

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 25 Aug 61		2. LOCATION Wilmington, Delaware		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2000 GMT 260100Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20 min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE SW	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Shiny white starlike objt w/red dot detached fm it. Looked a little larger than Venus. Exploded into pieces.				11. COMMENTS Description of objt similar to earlier sighted objts which were determined to be balloons. Smoke reported was probably due to condensation formed when it burst. Crescent of light is to be expected when balloon is generally between witnesses and sun. Sun had set but due to height of balloon it was probably still in sunlight. Red light was probably the anti-collision light which is put on balloons after sunset.	

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?

25 August 1961
Day Month Year

News - Journal Papers (Wilmington)
WAMS Radio (Wilmington, Del.)

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:

[Redacted]
Silver'sd Hqts.
Wilm. 3. Del.

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 don't know what the
object could have been.
If you can identify it
for us please do so.

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

September 30, 1961

Name

Signature

Date

Sept. 30, 1961

We were looking out of the bedroom window when I noticed a bright "star." I am interested in astronomy and the object looked unusual. We ran outside and looked at it with binoculars. It didn't look any different. We got my six inch reflecting telescope out and put in a 40X (forty-power) Kellner eyepiece. According to my mother, little brother, and John Fields (who was still watching the object until I called him to open the door while I carried my telescope out.

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? _____

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? _____

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME

[REDACTED]
Last Name

[REDACTED]
First Name

[REDACTED]
Middle Name

ADDRESS

[REDACTED]
Street

Silverside Hgts, Wilmington
City

3
Zone

Delaware
State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

[REDACTED]

Age

13

Sex

Male

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Green Acres, Wilmington 3, Delaware

Phone: [REDACTED]

Age 12 (almost 13) Sex Male

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

30

Day

September

Month

1961

Year

side) the object had moved while I was inside the house. When we looked through the telescope the object had stopped moving and we saw a round white object with an orange crescent on the left side and a red dot. Through the telescope whatever you look at is upside down and turned around. Thus the crescent was really on the right and was probably caused by the sun. The other things shown in the diagram* were not seen by me or else we are not sure of. After we looked at the object a little I took some pictures that didn't turn out do to the fact that the object wasn't bright enough and that outside light also interfered. After I took my last picture I looked in the telescope and was ~~upside~~ surprised to see the exploded pieces of the object. After looking more closely we also saw "smoke". The pieces gradually faded away after ten to fifteen minutes. Soon afterwards clouds covered the scene (rather where it had been).

~~_____~~ and

~~_____~~

P.S. - ~~_____~~ did see the object explode without the telescope.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Silver Side Heights
Wilmington 9, Del.
April 8, 1963

Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sirs:

About a year and a half ago I reported seeing a white, partly transparent globe with a red dot near it through my six inch reflecting telescope. It appeared to the naked eye as a star, although it wasn't dark enough to see stars yet. It was above the clouds which were being blown across the sky. This was the night of the August 25, 1961, lunar eclipse. I filled out one of your forms and mailed it back. If you still have the records, I would like to know your evaluation. Although I have never seen a weather balloon through a telescope, there might not have been any visible in the sky at the time. As you probably can find out if a balloon could have caused what I saw* I would like to find out what it was since a balloon is the only explanation I know that would fit.

* I was taking a picture with my camera - which doesn't have

time exposure and thus I obtained no picture - when the object apparently exploded. I say this because when I next looked in to the telescope, I saw the glittering specks which, I suppose, were part of the formerly round object, and also some "smoke."
(My brother and a friend say that they saw the object "explode" with their naked eyes).

I am writing my ninth-grade theme on flying saucers and I would like to get one of your questionnaires if you will please send me one - I would like to display it as part of the Air Force saucer* investigation project. Thank you.

* perhaps I should say unidentified flying object instead of saucer.

Sincerely yours,


COPY

Silverside Heights
Wilmington 9, Del.
April 8, 1963

Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sirs:

About a year and a half ago I reported seeing a white, partly transparent globe with a red dot near it through my six inch reflecting telescope. It appeared to the naked eye as a star, although it wasn't dark enough to see stars yet. It was above the clouds which were being blown across the sky. This was the night of the August 25, 1961, lunar eclipse. I filled out one of your forms and mailed it back. If you still have the records, I would like to know your evaluation. Although I have never seen a weather balloon through a telescope, there might not have been any visible in the sky at the time. As you probably can find out if a balloon could have caused what I saw*, I would like to find out what it was since a balloon is the only explanation I know that would fit.

* I was taking a picture with my camera-which doesn't have

2nd page

time exposure and thus I obtained no picture- when the object apparently exploded. I say this because when I next looked in- to the telescope, I saw the glittering specks, which, I suppose, were part of the formerly round object, and also some "smoke." (My brother and a friend say that they saw the object "explode" with their naked eyes).

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* perhaps I should say unidentified flying object instead of saucer.

Sincerely yours,

(s) **[REDACTED]**

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: TDE

SUBJECT: Request for UFO Information ([REDACTED])

11 April 1963

TO: Hq USAF SAF-OI 3b (Major Hart)
Wash 25 DC

1. Reference the attached letter from [REDACTED] requesting information on unidentified flying objects. This letter is forwarded to your office for whatever action you deem necessary.
2. The evaluation of Mr. [REDACTED]'s sighting was made possible due to the completeness of his report. A photo of a radiosonde weather balloon similar to that sighted is attached to be forwarded with your reply.

FOR THE COMMANDER

Eric T. Jonckheere
ERIC T. JONCKHEERE
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology and Subsystems

- 2 Atch
1. Ltr fm J.M. [REDACTED], dtd 11 Apr 63.
 2. Photo of Radiosonde Balloon.

██████████

HEADQUARTERS
FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
WRIGHT PATTEN AIR FORCE BASE
DAYTON, OHIO 45433

April 19, 1963

Dear Mr. ██████████

The evaluation of your sighting was made possible due to the completeness of your report. A photo of a radiosonde weather balloon similar to that sighted is attached for your information and report.

Other valuable information is also inclosed, including the official reporting form 164.

Your interest is appreciated.

Sincerely,

C. R. HART
Major, USAF
Public Information Div
Office of Information

██████████

[REDACTED]
SILVERSIDE HGTs.

WILMINGTON 3, DEL.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1961

Project Bluebook

Air Technical Intelligence Center

Wright-Patterson AFB

Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sirs:

We would like to report the sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object. On the night of Friday, August 25, 1961, at about 8:00 P. M. EDT, we sighted a bright object in the West-Northwest section of the sky. It was a little bit lower in altitude than Arcturus was and it was about 3 or 4 times the difference in altitude, of the two bodies, to the west. (Since it was too light for Arcturus to be easily seen, the position of Arcturus is approximate.)

It looked like a bubble with a orange crescent (Probably the reflection of the sun).

The preceeding paragraph described the object as seen through a 6" reflecting telescope at 40 power. All of the following was observed the same way unless otherwise stated.

At about 8:07 P. M. it exploded. Without visual aid, "the object seemed to explode, shooting out into many pieces, making a small amount of what appeared to be smoke. The exploded objects (with the naked eye) appeared to be still. They gradually faded out and were invisible after about 10 minutes.

The explosion itself was not seen through the telescope as we were trying to take a picture through the telescope at the time.

If it is possible for you to give us a posotive explanation of this, please do so.

Very truly yours,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
and [REDACTED]

P. S. The pictures did not turn out due to insufficient light.

HEADQUARTERS
FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO



REPLY TO

ATTN OF: TD-E/Major Friend

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting (Messrs Blackiston and Fields)

13 SEP 1961

TO: SAFOI-3c (Major Coleman)

1. Messrs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Silver-
side Heights, Wilmington 3, Delaware, reported to FTD by
letter a UFO sighting which they experienced on 25 August 1961.
2. The letter from Messrs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] does not contain
sufficient information to allow successful analysis.
3. It is requested that two (2) ATIC Forms 164 be forwarded to
these gentlemen with instructions that they be completed indepen-
dently.

Edward H. Wynn
EDWARD H. WYNN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science
and Components

*Julie -
Send Questionnaire
to the above -
@*

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?

25 August 1961
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 8 00
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]
Nearest Postal Address

Wilmington 3, Delaware
City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks: _____

5. How long was object in sight?

0 20 00
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~~ Twilight
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

It had just set to our right.

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 ^{star} light b. Shiny c. Dark d. Don't remember
without telescope

10. If it appeared as a ^{star} light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? yes

11. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

- | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|------------|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time? | <u>Yes</u> | No | Don't Know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | <u>Yes</u> | No | Don't Know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | <u>Yes</u> | No | Don't Know |
| d. Give off smoke? | <u>Yes</u> | No | Don't Know |
| e. Change brightness? | Yes | <u>No</u> | Don't Know |
| f. Change shape? | Yes | <u>No</u> | Don't Know |
| g. Flash or flicker? | Yes | <u>No</u> | Don't Know |
| h. Disappear and reappear? | Yes | <u>No</u> | 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: Cloud

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: _____

14. Did the object appear: (Circle One): a. Solid b. Transparent c. Vapor d. Don't Know

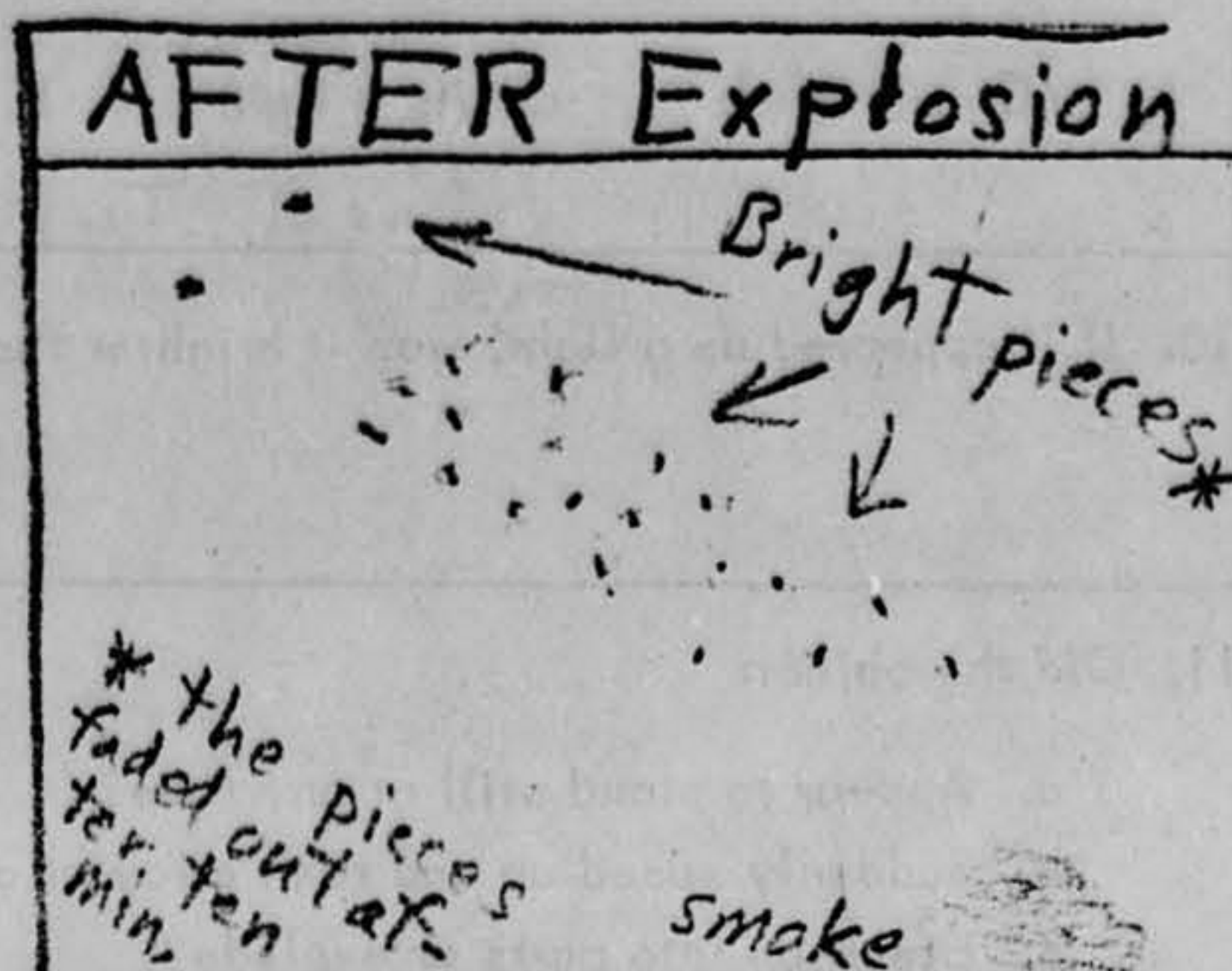
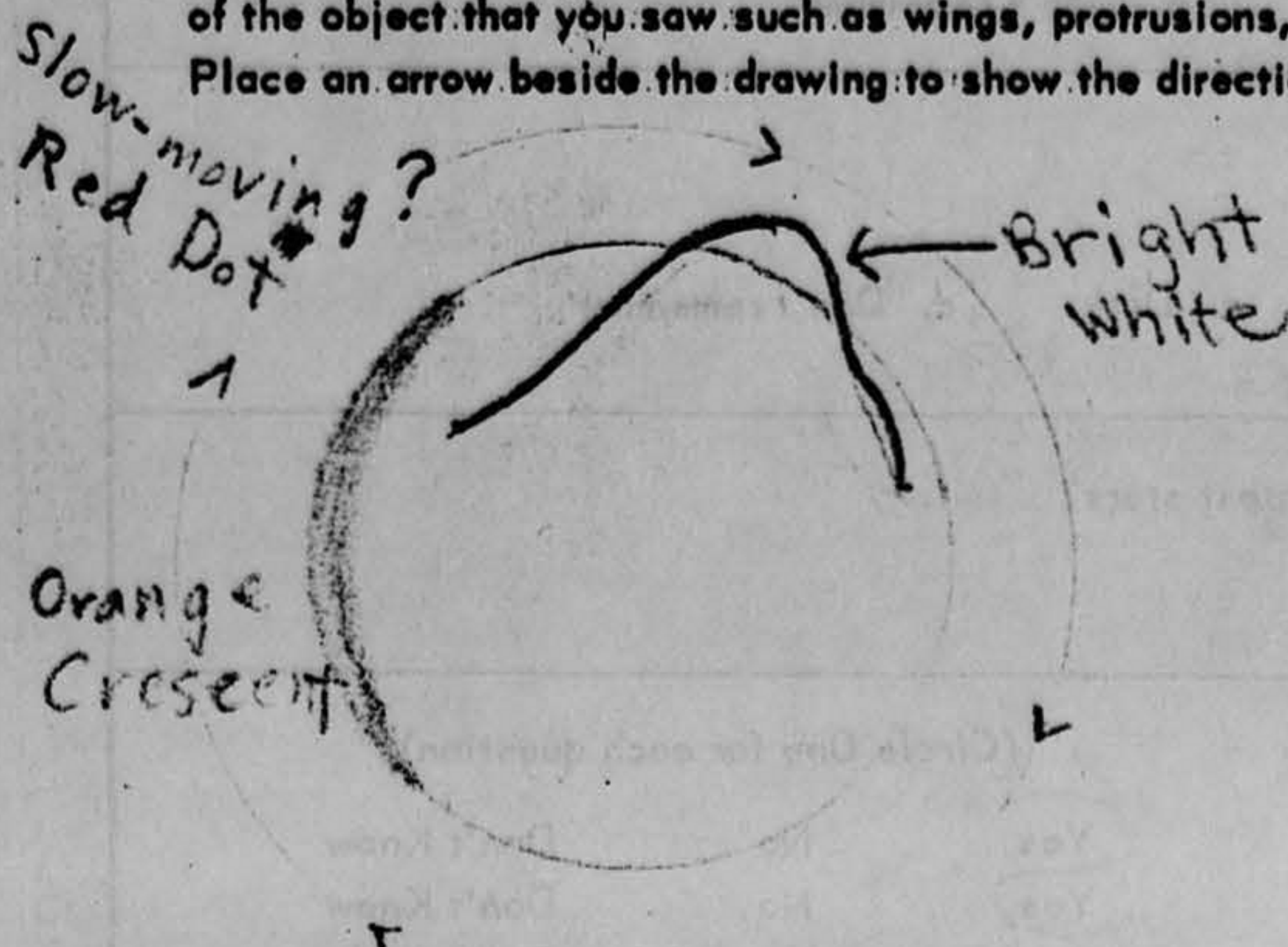
15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| a. Eyeglasses | Yes | <u>No</u> | e. Binoculars | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
| b. Sun glasses | Yes | <u>No</u> | f. Telescope | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
| c. Windshield | Yes | <u>No</u> | g. Theodolite | Yes | <u>No</u> |
| d. Window glass | Yes | <u>No</u> | h. Other | _____ | |

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

- a. Sound None
- b. Color Shiny white; red dot detached from it;
orange crescent

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: with telescope

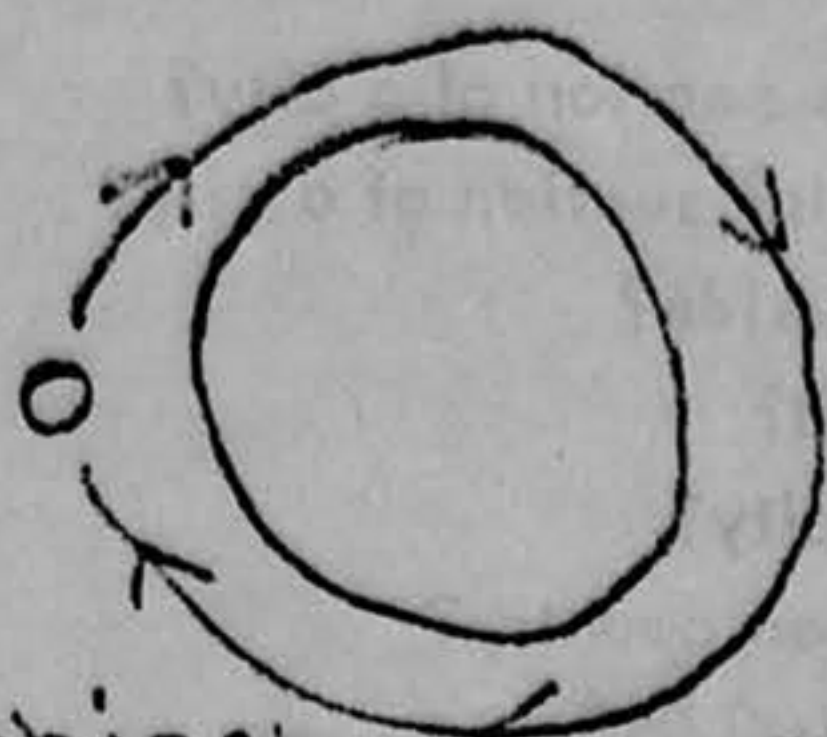
- (Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred
b. Like a bright star
☒ c. Sharply outlined
d. Don't remember

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.

Drawing of # 17 explains this..

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.



This object was seen in different locations which makes us think it was moving.

21. How large did the object appear to you as compared to an object with which you are familiar? *It looked as little larger than Venus in Venus's crescent phase.*

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? *We are not sure, but probably all of it would have been covered. (looking through the telescope)*

23. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how? *Yes, It exploded into pieces which gradually faded 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.

I believe it could have been a balloon except for the red dot and that the exploded pieces did not look as if they were affected by earth's gravity. Also the smoke could have been gas except that it would have expanded.

It looked like a circular white object with a small red circular object next to it. There was an orange crescent on the left side of the white object.

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 suburbs

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

We were looking out the window and
we noticed the the object in the sky.

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)

- It was a little off west.
- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| 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)

- It was a little further to the south than before.
- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| 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).

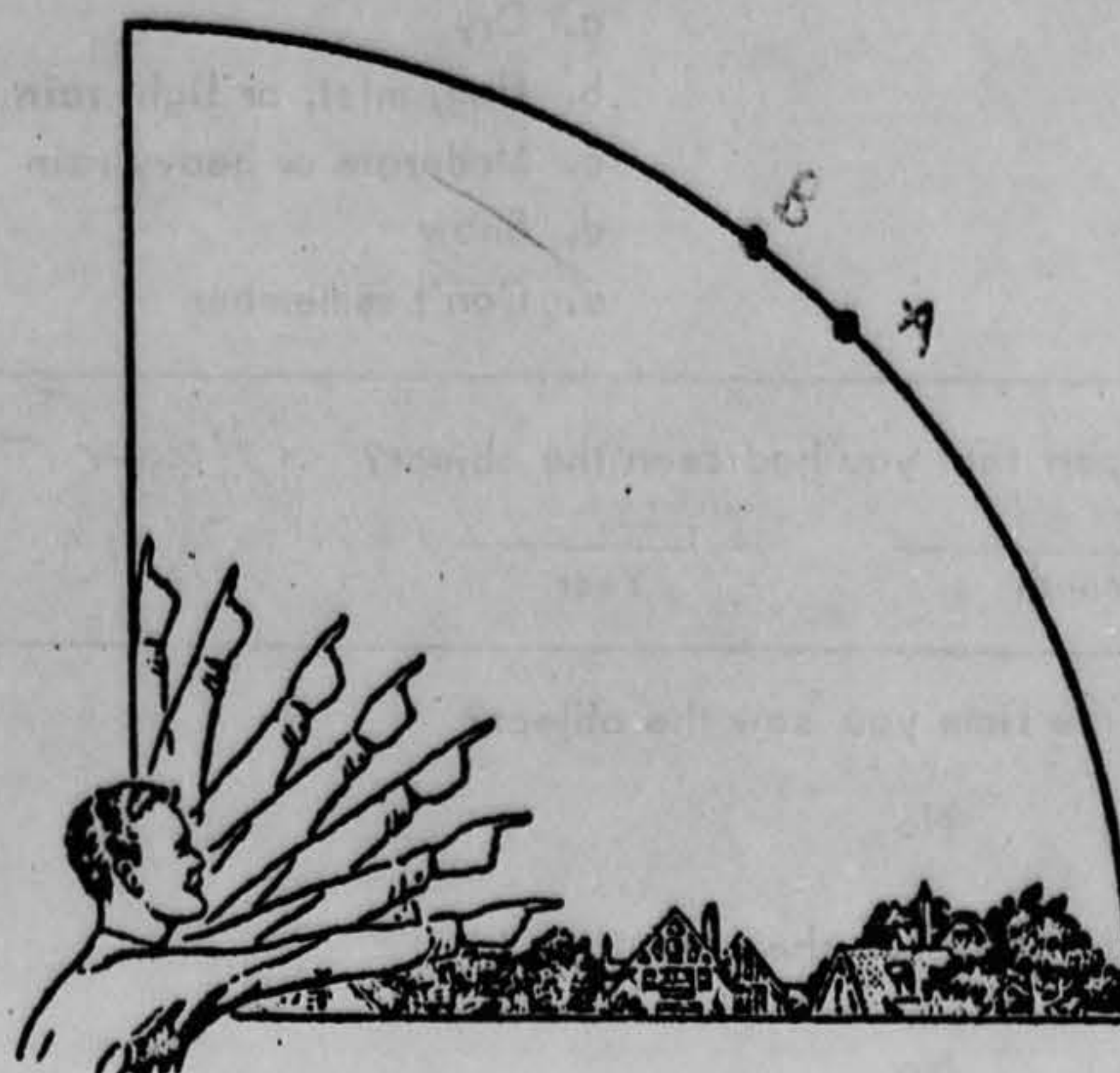
31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North 282? degrees.
- b. From horizon 47? degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 280? degrees.
- b. From horizon 47? 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.

