

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 16 July 53 19/0210Z	2. LOCATION Key West, Florida
3. SOURCE <u>Military</u>	10. CONCLUSION 1. BALLOON 2. Astronomical (STAR)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS Two	First object believed to be a balloon. Second object believed to be a star (observers opinion).
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 45 minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS One object observed 20 deg above horizon. Climbed to zenith on a zig-zag course where the second object became visible.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE W and rising	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

2110 5 9 17
5 5 5
Form A

Mult
10/09/10
West
FHA

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?

18 July 1953
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 9 10
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

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

US Naval Station
Nearest Postal Address

Kay West
City or Town

Florida
State or Country

Additional remarks: _____

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

40

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

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

- a. Sound None audible, however, US 1535 in a noisy place
- b. Color Steady white light

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.

object was
 • moved steadily
 light

Appeared about
 200 above horizon,
 disappeared at
 the zenith or
 nearly so.

zigzagged to here, remained here
 about 10 min. then slowly dimmed
 in size & brilliancy until no longer
 visible.

1535 observed

remained here about 10 min.

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? Two
 Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

1535 object in final position
 (see above)

2nd object
 not noticed until
 1535 reached final position.
 It was dimmer than 1535.
 It did not appear to move
 but vanished a few minutes
 before 1535. Behaved to be a star

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

Very few at the time

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

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.

as solid as a light source can.

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 _____

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 on a U.S. Naval Station

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

Was seated at a table. It was called to our
attention by Lt. William Brown (USN)

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. 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).

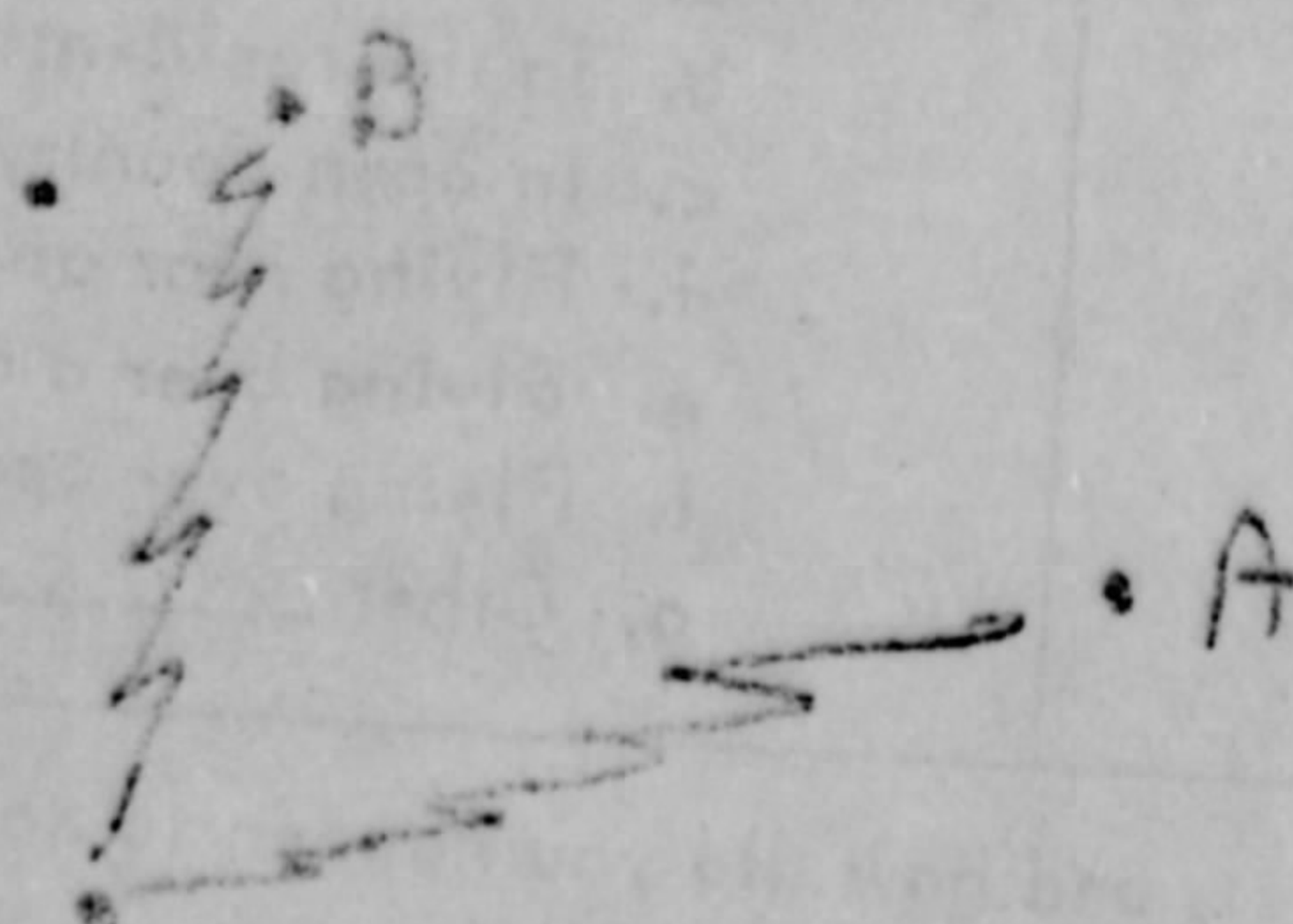
31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North 30 degrees.
- b. From horizon 20 degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 5 degrees.
- b. From horizon 35 degrees.

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.



Movements erratic
AND Angular. (sudden
changes of course at
high speed with no
turning circle or
path.)

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

Not possible - range unknown

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?

Diminished in size and
brilliance until ~~it~~ disappeared altogether

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.

A plain, circular light source of unknown size
and at an unknown range.
Cloud coverage - 0, except that most stars
near zenith were obscured

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?

20 July 53
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:

LT ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ USN USS Clamagore ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, CP FPO N.Y.N.Y.
 MR. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Key West, Fla.
 LT. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ USN USS Madryal ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, CP FPO N.Y.N.Y.
 MR. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, Key West, Fla.

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

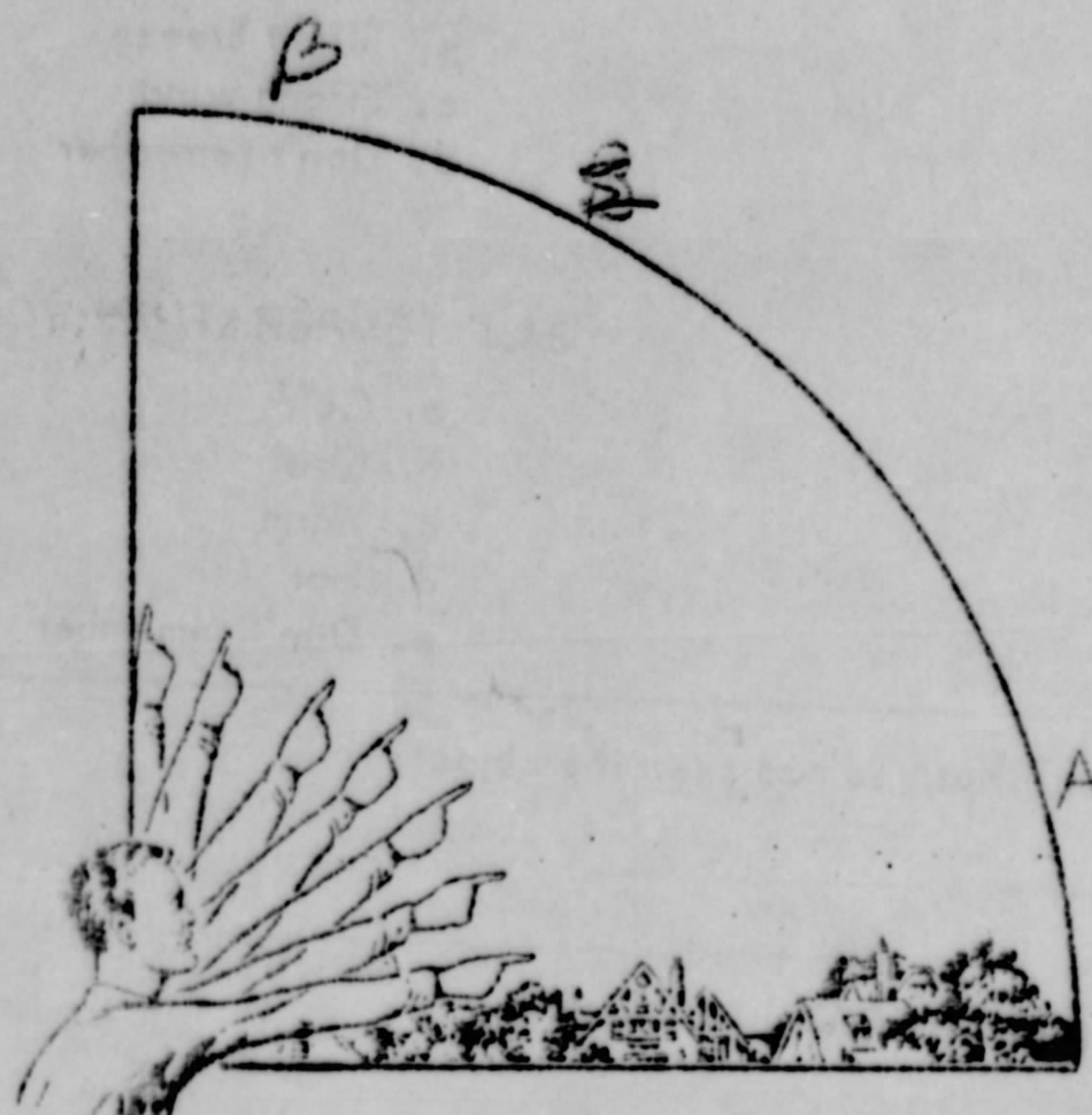
(Circle One) ☒ Yes No

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

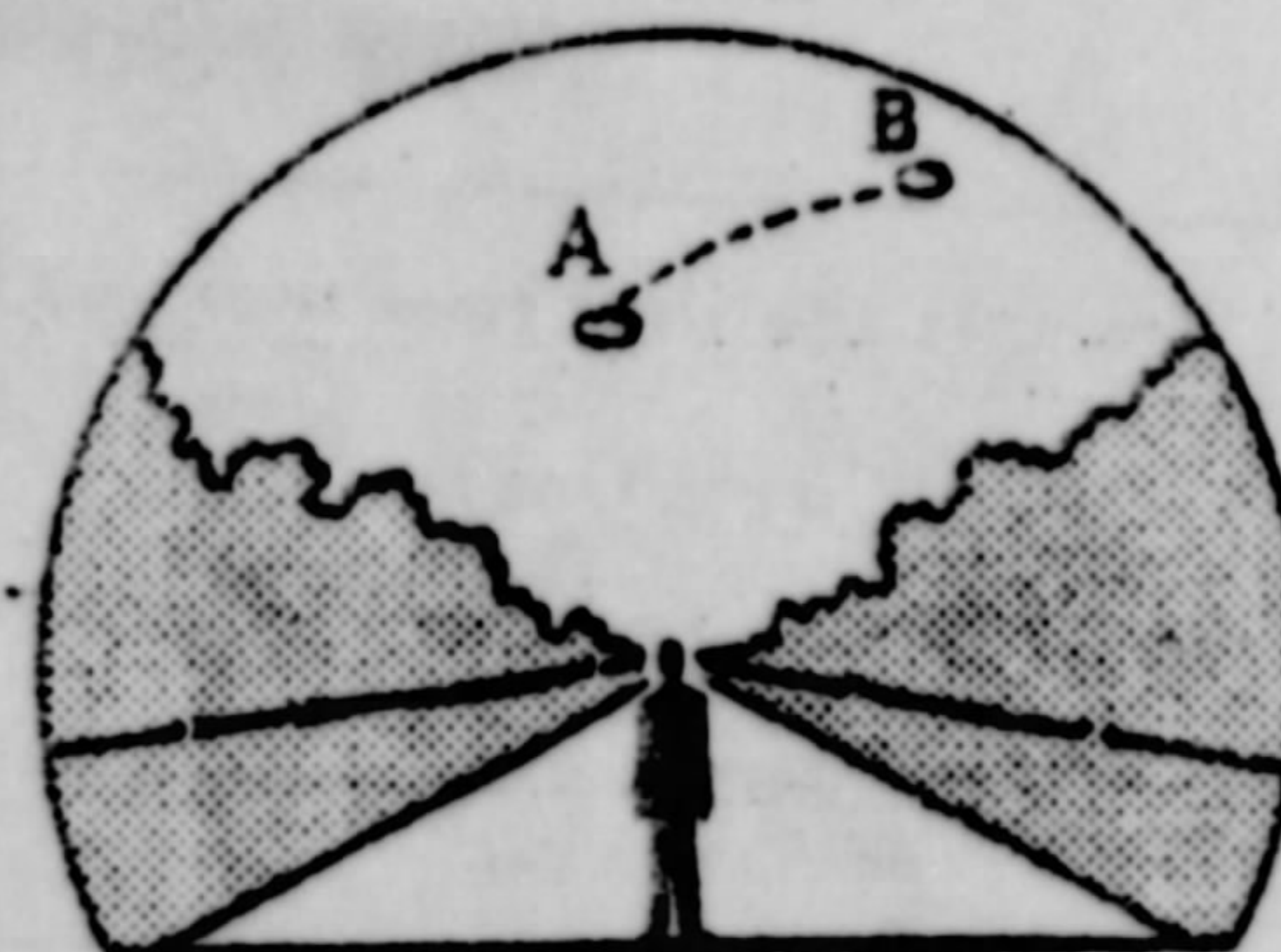
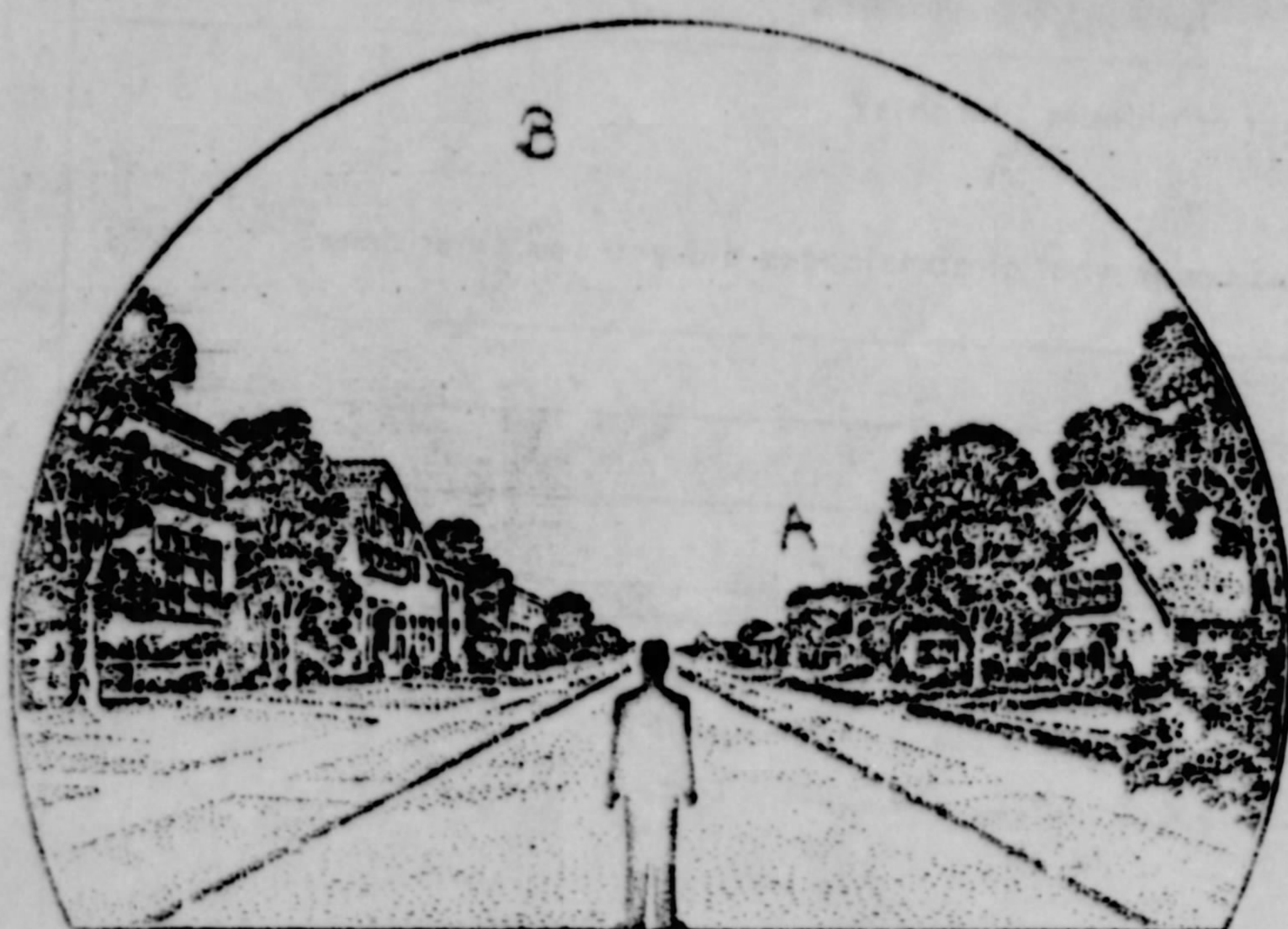
38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

No opinion. Movements too erratic, time too irregular
 for conventional aircraft. Height evidently very high

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.



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

(Circle One)

Yes

☒ No height unknown

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

_____ Last Name

_____ First Name

_____ Middle Name

ADDRESS

_____ Street

Kay West City

_____ Zone

Fla. State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

What is your present job?

Lieutenant USN, onboard USS Michigan, SS 480

Age

30

Sex

M

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

a. Grade school ☒

e. e. Technical school _____

b. High school ☒

(Type) _____

c. College U. of North Carolina

f. Other special training U. S. Navy Submarine School

d. ~~Penn State~~ U. S. Naval Academy

d. U. S. Naval Submarine Officers School

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

3

Day

August

Month

1953

Year

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

(PRINT NAME)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

SIGNATURE

DATE

3 August 1953

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 24 July 53 25/0235Z	2. LOCATION Key West, Florida
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 1/2 Minute	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Bright white light at a high altitude traveling from W to E. Observer stated he could just barely see it. It was reported to be about the size of a pin-point or a star of ordinary size and luminence. No trail, exhaust, sound, or propulsion system. Speed unknown. The observer stated that the object appeared to move in regular smooth circles.
7. COURSE East	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
 FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

24 July 1953

Key West, Florida

UNCLASSIFIED

Description

Between the hours of 2200 and 2230 EST, a student at the Fleet Sonar School, United States Naval Base, Key West, Florida, observed an unidentified flying object in the sky over the town of Key West. The object appeared to be approximately the size of a pin point or a star, very bright white in color, proceeded rapidly from low on the western skyline to a point directly forward and overhead. The object then blinked out momentarily before descending below the eastern skyline. No aerodynamic features, trail, exhaust, propulsion system, or sound were noted. Speed was reported as unknown, since the observer did not know the object's true size or its distance from him. The observer stated that the object appeared to move in regular smooth circles.

Discussion

Inquiry was made as to the observer's general reputation and character. His supervisor in Sonar Operations stated that he had no knowledge of the observer except during duty hours. The supervisor gave him a character rating of "very good", "above reproach", and described him as a quiet, conscientious, good student - not outstanding but above average. The interviewer stated that the observer appeared to be stable, well-adjusted, and very consistent with his answers after considerable questioning.

The weather at the time of the observation was reported as a broken overcast. Clouds were reported to be solid to the west where the object disappeared. A check with CAA office of U.S. Weather Bureau at Boca Chica Key revealed a ceiling of 22,300 feet.

There were several aircraft in the area and one of them was equipped with a searchlight. There is a probability that the observer saw the searchlight scanning the area.

Conclusion

Other - Probably searchlight on aircraft.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

0 250445Z

UNCLASSIFIED

FM CNDR FLIGHT SERVICE CENTER MAXWELL AFB ALA

TO JEPHQ/DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASH 25 DC

JEDWP/AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

ATTN ATIAA-2C

JEDEN/COMMANDER AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

JEPFF/COMMANDER MATS ANDREWS AFB WASH 25DC

JEPRS/COMMANDER FLIGHT SERVICE WASH 25 DC

UNCLASSIFIED

~~REDACTED~~ LYOBRT / KNIDENTIFIED OBJECT SHAPE UNDEFINED OBJECT WAS

SINGLE PD WHITE LIGHT NO SOUND PD VERY ERRATIC MANUEVERS FROM SOUTH TO

EAST PD OBJECT CHANGED FROM 45 DEGS TO 90 DEGS IN MATTER OF SECONDS PD

OBJECT SIGHTED AT 2135EST 24 JULY 53 AND OBSERVED UNTIL 2153 EST PD

MANNER OF OBSERVATION UNKNOWN

LOCATION OF OBSERVER UNKNOWN PD OBJECT SIGHTED SOUTH OF KEY WEST

DISTANCE UNKNOWN APPARENTLY VERY HIGH PD

SUBMITTED BY DEFOREET OF FLEET SONAR SCHOOL KEY WEST FLA

OVER INSAC FACILITY PD

WEATHER AT KEY WEAT AT TIME OFSIGHTING WAS 16000 FT BROKEN CEILING

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

PAGE TWO JEZYQ 03B

VISIBILITY 12 MILES PD WINDS ALOFT FROM THE NORTH AT 10 KNOTS PD

NO KNOWN AIR TRAFFIC IN CICINITY AT TIME OF SIGHTING

NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME PD

REPORT RECEIVED IN MAXWELL FLT SERVICECENTER AS CIRVIS AT

2200C VIS SERVICE "B" AND CIRVIS TRANSMITTED PROCEED ~~REDACTED~~

SIGNED LA SPINA END

25/0445Z JULY JESYQ

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

1953 JUL 27

07:44

25 JUL 53 05 09Z

action

E. Atlas
H.R. File

do

RC35

WPA075

YDB080

VYB043

VDB080

JESYQ A15

OO JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN(IPFF JEPRS 55

DE JESYQ 03E

C.O. + 35th Troop Carrier Wing
Miami Det. Aft.
Miami, Florida

UNCLASSIFIED

1953 JUL 27

07:44

15 JUL 53 06 12z

Action

*J. Atia
C. R. Pyle*

RE299

WPC123

YDC292

VC123

VDB123QQ

ESYQ A19

O JEDHQ JEDWP JEDEN JEPFF JEPRS 555

DE JESYQ 255

O 252615Z

FM COMMANDER FLIVHT SERV CENTER MAXWELL AFB ALA

TO JEPHQ/DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASH 25 DC

JEDWP/AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

ATTN ATIAA-2

JEDEN/COMMANDER AIR DEFENSE COMMAND AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

JEPFF/COMMANDERS MATS ANDREWS AFB WASH 25 DC

JEPRS/COMMANDER FLIGHT SERVICE WASH 25 DC

UNCLASSIFIED

/ [REDACTED] / FLY O B R P T / REFERENCE FLYOBRPT 25/2445Z

OBSERVER STANDING CORNER OF WILLIAMS AND SOUTHARD STREET KEY WEST

FOLLOWING PERSONS MADE VISUAL SIGHTING OF OBJECT

C B DEFORREST FLEET SONAR SCHOOL KEY WEST FLA

MRS [REDACTED] WIFE OF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] KEY WEST FLA

END SIGNED ROSEN

25/2621Z JUL JESYQ

UNCLASSIFIED

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

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

31 JUL 53 19 56z

53B

31/20/352

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

COMDR ATIC

TO:

COMDR 435TH TROOP CARRIER WG
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
MIAMI FLA

JESMM

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-E

DATE-TIME GROUP

291300Z JUL 53

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

ROUTINE

INFORMATION

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

A Mr. C. B. DeForrest of the Fleet Sonar School at Key West, Fla., observed an unidentified aerial object at 242135 EST 24 Jul 53. Request that your organization perform the investigation according to AFL 200-5.

This Center was advised by the Maxwell Flight Service Center of the above sighting.

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION:

ATIAE-5

for (Lt Olsson)

Date

30 July '53

ATIAE

(Col Johnston)

Date

29 July

ATIA

(Col O'Hern)

Date

30 July

1953 JUL 31 PM 2:41

1 AUG 1 1953

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

W. R. M. OLSSON/RMC/vs

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT C. BROWN, MAJOR, USAF
ADJUTANT

SYMBOL

ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE

65365

DD FORM 173

1 OCT 49

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48
WHICH MAY BE USED.

16-55923-3 ★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

PAGE TWO JESMM 20

DESCRIBED FOR SUB PAR ONE SAME FOR BOTH SIGHTINGS EXCEPT FOR MANNER
DISAPPEARANCE AND DURATION PD MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE 24 JUL CMA
BLINKED OUT SMCLN 1 AUG OBSCURED BY CLOUDS AT APPROX NINE ZERO DEGREES
OR AT ZENITH OVERHEAD PD GENERAL CRSE BOTH TIMES ARC FROM HORIZON
TO HORIZON PAST OBSRR PD SUB PAR TWO FIRST SIGHTING BETWEEN 2200
AND 2230 CMA SECOND SIGHTING AT 2135 PD TIMES EST CMA 0300 CMA 0330
AND 235 Z TIME PD DURATION 24 JUL SEE ITEM SPEED ABOVE SMCLN 1 AUG
FORTY SECONDS PD SUB PAR THREE VISUAL NAKED EYE FROM SURFACE PD SUB
PAR FOUR OBSRR LOCATED AT 2430 NORTH 0814S EAST CMA KEY WEST PD OBJECT
APPEARED ABOVE TREES DUE WEST CMA DISTANCE UNK PD EXCEPT FOR LATERAL
MANEUVERS MENTIONED ABOVE PROCEEDED DIRECTLY EAST PD ALTITUDE UNK PD
SUB PAR FIVE OBSRR [REDACTED]

FLEET SONAR SCH ENLISTED 9 OCT 52 AGE 22 TWO YRS COLLEGE PD SUPV RPTS
OBSRR CONSCIENTIOUS GOOD STUDENT ABOVE AVERAGE ABOVE REPROACH BUT
NO KNOWLEDGE OF OBSRR OFF DUTY PD APPEARED TO INTERVIEWER AS QUIET
STABLE TYPE SINCERE STRAIGHTFORWARD INTENSELY DESIROUS NO PUBLICITY
PD SUB PAR SIX WEATHER 24 JUL 22300 TO 25000 THIN SCATTERED CLOUDS
VIS TEN MILES TEMP SEVEN FOUR DEWPOINT SEVEN THREE REL HUMIDITY NINE
FIVE TOTAL SKY COVER FIVE SLASH TEN CMA ZERO ALTOCUM AT 14000 FIVE
SLASH TEN CIRRUS 25000 TWO SLASH TEN OPAQUE THREE SLASH TEN TRANS-

PAGE THREE JESMM 20

1953 AUG 6

14:11

UNCLASSIFIED

Action

6 AUG 53

17 302

1. Attn
3. P. file
4.

WPG231

YDB137

VYA131

VDA170

JESNM 015

RR JEDEN JEDWP JEDPLG 444

DE JESNM 23

R 061400Z

FM COMDR 456TH TRP CARR WG MIAMI INTL APRT MIAMI FLA

TO JEPHQ/DIR INTEL (USAF WASH 25 D C

JEDWP/ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/COMDR ENT AFB COLO

JEPLG/COMDR TAC LANGLEY AFB VA

UNCLASSIFIED

/ [REDACTED] 6-TCG-8-38 PD ATTN: ATIAA-2C PROJECT BLUEBOOK

PD RE MSG AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-E CMA INVESTIGATION COMPLD 5 AUG 53 PD

TOLS INFO SBMD IAW SUB PAR 5 OF PAR 7C AFL 200-5 PD SUB PAR ONE NO

SHAPE PIN POINT SIZE OR QUOTE STAR SIZE UNQUOTE BRIGHT WHITE ONE

ONLY CMA NO AERODYNAMIC FEATURES CMA TRAIL OR EXHAUST CMA PROPULSION

SYSTEM OR SOUND OBSRD SMCLN SPEED ONE TWO ZERO DEGREES IN ONE AND

ONE HALF MINUTES CMA FROM WEST TO EAST HORIZONS SMCLN MANEUVERS

LATERAL SHORT CHANGES IN CRSE PLUS COMPL CIRCLES CMA ALL SHORT LEGS

APPARENTLY OF SAME TIME AND LENGTH CMA ALL CIRCLES OF SAME DIAMETER

SMCLN TWO SIGHTINGS CMA FIRST 24 JUL CMA SECOND 1 AUG PD DETAILS

Speed 170° in 1 1/2 min

HK

[REDACTED]
HEADQUARTERS
456TH TROOP CARRIER WING (M)
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Miami, Florida

UNCLASSIFIED

WIN

7 August 1953

SUBJECT: Transmittal of AF Form 112, FLYOBRPT

THRU: Commander
Eighteenth Air Force
ATTN: Director of Intelligence
Donaldson Air Force Base
Greenville, South Carolina

Commander
Tactical Air Command
ATTN: Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

TO: Director of Intelligence
Headquarters, United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. In compliance with wire message from the Commander, ATIC, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, reference AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-E, dated 31 July 1953, copy inclosed, AF Form 112, FLYOBRPT, is submitted herewith.

2 Incls

1. TWX, AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-E (w/d)
2. AF Form 112 (quad) w/1 incl

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

✓ cc: Cdr, ATIC, ATTN: ATIAA-2C,
Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] N

PARENT SMCLN 1 AUG 2020 AND 20 CDS SCATTERED VIS FIFTEEN MILES TEMP
EIGHT EIGHT DEWPOINT SEVEN SIX REL HUMIDITY SIX EIGHT CMA TOTAL SKY
COVER FIVE SLASH TEN CMA FOUR SLASH TEN CUMULUS 2000 CMA ONE SLASH
TEN CIRRLS 20 000 CMA ALL OPAQUE PD WINDS ALOFT 24 JUL 0000 3505
23307 3439 43514 3517 63517 3515 83312 3119 33107 23312 43415 83216
83117 83217 SMCLN 1 AUG 01010 1116 21116 1114 41113 1114 CMA LIMIT
OF DATA PD SUB PAR SEVEN CMA EIGHT CMA NINE NEGATIVE PD SUB PAR ONE
ZERO NO AIR TRAFFIC IN GENERAL AREA DURING EITHER SIGHTING PD NOTE
INTELLIGENCE CMA 456TH TRP CARR WG NOT OPERATIONAL MIAMI INTL AFTER
10 AUG 53 PD END

06/1540Z AUG JESMM

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

UNCLASSIFIED

Search lights

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 456th Trp Carr Wg (M) MIA, Miami, Florida	REPORT NO. 7	PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES
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1. Report follows of the information obtained by this office in compliance with message AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-E from the Commander, ATIC, Wright Patterson AFB. Delay in reporting was caused by inability to contact the observer due to the message having been received on Saturday, 1 August 1953, the time consumed in arranging for a definite time and place for interviewing the observer, and the need for coordinating available transportation consistent with the scheduled commitments of this Wing in moving to Charleston, South Carolina. Complete cooperation was extended by all levels of command contacted, both Air Force and Navy, in order to insure completion of the investigation. Pertinent information is submitted in the order established by paragraph 7c, AFI 200-5.

a. Only one object was sighted on each occasion. It was very bright white in color but so small that the observer stated he could just barely see it. It was reported to be about the size of a pin point or a star of ordinary size and luminence. No aerodynamic features, trail, exhaust, propulsion system, or sound were observed. Speed was reported as unknown, since the observer did not know the object's true size or its distance from him. It was reported to have traversed an angle of 120° from west to east in one and one half minutes during the first sighting on 24 July 1953 and 60° in approximately forty seconds during the second sighting on 1 August 1953. The object took an arced at right course, vertically, from west to east; however lateral maneuvers were said to have been observed on both occasions. These maneuvers, or changes of course, were described as lateral 45° angular legs, or zig zags, along the vertical course and level or lateral circles. The observer was insistent that the individual short legs appeared to be of the same distance, duration, and at the same angles, and that they varied from side to side along the vertical course. As reported to the interviewing officer, these changes in course can be most accurately described as the type of course an aircraft would take in tracking a beam while maintaining altitude. The circles, or turns, were described as regular, smooth, and all of the same radius. A graphic description of these maneuvers is included as inclosure 1. On 24 July, the object disappeared completely approximately three or four degrees above the sky line after blinking out and reappearing four or five times. On 1 August it disappeared behind a cloud bank at approximately 90° or directly overhead from the observer. The observer also stated that he believed the object backed two or three times but was hesitant to say as much since he believed that an illusion of reversing could have been due to the effects of perspective when observing a circle made by the object in a very small radius. Observer reported that the object's course on 24 July took it through the penumbra of the moon, but not directly across the moon, and yet it was still as visible as when observed in the darker part of the sky. Observer also reported the moon light as being very bright during the entire observation on 24 July 1953.

b. For 24 July and 1 August the times of sighting were reported to be between 2200 and 2230 EST and at 2135 EST, respectively. Converted to Z time these would be 0300 to 0330 and 0235. The first sighting lasted for approximately one and one half minutes and the second for approximately forty seconds. The observer's time estimates were checked by the interviewer by sample time sequences; the observer was consistent in his estimates.

c. Both observations were made visually from the surface with the naked eye; the observer states he does not wear glasses and claims to have 20/20 eyesight.

d. Observer was standing on the porch of his landlady's house at 624 Williams Street, Key West; coordinates $24^\circ 30' N$ $81^\circ 48' W$. Observer stated that he had, prior to the sightings, determined that the submarine base, Key West, and his

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COUNTRY United States		REPORT NO. 7	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT FLYCBRPT			
AREA REPORTED ON South East Florida - Key West		FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Section 456th Trp Carr Wg (M), MIA, Miami, Fla.	
DATE OF REPORT 6 August 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 5 August 1953	EVALUATION C-3	
PREPARED BY (Officer) 1ST LT DONALD J. TWOMBLY		SOURCE Military Observer	
REFERENCES (Control number, direction, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952, FLYCBRPT			

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

On 24 July and 1 August 1953 Seaman Apprentice [REDACTED] a student at the Fleet Sonar School, United States Naval Base, Key West, Florida, observed an aerial object in the sky over the town of Key West. The first sighting was between 2200 and 2230 EST and the second was at 2135 EST. The object appeared to be about the size of a pin point or a star, was very bright white in color. On 24 July it proceeded rapidly from low on the western skyline to a point directly forward and overhead, then blinked out immediately before descending below the eastern skyline. On 1 August it appeared at the same point on the horizon but was obscured by clouds at the zenith of its flight path. No mechanical characteristics were noted. The object made regular equal changes in course laterally during its observation but was not observed to modify a regular arc vertically. The observer does not appear to be extremely extrovert, appeared to be very stable, and desires no publicity; rather, he, at times, gave the indication he wished he had not brought up the matter.

This office has no comment upon the report other than to note that the observer appeared to have been skeptical of his own sighting and checked it against whatever known data were available to him with the result that he decided he had seen some object with which he was not familiar.

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

1 INCL.
1. Chart

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 456th Trp Carr Wg (M) MIA, Miami, Florida	REPORT NO. 7	PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES
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the interview continued and he was conversing more easily at the end. At no time did he exhibit any excitement about the sighting. He gave the impression that he wanted to be very exact in his answers and give precise data for all aspects of his observation. He stated he had not mentioned the sighting to any newspapers and he would not trust them to give a true version of his account, nor to protect him from public ridicule. He asked for and received permission to call the interviewing officer's home, collect, in the event he made another sighting.

f. Weather and winds aloft conditions at time and place of sightings were as follows:

24 July

Weather: Observer reported a "broken overcast" which cleared up sufficiently to leave most of the sky clear. Clouds were reported as solid to the west in the area of the object's appearance. A check with the CAA office of the U.S. Weather Bureau at Boca Chica Key revealed the following data: ceiling 22,300 - 25,000, thin scattered clouds; visibility ten miles, temperature 74° F; dewpoint 73; relative humidity 95%; sea level pressure 1016.9 millibars; altimeter setting 30.02 inches; station pressure 30.005; dry bulb reading 74.4, wet bulb reading 73.2; winds east two miles per hour; total sky cover five tenths, zero altocumulus at 15,000 feet, five tenths cirrus at 25,000 feet; two tenths of the cover opaque, three tenths transparent. Winds aloft, in teletype sequence: 00802 3505 23307 3409 43514 3517 63517 3515 83312 3109 03107 23312 13415 63216 83117 03217. Time - 2200 EST, 0300 Z.

1 August

Weather: Observer reported a heavy overcast stretching from the eastern horizon to directly overhead. Official figures are: ceiling 2000 scattered clouds, 20,000 scattered clouds, visibility fifteen miles; temperature 88° F; dewpoint 76; relative humidity 68%; sea level pressure 1019.6 millibars; altimeter setting 30.10 inches; station pressure 30.09; dry bulb reading 87.9, wet bulb reading 79.0; winds east eight miles per hour; total sky cover five tenths; four tenths cumulus at 2000 feet, one tenth cirrus at 20,000 feet; all five tenths opaque. Winds aloft, in teletype sequence: 01010 1116 21116 1114 41113 1114, no further data. Time 2200 EST, 0300Z.

g. No unusual activity or condition, meteorological or otherwise, was reported or discovered which might account for the sightings.

h. No existence of any physical evidence of the sightings was reported or discovered.

i. No official interception or identification action was taken.

j. CAA and Navy control tower records reveal no air traffic in the general area at the times of the sightings.

2. The Intelligence office of the 456th Troop Carrier Group (M), which also supports the 456th Troop Carrier Wing (M), will cease operations at Miami International Airport, Florida, and begin operations at Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina, as of 2400 hours 9 August 1953.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 456th Trp Carr Wg (M) MIA, Miami, Florida	REPORT NO. 7	PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES
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north-south line and that he attempted to maintain a check on the flight path by this method throughout the observations. On this basis, he stated the object was noticed first due west at approximately 30° above the horizon and immediately above the sky line which was formed by trees surrounding the house. It proceeded generally due east, except for the maneuvers described in paragraph a above. No estimate of the distance or height was attempted by the observer since, he stated, he did not know the true size of the object. He stated the object did not travel as fast as a meteor.

e. The observer stated that on 24 July he was accompanied by his wife and that he called his landlady, a Mrs. [redacted], and her mother; name unknown, out of the house to watch the object. On 1 August he was alone when he first noticed the object and called his wife, Mrs. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted]'s mother out to watch the object again. The three women were not interviewed due to time limitations. The observer, Seaman Apprentice [redacted], is a student at the Fleet Sonar School, Key West. He enlisted on 9 October 1952. His parent's home is at [redacted], Chester, Pennsylvania, and he lives with his wife at [redacted] Key West. He has been married approximately six months. He has no children or dependents other than his wife. He was born on 11 July 1931 and is 22 Years old. He completed two years of schooling at La Salle College, Philadelphia, where he majored in English literature and minored in language and government. He has worked during summer vacations as a life guard, life guard supervisor, and camp counsellor, and he was employed in the maintenance department of La Salle, during his academic years, as a general maintenance worker. He is fairly familiar with astronomy, claiming to be able to recognize a few major constellations, but he stated he is not interested in astronomy as such, being mainly concerned with the subject through his long standing interest in celestial navigation in which he would like to make a career. He advanced no opinions as to what caused the sighting other than that he believed he saw some type of powered aircraft with great maneuverability. He further stated he believes "flying saucers" might exist but that he is not very concerned, and is not worried, about the possibility of the phenomena. He was emphatic in declaring the object did not resemble an aircraft landing light but that it did resemble an aircraft running light and that, until he observed the erratic course, he believed it was the tail running light of an aircraft. He stated that once before, in the summer of 1949, while he was a life guard at Sea Isle or Sea Island City, New Jersey, he noticed an object which was strange to him. It was described as a metallic flash first observed as stationary on the horizon and then rising at a 45° angle and disappearing, after a very smooth but very fast ascent. He was in a boat on the water at the time, in the early morning. He ascribed the sighting to a combination of the effects of clouds, water, and the sun shining on an aircraft fuselage. He did not report the sighting. On 24 July 1952 he attempted to telephone the Naval Base at Key West and the Naval Air Station at Boca Chica Key but both lines were busy. He then called the CAP to report the sighting. At that time, he stated, he heard the CAP operator interrupt the conversation to make a weather report part of which was "ceiling 1600". After receiving a mild verbal reprimand the same night from the Officer of the Day or the Officer of the Guard at the Sonar School for failure to persist in his efforts to contact that office, he reported the 1 August sighting directly to the Sonar School and was informed the information would be passed on to the Chief of Staff at the Naval Base.

- (1) Inquiry was made as to the observer's general reputation and character. His supervisor in Sonar Operations reported that he had no knowledge of observer except during duty hours. The supervisor gave him a character rating of "very good" "above reproach" and described him as quiet, conscientious, a good student - not outstanding but above average. To this interviewer observer appeared to be stable, well adjusted, poised, but at first extremely reserved and would not elaborate on his answers except in response to persistent detailed questioning. His attitude became more forthcoming

24 July & Aug		Key West		x-6
17 Aug		Creola, Alabama	Insuf info; prob not worth follow-up	O-6
3 Aug		Trebeing, Ohio	Insuf data	c-8
4 Aug		West Point, Neb.	Fireball	c-4
5 Aug		San Antonio	Balloon or aircraft	o-8
5 Aug		N & S Dakota		C-7
7 Aug		Martha's Vineyard, Mass	very poor data	c-5
9 Aug		Moscow, Idaho	meteorological	c-3
11 Aug		Barksdale AFB, La.	Fireball	c-1
12 Aug		off Ventura, Cal.	possibly astronomical	c-2
17 Aug		Peoria, Ill.	Balloon ?	c-8
17 Aug		S.C. France	Balloon ?	o-9
20 Aug		California		b-1
22 Aug		San Antonio	Balloon	b-2
23 Aug		Port Morseby		b-3
27 Aug		Falls Church, Va.	Fireball	b-4
27 Aug		Greenville AFB, Miss	Antares?	b-5
28 Aug		San Rafael, Cal.	stars thru o'cast ?	b-6
2 Sep		34.16 N 5 06 W		
3 Sep		Modesto, Cal. (photo neg)		b-7
3 Sep		Jones Beach, N.Y.	very poor data	b-8
4 Sep		Pepperrell AFB, Nfld.	rocket, flare, or meteor	b-9
4 Sep		Holbrook AFB, Ariz.	Rocket or fireball	a-1
18 Sep		Atherton, Cal.	balloon or blimp	a-2
22 Sep		Hayward, Cal.		a-3
22 Sep		Lawton, Okla.	Info needed	a-4
23 Sep		Maryland	aircraft	a-5
24 Sep		Brooklyn, N.Y.	aircraft	a-6
28 Sep		Harrisville, Mich.	aircraft	a-7
28 Sep		Lake Charles, La.	balloon ?	a-8
30 Sep		Silver Springs, Md.	Bolide	a-9
1 Oct		Harrisville, Mich.	aircraft	f-1
28 Sep		Palmdale, Cal.	too short duration to form opinion	f-2
1 Oct		Cap. Hts., Maryland	landing lights ?	f-3
7 Oct		Holloman AFB New Mex.	Balloon ?	f-4
7 Oct		Scott AFB, Ill.		f-5
7 Oct		Omaha	aircraft	f-6
8 Oct		Long Beach, Cal	insuf data	f-7
9 Oct		Sampson AFB, N.Y.	very low reliability	f-8
12 Oct		Yakima, Wash.	meteorological	f-9

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Point of Disappearance
1 August 1953

Point of Appearance
24 July, 1 August 1953

Skyline

Skyline

ED AERONAUTICAL CHART
OREECHOBEE (525)
ed States, Scale 1:1,000,000

25° N
82° 30' W

Point of
Observation
24° 30' N
81° 48' W

Exact Distance
Unknown
Maneuver Pattern
Enlarged for Clarity

24° N
81° W

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

Identification

Vertical Flight Path

Lateral Flight Path

23 November 1953

Dear Capt. Harding;

We have been so busy with the Black Hawk, S. Dakota case that I've only just now gotten down to looking over the large batch of accumulated reports. I must say that compared with Black Hawk, none of these approaches that incident in interest. There are a few interesting sightings, but on none of these is information sufficient to make a follow-up profitable.

Of the interesting ones, the very similar sightings of 24 July and 1 August at Key West would warrant follow-up if they were more recent. With present information I have no suggested explanation.

The 26 July Perrin AFB Texas also holds possible interest from the standpoint of maneuvers and the fact they were observed from the Control Tower and by civilians of Demison, Texas.

It is too bad there is not more information on Creola, Ala. These cases cover four separate days. There is possibly pay dirt in these.

Finally, the Sidi Slimane sighting is definitely puzzling and will probably have to remain on the books as unexplained.

As for the remaining 30 or so, there is so little information concerning those which do not have obvious explanations that there is no percentage whatever in considering them seriously.

Thus, out of the total number there are 4 independent sets which, if staff and time were available, would be interesting to pursue. Personally, I vote for sticking with the Black Hawk case until we have squeezed it dry. I feel certain that if this case can be explained, others would follow suit.

Concerning the Black Hawk case, we are proceeding slowly but surely with the investigation. Solid objects are certainly indicated by the evidence. Since the observations covered several hours and sightings were both visual and radar, it is important, in my estimation, that we continue to pursue this since failure to identify pinpoints a possible real weakness in our defense set-up. I hope to have a preliminary report on this case for you soon.

J. Allen Hynek

J. Allen Hynek

Summary of Cases