

FLYING SAUCERS OVER PAPUA.

A REPORT ON PAPUAN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS.

by the Revd. Norman E. G. Cruttwell,  
M.A. Oxon.,  
of the Anglican Mission, Menapi,  
Papua, New Guinea.

--oOo--

March            1960

- 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. IQA !!! (Wedau language...finished)

Data sheet of observation of UFO's., 6.45 to 11.04 p.m., 26/6/59.

(signed) WILLIAM B. GILL.

Altogether there were 38 witnesses of whom 25 signed the report. Apart from Fr. Gill himself they had included 5 Papuan teachers and three medical assistants.

EXTRA NOTES:

Hovering height at 6.52 between 300 and 500ft.

Estimate of apparent diameter. Fr. Gill. .... .. .5 inches at arms length.  
Stephen Moi closed fist at arms length would just cover half the object.

Material it was made of. Fr. Gill, when asked if it were metallic answered,

"Well, it appeared solid, certainly not transparent or gaseous; we just assumed that it was metallic from our 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° (see sketch) and that the four human figures appeared on top.

Fr. Gill is emphatic about the absence of sound throughout the whole activity.

REPORT FOR SATURDAY 27/6/59.

- About 6.00 p.m. Papuan medical assistant sights UFO in apparently same position as night before.
- 6.02 Fr. Gill comes out and sees object. Same as last night. but seemed a little smaller - more distant?.
- 6.02 to 6.17 Crowd gathers to watch the UFO. 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 UFO(s) were seen at the same time, stationary, one above the hills, West, and another over-head.

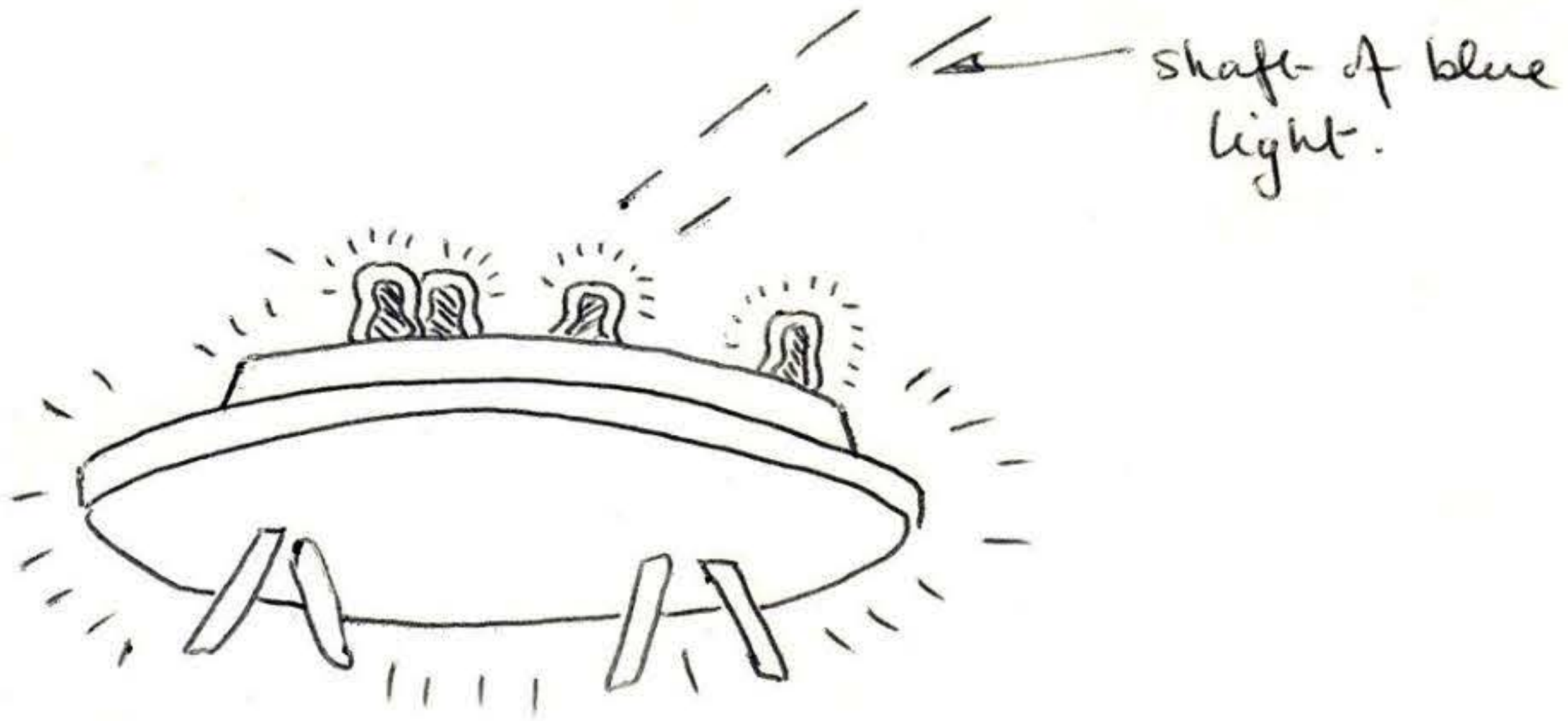
On the large one the figures seemed to be doing something near the ~~max~~ centre of the deck - they were occasionally bending over and raising their arms as if adjusting or setting up something (not visible). One figure seemed to be standing with his hands on the "rail" looking over, just as one will look over the rails of a ship.

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

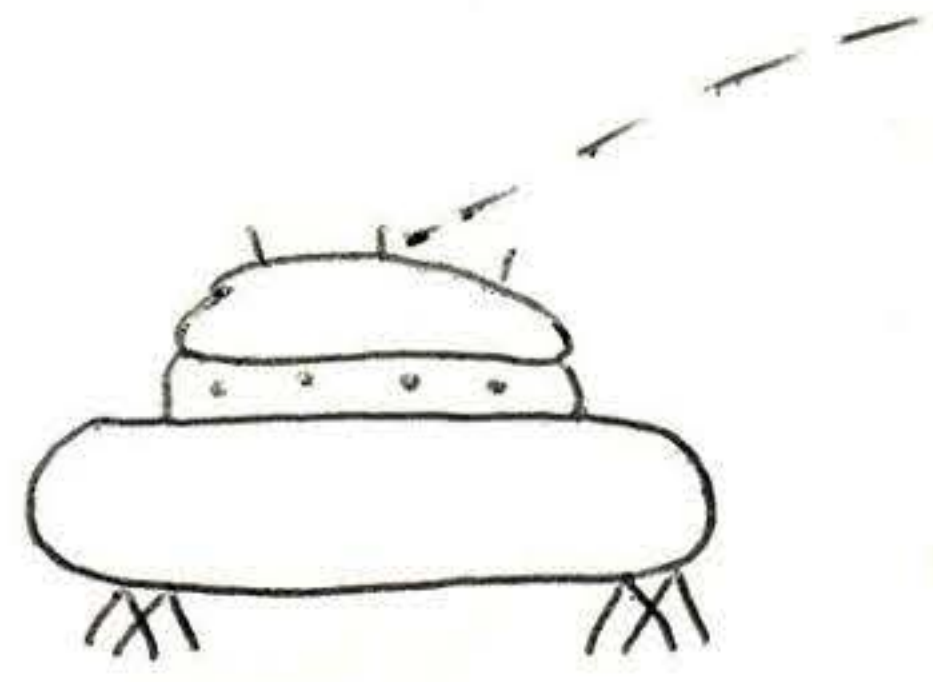
260659.

Boianai - Fr. Gills observation.

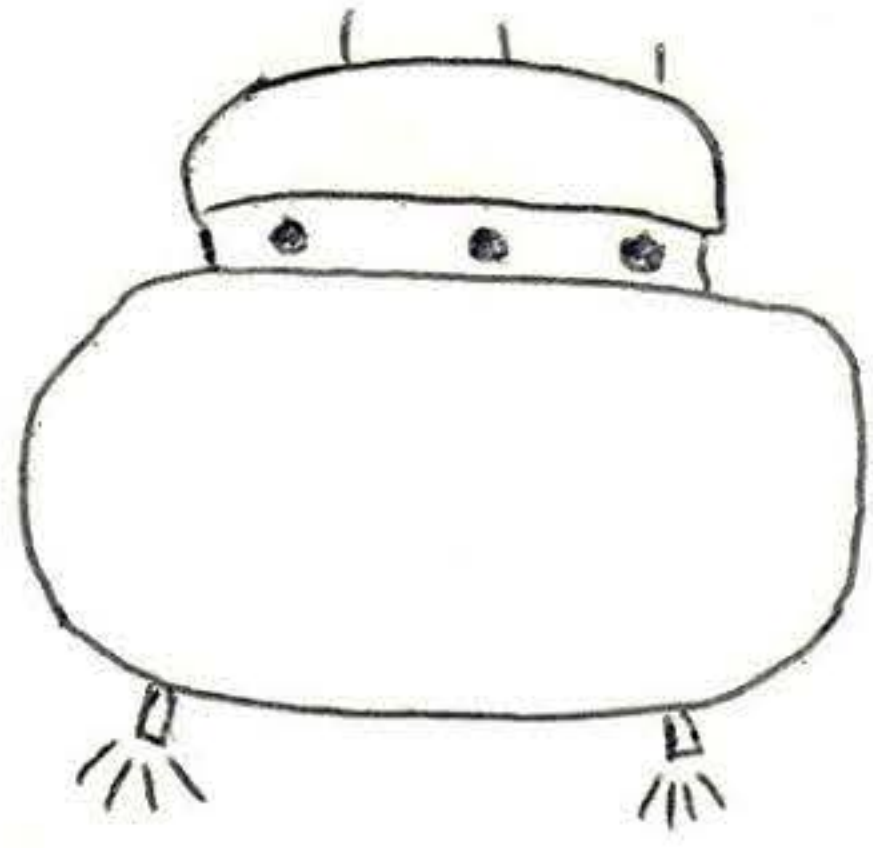
Drawing by Rev. W.B. Gill. (Traced from traces)



Stephen Gill Moa



Ananias Rarata



Dulcie F. Guyorobo

Witnesses drawings traced from reduced facsimile.

FLYING SAUCERS OVER PAPUA.

A REPORT ON U.F.O's. by the Rev. Norman E.G. Cruttwell, MA., Oxon., of the Anglican Mission, Menapi, Papua, New Guinea.

MARCH 1960.

Excerpts taken from the original report.

Part 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 UFOs.? Of course these sightings are only a comparatively small number over a very limited area and 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 advantageous for study.

- (1) First 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.

(A) 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 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 (4000ft.).

Geographically the area is probably a fault line. There is a line of volcanic activity which passes through mount Lamington (erupted 1951) near Popondetta, running SE close to the coast, and continuing to 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 still has 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. Margavara). The actual bay is an extremely deep trough between the island 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

060759	0050 -0145	Baniara	spherical light	
080759	night	Dogura	mysterious light on sea	
090759	1900?	"	light	white, moved slowly
0659	night	Monare	ball	white, moved
0659	early am.	"	"	fluctuated
180759	2000	Didiwa	light	over mountains, moved
200759	1800	from launch	light	" " "
210759	0915	Menapi	silver disc	crossed sky
220759	1945	Pora	domed craft	low
230759	night	Dabora	light	green and white
240759	2100	Menapi	"	white fast
250759	1930	Gaiawanaki	a domed craft on side	low
0759	night	Koyabagira	"objects like boats in sky"	
260759	night	Banapa	white disc	moving out to sea
270759	"	"	" "	" " " "
030859	1800	Mapouna	white sphere	green rays
040859	1900	Makwapu	" "	" "
060859	2300	Pora	light	red, green, white
080859	1830) -2115)	Biniguni	white sphere	green rays
100859	0350	Baniara	2 spheres	many colours + bronze disc
140859	1930	Mukawa	white sphere	exploded - white, orange, red.

(N.B. Object of 03/04/68/140859 apparently the same object located).

140859	night	Embi	white light, moved down mountain	
160859	2300	(Menapi Dabora)	light (same object seen)	red, green, white.
170859	night	Dabora	light	? white
160859	0004	Baniara	two spheres	as before - smaller.
180859	0004	"	" "	" " "
190859	night	Dabora	light	white? over sea
0859	0004	Baniara	light	= star, down and up
0959	0002	Samarai	oblong light	dazzling
070959	2100	Mayauman	light	white, twice.
130959	1900	Pumani	like star	moved slowly
300959	1855	Menapi	" "	" "
231059	2200) -2300)	Pumani	a round light, half moon,	green - red - yellow
281059	1900	Pora	orange light	descending
301059	2200	Pumani	coloured light as before	- more distant.
231159	1930) -2040)	Koyabagira	white disc and a dark object.	
281159	2200	Tarakwaruru	like star	moved upwards
1058	?	Sideia	" "	steady light) omitted
1158	?	"	" "	fluctuated. ) Oct/Nov. 1958



ANALYSIS OF OBJECTS:

<u>SHAPE:</u>	Like a star	16	
	Lights (like a lamp)	19	
	Discs (saucers and plates)	19	TOTAL: 83
	Balls or Spheres	20	
	Cylinder (rocket)	1	
	Spindle (boat)	1	
	Circular craft of large size	5	
	(3 with upper deck, 2 with dome)	1	
	Oval craft of large size (ruggerball)	1	
		2	

<u>COLOUR:</u>	Metallic (daylight)	2	
	Luminous white	54	
	Constant green	3	TOTAL: 86
	Colours yellow	1	
	blue	1	
	orange	1	
	red	2	
	Changing Colours (usually red, green and white)	15	
	Fluctuating colours (usually white)	7	

<u>SPECIAL FEATURES:</u>	Appendages (landing gear)	3
	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

PRINCIPAL WITNESSES:

Air transport managers.  
 Doctors.  
 Missionary priests.  
 Techers.  
 Traders.  
 Government Officers.  
 Roman Catholic Brothers, Sideia Mission.  
 Principal of St. Aidan's College, Dogura.  
 Trainee teachers at Menapi Station.  
 Workmen  
 Medical Assistants  
 Master of Coastal Vessel, M. V. Chinampa.

AND:

School children  
 Pupil teachers  
 Evangelists  
 Village folk (to the number of several hundred)  
 38 with Fr. Gill at Boianai  
 About 100 at Menapi  
 Two whole villages at Baiawa  
 and many other smaller groups.

26/6/59

Data (1)

U.F.O.

BOIANAI.

<u>Sky.</u>	<u>Time.(p.m.)</u>	
Patches of low cloud. Clear over Dogura and Menapi.	6.45	Sighted bright white light from front door. Direction N.W.
	6.50	Call Stephen and Eric <sup>N</sup> Lagford.
	6.52	Stephen arrives. Confirms not star - like the other night. Coming closer, not so bright. Coming down 500'?. Orange?. Deep yellow?.
	6.55	Send Eric to call people. One object on top, move - man?. Now three men - moving, glowing, doing something on deck. Gone.
	7.00	Men 1 and 2 again.
	7.04	Gone again.
Cloud ceiling covered sky, C2000ft.	7.10	1, 3, 4, 2 (appeared in that order) Thin electric blue spotlight. Men gone. Spotlight still there.
	7.12	Men one and two appeared - blue light.
	7.20	Spotlight off. Men go.
	7.20	U.F.O. goes through cloud.
Clear sky here heavy cloud over Dogura.	8.28	U.F.O. seen by me over-head. 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.
Cloud forming again	8.35	Another one over Wadobuna village.
	?	Another to the East.
Clouds patchy	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 onto cloud - no more than 2000 ft., probable less. All UFO's 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.



3. The First Sighting Of Men.

Five days later on June 26th., Friday, the visitors returned to us in force. (after Stephen Moi's saucer) The astounding events of that night caused Fr. Gill to write the following letter to the Rev. David Durie, Principal of St. Aidans College, Fr. Gills confidant and friend, who had helped him to study for his Dip. Ed..

Anglican Mission, Boianai.  
27/6/59.

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

Dear David,

Life is strange isnt it? Yesterday I wrote to you a letter (which I still ijtend sending you) expressing opinions of UFO's. Not less than 24 hpurs 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 breath-taking. 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 possible.

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 16th. 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! Its interesting territory news if nothing else.

W.B.G.

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

230853.

Mr. Drury of  
Dept. of Civil Aviation  
@ Melbourne.

Expert on aircraft.

Speed of object Mach 5  
but no sound. Cloud  
appeared suddenly out  
of clear blue sky.

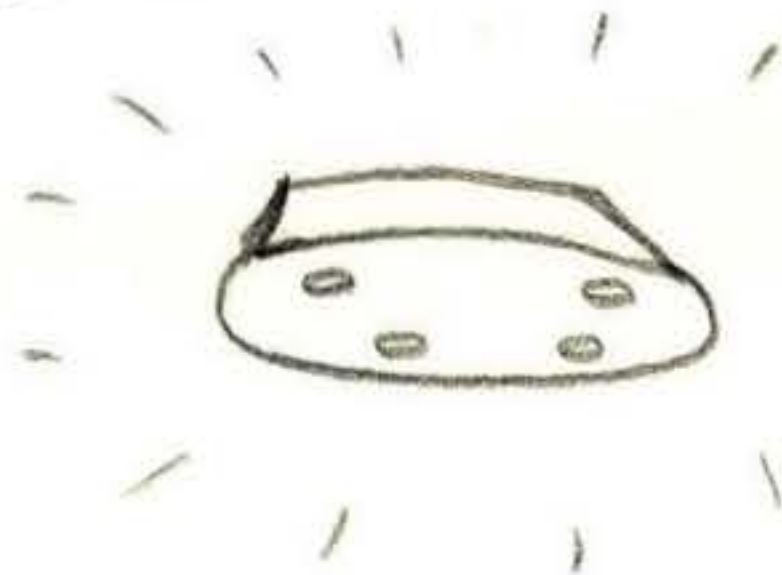
On Film.



Impression.

221158. Satellite that changed direction from one path to another  
parallel path - fluctuated - "sputnik?"

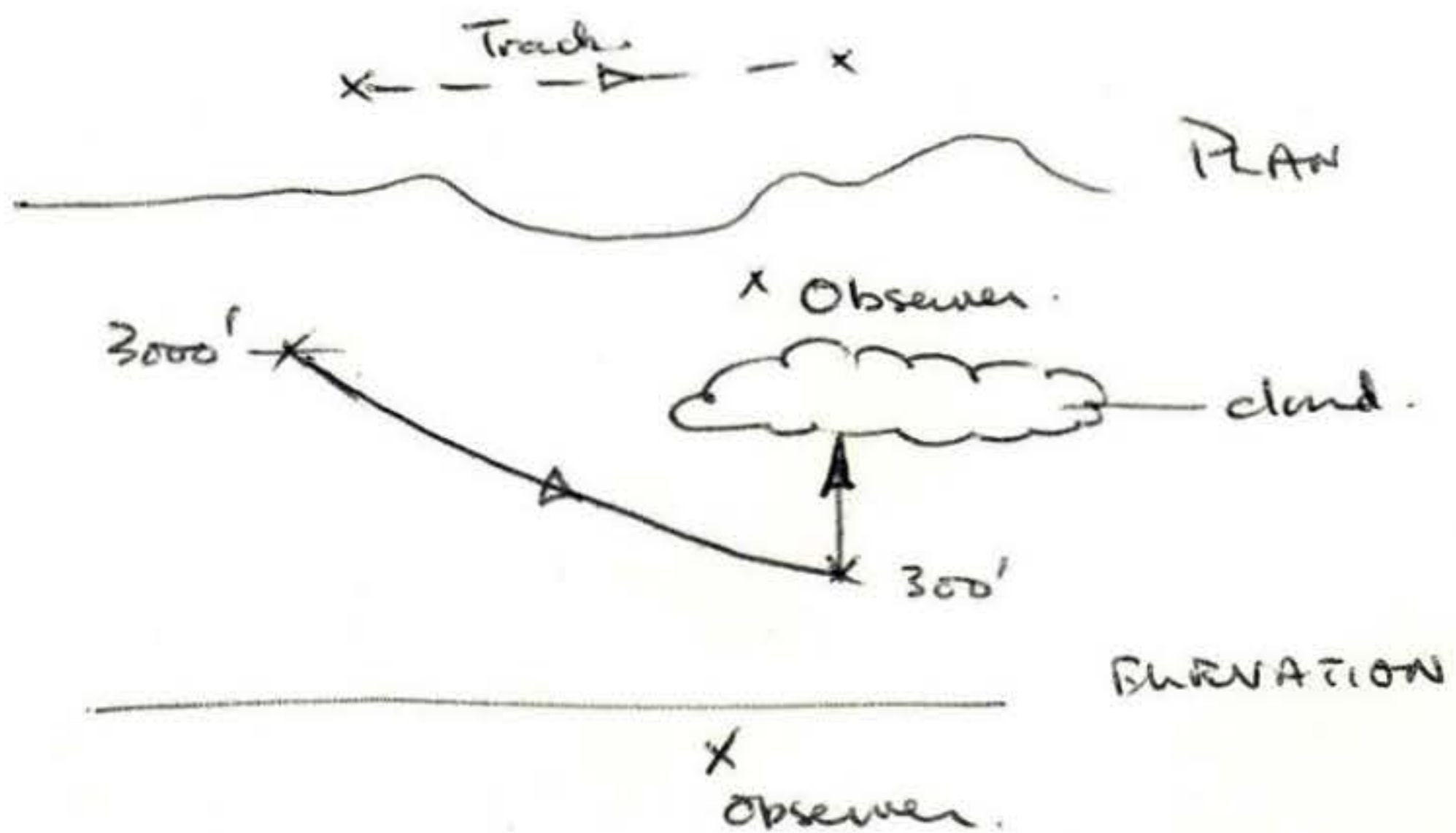
210659 Stephen Mois' Saucer.



Rough sketch of UFO @ 300? ft.

COPY.

Track of UFO.



figures did the same. Ananias and I 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 moments 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.

Attempts to contact the men by shouting brought no response.

x x x x x x x x x x x x

THE THIRD NIGHT, 28/6/59:

Sunday, 28/6/59.

- 6.00 p.m. No sign of UFO.
- 6.45 Only one UFO practically over-head. Slightly North. Very high, but clearly distinguishable, due to "hovering". (Fr. Gill uses the word "hover" in the sense of wavering movement in a small area).
- 7.30 Same UFO - moved to Southern position, but still more or less overhead.
- 9.00 3 UFO's in almost straight line - all high, sky clear.
- 11.00 8 UFO's. This is the largest number seen at one time. One fairly low, but except for occasional "hover", no activity seen on board.
- 11.20 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 UFO's in a circle round station. All high.
- 11.30 To bed, and UFO's still there.

Monday, 29/6/59.

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

STATISTICS OF SIGHTINGS

Monthly frequency:

1958	Oct	3
	Nov	3
	Dec	1
1959	Jan	0
	Feb	0
	Mar	4
	Apr	6
	May	3
	Jun	14
	Jul	14
	Aug	13
	Sep	4
	Oct	3
	Nov	2
	Dec	0
<u>TOTAL:</u>		<u>70</u>

Dately frequency:

1st	1
2nd	0
3rd	2
4th	1
5	0
6	3
7	1
8	2
9	2
10	1
11	0
12	0
13	1
14	2
15	0
16	5
17	2
18	5
19	2
20	1
21	3
22	2
23	5
24	3
25	1
26	4
27	6
28	4
29	2
30	2
31	0
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>63</u>

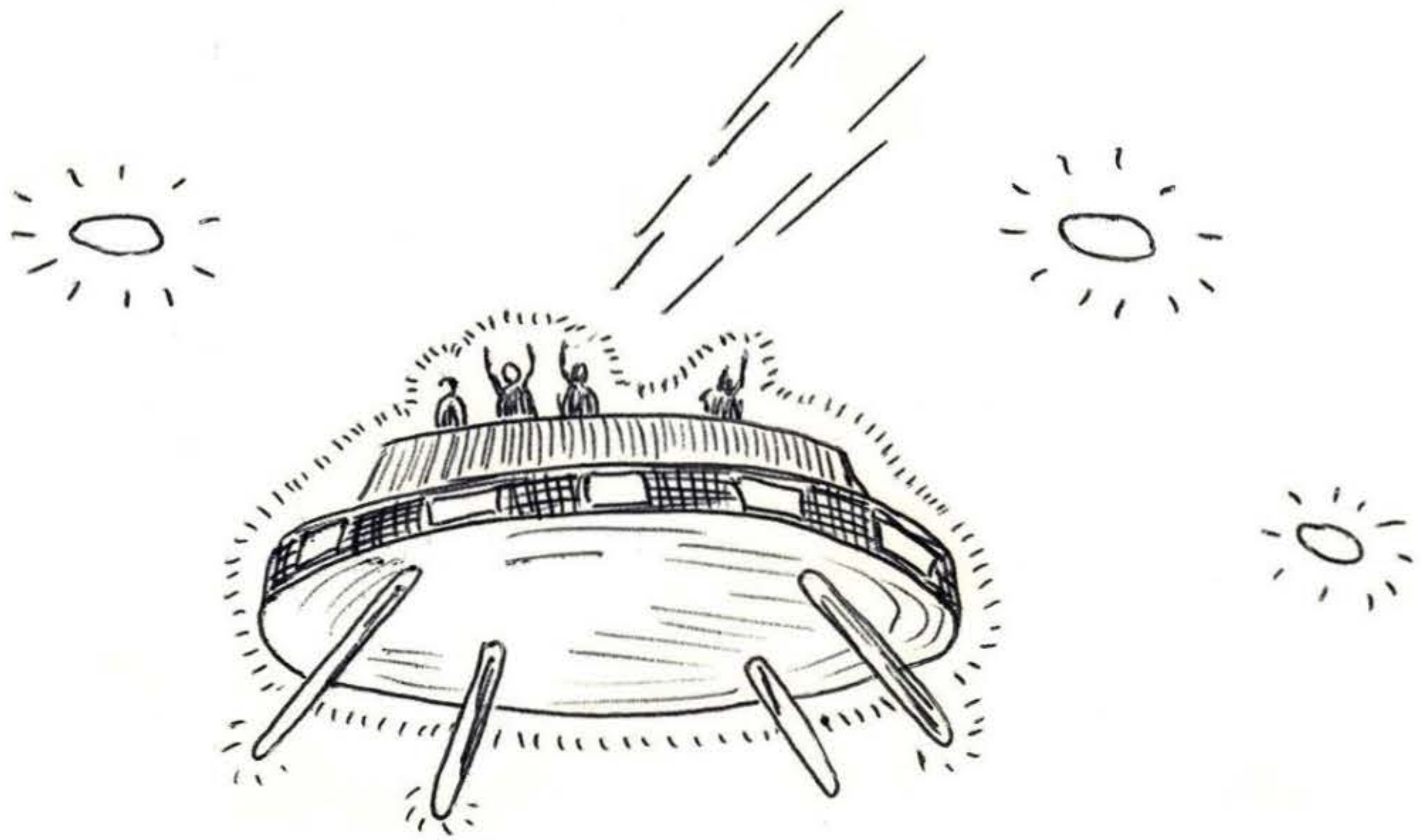
Many objects in some sightings

Hourly frequency:

0000	2	MIDNIGHT
0100	2	
0200	2	
0300	1	
0400	1	
0500	3	
0600	0	SUNRISE
0700	0	
0800	0	
0900	0	
1000	1	
1100	0	
1200	1	NOON
1300	1	
1400	0	
1500	0	
1600	0	
1700	0	
1800	0	
1900	18	SUNSET
2000	17	
2100	3	
2200	5	
2300	3	
(2400	2	MIDNIGHT.)
<u>62</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>

Totals for period ending at time shown. i.e. sighting in period 1100 to 1200 given under 1200.

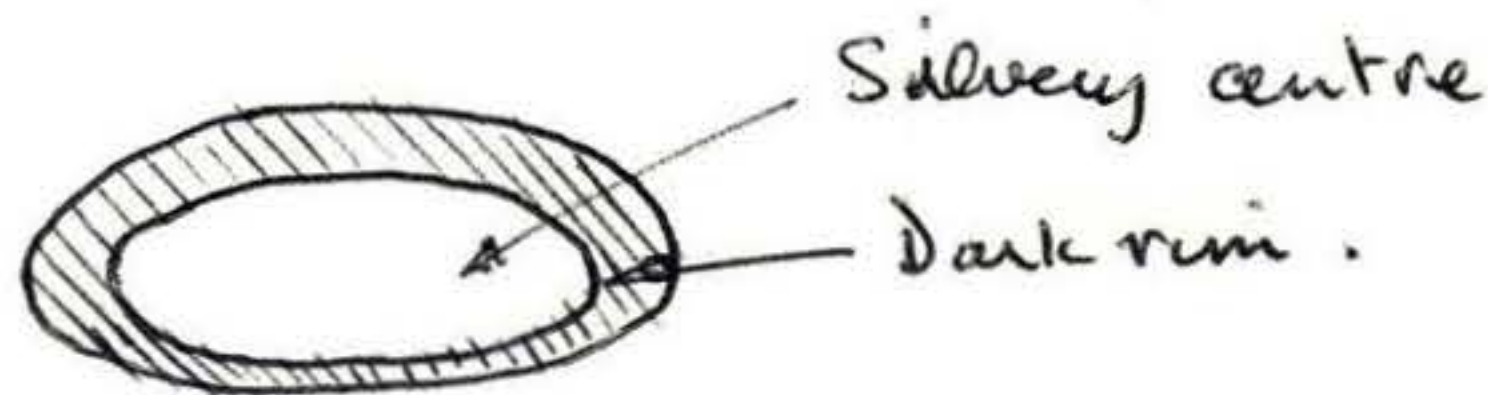
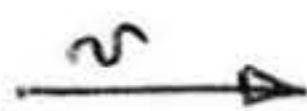
Rev. Norman F.G. Crittwell's drawing of the  
Saucer bearing the men.



Used on the cover of his original cyclostyled report.

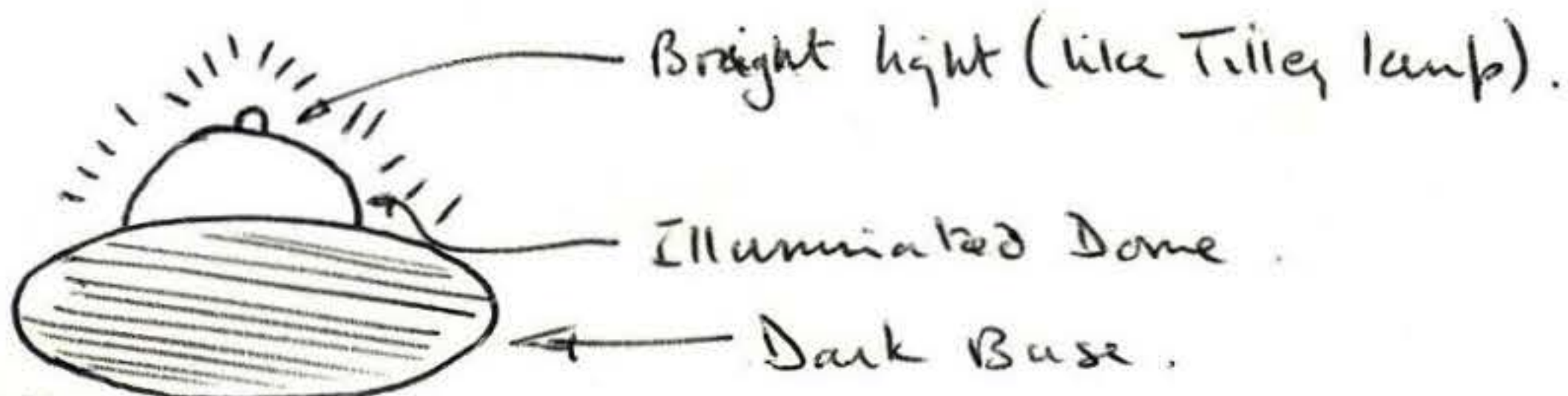
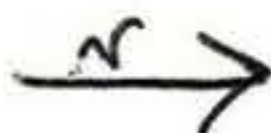
~~21075~~

210759  
9:15 am.



The Menapi Object Seen by 7 teachers and many children. Just missed by N.E.G.C.

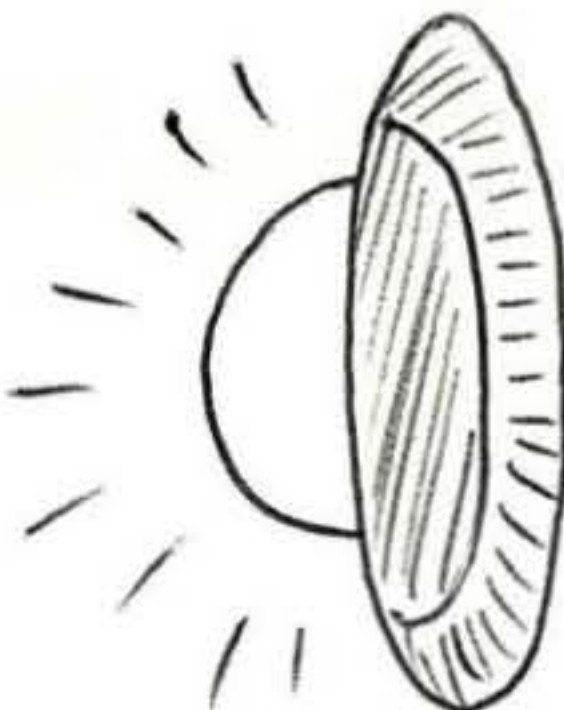
220759



George Tannaven's U.F.O.  
Seen at Porajebayebara

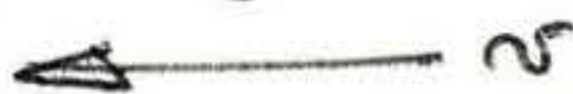
After G.T. - NEGC

Illuminated



Dark hollow base resembling 'bottom of bucket'.

250759



Gaiawanaki U.F.O. Seen by 4 mountain men. Reconstruction from their description.

NEGC

TABLE OF LOCALITIES:

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

1.	Boianai	18
2.	Baniara	13
3.	Menapi (and radius of one mile)	10
4.	Ruaba Plain (including Pumani, Biniguri, etc.)	7
5.	Koyabagira district (inc. Baiawanaki, Mapona, and Wauwapo)	5
6.	Dogura	6
7.	Dabora	5
8.	Giwa	4
9.	Daga Country (mountains)	4
10.	Sideia	4
11.	Port Moresby	3
12.	Warura	3
13.	Porayebayebara	2
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
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	95
		<hr/>

SUMMARY OF PAPUAN SIGHTINGS.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCALITY</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
230853	1100	Port Moresby	Cylinder	Filmed.
--0455	1900	Yule Island	Disc	Greenish.
56	0200	Idia island	Sphere?	Large Red.
240857	night	Inigo island	Light	changed colour.
0258	night	Port Moresby	Light	red
0658	?	Sideia	Sphere	= moon, blue.
0658	1900	Menapi	Light	= star, white.
181058	1830	Wamira	light	" , " .
181058	2100	Wamira	light	" ? " .
181058	2100	"	fireball	bright green
221158	1845	Menapi	light	= star, fluctuating
291158	1845	"	"	" "
301158	"	"	"	" "
011258	"	Port Moresby	"	ditto, oposite direction
1903 59	"	Dabora	white light	motionless
270359	1800	Dogura	whiteslight	moving slowly
0359	1900?	Midino	white ball	moving low
0359	1200	Dogura	like star	motionless - went out
090459	1850	Boianai	white light	against mountain
210459	1900	Giwa	" "	moved and turned back
260459	"	"	" "	moved low
270459	"	Dogura	" "	moved fluctuated
280459	2100	Menapi	light, changed	white, red, green
0459	night	Sariba	white light, moved	slowly
030559	2000	Manau	like a star	moved slowly
240559	1900)	Baniara	light	blue, green, red, moved
0559	night	Sideia	elliptical object	blue green
160659	1900	Dumura	light	very bright yellow
160659	1830	Maigwarip	ball	green white red
170659	2000	Manaman	light	red and white
210659	0001	Boianai	saucer	white, four dots
230659	2100	Donana	light	white with trail
260659	1845)	Boianai	circular craft	with men, <del>exchanged signals</del>
-2304)				+4 <del>discs</del> discs.
260659	1915	Giwa	oval craft with portholes,	moved, hovered, moved noise.
270659	1800	Boianai	circular craft, with men, exchanged signals,	+ two discs.
-1900				
270659	1940	Baniara	spherical light	and disc.
-2045				
270659	2030	Sideia	sphere	orange - blue
280659	1845	Bonianai	one circular craft	+ 7 discs.
280659	1820	Baniara	spherical light	and disc.
-2115				
060759	2040	Dogura	disc	looped the loop.
-2100				



The Papuan Sightings 1959

Copy of letter sent by Revd. William Gill, prime witness at Boianai to Revd. Canon Cruttwell reporter of the sightings in March 1960 giving testimony to authenticity of sightings and reports.

Camberwell Grammar School,  
51 Mont Albert Road,  
Canterbury, Victoria,  
Australia, 3126.

14th. July, 1970

Dear Norman,

I received your letter today, and I note that it has taken almost a fortnight to reach me. I am sorry that due to some circumstances my reply has been delayed.

At your request I herewith give you a personal statement regarding the U.F.O. sightings at Boianai, T.P. & N.G. in 1959.

All that I wrote on the observances there were quite true, and even after ten years of contemplation, I am still not able to withdraw or amend any of the report I then made.

It would be more comforting for me to withdraw from the controversy - and this I think could be done by saying that I believe I was mistaken - but I cannot do this. Unless I am some kind of a nut, what I said then I repeat now: I saw something quite extraordinary, some U.F.O.s together with some humanoid activity of some kind, and that this activity was recorded faithfully.

I say that it would be more comforting for me to withdraw my statements because I too meet up with sceptics and, occasionally, abuse directed at me personally. But there is too much vividness of the sightings still with me, and too much conviction of the integrity of some of those witnesses, together with the results from the method I used to gain knowledge of their interpretations of the same sightings, to give me the slightest doubt about the authenticity. I believe it would be intellectually dishonest to attempt repudiation.

Upon re-considering my post-sighting attitudes, I might have hopped on the band-wagon a few years ago and made a small fortune by publishing the story - as some have done - but the small amount of money received from some publicity that did eventuate was handed to the secretary of A.B.M. in Sydney (the then Dr. Frank Coaldrake) for mission use (1960) - this I did stating that as the sightings were made on a mission station in mission time, then such monies were rightfully belonging to the mission.

Believe me, it is frustrating NOT to have the existence of UFOs confirmed - but until such time as they are (and if this I have no doubt) you and I must put up with the consequences, I'm afraid.

So nice to hear from you after all this time -

Regards,

(signed) Bill (The Revd. W.B. Gill)

"I certify that this is a verbatim copy of an airletter received by me on July 23, 1970. N.E.G. Cruttwell"

and I that this is a true copy of that copy ... S.L. Smith, M.A.

Director of Research, BUFORA, 6/8/70.

REACTION FROM ELSEWHERE:

- (i) Many people do not accept story at all. Although Fr. Gill is obviously a sincere man, he must have imagined it all, or have seen some ordinary object such as Venus, and misinterpreted it.
- (ii) Others admit that he may have seen some unidentified object in the sky, but that his report is enormously exaggerated.
- (iii) Authorities sufficiently interested to request copies of report to be sent to the Assistant Administrator of the Territory, and all reports of UFO's are in Government Files.
- (iv) President of the Victorian Flying Saucer Society, Mr. Peter Norris, LL.B. wrote to the Director of Air Force Intelligence on 12th. Sept., 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 Fr. Gill, and cross-examined him about the Boianai sightings.

Later this official reply was received by the flying Saucer Society:-

From: Sqdn. Leader F.A.Lang

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 releaseable 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,  
(signed) F.E.Lang.