

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 28 Jul 59		2. LOCATION On Ship E of Florida		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 0413Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☒ Shipboard ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian (Student)			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 1/2 mins		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE inconsistent	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING A bright white light surrounded by an orange glow which changed to white or gray as obj moved in short uneven movements. Obj grew larger as it moved across ship's traveling upward.				11. COMMENTS This sighting is classified as "other" Missile. Missile data not available at this date however sighting possessed characteristics of missile sightings & is evaluated as such in absence of conflicting data.	
12. CONCLUSIONS ☒ Other <u>Missile</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown					

A.F.

BT/C

August 5, 1959

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Mr. Mechem
W. Va.
analyzer and/or
evaluation

Dear Sirs:

I have just recently completed a cruise with the Naval Reserve. I was placed on the destroyer U.S.S. Robinson, DD-562. We left Charleston, S.C., on Tuesday, July 21, 1959.

While standing quartermaster watch on the Robinson's bridge, I witnessed a very strange spectacle. I hope you can give me a truthful explanation.

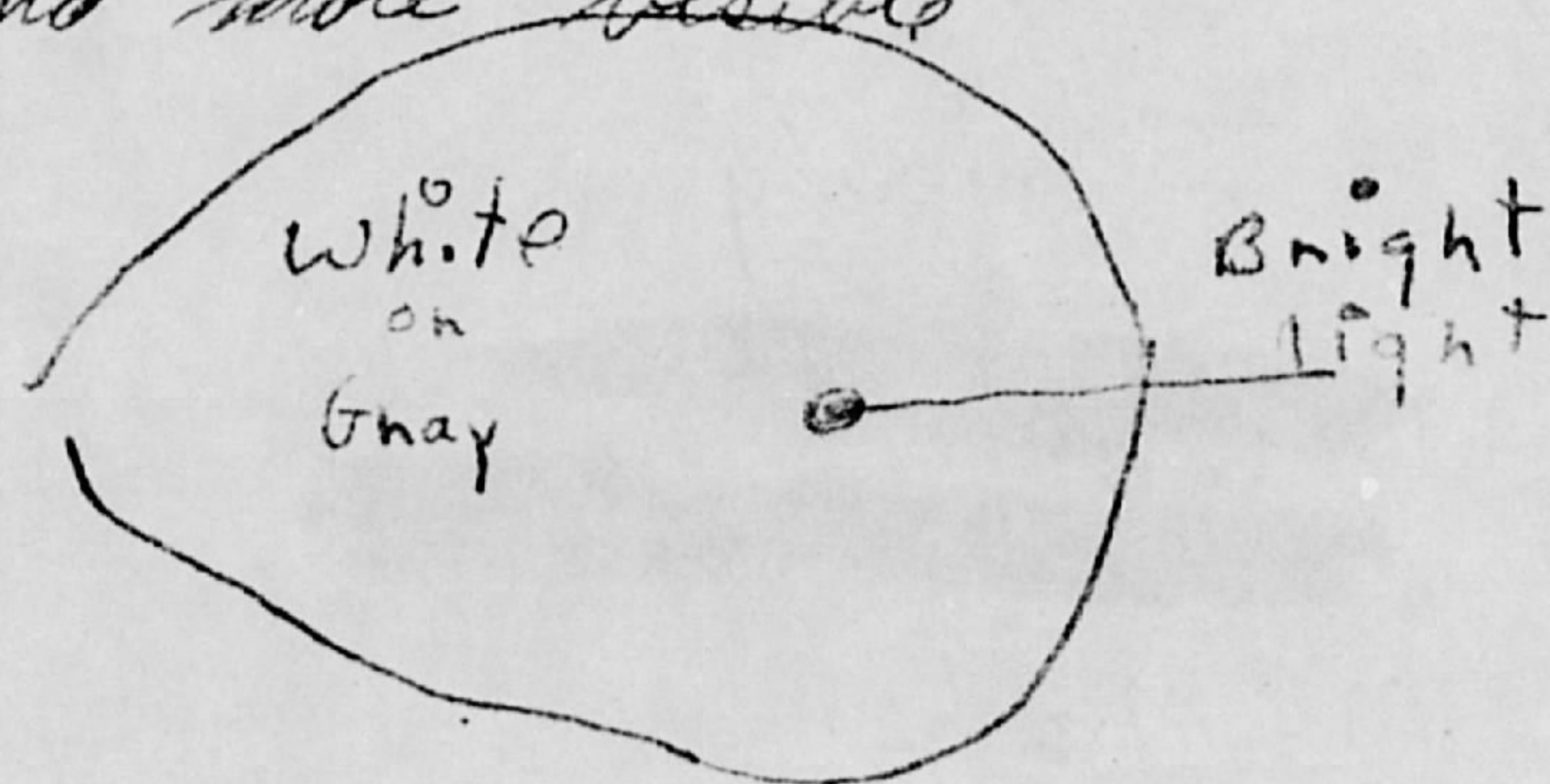
I was standing the 2000 to 2400 watch on July 28, 1959, when I noticed this object. Our position

at the time I estimate to be approximately $29^{\circ}-50'$ North and $79^{\circ}-25'$ West. We were sailing at 7 knots on course 334° when 2313 P.M. an unidentified object flying at course 250° at 25,000 feet crossed our stern. The object came out of a cloud with a bright orange glow surrounding the vessel in a parabolic shape. E.F.M.



I estimated the position of the object to have been $30^{\circ}-8'$ North by $79^{\circ}30'$ West.

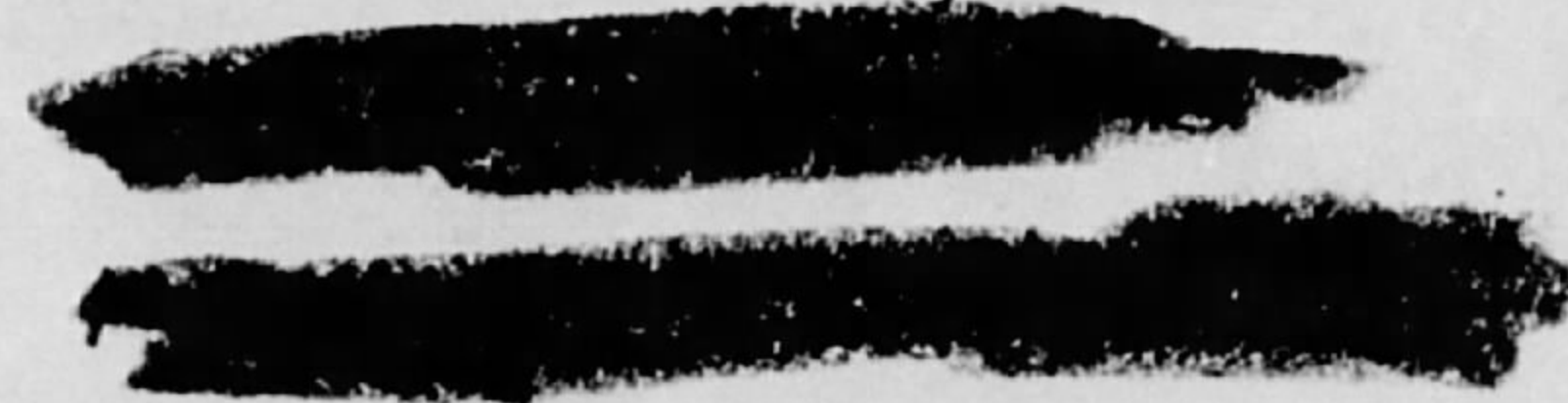
As the vessel moved across our stern in short unseen movements, its glow changed to one of white or gray. The shape of the parabola also changed, becoming larger and more visible.



I realize that our position was close to Cape Canaveral and the missile launching area. I think that this was more than a missile, however, if identified it would not be verified. If it was a missile, would you please tell me. If you think it wasn't a missile then you surely have a record on radar for its verification as it was close to the Florida coast. I would like confirmation that what I saw belongs to the U.S. and was under U.S. control.

I'll certainly appreciate any help or explanation that you can give me.

Sincerely,



M. E. Mechen,
W. Va.

28 JUL 59

SAFIS-3d/Ma. Tacker/mhb/72291

2 September 1959

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge your letter of 5 August 1959 concerning an Unidentified Flying Object you sighted on 21 July 1959.

Your letter contained insufficient data to allow a valid conclusion. Therefore request you complete the inclosed Air Force questionnaire in regard to this sighting and forward the completed paper to the Air Force Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for analysis and evaluation.

Sincerely,

Inclosure

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Public Information Division
Office of Information Services

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
McMechen, West Virginia

Comeback IS-3d
Reader IS-1

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?

28 July 1959
Day Month Year

2. Time of day:

11 13
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?

Nearest Postal Address _____ City or Town _____ State or Country _____
Additional remarks: 29°50'N by 79°-25'W
On a destroyer U.S.S. Robinson, I was on watch while
taking part in Naval Reserve maneuvers

5. Estimate how long you saw the object.

_____ 2 30
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): No a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right
d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

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

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

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

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

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

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

(Circle One):

☒ a. Yes

b. No

c. Don't remember

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

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

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

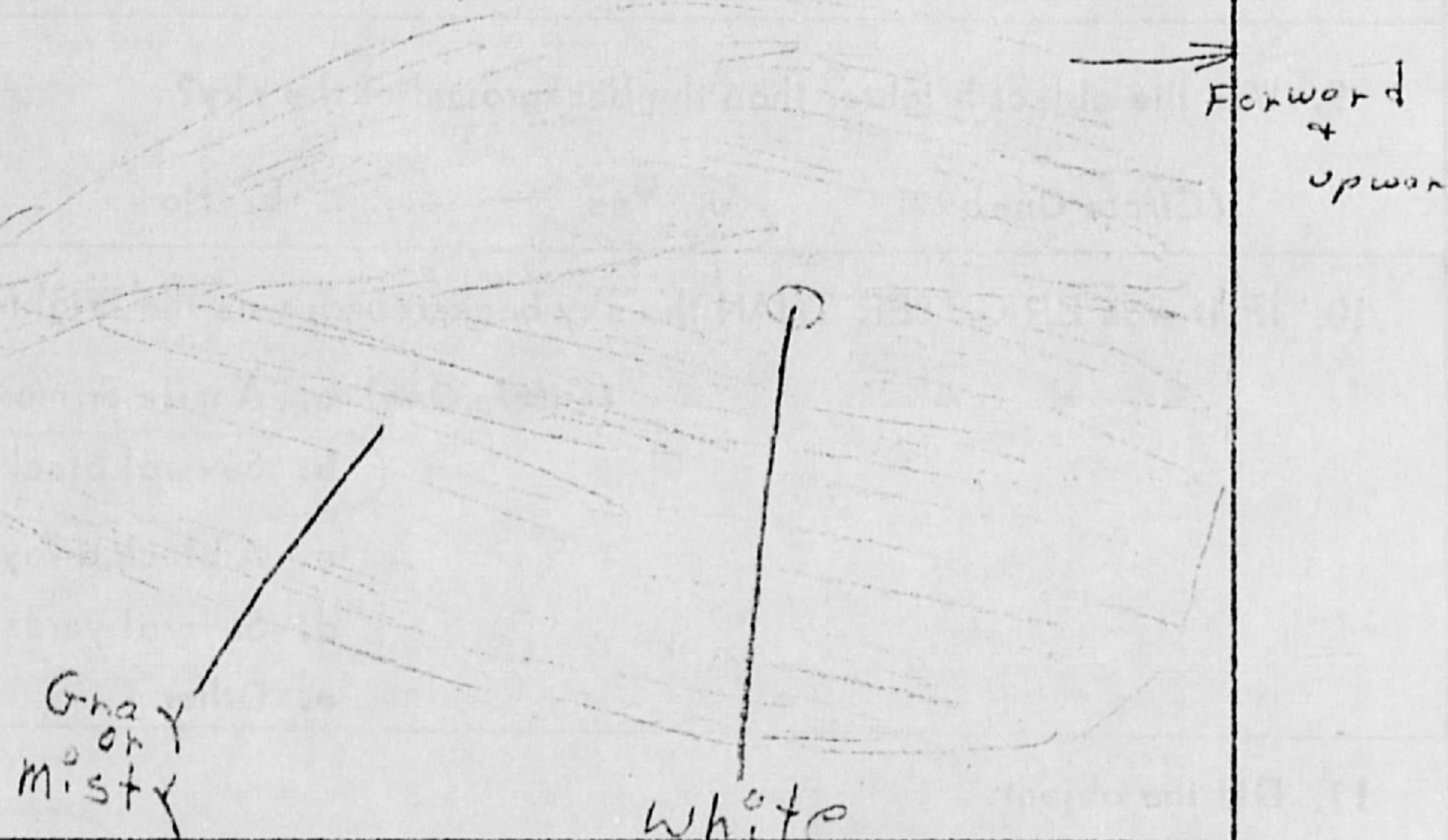
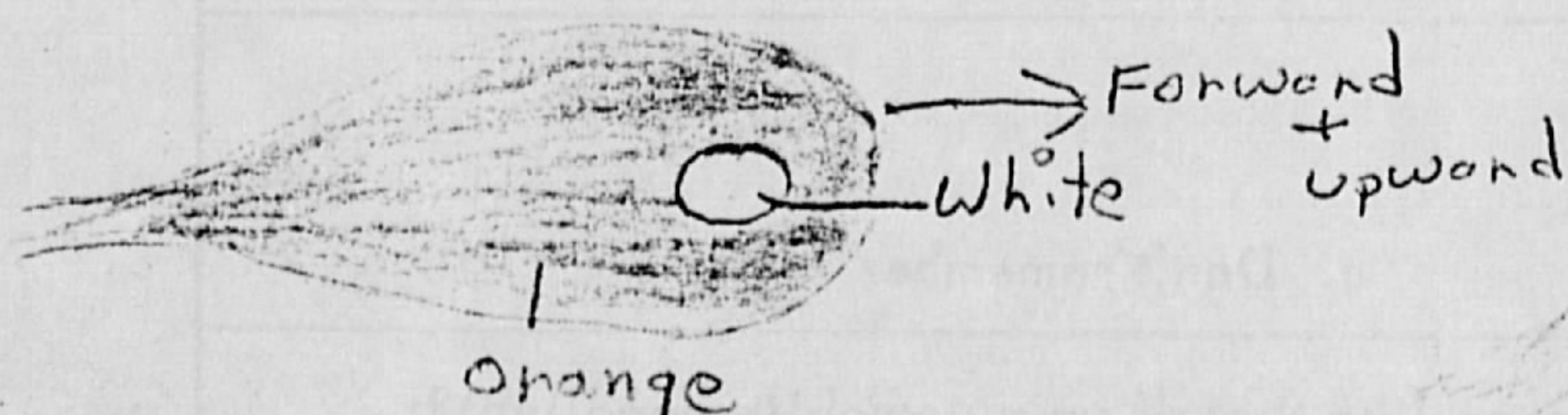
a. Sound No apparent sound

b. Color The object came across the sky in an orange glow and gradually got brighter white with a gray shadowy shape around 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.

1st Sighting

Changed onto this



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? ONE
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.

A — — — — — B

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

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

(Circle One):

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

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

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

- a. Certain
- b. Fairly certain

- c. Not very sure
- d. Uncertain

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? Upward — — heavenward toward
outer space.

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.

I have no idea of what possibly the object could have been constructed to look like as I only witnessed the light & the surrounding glow.

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 Sailing in the Atlantic

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

standing Quartermaster watch on the bridge of the destroyed
U.S.S. Robinson (524) when I noticed it and reported it to the
O.O.D. and the lookouts and I.O.O.D. took notice.

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

28.2 How fast were you moving? 7 knots 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)

- 222
- a. North
 - b. Northeast
 - c. East
 - d. Southeast
 - e. South
 - f. Southwest
 - g. West
 - h. Northwest

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

- 222
- a. North
 - b. Northeast
 - c. East
 - d. Southeast
 - e. South
 - f. Southwest
 - g. West
 - 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.

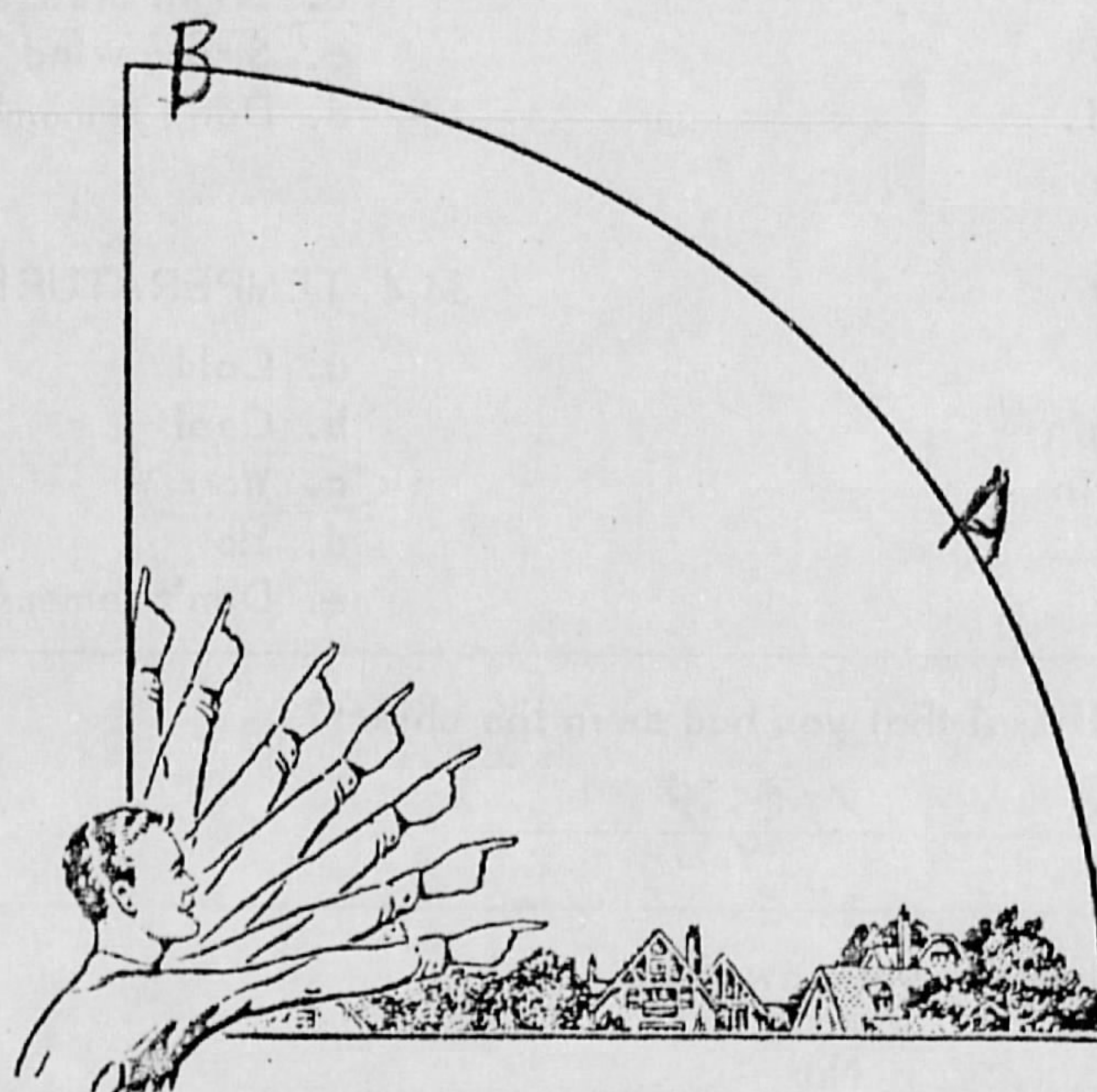
250°
15000°

31.2 When it disappeared:

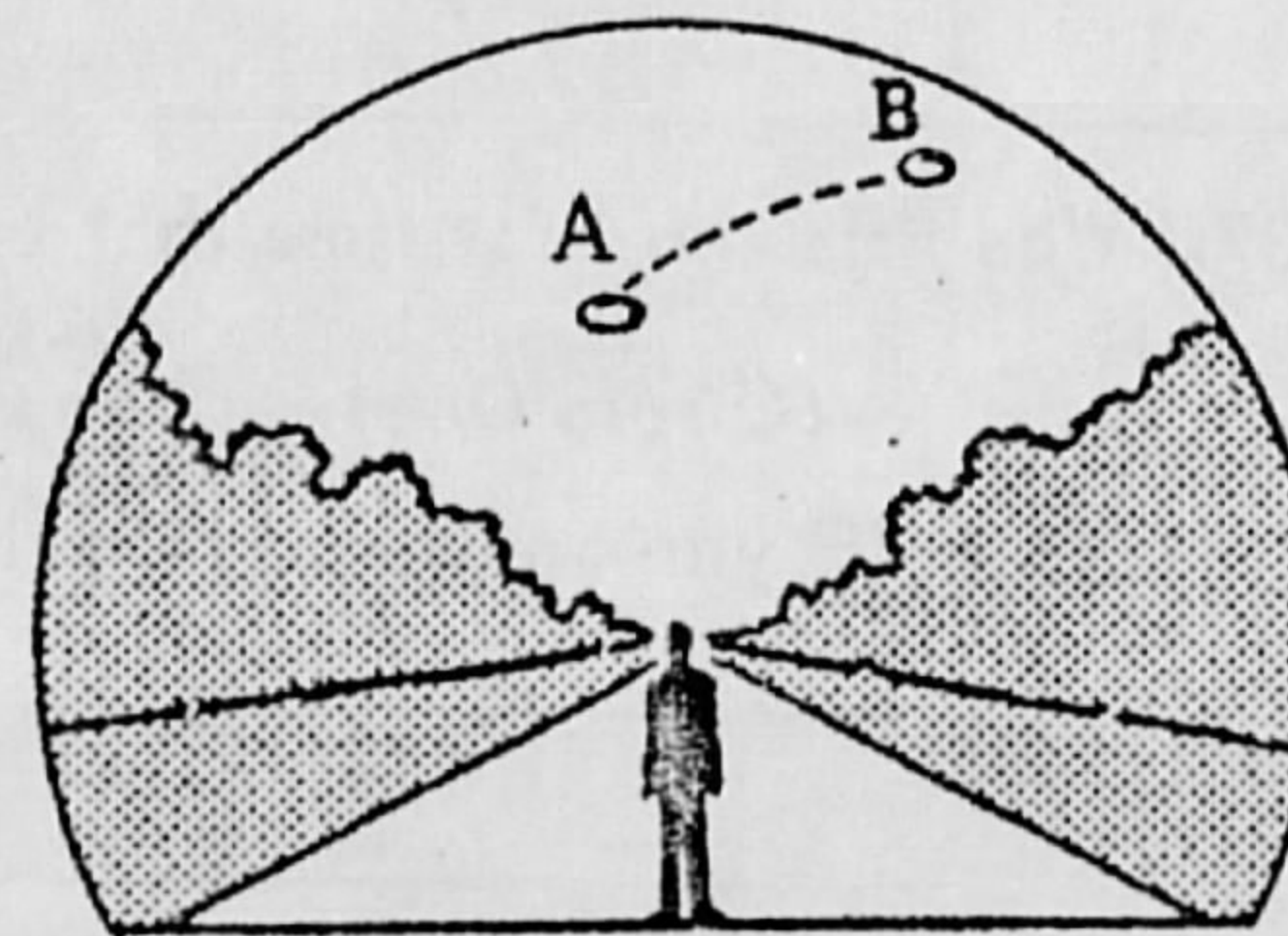
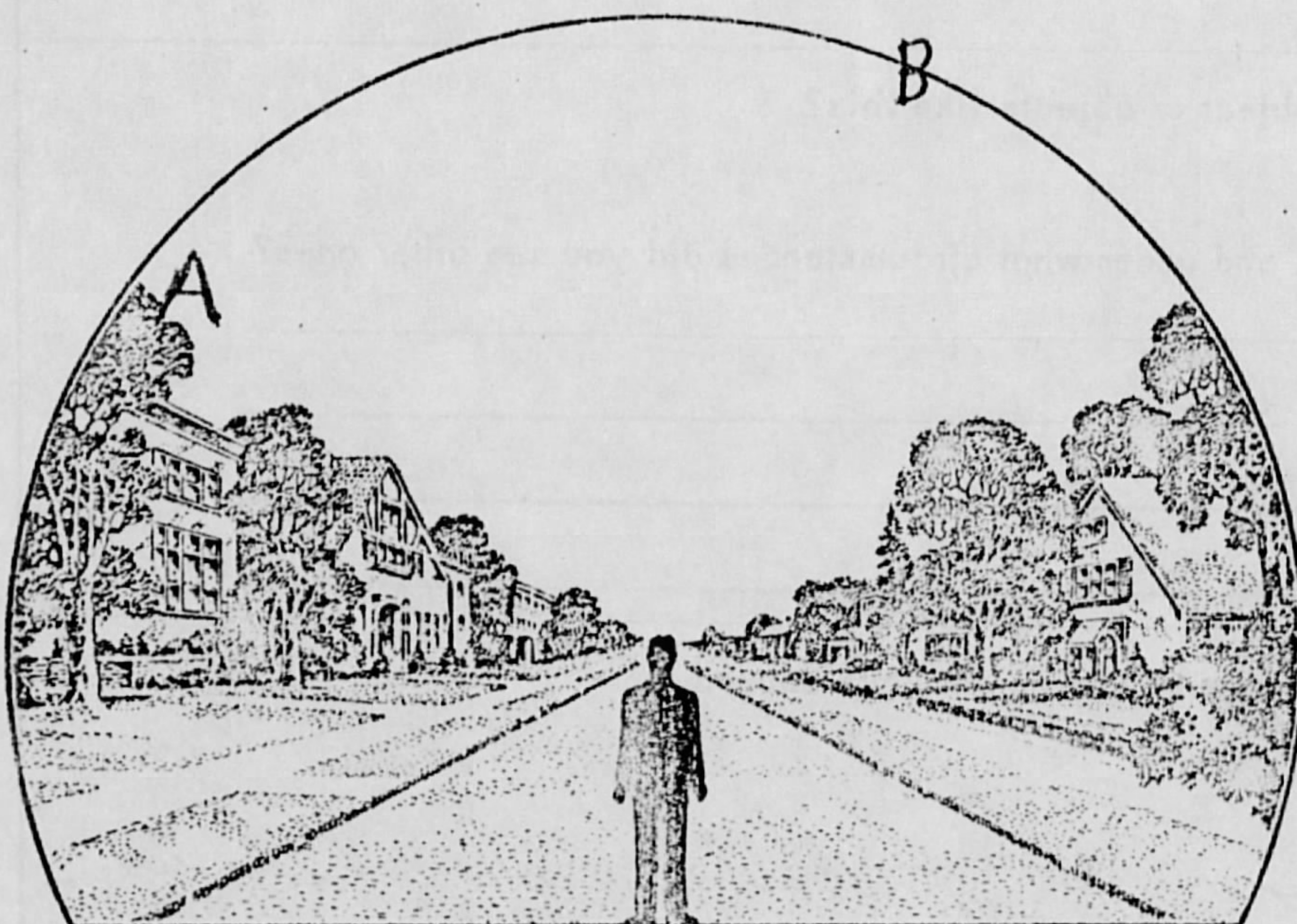
- a. From true North _____ degrees.
- b. From horizon _____ degrees.

70°
25000 ft.

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?

28 July 1959
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. [REDACTED] O.O.D. U.S.S. Robinson
[REDACTED] BM3 U.S.S. Robinson

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 missile firing from Cape Canaveral, Fla. The shape was probably due to the warm atmospheric conditions.

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? 1000-1200 m.p.h.

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

(Circle One) ☒ Yes ☐ No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? 1500-2800 feet.

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS [REDACTED] [REDACTED] McMechen W.Va
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED]

What is your present job? Student

Age 19 Sex M

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Grade school <u>X</u> | e. e. Technical school _____ |
| b. High school <u>X</u> | (Type) _____ |
| c. College <u>1 year college</u> | f. Other special training _____ |
| d. Post graduate _____ | _____ |

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

11 Sept. 1959
Day Month 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

(Do Not Write in This Space)

SIGNATURE

CODE:

DATE

September 11, 1959

Sailing on course $29^{\circ}50'N$ by $79^{\circ}35'W$ at 7 knots an hour at 334° . Approximately Oct 11:13 P.M. spotted an unidentified flying object flying at 250° at approximately 15,000 feet. The object came from the horizon or from a cloud with a bright ~~orange~~ orange glow surrounding the vessel in a ~~parabolic~~ parabolic shape. I estimated its position across the stern of the ship at $79^{\circ}30'W$ by $30^{\circ}8'N$. The vessel continued across our stern in short uneven movements, its glow changing from orange to gray or misty. The parabola's shape changed too, making the shape larger and more visible.