

# Unknown objects seen over Longreach

**BRISBANE, Friday.**  
— An R.A.A.F. Canberra jet aircraft was flown from Amberley to Longreach and Mt. Isa today to investigate reports of unidentified flying objects.

A service spokesman said tonight that information from the investigation flight would be forwarded to the Department of Air in Canberra.

Among witnesses to the flying objects were: Mt. Isa charter pilot Mr. Cliff Lanham, a former Methodist minister and wartime R.A.A.F. chaplain; Methodist Young People's Department Director (the Rev. I.

ment Director (the Rev. I. W. Alcorn), and Longreach Methodist minister (the Rev. Len Forrest).

Mr. Lanham, by telephone from Mt. Isa tonight, described the mysterious flying objects.

"I had just flown into Longreach at 12.45 p.m., yesterday with three people in my aircraft," he said.

"There were another three people on the ground meeting us . . . When we looked up we saw what were definitely aircraft about 40,000 to 50,000 feet up.

"I counted six before I went to the telephone . . . other members of the party counted up to 10."

## Swept-back wing jets

In Brisbane tonight, Mr. Alcorn said he counted 10 of the objects in the sky west of Longreach. They appeared to be jet machines with swept-back wings.

The Air Officer Commanding Southern Queensland, Air Commodore A. D. Garrison, said the Canberra was despatched from Amberley because the report of unidentified flying objects came from four or five reliable and separate sources.

"It is interesting that, according to some information we have received, this

tion we have received, this is the time of migration of pelicans," he said.

"Many of these reports, when we run them down, reveal that the 'object' was a bird."

The Canberra jet, piloted by Lieutenant C. T. Killan, with Lieut. C. W. Rief as navigator, returned to Amberley tonight.

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