

A LETTER FROM THE REV. N. E. G. CRUTTWELL

IN previous issues of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW we have reported the attempt made by the Royal Australian Air Force to discredit one of the most circumstantial of all the sighting reports, the well-attested account of a saucer seen, with

As having had personal contact with the Rev. W. B. Gill and most of the other Papuan witnesses, and also with the Rev. L. Browning of Tasmania, I would like to comment on one or two points in recent issues of the "Flying Saucer Review":

(1) Referring to the most interesting and ingenious article by Dr. B. E. Finch ("Flying Saucer Review", March-April, 1961) he states that "in all reports of flight and hovering three brightly luminous 'legs' or projections are seen". I would like to point out that the following objects had not three but four such appendages.

(a) The object seen by Father Gill and 38 witnesses at Boianai.

(b) The object photographed over Belgium, and published in the "Flying Saucer Review", January-February, 1961 (see Aime Michel's text). We may add to these:

(c) The object seen a week before Father Gill's sighting at Boianai by Papuan teacher Stephen G. Moi. He described it as "like a saucer with four dots beneath".

(d) An object seen over Lae, New Guinea, by six native crew members of our mission launch in January, 1960, who described it as "umbrella shaped" with four "windows" on its under surface. These were arranged in a "square" pattern.

Finally, what of Radio Officer Fogl's object? It appears to have three legs only, but they are curiously placed at three corners of a square, as if there should be a fourth. Was there a fourth leg either retracted or pointing directly towards the observer and so invisible?

From all this I would conclude that we must be very careful not to over-simplify the issue. I see no reason for supposing that the "Adamski"-type craft with the three landing balls is the same as the "legged" craft. No suggestion of the ladder-like junction was seen in the Papuan machines. Nor do these more flattened "double-decked" vehicles seem to have the same shape as the more domed "Adamski" type. Whether the legs are an alternative undercarriage or retractable electrodes it is hard to say, but they seem to be characteristic of a particular type of UFO. My impression is that there are many types of UFOs visiting our planet, just as we have many different models of aircraft. Some of these types are now becoming recognisable as they have appeared a number of times in different places.

four human occupants, over Papua in 1959. The following letter was too long for inclusion in Mail Bag, but we think it should be printed in full in view of its importance to our study:

(2) Referring to the letter to Dr. Finch from Squadron-Leader F. A. Lang of the R.A.A.F., to the best of my knowledge he has not visited Papua since the Boianai sightings nor has he interviewed any of the witnesses. I believe that Father Gill was interviewed by another R.A.A.F. officer. I do not suppose he has read my report, which is full of corroborative evidence of the Boianai sightings. The most conspicuous planet at the time was Venus, but it was not in the right position to account for the object. Other planets would hardly have been noticeable at the time for the sky would not have been properly dark. It is curious that Mr. Ernest Evennett, twenty miles away across the bay on the same night, also interpreted a planet as a large hovering machine with portholes that made a noise and changed colour as it sped away. His sighting is presumably unknown to the R.A.A.F., but it amply corroborated Father Gill's. Nor does it need the actual sighting of men to prove that the machines were intelligently controlled. Mr. Evennett's machine, with its four portholes, which arrived, hovered and departed, was surely also manned?

However, the interest shown in the Fogl photograph and the refusal to disclose their report suggests that the R.A.A.F. are still worried.

(3) I feel obliged also to answer on behalf of the Rev. L. Browning whom I have met and fully discussed his remarkable sighting. Mrs. L. Pugh points out an inconsistency in his remarks "as printed". I questioned him on that very point and he told me that he does not believe that the objects came from Russia, but that the words were put into his mouth by a reporter who asked him the slanted question: "If the saucers come from a hostile power on earth which country would you say they are most likely to come from." "Well, Russia, I suppose", was the obvious answer. Like most of us, Mr. Browning is puzzled, but he gave me the impression that he believed the objects to be extra-terrestrial. In any case such expressions of opinion in no way invalidate his clear description of what he and his wife saw. I might add that Mr. Browning is a highly-respected clergyman, the Rector of Cressy, and a member of the Tasmanian Council of Churches.

This independent sighting by another Anglican priest of such similar objects confirms the veracity of the Papuan reports by Father Gill and others.