

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP April 1950 1855Z	2. LOCATION Williams AFB, Chandler, Arizona
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Astro (METEOR)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Witness saw a meteor, one of the rare daylight sightings of this phenomena.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Round similar to a balloon or ping pong ball. Dull off white. Sharp outlines. Almost zenith to horizon at North. The object moved at an angular rate of approximately 9 deg per second, which at the obviously great distance results in a velocity far greater than the reported 1200 mph.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	COMMENTS: The fact that this was a daylight observation probably accounts for this witness never considering the possibility of this object being a meteor. Fireballs can be seen in the daylight just as easily as the moon or visible planets. The magnitudes of these meteors is as bright and usually brighter than -3 magnitude which is observable in daylight. Normally there is some color associated with these meteors, however usually this is just an "off white" or pale color which could easily have been lost in the dulling of the object by daylight.
7. COURSE North	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

Case 1950

CLEAR SHEET

SUSPENSE

ORIGIN OF BASIC

DATE

ASSIGNED BY

DATE

TYPE

NO.

SUBJECT

UFO Sighting (Capt. Cruickshanks)

ROUTING

Initial "IN" column to denote review prior to action. Initial "OUT" column to denote review of completed action. (X for action; ✓ for coordination.)

IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT
	OIN-1			OIN-2			OIN-3			OIN-4			AFOIN	
	OIN-1X			OIN-2X			OIN-3X			OIN-4X			AFOIN-X	
													AFOIN-X	
													AFOIN-X1	
													AFOIN-X2	
													AFOIN-X3	
													AFOIN-X4	
													AFOIN-X5	
													AFOIN-Z	
													CABLES	
													FILE	
													DISPATCH	

TO:

SAFIS-3, Attn: Maj. L. J. Tacker

FROM:

AFCIN-4E

COMMENTS (Use reverse, if necessary)

4E4/Maj Friend/16/Bldg

1. Search of the Air Technical Intelligence Center's files for a sighting on the dates of all Saturdays in April 1950, failed to reveal any cases which paralleled that of Captain Cruickshanks.

2. Analysis of the information submitted by Captain Cruickshanks leads to the conclusion that the object of his sighting was a meteor of exceptional brightness (a fireball).

3. Daylight sightings of meteors are relatively rare; however, the magnitude of a fireball is -3 or brighter, and they are as visible in daylight as planets.

4. The object of Captain Cruickshanks' sighting traversed approximately 90 degrees of arc in 10 seconds, or approximately 9 degrees per second. This, at the obviously great distance from the observer, results in a much higher velocity than the 1200 mph estimated by the witness. Angular velocities are fair direct estimates of linear velocities when traveling tangent to the angle bisector of very small angles. Using a small angle, a proportionate unit of time and a 25 mile range from the observer to the object, the linear velocity of this meteor is approximately

DATE: 19 January 1959
 DOCUMENT NO. 1
 RETURN NO. 28
 4E4/Maj Friend/16/Bldg
 Maxw...
 ATTN: ...
 1003320

9,000 to 10,000 knots. Assuming the observer's time estimate to be accurate, the object was obviously moving even faster. As the observer's line of sight (the angle bisector) moves from the normal (vertical at his position) the further removed from 90 degrees to this bisector becomes the object's path, and an equal angle now subtends even greater distance along this path.

H. K. Gilbert

H. K. GILBERT
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E

UFO Analysis Sheet _____

Location WILLIAMS AFB CHANDLER, ARIZONA

Date SATURDAY, APRIL 1950

Hour (Z) 1855

WX CLEAR, DRY AND WARM - NO WIND.

Description: ROUND SIMILAR TO A BALLOON OR
PING PONG BALL, DULL OFF WHITE, SHARP
OUTLINES.

Direction of Motion NORTH - ALMOST ZENITH TO HORIZON AT NORTH

Satellite: _____
(AFCIN-4F3) Phone: 69219

Astronomical Phenomena
Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc.

A RARE DAYLIGHT OBSERVATION OF A FIREBALL.
THIS OBJECT MOVED AT AN ANGULAR RATE OF
APPROXIMATELY 9° PER SECOND, WHICH AT THE
OBVIOUSLY GREAT DISTANCE RESULTS IN A VELOCITY
FAR GREATER THAN THE REPORTED 1200 MPH.

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) _____

Natural Phenomena
Ball Lightning, etc. _____

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc. THE VELOCITY AND
DIRECT MOTION OF THIS OBJECT RULES OUT
THIS CLASSIFICATION -

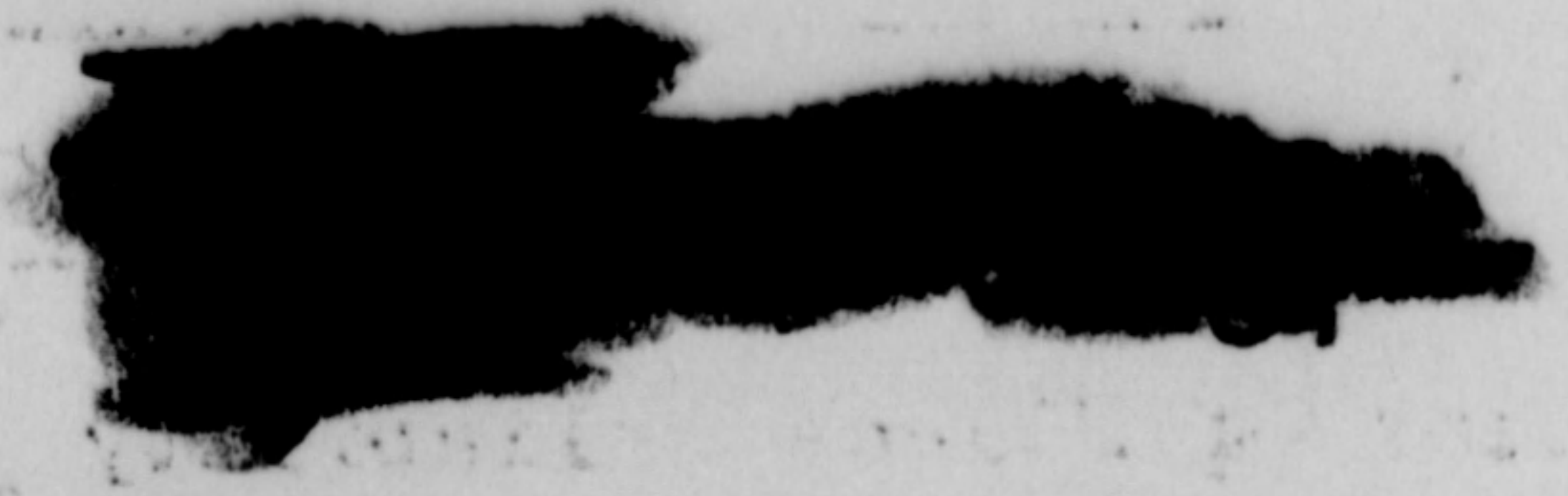
Other:

Evaluation of Source Reliability AIR FORCE CAPTAIN, PROBABLY
GOOD.

Analysis and Conclusions:

THE FACT THAT THIS WAS A DAYLIGHT
OBSERVATION PROBABLY ACCOUNTS FOR THIS
WITNESS NEVER CONSIDERING THE
POSSIBILITY OF THIS OBJECT BEING A
METEOR. FIREBALLS CAN BE SEEN IN
THE DAYLIGHT JUST AS EASILY AS
THE MOON OR VISIBLE PLANETS. THE
MAGNITUDES OF THESE METEORS IS AS
BRIGHT AND USUALLY BRIGHTER THAN
-3 MAGNITUDE, WHICH IS OBSERVABLE
IN DAYLIGHT. NORMALLY THERE IS SOME
COLOR ASSOCIATED WITH THESE METEORS,
HOWEVER USUALLY THIS IS JUST AN
"OFF-WHITE" OR PALE COLOR WHICH
COULD EASILY HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE
DULLING OF THE OBJECT BY DAYLIGHT.

CONCLUSION - THE WITNESS SAW A METEOR,
ONE OF THE RARE DAYLIGHT SIGHTINGS
OF THIS PHENOMENA -



U. S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U. S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes, and will be regarded as confidential material. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that, if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

a Saturday April 1950
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 2155
Hour Minutes

(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time zone:

(Circle One): a. Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
b. Standard

UNK

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks: approx. 5 miles West of Williams AFB, N.W. part of town.

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____
Hours Minutes Seconds

5.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.

a. Certain
b. Fairly certain

c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

(Circle One): a. Bright daylight
b. Dull daylight
c. Bright twilight

d. Just a trace of daylight
e. No trace of daylight
f. Don't remember

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right

d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

- a. None
- b. A few
- c. Many
- d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

- a. Bright moonlight
- b. Dull moonlight
- c. No moonlight — pitch dark
- d. Don't remember

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

(Circle One):

☒ a. Yes

b. No

c. Don't remember

10. IF it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight?: NO

(Circle One) a. A mile or more away (a distant car)?

b. Several blocks away?

c. A block away?

d. Several yards away?

e. Other DULL "OFF-WHITE"

11. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------------------------------|------------|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| d. Give off smoke? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| e. Change brightness? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| f. Change shape? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |

12. Did the object move behind something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One):

Yes

☒ No

Don't Know.

IF you answered YES, then tell what

it moved behind: _____

13. Did the object move in front of something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One):

Yes

☒ No

Don't Know.

IF you answered YES, then tell what

it moved in front of: _____

14. Did the object appear: (Circle One):

☒ a. Solid?

b. Transparent?

c. Don't Know.

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

- a. Eyeglasses Yes
- b. Sun glasses Yes
- c. Windshield Yes
- d. Window glass Yes

☒ No
☒ No
☒ No
☒ No

- e. Binoculars Yes
- f. Telescope Yes
- g. Theodolite Yes
- h. Other _____

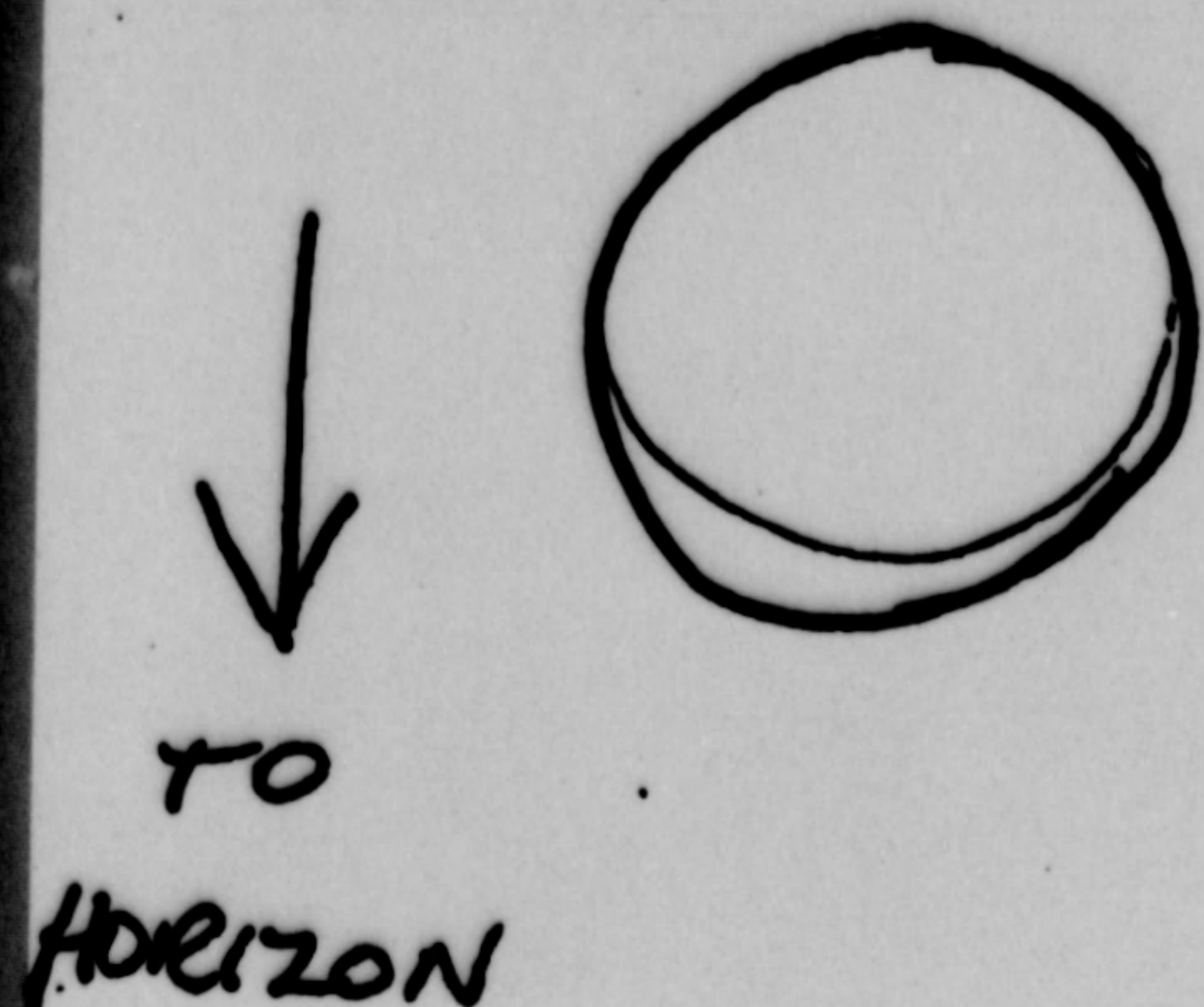
☒ No
☒ No
☒ No

16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

a. Sound None whatsoever. There were some F-80's flying to the East of my vision.

b. Color Grey-white

17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.



Perfectly round similiar to a balloon or ping pong ball.

18. The edges of the object were:

- (Circle One):
- a. Fuzzy or blurred
 - b. Like a bright star
 - ☒ c. Sharply outlined
 - d. Don't remember

e. Other _____

19. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____
 Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.



At 12 O'Clock high and in a ruler straight line to the horizon. No flutter or deviation whatsoever, such as with weather balloons, etc.

IF POSSIBLE, try to guess or estimate what the real size of the object was in its longest dimension.
_____ feet. impossible

How large did the object or objects appear as compared with one of the following objects held in the hand and at about arm's length?

(Circle One):

- a. Head of a pin
- b. Pea
- c. Dime
- d. Nickel
- ☒ e. Quarter
- f. Half dollar

- g. Silver dollar
- h. Baseball
- i. Grapefruit
- j. Basketball
- k. Other _____

2.1 (Circle One of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 22.

- ☒ a. Certain
- b. Fairly certain

- c. Not very sure
- d. Uncertain

How did the object or objects disappear from view? Over the horizon with roof tops in the foreground.

In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type material would you make it? How large would it be, and what shape would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw. A balloon or ping pong ball would be similar.

After bringing the wife's attention to the object (she was sewing with a machine on a table in our back yard) I called the weather office at Wms. AFB and they did not release a balloon that day. They also ventured an opinion that Davis-Monthan AFB (to the South about 80 miles) did not release one that Saturday.

25. Where were you located when you saw the object?
(Circle One):

- a. Inside a building
- b. In a car
- ☒ c. Outdoors
- d. In an airplane
- e. At sea
- f. Other _____

26. Were you (Circle One)

- a. In the business section of a city?
- ☒ b. In the residential section of a city?
- c. In open countryside?
- d. Flying near an airfield?
- e. Flying over a city?
- f. Flying over open country?
- g. Other _____

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

~~Sunbathing on an Army cot looking straight up (on my back)~~

28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

28.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One)

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| a. North | c. East | e. South | g. West |
| b. Northeast | d. Southeast | f. Southwest | h. Northwest |

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

28.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

29. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object? (Circle One) Straight up

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| ☒ a. North | c. East | e. South | g. West |
| b. Northeast | d. Southeast | f. Southwest | h. Northwest |

30. What direction were you looking when you last saw the object? (Circle One)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| ☒ a. North | c. East | e. South | g. West |
| b. Northeast | d. Southeast | f. Southwest | h. Northwest |

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

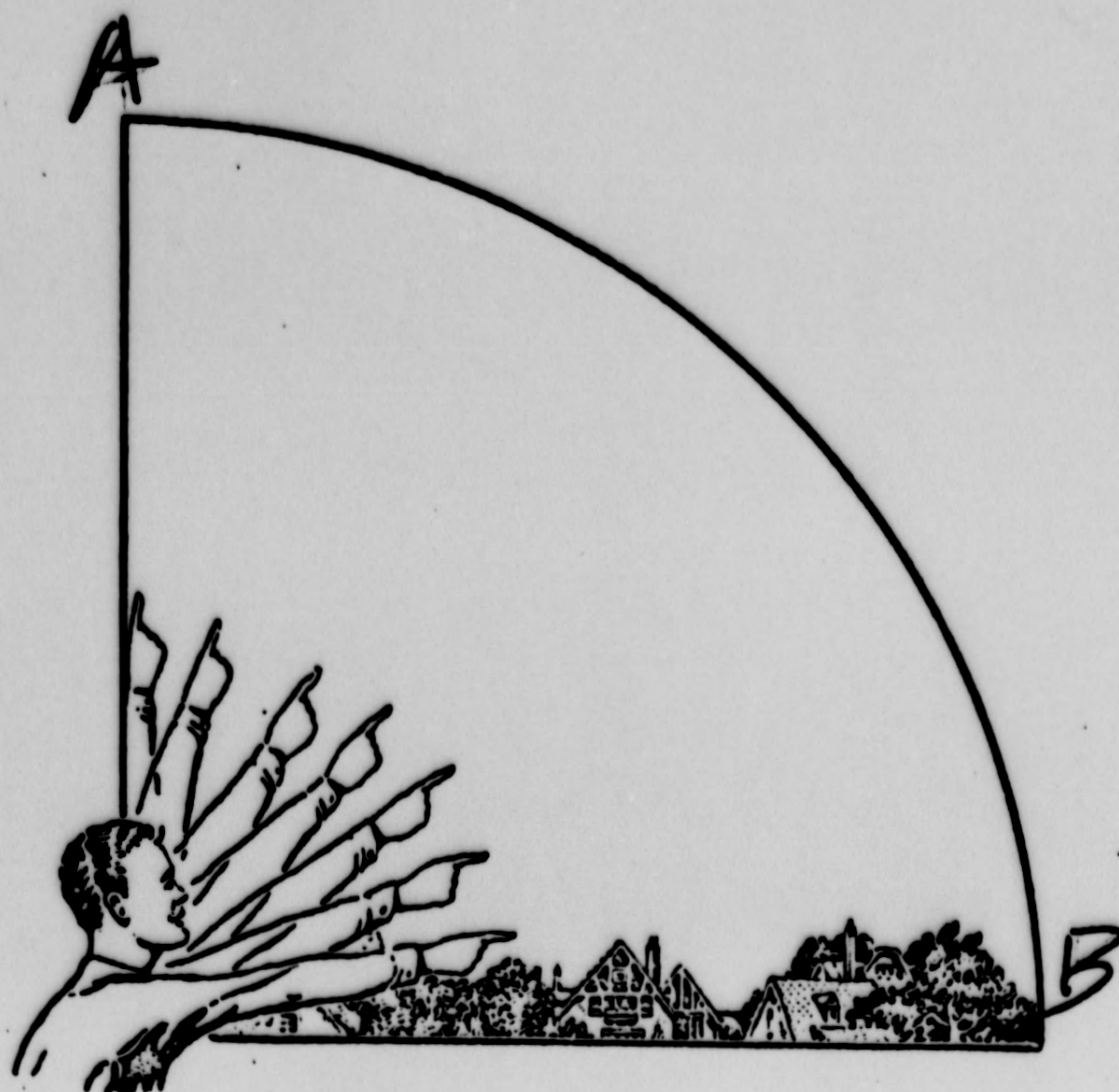
31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North 90 degrees.
- b. From horizon 90 degrees.

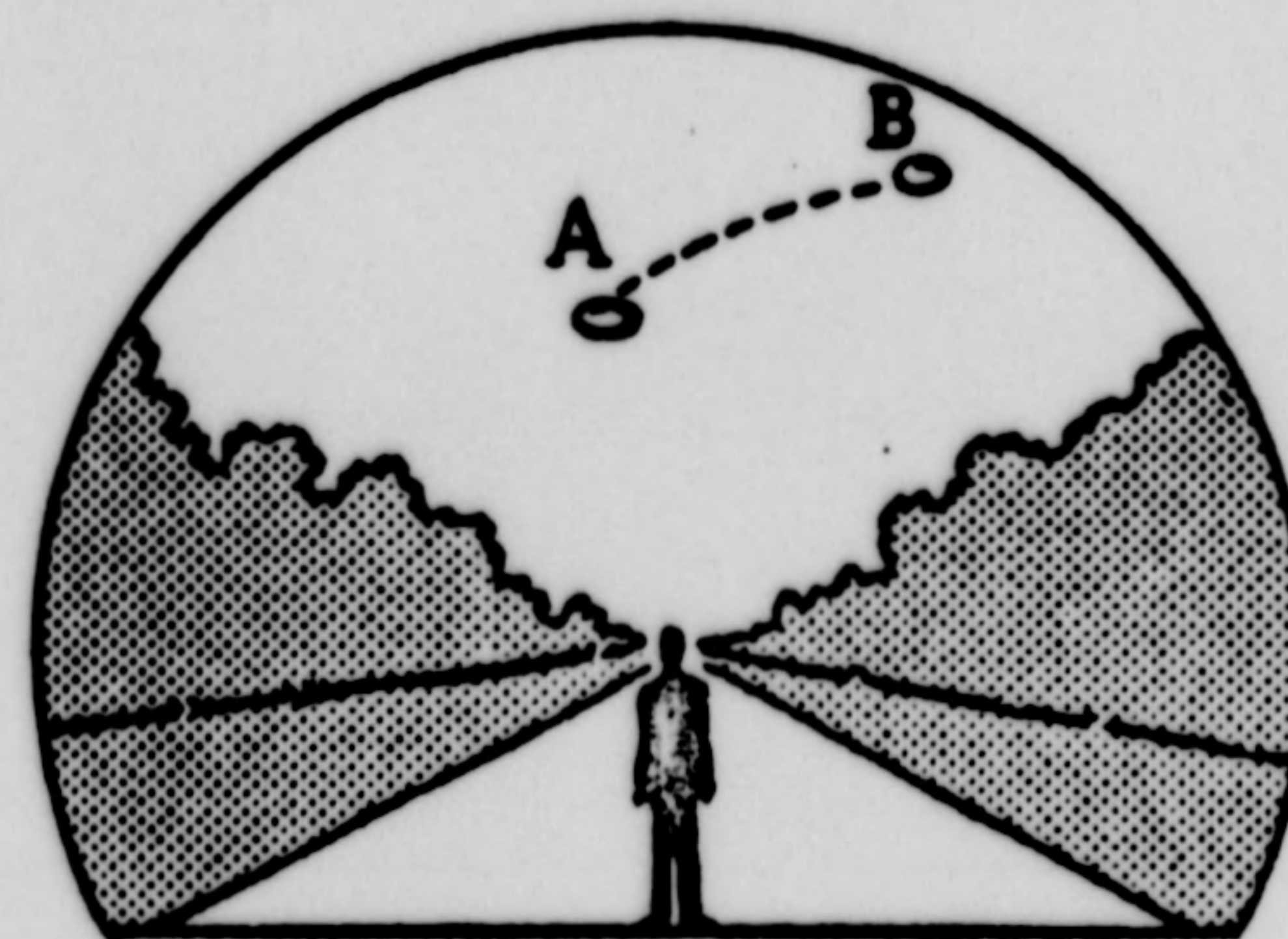
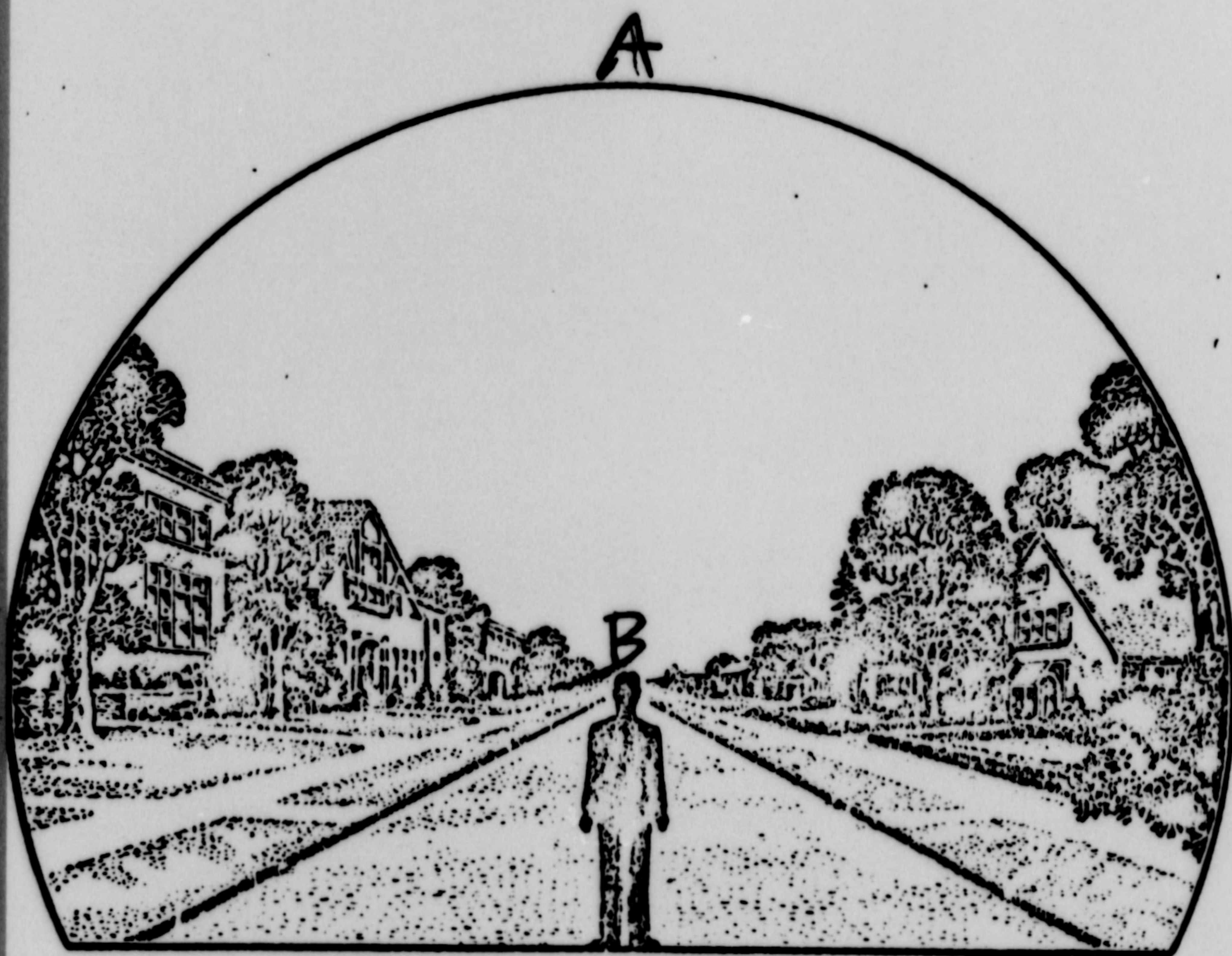
31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 00 degrees.
- b. From horizon 00 degrees.

32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you *first* saw it, and a "B" at its position when you *last* saw it. Refer to smaller sketch as an example of how to complete the larger sketch.



34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

34.1 CLOUDS (Circle One)

- ☒ a. Clear sky
- b. Hazy
- c. Scattered clouds
- d. Thick or heavy clouds
- e. Don't remember

34.2 WIND (Circle One)

- ☒ a. No wind
- b. Slight breeze
- c. Strong wind
- d. Don't remember

34.3 WEATHER (Circle One)

- ☒ a. Dry
- b. Fog, mist, or light rain
- c. Moderate or heavy rain
- d. Snow
- e. Don't remember

34.4 TEMPERATURE (Circle One)

- a. Cold
- b. Cool
- ☒ c. Warm
- d. Hot
- e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

Base Operations, Wms. AFB.
(no written report)

Day

April
Month

1950
Year

36. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One) ☒ Yes No

36.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One) ☒ Yes No

36.2 Please list their names and addresses: Wife:

Alexandria, Va.

37. Was this the first time that you had seen an object or objects like this? YES, WITH this speed.

(Circle One) ☒ Yes No

37.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see other ones?

38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

It could have been a balloon. BUT it did not zig-zag with wind currents and its speed was fantastic. Went from 12 O'clock high to the horizon in less time than it takes to read this. The F-80's flying around to the East gave a good comparison. This object was obviously three times as fast.

39. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? 1200 m.p.h.

40. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) Yes No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? _____ feet.

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS Alexandria Va
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

What is your present job? USAF Information Services Officer

Age 39 Sex Male

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| a. Grade school <u>8</u> | e. e. Technical school <u>Flying school</u> |
| b. High school <u>4</u> | (Type) <u>Jets, and conventional</u> |
| c. College <u>3</u> | f. Other special training <u>Information Services</u> |
| d. Post graduate _____ | _____ |

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

21 January 1959
Day Month Year

Should add that at the time of the sighting I had over 100 hours of F-80 jet time and was current. First started to fly jets in 1946.

U. S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET
(SUMMARY DATA)

In order that your information may be filed and coded as accurately as possible, please use the following space to write out a short description of the event that you observed. You may repeat information that you have already given in the questionnaire, and add any further comments, statements, or sketches that you believe are important. Try to present the details of the observation in the order in which they occurred. Additional pages of the same size paper may be attached if they are needed.

NAME

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

SIGNATURE

DATE

[Redacted Signature]
21 January 1954

I was sun bathing and stretched out on an Army cot looking straight up (190°) in bright sunlight, but with the sun well out of my vision to the rear (South) Thus, looking down or to the horizon I was looking directly North. The object was traveling from South to North and on first catching it in view I immediately brought it to the attention of my wife who looked up and we then both watched it disappear most rapidly to the horizon. But for its fantastic speed the object could very well been a balloon.