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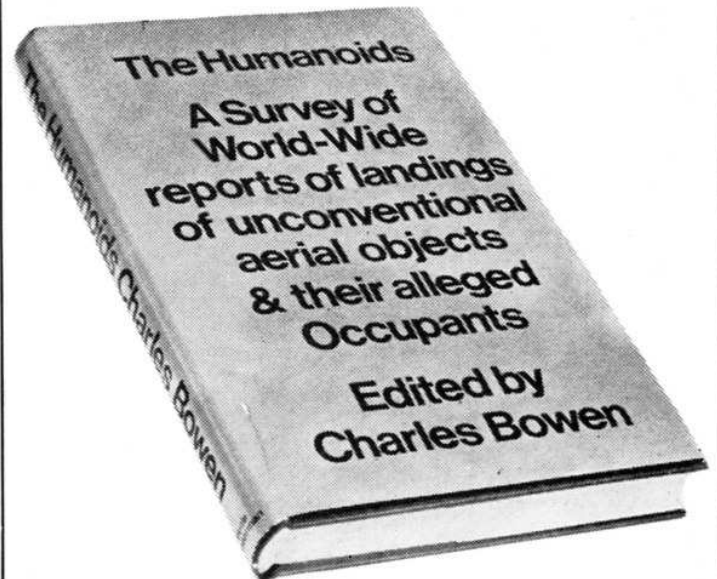
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# FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

SPECIAL ISSUE NO. 4

# UFOs IN TWO WORLDS

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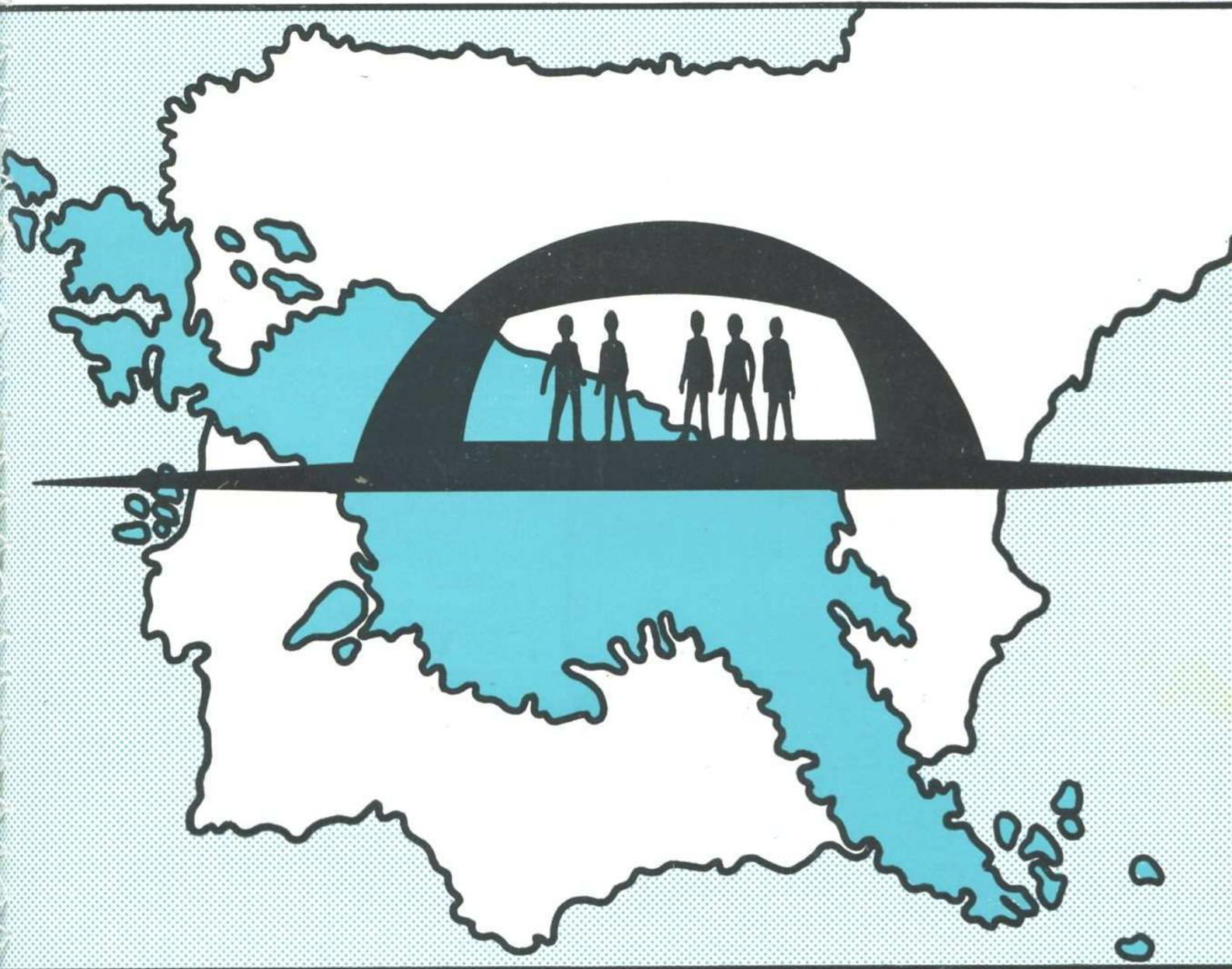
FLYING  
SAUCER  
REVIEW

# SI

Special Issue No. 4

August 1971

60p.



## UFOs in Two Worlds



Special Issue No. 4  
August 1971

Edited by CHARLES BOWEN

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

## Confounding the Critics

PERSISTENT individuals, and small groups of dedicated investigators, have essayed, for more than twenty-four years, to make a case for the flying saucer. Their critics are legion.

They have not been helped in their aims by the unfortunate name "flying saucer", the silliness of which has rubbed off on the subject—and that despite the adoption by many of the *respectable* name "Unidentified flying object."\* For that they can thank the newspapers, for the name "flying saucer"—which seldom fails to provoke a smile, particularly in the newspapers—was coined by a newspaperman after a very reasonable description of unidentified (and unexplained) aerial objects, seen in an incident over the Cascade Mountains, had been reported.†

In the eyes of its critics, a weakness of the subject is that a large proportion of the incidents are reported by solitary witnesses. Where, they ask, are the multiple witness reports? We know there are many multiple witness cases, but among those who choose to criticise without first considering all the reported facts there are those who delude themselves into believing that flying saucers are invariably reported by lone observers.

Again, it is difficult to avoid the impression that critics, particularly those in the many branches of science, consider that a truthful witness is one who reports only something that can be readily explained in the light of current knowledge. A witness who reports phenomena that are inexplicable—and uncomfortable—is either a liar, or drunk, or a victim of a too-vivid imagination, or hallucinated, or a psychotic whose mind has succumbed to the rigours of modern "civilised" life.

In face of all of this, and with the added irritant of the ridicule deservedly attracted by the cultist beliefs of certain enthusiasts, it seems that the would-be serious researcher of reports of flying saucers, or UFOs, is on a hiding to nothing before he begins his task. Yet there are good, reasonable people in every stratum of society—many of them highly qualified—who thrust prejudice aside and take the trouble to look at the facts. They find many surprising things in the records so far amassed: surprising things which, if widely known, would confound the critics.

An item which is always a source of surprise—and delight—for those who come across it for the first time, is the remarkable report of the flying saucer wave over Papua, New Guinea, in 1958-1959. Details of this wave were carefully gathered and logged by the Reverend Norman E. G. Cruttwell of the Anglican Mission in Papua.

For most of us New Guinea is a remote and unknown part of the globe; a vast sub-continent not yet wholly explored, much of which still lingers on

\* On reflection it seems no more silly to query the origin of "flying saucers" than it is to puzzle oneself over things identified as *unidentified* flying objects.

† On June 24, 1947, airman Kenneth Arnold likened the undulating movement of nine unusual objects, which he saw in "flight" near Mount Rainier, to that of "saucers 'skipped' over water."

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1971

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the fringe of that ancient world of the Stone Age. Lightly brushed by civilisation, the bulk of its peoples know just a sprinkling of European missionaries, teachers and doctors, and a handful of District Officers. Among those who live away from the towns, a few will have memories of the fighting in the coastal districts and among the Owen Stanley Mountains during World War II, memories which for some are retained in the form of a cultist faith in the return of "supplies from the skies." Between them, the peoples of New Guinea can muster many scores of unwritten languages, and it is only now, and thanks to the devoted work of Canon Cruttwell and others, that one or two of these tongues are being put into scripted form.

Into the skies of this ancient world of unsophisticated peoples there came, in 1958 and 1959, an intruding wave of strange aerial phenomena. We must bear in mind that this was not a world with skies criss-crossed by high-flying jet aircraft, satellites and re-entering rockets, and dotted with skyhook balloons. It was, instead, a world of largely primitive folk who knew nothing of flying saucers and their alleged occupants, or of science fiction and dreams of space travel. Some of the witnesses of the UFOs were Europeans, some were natives with mission school education and elementary training, but many were neither of these. These witnesses were neither liars nor drunks, and while it is unlikely that they were imagining things—even in the fashion of the "cargo" cultists—it is certain that they were not suffering from psychoses brought on by the pace of modern city life. Whether alone, or in groups, they reported what they saw, and what they saw were things inexplicable in our terms let alone theirs.

When, during his last visit to England in 1970, Canon Cruttwell suggested to us that *Flying Saucer Review* might consider publishing the unabridged account of the events which he himself had published in 1960, and distributed in a limited and much sought-after duplicated version, we readily agreed. As one of the two works which make up this fourth FSR Special Issue, the Papuan story will now reach a much wider audience than heretofore. Which is as well, for it is one of the most important events in the history of our subject.

For the record, the FSR team and a few friends were happy to meet the Reverend William Gill when he paid a brief official visit to England during December 1970 and January 1971. We were all deeply impressed by this quiet, unassuming churchman and teacher. Before he returned to Melbourne, Australia, where he has lived and worked for the last ten years, he also visited Aimé Michel and Paul Misraki in Paris.

An important feature of the Papuan events is that there was a marked peak of activity by UFOs, or flying saucers, during a short period of time. This "wave" effect has been observed in other parts of the world, including the "Old World" of Spain and Portugal in 1968.

The wave of 1968 is an important feature of the study by Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Jacques Vallée of 100 UFO "landing" reports through the years in the Iberian Peninsula. The persistent unearthing, gathering, recording and processing of data by Dr. Vallée and his friends will prove to be another factor in the ultimate confounding of uninformed, unthinking critics of serious UFO research.

CHARLES BOWEN.

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# **FLYING SAUCERS OVER PAPUA**

**The Reverend Norman E. G. Cruttwell, MA**

I DO not wish to sail under false colours. I wish to state at the outset that I have not unmistakably seen a "flying saucer". That good fortune belongs to others. I have only been an investigator and reporter. But I have been in a very good position to report and investigate the Papuan sightings of unidentified flying objects, being in the midst of the area where most of them have been seen, and knowing the majority of the witnesses personally. I have made it my business wherever and whenever possible to interview the witnesses individually.

I have collected and checked many more reports than anyone in the Territory, and as far as I know, am the only person who has taken the trouble to annotate and examine them thoroughly. I am writing this account as I feel that the sightings are of great significance and importance in the elucidation of the great "flying saucer" mystery. I do not claim to know what they are or whence they come. That is a matter for the experts. All I can claim to know is that these people have told me these things, that they are all reasonably honest and intelligent folk, and that their evidence is in many cases corroborative. It bears the stamp of sincerity. I have faithfully recorded what they have told me without embellishment and the reader must judge the reliability of their statements.

Many people are put off by the comparatively fantastic nature of the Boianai sightings and the appearance of "men". What they do not realise is that they were only three sightings out of a total of 79 so far reported. Many others were as fantastic as the Rev. W. B. Gill's. One cannot be isolated from the rest. They stand or fall together. No doubt some are explicable, but if only one is inexplicable, that one is significant. If these reports are to be rejected, they must all be proved erroneous, and many competent witnesses, such as the head of the Department of Civil Aviation, and the Manager of an Airline, not to mention a number of Clergy and Government officers, must be judged either liars or fools.

I have discussed the various possibilities of error or misinterpretation in each case, and have tried to assess the value of the report. I have recorded every detail that might be relevant to each case, but have not invented any. I have given the authority for every feature recorded.

Finally I have analysed the sightings under various headings, and tried to point out some general characteristics of the whole series, and have discussed some possibilities of their nature, origin and purpose. But the question is still open. Nothing is proved.

But this overwhelming accumulation of 70 reports in a little over a year in a limited area, by witnesses many of whom are people of the utmost integrity, cannot be lightly ignored.

It is the purpose of this paper to present the reports and discuss them with a view to finding out what was in the skies over Papua in 1959.

## **I. SIGHTINGS BEFORE 1958**

### **1. The first Papuan sighting**

The story opens with Mr. Drury's sighting. Mr. T. P. Drury of the Department of Civil Aviation at Melbourne gave this information personally to me. At the time of the sighting he was Director of Civil Aviation in the Territory of Papua, New Guinea, stationed at Port Moresby. He is a man of very high qualifications and has flown 32 types of aircraft himself. He has also made a speciality of meteorological phenomena. The sighting was also witnessed by his wife and children. This is his story:

"I was standing on the coast road overlooking the Flying Boat Base at Port Moresby with my wife and children. It was about 11.00 a.m. on August 23, 1953. The weather was perfectly clear and cloudless. Even the summits of the Owen Stanley Range were clear, which is unusual. My wife and children were with me. I was engaged in taking a movie photo of a native boy spearing a fish. I was not looking at the sky. My wife noticed a wisp of cloud suddenly appear in the blue sky from nowhere and start to build up rapidly into a white puff. She called out to draw my attention to it. I watched it rapidly build up into a thick white mass of cumulus. There were no other clouds in the sky and there seemed nothing to account for it. Being very interested in meteorological phenomena, I decided to take a film of it. So I rotated the turret of my French-made movie camera to bring the telephoto lens into position, and started to film the cloud.

"The cloud was at an elevation of about 50 degrees above the horizon, in a roughly south-west direction, towards Napanapa. It was impossible to estimate the altitude, as there was nothing with which to compare it.

"Suddenly an object like a silver dart shot out of the cloud. It was elongated in shape like a bullet. It subtended about one inch at arm's length. It was metallic and flashed in the sun. It was very clear-cut, sharp in front but apparently truncated behind, though the tail may have been hidden by the vapour trail. No wings or fins were visible. It shot out of the cloud upwards at an angle of about 45 degrees. It was travelling at an immense speed, at least five times as fast as a jet plane travelling at the speed of sound." (Note that Mr. Drury is an expert airman and accustomed to estimating the speed of planes.)

"It never slackened speed or changed direction, but

simply faded upwards into the blue and its vapour faded after it. It was gone in a few seconds. The vapour trail was very clear-cut, dense, white and billowing. It is visible in the remaining portion of the film still in my possession.

"In spite of the supersonic speed and the comparative nearness of the object, there was no sound whatever.

"I was greatly concerned about the appearance of such an extraordinary aircraft in the sky, and, without telling anyone, I drove straight to Jackson's Airport, and checked with the Air Traffic Control. There were no unusual aircraft out, only a DC3 and the usual DC4 expected from Australia, and possibly a small aircraft or two.

"I then reported the sighting to the RAAF, but they were quite unable to account for it. Later I sent them the film, which was sent all round the world, but no one could explain the object and it was pronounced 'unknown'.

"I am absolutely certain of its reality. It was photographed. My wife and children saw it. If anyone in the Territory had the qualifications to identify an unknown aircraft, I had. It is my business to know what is in the air. I know all types of aircraft, and have flown 32 of them myself."

Such is Mr. Drury's remarkable report, which appears to be the first record of an unidentified flying object over the territory of Papua, New Guinea. It remains the only one to have been photographed. Mr. Drury claims that when the film was returned to him after being sent to America and other countries, the best frames had been cut out, and the remainder show only the cloud and the vapour trail. If this is true, it is very reprehensible on the part of the Authorities. It is impossible to doubt the truth of Mr. Drury's sighting, described in such detail by so qualified a man. The question remains, what kind of craft did he see, and where had it come from?

It may be objected that it could have been a space rocket, gone astray. Certainly its appearance is reminiscent of a rocket. But that does not explain the mysterious cloud, the appearance of the rocket suddenly out of the cloud, without having been there before, and the complete absence of sound. A rocket at such a distance would surely have made a sound like thunder: and in any case, how on earth could a rocket have got into such a position over Port Moresby at a comparatively low altitude, when the nearest rocket range is at Woomera (many thousands of miles away)? The rocket would have had to travel for thousands of miles horizontally—or in a very low orbit—and then suddenly decide to change direction just over Port Moresby and shoot up into space. In any case, if a large space rocket had been fired anywhere on that date, and which could conceivably have been the object seen over Port Moresby, the RAAF would have been the first to know about it. The object therefore remains, as far as we can tell, inexplicable.

This, incidentally, is the only record known to me of a cylindrical or rocket-shaped object being seen over the territory, if we except a very doubtful sighting over Port Moresby in 1959, which will be mentioned later.

## 2. Objects over the Papuan Gulf

Two rather similar objects were seen over the Gulf of Papua in 1955 and 1956. They bore no resemblance to aircraft, but were typical of many of the objects seen in 1959.

The first was seen by an Administration Doctor, Dr. E. Nespor, who at the time was at Yule Island in the Gulf of Papua, west of Port Moresby. One evening in May 1955 he was returning from a swim in the sea when he saw a large disc, about half the size of the moon, glowing with a greenish light, "similar to a Geissler or Crooks vacuum tube", moving slowly along, for about one minute, when it disappeared. When he returned to the hill residence where he lived, he found that his wife had also seen the object. This sighting was reported in a letter, and I have not yet had an opportunity of questioning the witness to elucidate further detail.

The second sighting over the Gulf was made by Mr. Clifford Jackson, Manager of Papuan Air Transport, one of the leading airlines in the territory. He does not remember the date, but thinks it was in 1955 or 1956. He was fishing at night on Idia island in the Gulf of Papua, about 70 miles west of Port Moresby. It was early in the morning, one or two a.m., when he and his companion saw a very large round red light in the sky, about 15 degrees above the sea in a westerly direction. It was larger than the moon and much brighter, with a rather blurred outline. It did not move laterally, but appeared to increase and decrease in size as though it was approaching and receding in line with the observer. They watched it for half an hour, when it disappeared.

These two sightings are unsatisfactory in their lack of detail. This is partly due to the passage of time, and partly because I have not had opportunity to question the witnesses closely: but the witnesses are both highly qualified and intelligent men, and there can be little doubt that they saw the objects described. The similarity to subsequent sightings will be noticed, both in the colour and behaviour of the objects. Whereas the first appears to have been a disc, the second seems to have been a sphere. The size of the second is remarkable.

## 3. A strange light over the Ninigo Islands

The following appeared in the *South Pacific Post*, the principal newspaper of the territory, published in Port Moresby. The issue was dated November 6, 1957:

"A Patrol Officer and four Europeans recently watched a strange unexplainable light hover near their ship for 20 minutes, the Acting Director of Native Affairs, Mr. J. K. McCarthy, said yesterday.

"He said that the Patrol Officer, Mr. F. V. Esdale, was on the Government Trawler 'Eros' on August 24th in the Ninigo Islands, when he and the others saw this light.

"Mr. Esdale reports that he was in the Ahu passage in the Ninigo group, when a strange light appeared in the west, Mr. McCarthy said.

"It assumed the appearance of a large yellow star.

"It hovered in the one place for twenty minutes, but changed from yellow to red, then to green, and finally to crimson. It remained still for twenty minutes, and then moved violently in a small area.

"It turned from crimson to green, then appeared to fall into the sea, Mr. McCarthy said."

This report, coming from such a reliable source, is certain to be factual. The appearance of falling into the sea may be due to the rapid disappearance of the object over the horizon. (The hovering and sudden movement precludes either a star or a meteor. The most significant feature of this sighting is the change of colour, an effect noticed again and again in the reports.)

This is the last of the pre-1958 reports. It will be seen that sightings in the territory are not new. There were probably others not reported, or which have not come to my ears. I did not take the matter seriously until the latter part of 1958, when things began to happen on my doorstep.

## II. 1958—THE OVERTURE

### 1. A red light over the airport

Early in February 1958 (I forget the exact date, as I was not keeping a careful record in those days) we all heard over the radio on the Local News the story of a mysterious red light which had appeared over Jackson's Airport, Port Moresby. It was seen by several of the Airport personnel. It appeared as a bright red blob of light which came down from the direction of Sogeri, i.e. from the north-east, and descended to about 200ft. It then made a traverse of the airstrip at that height and shot straight up into the sky and disappeared. It appeared to buzz the strip as if inspecting it.

The names of the witnesses were not given, and the matter was not reported in the press. The sighting was confirmed by Mr. C. Jackson, Manager of Papuan Air Transport, but he was not a witness. So far I have not been able to trace the witnesses. However, the sighting would not have been put out over the ABC-controlled Radio News unless it had been well authenticated.

### 2. A "Blue Moon" near Samarai

So far all the sightings have been by officials of the Administration or Air Transport. Now the missionaries start to see things. First of all it was the Roman Catholics at Sideia, an island close to Samarai, in the Milne Bay District. The reports from the Catholic Mission were sent in by no less an authority than the Right Rev. Bishop Doyle, Vicar Apostolic of Samarai. He reports:

"In June 1958 there came from a southerly direction a round object about the size of the moon, pale blue in colour, emitting light brighter than sunlight. It seemed to hover in the sky over Mission property. After about 5 minutes it moved in a northerly direction and disappeared in mid sky. It was seen by five senior schoolboys at the same time." (The report does not mention the time of day or night.)

It is a pity we have not more detail of this sighting, which is a remarkable one. The "light brighter than sunlight" suggests it was seen in daylight, but in any case the object must have been startling in the extreme, and hardly to be explained by Venus, the favourite culprit for explaining away these phenomena.

### 3. Lights over Goodenough Bay

It was in the same month, June, that the first signs of activity began over Goodenough Bay, where I am stationed, and which was to reach its climax in June 1959.

Somewhere about that time (unfortunately I did not record the date, not thinking of the significance of the sighting, though I realised afterwards that it must have been the beginning of the lights which were to appear so frequently in our skies), the children at my own Mission station saw a light crossing the sky. It was about 7.00 p.m., and my mother and I were having our evening meal. Suddenly there were shrieks and cries outside, and shouts of "Satellite, Satellite!" By now even the Papuan children were satellite conscious, though none of us had ever seen one. They raced past the house towards the front of the station overlooking the sea. We too ran out, but were too late, the object had gone. How often that was to be my lot! What the children had seen was only a white light, like a star, which had travelled horizontally from horizon to horizon in a north-west to a south-east direction. It could have been a satellite, or it could have been a "UFO" (Unidentified Flying Object), we could not tell.

If this had been an isolated occurrence we should not have bothered about it, but when the happening began to repeat, we began to wonder. For towards the end of the year the lights started to appear again.

The next sighting was at Wamira on the opposite side of the Bay, about 25 miles across from my own station of Menapi. Here my brother-in-law, Dr. J. K. Houston, was Missionary-in-Charge and also Doctor to our Base Hospital at Dogura nearby. It was on October 18 that things began to happen.

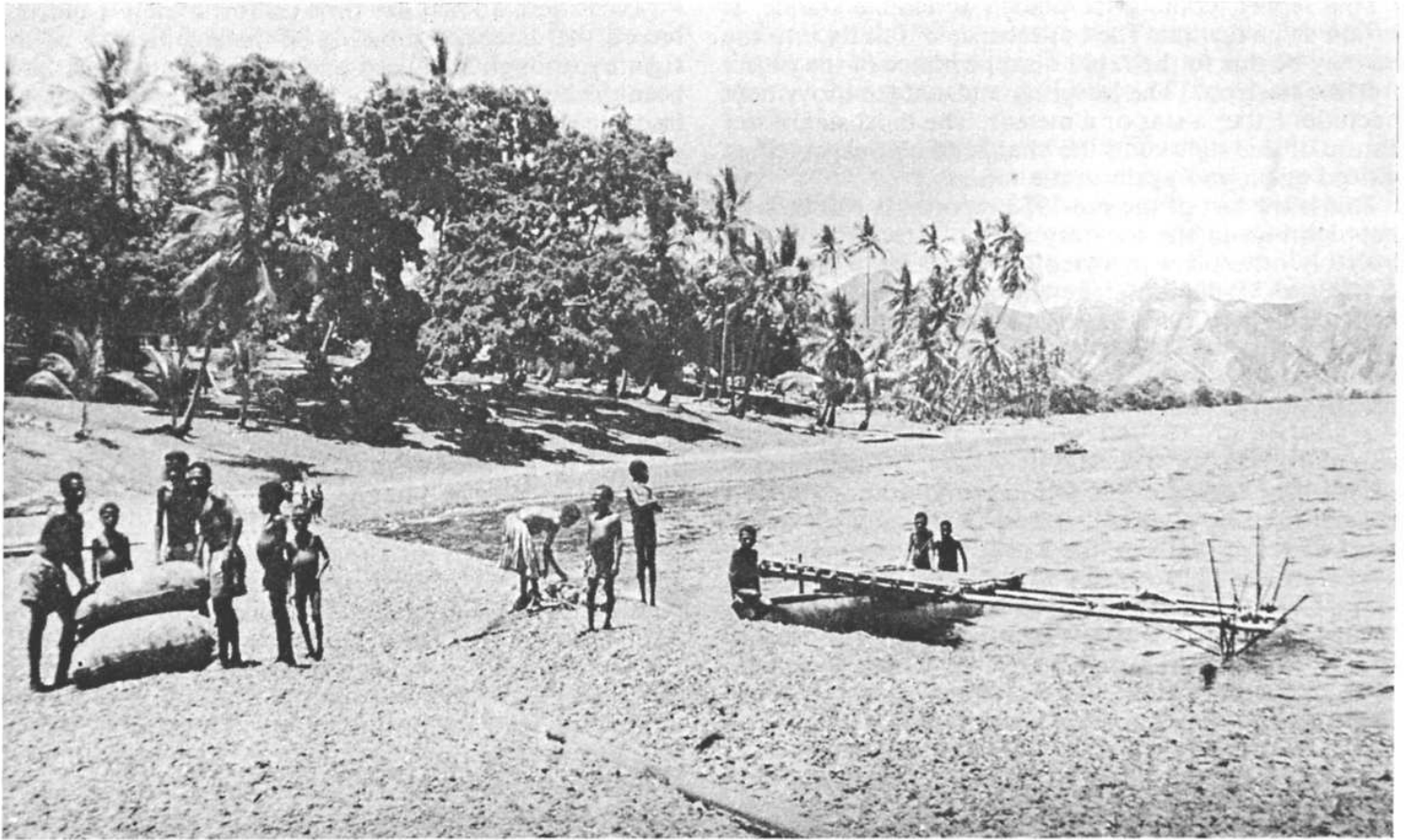
Just as the Wamira people came out of their Evening Service, at about 6.30 p.m., the sun having just set, but the sky not yet dark, they all saw a moving white light, like a star, travelling fairly quickly across the sky from south to north, its light fluctuating regularly. Both the Doctor and I questioned the eye-witnesses, and there is no doubt of the sighting.

Later on, the very same evening, the Doctor and his wife (my sister) were sitting in the house, when another moving light was sighted by the children over the sea. Some Papuan girls shouted out "Satellite". Dr. and Mrs. Houston rushed out to see it, but they could not pick it up. It had probably disappeared behind a tree.

### 4. A green fire-ball

While the Doctor was continuing to gaze at the sky, there suddenly burst forth without warning a dazzling green flare, like a Very light. It just appeared from nowhere at an elevation of about 60 degrees in the clear starlit sky. It moved across the sky from north to south at a fair speed, traversing about a quarter of the width of the sky, until it appeared to be above Cape Frere, to the S.E. of the Station, and about three miles away. It was dazzlingly bright, and of a clear brilliant apple green. It lit up the trees and the whole landscape with its green light. It then vanished without a sound.

At the same time the same object was seen by Mr. Brian Sweet at Dogura, our head Mission Station, about one and a half miles away and two hundred feet up. Dr. Houston and I got Mr. Sweet to indicate the approximate elevation of the object in relation to him. This was about 30 degrees. So knowing the elevation of Wamira and Dogura and their approximate distance apart, and the two angles, we were able to work out by parallax that the green fire-ball was at an altitude



**Two scenes from Boianai, Papua, New Guinea**





probably between 3,000 and 5,000ft. This is corroborated by the fact that it appeared to be just above Cape Frere, which is probably about 3,500ft. high.

Many possible explanations have been suggested for this green light, but none of them fit. It could not have been an aircraft flare, because no aircraft fly over the territory at night, and if there had been a plane they would have heard it. It could not have been a Very light because there was no ship in the Bay, and because the light appeared high in the sky, left no trail and made no sound. A meteor has been suggested, but the size, colour, speed, absence of sound and lack of any remains precludes this. Besides what meteor would descend to 5,000ft. and just vanish? There would have been a tremendous explosion. Can it have been a stray observation balloon? Why should one be so low in such a remote place, and how could it suddenly produce such a violent flare, and why was no trace of it found next day? In any case its movement was too rapid.

Those who have read the account of the mysterious green fireballs in America will notice their almost exact similarity to the Wamira fireball. They were pronounced inexplicable at the time.

### 5. The "satellite" that changed direction

Now we come to the first of the only two occasions where I personally saw an object, thought I cannot claim for certain that it was a UFO.

The object was seen for three nights in succession at Menapi, and for five at Dogura. It was also seen at the Roman Catholic Mission at Sideia, and finally it was seen at Port Moresby, on the other side of the territory. If it was a satellite, its behaviour was odd, to say the least of it.

The children reported having seen it first on November 22. It was next seen at Menapi on the 29th, but missed by me, as I was in Church. However, on the 30th I was lucky and saw the object with my own eyes. It had been seen five days in succession at Dogura: so that in truth it had probably been passing overhead nightly for the best part of a week.

The object always came from the north-west, and travelled south-east on an unvarying course, except that the Dogura witnesses maintain that its track shifted slightly N.Eastwards each night, but always parallel to its track the night before.

On the night I saw it, exactly the same thing happened as before. The children started shouting "Satellite", and I ran out with my mother, carrying binoculars.

The light was just passing overhead as I came out, though the children had seen it appear from behind the hill at the back of the Station, to the north-west. The time was just about 6.50 p.m. The light took about three minutes to cross the sky, fluctuating slowly as it went from bright to faint and bright again, taking approximately 15 seconds to complete each cycle. It was like a silvery white star of first magnitude, appearing through the glasses to have a slightly fuzzy edge. It was at a very great height, passing behind the few high cirro-stratus clouds.

On the following night, December 1, it failed to appear, nor did we ever see it again. But on the next evening, December 2, the following item was broadcast

over the Radio News from 9 PA, Port Moresby, at 7.00 and 9.00 p.m.:

"At approximately 6.45 p.m., on Monday night, December 1, an unidentified flying object was seen by several residents of Boroko, a suburb of Port Moresby. It was like a star, bluish white in colour, and of about the same brightness as a bright star. It was travelling from east to west, and disappeared low over the western horizon. It tended to disappear every few seconds. It was visible for about three minutes, during which time it crossed the sky from horizon to horizon. One of the observers, who had seen an earth satellite, said that it was similar in appearance. Civil Aviation authorities said that no aircraft or weather balloons were in the area."

There can be little doubt that this is the same or a similar object to the ones seen on previous nights over Menapi, Dogura, Wamira and Sideia. Were these objects satellites? Could they have been the same satellite appearing again and again? Presumably this could be checked if the movements of satellites at that time were known. In those days very few satellites were in orbit and it is doubtful whether they were visible to the naked eye.

But the remarkable feature is the change of direction. Even if a satellite could behave in the manner observed, fluctuating its light, and appearing so regularly at the same time, how could it conceivably change direction in 24 hours from a south-easterly to a westward course? Taking into account the previous sightings at Menapi and Wamira (where the object was moving from south to north) the profusion of satellites in the sky travelling in different directions is, to say the least, puzzling.

It was this sighting that prompted me to write to the *Flying Saucer Review*, London, whose address I had found on the back of a book about Flying Saucers. I reported the Wamira fireball, and these satellite-like lights in the sky, asking for their opinion. The Editor\* was very interested, and asked me if I would act as their local observer and investigator for New Guinea in the International UFO Observer Corps. All it involved was reporting any further sightings to them, and trying, if possible, to interview the witnesses. Little realising what I was letting myself in for, I accepted, and started a UFO file. I never imagined that within a year my file would be bursting with reports.

This paper is the result.

### III. 1959 "TILLEY LAMPS" IN THE SKY

After the satellite-like lights in the sky, nothing further was seen for four months, and I thought that was the end of the activity. But I was very wrong. That was only a preliminary overture. The curtain rang up with the appearance of lights in the sky, which were described by the witnesses over and over again as being like "Tilley lamps". It should be explained that the

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\* At that time the Editor of FSR was the Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench.

Tilley lamp is the most popular type of lamp in the territory where there is no electric light. Nearly all Europeans and quite a few of the better off Papuans possess them. They burn kerosene under pressure, which vaporises to heat a mantle. They give out a brilliant white light equal to 300 candle power. They are visible at a great distance and appear as an indefinite white blob of light, often with a halation of rays, due to the brightness. One often sees them far out to sea on a canoe, where the native people use them to attract fish.

### 1. A hovering "Tilley Lamp"

During Lent it is our custom to hold mid-week services in the villages. My assistant Papuan priest, the Rev. Albert M. Ririka, and a teacher, Augustine Bogino, were returning from such a service on the evening of March 19, 1959. They were on the coastal track (we have no roads or vehicles) walking back to Menapi, and had about five miles to go. They had no watches, but the time was "dusk", i.e. about 6.45 p.m. They emerged from a piece of forest on to the seashore, facing across Goodenough Bay.

They were amazed to see a brilliant white light hanging in the sky, apparently over the Owen Stanley Ranges on the other side of the Bay. I should explain that they were on the south side of the Cape Vogel Peninsula looking across to the mainland over about 20 miles of sea.

Augustine described it as "like another moon in the sky, but smaller". The real moon (which was "half", i.e. first quarter) was also in the sky in quite another direction. Father Albert described it as "like a Tilley lamp in the sky". They both agreed it was a brilliant white light, much larger than a star.

They stood and gazed at it for a minute or two. They think it was stationary, though there is a slight disagreement on this point. If it moved, the movement was very slight.

They then continued to walk along the track close to the sea, keeping the object in view for about ten minutes. Then they passed through another short section of forest, losing sight of it. When they emerged a few minutes later on to the beach, the light was no longer there. They did not see it again.

It was also seen by two other Papuans whose house is on the beach nearby. When Father Albert and Augustine returned to the Mission they immediately reported the sighting to me, and asked if I thought it was a satellite. I went down to the beach and looked out over the bay. There was of course nothing to be seen. I looked out on subsequent evenings in the direction they indicated, but there was nothing there, not even a bright star to account for it. It is true that Venus was in the sky, but nowhere near the direction of this object.

Many people are inclined to doubt the testimony of Papuan native witnesses, on the grounds that they are (a) uneducated, (b) superstitious, (c) inclined to say anything to please the European. This is most unfair. I have been in Papua for thirteen years, and speak four native dialects. Father Albert and Augustine are well-educated men, trained at our Teachers' Training College, one an ordained priest, and their testimony is as valuable as that of any normal European.

Indeed it is likely to be more impartial as they have no preconceived notions about satellites or astronomical phenomena, let alone flying saucers. They simply report what they see, and their descriptions are vivid and precise, and I can see no reason for not accepting them as accurate. If they are accepted as witnesses in court, why should not their evidence be acceptable in an investigation such as this? Of course it is subject to the laws of corroboration, as is any other evidence.

### 2. Flying "Tilley Lamps"

On the evening of Good Friday, March 27, many of the students at St. Aidan's College near Dogura saw a light "like a Tilley lamp" moving across the sky. The time was between 5.30 and 6.00 p.m., that is to say in daylight, though the sun would probably have set behind the hills.

It came from the sea, and moved over Dogura (our Head Station) from the direction of Cape Frere, and disappeared over the horizon in the direction of the Holy Name School (that is, south). This was reported to me in a letter from the Principal of the College, the Rev. David Durie, D.D., Dip.Ed.

At some indefinite date about this time, a white light was seen by Mr. George Awui, an engineer, and several other Papuans, hovering over the sea in broad daylight off Dogura. It was "like a star, but much brighter". They watched it for five minutes, until it suddenly went out. It was high in the sky to the west. It is conceivable that they may have been looking at Venus.

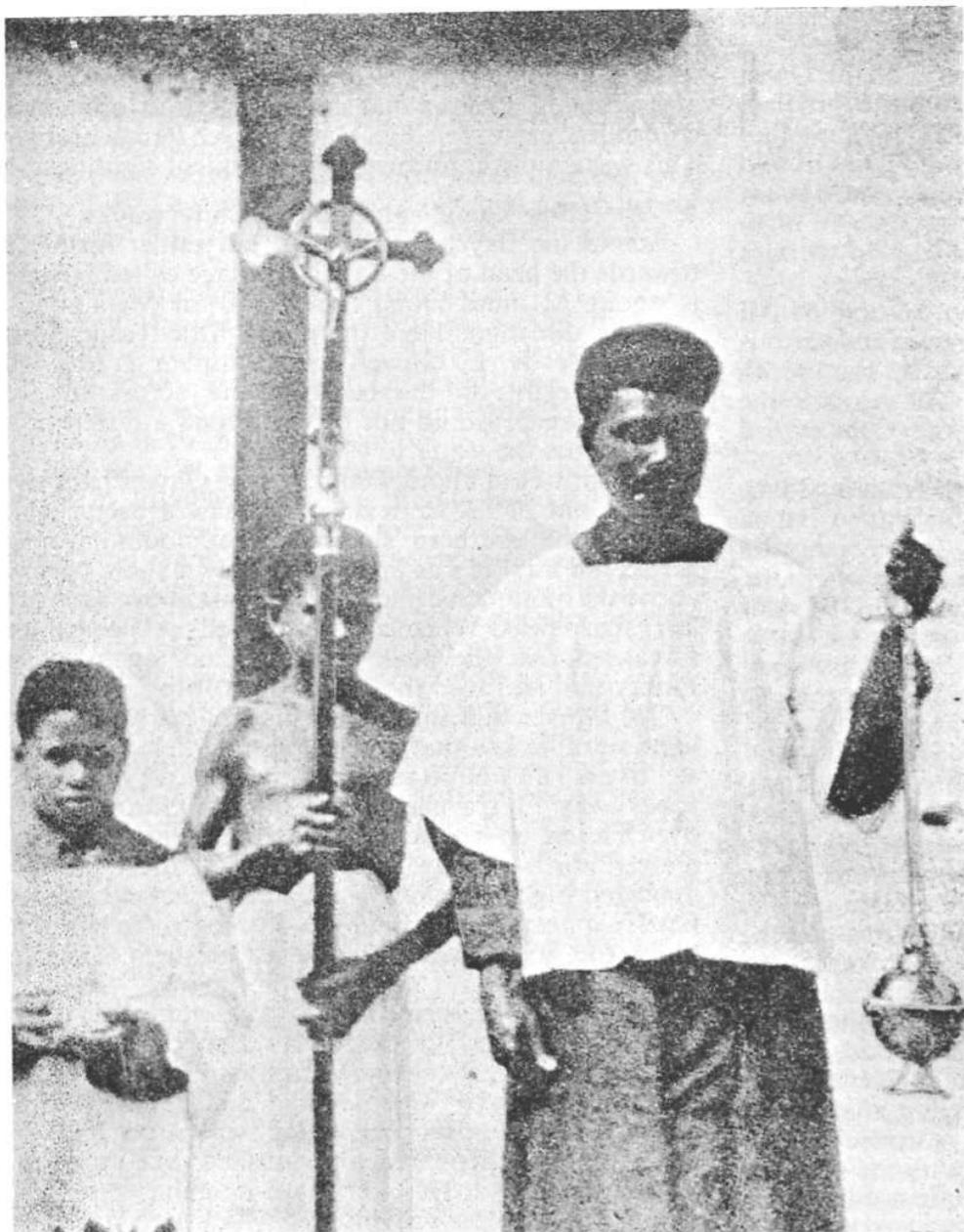
However, at about the same time right over in Collingwood Bay, a party of mountain people from the Daga country were down at Midino on the coast, hunting for wallabies, which abound in the grass plains. They were probably sleeping in the open under the clear starry sky. One night they saw a very bright "round white light, like a Tilley lamp", coming from the north-west. It passed right over them, "very close and clear" and continued on a straight course to the south-east. It made no sound. They were very frightened, and my informant, named Wavine, asked me if it was some new aircraft made by the white man. I said I did not know.

The sightings of objects "like Tilley lamps in the sky" continued. During April they were seen at Giwa, Dogura, Menapi, Sariba near Samarai and even in the Conflicts and Sudest Islands. They were seen by Europeans and Papuans, from land and from ships. There seems little point in detailing all of them, as they are very similar. A white light, "like a bright star", or "like a ship's light", or like a "Tilley lamp", travelling in a straight line across the sky, or in one case "up and down". They were regarded as quite commonplace after a few months. Many must have seen them without reporting them to me.

Were they meteors, satellites, or merely Venus? They could not have been aircraft, for no aircraft fly over the territory at night, and none of them was ever accompanied by sound. Had these been the only sightings we might have dismissed them as explicable phenomena, misinterpreted: but soon the objects began to behave in a manner which suggested that they were intelligently guided.

### 3. "Tilley Lamp" on a mountain?

The scene now shifts to Boianai, later to become



**Stephen Gill Moi (right),  
Papuan Teacher Evangelist  
and witness of UFO visitations  
— see pages 12 to 17**

**Daisy Kolauna and Annie  
Borewa, two of the Papuan  
medical orderlies at the  
Boianai mission, were among  
the eye-witnesses**



famous for the most amazing sighting of all. Boianai is a village on a small tongue of land made by the Mase River where it flows out of a deep gorge of the Owen Stanleys. It is on the south side of Goodenough Bay, some 20 miles across from Menapi. About four miles behind it the mountains rise sheer to culminate in two peaks which overhang the gorge on either side, Mount Nuanua and Mount Pudi. They are about 4,000ft. high. Behind them rise ridge upon ridge up to Mount Simpson, nearly 10,000ft., which caps the range.

Right on the beach is the Mission Station of All Saints, Boianai, with a coral cement Church and various Mission buildings. It faces northwards, the beach running north-west to south-east. It looks across to the low hills of Giwa and Menapi on the Cape Vogel Peninsula.

The Missionary-in-Charge, the Rev. William Booth Gill, is an old friend of mine. He came out to Papua with me in 1946, and I know him very well. On April 9 he was on his little 16ft. launch about a mile off shore, coming home from visiting an outstation. It was 6.50 p.m., and just about dark. The weather was clear overhead, but there were clouds and rain squalls about. The mountains were a dark silhouette against the still glowing sky.

He suddenly noticed a bright white light "like a Tilley lamp", apparently high up on the flank of Mt. Pudi, not far from the summit. He estimates that the light was about 500ft. from the top. It was quite stationary, and he immediately thought: "Oh, there must be someone up there with a Tilley lamp." The Papuans with him all noticed the light. He was puzzled about the light, but not unduly so, and looked away, continuing to read his book. Five minutes later he looked up again, but the mountain was in darkness. The light had disappeared. This again seemed odd, but he took no notice, and went on reading. After another five minutes he was aware of the light again, shining out from the mountainside, but to his surprise it was shining from a completely new position on the opposite side of the mountain. It had moved quite a mile to the east, quite impossible, if a man had been carrying it.

However, Father Gill did not realise the significance of what he had seen, and looked away again. Next time he looked back, the light had gone, and did not reappear. The next morning he examined the mountain by daylight, and realised that there was no house or village or even any track up there, but only the precipitous mountain-side. It was not until he got a letter from me about the later sighting from Giwa that it occurred to him that it might have been a UFO.

As it was quite impossible for it to have been an actual Tilley lamp for the reasons given above, in addition to the fact that very few people, apart from the Mission staff, possess Tilley lamps anyway, it seems likely that it was another appearance of the objects "like Tilley lamps" which were being seen all over the place. If so, the object could not have been actually "on" the mountain, but was probably hovering between the mountain and Father Gill's launch, a distance of three or four miles. As it "appeared" at a height of 3,500ft., when seen against the mountain, its actual height could not have exceeded that altitude, but may have been considerably less. The object therefore could not have

been astronomical, but appears to be some kind of craft hovering at aircraft height.

This sighting was therefore of great importance to us at the time, suggesting that some mysterious, apparently controlled, craft were flying about over Papua at night. This was amply confirmed by subsequent sightings.

#### 4. A "Tilley Lamp" which turned on its tracks

Across the Bay from Boianai, but rather further in towards the head of the Bay, is a village called Giwa. It is about 12 miles along the Bay from Menapi in a westerly direction. Here there is a little Trade Store, run by Mr. D. L. Glover, an Australian Trader. His house is right on the beach facing across towards Boianai, which would not be more than a dozen or so miles across the water to the south.

On April 21 at about 7.00 p.m. Mr. Glover happened to look out of his front door and saw a bright white light in the southern sky over the mountain range across the Bay. It was apparently only a short distance above the mountains, and appeared just above a particularly sharp peak. When later he showed me the position, I realised that the peak was Mt. Pudi again, where Father Gill had seen the object on April 9.

Mr. Glover had thought at first that it was a ship's light, until he saw that it was in the sky. He describes it as "like a Tilley lamp as seen from a couple of hundred yards away". It travelled slowly out from the mountains over the sea, on a course oblique to him, in an approximately north-easterly direction. As it drew closer it appeared higher, passing right across his field of view, until it appeared above a group of trees to the left of his house (i.e. somewhere over the sea between Giwa and Baniara Island).

It then stopped, seemed to hover a moment and then reverse, travelling in exactly the opposite direction without turning. It continued to travel back on exactly the same track by which it had come until it again appeared to be over Mt. Pudi, where he had first observed it. It then suddenly vanished, like an electric light switched out. He did not see it again.

Mr. Glover was convinced he had seen a "Flying Saucer". He admitted that he could see no shape, just a bright light, far brighter than any star. But what struck him, as it struck me when he told me the story, was the way in which it stopped and reversed without turning. No known aircraft could have done this, let alone a meteor. He estimates the speed to be roughly that of a slow aircraft. The whole duration of the sighting was between five and ten minutes. He did not time it. This sighting, like Father Gill's, suggests a controlled craft of some sort, but certainly not a normal aeroplane.

So far all the lights seen had been "like Tilley lamps" or "like stars", but in May the objects started to put on a display of colour, though the white lights continued to be seen as well. Some of the earlier sightings before 1959 had shown these colour changes, which seemed to be a definite characteristic of certain types of UFO.

#### IV. KALEIDOSCOPIIC LIGHTS

The first report of coloured lights came from a group of Papuans who were not particularly reliable, and I was inclined to discount it. I was especially sceptical at the time, because there were several stars low down on the

horizon which appeared to scintillate alternately with green, red and white light. But they were only pin-points, and did not move, and were obviously stars. So when some people at Menapi, right on my doorstep, claimed to have seen a moving light which changed colour from white to red and then green over and over again, I was not very convinced, though looking back on it, I am now inclined to accept their statement.

### 1. Changing coloured light over Baniara

On Sunday, May 24, no less a person than the Assistant District Officer, Mr. Ronald Orwin, and his Patrol Officer, Mr. Robert L. Smith, saw with their own eyes a most spectacular coloured object, which was visible for three-quarters of an hour.

They were at the Government Station on Baniara Island in Goodenough Bay, about four miles from Menapi and one mile off shore. They had just had dinner and were sitting on the verandah outside the Residence. The weather was clear and the sky full of stars. The time was 7.00 p.m. They noticed a particularly bright bluish star high in the western sky. They thought at first that it was Venus, until they saw that it was moving slowly in a south-west direction. It slowly faded after a few minutes, until it went right out. Then almost immediately it appeared again, waxing with a bright green light. Mr. Smith noticed the extremely interesting point that the green light did not appear at exactly the same point where the blue light had been, but slightly lower, as if from a different position on the object. He could see no outline of any craft, but the sky was fairly dark. The green light did not last as long as the blue, but changed through a sort of intermediate "mauve or orange colour" (his words) "really indescribable" to a bright orange red. This only remained for a very short time, like a flash, and then went out. Then the original blue light faded on again. The whole cycle took perhaps three to four minutes, and was repeated over and over again for the duration of the sighting. The object pursued a slow and erratic course in a general south-west direction, and faded out in the end at a point over the mountains, somewhere in the neighbourhood of Dogura (south-east). It ended with the red-orange flash. It did not reappear. The time of its disappearance was about 8.15 p.m. The object was observed with the naked eye only. It made no sound whatever.

This sighting was immediately reported by radio to higher authorities and was mentioned in the local press (with inaccuracies). Mr. Orwin and Mr. Smith are responsible trained officers, and men of great integrity, and one cannot doubt their detailed and accurate observation. The account set down is a combination of both their reports, with all the detail recorded from personal interviews. The object was also seen by Papuans on the Island, and by at least one person at Menapi. Had I been looking out in the right direction at the right time, I should have seen it from our Mission Station.

The colour changes add yet another inexplicable element to the observations, but it is remarkably consistent in many sightings; the fundamental colours of white, red and green, or blue-green, seem to be quite characteristic. Aircraft may carry lights of these colours, but they do not slowly change colour from moment to

moment, nor are they silent, nor do they ever appear at night in Papuan skies.

### 2. More coloured lights

The next sighting was reported from Sideia, again, the Roman Catholic Mission Station near Samarai. On a Saturday in May, a large green elliptical object was seen by nine schoolboys. The object was crossing the northern sky moving north-west; it was much larger than a star and moved rapidly. No more detail is available.

However, during June I had to visit my mountain stations in the Daga Country. It seemed to me that a number of the objects had appeared from or disappeared over the mountains, and I was interested to know whether they had been seen by the mountain people. So I made discreet enquiries. The results were most interesting. The objects had indeed been seen, though more recently than the coastal reports.

On Tuesday, June 16, 16 mountain people, men, boys and girls, were camping out in the high mountain country, hunting for cuscus, tree kangaroos and rock wallabies. They were 6,000ft. up in a high valley called Dumura, on the south side of the range. At about 7.00 p.m. they saw a brilliant light "like a Tilley lamp" but yellow in colour. It lit up the whole countryside "brighter than the moon—more like the sun". It did not seem to be very high. It came from the south-east and travelled straight overhead until it disappeared in the north-west. It appeared to travel "at the speed of a firefly". This of course refers to apparent speed, not actual speed, which must have been far more rapid. A firefly, being only a few feet up, appears to travel far faster than a plane. After it disappeared they heard a single explosion, like a clap of thunder. The story was told to me by Baredi, an intelligent pupil teacher. He said that they were all very frightened by the light.

These mountain people are much less sophisticated than the coastal, but are often very intelligent. Their lack of sophistication makes them all the less likely to have invented these objects, which are obviously quite out of their normal experience, and of which they could not possibly have heard before. The stories were always told to me in the native language, which I know partly, but which was always explained to me by interpreters, who knew the coastal language in which I am fluent.

### 3. A rotating coloured ball

On the very same night another party of hunters were encamped at a place called Maigwarip at about 7,000ft. on a high mountain-side. The time they give as 6.30 p.m., but one must remember that they have no watches, and the times of their mountain sightings can only be regarded as approximate. They saw a dazzling flash like lightning, which blinded them for a moment. Then they saw an object moving in the sky from north to south. They describe it as "like a cricket ball", smaller than the moon, but much brighter. It started green, changed to white and later to red. The colour changes were slow and it remained for a long period at the one colour. It was dazzlingly bright, and lit up the whole countryside, and the top of the forest with its alternating, green, white and red light. It stayed "a long time" in the sky and moved slowly. It appeared to rotate as it went (they indicated an anti-clockwise rotation, but I do not know

if that was correct), the rays of light which seemed to radiate from it rotating with the object.

The narrator of the sighting, Birioudo, who was one of the eye-witnesses, said that they were all very frightened, but assumed that it must be one of the fantastic new inventions of the white man. It will be noticed that they never attributed them to magic or spirit phenomena. They seem convinced of their objective reality.

#### 4. More mountain sightings

On the following night, June 17, another of our pupil teachers, Michael I. Bumomoi, and his friend Aunak, were out hunting together on Mt. Manaman at about 8,000ft. At 8.00 p.m. it was cloudy and raining, and they were camping in a clearing of the forest, when they saw a bright light, partly red and partly white, shoot quickly across the sky. It appeared to be inside the clouds. They saw it receding through the trees, the branches silhouetted against it as it went.

Then a week later, another party of mountain people were high up on the side of Mt. Donaai, getting pine bark for their Mission School building. There were eleven of them camping at about 8,000ft. It was a clear starry night, and they were sitting out at about 9.00 p.m., probably warming themselves round the fire in the extremely chilly air. Suddenly a very bright light "like a Tilley lamp" came over the top of the mountain, a thousand feet above them, travelling approximately north to south. It had a long beam of light behind it "like a torch". The head of it was round "like a tennis ball". It lit up the whole place brilliantly as it sped "faster than an aeroplane" over their heads. It was visible for some time as it receded, then it disappeared behind the trees, after which a single thunderclap was heard.

The eye-witness who told me was a Village Counsellor, an intelligent fellow. He added: "I know the moon and the stars, and I know shooting stars. I am not a young man. I have been born many years. I have been looking at the sky all my life. But I have never seen anything like this before. You are a white man. Can you tell me what it is?"

I had to admit that the white men are just as puzzled as he is.

This is the end of my mountain reports, as I had to return to my Station at Menapi after a month's patrol. An interesting point about the mountain sightings is that they were all seen from very high altitudes and never from the gorges and valleys where the people live. The objects seem to have been skimming the high mountain tops and avoiding the valleys. However, the valleys are mostly deep and narrow, exposing a comparatively small area of sky to view. Also the mountain people tend to huddle inside their houses at night with the only door shut. So the chances of them seeing things in the sky except when camping are small.

In the two cases where a thunderclap was heard immediately after the disappearance of the object, there is no proof that the object was the cause of the bang. However it seems reasonable to suppose that there is some connection. A similar thunderclap occurred after the sightings at Boianai, and a sound accompanied a later sighting at Giwa. These will be described in their

place. With these four exceptions no sound whatever was heard during any of the sightings.

## V. THE VISITATION AT BOIANAI

### 1. Father Gill's letter

When I returned from the mountains I heard the most fantastic rumours. It was said that many flying saucers had been visiting Boianai, and that human beings had been seen on them, and waved to Father Gill. I could not believe they were true, and dismissed them as the sort of wild tales which often get around by "bush telegraph", and in which there is often little or no substance of truth. However, the next call of the Mission launch brought me a fat envelope of typescript with a covering letter from Father Gill himself. His letter read as follows:

Anglican Mission, Boianai,  
15/7/59.

Father Cruttwell  
Anglican Mission, Menapi.

Dear Norman,

Here is a lot of material—the kind you have been waiting for, no doubt; but I am in some ways sorry that it has to be me who supplies it. Attitudes at Dogura in respect of my sanity vary greatly, and like all mad men, I myself think my grey cells are O.K. I am sorry you were not here with your telescope—the naked eye can be a hindrance when detail is essential.

This is the original data. Please take whatever copies or photographs you like, but please send it back to me by return "Maclaren King" if possible, as I regard it with a sense of value which no copies could have.

There has been no activity recently over here, but one report has come from Vidia (and others from Dogura, as you will see).

Hope you had a successful walkabout,

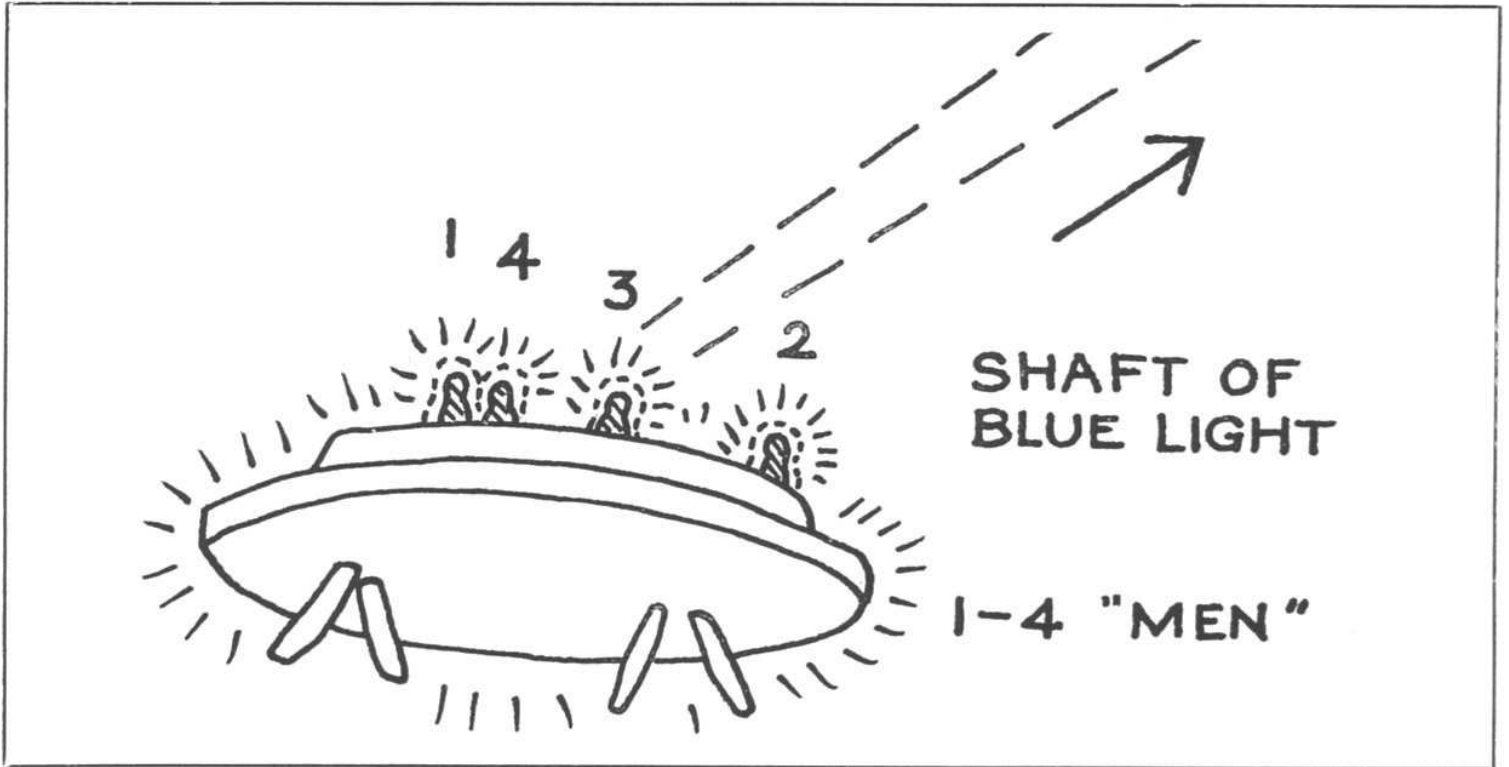
Regards  
(signed) BILL.

P.S.—Have a spare typed copy which I am sending you—you can keep it. (It contains most but not all the originals.)—W.G.

### 2. Stephen Moi's saucer

After some preliminary discussion of the evidence and describing the method by which he compiled his report, he describes the sighting of the first of the visiting craft by his Papuan Teacher Evangelist, Stephen Gill Moi. This craft was not seen by Father Gill himself, though it is obviously similar to the craft which he saw later. Stephen Moi's report is as follows:

"On coming out of the house at one o'clock on Sunday morning, 21st June, I saw a bright white light silently coming out of the sky from a point about a quarter of a mile out to sea, slightly west of Boianai Mission Station. It descended from what seemed to be a great height, and I thought at first that it was a "falling star" (meteor). I watched it for the space of about three minutes, moving and descending eastwards and parallel to the coast. It stopped at a point a little to the east of the station, and at a height of perhaps three



Object with "men" as it appeared over Boianai on July 26, 1959. Tracing of drawing by the Revd. W. B. Gill

hundred feet. There it remained stationary for perhaps half a minute, and gradually decreased in brilliance until the shape of an inverted saucer could be discerned, which was tilted backwards with part of the base visible. The object then moved upwards and disappeared from view into the clouds.

"When first sighted [presumably after the falling star stage, when he realised how slowly it was moving] I thought it was a light similar to those dropped by planes during the war.

"P.S.—Underneath the saucer I saw about four round black spots."

(signed) Stephen Gill Moi.

Another typical Papuan scene

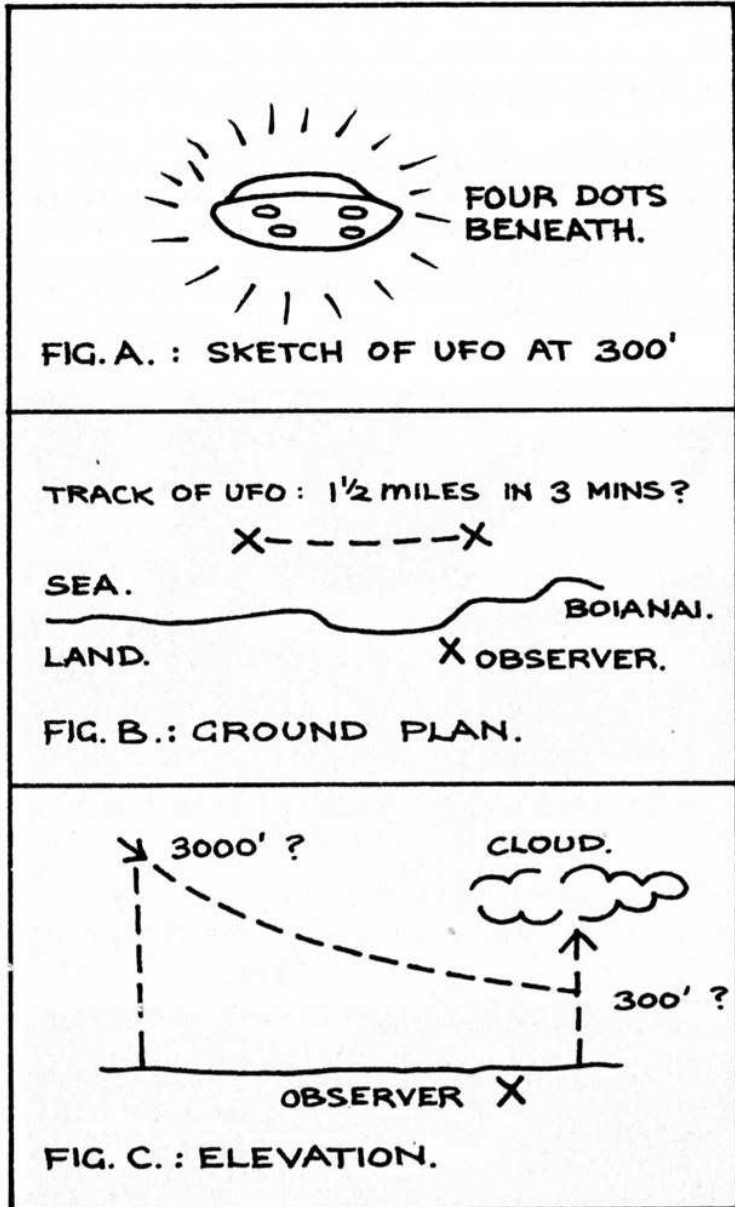


To this Father Gill added the following comment:

"All this information was volunteered without any knowledge of previous sightings of UFOs by Stephen, and when questioned afterwards, Stephen Moi claimed never to have heard of 'Flying Saucers'. I asked him if he was quite sure the shape of the object was like a saucer, and was not, for instance, the shape of a plate, or like a 'sixpence' or 'like a ball'. He was quite certain in his mind that it was more like a saucer than anything else."

I too have questioned Stephen about this and other sightings, and he confirmed this appearance and the four dots, though he is not quite sure whether they were actually on the upper or under surface of the machine. This it will readily be seen is a matter of perspective. Either the object must have been considerably smaller than those seen a week later, or his estimate of height must have been too small. There seems little doubt that this was the same type of machine which returned later, and was probably doing a preliminary reconnaissance.

The following diagram was added to the report:



### 3. The first sighting of "men"

Five days later, on Friday, June 26, the visitors returned in force. The astounding events of that night caused Father Gill to write the following letter to the Rev. David Durie, Principal of St. Aidan's College, Father Gill's confidant and friend, who had helped him to study for his Diploma of Education.

Anglican Mission, Boianai,  
27/6/59.

To the Rev. D. Durie,  
Acting Principal,  
St. Aidan's College,  
Dogura.

Dear David,

Life is strange, isn't it? Yesterday I wrote you a letter (which I still intend sending you) expressing opinions of UFOs. Not less than 24 hours later I have changed my views somewhat. Last night we at Boianai experienced about four hours of UFO activity, and there is no doubt whatever that they are handled by beings of some kind. At times it was absolutely breathtaking. Here is the report. Please pass it round, but great care must be taken, as I have no other, and this, like the one I made out re. Stephen, will be sent to Nor. I would appreciate it if you could send the lot back as soon as poss.

Cheers,  
Convinced,  
(signed) BILL.

P.S.—Do you think P. Moresby should know about this? (N. Cruttwell is at present in the Daga country, and will not be returning home until July 16 at the earliest.) If people think it worth while, I will stand cost of radio conversation if you care to make out a comprehensive report from the material on my behalf! It's interesting Territory news if nothing else.  
W.B.G.

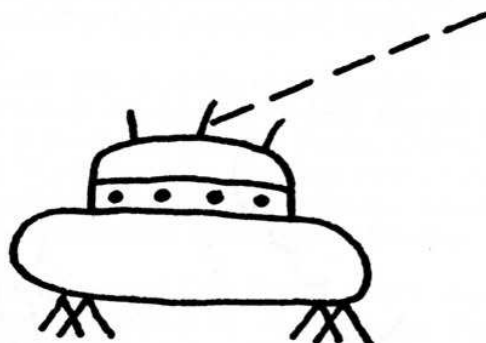
Then follows the report of the events of June 26 exactly as jotted down at the time in pencil. I reproduce the notes verbatim:

26/6/59		DATA SHEET OF UFO OBSERVATIONS, BOIANAI
	Time p.m.	
Sky Patches of low cloud	6.45	Sighted bright white light from front door. Direction N.W.
Clear over Dogura and Menapi.	6.50	Call Stephen and Eric Langford.
	6.52	Stephen arrives. Confirms not star—like the other night. Coming closer, not so bright. Coming down. (500ft.?) Orange? Deep yellow?
	6.55	Send Eric to call people. One object on top, moves—man? Now 3 men—moving, glowing, doing something on deck. Gone.
	7.00	Men 1 and 2 again.
	7.04	Gone again.
Cloud ceiling covered sky c. 2,000ft.	7.10	Men 1, 3, 4, 2 (appeared in that order). Thin electric blue spotlight. Men gone. Spotlight still there.

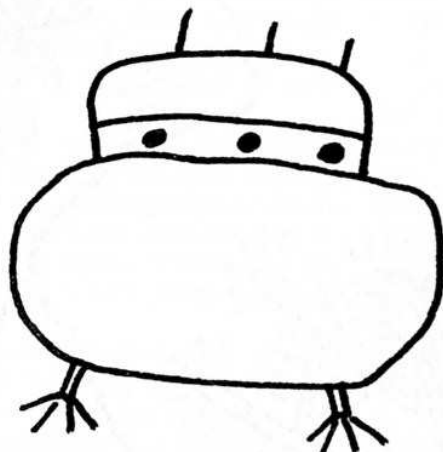




STEPHEN GILL MOI



ANANIAS RARATA



DULCIE F. GUYOROBO

Witnesses' drawings

Clear sky here, heavy cloud over Dogura.

Cloud forming again.

Clouds patchy.

7.12 Men 1 and 2 appeared—blue light.

7.20 Spotlight off. Men go.

7.20 UFO goes through cloud.

8.28 UFO seen by me overhead. Call station people. Appeared to descend, get bigger. Not so big, but seemed nearer than before.

8.29 Second UFO seen over sea, hovering at times.

8.35 Another one over Wadobuna

? Another to the east.

8.50 Big one stationary and larger—the original? Others coming and going through the clouds. As they descend through clouds, light reflected like large halo on to cloud—no more than 2,000ft., probably less. All UFOs very clear—satellites? “Mother Ship” still large, clear, stationary.

9.05 Nos. 2, 3, 4 gone.

9.10 Mother ship gone—giving red light. No. 1 gone (overhead) into cloud.

9.20 “Mother” back.

9.30 “Mother” gone across sea to Giwa—white, red, blue, gone.

9.46 Overhead UFO reappears, is hovering.

10.00 Still there, stationary.

10.10 Hovering, gone behind cloud.

10.30 Very high, hovering in clear patch of sky between clouds.

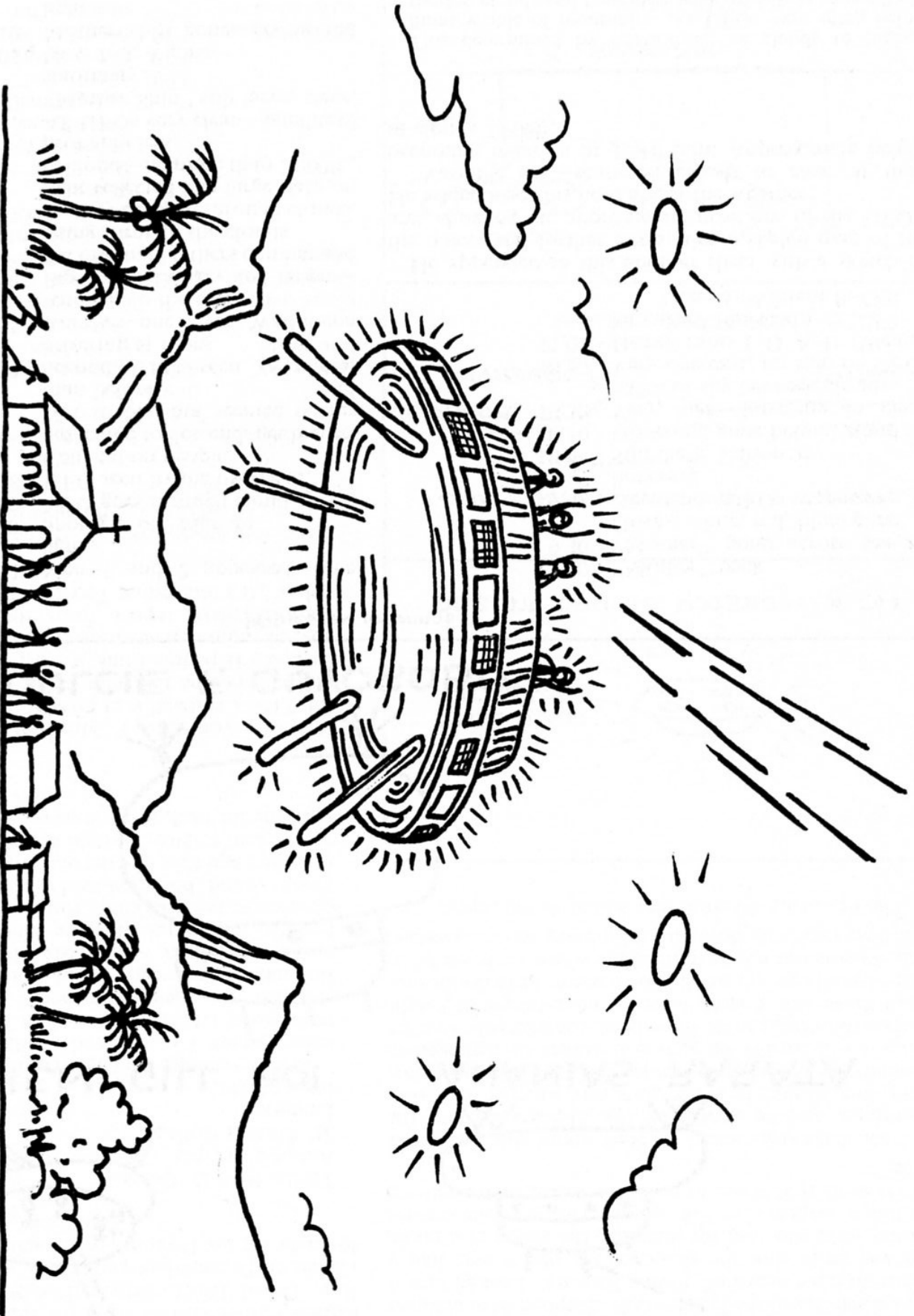
10.50 Very overcast, no sign of UFO.

11.04 Heavy rain. I Q A!!! (Wedau language! Finished.)  
(signed) William B. Gill.

He appended to this another sheet with a sketch of the object and further notes, also a sketch map of the area showing the approximate positions of the UFOs. He added also this note about the weather:

“Variable sky—scattered clouds to clear at first, becoming overcast at 10.10 p.m. Approximate height of clouds 2,000ft.\*

\* This determined by relationship of clouds to highest point visible of mountains. As UFOs were often below (under) clouds and their glow gave off a wide halo reflected on the clouds, it follows that UFOs descended to below 2,000ft.



The Reverend Norman Cruttwell's charming imaginative drawing of the scene at Boianai on June 27th, 1959

Below the drawings are the signatures of the witnesses to each of the four appearances of the men. Their names are:

The Rev. William B. Gill.  
Stephen Gill Moi, Teacher.  
Ananias Rarata, Teacher.  
Mrs. (Nessie) Moi.

Altogether there were 38 witnesses of whom 25 signed the report. Apart from Father Gill himself they included five Papuan teachers and three medical assistants.

The Report speaks for itself, but after questioning Father Gill and several of the Papuan witnesses, I have been able to fill in a certain amount of detail.

Father Gill had just had his dinner and came out of the front door of the Mission House. There is a small patch of lawn, a few trees, including coconut palms, and then a drop of perhaps fifty feet to the shingle beach below.

He casually glanced at the sky and looked for Venus, which was conspicuous at the time. In his own words: "I saw Venus, but I also saw this sparkling object which to me was peculiar because it sparkled, and because it was very, very bright, and it was above Venus and so that caused me to watch it for a while, then I saw it descend towards us."

Stephen Gill Moi, who joined Father Gill a few minutes later, described it as "shining with a bright white light, like a Tilley lamp." Ananias used exactly the same expression. Stephen remarks that it appeared to wax and wane in brightness, as though it were approaching and receding. Eventually it came quite close, and hovered at a height which Father Gill estimates at between 300 and 400ft., though he admits that it was very hard to judge the altitude at night, not knowing the size of the object. He estimates its apparent diameter as about 5in. at arm's length. Stephen said that if he put his hand out closed it would cover about half of it.

Father Gill states that it changed from a brilliant white light, when it was far off, to a dull yellow, or perhaps pale orange, when it was close. When asked whether he thought it was metallic, he answered:

"Well, it appeared solid, certainly not transparent or gaseous; we just assume that it was metallic from our own experience of things that travel and carry men."

All witnesses agree that it was circular, that it had a wide base and a narrower upper deck, that it had a type of legs beneath it, that it produced at times a shaft of blue light which shone upwards into the sky at an angle of about 45 degrees (see page 13) and that the four "human" figures appeared on top.

Two of the witnesses state that they saw about four portholes or windows in the side, which they have indicated in their drawings. These are not indicated in Father Gill's drawing. Commenting on this he said: "I saw what appeared to be panels in the side of the object, which glowed somewhat brighter than the rest, but I did not interpret them as portholes. I did not indicate them in my rough drawing." They were, however, indicated in a reconstructed drawing by the artist

of the *Australasian Post* under direct verbal instructions from Father Gill, proving that he had seen and remarked them.

There was a certain discrepancy in the witnesses' estimate of the number of legs, though all agreed that they were in two groups. Father Gill is emphatic that there were four legs, tapering, two at each end, somewhat divergent. He admits that his drawing is not very skilful, and refers again to the drawing in *Australasian Post*.

I have reproduced Father Gill's drawing and the drawings of three of the witnesses for comparison, together with my own composite drawing which appears to embody the true appearance of the object from the description of the witnesses.

Here are Father Gill's comments on the "men":

"As we watched it (the object) men came out from this object, and appeared on the top of it, on what seemed to be a deck on top of the huge disc. There were four men in all, occasionally two, then one, then three, then four; we noted the various times the men appeared. And then later on all those witnesses who were quite sure that our records were right, and that they agreed with them, and saw the men at the same time as I did—were able to sign their names as witnesses of what we assume to be human activity or beings of some sort on the object itself.

"Another peculiar thing was this shaft of blue light, which emanated from what appeared to be the centre of the deck. The men appeared to be illuminated not only by this light reflected on them, but also by a sort of glow which completely surrounded them as well as the craft. The glow did not touch them, but there appeared to be a little space between their outline and the light. I have tried to indicate this in the drawing. They seemed to be illuminated in two ways: (a) by reflected light, as men seen working high up on a building at night caught by the glare of an oxy-acetylene torch, and (b) by this curious halo which outlined them, following every contour of their figures and yet did not touch them. In fact they seemed to be illuminated themselves in the same way as the machine was."

This is indicated in Father Gill's diagram.

When asked whether he thought they were wearing space suits he replied:

"I couldn't say. It may be so; that would seem to be a possible explanation of the double outline, but I could not see any such suits."

I asked him whether he could see any details, such as the colour of their skins. He replied that they were too far away to see such details, but that he would say they were probably pale. As for the details of their bodies, all he could be sure of was that they had the outline of normal human beings from the waist up. Their legs were hidden by the sides of the craft. If wearing clothes, they were very tight fitting.

Describing the movements of the objects, especially the smaller discs, he said that they were most erratic. They moved sometimes fast, sometimes slowly,

approaching and receding, changing direction, even swinging to and fro like a pendulum. One of the objects, apparently No. 1 of the Data (and B on the Map) appeared much larger than the others, and appeared to have five illuminated panels, or windows, on the visible side. When the first object (A on the Map) moved away, it appeared to descend in the direction of Wadobuna village, and everyone thought it was going to land. The Papuans ran down on to the beach, intending to catch it up, but it swooped up and away over the mountains, turning red as it disappeared (W.B.G. and Ananias). It apparently returned, but hovered more to the west of the station. When it finally departed at 9.30, Father Gill says it made a slight wavering movement, and then suddenly shot off at immense speed, changing colour to red and blue-green, and disappeared across the Bay in the direction of Giwa in a fraction of a second. It just diminished to a pin-point and vanished. In spite of the fantastic speed of thousands of miles an hour, there was no sound. Father Gill is emphatic about the absence of sound throughout the whole activity.

#### 4. The night they waved

Boianai had not seen the last of its strange visitors. The next evening they returned even earlier. At six o'clock, the sun would have only just gone behind the mountains, and the sky would have still been bright until half-past six. It would not have been really dark until at least 6.45 p.m. This rules out any possibility of the object having been a planet, such as Venus, which would not have been at all bright at such an early hour. Here is Father Gill's report of the happenings of Saturday, June 27:

"A large UFO was first sighted by Annie Laurie Borewa, a Papuan medical assistant, in apparently the same position as last night. The time was about six o'clock."

She called Father Gill, who came out at about 6.02 p.m., and saw the object for himself. It had the same appearance as last night's object, but seemed a little smaller, probably due to increased distance. Father Gill continues:

"I called Ananias and several others, and we stood in the open to watch. Although the sun had set, it was quite light for the following fifteen minutes. We watched figures appear on top—four of them—there is no doubt that they were human. This is possibly the same object that I took to be the 'Mother Ship' last night. Two smaller UFOs were seen at the same time, stationary, one above the hills, west, and another overhead.

"On the large one, two of the figures seemed to be doing something near the centre of the deck—they were occasionally bending over and raising their arm as though adjusting or 'setting up' something (not visible). One figure seemed to be standing, looking down at us (a group of about a dozen)."

Father Gill, describing this to me afterwards, said that the "man" was standing with his hands on the "rail" looking over, just as one will look over the rails of a ship. His report continues:

"I stretched my arm above my head and waved. To our surprise the figure did the same. Ananias waved both arms over his head, then the two outside figures did the same. Ananias and self began waving our arms and all four seemed to wave back. There *seemed* to be no doubt that our movements were answered. All the Mission boys made audible gasps (of either joy or surprise, perhaps both).

"As dark was beginning to close in, I sent Eric Kodawa for a torch and directed a series of long dashes towards the UFO. After a minute or two of this, the UFO apparently acknowledged by making several wavering motions back and forth (in a sideways direction, like a pendulum).

"Waving by us was repeated, and this was followed by more flashes of the torch, then the UFO began slowly to become bigger, apparently coming in our direction. It ceased after perhaps half a minute and came on no further.

"After a further two or three minutes the figures apparently lost interest in us, for they disappeared below deck.

"At 6.25 p.m. two figures reappeared to carry on with whatever they were doing before the interruption(?). The blue spotlight came on for a few seconds, twice in succession."

Subsequently I asked Father Gill whether he had tried to communicate with the 'men' by voice. He said he had indeed shouted, as had they all, and made beckoning motions to the men to descend: but there was absolutely no response, apart from the waving and motion already described. Neither the men nor their machine made any sound whatsoever. The report continues:

"The two other UFOs remained stationary and high up—higher than last night(?), or smaller than last night(?).

At 6.30 p.m. I went to dinner.

7.00 p.m. No. 1 UFO still present, but appeared somewhat smaller. Observers go to Church for Evensong.

7.45 p.m. Evensong over, and sky covered with cloud. Visibility very poor. No UFOs in sight.

10.40 p.m. A terrific explosion just outside the Mission House. Nothing seen. It could have been an atmospheric explosion, as the whole sky was overcast.

11.05 p.m. A few drops of rain."

He says that the explosion made him jump out of bed, and gave him a tremendous shock. Remembering the UFOs, he wondered whether one had landed, and rushed out to see what had happened. He saw nothing unusual, but found that the explosion had woken up everyone on the station. Papuans are not usually woken by the loudest thunder. They are very heavy sleepers. He described it as: "a penetrating earsplitting explosion, not an ordinary thunderclap. It appeared to be just outside the window."

However he admits that it may not have had anything

to do with the UFOs. It must, however, be recorded as one of the unusual phenomena of that amazing night.

The facts of this sighting and the waving by the men and the response to the torch signals are fully corroborated by Ananias Rarata, Eric Kodawa, Mrs. (Nessie) Moi, Ilma Violet and Dulcie Freda (Teachers), and many of the other witnesses in personal interviews with myself. They have also told the story independently to other Papuans, who have passed it on to me. They are all most emphatic about having seen and exchanged signals with the men. Stephen Moi was not present on this occasion, as he had gone to Dogura during the day.

There were many curious features about the machine and the men, which are quite inexplicable by the principles of any known earthly aircraft. They might, however, be explicable if we knew the laws which govern the propulsion and operation of these extraordinary craft. Who were the "men", and where did they come from? If only we knew, we should have solved the mystery of the flying saucers.

It would be very interesting to know the actual size of the "men" and their machine. Unfortunately, as they did not land, this is very hard to estimate. Father Gill estimates that, assuming the men to have been of normal size (about 6ft.) the machine would have had a diameter of roughly 35ft. at the base and 20ft. on the upper "deck". However, if this is correct, the machine must have been further away than he thought, as a width of 5in. at arm's length would give a diameter of nearly 60ft. (incidentally the estimated size of Mr.

Evennett's object). If the men were smaller, the machine must have been considerably less than 35ft. However, all these estimates are mere guesswork, and of little scientific value, except as approximations.

Father Gill and his 38 witnesses at Boianai, not to mention others who may have seen the objects independently, were not the only people to see strange things in the sky that night. There were sightings at Giwa, Baniara and Sideia, which amply confirm that mysterious intelligently-controlled flying machines were visiting Papua on June 26-28, 1959.

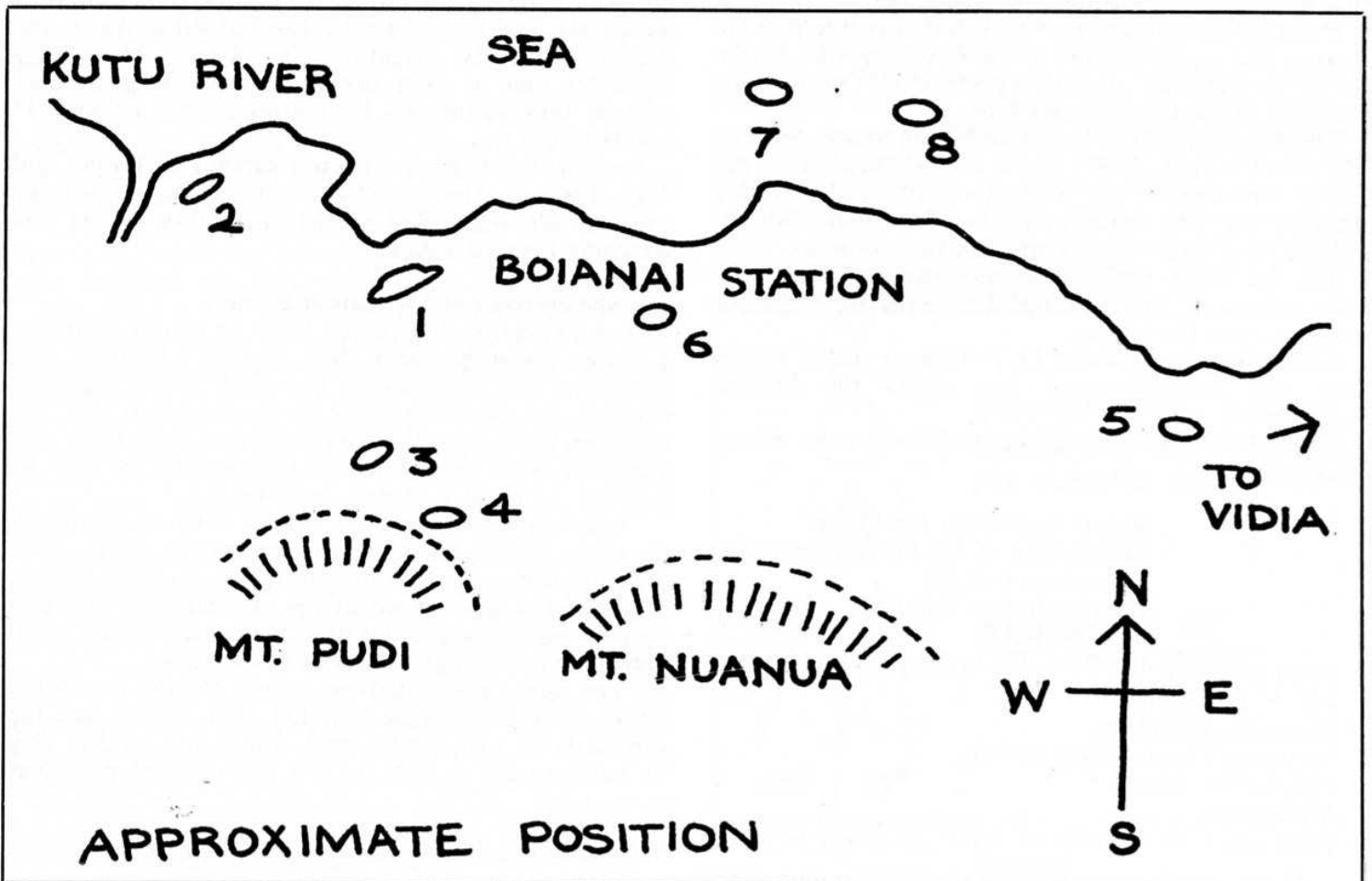
### 5. The third night

But before passing on to these, we shall complete the Boianai reports. For the mysterious craft returned on the Sunday night, June 28, the third in succession. This time they did not come so low, nor did the men appear. But the objects were more numerous than ever. Here is Father Gill's laconic report:

#### BOIANAI SIGHTINGS (contd.)

Sunday, 28/6/59

- 6.00 p.m. No sign of UFO.
- 6.45 p.m. Only 1 UFO practically overhead. Slightly north. Very high, but clearly distinguishable, due to hovering. (Father Gill uses the word "hover" in the sense of wavering movement in a small area.—N.E.G.C.)
- 7.30 p.m. Same UFO—moved to southern position, but still more or less overhead.
- 9.00 p.m. 3 UFOs in almost straight line—all high, sky clear.



11.00 p.m. 8 UFOs. This is the greatest number seen at one time. One fairly low, but except for occasional "hover", no activity seen on board.

11.20 p.m. A sharp metallic and loud bang on Mission House roof, as though a piece of metal had dropped from a great height. No roll of "object" down roof slope afterwards. Outside, 4 UFOs in a circle round station. All high.

11.30 p.m. To bed, and UFOs still there.

Monday, 29/6/59

Roof examined. No apparent sign of mark or dent, which one might expect from last night's noise.

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

This appears to have been the end of the activity at Boianai. Father Gill says that nothing more was seen at Boianai, apart from what is contained in the reports.

## VI. CORROBORATION FROM GIWA AND BANIARA

### 1. Can the report be explained away?

The sightings at Boianai are at first sight so fantastic that it is not surprising that many people have refused to accept them as true, and consider that Father Gill, although obviously a sincere man, must either have imagined it all, or have seen some ordinary object such as Venus, and misinterpreted it. Others admit that he may have seen some unidentified object in the sky, but that his report is enormously exaggerated.

However the authorities were sufficiently interested to request that a copy be sent to the Assistant Administrator of the Territory, and all reports of UFOs are being recorded in the Government Files.

The President of the Victorian Flying Saucer Society, Mr. Peter Norris, LI.B., wrote to the Director of Air Force Intelligence on September 12, 1959, asking whether the Air Force had investigated the Boianai reports, and what conclusions they had come to.

The Air Force replied that they had had no official information of the sightings but were now making enquiries into the matter.

Later, Squadron/Leader D. F. Gibson visited Father Gill, and cross-examined him about the Boianai sightings.

Later, this official reply was received by the Flying Saucer Society:

Royal Australian Air Force  
Directorate of Air Force Intelligence  
Department of Air  
Administrative Building  
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

554/1/30 (5M)

22nd February 1960

Mr. P. E. Norris,  
Honorary President,  
Victorian Flying Saucer Society,  
100, Collins Street,  
Melbourne.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 25th January 1960.

An Officer of this Directorate has investigated Reverend W. Gill's report of UFO activities in the Boianai area of New Guinea, and copies of his findings have been submitted to appropriate authorities. As mentioned in our 114/1/201 (AAA) dated 14th February 1957, such reports are not releasable to the public. However, although it is not possible to reach any positive conclusions, we do not believe that the objects observed by the Rev. W. Gill and his party were manned space vehicles. An analysis of bearings and angles above the horizon does suggest that at least three of the lights were planets, e.g. Jupiter, Saturn and Mars. Light refraction, the changing position of the planets relative to the observers, and the unsettled tropical weather could give the impression of size and rapid movement.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd.) F. E. Lang, Squadron/Leader.

The Flying Saucer Society is now\* asking the Melbourne Official Astronomer to check whether the planets concerned were in the right positions at that time to account for any of the UFOs. The ambiguity of the letter is evident, and it only claims to be a possible explanation of some of the smaller objects. The main object carrying the "men" is not mentioned, and is presumably regarded as inexplicable.

Father Gill says that he is quite prepared to accept the possibility that some of the smaller objects could have been planets, though from their apparent size and behaviour it is very hard to believe. The most noticeable characteristic of Father Gill is the moderation of his claims, and his absolute refusal to subscribe to any theory about the origin of the objects. He always reiterates that he does not know what they were or whence they came. All he knows is that he and 37 others saw them.

Luckily the evidence does not depend on Father Gill only. There is other corroboration of things in the sky over Goodenough Bay at the same time as he was watching them at Boianai.

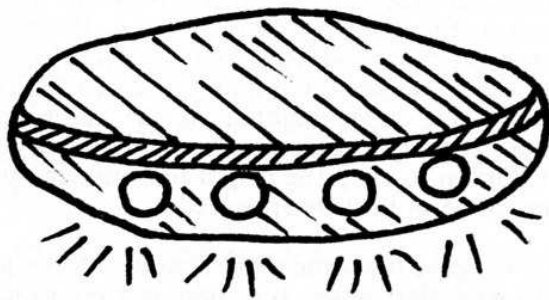
### 2. The evidence of Mr. Ernest Evenett

It so happened that on the night of Friday, June 26, a trader from Samarai, Mr. "Ernie" Evenett, was anchoring his little launch Sirius off Giwa, opposite Boianai, on the north coast of Goodenough Bay. He had been listening to the 7 o'clock news. Here is his own report of what he saw (as told personally to me). At between 7.15 and 7.30 p.m. on June 26:

"I saw an object approach from a north to north-east direction. It was greenish and very bright, with a trail of white fire behind it. It looked like a shooting star. It descended quite close to me, appearing larger and larger, and slowing down until it hovered about 500ft. above me at an angle of about 45 degrees.

"The light on it faded out except for the portholes, which were brightly illuminated. The object had the silhouette of a rigger football, and had a kind of ring or band round it with 4 or 5 semi-domed portholes

\* Remember that this report was prepared in March 1960—  
EDITOR.



**DARK BAND  
ENCIRCLING OBJECT**

**4 ILLUMINATED DOMED PORTHOLES**

Object seen by Messrs. R. Orwin and R. L. Smith, Government Officers, at Baniara, July 6, 1959. After R. L. Smith

below the band on the side which I could see. A glow was coming from the portholes.

"From my knowledge of boats I should estimate it as between 60 and 80ft. in length. After hovering for about 4 minutes, it started to move again. As it moved it made three distinct noises like **"Woomp! Woomp! Woomp!"** It glowed a brilliant greenish white and shot off like a shooting star, at high speed, disappearing towards the mountains to the west of Boianai.

"I was very frightened, but I couldn't take my eyes off it, I was so fascinated."

Unfortunately there seem to have been no other witnesses, except perhaps the boat crew. The trader did not see it, and when Mr. Evenett told him about it afterwards he did not believe him.

Next day Mr. Evenett crossed over to Boianai where he picked up some native people to take into Samarai. They said to him "Taubada (Sir), did you see the American Air Force last night? We did at Boianai."

When he arrived at Samarai he first told our Mission Secretary, Father Kendall, about his experience, and later gave an official report to the District Commissioner.

His sighting is a remarkable confirmation of Father Gill's observations. Although the craft which he saw differs in some respects from Father Gill's (in any case it couldn't have been the same craft as the times are too close) it was obviously equally "out of this world." It is inconceivable that Father Gill and Mr. Evenett, perhaps 15 miles apart, and unknown to each other, could have invented such similar stories on the very same night.

Although the elongated shape of Evenett's craft, the portholes and the lack of upper deck suggest a different type of craft from the Boianai disc, it must be remembered that if seen in perspective from below (45 degrees) a disc would appear oval in silhouette. The portholes may have been the "panels" of Gill's object, the legs may have been retracted, or invisible, and the deck may have been hidden by the steep angle of sight. The discrepancy in estimated size is not significant.

In any case there is little doubt that what Mr. Evenett saw was part of the same fleet of aerial vehicles which visited Goodenough Bay that night.

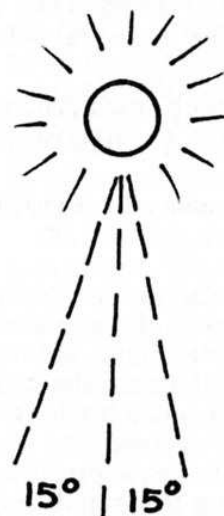
### 3. Confirmation from Baniara

These are the words of the report made at the time by Mr. Ronald Orwin, Assistant District Officer, in charge of Baniara sub-district, Milne Bay District of Papua.

#### SIGHTING OF FLYING OBJECT, BANIARA

"On Saturday, 27th June 1959, at 19.40 hours Mr. R. L. Smith noticed a bright white spherical light NNW from Baniara and high in the sky. It appeared to be between 8 and 9 thousand feet from the ground. Both Mr. and Mrs. Orwin also saw this object after Mr. Smith drew their attention to it. The object remained stationary for some time and then slowly began moving across the sky in a westerly direction.

"It had the appearance of a 'sparkler', which is commonly used in firework displays. Also shafts of green light emanating from the base of the object appeared to be blotted out at regular intervals. A green light also appeared at regular intervals at various points of the object. There did not appear to be any definite order in the appearance of this light. The object looked as if it had a red base, or that a red glow was emanating from its base.



**SPHERICAL LIGHT  
SIZE OF SIXPENCE  
AT ARM'S LENGTH**

**3 SHAFTS OF  
GREEN LIGHT**

UFO of June 27, 1959, at Giwa, 7.15 p.m. After E. Evenett

"At the time of sighting and while the object was under observation, there were many stars present and few clouds in the area where the object was to be seen. There was a definite reflected glow on the few clouds in the area, when the object passed in close proximity to them. It was also noticed that there was a reflection like a beam of light on the water between the mainland and the island and this emanated from the object. In contrast the reflection of the stars in the water, which was very smooth, were similar to pin-points only.

"As the object moved slowly across and downwards in a westerly direction, it was kept under constant observation. From the wharf it was then seen that there was what appeared to be a round bronze-coloured disc below and to the right of the bright light. As the light moved so did this disc, keeping the same distance, about 500 to 1000 feet, each time. This was first noticed at 20.25 hours.

"The bright light and the disc both finally disappeared behind cloud low in the western horizon at 20.45 hours."

In questioning Mr. Smith, who also witnessed the sighting, I asked him about the curious shafts of light. He said that they emanated from the base of the object, which was about the size of a sixpence at arm's length. There were three of these thin needle-like shafts of green light, one vertical, and one on each side diverging from it at an angle of approximately 15 degrees. They extended for a distance equal to about 3 inches at arm's length. They did not exactly flash on and off but seemed to lengthen and shorten in a most peculiar way, as if they were objects being protruded and withdrawn. They did not appear to be solid legs but only rays of light.

This sighting is a most remarkable one, first because it was on the same night as the Boianai one, which was not itself seen at Baniara (20 miles away). But secondly it is important for the remarkable details of the green shafts and the bronze disc. Evidently the object was of quite a different type from the Boianai objects, but equally fantastic in a different way. It is hard to believe that such curious details should be invented. They are so unlikely. They were observed later in several subsequent sightings.

Mr. Orwin and Mr. Smith are both intelligent and observant men, and it is reasonable to suppose that their descriptions are accurate.

The same object was sighted again the following night. Continuing the report:

"On Sunday, 28th, at 18.20 hours, the bright light was again seen by Mr. and Mrs. Orwin. It appeared in the same position as on the previous night, although it was not as bright at first. At 20.01 hours the bright light moved at great speed along the same track as the previous night, but in a minute covered the same distance it had taken half an hour to cover previously. The light became very bright during this rapid movement, as did its reflection on the sea. It dropped about 5,000ft. during the period, and in my opinion it looked as though it was going to land to the north-west of the

station on the mainland. The light was kept under observation during this rapid movement, and Mr. Orwin ran to the wharf for this purpose. It slowed up and remained in the western sky until it slowly disappeared again low on the horizon at 21.15 hours. The bronze disc was again sighted in the same relative position as the night before. Mr. Smith was present with Mr. Orwin to keep the bright light under observation from 20.05 until it disappeared."

Mr. Orwin gave me some more details of this sighting. He mentioned that when the light moved rapidly, it became dazzlingly bright and, when it dropped as if it was going to land, it was "like a thousand searchlights". He was so concerned about its apparent intention to land that he ran in his pyjamas with no shoes down to the wharf. He mentions that the bronze disc which accompanied the object appeared to jump up towards the object when it descended and seemed to vanish into it.

A Naval Intelligence Officer visiting the District, suggested that it might have been Venus, which could be expected to be seen from the station in the approximate direction of the bright light. Mr. Orwin replies:

"I am of the opinion that the bright light was not Venus, as this light was much lower than the position of Venus and more to the north."

Apart from that, it is hard to imagine how Venus could appear to perform all the extraordinary manoeuvres and manifestations attributed to this light.

It will be noticed that this sighting coincided with the third night of UFO activity at Boianai.

#### 4. Sideia saw something too

The last report for this period comes from the Roman Catholic Mission at Sideia again, perhaps 90 miles south-east of Boianai:

"At 8.30 p.m. on June 27 (Boianai's second night, Baniara's first) two of the Brothers saw a large fiery object about half the size of the full moon in the western sky, moving slowly either down the western sky or away from the observers in a westerly direction. At one stage the object, of which the light was appearing to diminish to a pin-point, suddenly glowed brightly again. It turned blue before finally disappearing. The whole phenomenon lasted about 10 minutes."

Venus was also held responsible for this light. The Harbour Master of Samarai, Mr. H. Riding, is quoted as saying: "This planet sometimes has the habit of emitting blue, green and red flashes of light, and also light refraction due to temperature changes in the atmosphere gives the impression of the planet moving."

It is of course quite conceivable that some of the sightings may be explicable by the vagaries of Venus, but what stands out is the remarkable consistency of certain features of the sightings, from quite independent witnesses. That there appears to be a definite pattern running through them seems to become more and more evident. In any case many of the sightings were made long after Venus had set.



This completes the large body of corroborative evidence indicating that during the nights of June 26, 27 and 28, 1959, South-East Papua was visited by a number of unknown aircraft manned by intelligent and apparently human beings. So far no one has been able to offer any explanation of who they are and where they came from, let alone their purpose in examining so closely such a remote and unimportant corner of our planet.

## VII. STRANGE CRAFT OVER MENAPI

June and July were the "peak" months of the UFO sightings, with 14 reported sightings each, August coming a close third with 13 sightings. I had been up in the mountains for most of June and the first half of July, and so had missed the excitement. When I returned, everyone was talking about UFOs.

### 1. The object that looped the loop

I received the following report from the Rev. David F. Durie, B.D., Dip.Ed., Principal of St. Aidan's College, Dogura. He is a man of great qualifications, in charge of our teachers' training, and an educationalist highly regarded in the Territory. He was also a navigator in the RAAF during the war, and knows a good deal about aircraft, and a lot about stars.

S. Aidan's College,

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

Monday, 6th July, 1959.

At about 8.40 p.m. I noticed a white glow through the cloud, similar to that caused by the moon. Position—north-west—a few degrees above Gubanaona Point (the point is about 3 miles from the College).

The glow changed to a brilliant spot of white light. It descended and moved a little to the south. The brilliance faded to a glow, and then to a faint glimmer.

After 5 minutes it glowed again brilliantly and moved in a circular motion (see sketch) anti-clockwise. Then it moved further south and down until it became obscured by the point of land at 9.00 p.m.

Through the binoculars I noticed it to be orange in colour, and shaped like a disc.

This was observed by Mrs. Durie, the Rev. E. Dams (College Chaplain), the Rev. W. B. Gill and more than ten college men.

(signed) DAVID F. DURIE.

To this should be added a footnote. The Rev. E. Dams, on first sighting the object, went to get his camera. He missed seeing it move and therefore is not a total witness. Although at the time he thought it was a UFO, he afterwards retracted this and maintained that it must have been Venus. Mr. Durie and Father Gill have no doubt of its movement and its discoid shape, and are convinced that it was a UFO. Mr. Durie commented: "There is no doubt that it moved. I yelled with astonishment. Edward dashed to get his camera, and when he returned it was gone. I used to watch planets and stars by the hour as an astro-navigator and never saw such a thing before."

### 2. The same night at Baniara

Mr. R. L. Smith, the Patrol Officer at Baniara, reported sighting an object on the same night, July 6. In his report he says:

"During the early evening of Monday, 6th July, I watched for the original object (of June 27th and 28th) between the times of its previous appearances. The planet Venus was visible at this time only. However I awoke during the night at 00.50 hours (i.e. 12.50 a.m.), happened to look at the sky and noticed a very bright light. (Note: Venus had long since set.—N.E.G.C.)

"On observing this light more closely I was convinced that it was the same one as seen between the 27th June and the 3rd July. Venus was not visible. The object appeared to be lower in the sky than on previous occasions and closer to the point of observation. The bronze disc was not evident on this occasion.

"After watching it for 15 minutes, an object like a falling star seemed to come from near the base of the object, and shoot earthwards at tremendous speed, and at about 45 degrees to the ground. After about 5 more minutes this procedure was repeated by another similar object, but this one went away to the other side. It is realised, of course, that these objects could have been shooting stars, and could have come from some distance behind the object.

"After observing the object for almost an hour, it moved away in a similar direction to before (westerly) although when first sighted it was more to the south than on the previous occasion."

(signed) R. L. SMITH,

Cadet Patrol Officer, Baniara.

The only comment I feel tempted to make is that, although the appearance of a meteor in such a position that it appeared to commence from the base of another star is a possible coincidence to happen once, it is almost inconceivable that it should have happened twice in the same position within 5 minutes.

### 3. A silver disc over Menapi

During July reports came in in increasing numbers.

On the 8th, a mysterious light was seen shining on the sea at Dogura like a searchlight. It was extremely brilliant, but no one could account for it.

On the 9th, several people at Dogura, including some of the hospital staff, saw a white light move out towards the sea over Gubanaona Point. It passed behind Dogura and the mountains, and so could not have been a star.

On the 18th, I arrived back at Menapi from my mountain patrol. The very same night one of my schoolboys, sleeping at Didiwa, about 9 miles west of Menapi, saw a white light at midnight moving over the mountains.

On the 20th, Mr. Bob Clifford, the Skipper of a coastal trawler, called at Menapi and reported having seen a light "like a ship's light" moving across the mountains at 6.30 p.m. He was convinced it was a "Flying Saucer".

From this time we instituted a watch from sundown to 9.00 p.m., hoping to spot one ourselves. But as so often, when the Menapi UFO came, it caught us napping, by appearing not at night, but in the morning.

This was the first true daylight sighting, and by incredible bad luck, I missed it by seconds. It was 9.15 on the morning of Tuesday, July 21. I had been delayed by various duties and had not gone up to the school as I usually do, but was still indoors. The school children were just marching into the church for their morning service. About half of them and several of the teachers had passed into the building, but perhaps 100 children, two male teachers, and six girl pupil teachers were still outside.

Suddenly some of the children caught sight of a bright point of light moving in the clear blue sky. It had appeared from behind the wooded hill to the west of the station, and was drawing nearer and increasing in size. Soon all the children and teachers were staring fascinated. As it drew nearer it appeared elongated, and became larger until it was clearly seen as a shining metallic disc with a dark ring round it. Teacher Augustine reckons it was a "little smaller than the sun".

It passed to the north of the station at an elevation of perhaps 30 degrees, travelling "faster than an aeroplane" and making no sound whatever. There was no vapour trail at all. As it receded it made a slight wavering movement (as though affected by the wind) and dwindled rapidly away in the north-eastern sky, dropping behind the coconut palms.

Its transit must have been fairly rapid, probably no more than a minute, perhaps less. Unfortunately they were too fascinated to shout, and much time was wasted before Augustine took it into his head to look for me. He wasted more time by going into every room looking for me instead of calling. When at last he found my mother, and she had shouted out "Norman, quick, there's something in the sky," I rushed out, snatched up telescope and camera, and ran beneath the mango trees on to the playing field. But I was just too late. Everyone was staring at the point where it had disappeared. Though we kept a watch all day, it never came back.

This sighting cannot be doubted. The object was seen by over 100 people, all known to me. They all agreed as

to the appearance of the object, "like a silver plate". I told Augustine and Abel, the two senior teachers, straight away to take pencil and paper and draw what they had just seen. I made them sit at opposite ends of the classroom, unable to see each other's papers, and I myself watched to see that there was no collaboration. I drew up a report then and there, and the teachers signed it.

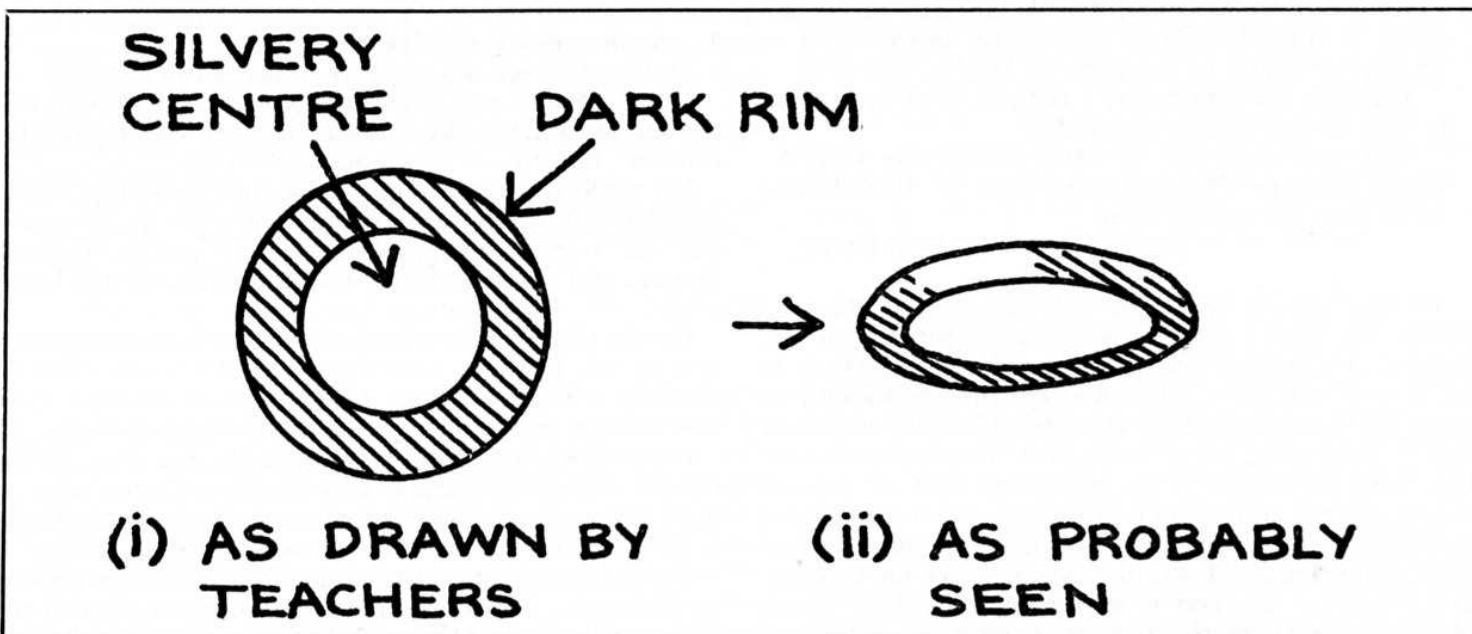
The object was also seen at approximately the same time at Giwa and Koyabagira. There they described it as "like an elongated star" (i.e. a disc seen in perspective). But it was travelling southwards, instead of north-east. It must have changed its direction considerably between the two places. Unfortunately we have no precise time for the Giwa sighting, as the observers had no watch.

An interesting point about this sighting is the dark ring round the object (see diagram). There is no mention of an "upper deck" or "dome", though the former might have been present, invisible from below. In fact the object is rather reminiscent of the object sighted in 1958 over the Island of Trinidad by a Brazilian IGY Ship with its "double saucer" shape, joined by a dark ring.

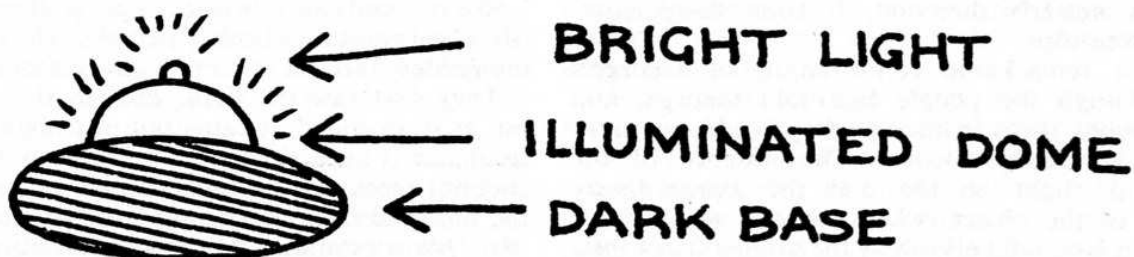
Being in daylight, the sighting cannot be explained away by any astronomical phenomenon. No balloon could travel so fast. Had it been a plane we should all have heard it. I myself can testify that there was no sound whatever. If there had been, I would have been out like a shot. Indeed, had I looked out of the window at the right moment, I should have probably seen it. My disappointment at missing it so closely knew no bounds.

#### 4. A "Domed Ship" over Banapa

Nothing further was seen until the evening of the following day, Wednesday, the 22nd. The boys and I had been keeping a watch and had seen nothing. Imagine our surprise when George Taunaven, our Mission "workboy" and general handyman, came in at about 8 o'clock, trembling and breathless with excitement to tell the tale of another UFO.



The Menapi Object. July 21, 1959, 9.15 a.m. Seen by seven teachers and many children. Just missed by N.E.G.C.



**George Taunaven's UFO. Seen at Porayebayebera on July 22, 1959. (After G.T.) N.E.G.C.**

He had been fishing in the next Bay, not a mile from Menapi, but separated by a headland about 200ft. high to the east. He was alone and standing on the beach, looking eastwards across Arorara Bay towards Banapa.

Suddenly a huge machine swept out over the hills very low and moved out over the sea between him and Banapa. He says he was very frightened. He describes it as "like a ship" but round and disc-like, dark below but with a round dome (he used the word "head" making a gesture to indicate a rounded shape) on top, lit up as if by windows, and on top of that a brilliant white light "like a Tilley lamp". Although he couldn't see men, he was convinced there were men in it, because it was so obviously a vehicle designed to carry men. It disappeared out over the sea at a low altitude in a few seconds.

I asked him to draw it, but being uneducated and not used to drawing, he could not make a go of it. He drew a large circle with a smaller one on top, but it was obvious that the perspective was too much for him. When I drew my interpretation he said at once, "yes, just like that". Afterwards I showed him a photograph of Adamski's craft. His eyes lit up at once and he said "yes, like that." (He did not see any landing domes beneath, but the base was dark anyway.)

Now many people will be inclined to doubt this sighting for two reasons. First, because it was only seen by one witness, and he a more or less untutored Papuan. For this reason they will say it is unreliable. And secondly, because it is too good to be true that he should have seen an object so like the conventional "Adamski" flying saucer.

And yet to my mind these two reasons are the very reasons why this sighting is probable. George had never seen a picture of a flying saucer, let alone Adamski's photograph. How could a primitive Papuan conceivably have invented such a thing? Moreover George, though uneducated, is extremely intelligent, the son of a paramount chief, and though he has never been to school, I have rarely found his judgment or his powers of observation to be at fault. Knowing George as I do (he has worked for me for 8 years) I think he saw something very like what he described, and certainly a manned craft of some sort.

##### 5. Another "Domed Ship" on its side

But the surprises of this remarkable week were not at an end, and George's sighting soon had a remarkable confirmation.

The following night a Medical Assistant at Dabora, six miles east of Menapi, saw a "green and white" light (changing) move out over the sea, and on the next

night, the 24th, a white light "like a Tilley lamp" shot straight over Menapi Station. We were indoors, and the boys who saw it shouted and ran, but it was gone in a few seconds, and so we missed it again.

On the Saturday, the 25th, three mountain men, named Vera, Monten and Kute, were on their way down to Menapi. They slept in the open under the stars on the beach at Gaiawanaki, right at the head of Goodenough Bay, where the mountain track emerges.

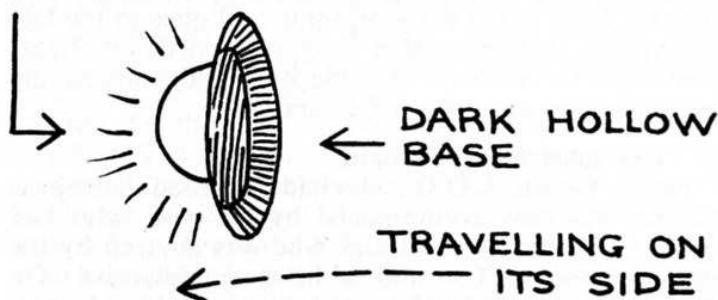
The time they guess as 7.30 p.m. They were lying down on their mats, when they became aware of a brilliant light shining down on them from above, lighting up the whole place like daylight.

Above them they saw a huge circular object moving slowly across the sky, just above the coconut palms. They all emphasised its great apparent size. They compared it to the size of the opening of the horn of my EMG Gramophone (about 2ft. across). Of course this is "apparent size" and little importance can be attached to it, except that it indicates that the object was either very large or very close.

In appearance they said that on one side it was like "the bottom of a bucket". By this I understood them to mean that it was concave, with some sort of rim. This side was dark. The other side was convex, with a sort of bulge or dome. This side was brilliantly illuminated and was the source of the light pouring down on them.

They spoke to me of course in the native language. In order to get it clear, I took a plate and a cup, and holding the plate upside down, placed the cup upside down on top of it. "Yes," they said, "Just like that, but not like that, like this." And they turned my arm round until I had the plate vertical, standing on edge, with the cup projecting sideways. I confirmed this by drawing it on a piece of paper. The object was a round craft, hollow beneath with a dome on top, but turned on its side and travelling with the illuminated dome leading.

##### ILLUMINATED DOME



**Gaiawanaki UFO. Seen by 4 mountain men on July 25, 1959. Reconstructed from their description. N.E.G.C'**

The object was coming from the sea, and travelling inland in a westerly direction. It soon disappeared behind the tree tops.

Here is a remarkable confirmation of George's object. Although the people had told George, and George brought them in to me, they could not have been copying George's story. The absence of the "Tilley lamp" light on top and the extraordinary orientation of the object (which no one would have thought of, it is so unlikely) show the originality of their description. And yet the machines are obviously fundamentally of the same type.

Indirect but much less valuable confirmation is the claim by some of the Koyabagira outstation schoolboys to have seen objects like "boats in the sky" several times at about this period, in the middle of the night.

The resemblance of these objects to the craft seen and photographed by Adamski in America, and other observers in various parts of the world, is remarkable. They do not appear to be the same as the Boianai craft, which were more "decked" than domed! But of course the descriptions are not so accurately defined.

Whatever these craft, they were not seen again after this amazing week, though other UFOs continued to appear in the sky for several months.

## VIII. MORE SPHERICAL OBJECTS AND OTHERS

### 1. Sightings continue into August

On July 26 and 27 a white luminous disc was seen by Medical Assistant Edward Yakawa, travelling out to sea over Banapa. It was not low enough to see any more detail.

On August 5 a star-like light was seen from Paraye-bayebara, one mile east of Menapi. It travelled in a curve from inland out over the bay and changed colour consistently in the order red—green—white, also changing its speed. It finally disappeared over Boianai direction. The witnesses were another Medical Assistant and several village people.

A similar object was also seen at Menapi on the 16th by a number of village people. I missed it again, as usual. It was at about 11.00 p.m. on Sunday night. The object was a brilliant twinkling light, changing colour rapidly in the same three basic colours of red, green and white. They said it was "like a rainbow". The same object was also seen at the same time from Dabora, six miles away, in the direction of Menapi, moving out to sea. One woman observer described it as extremely beautiful.

An object "like a cricket ball" was twice seen over Monare at the foot of the mountains, travelling across the sky, once in the early morning and once in the late afternoon. Various other vague reports of lights continued to come in. But the next really interesting sighting came again from Baniara.

### 2. Two spheres over Baniara

Mr. R. Orwin, A.D.O., who had witnessed the objects before, was now accompanied by his wife, who had been on holiday in Australia. She was amazed by the story of the UFOs, and a little apprehensive. On August 10 she saw her first, but this time not only one, but two objects appeared together.

She happened to be wakened by her baby crying at 3.50 a.m., and saw a brilliant light in the sky. She woke Mr. Orwin and they both watched it. He went down into the garden, but she remained at the upstairs window.

They first saw the light through the coconut trees, but as it ascended, it came out into the clear sky. (The residence is on a slight rise, completely surrounded by coconut trees, whose tops rise somewhat higher than the hill, and clear for 50 yards or so from the house.) Mr. Orwin estimates its elevation as about 20 degrees, and its direction south-east. It was very white in appearance at first, but began changing colour at regular intervals. Mrs. Orwin describes the order of colours as white, green, orange, bronze and red, changing rapidly all the time.

The object was spherical in shape, but appeared to have another smaller but equally bright spherical light on top of it. This light did not keep a constant brightness, but fluctuated greatly, though without changing colour. It was in contact with the main sphere but quite distinct from it. At times there seemed to be a beam of white light which stabbed upwards from it, but only for a moment. There was also below the object (as before, see sightings of June 27 and 28) a small bronze (or dull orange?) disc which followed every movement of the object, keeping always the same distance (a hand span at arm's length) "as if attached to it by an invisible wire". Its outline was blurred, not clear.

The movement of the object was fantastic, up and down and sideways, abruptly changing direction, but always gradually gaining height. At one period it moved to and fro like a pendulum, sometimes it zig-zagged, and sometimes seemed almost to dance.

Twenty-five minutes after the appearance of this object, i.e. 4.15 a.m., a second similar object was noticed to the east of the first object, lower in the sky, and a full five fingers span from it. It had the same appearance and was equally bright, though the bronze disc was not visible beneath it.

Both lights seemed to move upwards and away from the station, maintaining their respective distance from one another. In both cases the same alternating colours, described above, were emanating from the objects. The second object followed much the same motion as the first. As the objects ascended, the white light (on top?) became much brighter in each case. The second object faded out first, the original one remaining, and continuing to rise until the sky was quite bright (perhaps 5.30 a.m.) when it too seemed to fade out.

The final angle of sighting was about 35 degrees. At the time of the sighting there were many stars, no clouds and a bright moon.

A brief official report of this sighting was given to me by Mr. and Mrs. Orwin personally, and also sent to the Authorities. The objects appear to be similar in type to the ones seen before and to the one seen by Mr. R. L. Smith at about the same time at Baiawa, which is the subject of the next report.

### 3. The exploding ball

When the changing coloured spheres were hovering over Baniara, the young Patrol Officer, Mr. R. L. Smith, was not there. He was on a patrol in the country west of Baniara, from the head of Goodenough Bay,

along the base of the Gwoira and Maneao Ranges to Biniguni, and back by the coast of Collingwood Bay. When he finally got back he came to Menapi and said to me, "Father, I have seen the UFO to end all UFOs!" This was perhaps an exaggeration, but his story is remarkable enough. Here it is:

"The first time I saw it was at Mapouna on the 3rd of August. I was standing outside the rest house at 6.00 p.m., and saw a white light high in the sky due north. It remained stationary for about half an hour, during the time of observation. It had three lines of light emanating from the base, one vertical and one on each side at an angle of about 15 degrees. These periodically seemed to recede into the object (they did not simply go out) and then reappeared later."

(Compare this with the behaviour of the object seen at Baniara on June 27. It corresponds exactly.)

"On the following night, August 4th, I was at Wakwapu, about 10 miles further west, on the bank of the Ruaba River. There, sure enough, at 7.00 p.m., I saw the same object in the same position in the sky, and it behaved in the same manner. I watched it for about a quarter of an hour."

Evidently Mr. Smith was getting quite used to UFOs. He did not see it again for several days, but:

"On Saturday, 8th August, I was at Biniguni, at the foot of Mt. Maneao, and the most westerly point of my patrol.

"I was sitting in front of the rest house with some Papuan natives, when the object appeared again. The time was 6.30 p.m. This time it appeared to be much closer, perhaps two miles away and 5,000ft. up. It seemed to be in a roughly north-east direction.

"I pointed it out to the natives and asked if they had seen this light before. 'Oh yes, Taubada (Sir),' they said. 'It often comes. We have seen it on and off for the past month. It comes up about this time and stays in the same place till about 9 o'clock, then it goes off over the mountains.'

"I kept it under observation until ten past nine, when sure enough it suddenly took off and went away to the east, disappearing over Mt. Maneao.

"During the time the light was stationary, it was not static. It appeared to expand and contract from the size of a sixpence at arm's length to the size of a pea. When large the light appeared brighter, and when small dimmer. The same shafts of green light extended from the base of the object.

"It is possible that the object was approaching and receding in line with the observer, but I saw no lateral movement whatever."

It is interesting to compare this observation with that of Mr. Jackson (see Section 2 of Chapter I).

Mr. Smith did not see the object again for a week, and thought he had seen the last of it. It was not until he reached Mukawa, well on his way back to Baniara, and perhaps 50 miles east of Biniguni, that the object appeared again and staged its "grand finale":

"On Friday, 14th August, at 7.30 p.m. I sighted the same or a similar object due west (i.e., roughly the same position as before, taking into account my own move-

ment). It was quite low, perhaps about 8,000ft. I was sitting on the beach in front of the Government Rest House. It was a clear windy night, with a strong south-easterly blowing.

"For about half an hour the object remained stationary, but then it started to move upwards and in a direction north-west from its original position. It moved erratically in both vertical and horizontal planes, several times, pursuing a roughly triangular path. As it moved, it seemed to become smaller and changed to an orange colour. It then moved up and remained in a stationary position in its original form for quite some time.

"At about 8.30 p.m. it descended quite rapidly, and it seemed to be over the sea in Collingwood Bay, near the mouth (probably) of the Kwagila River in Moibiri Bay. It remained in this position for about five minutes, and then it turned to an orange colour, expanding rapidly until it was about the size of a florin. Suddenly it seemed to explode in a blood-red flash and disappeared. This process took no more than 50 seconds.

"I was astounded to see this enormous thing explode in the sky and make absolutely no sound."

This is Mr. Smith's amazing story. Whether the object really exploded or only appeared to explode, it is impossible to say. Perhaps the explosion was some tremendous burst of energy which the object gave out before shooting off at a speed beyond the limit of visibility. Or perhaps the object was not solid at all, but some kind of gaseous fireball which disintegrated. But if so, how did it achieve all its complicated manoeuvres? Or again, could it have been some guided unmanned observation craft, which, having served its purpose, was destroyed by remote control, as we blow up our erratic space rockets. Who knows? Of one thing we can be sure. The object was not seen again.

There is, however, a sequel to this story. A month later, in September, I visited Biniguni and Baiawa. At Biniguni I questioned the people, and several of them confirmed having seen the light in the sky both hovering and shooting away over the mountains. But it was at Baiawa that I received full corroboration of Mr. Smith's sighting.

All the people of Baiawa and Kewansasap, villages on the shores of Moibiri Bay, had seen the huge object in the sky and were terrified. They thought the end of the world had come. They described it as "like a fire in the sky" which hung night after night "bigger than the moon". They described how night after night it shot away over the range "like a watch-face going through the sky". They described its position as rather to the east of Baiawa, probably nearer Midino. However I had no opportunity to visit Midino, whose people must have been almost under the object, and must have been even more petrified with fear.

After this the sightings became less frequent and less startling. The two Baniara objects were seen again on August 16 and 18 at about the same time, and behaved in the same way, but they were progressively more distant from the station.

In September I myself saw a star-like object cross the sky, and later the children saw another, but there were no more significant sightings till October.

## IX. THE LAST SIGHTINGS OF THE YEAR

### 1. A round coloured light over Pumani

Pumani is a Mission outstation at the foot of Mt. Gwoira, between Goodenough and Collingwood Bays. The teacher in charge, Micah Aigaba, is an intelligent college-trained man. On Friday, October 23, he and many other people, children and adults, were outside at between 10.00 and 11.00 p.m., and saw a very big light in the sky coming towards them from the east.

It came straight towards Mt. Gwoira (a very precipitous flat-topped mountain of 4,500ft. altitude). At first it was quite low, but when it reached the vicinity of the mountain it ascended until it appeared to be vertically over the summit ridge of the mountain. It then hovered over the mountain, remaining more or less stationary for a long time (perhaps half an hour?). The observer had no watch. Finally it descended until it seemed almost to touch the mountain, but moved away in a northward direction, keeping about the same height (4,500ft.?), passing over the villages of Monari and Midino, and then veering eastwards and circling right round and finally disappearing towards the east again.

The appearance of the light was "round" (a disc or a globe?). It was dazzlingly bright, especially when moving, and changed colour continually, the basic colours being green, red and yellow. Parts of the object showed different colours simultaneously. It seemed to twinkle or coruscate (my words to describe what Micah tried to convey). It was about equal to half the size of the moon, but far brighter. The speed when moving was "faster than an aeroplane" (a light aircraft, as no jets are ever seen here). It seemed larger and brighter when moving—"like a fire in the sky". There was no trail or rays nor did it appear to illuminate the ground (it was probably too high).

The sighting was witnessed by Micah's wife, an assistant teacher, the village chief and many others. There was great excitement and shouting.

A week later, on October 30, the object returned at about the same time. It did not, however, approach so close, but moved away to the north immediately without

reaching Mt. Gwoira. It disappeared to the north and did not return. Its appearance and colour changes were the same as before, but it looked smaller and further away.

The story was related to me by Micah and his assistant, John. I questioned them very closely and there is no reason to doubt their story. It tallies too well with other sightings to have been invented.

### 2. Cloud or Mother Ship?

After nearly a month's lull, when we were beginning to think the sightings were over, and the objects had returned to whatever mysterious place they come from, my Assistant Priest, the Rev. Albert M. Ririka, came in with another extraordinary report. It was later confirmed by my outstation teacher, Japhet Kirakai.

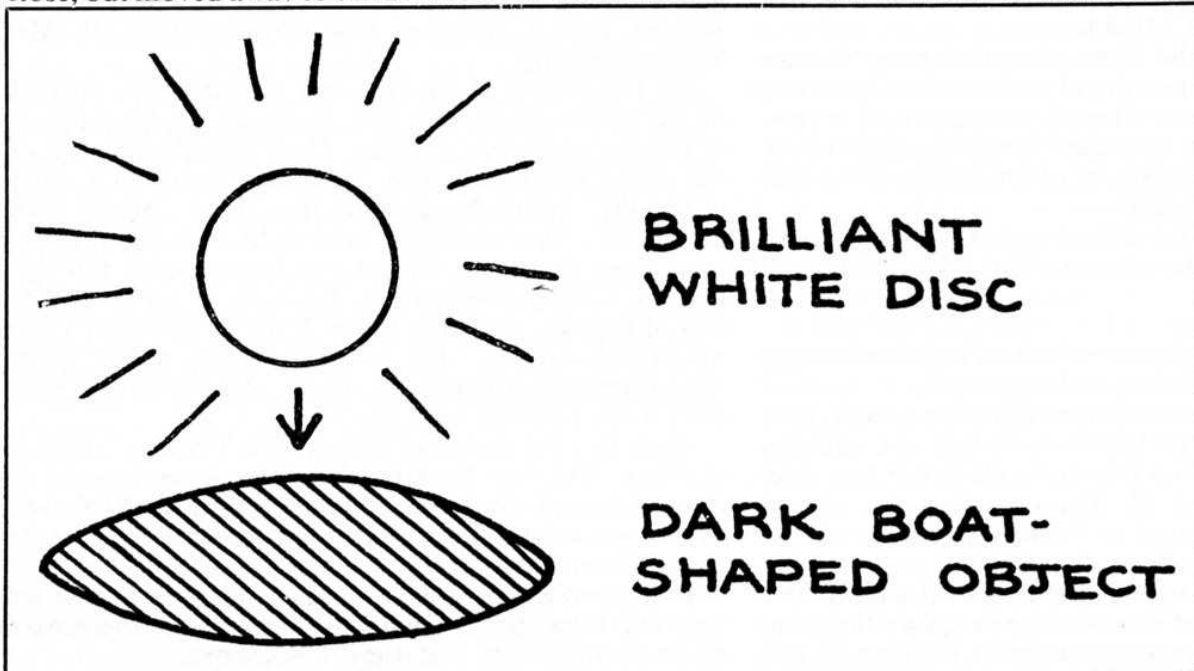
Father Albert had been down to one of my coastal outstations, Koyabagira, to take a service, and had spent the night there. It is about 15 miles west of Menapi, only 5 miles short of the head of the Bay.

The object was first seen by Native Medical Assistant Cecil Matavoia, an Administration male orderly on patrol, at 7.30 p.m. He had been watching it for an hour before Father Albert and Japhet came out and joined him.

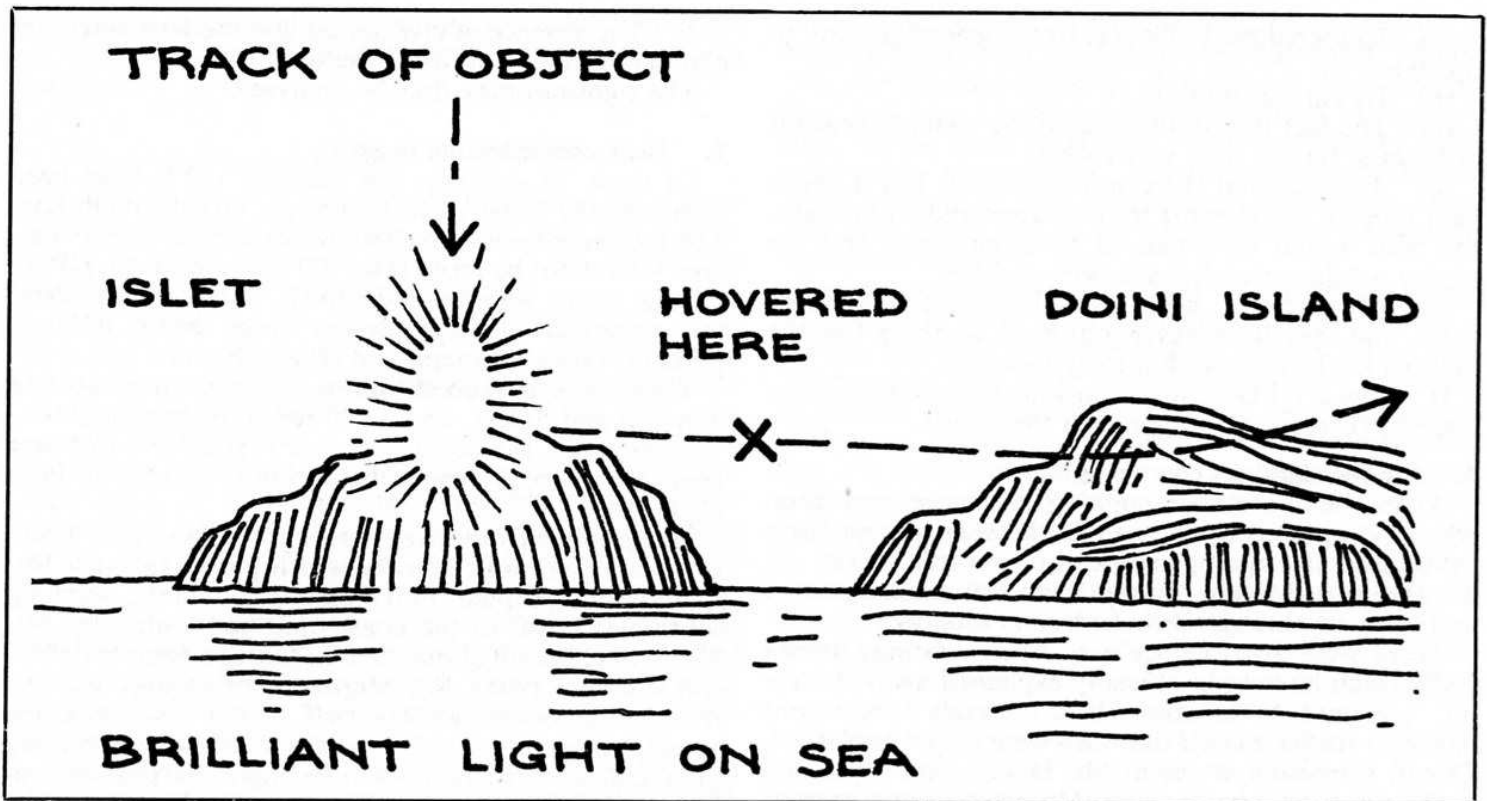
The sky was cloudy to the north and west, but comparatively clear to the south and east (i.e., over the sea and Goodenough Bay). Koyabagira station is right on the shore and faces in that direction. They saw hanging in the sky in the direction of Boianai (but presumably far nearer, as Boianai is about 20 miles from there) a brilliant illuminated disc (or sphere). Father Albert describes it "like a plate". Japhet says it was "like the moon".

Father Albert says it was half the size and Japhet says the same size as the full moon. They both agreed that it was much brighter than the moon and of a pure white light. It did not change colour throughout the sighting.

Some distance beneath the round object was a dark boat-shaped object. This was hard to see, as the sky was dark, but it appeared to have a quite definite symmetrical outline, but was absolutely dark. Both of them



**Disc and Mother  
Ship? Strange  
pair of objects  
seen by the Rev.  
Albert M. Ririka  
and others at  
Koyabagira,  
November 23, 1959**



Arthur Job's mysterious light. Seen from Samarai over Doini Island at 2.00 a.m., in November, 1959

admit that it could have been a cloud, but it never moved or altered its shape throughout the period of observation. That would be very odd behaviour for a cloud.

As they watched, the luminous object slowly descended towards the dark object until it slowly "disappeared into" (or passed behind?) it. As it disappeared the black object gradually eclipsed it, until it was entirely obscured. It never emerged on the other side and appeared to go out, no rays appearing from behind the dark object as soon as it had disappeared.

The luminous object did not reappear, but the dark object remained, and was still visible in the same position an hour later, when the observers went to bed. Father Albert estimated the time from his sighting of the bright object until the time of its eclipse as about 10 minutes. N.M.A. Cecil, however, claimed that the object had been there since 7.30. So the duration of the white object must have been about an hour, and that of the dark object two hours or more.

There are a number of curious points about this sighting:

1. The bright object could not have been the moon, which did not rise till after midnight, and in any case was only a small crescent at this period.

2. The bright object as it went behind the dark object showed a clear line of demarcation, suggesting that the object was solid, not a cloud. There was no glow of the object through the "cloud".

3. The black object never moved or changed shape during the sighting. It was spindle-shaped and about 3 to 4 times as long as the diameter of the disc.

All this seems to suggest that it was not a cloud but a solid object. Did these three witness the passing of a smaller craft into a "Mother Ship"?

### 3. Dazzling light over Doini Island

Although the remarkable sighting at Koyabagira was the last significant sighting of the year, there is another of indefinite date, which seems worth recording. It probably took place about early September, but I did not hear of it until three months later. The witness was a Mr. Arthur Job, builder of Samarai. Unfortunately there were no other witnesses, but I have questioned him closely, and there is no doubt he saw something, whatever his explanation.

He was obliged to go outside at 2.00 a.m., and was astounded to see a brilliant scintillating light hovering out to sea in the direction of Doini Island (about 5 miles away?). It descended until it hung in front of the island (it was probably much nearer), cutting the skyline and reaching about half-way down to the water.

It was elongated in shape with the long axis vertical. It was roughly oblong but with no definite edge. It was dazzlingly bright, like an oxy-acetylene flame, bluish in colour. It seemed to have dazzling rays of light all round it, due to the brightness.

After a short time it moved a little to the right (west?) and hovered in the gap between the two islands (there is a small islet and a larger island). It seemed to fill the whole gap from side to side. After remaining thus for about ten minutes it then slowly continued its westward motion, cutting across the front of the main island and slowly rising until it was in the clear sky. It slowly rose away and upwards to the west. Mr. Job, being very tired and sleepy, did not wait to see it out of sight, an oversight which he has since regretted.

This sighting has been explained away by some as a ship's light. Mr. Job is convinced it was not for the following reasons:

(a) Its incredible brilliance, like a searchlight full in the eyes.

(b) Its curious motion.

(c) The fact that it illuminated the water beneath it brilliantly, but no boat was visible.

(d) The fact that there was no sound. For a ship's light (even a searchlight) to have appeared so brilliant, the boat would have had to be quite close, and the engine would certainly have been audible.

(e) Mr. Job has been watching ship's lights ever since, and they have never appeared anything like the light which he saw on that early morning.

If it was a UFO, it was a curious one, and does not seem to correspond in type with the others.

#### 4. Are the sightings continuing?

After the November sighting no more had been officially reported by the end of the year, except for a "shooting star going vertically upwards" seen at Tarakwaruru Mission by the Rev. Arthur Greenwood and his wife, through their bedroom window.

There were also one or two other sightings during 1959 which have been officially explained away. I have not bothered to mention these, though I have not entirely satisfied myself that they were in fact explained. One in Samarai and one at Mt. Hagen were attributed to Venus, and one in Port Moresby to the vapour trail of a Canberra Jet, caught by the evening sun. I have met one eyewitness of the Moresby sighting, and she is very sceptical of the explanation. However it must be accepted for lack of evidence at present. These sightings are therefore omitted from this report. Those that remain are those that so far have not yielded to normal explanations, and which are reasonably well attested by reliable witnesses.

I left the country on furlough in February 1960, and up till then no new reports had come in. However, since leaving the territory, I have heard rumours of a sighting in January 1960, as well as another in 1959. If they are confirmed, they will be added as a supplement to this report, and will indicate that the sightings are indeed continuing.

This concludes the list of sightings and particular comments. It only remains to make a few general comments on the whole series.

### X. HAVE WE ANY CLUES?

I have now presented all the data, with a few comments by the way. Does it offer any clue as to the nature and purpose of the unidentified flying objects? Of course these sightings are only a comparatively small number over a very limited area in a limited time, and are a mere drop in the ocean compared to the tens of thousands of sightings now recorded from many parts of the world. But they have certain advantages for study.

1. Their concentration in a small area gives us a chance to try to find a pattern or purpose in their appearances.

2. Their closeness in time makes it possible to examine their timing.

3. The close knit nature of the sightings by witnesses mostly known to each other and to the investigator makes it possible to check their authenticity and to ascertain details.

4. The absence of civilisation and modern amenities eliminates many confusing factors.

The sightings may thus be analysed.

#### 1. Their concentration in area

Of these 79 sightings the majority (60?) have been seen over the Cape Vogel Peninsula, Goodenough Bay, and the mountains immediately adjacent to them. This area would not be more than 100 miles in length (W. to E.) and about 50 miles in depth (N. to S.). Within these the principal sighting points have been Boianai, Baniara, Giwa, Manapi, and Ruaba Plain.

There was a second minor concentration around Samarai and Sideia, about 100 miles further east.

At Boianai, the objects seemed particularly to hover near, or proceed from, the vicinity of Mount Pudi (4,500ft.).

Geographically the area is probably a fault line. There is a line of volcanic activity which passes through Mt. Lamington (erupted 1951) near Popondetta, running south-east close to the coast, and continuing by Mt. Victory (active till about 1920?), Gorapu (erupted 1942, still smoking 1946), Mt. Maneao (hot springs and terraces), to Goodenough Bay itself. At this point the Cape Vogel Peninsula splits off from the mainland, continuing in a chain of islands, Goodenough, Fergusson and Normanby, all clearly of volcanic origin. Fergusson has still active hot springs and geysers. The mainland range continues to East Cape with no further volcanic activity eastwards except for occasional hot springs (e.g., at Margavara). The actual Bay is an extremely deep trough between the mainland and the island chain (known as the D'Entrecasteaux Group). It is said that the water is at least as deep as the mountains are high (i.e., about 10,000ft.). The mountains of the mainland and of the islands rise abruptly from the sea with no foreshores, suggesting a splitting apart or tremendous volcanic upheaval. The mountains are mainly of dark igneous (basaltic?) rock. The whole area is of recent geological age.

It would be interesting to know if the mountains behind Boianai have any unusual mineral or magnetic qualities which might be of interest or advantage to these strange machines. Some UFO investigators claim to have found a connection between the appearance of the objects and the location of volcanic fault lines. It would be interesting to know if there is any such connection in this case. As far as I know, there is no volcanic or thermal activity near Samarai, although it is in the general direction of the fault line continued eastwards.

There is also a theory known as "Orthoteny" originated by M. Michel,\* that UFOs appearing on any one night seem to follow straight lines. Unfortunately there have been so few simultaneous sightings that there is not sufficient evidence for this in Papua. In fact, the only night when more than two sightings were made, June 28, does not seem to show a straight line relationship. In general however, the whole complex of sightings does suggest a generally NW to SE direction of activity.

\* Aimé Michel, *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery* (Criterion Books, New York).



Further study of these sightings, or the accumulation of more sightings, in the future, may make the pattern clearer.

## 2. Their distribution in time

It will be seen from the graph, that there was a great peak of frequency of sightings in June, July and August 1959, and an introductory peak of less significant sightings in October/November 1958.

Is there any significance in this? Perhaps if all sightings had been reported, the balance would have been changed, but I doubt if it would have altered significantly. June and July seem to have been the peak months in the American sightings of 1947 to 1948, according to the report of Mr. Ruppelt, with a secondary peak in November to December. It would be interesting to know whether during these months there is any significant change in the position of Mars or Venus.

There was (see Table) also a rather noticeable tendency for sightings to be more frequent at the end of the month than the beginning. Has this any connection with the moon, which might conceivably be used as a base for the vehicles?

We may also notice a certain periodicity of types of UFO (see Table). In October and November 1958, and March and April 1959, they were mainly of the "star" or "Tilley lamp" variety—points of brilliant white light with no definite shape. In April and May, the changing colours began to be evident, and the lights appeared larger (closer?). In June and July the objects were much larger (or closer) and took on the appearance of definite craft, apparently manned. In August to November they were apparently large spheres, with a tendency to change colour and size and to hover for long periods over one spot.

It is probable that the "star" and "Tilley lamp" appearances were due to the greater height, but it is possible that some of them were much smaller unmanned objects.

From this it might be concluded that the first reconnaissance was from a great height (by manned vehicles), that smaller unmanned craft then investigated at lower altitudes, and that later the manned craft came right down (with the unmanned) to investigate closely, and that finally some special craft for recording and measuring were left to continue and complete the work, when they also departed. This of course is pure conjecture.

The time of day at which the sightings occur is interesting (see graph). It will be noticed that there were extremely few pure daylight sightings, i.e., between 6.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m., but a large number of "dusk" sightings (i.e., between 6.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.) and a medium number of true night sightings (7.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m.).

This might be thought to be due to a desire not to be seen, but the lights are just as conspicuous by night as the machines are by day. However, an object is probably easier to intercept by day, and as in Papua planes do not fly by night, there would be strong reasons for choosing the night. Dusk is clearly an advantageous time for the machines, as the danger of interception is less, but the opportunities for them to study ground

features are greater. This tendency to appear at dusk has (I believe) been noticed all over the world. The fact that the Boianai sightings all began at dusk supports this. It is also a confirmation of the truth of the sightings, as the craft must have been very clearly visible against the glowing sky, and the outline of the men could have been seen in silhouette. It is hardly likely that under such conditions a planet would be mistaken for a near object.

A related problem now arises. If the objects appear for a limited time, usually at dusk, where do they go for the rest of the time? It is noticeable that they often return night after night to the same locality, sometimes at the very same time. This repetition can be understood if they are making some sort of scientific observation, but it is hard to explain. Either the objects must return whence they came after each appearance, and come back to the same spot again, or they must have some base, not too far away. The fact that they often seem to emerge from the mountains might suggest that they have a base in some remote mountain valley. However, there is absolutely no evidence for this, and I think it most unlikely that they would not have been spotted by some bush native or wandering huntsman.

If they are inter-planetary it is also hard to believe that they go all the way back to Venus or Mars, a distance of millions of miles every day, and then return to the same square mile on the earth's surface the next night. Even if they use the Moon as a base, it seems a most unnecessarily long journey. Might it not be possible for them to have some Mother Ship or Space Station some hundreds or thousands of miles above the earth? If they are terrestrial the difficulty is not so pronounced, but it is odd, just the same. However, there are many other difficulties against their being terrestrial craft.

## 3. The close-knit nature of the sightings

The fact that many were observed many times by the same witnesses, and the witnesses were mostly known to the author, makes it possible to check the sightings and verify their truth. Of course some may say that it indicates collaboration. This is not so, for the reports were made independently to me, and there was little or no contact between the witnesses until well after the sightings. It is this close-knit character of the observations which has made it possible to record so much detail.

The personal reliability and qualifications have been mentioned under each sighting. No names have been withheld, and all the observers are available. As I have already mentioned, the Papuan observers are not fools, nor are they out to deceive. They are observant, practical people with an excellent (though unscientific) knowledge of normal celestial phenomena, and they are truthful. They would not have any preconceived ideas about such objects, and the measure of agreement between their sightings is remarkable.

Many sceptics maintain that although witnesses may be sincere, they are mistaken. They say that the sightings were the result of intoxication, hallucination, or exaggeration. Of the witnesses mentioned, only two drink, and neither of them was intoxicated on the occasion

of the sighting or of their interview with myself. If they had been intoxicated, is it likely that they would have imagined such objects, remembered the precise details, and still been convinced, when sober, weeks afterwards, that what they had seen was real? And even if so, would it have fitted in so closely with other sightings unknown to them?

Hallucination can be made to explain anything. But it normally only occurs to those in a high fever, mental sickness, a very highly emotional state, or under hypnosis (or as mentioned above, under the influence of drink or drugs). None of these conditions applied to any of the witnesses. Even if they had, the same argument applies as before—the consistency, accuracy and corroborative character of their statements. In any case, how can 38 (at least) witnesses have exactly the same hallucination at the same time? And (in one case) how can a hallucination be photographed?

Exaggeration remains the only possible alternative explanation to truth. In any case, it implies a basis of truth. It is quite possible that some (or many?) of the sightings were exaggerated. But they need some explaining. Even if the incredible things related by Father Gill were exaggerated, they are still almost incredible, unless you say also that he deliberately lied. A man may exaggerate the size of his fish, but if he said he caught a whale and it was really a minnow, we should rightly call him a liar. I believe that the majority of these witnesses have tried to be as accurate as they can in their reports, and that there has been no deliberate exaggeration. I say this from my personal knowledge of most of the people concerned. It may be said that memory is a fickle thing. This is certainly true. Different people will remember different aspects of a thing. No two witnesses remember an accident in exactly the same way. But the differences are usually complementary and not fundamentally opposed. This is shown very clearly in the Boianai reports. None of these reports were received at more than six months' distance (except the pre-1958 ones) and most at a distance of only a few hours, days or weeks. A normal person can remember an unusual or dramatic happening with amazing accuracy for the best part of a life-time. He can picture it almost as vividly as on the day it happened.

All the drawings reproduced in this report are either direct tracings or reconstructions from rough drawings and descriptions. In each case I have indicated the source. I have also included a table of sightings from which all statements can be checked.

I have discussed these objections thoroughly, as they are so often advanced to discredit UFO sightings by those who have not carefully thought out the implications.

#### 4. What then are they?

The majority of them would seem to be machines. This is obvious in the case of the Boianai and Menapi Sightings. They appeared solid, metallic, with windows, legs and "decks".

In the case of the balls, discs and other objects, their solidity was not so obvious as they were only seen as "lights". However, their change of direction, speed and colour all suggest purposeful movement and control. It shows that even if unmanned, they must be guided and

propelled by some force, which appears to be intelligent.

Some of them do appear to be manned. Father Gill and his fellow witnesses claim to have actually seen men aboard one of them. Others claim to have seen portholes, which imply occupants in the machine.

Other machines may have been manned, but we have no proof. Others may have been unmanned discs or lights of smaller size. However, it is impossible to gauge the size of these moving lights at night accurately. Some appear to be unsolid, luminous, even gaseous. But again we have no proof. The luminosity may only be an envelope concealing a solid object within. It may consist of electrically-charged or ionised gas or air.

In the case of the small external disc which followed the main object, there is reason to believe it was not a solid object, but some sort of emanation or projected image from the object above. The shafts of green light which emanated from below the object also appeared to be unsolid though with curious qualities.

The case of the objects which "blew up" (the green fireball and the great orange sphere) is mysterious. Were they solid or gaseous? Was the explosion or disappearance an accident or deliberate? It may be that some objects are expendable and are destroyed when their purpose is finished.

The question "What are they?" has still to be answered. If only we knew!

#### 5. What makes them go?

This is another mystery which if solved would revolutionise science. We note that they appear to be able to hover motionless for indefinite periods at any height, to move at any speed from very slow to fantastically fast. It may be that their "vanishing trick" is due to such acceleration that they become invisible before the eye can record their movement. They seem to be able to make any kind of turn, curve, right angle, or even instant reverse. They seem to be able to loop the loop, swing like a pendulum, dance, move in a triangle, or in fact do anything.

This would all point to absolute independence of gravity, momentum and air resistance. They would appear to have no mass!

They very rarely make any sound at whatever speed, or acceleration, they are moving, whether near or far. They appear to travel much faster than sound, yet they do not break the sound barrier. Yet in several instances a sound like thunder was heard, just *after* their departure. And in one case the machine made a curious noise just prior to acceleration (Giwa).

Though by daylight they emit no visible light, at night they are always luminous when moving, and nearly always when stationary. However the colour and intensity of the light is very variable. The colour is usually white, occasionally yellow, greeny-blue or red. In some cases several colours appear simultaneously but changing continually one into the other.

Often there is a relationship between colour and speed. Again and again it is mentioned that when the object moved faster the light appeared brighter (or larger). When the object was stationary it often (though by no means always) faded to a rather dull orange or yellow, or reddish. In one case (Giwa) the object became quite dark (except for the portholes).

In several cases acceleration was related to change of colour (e.g., Boianai, Giwa). In these cases the movement usually started with red and then changed to blue-green, the latter being associated with high speed.

In a very few cases there was a trail of vapour (in daylight, e.g., P. Moresby) or light (e.g., Giwa), but in nearly all there was no trail, even at high speeds. In one case the formation of a cloud preceded the appearance of the object. (Is this the *cumulus agite* of M. Aimé Michel?)

These extraordinary luminous phenomena seem to be in some way related to the method of propulsion. The remarkable theory of Lieutenant Plantier described in M. Michel's book *The Truth About Flying Saucers* predicts just such effects, and it would be most interesting to know how far the Papuan observations accord with his theory. Plantier's theory is that if vehicles were propelled by a particular type of electrical field, they would be able to perform all the evolutions which flying saucers appear to perform, and that the ionisation of the air would produce the same luminous phenomena. It would also eliminate all sound.

It would be interesting to know whether the small bronze disc, the green shafts and the halo of light surrounding the men on the Boianai object as well as the craft itself, can be accounted for by this theory.

The apparent change in size, which made some of the observers wonder whether the object was moving to and from them in a direct line might be an illusion due to the increase or decrease of the envelope of ionised air round the object according to the strength of the electric field. The object itself may not be changing size or moving at all.

However, these matters are for the experts, and it is hoped that they will be able to answer some of these questions. All one can say is that these objects appear to have some method of overcoming gravity and of propulsion at immense speeds of a type completely different from and immeasurably superior to anything possessed by the products of earthly scientists.

## 6. Where do they come from?

This is of course the Crucial Question. If we could answer it the UFO problem would be (more or less) solved. I would not dare to dogmatise on such a question. It is for the experts. But surely some of the facile explanations can be dismissed.

Are they from America? (as some of the Papuans not unnaturally assumed). If so, why was America so mystified when they appeared over the States in 1947 and subsequently? Why did America embark on costly research projects to investigate them? Why did not other countries protest at the violation of their air space? And why, to goodness, is America spending thousands of millions of dollars on obsolete and inefficient (if she has such things as flying saucers) space rockets?

Are they then, as many suggest, secret weapons from Russia? The same arguments apply in reverse. Surely the world would have found out after thirteen years? Surely it would have been made public? Surely America would have been the first to publicise it and to have protested violently against such violation of her territory, by Russia of all countries?

Nor is it likely that the Russians would be so mad as to risk their secret weapons over America and NATO Territory, with the chance of their crashing or being captured and their fantastic secret stolen.

There is certainly no other earthly power that would have the resources to make such machines, and all the above arguments would apply to them too.

But if not terrestrial, whence come they? Their capacity for immense speed and acceleration suggests they are space craft, rather than aircraft. They are seen to shoot upwards at enormous speeds and "vanish" into space. They appear over localities, without having been seen en route. All this suggests they are from outer space.

Their utterly revolutionary construction and all their extraordinary powers, which are "impossible" for any earthly machine, and even seem to contradict the laws of science (as we know them), seem to suggest that they are built by intelligences far in advance of ours. This is supported by their extraordinary manoeuvres and conduct which seem unpredictable and inexplicable to us, and yet obviously intelligent.

Are they from the Moon, Venus, Mars, the Solar System or the Galaxy? Who can tell? We still lack evidence. But the evidence is growing continually. I have written this paper in order that this particular body of evidence from Papua may be added to the ever-increasing pile, and may contribute to the solution of this fascinating problem.

## 7. What is their purpose?

The answer to this question depends on the last. When we know who they are and whence they come, we can then profitably tackle the question: Why are they coming? But at least a few indications can be gleaned from these Papuan sightings.

First, there is no evidence that their intentions are hostile. Not one of the objects harmed people or property. In the only case where human beings were seen they returned our greetings by waving their arms and rocking their craft. This was surely a gesture of friendship.

It is surprising that they did not attempt to land. With such perfectly-controlled machines and with what appeared to be landing-gear extended, they could surely have done so with ease. In several of the sightings the observers thought they were going to land, and Father Gill and his boys earnestly invited them to do so. Why did they not land? or even answer their shouts? Again we do not know. It may be that as long as their machine was hovering, enveloped by its magnetic field, sound was neither able to reach them or proceed from them. It may be that they did not hear the call, or could not have responded to it if they had?

Perhaps they did not land, because they have some special reason for not landing. Perhaps they have orders not to land. Perhaps they do not quite trust us. Perhaps they think we are not ready to meet them and receive their ideas.

Again who knows? The fact is, they came extremely close, examined us, operated or adjusted some apparatus in the craft and departed. That they repeated this procedure on two successive nights shows that they must have been intensely interested in the little group of humans and the little village and Mission Station of

Boianai. But why? What was their purpose in investigating so closely such a remote part of our planet. We can only speculate. In such a remote spot they were free from interference by aircraft, radar and all the other scientific aids of civilised areas. They could do as they pleased, unmolested. Not even a telescope or camera was levelled at them. They certainly chose their spot well. They appear to have made some detailed and exhaustive survey of the Goodenough Bay area, returning again and again to the same places with different craft and performing different kinds of activity.

Is it with a view to a future landing? It seems unlikely, the country being so mountainous, though its remoteness might be an advantage. Such machines would not be dependent on level terrain. Or was this bay taken as a sample area for intensive study? They seem to have passed over almost every part of the world in a general and thinly scattered way, but a few areas here and there, in America, in France, and lately in Brazil, for example, they seem to have concentrated for a few months at a time on a particular area. Perhaps they take these representative samples from different parts of our planet, as the task of a detailed investigation of every square mile would, even for them, be an overwhelming, and perhaps unnecessary, task. This local investigation of Goodenough Bay seems to have been particularly intense.

And what of the future? Having completed their observation, will they depart? It seems that they have now just about covered the whole globe in a systematic manner from west to east, since 1946. Their passing over New Guinea and Australia, as they have done in 1959, was predicted by some investigators. The prediction has been fulfilled. It was predicted also that 1960 would see the completion of their survey. After that, what will happen? Once more, we do not know. There are rumours that sightings are continuing. It is likely that they will. No doubt one day we shall know who they are, whence they come, and what is their purpose.

Why then worry? Because man fears the unknown. What he understands he can face. And also because it is extremely important to know. If indeed there are beings from other planets observing us and visiting us, it is extremely important to know who they are and what they are doing. It is very important that we should be prepared, that there should be no panic and foolish action.

If they are not interplanetary, the importance still remains, and is perhaps more fraught with danger.

But apart from these reasons it is a fascinating scientific problem, and a matter for serious and systematic research. To seek after truth is the aim of science. Perhaps the Papuan sightings will assist in that search.

FINIS

## APPENDIX

### SUMMARY OF PAPUAN SIGHTINGS

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	23. 8.53	11.00	Port Moresby	Cylinder	Filmed
2	4.55	19.00	Yule Island	Disc	Greenish
3	56	2.00	Idia Island	Sphere?	Large, red
4	24. 8.57	Night	Ninigo Island	Light	Changed colour
5	2.58	Night	Port Moresby	Light	Red
6	6.58	?	Sideia	Sphere	= Moon, blue
7	6.58	19.00	Menapi	Light	White = star
8	18.10.58	18.30	Wamira	Light	White = star
9	18.10.58	21.00	Wamira	Light	White = star
10	18.10.58	21.00	Wamira	Fireball	Bright green
11	22.11.58	18.45	Menapi	Light	Fluctuating = star
12	29.11.58	18.45	Menapi	Light	Fluctuating = star
13	30.11.58	18.45	Menapi	Light	Fluctuating = star
14	1.12.58	18.45	Port Moresby	Light	Ditto opposite direction
15	19. 3.59	18.45	Dabora	White light	Motionless
16	27. 3.59	18.00	Dogura	White light	Moving slowly
17	3.59	19.00?	Midino	White ball	Moving low
18	3.59	12.00	Dogura	Like star	Motionless—went out
19	9. 4.59	18.50	Boianai	White light	Against mountain
20	21. 4.59	19.00	Giwa	White light	Moved, and turned back
21	26. 4.59	19.00	Giwa	White light	Moved low
22	27. 4.59	19.00	Dogura	White light	Moved, fluctuated
23	28. 4.59	21.00	Menapi	Light, changed	White, red, green
24	4.59	Night	Sariba	White light	Moved slowly
25	3. 5.59	20.00	Manau (Mac. crew)	Like a star	Moved slowly
26	24. 5.59	19.00-20.15	Baniara	Light	Blue, green, red, moved

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
27	5.59	Night	Sideia	Elliptical object	Blue green
28	16. 6.59	19.00	Dumura	Light	Very bright yellow
29	16. 6.59	18.30	Maigwarip	Ball	Green, white, red
30	17. 6.59	20.00	Manaman	Light	Red and white
31	21. 6.59	.01	Boianai	Saucer	White, 4 dots
32	23. 6.59	21.00	Donana	Light	White with trail
33	26. 6.59	18.45-23.04	Boianai	Circular craft with men + 4 discs	Hovered, moved
34	26. 6.59	19.15	Giwa	Oval craft with portholes	Moved, hovered, moved Noise
35	27. 6.59	18.00-19.00	Boianai	Circular craft	With men—exchanged signals + two discs
36	27. 6.59	19.40-20.45	Baniara	Spherical light	and disc
37	27. 6.59	20.30	Sideia	Sphere	Orange—blue
38	28. 6.59	18.45	Boianai	One circular craft	+ 7 discs
39	28. 6.59	18.20-21.15	Baniara	Spherical light	and disc
40	6. 7.59	20.40-21.00	Dogura	Disc	Looped the loop
41	6. 7.59	00.50-01.45	Baniara	Spherical light	
42	8. 7.59	Night	Dogura	—	Mysterious light on sea
43	9. 7.59	19.00?	Dogura	Light	White, moved slowly
44	6.59	Night	Monare	Ball	White, moved
45	6.59	Early morn	Monare	Ball	Fluctuated
46	18. 7.59	20.00	Didiwa	Light	Over mountains, moved
47	20. 7.59	18.00	From launch	Light	Over mountains, moved
48	21. 7.59	09.15	Menapi	Silver disc	Crossed sky
49	22. 7.59	19.45	Pora	Domed craft	Low
50	23. 7.59	Night	Dabora	Light	Green and white
51	24. 7.59	21.00	Menapi	Light	White, fast
52	25. 7.59	19.30	Gaiawanaki	A domed craft on side	Low
53	7.59	Night	Koyabagira	—	"Objects like boats in sky"
54	26. 7.59	Night	Banapa	White disc	Moving out to sea
55	27. 7.59	Night	Banapa	White disc	Moving out to sea
56	3. 8.59	18.00	Mapouna	White sphere	Green rays
57	4. 8.59	19.00	Wakwapu	White sphere	Green rays
58	6. 8.69	23.00	Pora	Light	Red—green—white
59	8. 8.59	18.30-21.15	Biniguni	White sphere	Green rays
60	10. 8.59	03.50	Baniara	Two spheres	Many colours + bronze disc
61	14. 8.59	19.30	Mukawa	White sphere	Exploded—white, orange, red
62	14. 8.59	Night	Embi	White light	Moved down mountain
63 }	16. 8.59	23.00	Menapi	Light	Red, green, white
	16. 8.59	23.00	Dabora	—	Same object seen
64	17. 8.59	Night	Dabora	Light	? White
65	16. 8.59	.04	Baniara	Two spheres	As before—smaller
66	18. 8.59	.04	Baniara	Two spheres	As before—smaller
67	19. 8.59	Night	Dabora	Light	White ? Over sea
68	8.59	.04	Baniara	Light	= star. Down and up
69	9.59	.02	Samarai	Oblong light	Dazzling
70	7. 9.59	21.00	Mayauman	Light	White, twice
71	13. 9.59	19.00	Pumani	Like star	Moved slowly
72	30. 9.59	18.55	Menapi	Like star	Moved slowly
73	23.10.59	22.00-23.00	Pumani	A round light half moon	Green—red—yellow
74	28.10.59	19.00	Pora	Orange light	Descending
75	30.10.59	22.00	Pumani	Coloured light as before—more distant	
76	23.11.59	19.30-20.40	Koyabagira	White disc and a dark object	
77	28.11.59	22.00	Tarakwaruru	Like star	Moved upwards
78 }	Omitted		Sideia	Like star	One steady
79 }	October-November 1958				One fluctuated white

N.B. Object of 3rd, 4th, 8th and 14th August apparently the same object located over Baiawa

## TABLE OF LOCALITIES WITH NUMBER OF OBJECTS SEEN

All objects seen counted as separate, though some may have been the same object seen again. The list is arranged in order of the number of objects seen

1	BOIANAI	18 objects
2	BANIARA	13 "
3	MENAPI (and radius of one mile)	10 "
4	RUABA PLAIN, including PUMANI, BINIGUNI etc.)	7 "
5	DOGURA	6 "
6	DABORA	5 "
7	KOYABAGIRA DISTRICT (including BAIAWANAKI, MAPONA and WAUWAPO)	5 "
8	GIWA	4 "
9	DAGA COUNTRY (mountains)	4 "
10	SIDEIA	4 "
11	PORT MORESBY	3 "
12	WARURA	3 "
13	PORAYEBAYEBARA	3 "
14	GULF COUNTRY	2 "
15	MIDINO	2 "
16	SAMARAI	2 "
17	BANAPA	2 "
18	TARAKWARURU	1 "
19	EMBI	1 "
20	MANAU	1 "
21	NINIGO ISLANDS	1 "

### ANALYSIS OF OBJECTS

(a) *SHAPE*

"Like a Star"	16 objects
"Lights" ("like a Lamp")	19 "
"Discs" ("saucers" and "plates")	19 "
"Balls or Spheres"	20 "
"Cylinder" ("rocket")	1 object
"Spindle" ("boat")	1 "
"Circular craft of large size" (3 with upper deck, 2 with dome)	5 objects
"Oval Craft of large size" (Rugger Ball)	1 object

(b) *COLOUR*

Metallic (daylight)	2 objects
Luminous—white	54 "
Constant colours —green	3 "
yellow	1 object
blue	1 "
orange	1 "
red	2 objects
Changing colours (usually red, green and white)	15 "
Fluctuating colours (usually white)	7 "

(c) *SPECIAL FEATURES*

Appendages (landing gear?)	3 objects
Portholes (or panels)	4 "
Men (4 men seen each time)	2 "
Light shafts or beams	5 "
Trail (vapour or flame)	3 "
Small bronze disc below main object and associated	3 "

### TABLE OF NUMBER OF SIGHTINGS ON EACH DAY OF THE MONTH

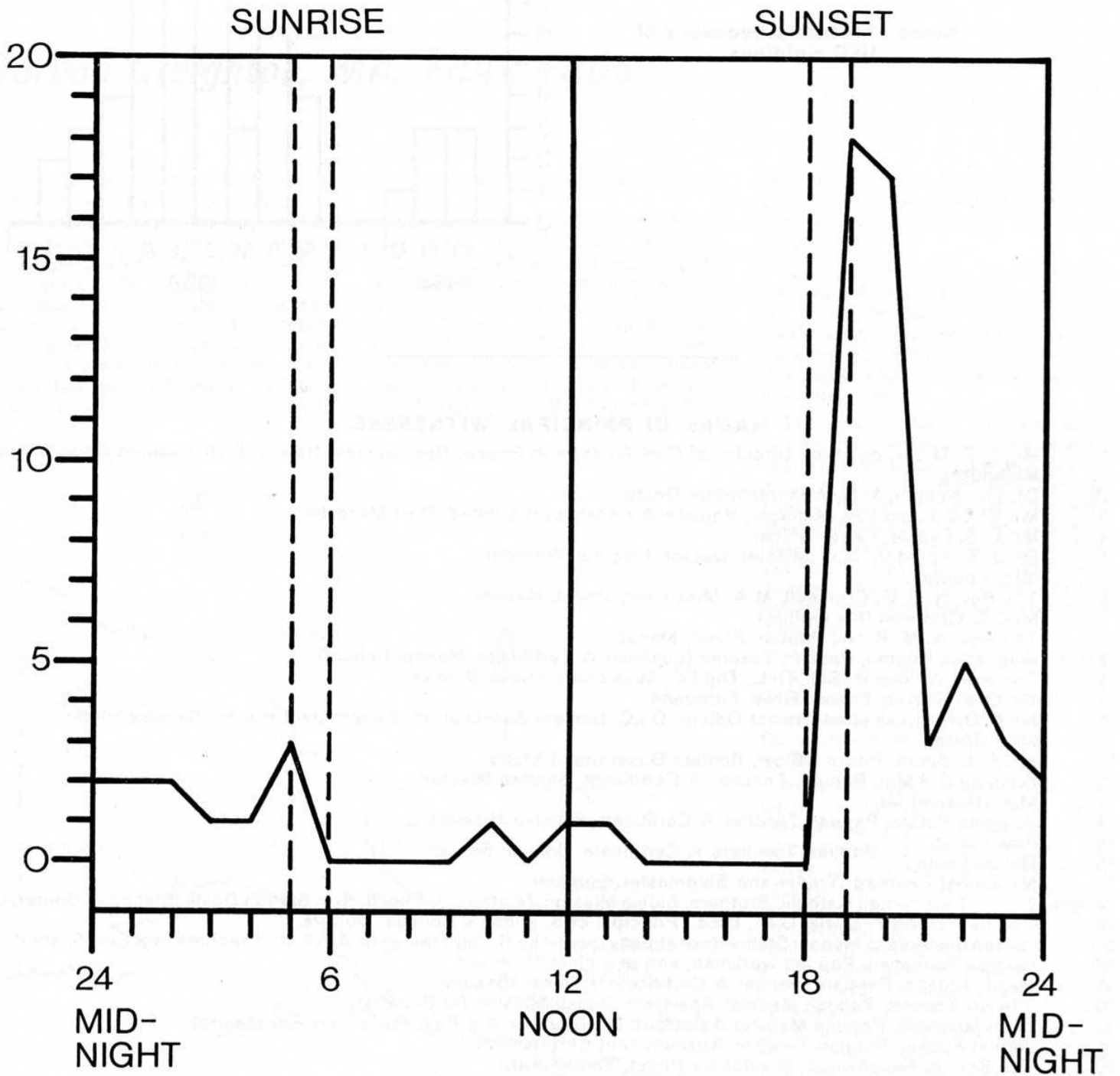
1st	1	11th	0	21st	3
2nd	0	12th	0	22nd	2
3rd	2	13th	1	23rd	5
4th	1	14th	2	24th	3
5th	0	15th	0	25th	1
6th	3	16th	5	26th	4*
7th	1	17th	2	27th	6*
8th	2	18th	5	28th	4*
9th	2	19th	2	29th	2
10th	1	20th	1	30th	2

\* Many objects in some sightings

# TABLE OF TIMES OF SIGHTINGS

## HOURS OF THE DAY

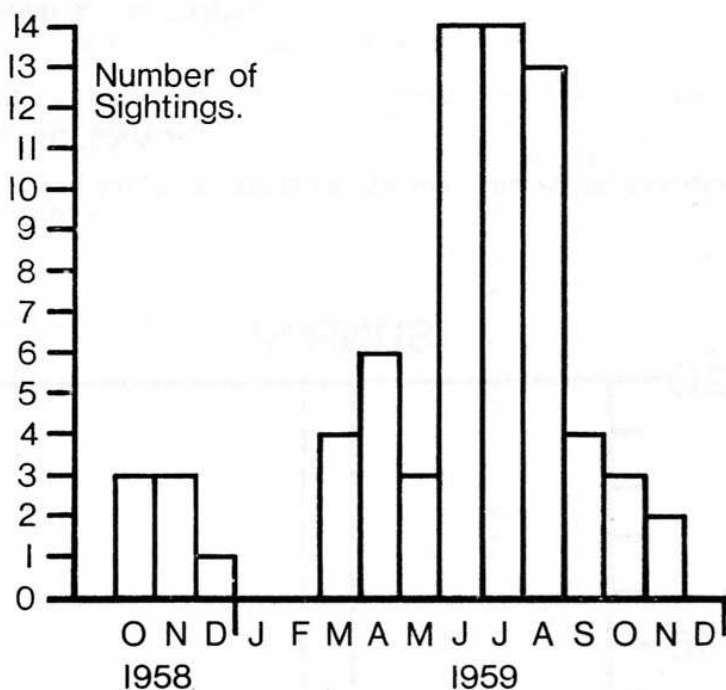
Sightings for the hour are totalled at the end of the hour, i.e. any sightings between 24.00 and 01.00 are recorded at 1  
And so on.



### GRAPH

Number of sightings plotted against time of day. Note peaks at dusk, especially in the evening, and early night.

**Graph of Monthly frequency of UFO sightings**



**NAMES OF PRINCIPAL WITNESSES**

- 1 Mr. T. P. Drury, one time Director of Civil Aviation in Papua, New Guinea. Now in Civil Aviation Department, Melbourne.
  - 2 Dr. Eric Nespor, M.D. Administration Doctor.
  - 3 Mr. Clifford Jackson, Manager, Papuan Air Transport Limited, Port Moresby.
  - 4 Mr. E. S. Esdale, Patrol Officer.
  - 5 Dr. J. K. Houston, M.D. Mission Doctor, Dogura (Wamira).  
Mrs. Houston.
  - 6 The Rev. N. E. G. Cruttwell, M.A. Missionary Priest, Menapi.  
Mrs. C. Cruttwell (his mother).
  - 7 The Rev. A. M. Ririka, Papuan Priest, Menapi.
  - 8 Augustine Bogino, Papuan Teacher (qualified A Certificate, Menapi School).
  - 9 The Rev. William B. Gill, Th.L., Dip.Ed., Missionary Priest, Boianai.
  - 10 Mr. D. L. Glover, Trader, Giwa, European.
  - 11 Mr. R. Orwin, Assistant District Officer, O.I.C. Baniara Sub-District, Government House, Baniara Island.  
Mrs. Orwin.
  - 12 Mr. R. L. Smith, Patrol Officer, Baniara Government Station.
  - 13 Stephen Gill Moi, Papuan Teacher A Certificate, Baniara Mission.  
Mrs. (Nessie) Moi.
  - 14 Ananias Rarata, Papuan Teacher A Certificate, Boianai Mission.
  - 15 Ilma Violet } Papuan Teachers A Certificate, Boianai School.
  - 16 Dulcie Freda }
  - 17 Mr. Ernest Evennett, Trader and Shipmaster, Samarai.
  - 18 and 19 Two Roman Catholic Brothers, Sideia Mission. (Authority: The Rt. Rev. Bishop Doyle, Bishop of Samarai).
  - 20 The Rev. David F. Durie, D.D., B.Ed., Principal of S. Aidan's College, Dogura.
  - 21-27 Seven teachers at Menapi Station (not already mentioned)—all Trainee or Auxiliary Teachers (not Certificated).
  - 28 George Taunaven, Papuan workman, son of a chief.
  - 29 Micah Aigaba, Papuan Teacher A Certificate, Kumani Mission.
  - 30 Edward Yakawa, Papuan Medical Assistant, Biman Mission (at Banapa).
  - 31 Cecil Matavoia, Papuan Medical Assistant, Government Aid Post, Sirisiri (at Koyabagira).
  - 32 Japhet Kirakai, Papuan Teacher Auxiliary (not Certificated).
  - 33 The Rev. A. Greenwood, Missionary Priest, Tarakwaruru.
  - 34 Mr. Arthur Job, Carpenter and Builder, Samarai (European).
  - 35 Mr. Robert Clifford, Master of Coastal Vessel m.v. *Chinampa*.
- Not to mention:  
School children,  
Pupil Teachers,  
Evangelists,  
Village folk (to the number of several hundred),
- 38 with Fr. Gill at Boianai,  
About 100 at Menapi,  
The whole villages at Baiawa  
and many other smaller groups.



# THE NEW GUINEA SIGHTINGS

## A note on some anthropological aspects

Gordon Creighton, MA, FRAI, FRGS

WHEN the Reverend William Gill was our dinner-guest in London recently and we had the opportunity to hear his account of these famous sightings, I asked him if he would comment on the "Cargo Cult", as it had occurred to me that, since this cult is found not only in many neighbouring Pacific island groups but also in New Guinea, there will inevitably be sceptics who will see no difficulty in explaining away every New Guinea

UFO sighting as just another "Cargo" story.

Father Gill's reply to my question was brief and definite: "No, the reports couldn't be interpreted by the Papuans as 'Cargo'. *Because it's the wrong part of New Guinea!*"

The "Cargo Cult", or at any rate some of its related ideas about messiahs, prophets, millenary movements, and so on, does occur very widely throughout the South Pacific—

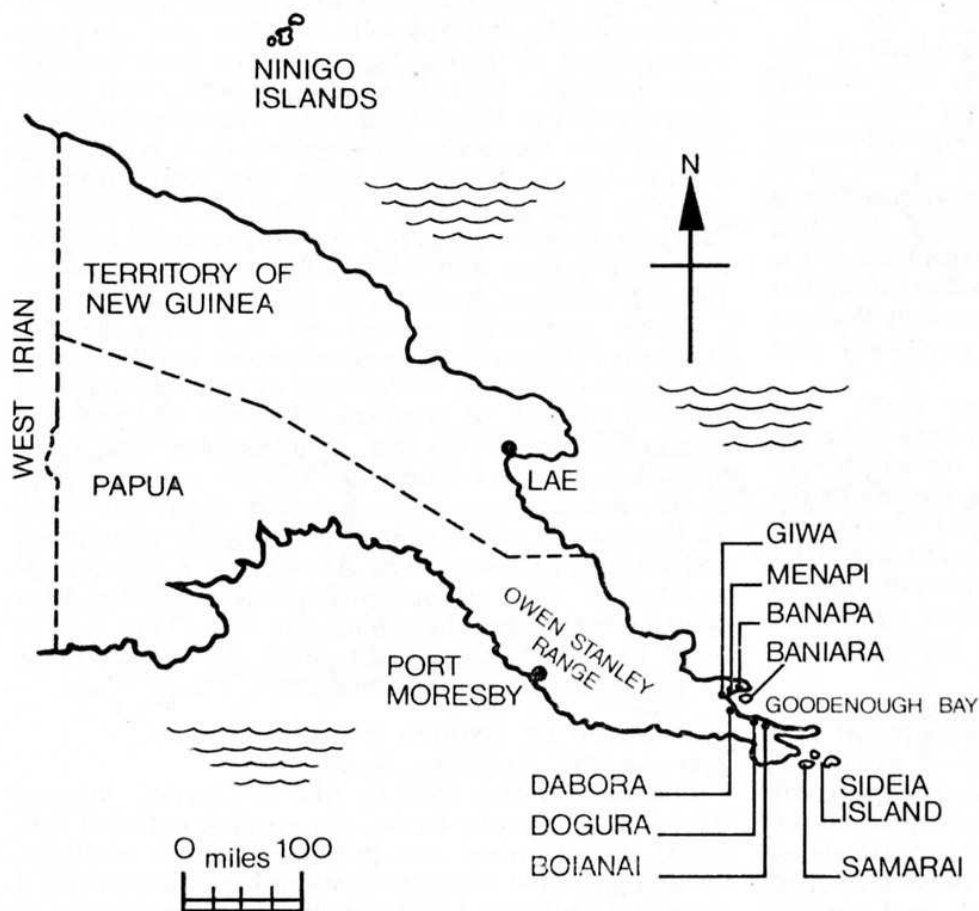
in the Gilbert Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji, New Hebrides, Society Islands, New Caledonia, and New Guinea.

A comprehensive and concise account of the whole phenomenon is Peter Worsley's *The Trumpet Shall Sound* (London, 1957; Paladin paperbacks, 1970), and the maps in this book show that Father Gill is absolutely right.

The great island of New Guinea is at least 1,700 miles long, and consists of the former Dutch (now Indonesian) western half, renamed West Irian or Irian Barat; the north-eastern quarter (formerly German, and now the Australian Trust Territory of New Guinea); and the south-eastern quarter, Papua, the former British colony, now administered also from Australia.

Menapi and Boianai, sites of the missions where the Rev'd Norman Cruttwell and the Rev'd Gill had their sightings, lie right away in the far south-eastern tip of Papua. (See map.)

Peter Worsley's maps show that while certain of the related myth themes (Coming of a Messiah; return of the Dead, etc.) do turn up in a few places in northern Papua, the actual "Cargo Cult" about flying machines is in fact not recorded for Papua at all, with the exception of one solitary place, and even that place lies far up to the north-west, close to the border of the old German territory, and consequently hundreds of miles distant from Menapi and Boianai. In view of the large number of tribes and languages and the absence, until very recently, of easy communications, we may well believe that the native Papuans of the Menapi and Boianai Missions have indeed never even heard of the famous "Cargo Cult" about which so much has been written by western anthropologists.



Papua and the territory of New Guinea

# TYPE-1 PHENOMENA IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL—1

## A study of 100 Iberian landings

Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Jaques Vallée

Señor Ballester is founder and President of *Circulo de Estudios Sobre Objetos no Identificados (CEONI)*; Dr. Vallée is well-known as a contributor to *Flying Saucer Review* since 1960, and author of *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* and *Passport to Magonia*. As a result of an unprecedented agreement, this study is also published in France by *Lumières dans la Nuit*, in Spain by *Stendek*, and in the United States by *Data-Net*.

### PART 1: DATA-GATHERING AND REDUCTION

TO the casual reader of UFO magazines, and even to the serious student who is mainly acquainted with the English-language literature, the structure of the Type-1 phenomenon in Western Europe is a puzzling one. Most researchers now accept the validity of Aimé Michel's data—so often confirmed in subsequent studies—for the French wave of 1954<sup>1</sup>; but it seems odd to find practically no trace of similar waves in other European countries: why should France be especially favoured with landings while cases of other types are well-known to cover the entire world?

When the *Magonia* catalogue was compiled<sup>2</sup> special attention was paid to the acquisition of "second-generation data" (reports that previous studies had overlooked and that came to light only when effort was directed at a specific period or area) for several European countries, and indeed a fresh picture was produced, with the recovery of numerous sightings that had remained buried in local files; the Italian phase of the 1954 wave emerged very clearly. It was also found that more recent waves had definitely occurred in Western Europe, sometimes when activity had practically died out in other parts of the world.

An obvious question then presented itself: what pattern would we observe if a thorough data-gathering effort were to be initiated in a country for which very few cases had been published? With the passing of the years, have people reported objects and phenomena similar to those already known to us from the countries we have studied? Is the Iberian Type-1 picture going to fit within the overall view, as a long-lost piece of a puzzle? If we met with surprises, how would cases be distributed geographically and in time?

An opportunity to ask these questions presented itself early in 1970 when Aimé Michel suggested that the authors collaborate on the analysis of a mass of previously unpublished Spanish material. The study was a painstaking one, yet we can only claim preliminary results. We did, however, bring a measure of organisation to the data, and in the process we have developed and perfected a method that is simple and general enough to be useful to researchers elsewhere. The first part of this article, then, will describe the techniques

used in gathering and reducing the data, from which a sample of one hundred landing cases was selected for extensive computer treatment. The second part will present the results of the analysis to date.

#### A. UFO Research in Spain: Current status

The burden for documenting Iberian reports and bringing them to the attention of researchers elsewhere has been principally carried by one man, Sr. Antonio Ribera, for many years. His books, unfortunately, are only available in Spanish<sup>3,4,5</sup>, but his frequent contributions to *Flying Saucer Review* have received wide attention. From his writings, and from other reports that had been obtained by French researchers, half a dozen Iberian landing reports have been published in various journals and they were gathered in the *Magonia* catalogue (Nos. 113, 278, 328, 347, 725 and 769). The reader will see that these represented only the tip of the iceberg, and that a large wave took place in 1968/69, adding a considerable number of reports.

Ribera repeatedly pointed out that more detailed analyses of Iberian landings were needed, but this undertaking was delayed by the absence of specialised Type-1 oriented research, by linguistic difficulties and a lack of communication with other countries for which the Spanish researchers cannot be blamed: several groups of very dedicated people were quietly at work in Spain all these years, and our analysis is merely a summary and a tribute to their activity. Therefore it is appropriate to identify these groups and to acknowledge their contribution before describing our data. They will be listed in chronological order, from the oldest to the most recently-formed organisation.

CEI: CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS INTERPLANETARIOS  
*Apartado 282, Barcelona, Spain*

Founded October 1958 by Marius Lleguet, Antonio Ribera and Eduardo Buelta, the group conducted very active investigations and published serious analyses, including the first attempt to establish mathematically a correlation between UFO activity and the proximity of Mars to the Earth (Buelta). After a period of low activity, CEI was reorganised in 1968, adopting new