

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 19 Jul 53 20/0120Z	2. LOCATION La Grande, Oregon
3. SOURCE civ and mil	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON: Upper air research All observers interviewed were of opinion that they saw an UAR balloon. Lowery plotting center stated that there was an UAR in area at that time.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 hrs 10 min	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS One obj at high alt was seen by civilian airlines personnel on the ground and a Navy pilot in the air. Obj made some movement to the North.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground vis & air vis	
7. COURSE north	NOTE: Some of report refers to 1 Jul. Actual observation was 19 Jul 53.
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☐ No	

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

REPORT NO.

Flt 1-A, 4602D A133

FLYCRPT 1-A-1

PAGE

2

OF

2

PAGES

Observers account of sighting;

Observed object color of incandescent lamp, about size of golf ball by naked eye. Used 8 power binoculars and saw triangular object with red round bottom and green top. Looked at it thru 25 power transit scope and saw what looked like a balloon without basket, color of sun. Lines were visible. Believe color was due to reflection of sun on balloon. Estimate altitude of 15,000 feet. Sky clear - wind calm or nearly so - visibility unlimited. Balloon did not seem to move, had it sighted between two telephone wires. Possible slight North course. Several other people there and they came to same conclusions looking at it from different glasses. Mr. & Mrs. [redacted] across street from me, and Mr. & Mrs. [redacted] next house to me, were the other people who saw the object.

Am sure it was balloon such as Moby Dick type; and using 8 power or less binoculars you get something that looks like the reports on flying saucers, but when strong enough glasses are used it clears up to what it actually is.

Anthony Pogrebnear

ANTONY POGREBNEAR

1st Lt. USAF

OIC, Flt 1-A, 4602D A133

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

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY USA		REPORT NO. FLYCRPT 1A-1	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT INVESTIGATION OF FLYCRPT			
AREA REPORTED ON La Grande, Oregon		FROM (Agency) Flt 1-A, 4602D AISS	
DATE OF REPORT 26 Aug 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 25 Aug 1953	EVALUATION C-3	
PREPARED BY (Officer) 1st Lt ANTONY POGREBNEAK		SOURCE Mr. [REDACTED], CAA La Grande, Ore.	
REFERENCES (Control number, direction, previous report, etc., as applicable) APL 200-5			

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.)

1. Source of this information is Chief of the Civil Aeronautics Authority ground station located at La Grande Airport, La Grande, Oregon.
2. Winds aloft up to 100,000 ft. in La Grande, Oregon area;

a. 10,000 ft.	25 knots	230 deg.	40,000 ft.	80 knots	260 deg.
20,000 ft.	40 knots	240 deg.	50,000 ft.	60 knots	250 deg.
30,000 ft.	60 knots	250 deg.	No further information.		
3. No physical evidence of object to support sighting.

COMMENT: This statement is evaluated C-3 due to observers experience with CAA.

TECHNICAL INVESTIGATOR:
W/SGT. D.B. EGAN

Antony Pogrebneak
ANTONY POGREBNEAK
1st Lt. USAF
OIC, Flt 1-A, 4602D AISS

1 INCL.

Observers Report

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

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

1 cy - D/I Hqs USAF	1 cy - Hqs 4602D AISS
1 cy - Chief, AFHQ, ATTN: ATIAA-3c	1 cy - Flt 1-A
1 cy - D/I 29th AD	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Flt 1-A, 4602D AISS	FLYCHRT 1A-1	1	2	2

OBSERVERS REPORT

1. Description of object;
 - a. Shape: 
 - b. Size: with naked eye, size of golf ball. 
with 25 power scope 
 - c. Color: color of incandescent lamp with naked eye. red round bottom and green top with 8 power binoculars. color of sun with 25 power transit scope.
 - d. Number: one.
 - e. Aerodynamic features: 
 - f. Trail or exhaust: None.
 - g. Propulsion: None.
 - h. Speed: very slow.
 - i. Sound: None.
 - j. Maneuvers: None.
 - k. Manner of disappearance: drifted North.
 - l. Other features: with 25 power scope object looked like balloon without basket, lines were visible.
2. Time of sighting: 2010 Standard Pacific time. 17 July 1953.
 - a. Length of time observed: 35 minutes.
3. Manner of observation: Naked eye, 8 power binoculars and 25 power transit scope.
4. Location of observer: 907 G Ave., La Grande, Oregon.
 - a. Location of object: observer was standing in his yard facing East South East during the entire observation of object. Estimated altitude of 18,000 feet.
5. Identifying information of observer: Mr. 
Chief CAA station La Grande Airport, La Grande, Oregon.
 - a. Estimate of reliability: C-3.
 - b. Reliability of sighting: no physical evidence of object.
6. Weather conditions at ground level: sky clear - wind calm - visibility unlimited.
7. Activity or condition which might account for sighting: None.
8. Existence of physical evidence: None.
9. Interception action: None.
10. Location of any air traffic: Navy A/C V O811, enroute from Seattle NAS to Buckley NAS, Denver, Colorado. Pilot: LCDR Brant, J.E., Ser. No. 99789, VR 711 Buckley NAS, Denver, Colo..

DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

1953 AUG 24

10:19

UNCLASSIFIED

21 AUG 53 17 272

A

RC126

WPE156

YDC151

GB150

JEDEN124

PP JEDWP JWPDM 222

DE JEDEN 276P

P 211615Z

FM COMDR 4602D AISS ENT AFB COLO

TO JWPDM/COMDR 4602D AISS FLT 1A MCCHORD AFB WASH

INFO JEDWP/COMDR WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

ZEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO

4602D AISS 362 PD REQ YOUR ORGN INTERROGATE PERS OF THE LA GRANDE
CMA ORE PAREN GEOREF CLN EASY JULIETT BRAVO ALFA FIVE NINE ONE SEVEN
PAREN APRT GRD STA CONCERNING UNIDENTIFIED OBJ OBSRD AT ZERO THREE
THREE ZERO ZEBRA HOURS CMA ONE NINE JULY FIVE THREE PD AF FORM ON
ONE TWO WILL BE FWD THRU CHANNELS W/INFO COPYS DIRECT TO ATIC CMA
WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB CMA HIO AND THIS HQ IAW AFL TWO ZERO ZERO DASH
FIVE PD PILOT BASED AT DENVER NAVAL AIR STA CMA WHO ALSO OBSRD
SUBJ OBJ CMA STATES OBJ WAS POSTIVELY IDENTIFIED BY COCA ALFA ALFA
PERS AT LA GRANDE CMA ORE APRT .

21/1630Z AUG JEDEN

*Ex. Attn
C
4. P. file*

UNCLASSIFIED

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

19 AUG 53 21 20z

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: (Originator) SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

COMDR ATIC

TO: COMDR 4602ND AISS ENT AFB
COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

JEDEN

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-8-6-E

DATE-TIME GROUP
181500Z AUG 53

SECURITY

PRECEDENCE FOR: ACTION
ROUTINE

INFORMATION

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

Ref letter from ATIC dtd 26 June 53, Subj: Utilization of 4602nd Personnel in Project Blue Book Field Investigations. Distribution of material mentioned in subject letter has been delayed by the printers. Material will be forwarded as soon as possible. Project Blue Book requests your organization interrogate LCDR J.E. Brandt, Serial No. 99789, VR 711, Buckley NAS, Denver, Colo. This pilot observed an unidentified object on 1 July 53 near La Grande, Ore., while flying from Seattle to Buckley.

COORDINATION:

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

ATIAE-5 M. G. Futch Date 18 Aug 53
(A/IC Futch)ATIAE W. Johnston Date 19 Aug
(Col Johnston)ATIA William R. O'Hern Date 19 Aug
(Col O'Hern)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

ELECTRONICS BRANCH

Office of Record
Proj 10075

UNCLASSIFIED

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

A/IC MAX G. FUTCH/RWC/vs

SYMBOL
ATIAE-5TELEPHONE
65365

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT C. BROWN, MAJOR, USAF
ADJUTANT

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DD FORM 173

1 OCT 49

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

16-58922-6 ★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

PAGE TWO JWPB 03B

I SOUND NONE

J MANUEVERS STREIGHT AND LEVEL FLIGHT ONLY INDICATED

K MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE NOT GIVEN

L UNUSUAL FEATURE NONE GIVEN

2 TIME SIGHTING

A REPORTED AT 2010P ACTUAL SIGHTING TIME NOT GIVEN

B DATE 1 JULY 1953

C LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED UNK

3 MANNER OF OBSERVATION

A VISUAL SIGHTING

B FROM GROUND AND FROM ACFT

C TWENTY FIVE POWER GLASSES

4 LOCATION

1 11805W

2 4520N

3 LAGRANDE OREGON

B LOCATION OF OBJECT WITH RESPECT TO OBSERVER

1 DISTANCE UNK

2 DIRECTION SOUTH EAST BY EAST

3 ALTITUDE EST 18000 FT

Adford

20 JUL 53 09 44z

1953 JUL 20

14:13

PD

*3. Attia
+ R. Lee*

WPB035YDC003T

KYAN66

XDD029

JWPD 42

UNCLASSIFIED

PP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JEPFF JEPRS 53 DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

DE JWPD 03B

P 200420Z

FM MCCHORD FLT SVC CEN MCCHORD AFB WASH

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASH 25 DC

JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELLIGENCE CEN WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/COMMANDING GENERAL ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

INFO JEPFF/COMDR MATS AFB WASH 25 DC

JEPRS/COMDR FLT SVC WASH 25 DC

AF GRNC

UNCLASSIFIED

ATTN ATIAA-2C TEXT OF MSG FLYOERPT

1 DESCRIPTION

A TRIANGULAR

B NO ESTIMATE GIVEN

C SHINY

D ONE

E AERODYNAMIC FEATURES NONE GIVEN

F WING OR EXHAUST NONE GIVEN

G PROP SYS NONE INDICATED

H SPEEDS VERY FAST

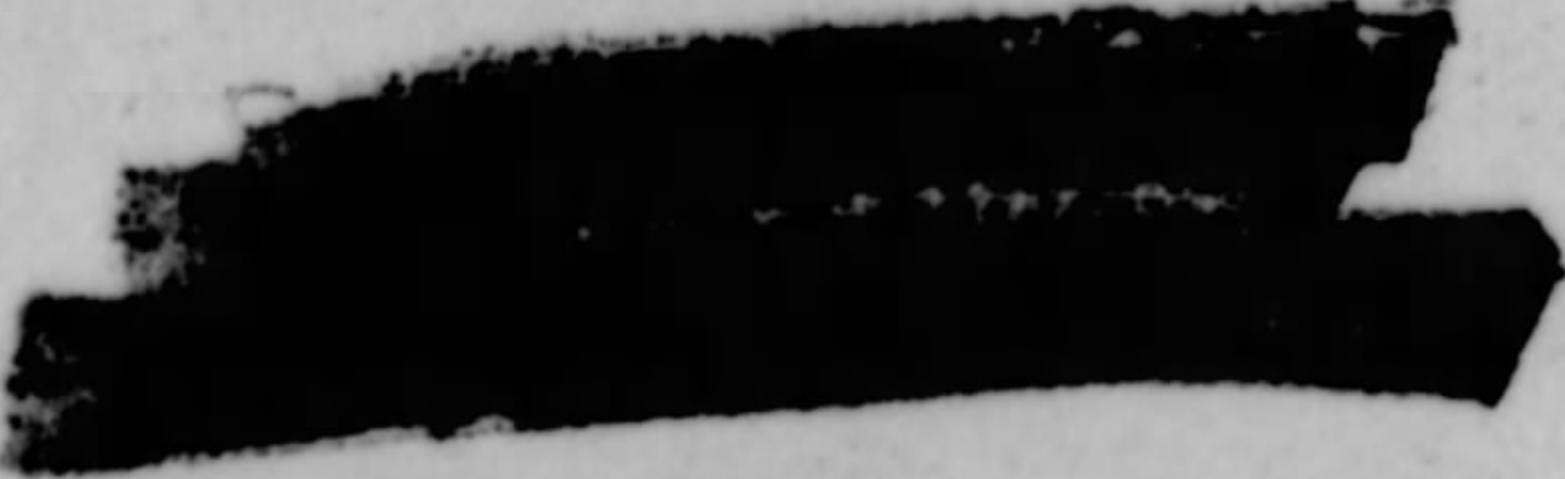
Letter sent to Legation of W.C. Sullivan

AREA AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING

B INFORMATION RELAYED TO TCMFS VIA SEATTLE ARTC

C LOWRY PLOTTING CENTER CONTACTED FOR MOBY DICK INFORMATION
THRU LOWRY FLIGHT SERVICE

20/0740Z JUL JWPB


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

UNCLASSIFIED

5 IDENTIFYING INFO ON OBSERVER

- A. WEST COAST AIRLINES PERSONNEL AT LAGRANDE OREGON AND POLOT
OF NAVY 2811 ENROUT FROM SEATTLE TO BUCKLEY COLO
- B ADDRESS WEST COAST AIRLINES LAGRANDE ORE
- C TELE UNK
- D ORG CIV
- E EST OF RELIABILITY UNK
- F NO OTHER FACTOR KNOWN WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEARING ON RELIABILITY
OF SIGHTING

6 WEATHER

- A WX SEQUENCE FOR LAGRANDE ORE CLEAR AND TWENTY FIVE MILE
VISIBILITY WINDS ALOFT TEN THOUSAND TWO FIVE ZERO DEGREES
FIVE SIX KNOTS

- 7 LOWRY PLOTTING CENTER REPORTED MOBY DICK BALLON TO BE ONE HUNDRED
AND TWENTY MILES SOUTH OF LAGRANDE AT TWO ONE ONE ZERO
PACIFIC TIME ALTITUDE FIVE THREE THOUSAND FEET PD LOWRY EST
BALLON TO BE IN APPROX AREA OF SIGHTING AT TIME SIGHTED

- 8 NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE WHICH MIGHT SUPPORT SIGHTING

PAGE FOUR JWPB 03B

- 9 NO INTERCEPTION OR IDENTIFICATION ACTION TAKEN

- 10 ONE JET ACFT DEPARTED PORTLAND ORE 1900P FOR DIRECT FLIGHT TO
HILL FIELD PD ONE HOUR TWENTY MINUTES EST TIME ENROUTE PD
ALTITUDE TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND FEET PD

- 11 AGENCIES CONTACTED FOR INFO AND/ OR CONFIRMATION OF FACTS

ADDITIONAL RADAR TRACKS IN THAT

UNCLASSIFIED

Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

IR-382-53

2

3

The following message was received from McChord Flight Service Center:

"200420Z. Text of Msg FLYOBHPT

1. DESCRIPTION
 - A. TRIANGULAR
 - B. NO ESTIMATE GIVEN
 - C. SHINY
 - D. ONE
 - E. AERODYNAMIC FEATURES NONE GIVEN
 - F. TRAIL OR EXHAUST NONE GIVEN
 - G. PROP SYS NONE INDICATED
 - H. SPEED VERY FAST
 - I. SOUND NONE
 - J. MANEUVERS STRAIGHT AND LEVEL FLIGHT ONLY INDICATED
 - K. MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE NOT GIVEN
 - L. UNUSUAL FEATURE NONE GIVEN
2. TIME SIGHTING
 - A. REPORTED AT 2010P ACTUAL SIGHTING TIME NOT GIVEN
 - B. DATE 1 JULY 1953
 - C. LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED UNK 10 MIN
3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION
 - A. VISUAL SIGHTING
 - B. FROM GROUND AND FROM ACFT
 - C. TWENTY FIVE POWER GLASSES
4. LOCATION
 - A. 11805W
 - B. 4520N
 - C. LA GRANDE OREGON
 - D. LOCATION OF OBJECT WITH RESPECT TO OBSERVER
 1. DISTANCE UNKNOWN
 2. DIRECTION SOUTH EAST BY EAST
 3. ALTITUDE EST 18000 FT
5. IDENTIFYING INFO ON OBSERVER
 - A. WEST COAST AIRLINES PERSONNEL AT LA GRANDE OREGON AND PILOT OF NAVY 0811 ENROUTE FROM SEATTLE TO BUCKLEY COLO
 - B. ADDRESS WEST COAST AIRLINES LA GRANDE ORE
 - C. TELE UNK
 - D. ORG CIV
 - E. EST OF RELIABILITY UNK
 - F. NO OTHER FACTOR KNOWN WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEARING ON RELIABILITY OF SIGHTING
6. WEATHER
 - A. WX SEQUENCE FOR LA GRANDE ORE CLEAR AND TWENTY FIVE MILE VISIBILITY WINDS ALOFT TEN THOUSAND TWO FIVE ZERO DEGREES FIVE SIX KNOTS
7. LOWRY PLOTTING CENTER REPORTED MOBY DICK BALLOON TO BE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY MILES SOUTH OF LA GRANDE AT TWO ONE ONE ZERO PACIFIC TIME ALTITUDE FIVE THREE THOUSAND FEET PD LOWRY EST BALLOON TO BE IN APPROX AREA OF SIGHTING AT TIME SIGHTED
8. NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE WHICH MIGHT SUPPORT SIGHTING
9. NO INTERCEPTION OR IDENTIFICATION ACTION TAKEN
10. ONE JET ACFT DEPARTED PORTLAND ORE 1900P FOR DIRECT FLIGHT TO HILL FIELD PD ONE FOUR TWENTY MINUTES EST TIME ENROUTE PD ALTITUDE TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND FEET PD
11. AGENCIES CONTACTED FOR INFO AND/OR CONFIRMATION OF FACTS
 - A. 25TH AIR DIVISION HAD NO UNIDENTIFIED RADAR TRACK IN THAT AREA AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING
 - B. INFORMATION RELAYED TO TCM PS VIA SEATTLE ARTC
 - C. LOWRY PLOTTING CENTER CONTACTED FOR MOBY DICK INFORMATION THRU LOWRY FLIGHT SERVICE 20/0740Z JUL

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

IR-382-53

USA-MATS

Unidentified Flying Object Over La Grande, Oregon 1 July 1953

State of Oregon, USA

Flight Service, MATS, 3800 Newark
Street, N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

20 July 1953

19 July 1953

F-2

Francis E. Curran, Major, USAF

West Coast Airlines Personnel, La Grande,
Ore, & Pilot USN Aircraft #0811

Teletype FLYCERPT 200420Z July submitted by McChord Flight Service Center

Report contains information on the sighting of an unidentified flying object over
La Grande, Oregon, the validity of which can be questioned because a Moby Dick balloon
was estimated to be in approximate area of sighting at the time cited.

FRANCIS E. CURRAN
Major, USAF
Acting Intelligence Officer

ATIC 131029

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

Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

27 JUL 53 21 20z

100 miz
UNCLASSIFIED
281001Z
200

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

COMDR ATIC

TO:

COMDR DETACHMENT 26 4TH WEATHER SQ
LOWRY AFB DENVER COLO

JW PLW

INFO:

FROM: AFICIN-ATIAE-7-23-E

DATE-TIME GROUP

221600Z JULY 53

SEC

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

ROUTINE

INFORMATION

☐

BOOK MESSAGE

☒

ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐

MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

Project Blue Book has received unidentified aerial object report from McChord Flight Service Center. They state that Lowry Plotting Center was contacted for Moby Dick information through Lowry Flight Service Center. The Plotting Center gave the following information, quote, Lowry Plotting Center reported Moby Dick balloon to be one hundred and twenty miles south of La Grande, Ore., at 012110 PST, July 53, altitude 53,000 ft. Lowry estimated balloon to be in approximate area of sighting at time indicated, unquote. This statement is not substantiated by the plots of Moby Dick balloons received from your organization for 1 July 53. Request that you investigate the validity of the statement made by the Lowry Plotting Center.

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

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION:

UNCLASSIFIED

ATIAE-5

Robert C. Brown Jr
(Lt Olsson)

Date

22 Jul 53

OFFICE OF RECORD

ATIAE

B. K. Chaffin

Date

22 Jul 53

Official File Copy

ATIA

William E. Brown

Date

24 Jul 53

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (Last, first, middle initial)

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

LT R.M. OLSSON/RWC/vs

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT C. BROWN, MAJOR, USAF

SYMBOL

ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE

65365

AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48

16-58923-3 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNCLASSIFIED

Flight Service, MATS
3800 Newark Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

IR-382-53

3

3

Comments of Preparing Officer

Report contains information concerning the sighting of an unidentified flying object at an unknown time but reported at 2010P 1 July 53, by a Naval aircraft over La Grande, Oregon, and ground personnel of West Coast Airlines at La Grande, Oregon. Teletype report contains an apparent error in time of reporting sighting. Date time group 200420Z from McChord FS Center converted to local time is 192020P July, which would be 10 minutes after receipt of information from the Seattle ARTC Center. It is my belief that the date of report, 1 July, should read 19 July.

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

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

ATIAE

Office of Record

Project 10073

28 JUL 53 21 31z

UNCLASSIFIED 9/01/26Z

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

COMDR ATIC

DATE-TIME GROUP

221445Z JUL 53

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

ROUTINE

INFORMATION

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

200740Z JUL 53

CLASSIFICATION

INFO:

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-7-22-E

FOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

DOD DIR 5200.10

Reurnag (FLYORPT) from McChord Flight Service Center dated 200740Z JUL 53. Information available at this Center states that Flight Service has no investigative capability. Request you perform the investigation of this unidentified aerial object report, reference Air Force Letter 200-5. Request that special attention be paid to the following items: 1) Exact time of sighting. 2) Winds aloft up to 100,000' in the La Grande, Oregon area. 3) Reference item number 7 of original TWX from McChord Flight Service Center, this states that a Moby Dick balloon was 120 miles south of La Grande, Oregon at 2110 PST. Information available at this Center does not support this. 4) Interrogate the pilot of Navy 0811 who was enroute from Seattle to Buckley, Colorado. The ATIC will contact the West Coast Airlines personnel at La Grande. Request you forward completed report as soon as possible by wire.

In reply cite Project Blue Book. COORDINATION: ATIAE-5 *R. M. Olsson* DATE: 22 Jul 53ATIAE *B. K. Griffith* DATE: 22 Jul 53ATIA *for Lt. Col. Johnston* DATE: 27 Jul 53

DRAFTER'S NAME (Last, first, middle initial)

Lt R.M. Olsson/RWC/jos

SYMBOL ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE 05305

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE ROBERT C. BROWN, Maj, USAF
Adjutant

DD FORM 173 1 OCT 49

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

16-54923-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

28 JUL 53 21

172

CM

Action

*E. A. [unclear]
3. [unclear]
4. R. [unclear]*

M

HF163VVVV

1953 JUL 29

08:22

LGPE167L

XVA355

CXB233

JWPLW 123

RR JEDWP

DE JWPLW 74

R 281958Z ZNJ

FM DET 26 4TH WEA GP LOWRY AFB COLO

TO COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

ATTN ATI-AE-5

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED] 4-26 110 G REF URMSG AFOIN-ATIAE-7-23-E PROJECT
BLUE BOOK PD MG/D BALLOON QM LAUNCHED FR VNL AT 011650Z PD LOST
CONTACT ON BALLOON AT 011830Z PD HAD BEEN ASSUMED DOWN 011930Z
DUE TO ERRATIC FLT ALT PD WIND FLOW WAS NNE GIVING POSSIBILITY
BALLOON WAS IN SUBJ AREA PD NO CONTACT OR RECOVERY WAS MADE ON
THIS BALLOON PD ONLY TRACKS OF 4 PAREN FOUR PAREN HRS DURATION ARE
PLOTTED PD QUERY BY MCCHORD WAS VERBAL CMA BELIEVE DATE FOR
QUOTED POSITION IN ERROR PD

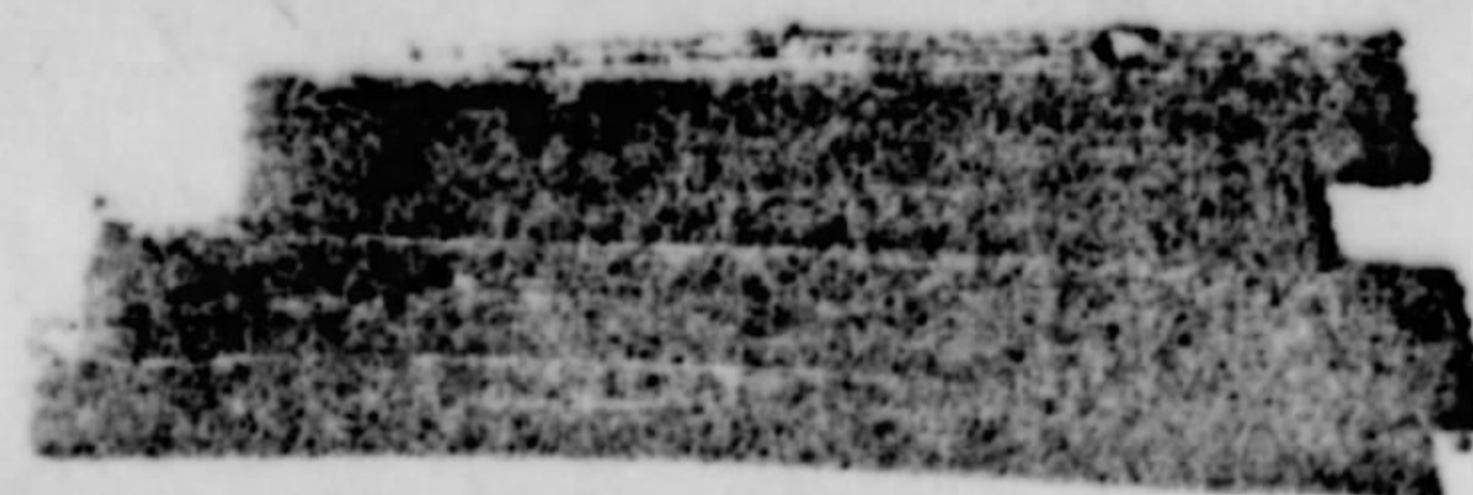
28/2200Z JUL JWPLW

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

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

6 AUG 53 06 49z



Action

*3. Action
H.R. File*

Lo

WPB081

1953 AUG 6

08:37

XYA086

JWPD 103

JWPDM 53

RR JEDWP

DE JWPDM 020A

R 052350Z ZNJ

FM COMDR 25ADIV DEF, MCCHORD AFB WASH

TO COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted] D/WFOAD ODI-3 5056A. YOUR MSG FLYOBRPT R221445Z/

STATES REPORTING TIME 20 P. NAVY PLT SHOULD BE CONTACTED FOR
EXACT SIGHTING TIME. ITEM 2. WINDS LAGRANDE CMA ORE AREA CLN
13000 FT 25 KNOTS 230 DEGREE CMA 20000 FT 40 KNOTS 240 DEGREES
CMA 30000 FT 60 KNOTS CMA 250 DEGREES CMA 40000 FT 80 KNOTS 260
DEGREES CMA 50000 FT 60 KNOTS CMA 250 DEGREES. NO FURTHER INFO.
ITEM 3. FROM INFO SUPPLIED IT IS HIGHLY IMPROBABLE THAT OBJECT
SIGHTED WAS A MOBY DICK BALLOON. PLT MUST BE CONTACTED IN REGARDS
TO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REPORTED TIME OF SIGHTING OBJECT CMA AND

PAGE WO DE JWPDM-32CA

LOWRY PLOTTING TIME OF MOBY DICK BALLOON AS REFERRED TO IN ITEM
7 OF ORIGINAL WIRE. ITEM 4. RECOMMEND THAT RQMT FOR INTERROGATION
BE PLACED ON 4602ND AISS CMA ENT AFB CMA COLORADO SPRINGS CMA
COLORADO. INTERROGATE NAVY PLT OF NAVY ACFT VOS11 CMA LDCE BRANT
CMA J.E. CMA SER NO. 99789 CMA VR 711 CMA BUCKLEY NAS CMA DENVER
CMA COLO. NO ADD INFO AVAIL AT THIS HQ.

06/0015Z AUG JWPDM

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

UNCLASSIFIED

1 witness

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?

19 July 1953
Day Month Year

2. Time of day:

5 20
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?

West Coast Airlines La Grande Oregon
Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks: was at Municipal Airport 5 miles
South of City

5. Estimate how long you saw the object.

2 10
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

COORDINATION

INSERT
ORGNL CODE AND
FULL SIGNATURE

In reply refer to
AFOM-ATIAE

R.W.C./jos/65365

3 AUG 1953

Manager
West Coast Airlines
La Grande, Oregon

SUBJECT: Unidentified Aerial Object

Dear Sir:

The Air Technical Intelligence Center has been advised that an unidentified aerial object was observed by personnel of your organization on 1 July 1953. This Center requests that the personnel who sighted the object fill out and return the inclosed USAF Technical Information Sheet.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated by the Air Force.

Sincerely,

BARBARA P. HANAWALT
1st Lt., USAF
Asst. Adjutant

1 Incl
USAF Tech Info
Sheet/w Ret Env

COORDINATION:

ATIAE-5 *Robertshaw* DATE _____
for Lt. Olsson *7/7/53*
ATIAE-4 *H. B. Johnston* DATE *27 July 53*
for Lt. Johnston *27 July 53*
ATIAE-3 *William F. Hays* DATE *3 Aug 53*
for Col O'Hern *7*
ATIG _____ DATE _____
Maj Brown

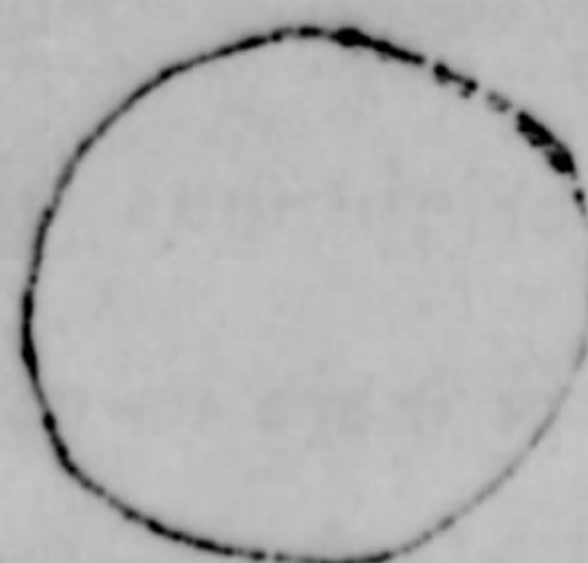
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DESIGNATE AUTHD OFFICE OF RECORD
OFFICE OF RECORD
ATIAE
OFFICIAL FILE COPY
Project 10073

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

- a. Sound none
- b. Color Bright Silver

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 _____

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

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

This condition occurred toward end of observation

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.

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

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----|---------------|-------|----|
| a. Eyeglasses | Yes | No | a. 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 _____

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

It was called to my attention by a
C.A.A. communicator. I was working in
my office on the airport.

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>Northeast</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).

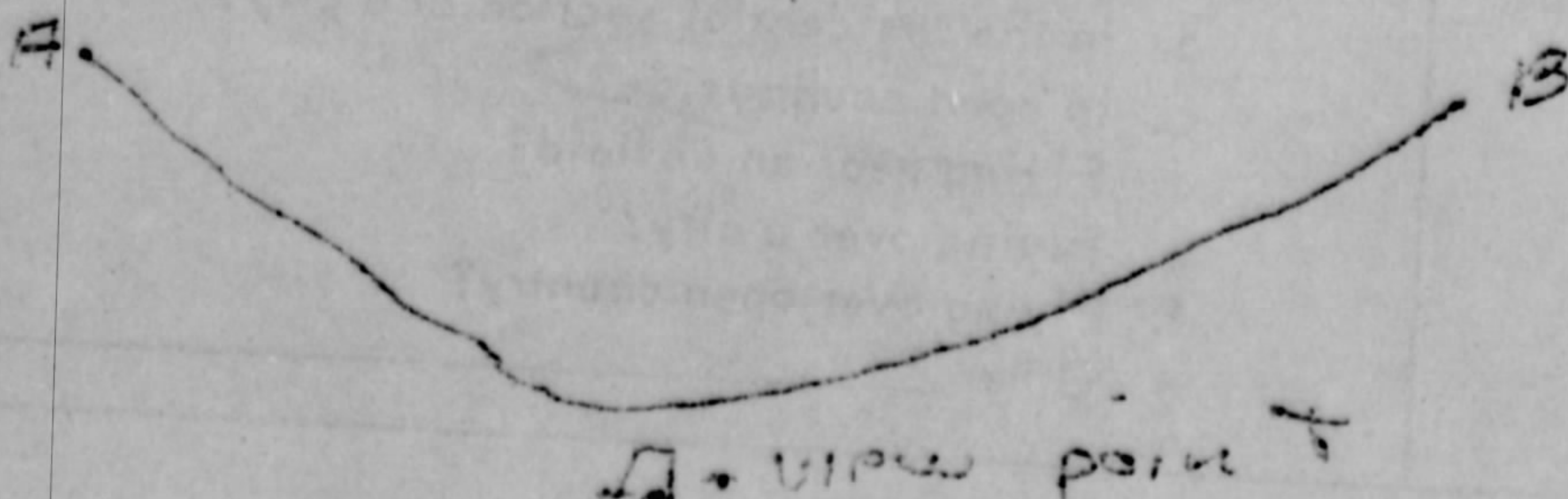
31.1 When it first appeared:

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

31.2 When it disappeared:

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



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

10 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. Penny
- 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? gradually became
dimmer as darkness came

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.

Would construct ~~it~~ a disk about
10 feet in dia.; probably very highly
polished steel.

a large pie plate as perhaps
a metallic ball

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:

Mrs [REDACTED]
Municipal Airport
La Grande, Oregon

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

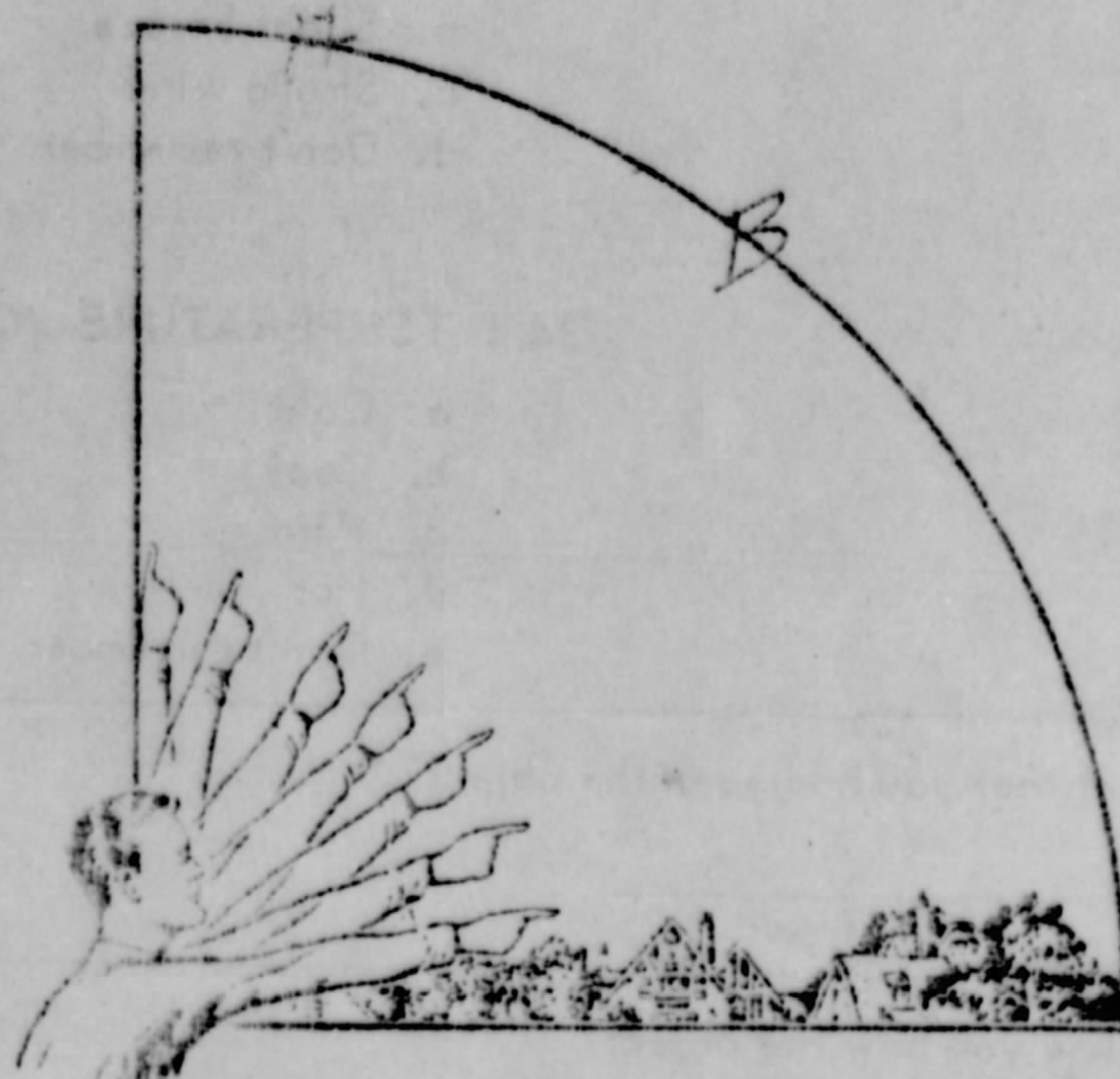
(Circle One) Yes No

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

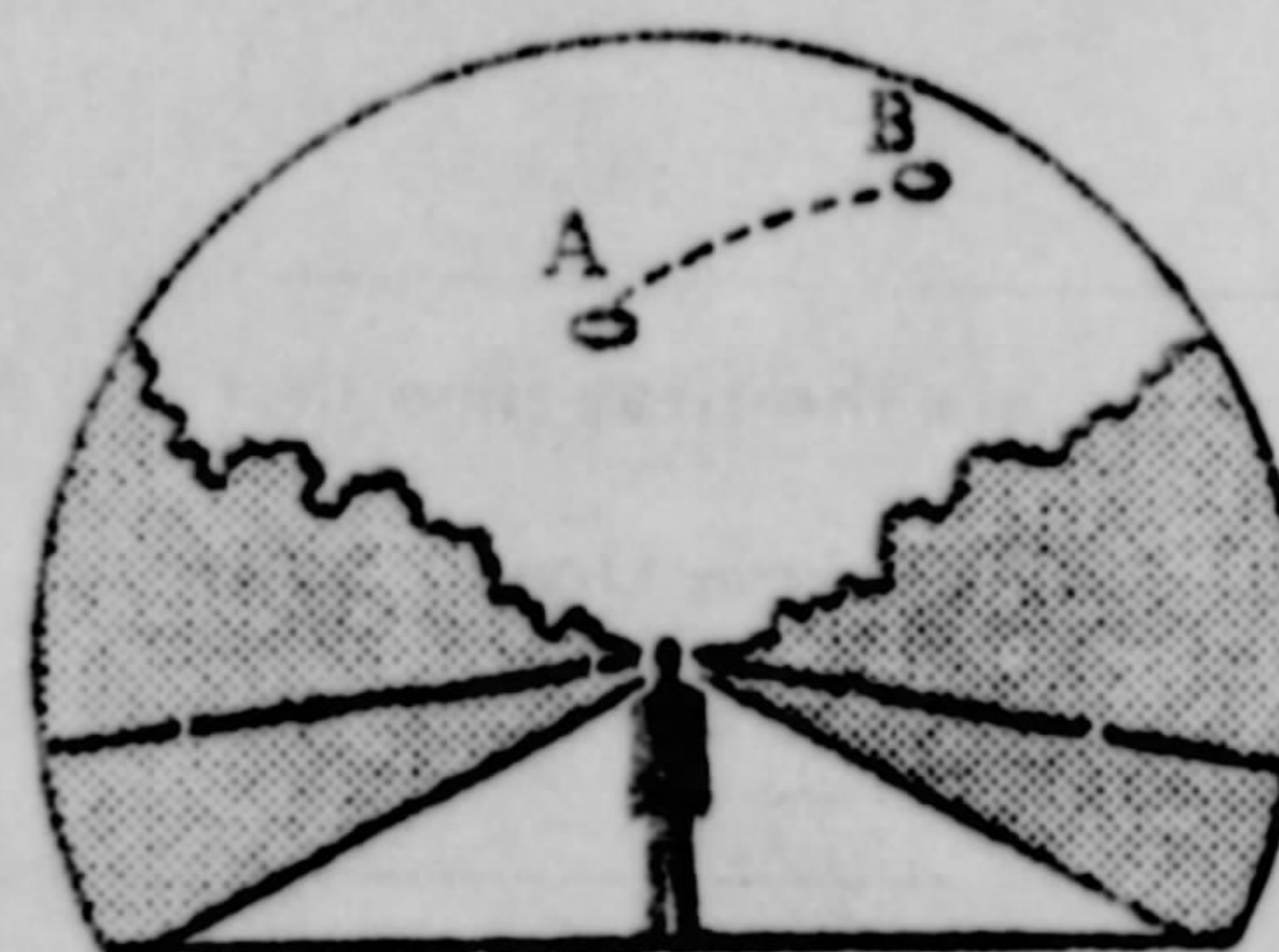
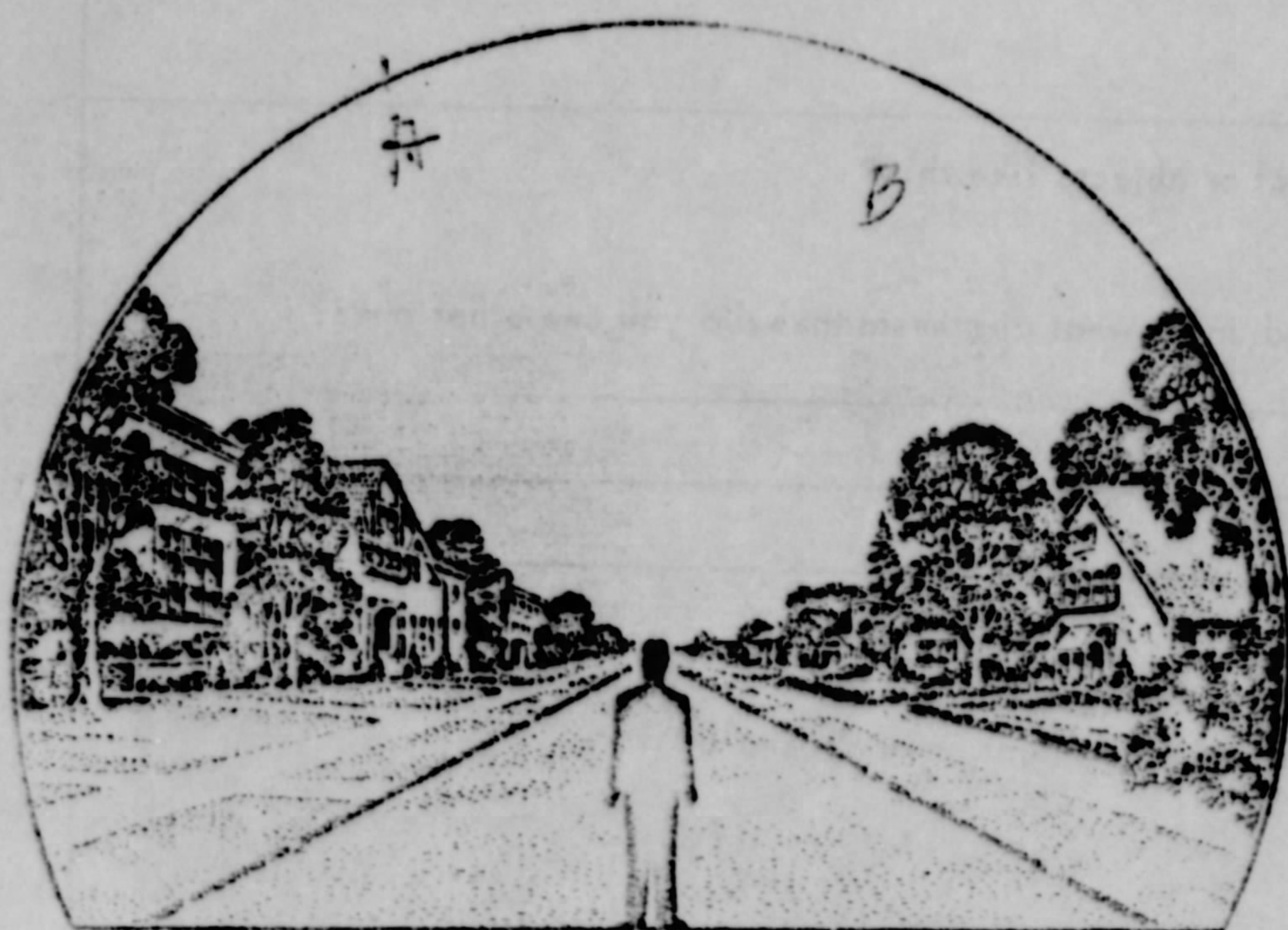
38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

*It could have been a weather balloon
although it was very very bright.*

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.



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

(Please Print)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

SIGNATURE

DATE

8/9/53

a C.A. man called me over the
interphone and told me there was "something"
over the field.

I went outside and spotted a very
bright shining object apparently hanging in the
sky (no motion-) while I watched it
for approx 2 hrs it moved south and
eastward from my position. I called
the airport mgr's wife and she observed
this object from my position until the
stars came out and it faded away.

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

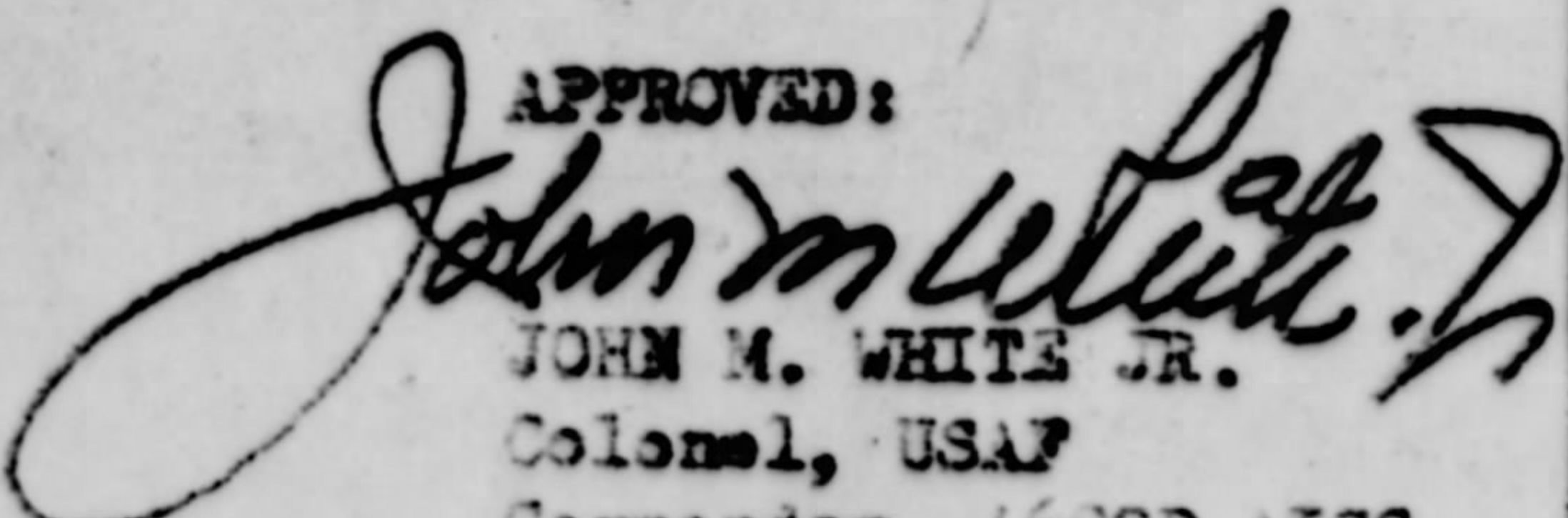
36.2 Please list their names and addresses:

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?

COUNTRY USA		REPORT NO. H - 0 - 1	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT FLYOBJRPT			
AREA REPORTED ON Northwestern USA		FROM (Agency) HQ FLT, 4602D AISS	
DATE OF REPORT 24 August 53	DATE OF INFORMATION 19 July 53	EVALUATION B-2 <i>B-2</i>	
PREPARED BY (Officer) SAMUEL ATHENS, 1st Lt, USAF, OIC, Hq Flt		SOURCE Lt Cmdr [REDACTED] USNR-R	
REFERENCES (Control number, direction, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, MSG AFOIN-ATIAE-3-6-5, ATIC Ltr dtd 26 Jun 53, Subj: Blue Book Invest.			
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 113-Part II.)			
I. SUMMARY: This report contains information obtained from Lt Cmdr [REDACTED] USNR-R, [REDACTED] concerning his visual observation of an unidentified flying object near LA GRANDE, OREGON (GeoRef: EJBA 5917), at 1930 hours PST, 19 July 53. II. RELIABILITY OF SOURCE: Source is presently employed with the Civil Aeronautics Administration as a check pilot. He is also Commander of Reserve Squadron VR 711, Naval Air Station, DENVER COLORADO (GeoRef: FJAK 1442). He was on active duty from 12 November 1940 to 6 December 1945, with the following Squadrons: VP-22, VP-101, VP-62 and with the Naval Training Command, VR-2.. His total flying time is 5,000 hours. Source was very cooperative. He was dressed neatly and was very clean. He was able to estimate distances fairly accurately. He expressed himself fluently and clearly. His manner was that of a serious, conscientious man and he gave thought to each question before answering. Although source called the Operations Officer at Denver Naval Air Station and had the statement made by his co-pilot, concerning the unidentified object, read to him before he made a statement, he disagreed with the co-pilot's statement on the shape of the object. It is the opinion of the interviewers that the information supplied by the source may be considered reliable. III. INTERVIEWERS: M/Sgt Ernest L. Hundley <i>attended ATI school</i> T/Sgt Charles M. Howard			
APPROVED:		 JOHN M. WHITE JR. Colonel, USAF Commander, 4602D AISS	
4 INCL. 1. Overlay of Area 2. Memory Sketch 3. Statement by Source 4. Statement by Source's Co-pilot		DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS DOD DIR 5200.10	
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR DCS/I, ADC, cy 1; ATIC, cy 2; 4602d AISS, cy 3			

when I returned to work the
next morning 8:45 am I found a
CAA man observing what appeared to
be the same object except this time it
was approx 20,000 ft and visible
only thru high power glasses. We
watched it until 7:30 and then we
unable to find it any more.

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Hq Flt, 4602d AISS	H - 0 - 1	3	3	

- o. VISUAL OBSTRUCTIONS: Source's view of the object was never obstructed during the time of his observation.
- p. AIR TRAFFIC: There was no air traffic other than source's aircraft.

2. On 9 August 53, source was again flying in the vicinity of LA GRANDE, OREGON, and called the CAA Ground Station at the airport and inquired if the object had been identified. The answer he received was that the object had been identified as a parachute device of some branch of the federal government. Source did not pursue the question any further and therefore did not learn the specific branch of the federal government referred to.

COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER:

The source's co-pilot, Lt [REDACTED] was not available for interrogation, however, a statement, concerning the object, that he made to operation of the Denver Naval Air Station on return from the flight was obtained and is included in this report as Inclosure # 4.

Samuel Athens

SAMUEL ATHENS
1st Lt, USAF
OIC, Hq Flt

COMMENTS OF APPROVING OFFICER:

Flight 1-A, 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron, located at McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, Washington, has been instructed to exploit the Civil Aeronautics Administration personnel at the LA GRANDE, OREGON Airport for additional information on the reported object.

JW

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Hq Flt, 4602d AISS	1 - 0 - 1	2	3	

1. Source was flying a Navy RD-4 (Air Force C-47) type aircraft in the vicinity of LA GRANDE, OREGON (GeoRef: EJBA 5917), on 19 July 53. The LA GRANDE Airport Ground Station made radio contact with source's aircraft and asked if he could see the object over the town. Source, who was in the co-pilot's position at the time, moved and looked out the left hand pilot's window. Source is fairly certain that he saw the object and the following is his account of the sighting:

- a. ALTITUDE OF SOURCE'S ACFT: 11,000 Feet.
- b. GROUND SPEED OF SOURCE'S ACFT: 150 NM
- c. HEADING OF SOURCE'S ACFT: 120 degrees at the time of radio contact by LA GRANDE Ground Station and turned to a heading of 20 degrees for better observation of object.
- d. TIME OF SIGHTING: 1930 hours, Pacific Standard Time (0330 hours Zebra Time).
- e. LENGTH OF TIME SOURCE OBSERVED OBJECT: Approximately two (2) minutes.
- f. WEATHER AT TIME OF OBSERVATION: CAVU with bright sunlight.
- g. DISTANCE OF SOURCE FROM OBJECT: Source estimates that he was never closer than ten (10) miles to the object as he did not attempt to intercept it.
- h. POSITION OF SUN AT TIME OF OBSERVATION: To source's left.
- i. VISUAL AIDS: Source did not utilize any visual aid.
- j. SHAPE OF OBJECT: Triangular or "shield" shape. Source states that the edges were sharply outlined as the object was much brighter than the sky. (See sketch #1, Incl # 2).
- k. COLOR OF OBJECT: Object steadily appeared to be a bright white-ish or aluminum color.
- l. ALTITUDE OF OBJECT: Source estimates 20,000 feet.
- m. SIZE OF OBJECT: Source was hesitant to estimate the size due to the distance of the object from him, he "strictly guessed" each of the three (3) sides to be four (4) feet in length and the diameter of the object to be four (4) feet. However, source was very definite in that the object appeared to be about the size of a quarter (US currency) from his position of observation. (See Sketch #2, Incl. #2)
- n. MOVEMENT OF OBJECT: Object appeared to be stationary during the time of source's observation. Source did not see any exhaust, vapor trails or protusions from the object that would indicate propulsion.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

HQ FLIGHT
4602D AISS

REPORT NO.

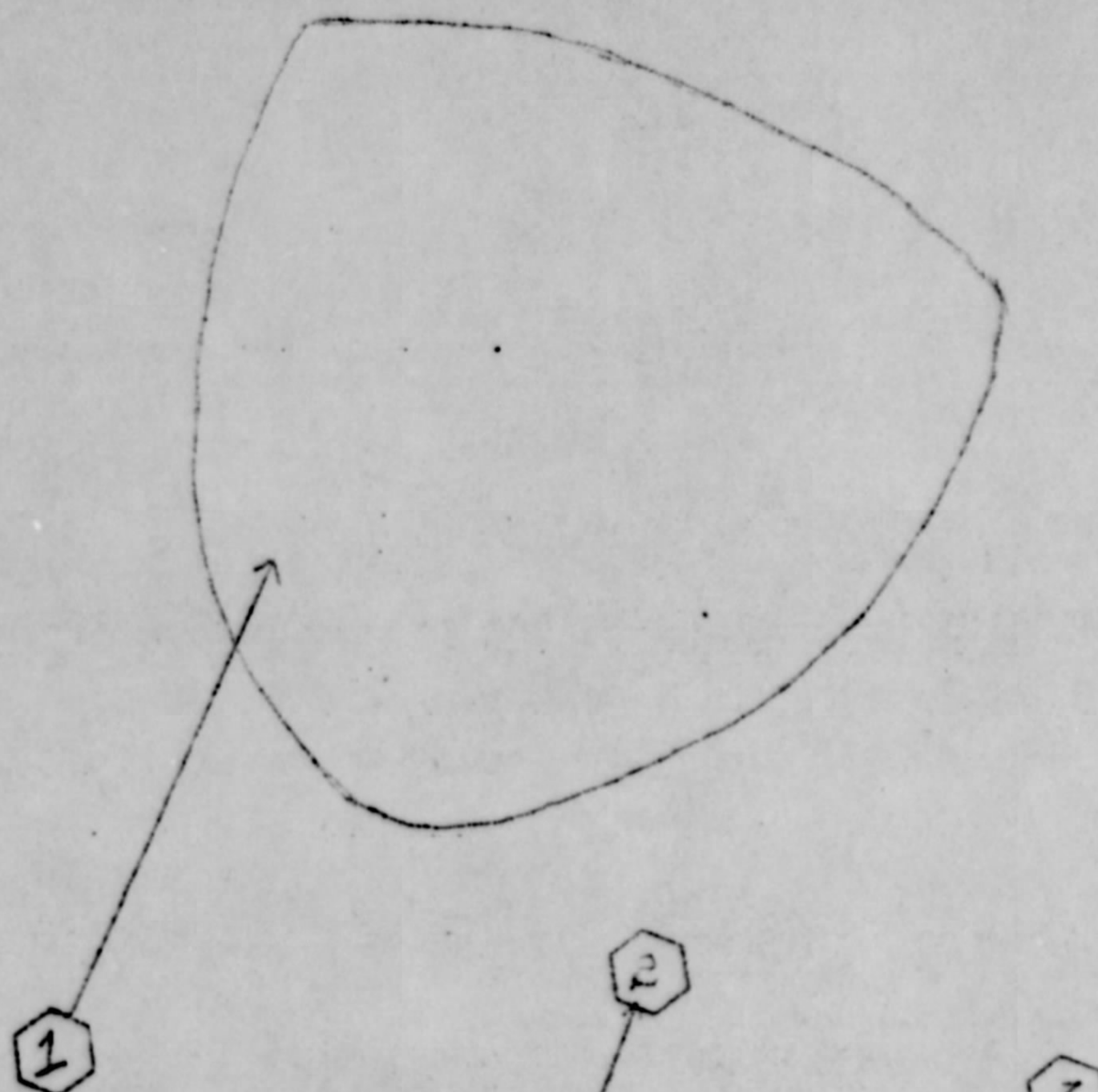
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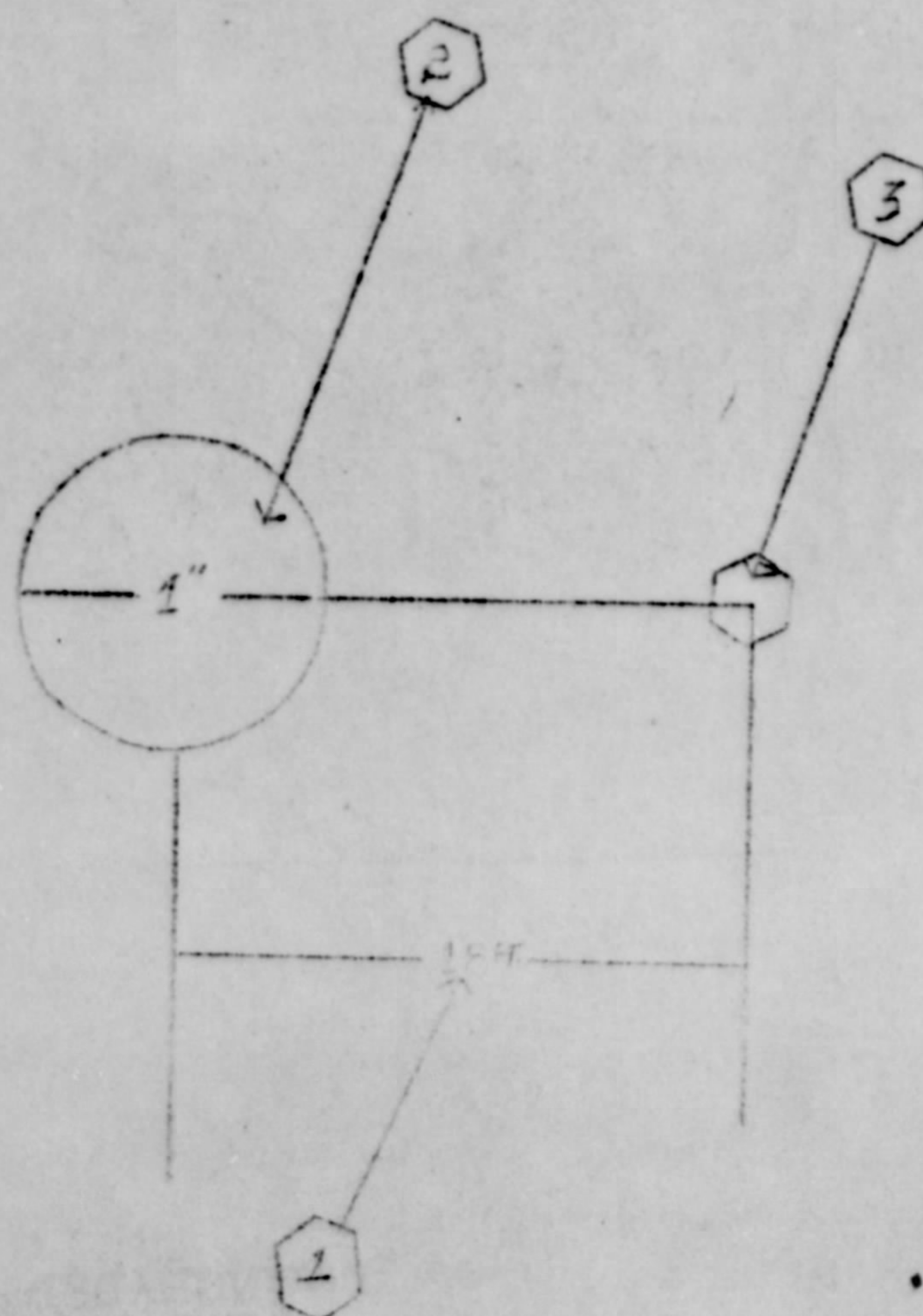
SKETCH #1

1. SOURCE'S MEMORY
SKETCH



SKETCH #2

1. DISTANCE FROM OBJECT
2. OBJECT
3. SOURCE



(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

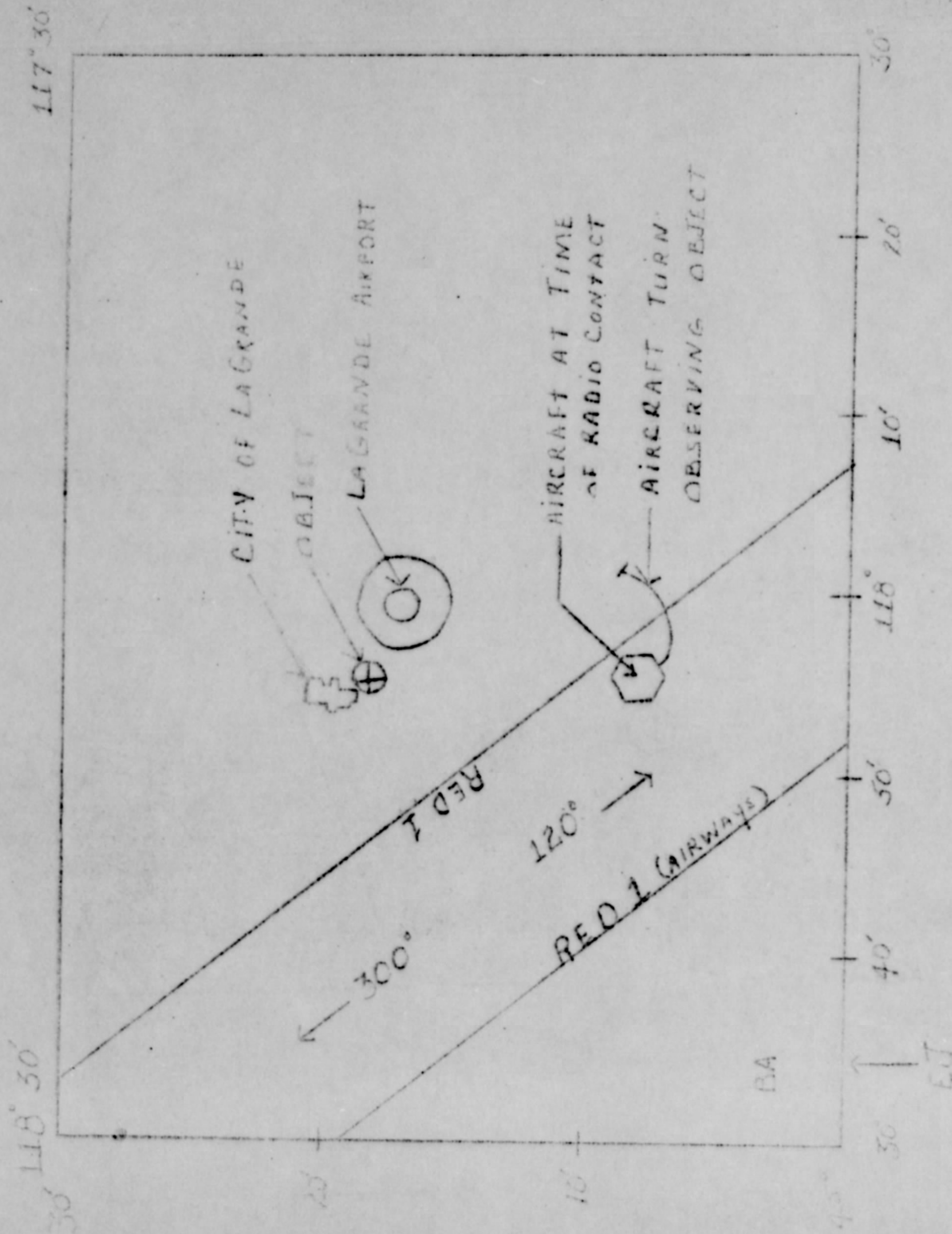
HQ FLIGHT
4602D AISS

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INCL. #1

OVERLAY OF SIGHTING AREA

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
HQ FLT 4602 A199	H-0-1			

20 July 1953

To: Operation Officer
H.A.S. Denver, Colo.

Subject: Report on Questionable Flying Object.

On 19 July 1953 at about 1930 PST and while enroute from NAS Seattle to NAS Denver in R4D 50811 we called by LaGrande, Ore. Radio to make a check on a certain unknown flying object seen from LaGrande. At the time I was flying in the right pilots seat. Our position as nearly as I can now determine was just southeast of LaGrande, directly on course on Airway Red-1 and our altitude was 11,000 feet. I looked out of my side window and just a little behind and high above us I could see a bright gleam which appeared to be the reflection off of some round metallic object. At first it seemed to be not moving but then as I watched it began moving toward us in a lateral direction. As it passed overhead our plane I could see it no longer but our plane captain AD2 [redacted] reported he could see it for some time from the astro-dome.

It would be very uncertain to estimate its altitude or speed. One thing seemed certain to me, and that was that it was very much higher than we were. The best I could say was that it might have been any altitude above 18,000 feet. It was moreover, too bright to make out any definite outline of the object but I presumed it was round. Its direction of motion as nearly as I can tell was southerly the! Perhaps a little of the west.

The extent of our observations makes it impossible to say exactly what the object was. I suppose it was some large silver colored weather balloon moved by some high upper winds, but on the other hand I do not at all discount the possibility that it could have been some strange — perhaps even an extra-planetary-ship.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

THIS IS A TRUE CERTIFIED COPY:

— INCL No. 4

Samuel Atkins

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

HQ FLT 4602 AIBS

REPORT NO.

H-0-1

PAGE

OF

PAGES

STATEMENT

On July 19, 1953 I was pilot in command of Navy R4D aircraft, Bureau No. 50811, en route from NAS Seattle to NAS Denver at approximately 1950 PST. We were approximately 10 miles south of the LaGrande, Oregon Airport on Civil Airway Red 1, at 11,000 feet on a southeasterly heading. The LaGrande CAA Ground Station called us and asked if we could see the bright, unidentified object above their station. I was flying in the co-pilot's seat at the time and looked out through the left-hand pilot's window and did see a bright aluminum colored, or possibly white, object that appeared to be several thousand feet above our altitude. It appeared to be approximately over the City of LaGrande, Oregon. The co-pilot, who was in the left-hand seat, observed this object for approximately 3 minutes as we proceeded in a southeast to northerly direction. I observed the object for approximately 2 minutes during which time I was of the opinion that it must be some type of weather balloon, although it appeared to have a rounded, triangular shape. I was unable to tell the direction of movement of this object but believe that the LaGrande CAA Ground Station will be able to supply this information. It was my estimation that the object was at approximately 20,000 feet and, based on this assumption, each of the three sides was estimated to be four feet in length. The object was the only thing in sight with no vapor trails or anything hanging or protruding from the object.

On August 9, 1953, while on another flight from NAS Seattle to NAS Denver, I called the LaGrande, Oregon Station while en route to learn if they had any further information on this object. The communications station operator advised me that the object had been identified as some type of parachute that had been released by some branch of our Federal Government. I remarked to him that would account for my belief that the object was triangular in shape. That was the extent of our conversation. If further information is desired, I am sure that the LaGrande CAA Communications Station can assist in this investigation.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.19

August 20, 1955

THIS IS A TRUE CERTIFIED COPY:

---INCL No. 3

CLASSIFIED BY 1000000000

1 witness

**HEADQUARTERS
AIR DEFENSE COMMAND
CENT AIR FORCE BASE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO**

UNCLASSIFIED

5 SEP 1953

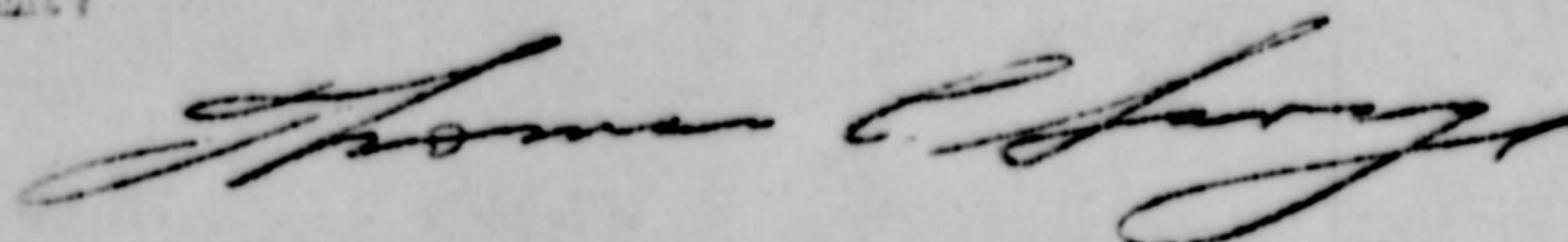
ADDRE 319.1

SUBJECT: (Restricted) Unidentified Flying Object Report

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: ATIAA-2C
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

In accordance with Air Force Letter 200-5, 29 April 1952, the inclosed report of unidentified flying objects (AF Form 112) is forwarded for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



THOMAS C. SAVAGE
Major, USAF
Asst Command Adj

- 1 Incl
AF Form 112, Parts
I & II, subj: Unidentified
Flying Object Report,
dtd 9 Sep 53, w/ 2 incl

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

UNCLASSIFIED



*19/2045
Colorado Springs
color*