

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 11 Jan 61	2. LOCATION Silver Spring, Maryland		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2020 GMT 120120Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Civilian		☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 30 ± 15 sec	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE N-S	☐ Other ☒ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Rapidly-flashing light. Moved very fast, at constant low altitude in a straight line. Light was white with a bluish tinge.		11. COMMENTS The duration reported was just a guess by the witness. Under some circumstances several seconds can seem like a long time. However, it would have been physically impossible for the witness to complete all of the action he said he performed in a matter of seconds. If the witness saw the same object more than once as reported, the duration would have been more like two or three minutes. As there was only one witness, this report is categorized as insufficient data.	

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?

11 Jan 1961
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 8 20-25
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?

[REDACTED] Drive Silver Spring Maryland
City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks:

5. How long was object in sight?

30 ± 15
Hours Minutes Seconds

5.1 How was time in sight determined?

a. Certain
b. Fairly certain

c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

DAY

a. Bright
b. Cloudy

NIGHT

a. Bright
b. Cloudy

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, 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

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, 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. The object appeared:

(Circle One): a. As a light b. Shiny c. Dark d. Don't remember

10. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars?

Yes, very much brighter.

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. Flash or flicker? | ☒ Yes | No | Don't Know |
| h. Disappear and reappear? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |

12. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): ☒ Yes No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind: Trees & Houses

13. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): ☒ Yes No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what in front of: Trees & Houses

14. Did the object appear: (Circle One): a. Solid b. Transparent c. Vapor d. 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 | <u>Nothing</u> | |

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

- a. Sound none above slow speed noise of VW car
 b. Color Unusual white, bright, rapid flashing 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 itself was not visible even as the result of illumination by its own flashing light. The edges of the flash were characteristically jagged, e.g. , i.e. much more distortion than caused by ordinary glass in the line of sight to a light source.

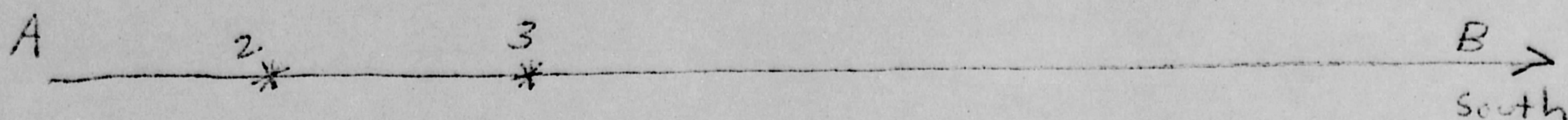
18. The edges of the object were:

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

e. Other not seen

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.



1 *

Points 1 2 and 3 are positions with respect to the trajectory from which the phenomena was observed.

21. How large did the object appear to you as compared to an object with which you are familiar?

Flash much brighter and faster than aircraft "navigation" lights

22. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick at arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head?

The match head would probably not have covered the flash.

23. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how? Yes, by being far away.

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

25. Where were you located when you saw the object?
(Circle One):

- a. Inside a building
- ☒ b. In a car
- c. Outdoors
- d. In an airplane (type)
- 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. 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?

Driving car on residential street.
Bright light flashed in my left field of
vision.

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? 20 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 |
| | | | i. Overhead |

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 |
| | | | i. Overhead |

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North (thru east) and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

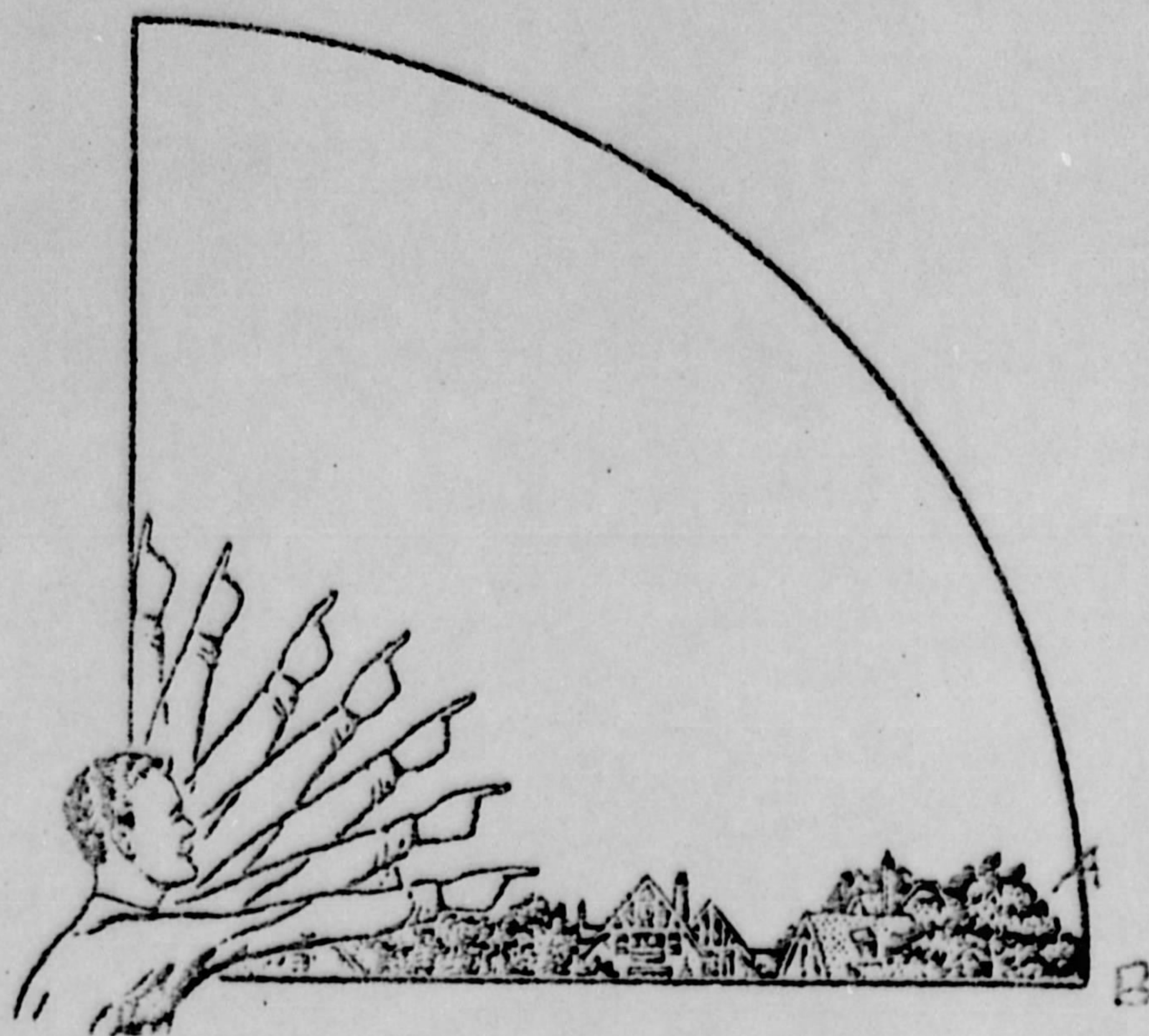
31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North 45 degrees.
- b. From horizon 10 degrees.

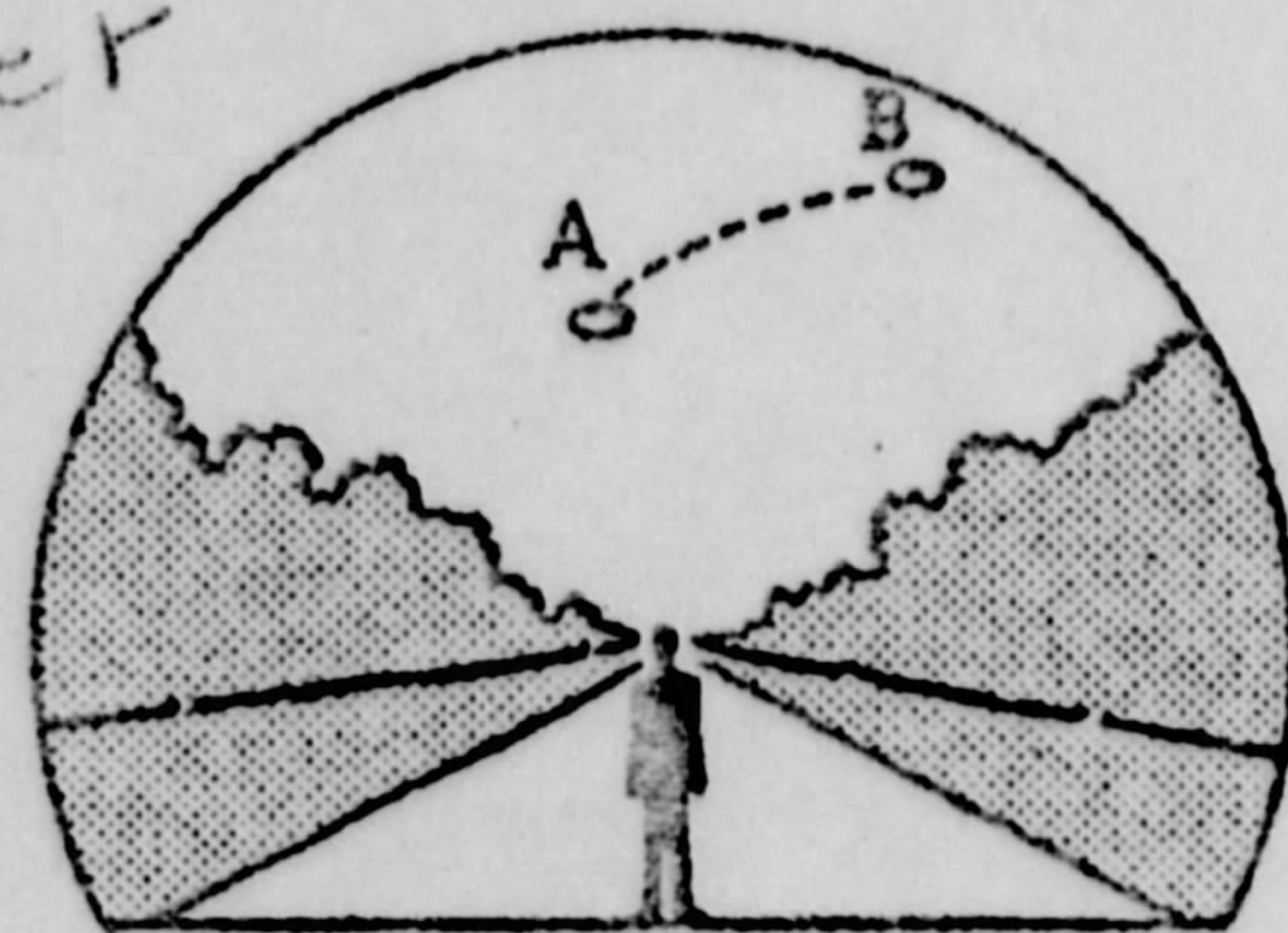
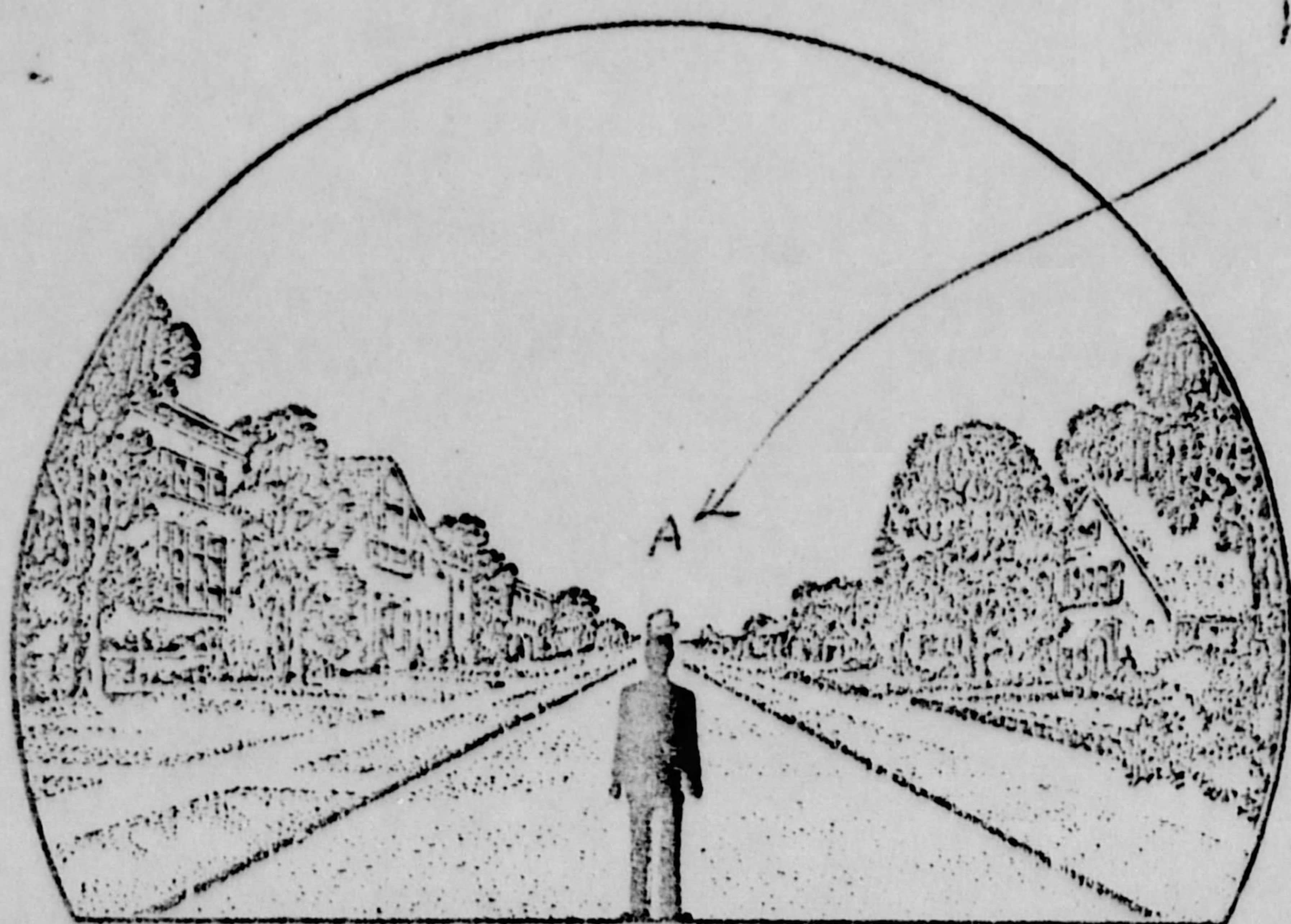
31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 180 degrees.
- b. From horizon 0 degrees.

32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you *first* saw it, and a "B" at its position when you *last* saw it. Refer to smaller sketch as an example of how to complete the larger sketch.



34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (Circle One)

- a. Clear sky
- b. Hazy
- c. Scattered clouds
- d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (Circle One)

- a. Dry
- b. Fog, mist, or light rain
- c. Moderate or heavy rain
- d. Snow
- e. Don't remember

35. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object?

12
Day

Jan
Month

1961
Year

Col. Tacker,
OX 7-2291

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?

Do not know. The characteristics of the apparently disembodied light and the very high speed flight at low altitude without appreciable noise are beyond my experience.

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? 500-600 mph

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? about 1 block (1000-1500 ft)
at point of closest approach

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

ADDRESS

City

Zone

State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

Age

45

Sex

M

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any education, which might be pertinent.

Research & Development Engineer

NACA 1939 - 1946

Navy DTMB 1946 - 1955

SHU Applied Physics lab 1955 to present

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

24
Day

Jan
Month

1961
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

24 January 1961

I left my home at 8:20 on the evening of 11 January 1961 and headed east on Quaint Acres Drive driving my VW. About in front of 501 Quaint Acres Drive, my attention was attracted to a bright, rapidly-flashing light to my left. First thinking an aircraft emergency was imminent, I started to stop the car to get out. Before I could stop all forward motion, I realized there was no emergency because the light was moving very fast from my left to my right at constant low altitude in a straight line toward the south. It quickly disappeared behind local obstructions so I rapidly accelerated to obtain a position directly

beneath its flight path - approximately at its point of closest approach. At this point I saw it twice when it was not behind local obstructions. This was presumably a rear view. The light was still as before - white and rapidly flashing. It was rapidly receding. I therefore rapidly moved to a new observation point atop an overpass at a grade separation - the intersection of route 29 and New Hampshire Avenue. This point was also beneath the flight path but maybe 3000 feet further south. Here I watched the light until I could no longer see it flash in the distance.

The following observations I cannot explain:

1. The bright, rapidly flashing light - white with a bluish tinge.
2. The very high speed at very low altitude without characteristic noise level.
3. The absence of observable airframe.
4. The absence of any red light normally on aircraft at night.

(this is the last page.)