

VRGR OLL 011

of
WMA

02/1938Z

77

3TP 012P
ENB121S YMB067 WYD138 WMA139LBA047
PP JEDEN JEDST JEDWP JEPHQ JWFGO JWFRD
DE JWFLB 11A
P 021800Z
FM COMDR REESE AFB TEX
TO JEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO
JWFRD/COMDR 34 ADIV /DEF/ KIRTLAND AFB NM
JEDWP/COMDR ATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO
JEPHQ/D/I HQ USAF WASHDC
JEDST/COMDR ATC SCOTT AFB ILL
JWFGO/COMDR FTAF WACO TEX

Cochise New Mex
2 Feb 55

BT
G046B. UFOB. LAW AFR 200-2 FOLG INFO SUB CLN
1. /A/ SPHERICAL CMM /B/ BASEBALL OR GRAPEFRUIT CMM /C/ RED AND
WHITE /VERY BRIGHT/ FIREBALL CMM /D/ ONE CMM /E/ N/A CMM /F/ NO
CMM /G/ NONE CMM /H/ UNK CMM /I/ NONE PD
2. /A/ BRIGHTNESS AND SIZE CMM /B/ FIVE DEG ABOVE REPORTING ACFT
ABOUT FIVE MI NORTH OF REPORTING ACFT CMM /C/ CLIMBED OUT OF
SIGHT AT FIVE DEG ANGLE PARALLEL TO COURSE OF ACFT CMM /D/
HOVERED OFF LEFT WING APPROX FIVE MIN THEN BEGAN STEADY CLIMB
PARALLEL TO COURSE OF ACFT AT EXTREMELY HIGH SPEED PD APPEARED
TO DIM MOMENTARILY AS IT PULLED AWAY PD /E/ PAR C ABOVE CMM /F/

PAGE TWO JWFLB 11A
DISSAPPEARED IN THREE MINS PD
3. /A/ AIR TO AIR VISUAL CMM /B/ NONE CMM /C/ TB-25 44-86894 CMM
13,000 CMA 080 DEG CMM 238 MPH GROUND SPEED CMA REESE AFB CMM TEXAS PD
4. /A/ 0255Z CMM 2 FEB 55 CMM /B/ NIGHT PD
5. /A/ 20 MI DUE EAST COCHISE CMM NM CMM ON AIRWAY GREEN 5 PD OBJ
OVER MOUNTAINS TO LEFT OF COURSE PD
6. /A/ N/A CMM /B/ CAPT DELWYN F. RITZDORF CMM A0742781 CMM 3500
PTW CMM INSTRUCTOR PILOT CMM GOOD RELIABILITY PD A/C RICHARD B.
SHORT CMM AD11271268 CMM 3500 PTW CMM STU PLT CMM RELIABILITY UNK
PD A/C FREDERICK W. MILLER JR CMM AD12424321 CMM 3500 PTW CMM STU
PLT CMM RELIABILITY UNK PD
7. /A/ CLEAR CMM BRIGHT MOONLIGHT CMM WINDS 290 DEG SLANT 20K CMM
/B/ AWS TUSCON CMM ARIZ RPT CLEAR CMM 40 MI VIS AT 0300Z PD AWS
DOUGLAS CMM ARIZ CMM RPT 30,000 THIN CMM SCATTERED AT 0300Z CMM
/C/ N/A CMM /D/ 50 MI CMM /E/ N/A CMM /F/ N/A PD
8. NONE 9. NONE 10. NONE 11. NONE 12. CAPT DOUGLAS R. WOOD CMM
A0711819 CMM WG ADG CMM NO COMMENTS PD
BT
02/1825Z FEB JWFLB

5 FEB 1955

Captain Delwyn F. Ritzdorf
AO742781
3600th Pilot Training Wing
Reese AFB
Lubbock, Texas

Dear Captain Ritzdorf:

This organization appreciates your cooperation in reporting the Unidentified Flying Object; however additional information is needed for analysis of this sighting.

The inclosed ATIC Form No. 164 is inclosed for your convenience in supplying this squadron with the needed information. Again our thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

2 Incl
1. Form 164
2. Self-addressed
Envelope

RAY L JONES
Major, USAF
Adjutant

FEB 2 08 13.22

Send Capt. Ritzdorf a "Form A" for accomplishments

Capt. Delwyn F. Ritzdorf

AO 742781

3500th Pilot Training Wing

Reese AFB

~~WACO~~, TEXAS

LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Just
✓

Accomplish

Fill enclosed form and return as soon as possible.

Mr. Norvelle Wallace Sharpe

113 Seabreeze Ave.

Delray Beach, Fla.

3TP 001P
 ENA058
 XYA103
 XMA042RHB033
 EMERGENCY JEDEN BWPI JEPHQ
 DE JWPRH 1F
 Y 020401Z
 FM COMDR MARCH FLT SV CEN MARCH AFB CALIF
 TO JEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO
 BWP/COMDR COMWESTSEAFRON TRASURE ISLAND CALIF
 JEPHQ/CS USAF WAHS25DC
 BT

02/0425Z

TO	SECT	INIT	ACT. TO	COPY TO
	AISCR			/
	AISDC			
	AISAJ			/
	AIS/D			
	AISFR			
	AISFD			
	AISOP			/
	AISOC			
	ATIC			
	AISR			
	AISCA			
	AISDA			
	AISAS			
	AISUP			
	I/SGT.			
	O CLK			
	DETS			
	FLYS			
	FILE			

1. CIRVIS
 2. AF86894 B25 PILOT RITZDORF
 3. AND 4.
 UCFT IALLED COLUMBUS RADIO N.M. AND ADVISED THAT AT 1955M
 AT 15,000 FT MSL 20 MILES EAST COCHISE, ARIZONA SAW BALL OF
 FIRE THAT RAN PARRALLEL TO ACFT FOR 5 MINUTES AND TOOK OFF TO
 EAST AND WENT OUT OF SIGHT IN 5 MINUTES. REPORT RECEIVED AT
 EL PASO 2005M FROM COLUMBUS RADIO
 BT
 02/0402Z FEB JWPRH

Recomm: Cards to be made out (ATIC 46020) indicating insufficient data for evaluation.
 OK AB

PLS ACK

REC OKN

PAGE TWO JWFLB 11A
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 A0711819 CMM WG ADG CMM NO COMMENTS PD
 BT
 02/1825Z FEB JWFLB

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?

1 Day 2 Month 55 Year

2. Time of day: 08 Hour 55 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

I was in Mountain zone but using Central time

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

I BELIEVE THE NEAREST TOWN IS

_____ WILCOX _____ ARIZONA
Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks: 30 MILES EAST OF COCHISE RADIO ON GREEN 5 AIRWAY AT 13,000 FT. IN ARIZONA

5. Estimate how long you saw the object.

_____ Hours 57 Minutes _____ Seconds

5.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.

a. Certain c. Not very sure
 b. Fairly certain d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

(Circle One): a. Bright daylight d. Just a trace of daylight
 b. Dull daylight e. No trace of daylight
 c. Bright twilight 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? *(NIGHT)*

(Circle One): a. In front of you d. To your left
 b. In back of you e. Overhead
 c. To your right f. Don't remember

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

1/2 MOON - ALMOST OVER HEAD

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? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Don't Know |
| d. Give off smoke? | Yes | No | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Don't Know |
| e. Change brightness? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |
| f. Change shape? | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Don't Know |
| g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate? | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 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: _____

One star that was about at 2:00 O'clock above it. we were using this star for comparison

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 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | e. Binoculars | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |
| b. Sun glasses | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | f. Telescope | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |
| c. Windshield | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | g. Theodolite | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |
| d. Window glass | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | h. Other _____ | | |

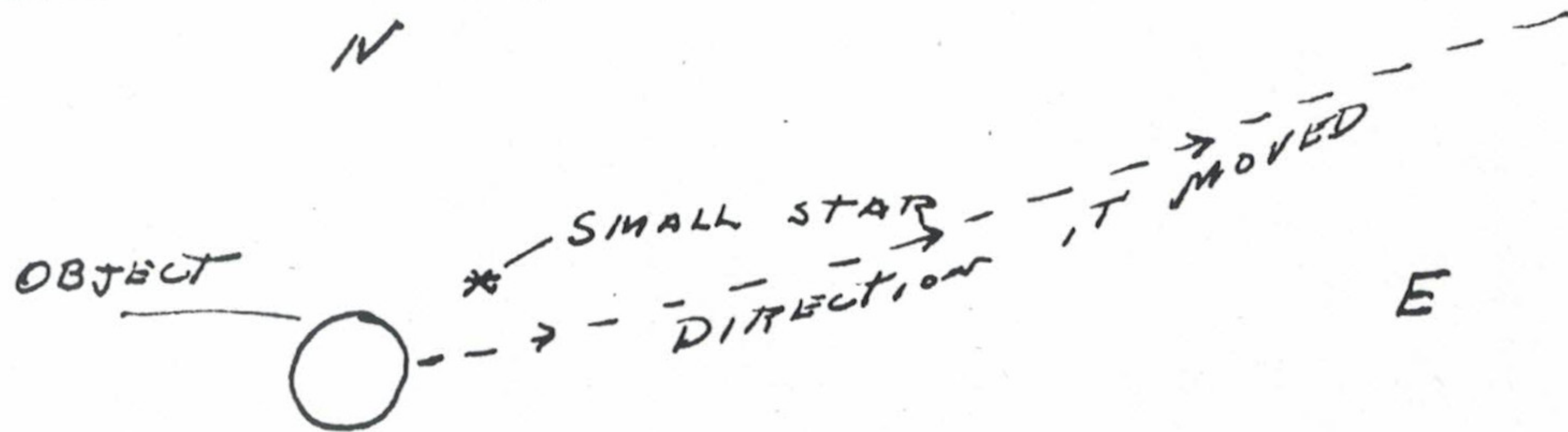
Day
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One):
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ne): a
b
c.
OCT 54)

in a few words the following things about the object.

a. Sound NONE

b. Color BLUE, RED & WHITE

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.



MOVED IN FRONT OF STAR WHEN IT FINALLY TOOK OFF.



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? JUST ONE
Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

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.
100 TO 125 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 | g. Silver dollar |
| b. Pea | <u>h. Baseball</u> |
| c. Dime | i. Grapefruit |
| d. Nickel | j. Basketball |
| e. Quarter | k. Other _____ |
| f. Half dollar | |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| a. Certain | c. Not very sure |
| <u>b. Fairly certain</u> | d. Uncertain |

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? STEADY CLIMB IN THE SAME DIRECTION WE WERE FLYING

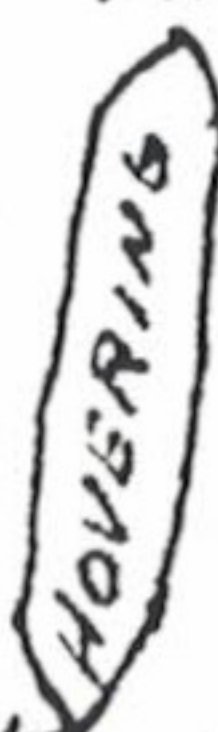
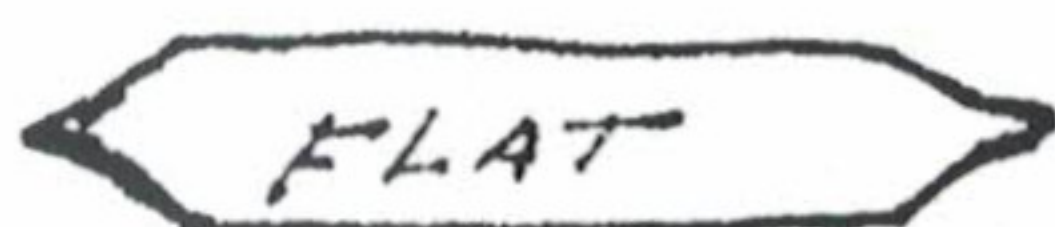
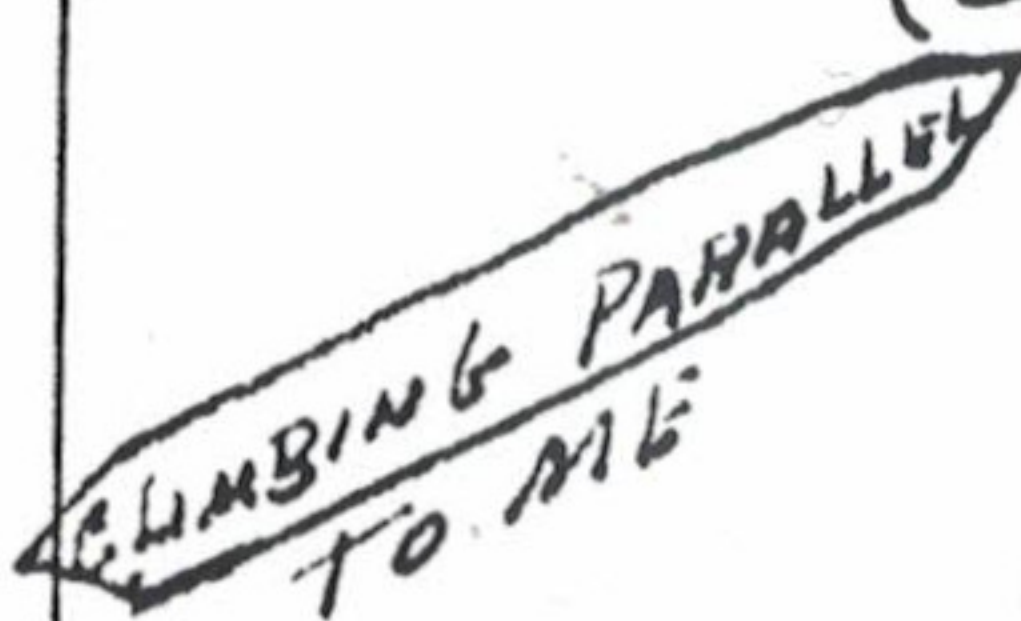
24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type material would you make it? How large would it be, and what shape would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

MATERIAL — PHOSPHORUS METAL BASIC MAYBE ALUMINUM.

SIZE — 120 TO 130 FT ACROSS

SHAPE — DISK SHAPE — SOMETHING THAT WOULD LOOK ROUND WHEN COMING TOWARD YOU GIVING OFF A BRIGHT SURFACE AND WOULD DIM DOWN A LITTLE WHEN TRAVELING PARALLEL TO YOU BECAUSE OF SMALLER SURFACE POINTED TOWARD YOU.

(OBJECT TO LOOK LIKE THIS)



OBJECT WOULD LOOK LIKE TWO PIE TINS PLACED TOGETHER AT THE RIMS. IT WOULD BE ROUND AND FLAT.

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?

I was flying right seat as instructor Pilot in B-25. I just turned my head to left to talk to student pilot and noticed object (bright light) just ahead of student's head at same altitude, or slightly higher.

28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:
(IN AIRCRAFT)

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)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 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 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 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 0 degrees.
- b. From horizon 5 degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 80 to 85 degrees.
- b. From horizon 25 degrees.

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?
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28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:
(IN AIRCRAFT)

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)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 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 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> c. East | e. South | g. West |
| b. Northeast | d. Southeast | f. Southwest | h. Northwest |

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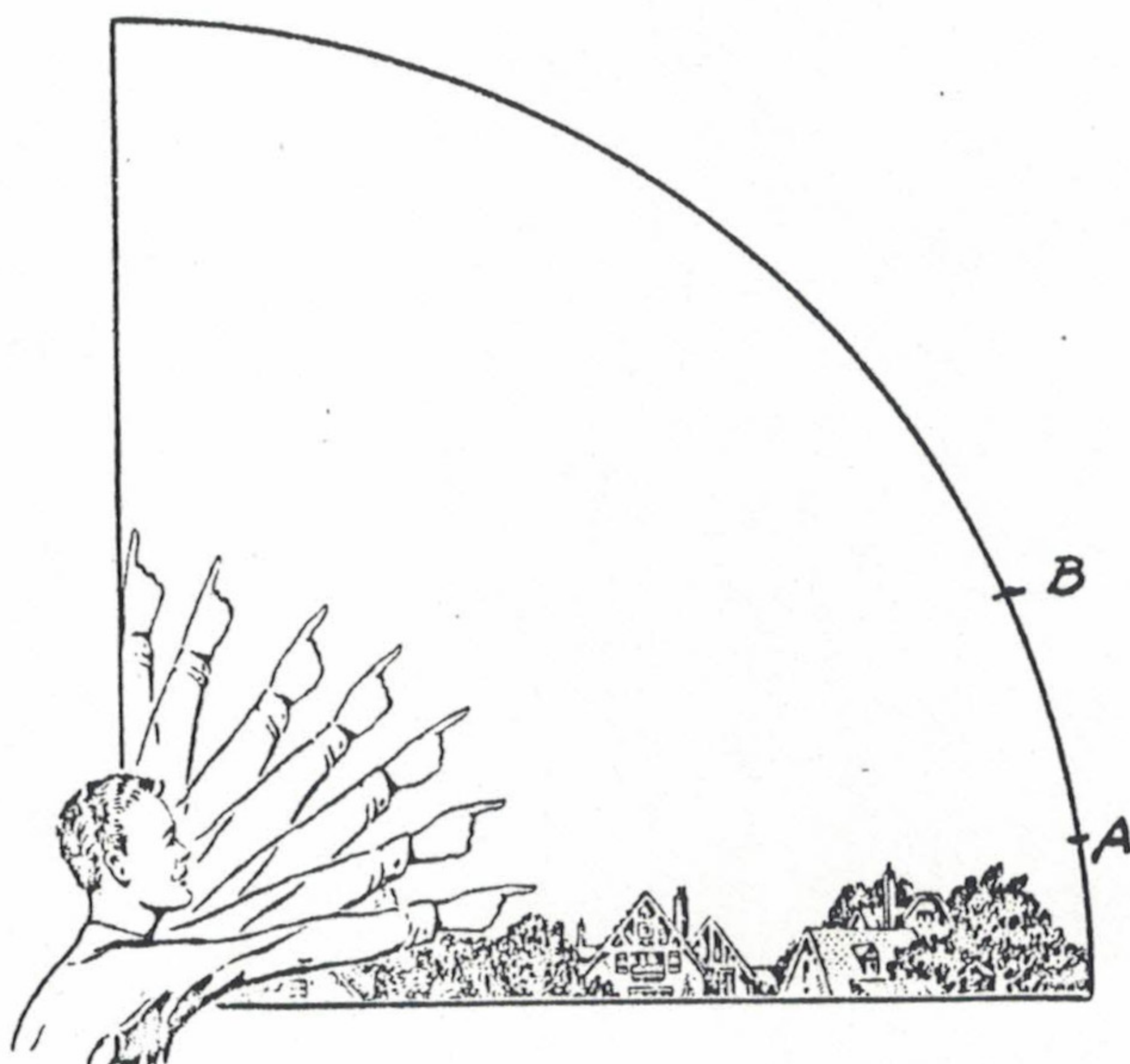
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- a. From true North 0 degrees.
- b. From horizon 5 degrees.

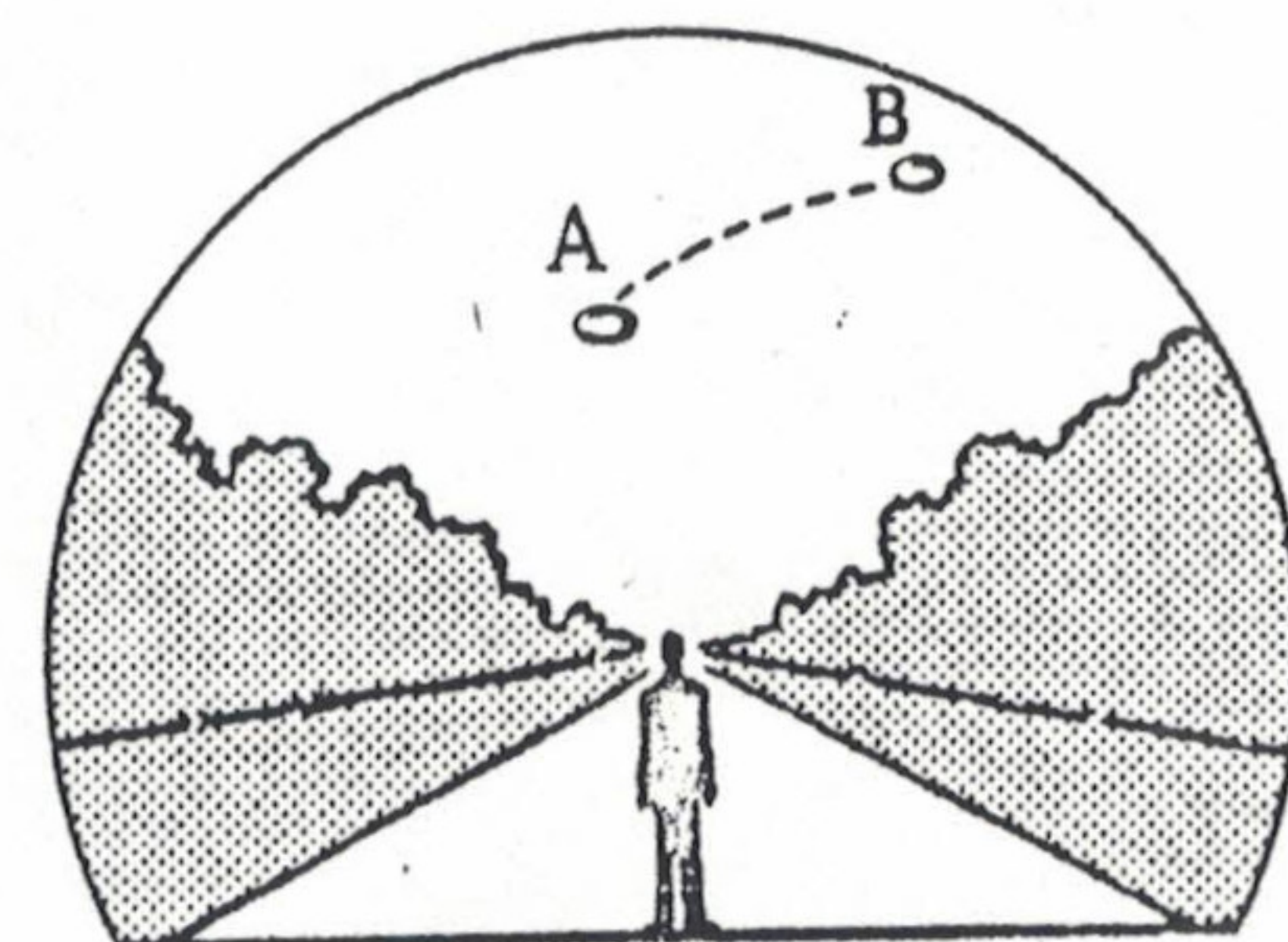
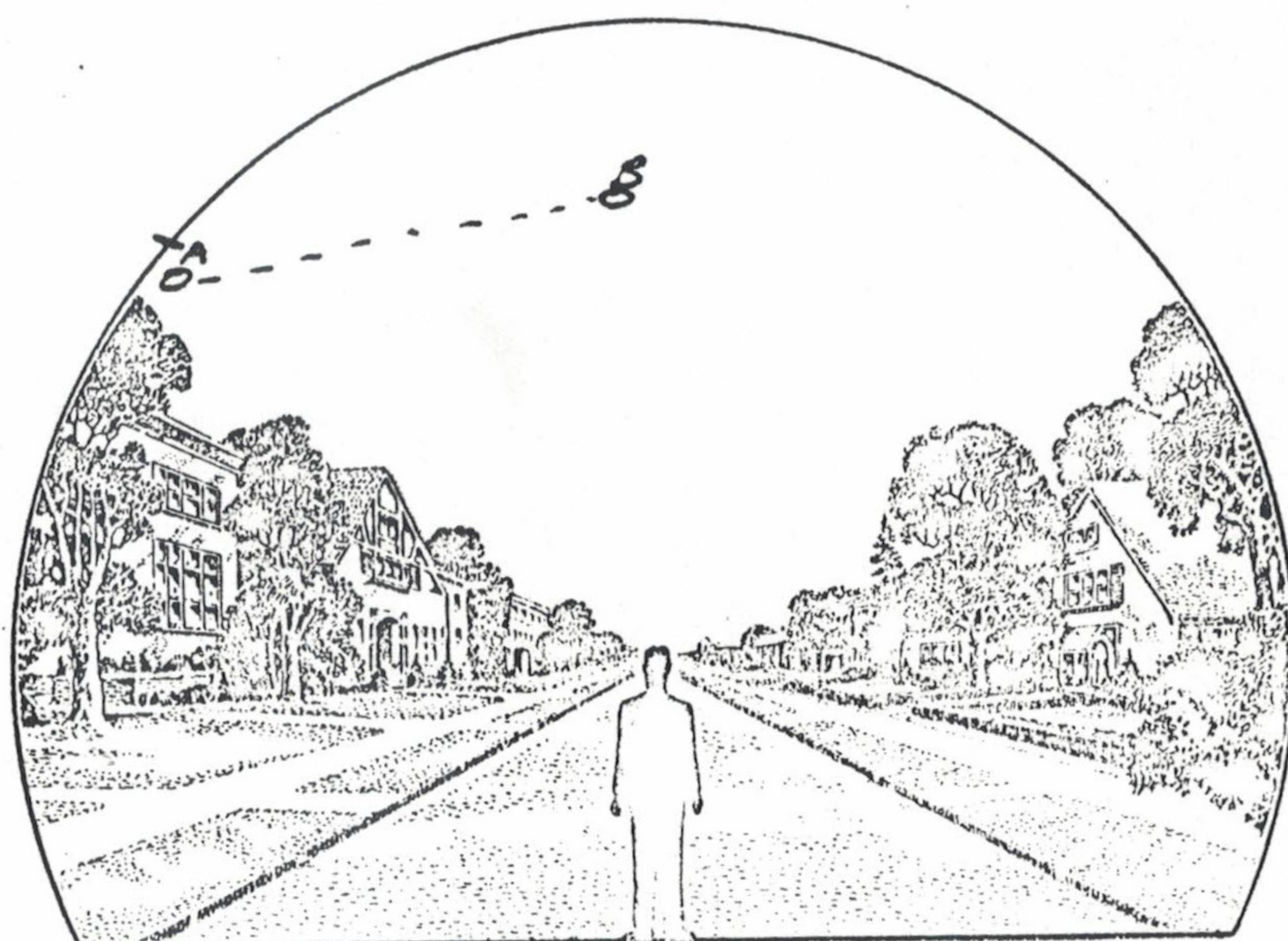
31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North 80 to 85 degrees.
- b. From horizon 25 degrees.

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.



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
- e. 20 KTS. 290°

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 0°C AT 13000 ft.
- b. Cool
- c. Warm
- d. Hot
- e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

1 FEB 55
 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:

SHORT, RICHARD B A/C AD11271268 } 3501st Student Sqd.
 MILLER, FREDERICK W. JR. A/C AD12424321 } Reese Air Force Base
 Texas

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

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? 600 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? 5 MILES feet

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME RITZDORF DELUYN FRANKLIN
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS 115 HARMON DR. REESE AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER NONE

What is your present job? INSTRUCTOR PILOT

Age 37 Sex MALE

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

- a. Grade school
- b. High school
- c. College _____
- d. Post graduate _____
- e. e. Technical school _____
(Type) _____
- f. Other special training PILOT TRAINING CLASS 43-D

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

18 FEB 1955
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 DELWYN F. RITZDORF
(Please Print)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

SIGNATURE *Delwyn F. Ritzdorf*

CODE:

DATE 18 February 1955

On February 1st, 1955, I was on a day-night navigation flight from Reese Air Force Base to Williams Air Force Base and return. I had two students with me whose names are set forth in question No. 36.

We took off from Williams Air Force Base at approximately 8:15 P.M. Central Standard Time on Green 5 Airway. After crossing Tucson we climbed to 13,000 feet on a heading of 80°, making good a track of about 90°. We crossed over Cochise, Arizona, radio at approximately 8:50 P.M. Central Standard Time.

About five minutes later I turned to my student, who was flying left seat, to ask him about making a position report and I noticed a bright light off our left wing, just slightly ahead of my student's face. I nudged him and told him to take a look, and remarked, "That couldn't be a star, could it?" He shook his head "no", and at that time I called for the other student who was acting as Navigator in the navigator's compartment to come up and take a look also. The three of us came to the conclusion that it was not a star and was some object that appeared to hover off our left wing. It appeared to be approximately five miles out from us at an altitude 500' to 1000' higher than we were flying. We watched it for approximately five minutes as it hovered off our left wing.

While watching it I tried to call Tucson, Douglas, and Columbus radio but couldn't make contact.

The object appeared to be round, very bright, of reddish-bluish-white color. We could detect no noise over our own engine noises. We were comparing it to a small star that was at approximately 2:00 o'clock

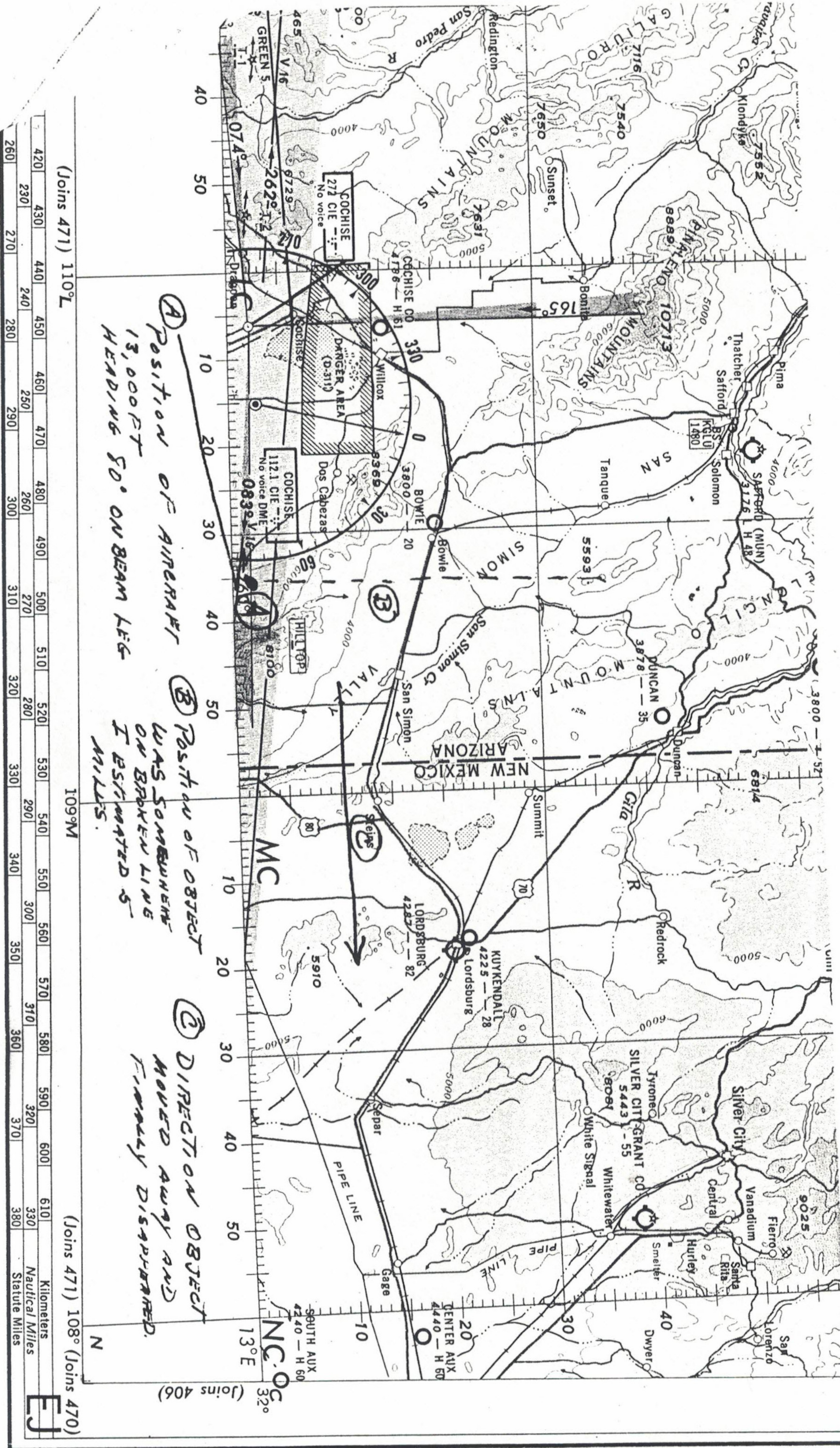
-2-

above the object, so that we were definitely sure it could not have been a star.

About this time the object started to move in an easterly direction, climbing at approximately a 5° angle. When the object started to move it appeared to dim down, crossed in front of the star and continued its climb to the east at an incredible speed, which I estimate to be 600 to 700 MPH. At the time we were traveling with a ground speed of 240 MPH.

We watched it for approximately three minutes more until it disappeared from sight still climbing.

As soon as I was able to contact Columbus radio I gave them the report and continued on my mission, back to Reese Air Force Base. After landing at Reese, Flight Service contacted me to make a report which I did immediately.



(Joins 471) 110°L

109°M

(Joins 471) 108° (Joins 470)

420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610
230	240	250	260	270	280	290	300	310	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420
										Kilometers									
										Nautical Miles									
										Statute Miles									

SCALE 1:1,000,000

GEOREF 3-52

20TH EDITION Consult appropriate NOTAMS and Radio Facility Charts for changes in aeronautical information on this chart after September 13, 1954

Next edition is scheduled in approximately six months

GILA RIVER (405)

UNITED STATES - MEXICO

U.S. AIR FORCE EDITION

(A) POSITION OF AIRCRAFT
13,000 FT
HEADING 50° ON BEAM LEG

(B) POSITION OF OBJECT
WAS SONBUENH
ON BROKEN LINE
I ESTIMATED 5
MILES.

(C) DIRECTION OBJECT
MOVED AWAY AND
FINALLY DISAPPEARED.

EJ