

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 26 September 53 27/0200Z	2. LOCATION Springfield, Ohio
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION <i>AN</i> CLOUD
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Observer states that it probably was an unusual cloud.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 1/2 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS One funnel shaped cloud seen to drift between observers and the moon. Looked like a tornado except that there were no other clouds in the sky at the time.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE North	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

Multi

56/2120 Springfield Ohio

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?

26 Day 9 Month 1953 Year

2. Time of day: 21 Hour 20 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?

Nearest Postal Address

Springfield
City or Town

Ohio
State or Country

Additional remarks: At football game

5. Estimate how long you saw the object.

Hours

3 Minutes

30 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

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

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

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

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

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

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

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

(Circle One):

a. Yes

☒ b. No

c. Don't remember

10. IF it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight?:

(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 _____

N/A

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: MOON

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

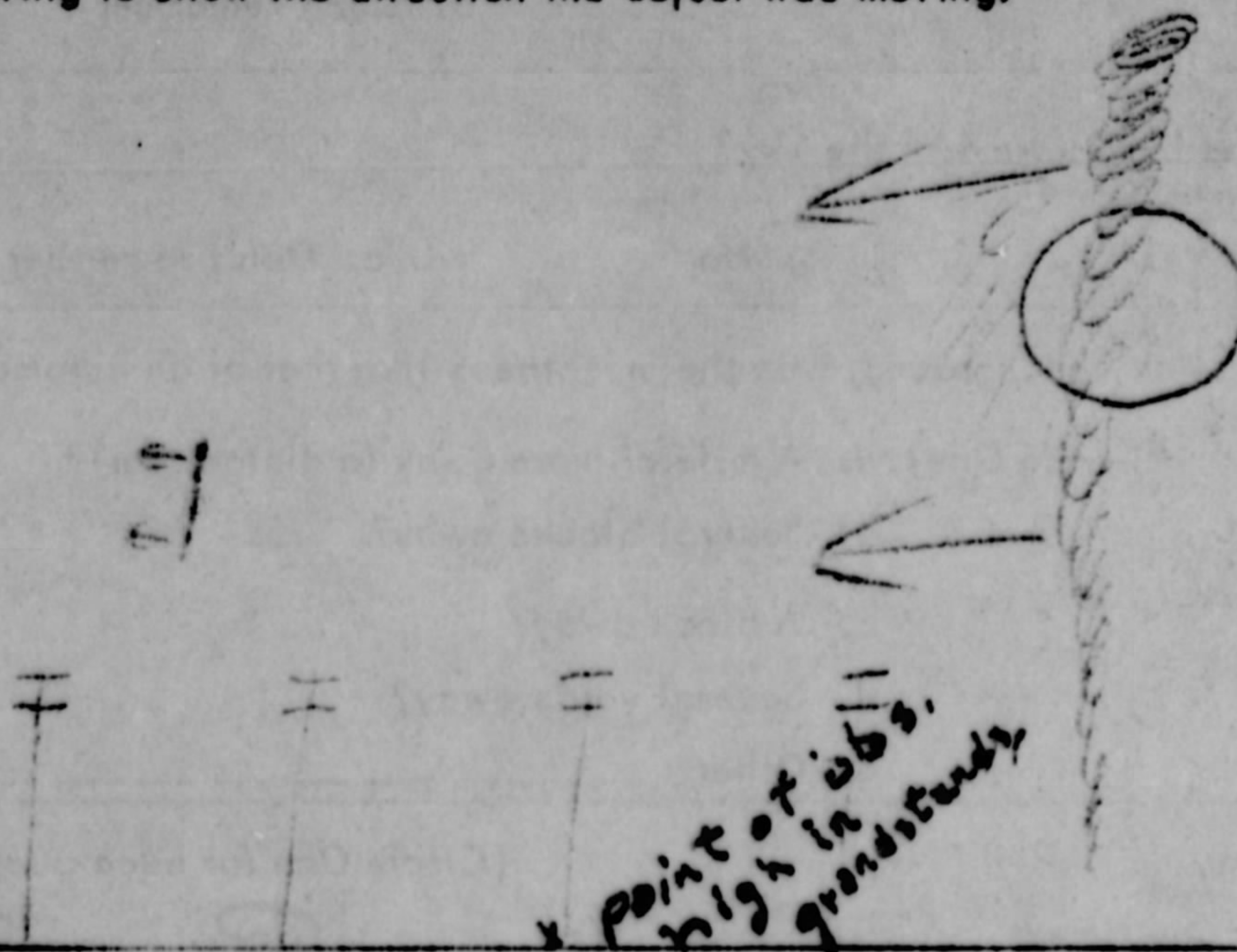
h. Other _____

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

a. Sound NONE

b. Color DARK COLORED FUNNEL SHAPED CLOUD THAT DID NOT COMPLETELY COVER THE MOON WHEN IT PASSED IN FRONT OF IT.

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.



NOTE: THE MOON WAS HAZY BUT NOT OBLITERATED. OBJECT LOOKED LIKE A TORNADO. OBJECT DID NOT COMPLETELY COVER THE MOON AS IT DRIFTED BETWEEN POINT OF OBSERVATION AND THE MOON.

18. The edges of the object were:

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

e. Other _____

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

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.
impossible 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. Pen
- c. Dime
- d. Nickel
- e. Quarter
- f. Half dollar

- g. Silver dollar
- h. Baseball
- i. Grapefruit
- j. Basketball
- k. Other 6" pencil

- 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? MOVED OUT OF THE "MOON GLOW".

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.

MATERIAL - SMOKE OR CLOUD

SIZE - UNKNOWN

SHAPE - SPIRAL

COMMON OBJECT WITH SAME APPEARANCE - TORNADO CLOUD.

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?

WAS WATCHING A FOOTBALL GAME - FRIEND SAW IT FIRST AND
CALLED MY ATTENTION TO IT.

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:

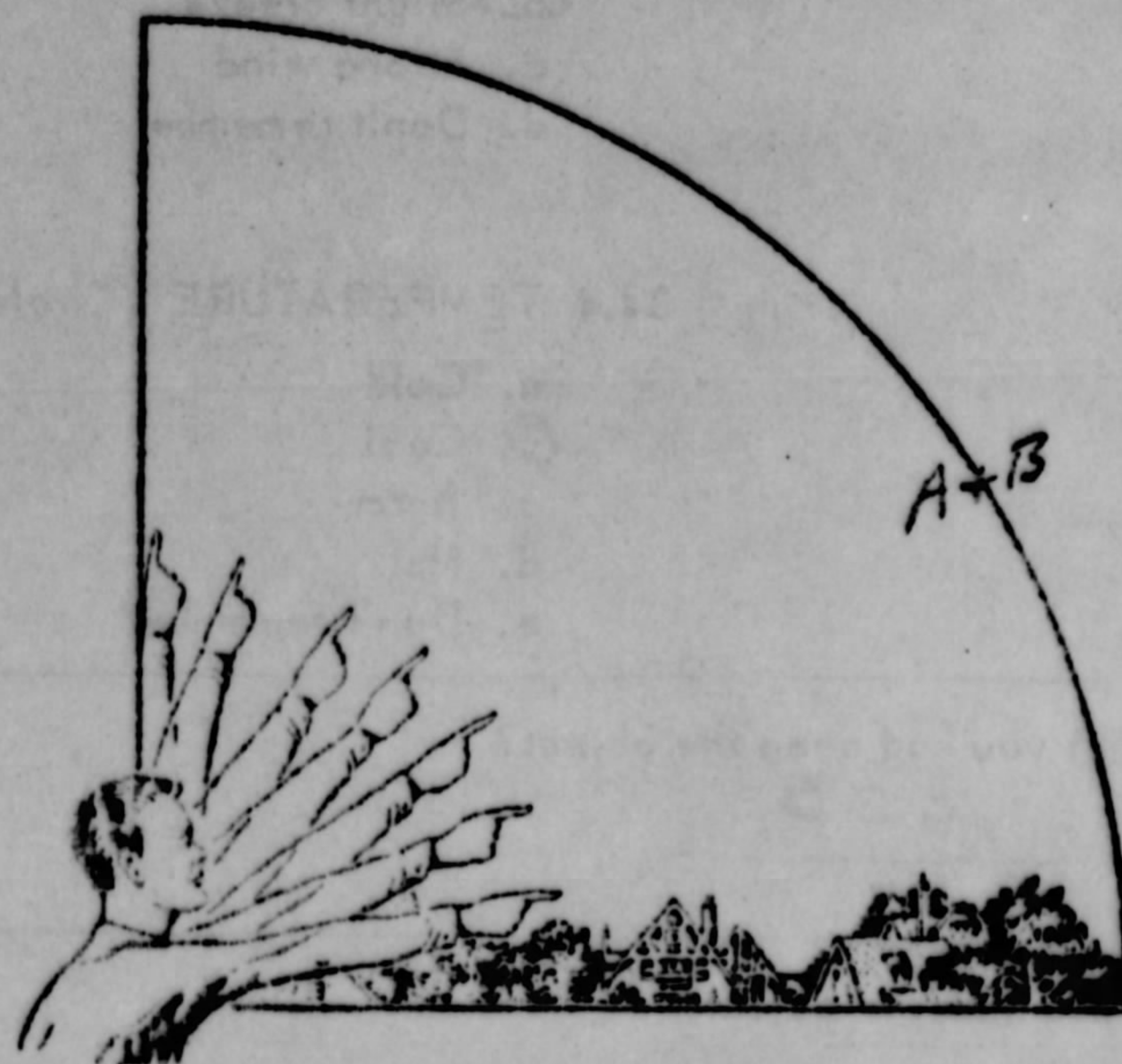
- a. From true North 75° degrees.
- b. From horizon 40° degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

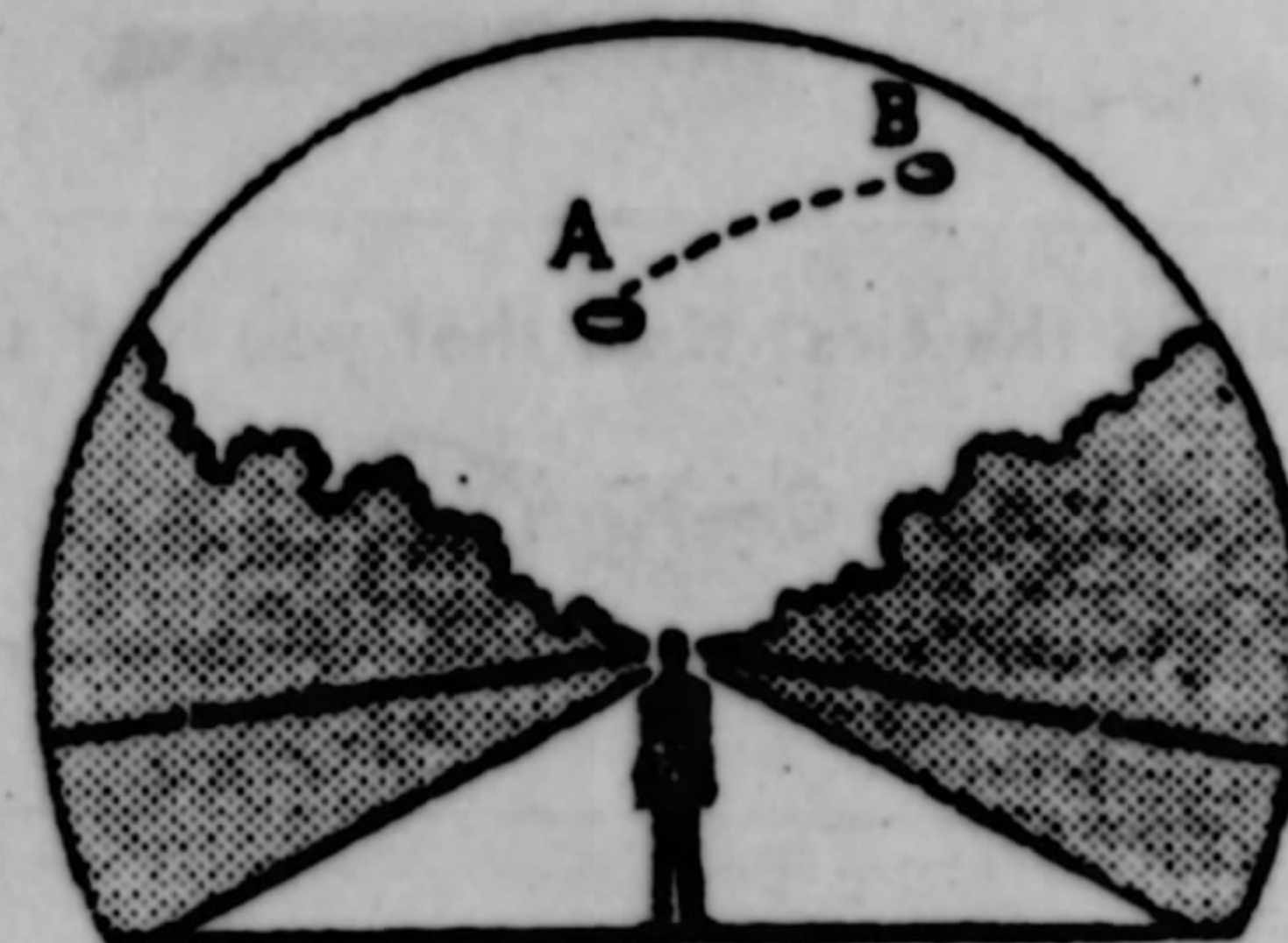
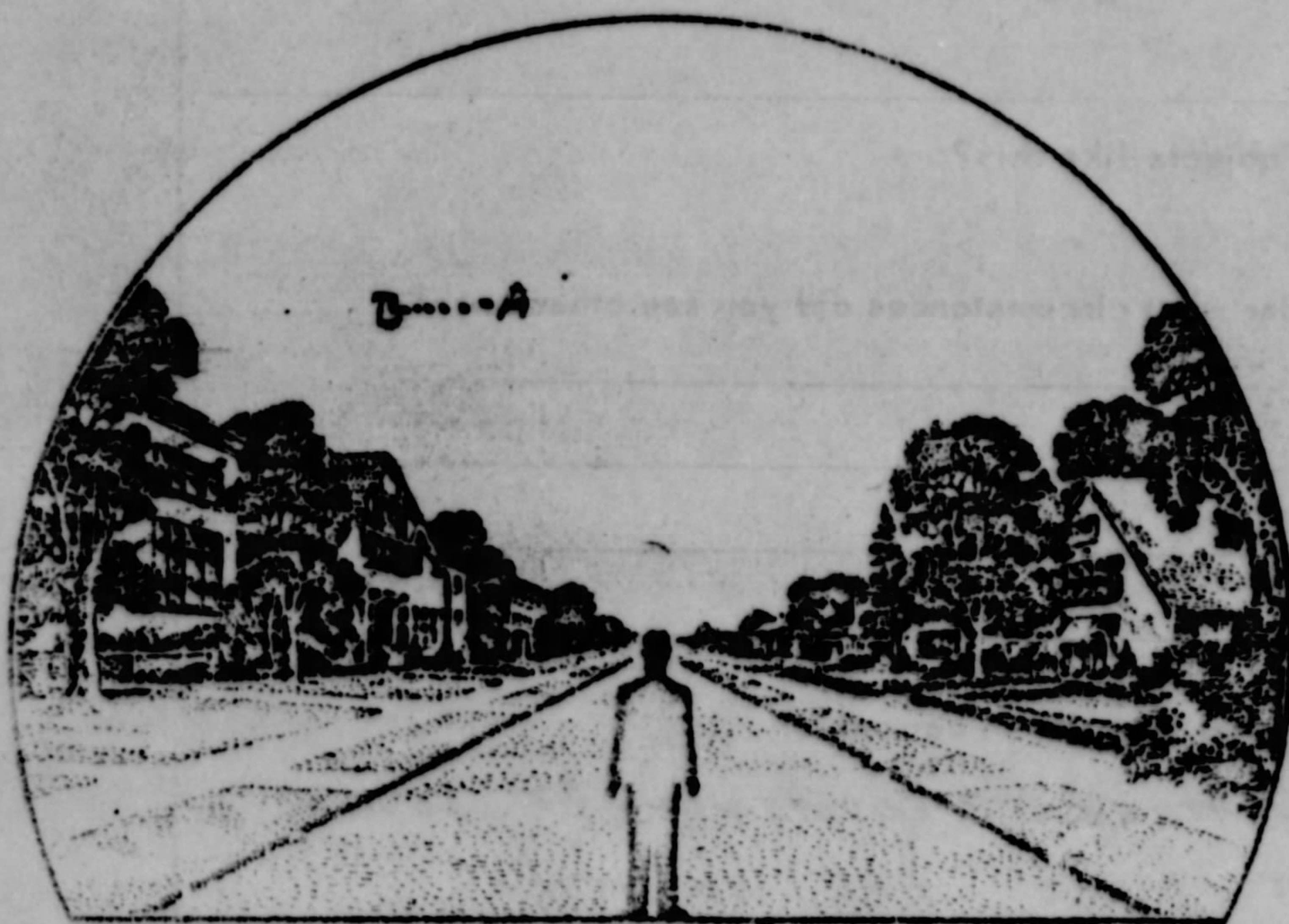
- a. From true North 70° degrees.
- b. From horizon 40° degrees.

THIS IS AN ESTIMATE. I AM NOT
SURE WHICH DIRECTION THE
STANDS AT WHITTENBURG COLLEGE
FACE. I WOULD THINK THAT THEY
FACE EAST. MY ESTIMATES ARE
BASED ON THAT.

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?

27 Sept 1953
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:

M/Sgt. [REDACTED] 1st. ATK.
T/Sgt. [REDACTED] W-PATB, DAID
A/12 [REDACTED]

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 THINK THAT IT WAS A WEATHER PHENOMENON. IT LOOKED
LIKE A TORNADO EXCEPT THAT THERE WERE NO OTHER
CLOUDS IN SIGHT.

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

_____ Last Name

_____ First Name

_____ Middle Name

ADDRESS

Hq. ATIC _____ Street

W-PAFB _____ City

_____ Zone

OHIO _____ State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

What is your present job?

"FLYING SAUCER CHASER"

Age

22

Sex

M

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

a. Grade school

X

b. High school

X

c. College

X

UP

d. Post graduate

e. e. Technical school

RUSS. LANG.

(Type)

UNIV. OF SYRACUSE

f. Other special training

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

28
Day

Sept
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

(Please Print)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

SIGNATURE

DATE

28 Sept 1953

On the night of 26 September, three other airmen and myself saw this "flying saucer". W/S J. Coven first saw this object just as it was directly over the moon. He called our attention to it, and we all saw it at this time. For approx. one minute it was visible through the light of the football field. It seemed to be transparent (like a thin cloud), and in a vertical position. As it moved northward, it was no longer visible except when you used your arm to shut out the direct light of the football field. After about 2 1/2 more minutes it was no longer visible. It had moved out of the "moon glow" & the moon still in the same general shape as when it was first observed. I have wanted to see something in the sky that I could not identify for some time. I do not believe that I saw anything that is a danger to anyone, or anything that is from out of ~~the~~ our atmosphere.

The American Meteoritics Society, whose members specialize in the study of meteors and meteorites, for years have collected reports of such phenomena. From a large enough number of good descriptions of a given meteor, astronomers can analyze the data mathematically and determine the meteor's radiant—the point in the heavens from which it seems to come. The meteor is then identified by its radiant and given an AMS number. The data were published in *Meteoritics*, the journal of the society, and thus made available for future research.

The records of the society for the years 1950 to 1955 list dozens of fireballs, many of them green, that were somehow overlooked by saucer enthusiasts. On August 11, 1950, during the maximum of the Perseid shower, a blue-green fireball (AMS 2336) apparently oval- or cigar-shaped, appeared over Washington, Oregon, and Idaho at 7:30 P.M. and was reported by more than 100 witnesses. So brilliant that it showed a noticeable disk, it flew in a horizontal path, silently broke into three pieces, and disappeared [8, p. 379].

September 20, the same year, was a big day for meteors. At 1:35 A.M. a giant fireball (AMS 2326) roared over southeastern Illinois from north to south, leaving a luminous train visible in five states and illuminating the sky and countryside from St. Louis to Louisville and from Memphis to Knoxville. The final detonation, over western Kentucky, was heard over an area 1000 miles square and shook buildings from Paducah to Memphis. Fragments showered farms over a twenty-five mile area, struck five buildings, and penetrated one roof. About fifty pounds of meteorites dropped in Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, and are now in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. That same night about 10:45 P.M.,

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1953 →
fireballs were reported by plane crews flying over a six-state area—Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico [9, p. 115]. Similar fireballs that vanished without trace were reported on September 28, 1953 (AMS 2331); October 4, 1953 (AMS 2330); May 15, 1954; and October 27, 1954 (AMS 2337).