

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

END AG43

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

Dec 15 17 34 52

KA WU DO15 DL PD

CHARLOTTESVILLE VIR DEC 15 1140A

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

DC/S FOR OPERATIONS DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE

THINK YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN SIGHTING OF AN UNFAMILIAR
AERONAUTICAL OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF
VIRGINIA AIRPORT NEAR CHARLOTTESVILLE AT APPROXIMATELY
1145 AM DEC 14 OBJECT HAD MANY OF THE FEATURES ATTRIBUTED
TO FLYING SAUCERS WITH SECONDARY LOWER SCINTILLATIONS, AS
THE WEATHER WAS CAVU AND THE OBSERVER EXCEPTIONALLY WELL
QUALIFIED TO MAKE AN UNBIASED OBSERVATION I ATTACH
CONSIDERABLE CREDENCE TO THE REPORTED SIGHTING OBJECT WAS
SEEN FIRST HOVERING BUT SOON MOVED OFF IN NORTHEASTERLY
DIRECTION WITH EXTREME SPEED OBSERVER WAS ~~REDACTED~~

~~REDACTED~~ OF VIRGINIA AIRPORT, WHO IS A GRADUATE
AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER A FORMER TEST PILOT AND HAS BEEN IN
COMMERCIAL AVIATION FOR MANY YEARS. TWO OTHERS ALSO SAW
THE SAME PHENOMENA

~~REDACTED~~ UNIVERSITY OF
VIRGINIA

1225P

ACTION: OIN

INFO : OCP, OAC, ARMY, NAVY, JCS, CIA, AFSA

AM IN : 12 (15 Dec 52)

CMB/jho

4
ATIAA-5/EJR/vs

11/30/54

XXXXXX

In reply refer to
AFOM-ATIAA-5

Mr. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Charlottesville, Virginia

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

The Air Force has been advised by [REDACTED] at the University of Virginia that on December 14, 1954, you and two other people observed an unusual type of aerial phenomena. Since the Air Force is continuously studying such phenomena and desires to obtain as much information as possible on each observation, it is requested that the inclosed data sheets be completed and returned to this Center.

The names of the other observers were not given in the wire, consequently, we are taking the liberty of forwarding you additional data sheets and if it is not too much trouble we would appreciate it if you could give these to the other two people who observed the phenomena.

Any information you desire to give to the Air Force will be held in the strictest confidence.

Yours very truly,

2 Incls

1. U.S. AF Tech Info Sheets (3)
2. Return Address Envelopes (3)

ATIAA-5 File

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

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
(Please Print)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

SIGNATURE

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

DATE

I was talking to student pilot ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ front of the hangar when he looked up & saw what he thought were leaves floating in the air. I looked up and saw that they were larger than leaves and also saw the saucer hovering at the top of this column of what turned out to be objects larger than leaves, such as open newspapers, scrap paper & other trash. I called my wife out of the administration building, & also my mechanic. My wife came out in time to see the saucer after it started to move, however the mechanic did not get there in time. Both saw the column of trash which remained after the saucer had left but then started on

off with the slight breeze we had at the time. This column of trash was too high for any of it to land on the airport property. On driving in town the next day I saw a lot of large scraps of wrapping paper & paper such as is used under insulation by building contractors, lying along the road for about two miles, & about three miles NW of the airport. About fifteen minutes after I had sighted the saucer, a private pilot from a nearby field came in and reported he had been in some up drafts strong enough for him to throttle his Luscombe 8A all the way back & still maintain cruising speed but it also gained altitude at over five hundred feet a minute. There had been no reports of rough air before this phenomena was sighted nor were there reports of rough air after the Luscombe pilot reported his experience.

1. When did you see the object?

Day 10 Month 12 Year 52

2. Time of day: 12 45
Hour Minutes

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

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

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

Nearest Postal Address, Charlottesville Va
City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks: Sighted at the University of La Hoya

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

a. Certain c. Not very sure
b. Fairly certain d. Just a guess

(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

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

- d. To your left
- e. Overhead almost
- 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?:

(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 light orange glow

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? <u>no blue gray discharge</u> | ☒ Yes | ☐ No | ☐ Don't Know |
| e. Change brightness? | ☒ Yes | ☐ No | ☐ Don't Know |
| f. Change shape? <u>discharge changed when object moved</u> | ☒ 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: Building

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?

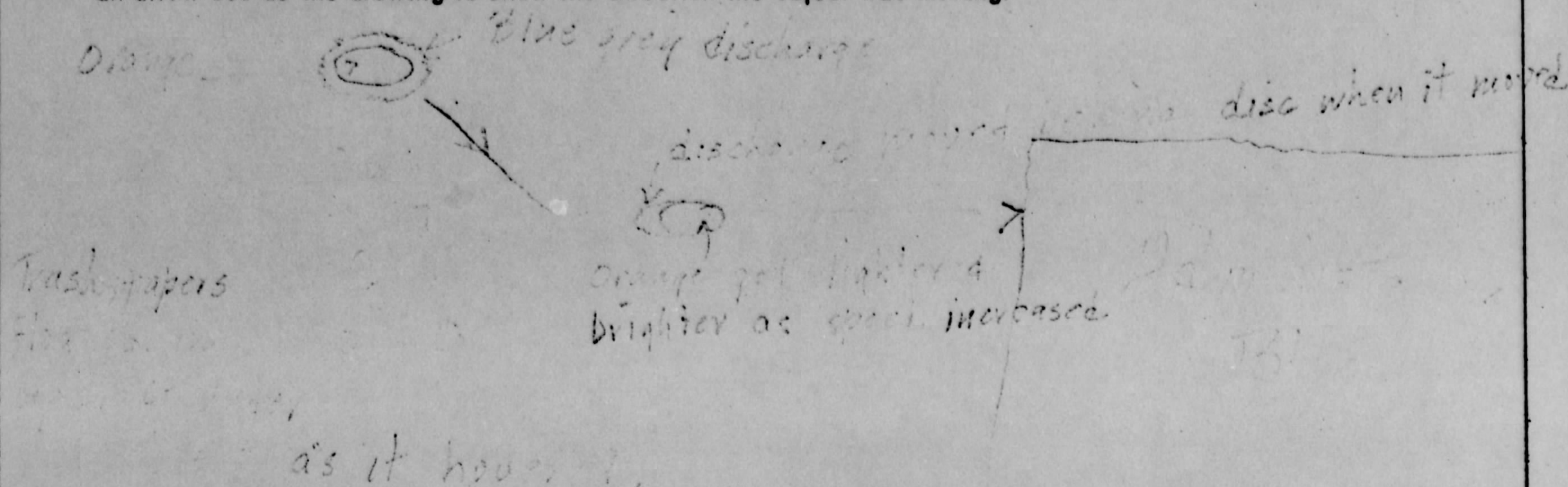
- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. Eyeglasses | ☐ Yes | ☒ No | e. Binoculars | ☐ Yes | ☒ No |
| b. Sun glasses | ☐ Yes | ☒ No | f. Telescope | ☐ Yes | ☒ No |
| c. Windshield | ☐ Yes | ☒ No | g. Theodolite | ☐ Yes | ☒ No |
| d. Window glass | ☐ Yes | ☒ No | h. Other _____ | | |

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

a. Sound No sound

b. Color light orange

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.



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 Edge of discharge
was fuzzy

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.

There were trash & papers floating under the disc. Some of the papers were like open newspapers. The sun was reflected by some of the white papers. The trash did not rotate as in a whirlpool but remained in place. The whole thing was about three thousand feet high.

20. 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.

Hovered at A
 slow acceleration at first but then acceleration increased
 very fast so fast it was out of sight in three
 seconds for it to go out of sight

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

feet. If the object was at 10,000 ft. it appeared as a 7 ft.
 However I'm sure it was at least 10,000 ft.

22. 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 | g. Silver dollar |
| b. Pea | h. Baseball |
| c. Dime | i. Grapefruit |
| d. Nickel | ☒ j. Basketball |
| e. Quarter | k. Other _____ |
| f. Half dollar | |

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

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| ☒ a. Certain | c. Not very sure |
| b. Fairly certain | d. Uncertain |

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? Its course took it behind
the administration building at the airport

24. 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.

To my knowledge no materials or metals have been
 discovered that could withstand
 the stress of this object. Also source of energy
 that this object used must be much greater than
 any thing we have discovered. There are
 no common objects that would give the same appearance
 as this object.

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?:

(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 *A light orange glow*

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? *only the smoke changed*

☒ 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

☒ No

e. Binoculars

☐ Yes

☒ No

b. Sun glasses

☐ Yes

☒ No

f. Telescope

☐ Yes

☒ No

c. Windshield

☐ Yes

☒ No

g. Theodolite

☐ Yes

☒ No

d. Window glass

☐ Yes

☒ No

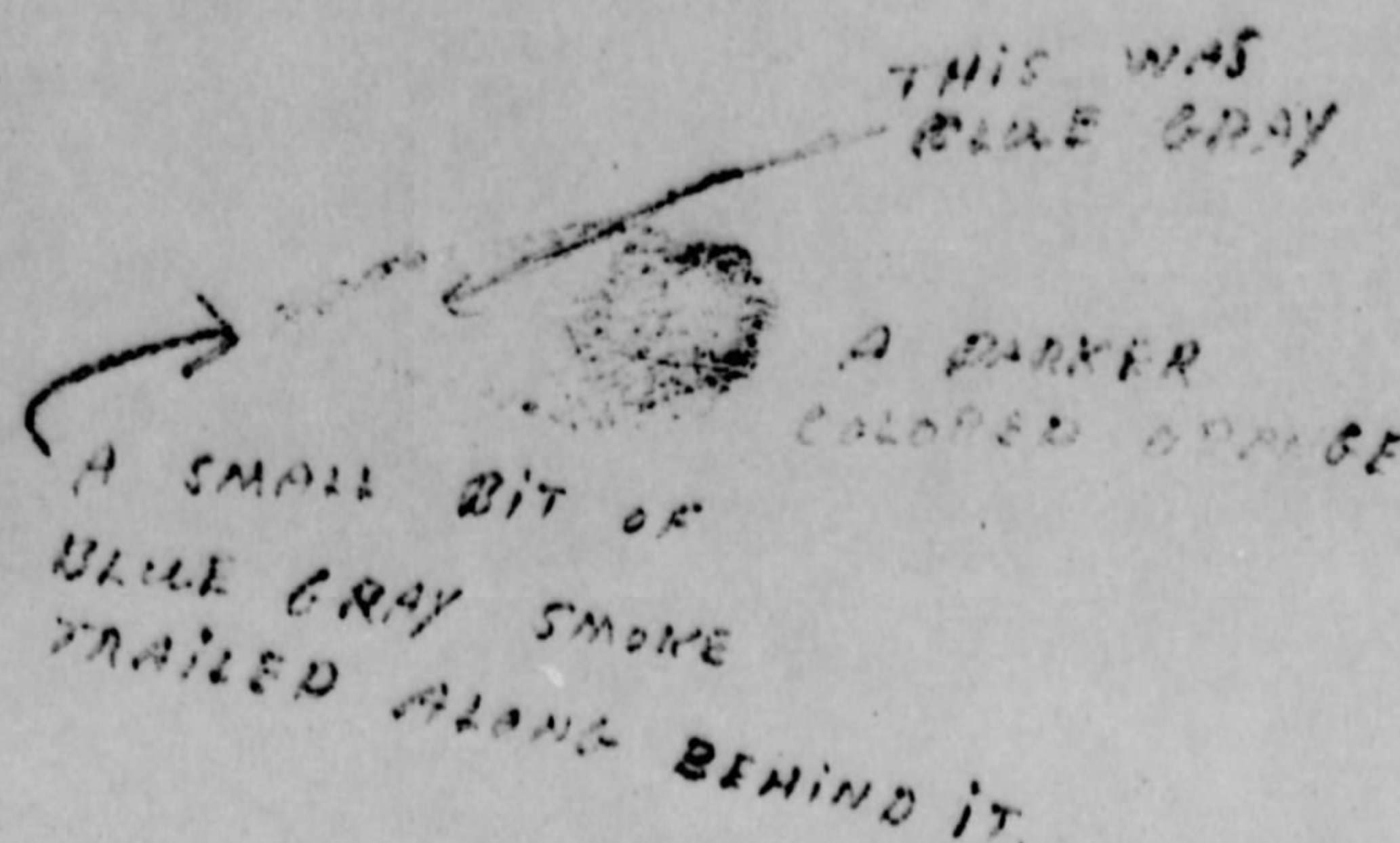
h. Other _____

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

a. Sound There was no sound

b. Color It was blue gray on the outer edge with a light orange glow in the center.

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.



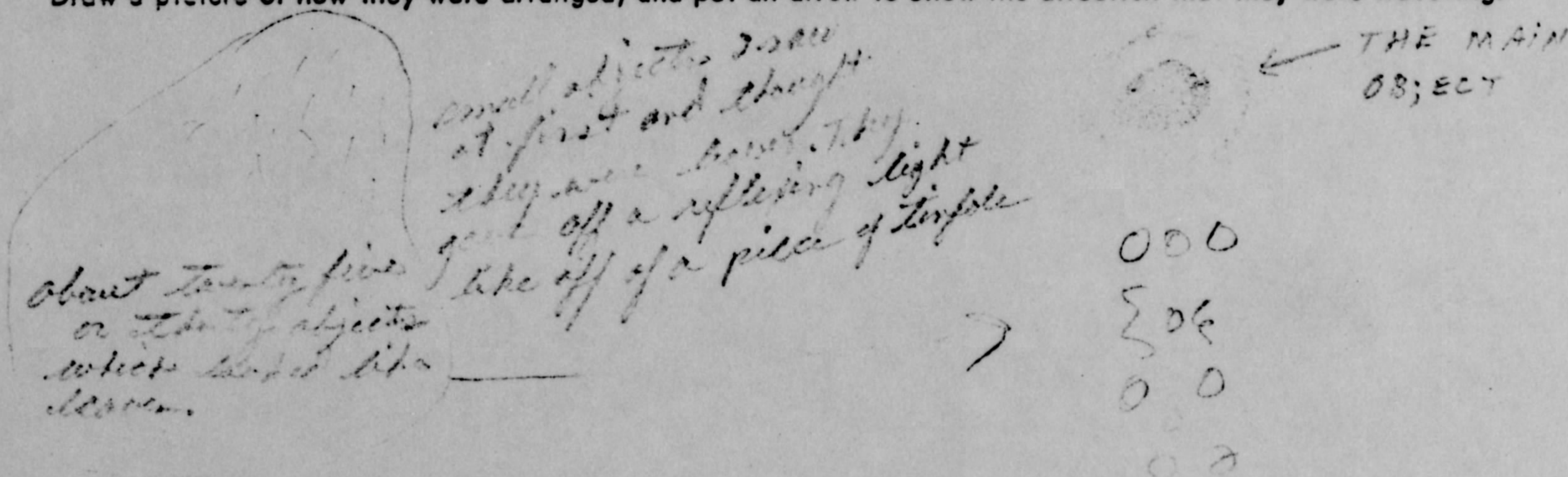
It started moving southeast for about 10 seconds and then went out until out of sight.

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 The orange glow was how the snake was in the way of the orange glow
could be seen clearly but the snake was blurred in spots

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.



X - I WAS STANDING HERE

20. 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.



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

Not Possible feet.

22. 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 _____

- 22.1 (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

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view?

Behind the building
at the airport

24. 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.

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 at the U.S. Airport

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

When my myself were talking in front of the house when I happened to see something like brown falling. A few seconds later we spotted the object in the air.

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)

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

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

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| a. <u>North</u> | c. East | e. South | g. West |
| b. <u>Northwest</u> | 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).

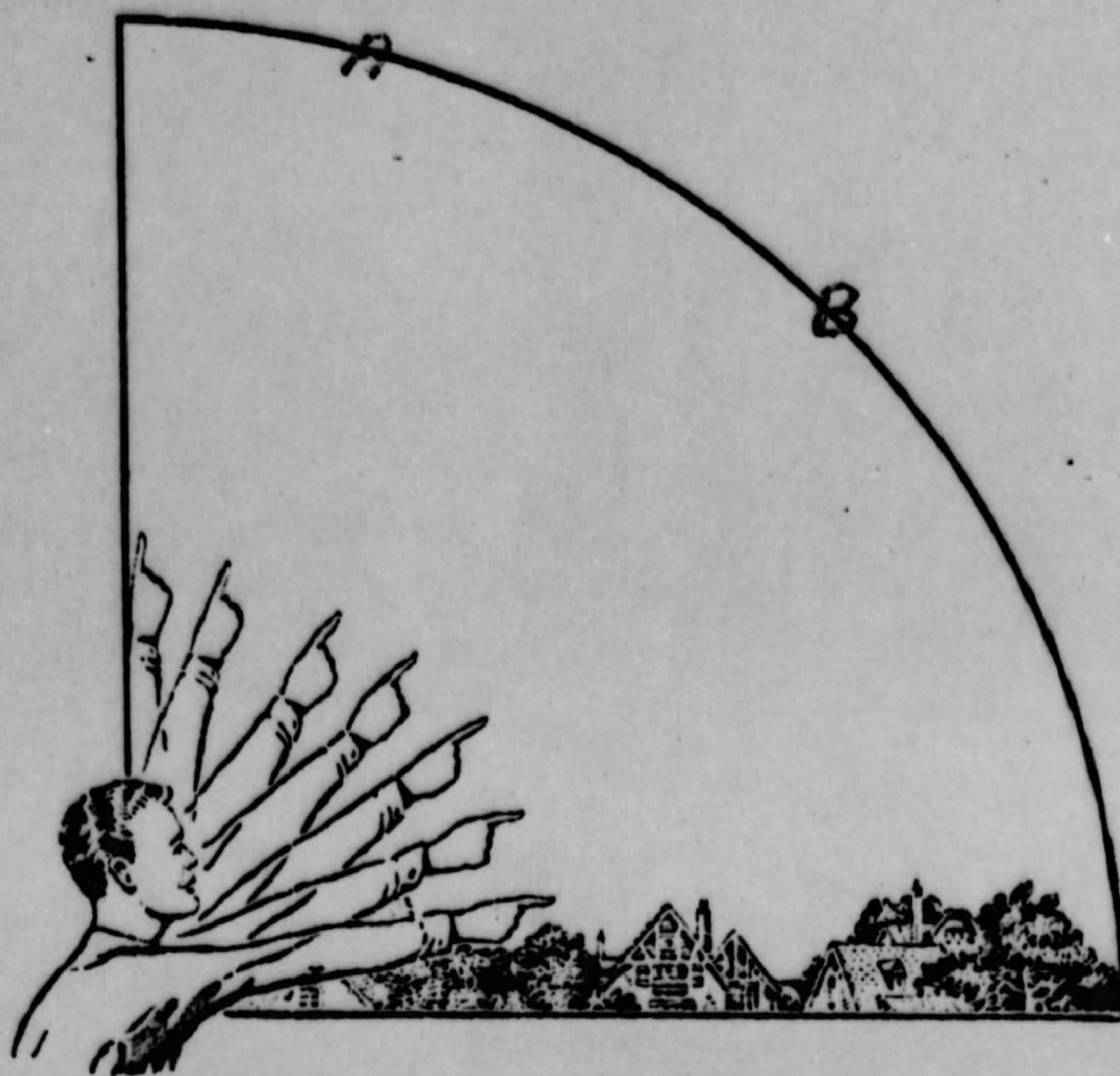
31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North 40° degrees.
- b. From horizon 80° degrees.

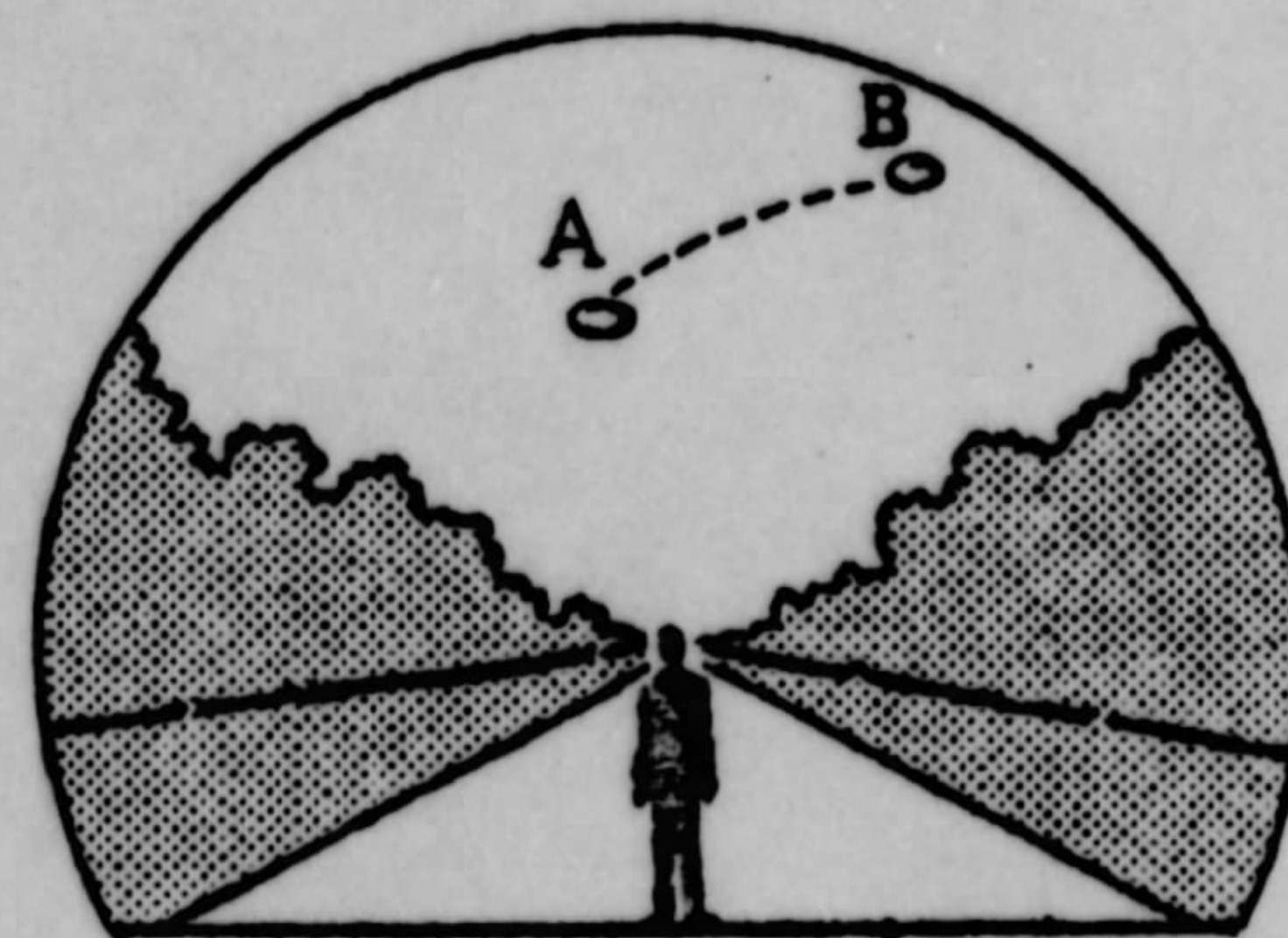
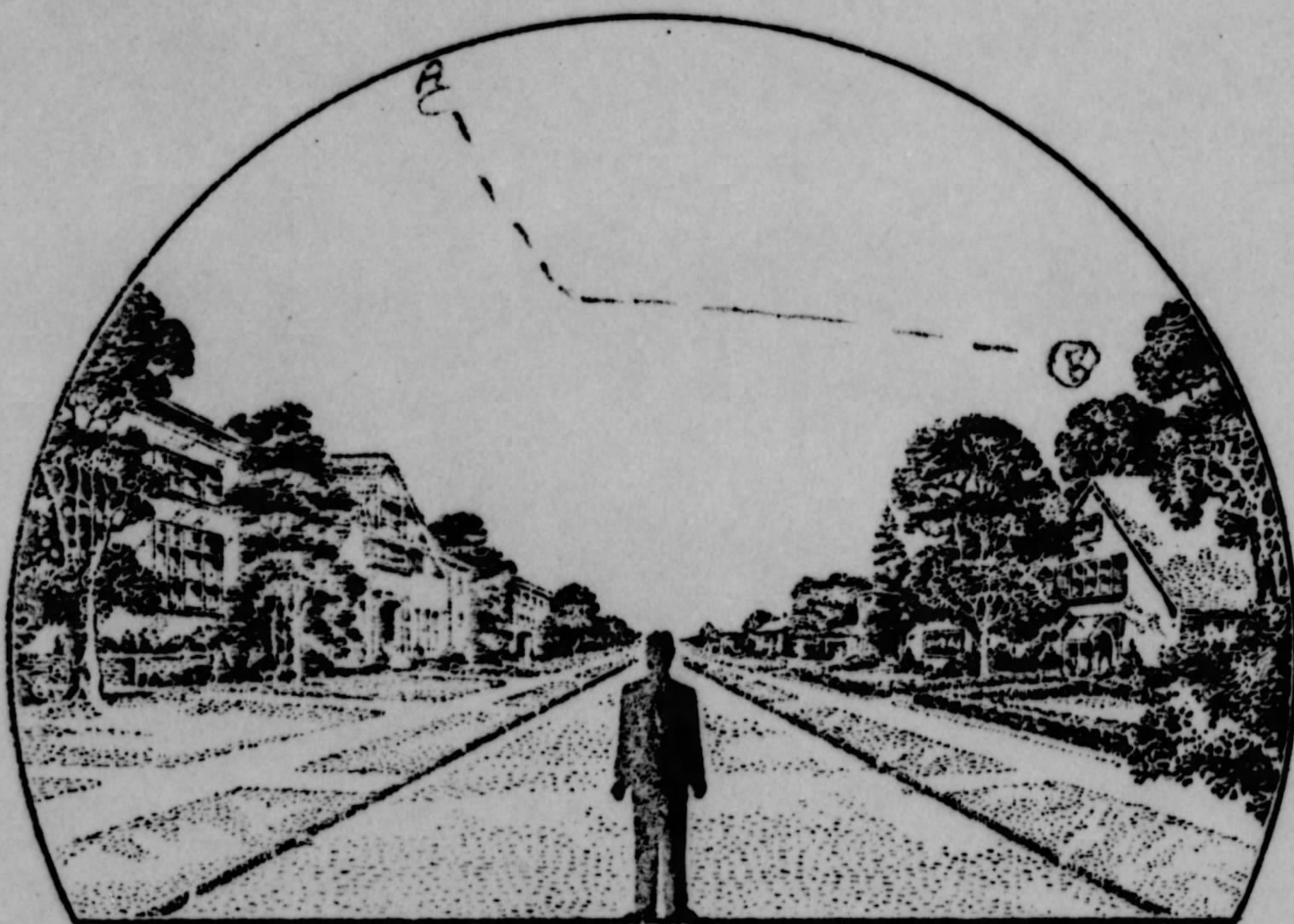
31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 80° degrees.
- b. From horizon 30° 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?

Day

Month

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:

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

(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?

I HAVE NO IDEA. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME
I HAD EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE.

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?

_____ 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

First Name

Middle Name

ADDRESS

City

Zone

State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

What is your present job?

Age

19

Sex

Male

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

a. Grade school

e. e. Technical school

b. High school

(Type)

c. College

f. Other special training

d. Post graduate

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

Day

Month

Year

(CLASSIFICATION)

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY JAPAN	REPORT NO. IR-2-52	(LEAVE BLANK)
SUBJECT Unusual Radar Sighting Report		
AREA REPORTED ON Honshu, Japan	FROM (Agency) 528th AC&W Group, APO 994	
DATE OF REPORT 19 Dec 52	DATE OF INFORMATION 15 Dec 52	EVALUATION B-6
PREPARED BY (Officer) GEORGE NOSAL JR., CAPTAIN, USAF	SOURCE EW Ground Radar Site	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., if applicable)		

Ltr., file 350.09, subj: Reporting Unusual Incidents, Hqs., JADF, APO 710, dtd 23 Oct 52
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List indicators at lower left. Begin text of report in AF Form 112, Part II.)

The following report is of an unusual radar sighting report of an unidentified radar track over Honshu, Japan, which was made by a search radar set of the 528th Aircraft Control and Warning Group (Site # 24).

APPROVED:

Charles H. Cavan
CHARLES H. CAVAN
Captain, USAF
Group Intelligence Officer

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

1 INCL
1. Overlay of track
*W/initial (A)
ATISDIB
29 Jan 53*

UNCLASSIFIED

10
1 Dwy ATIC W-P, AFB
ATTN- ATIAA-2c
1 cy Alaskan Air Comd
1 cy FEAR ATLO

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

D/I JADF, 1 cy; WIO 35 PWg, 1 cy.

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528th A-2 # 1393

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
528th AC&W Gp., APO 994	IR-2-52	2	2	3

1. Site number 24.
2. Track number 126, unidentified.
3. Number of aircraft, unknown.
4. Plot Time
XJFK 4500 2054I
XJFJ 4918 2056I
XJGJ 1438 2058I
XJFK 5908 2104I
Faded 2104I
5. No fighter aircraft were scrambled for this track.
6. No instructions were passed to aircraft.
7. M. O. WHITE, Captain, USAF, Commanding, Detachment #24, 528th AC&W Gp.

NARRATIVE:

On 15 December 1952 at approximately 2054I an unidentified track appeared on the scope at the Early Warning Ground Radar Site #24, Haronomachi, Honshu, Japan (XJFH 5837). The target appeared shortly before 2054I just north of the first plot recorded. It was a rather large blip, clear, and estimated to be more than one target. The initial plot at approximately 2054I, was also a clear blip about the size of two targets. The target was seen on the first, second, and fourth sweeps of the antenna between 2054I and 2056I. The antenna speed was 2 rpm, so only four sweeps could exist between two minute plots. All blips seen were about double target size. Estimated speed was 1320 miles per hour.

Between 2056I and 2058I the target was seen only on one sweep. At 2058I the target appeared as four separate and distinct targets, very close together, covering about the same blip area as the preceeding blips.

No blips were seen between 2058I and 2104I, but the target seen at 2104I is believed to have been the same object since it appeared about the same size and intensity as all the other plots. The track faded after the 2104I plot.

It is believed the reason plots were not obtained on all sweeps was due to the operation of the new equipment (AN/TPS-1C) at this detachment. Possible excessive lobeing and voids may exist in the wave propogation pattern.

COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

A check was made of the remainder of the radar sites in this defense area for a possible sighting of track #126, with negative results.

George Nosal Jr.
GEORGE NOSAL, JR.,
Captain, USAF,
Asst Group Intelligence Officer

UNCLASSIFIED

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
528th AC&W Group, APO 994	IR-2-52	3	3	

D/I FEAF COMMENT:

1. A check with Air Defense revealed that no friendly aircraft were known to be in the area.
2. The nearest Soviet bases are in the Vladivostok area, approximately 450 nautical miles distant. Penetration of friendly radar by very high--fast flying aircraft is believed possible but improbable.
3. Disposition of friendly radar is reported periodically to Hq USAF. This information should be available from the Director of Statistical Service, Headquarters, United States Air Force.

for Roman H. Hastings
GEORGE D. HASTINGS
Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence Requirements

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(CLASSIFICATION)

16-55570-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

(CLASSIFICATION)

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) 528th ACW Gp., APO 994	REPORT NO. IR-2-52	Incl #1 PAGE OF PAGES
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ESTIMATED SPEED OF TARGET BETWEEN 2054I & 2056I: 1320 M.P.H.

FIRST SEEN IN THIS AREA
LARGE, CLEAR BLIP
FK INITIAL PLOT

2054I GK

TARGET FADED FROM SCOPE

2104I

NOT SEEN BETWEEN 2058I & 2104I

2058I

SEEN ON ONE SWEEP IN THIS AREA BETWEEN 2056I & 2058I

2056I

24

50 MI.

100 MI.

UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 15 DEC 52
AIR DEFENSE AREA CENTRAL
PILOT _____
TYPE A/C UNK.
ALTITUDE UNK.
SITE C.O. CAPT. WHITE
OPERATOR A/2C KIPP
SITE NO. 24
TRACK FLOWN
TYPE RADAR AN/TPS-1C
RADAR TRACK #126

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(CLASSIFICATION)

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