. These sudden rises in UFO activity are, once again, correlated with the close approach of planet Mars, shown as a dotted curve with the scale (in Astronomical Units) on the right-hand side of the graph

It is important not to speculate about these facts until more complete statistics are available. It is hoped that early publication of these figures will encourage UFO research organizations to gather and rapidly make available such statistics.

Paris, December 15, 1973.



X = Number of UFO reportsY = Distance Earth - Mars