

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 24 Feb 53 24/0930Z	2. LOCATION Dayton, Ohio
3. SOURCE Civ Woman	10. CONCLUSION PROBABLY ASTRO (VENUS)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	VENUS
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 Min.	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	Oblong shaped yellowish orange object was observed at low Alt. Source stated that object changed it shape to a sphere in a few seconds. Similar object was observed by same observer 26 Feb. Spoke to this source over the phone and XXXXXXXX I sent her the observer's questionnaire. Said she saw the same object two nights in a row. Lt R. M. Olsson.
7. COURSE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

Dayton, Ohio

24 February 1953

I. Description of Incident

A civilian woman contacted ATIC concerning a yellowish-white object which she had observed at 0430 EST for two successive days for periods ranging from 3 to 30 minutes. The object was described as oblong shaped and very low on the horizon with the manner of disappearance in both sightings being caused by its sinking below the horizon. The object was seen at a due west position each time.

II. Discussion of Incident

The source, although of average intelligence, is not an experienced observer and it is quite certain that she witnessed the setting of an astronomical body such as Venus.

III. Conclusion

Probably astronomical.

UNCLASSIFIED

2 witnesses

24/04302
Dayton 1 Ohio

21
Form A

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?

24 Feb. 1953
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 4:30
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

Dayton

City or Town

Ohio

State or Country

Additional remarks: _____

5. Estimate how long you saw the object.

Hours

5
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): 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, half mile or so - the object much larger than

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 _____ | | |

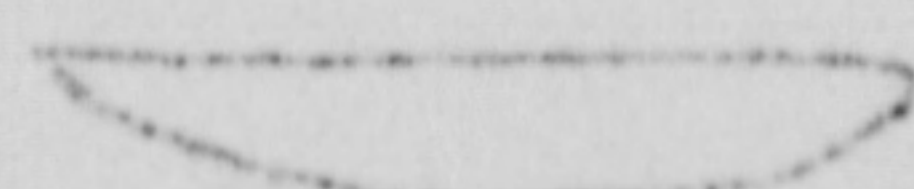
16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

a. Sound None

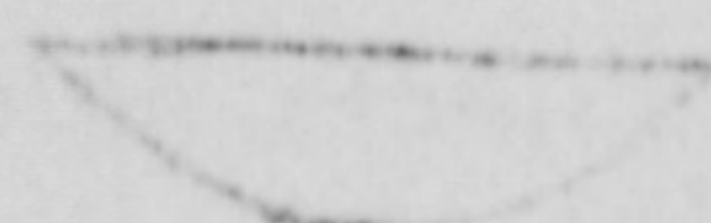
b. Color Yellow - orange (copper)

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.

shape when first
noticed



enlarged to full
circle



seemed to move
towards me - and
downward.

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.
_____ 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? Watched object - 3 minutes - when
next observed (about 2 minutes later) object gone - no trace left.

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.

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

- ☒ a. Inside a building (*residence*)
- 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 *suburban residential*

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

*- Returning to bed - looked out window and continued watching
due to unusual color.*

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. Northwest | 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).

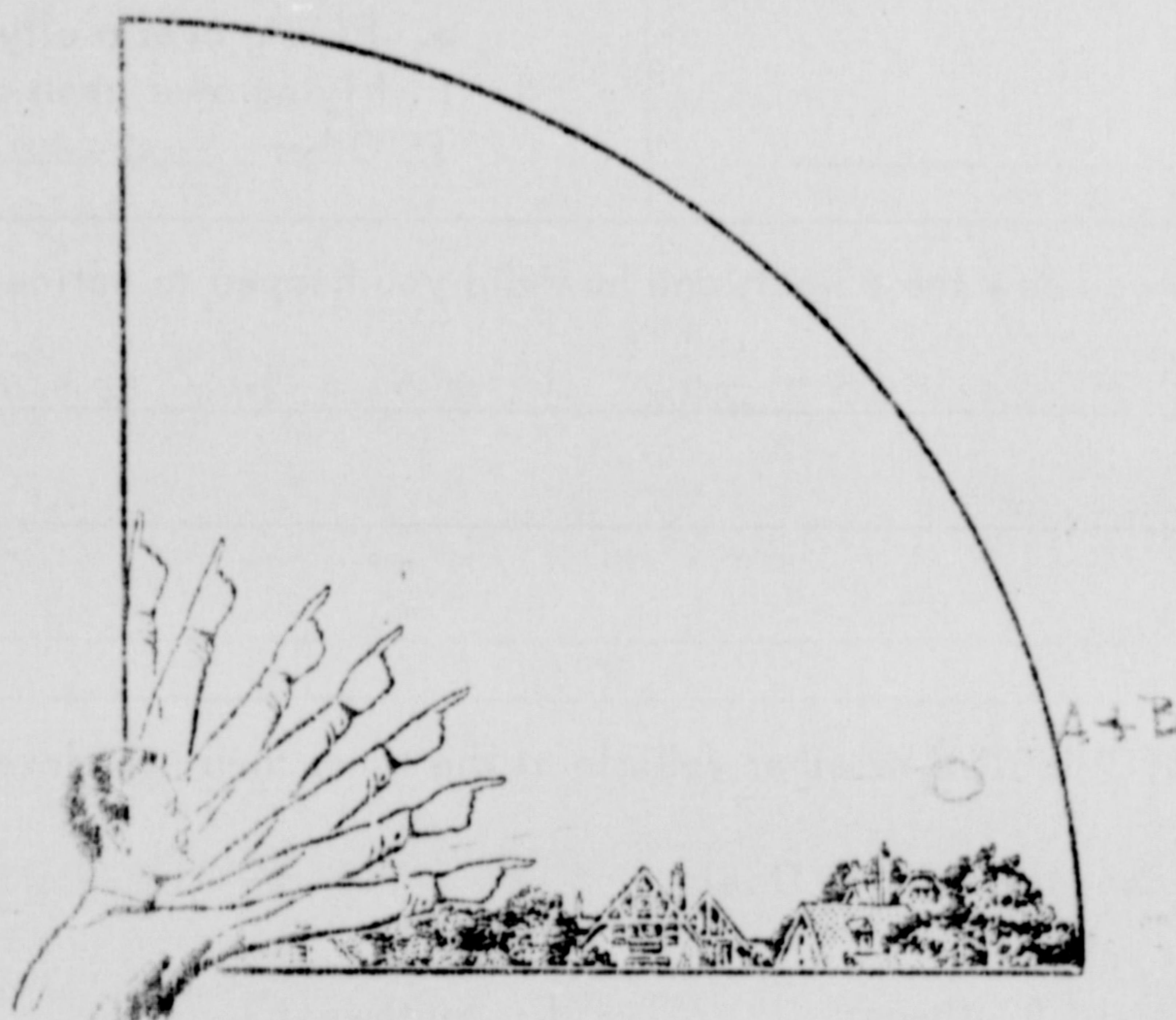
31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North *330°* degrees.
- b. From horizon *25° to 30°* degrees.

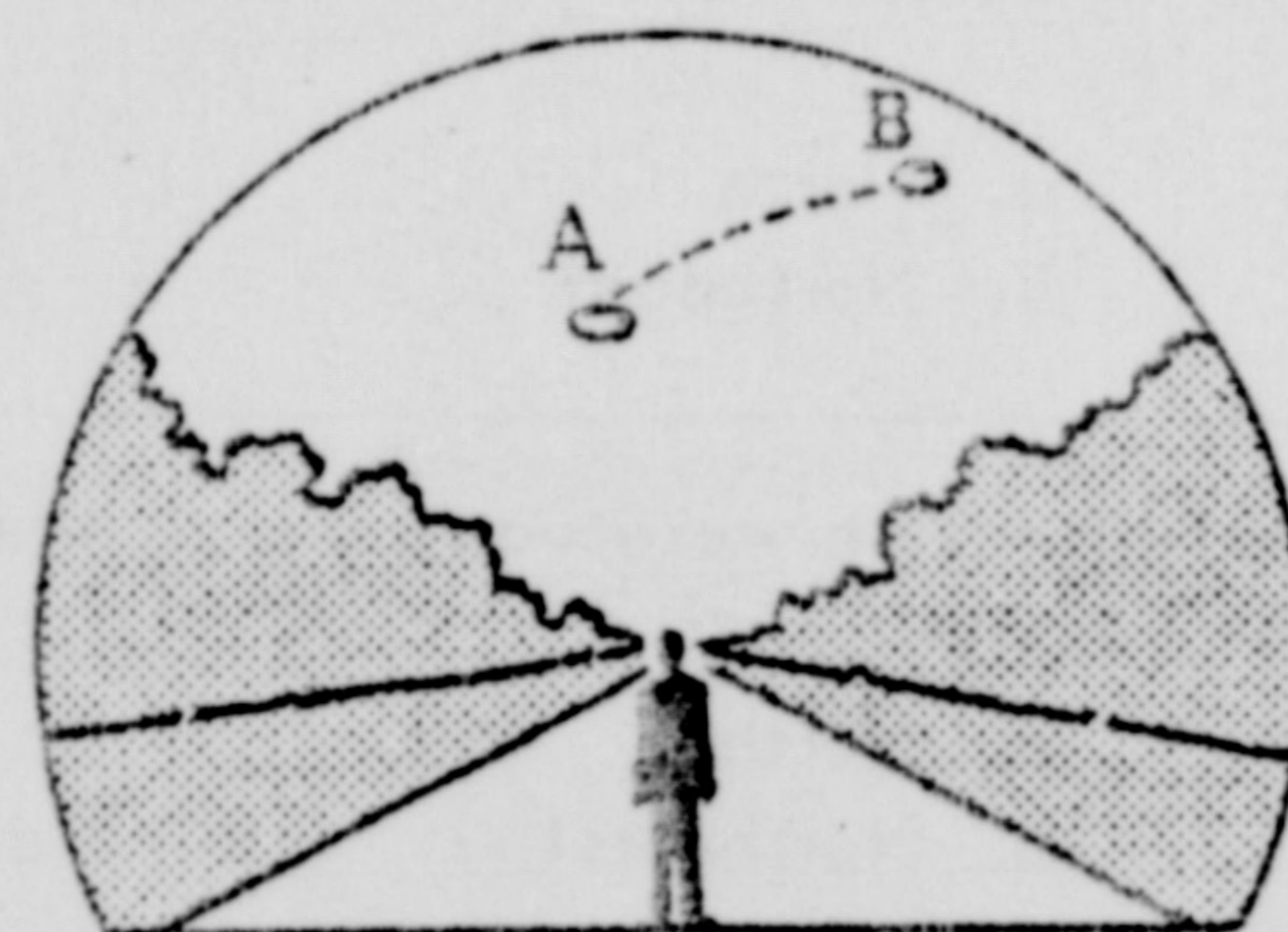
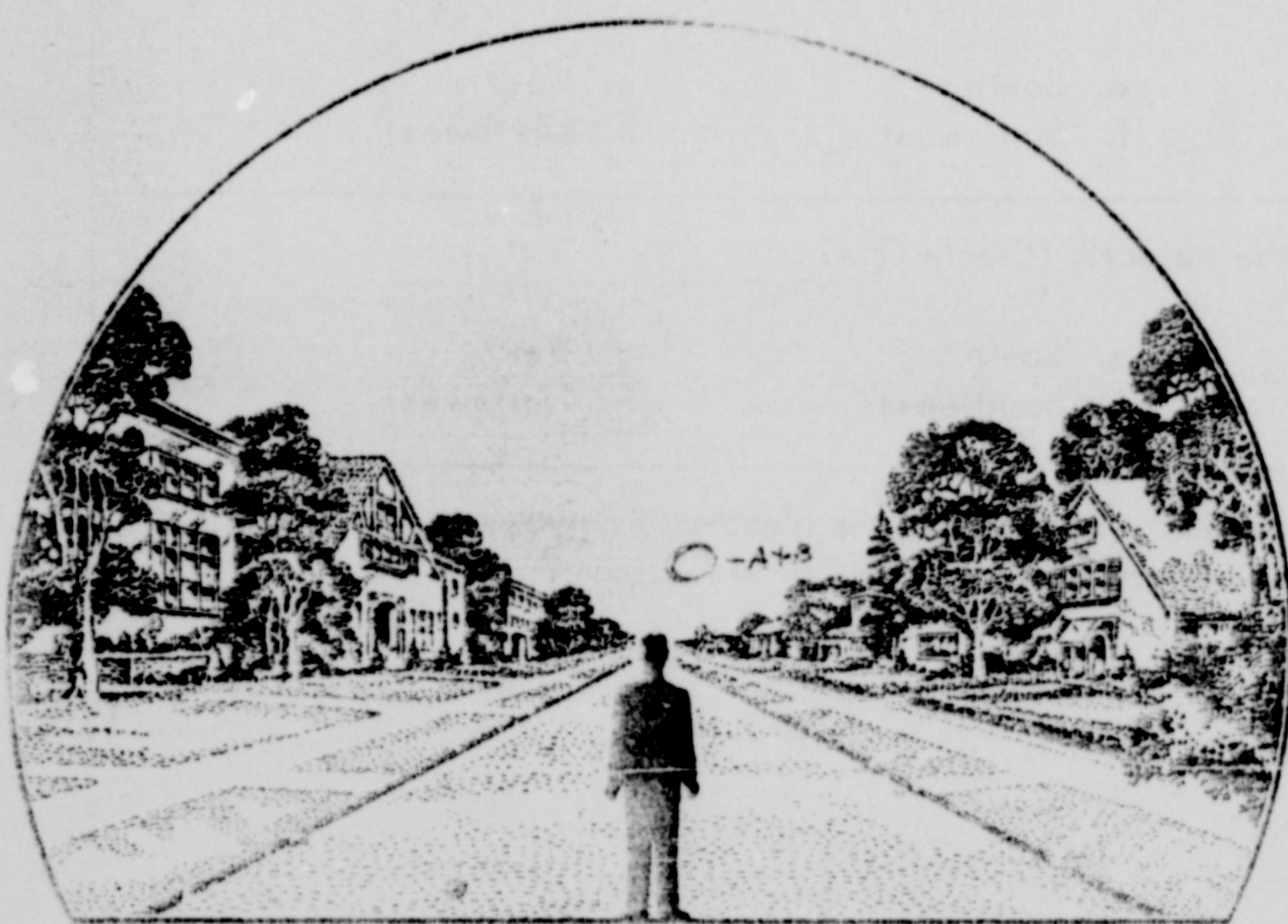
31.2 When it disappeared:

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



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? 2000 to 2500 feet.

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

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

ADDRESS [REDACTED] Dayton 7 Ohio
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED]

What is your present job? House wife

Age 27 Sex female

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

a. Grade school _____ e. e. Technical school _____

(b) High school _____ (Type) _____

c. College _____ f. Other special training _____

d. Post graduate _____

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

1 March 1953
Day Month Year

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 26° to 30°
- b. Cool
- c. Warm
- d. Hot
- e. Don't remember

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

26 Feb 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:

James W. Snyder
(same)

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?

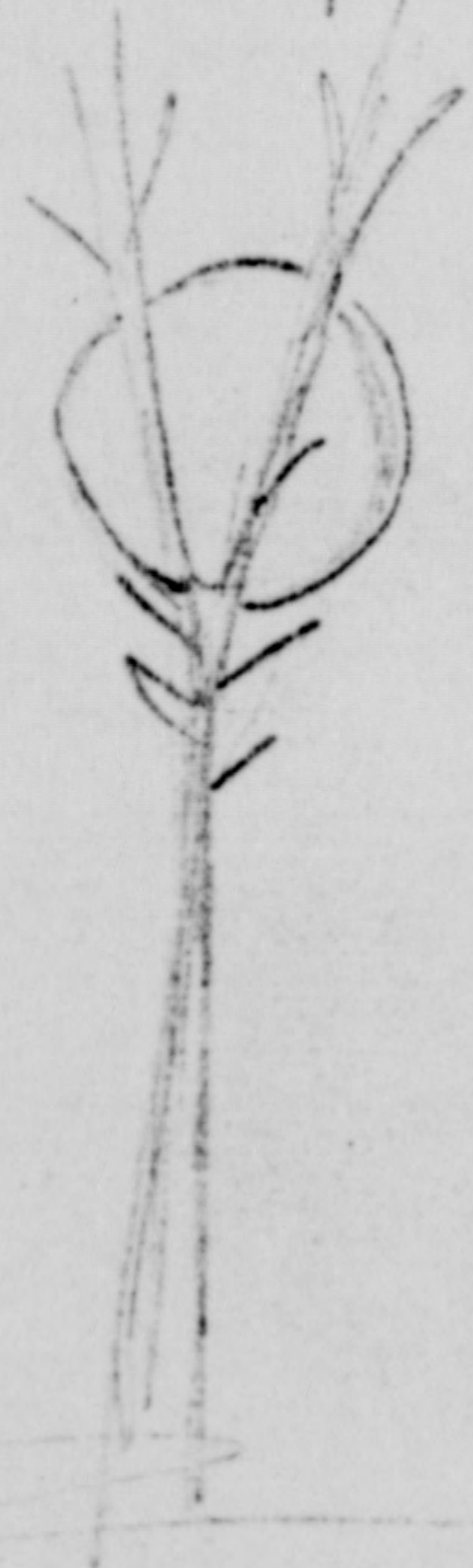
no explanation

sighted it between the fork of a tree*, thus we were more positive of its size and movement.

It did not give the impression of being off in the distance as the moon or stars. Was low and much closer.

On Feb. 27. 1953. Friday morning - 6:00 am.
I sighted a similar object, round and of same color. Watched it fade from view in 30 to 45 seconds. This one was much ~~higher~~ further away, although in the same Northwest direction and degree to my eyelevel.

* tree about 400 ft. away, from my viewpoint.



As I get up early, I've looked for this object each morning but saw it on these two dates only:

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.

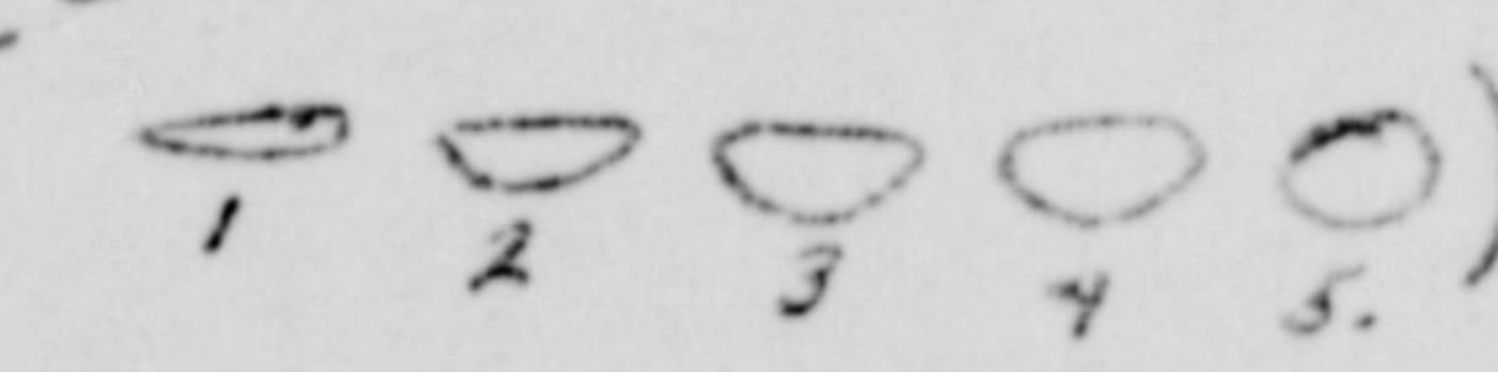
NAME [REDACTED]
(Please Print)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE:

SIGNATURE [REDACTED]

DATE March 1, 1953

On Tuesday morning, Feb. 24, 1953, at 4:30 am -
I noticed an oblong object, yellow-orange in color
in the sky. First impression was the moon
but after a few seconds I realized it was not.
It quickly grew to a full circle, the lower
part flaring first. () Also seemed to
be moving towards me. Was very low and
large. Though bright in color it did not
seem to give off any light to the surroundings.
Watched it approximately three minutes. When
next observed, about two to three minutes later,
the object had gone. No trace of color or shape
left. Heard no unusual sound at any time.
When watching the object was (unconscious & d.)

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
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Statement by [REDACTED]

At approximately 1940 hours, 24 February 1953, my wife and I left the apartment at 1403 East Chaffin St., Sherman, Texas, to go to the theater. While I was opening the garage to get out the car, my wife walked down the driveway waiting for me. She called and said, "What is this?" I walked over to where she was and observed what appeared to be a red light shining through the overcast. At first, I thought it was a passing light on an aircraft, approaching directly toward me through the overcast. It then started to rotate slowly in small circles, and climb at a slow rate (see drawing), and then vanished similar to an observed light bulb at fifteen (15) feet when switched off.

The red object was surrounded by a red halo in the overcast that equaled approximately five (5) times the width of the object. There was no sound of an aircraft engine at the time of the sighting or for five minutes following the sighting, at which time I went into the house to phone in a report. There was no other sound that I could identify as being emitted from the object. The total time of observation was 3 to 7 seconds.

After calling Intelligence, I had my wife sit down and write out her impressions of what she had noticed, which are attached, and I accomplished the attached drawing. I had the impression that the object was not a complete sphere but had a slight protuberance on the top. I asked my wife if she considered the object a perfect sphere. She stated, "No, it looked similar to a blown soap bubble just previous to breaking away from the blow pipe, slightly elongated at the top."

The following morning I called Weather and found that at the time of sighting the ceiling was 1400 feet and overcast was very thin and could almost be seen through.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], USAF
Perrin AFB, Texas

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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(CLASSIFICATION)
UNCLASSIFIED
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Perrin Air Force Base, Tex	REPORT NO. 	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
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(1) Only one object was observed by CWO [REDACTED] but two were observed by Mrs. [REDACTED], one of them having disappeared by the time CWO [REDACTED] reached a vantage point of observation; objects were round in shape with a halo around each, the halos being about five times the width of the objects. The color of objects was bright red and remained consistently so and there were no other lights or colors which might indicate an exhaust. The speed of objects was undetermined by observers; both objects remained in an abreast formation with one slightly ahead part of the time. Both objects appeared to be rotating in circles while remaining in one locality and then began ascending in an unestimated rate of speed while simultaneously fading away in a manner resembling an electric light bulb when the current is turned off. One object disappeared approximately two seconds before the other one.

(2) The two objects were sighted at 1943 hours, Central Standard Time, 24 February 1953 and were observed for three to seven seconds.

(3) Observation was visual from two persons on the ground.

(4) Location of observers was 33° 38'N, 96° 37'W in Sherman, Texas; objects were about 2 o'clock angle from observations at an undetermined altitude.

(5) The two observers have not previously experienced the observation of an unidentified object but Warrant Officer [REDACTED] is considered reliable.

(6) There was an overcast at 1400 feet with calm winds at time of sighting.

(7) There was no known condition, meteorological or otherwise which would have accounted for the sighting.

(8) There is no known existence of evidence such as fragments, photographs, etc of the sighting.

(9) When the sighting was made, the two observers telephoned Intelligence personnel at Perrin AFB, Tex but due to the brief period of observation, not in excess of seven seconds, no action towards an intercept was possible.

(10) An inquiry at nearby Perrin AFB, Tex revealed that no aircraft or weather balloons were known to be in the area at time of sighting.

APPROVED: ✱

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

REPORT NO.

Perrin Air Force Base, Tex

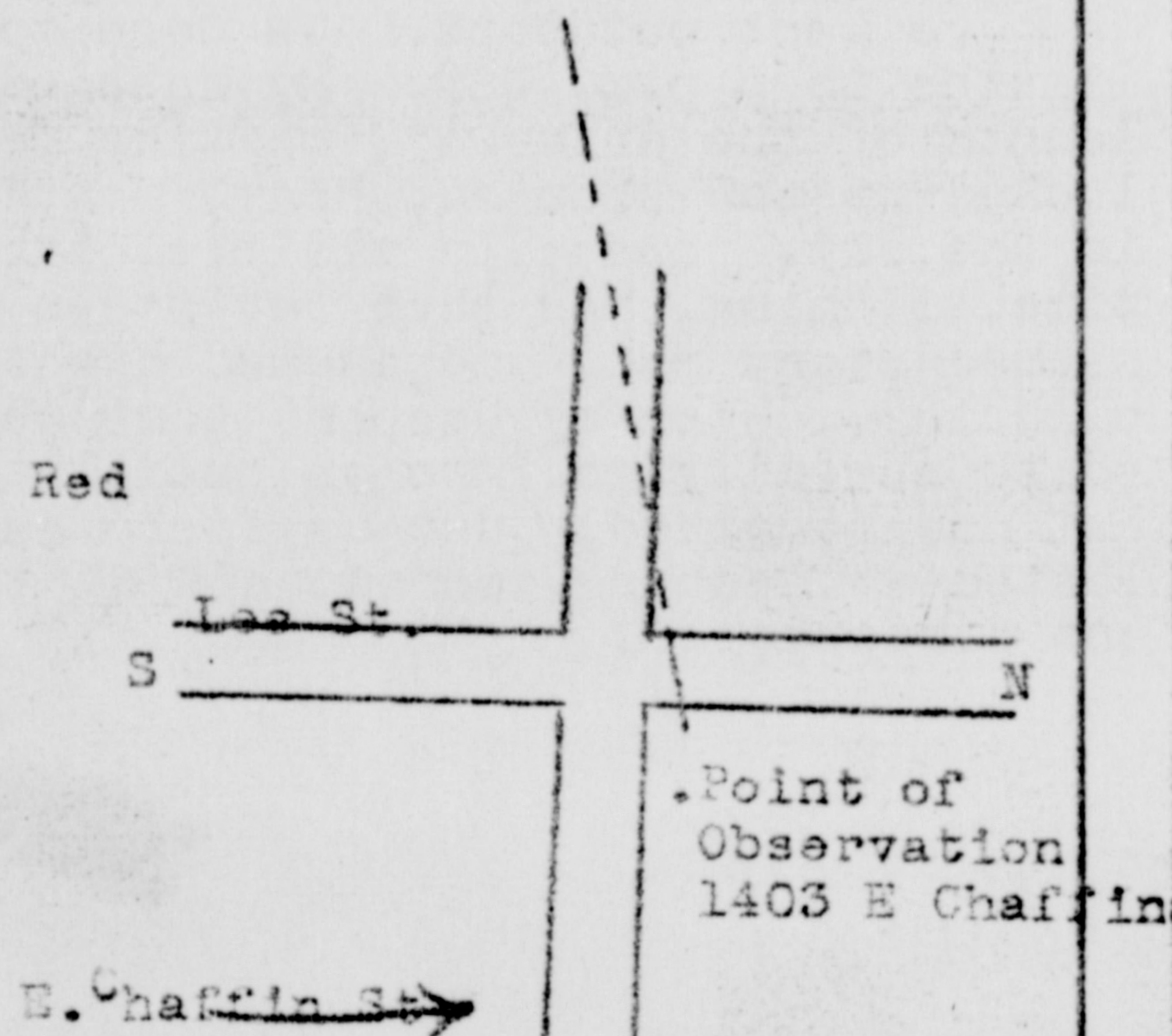
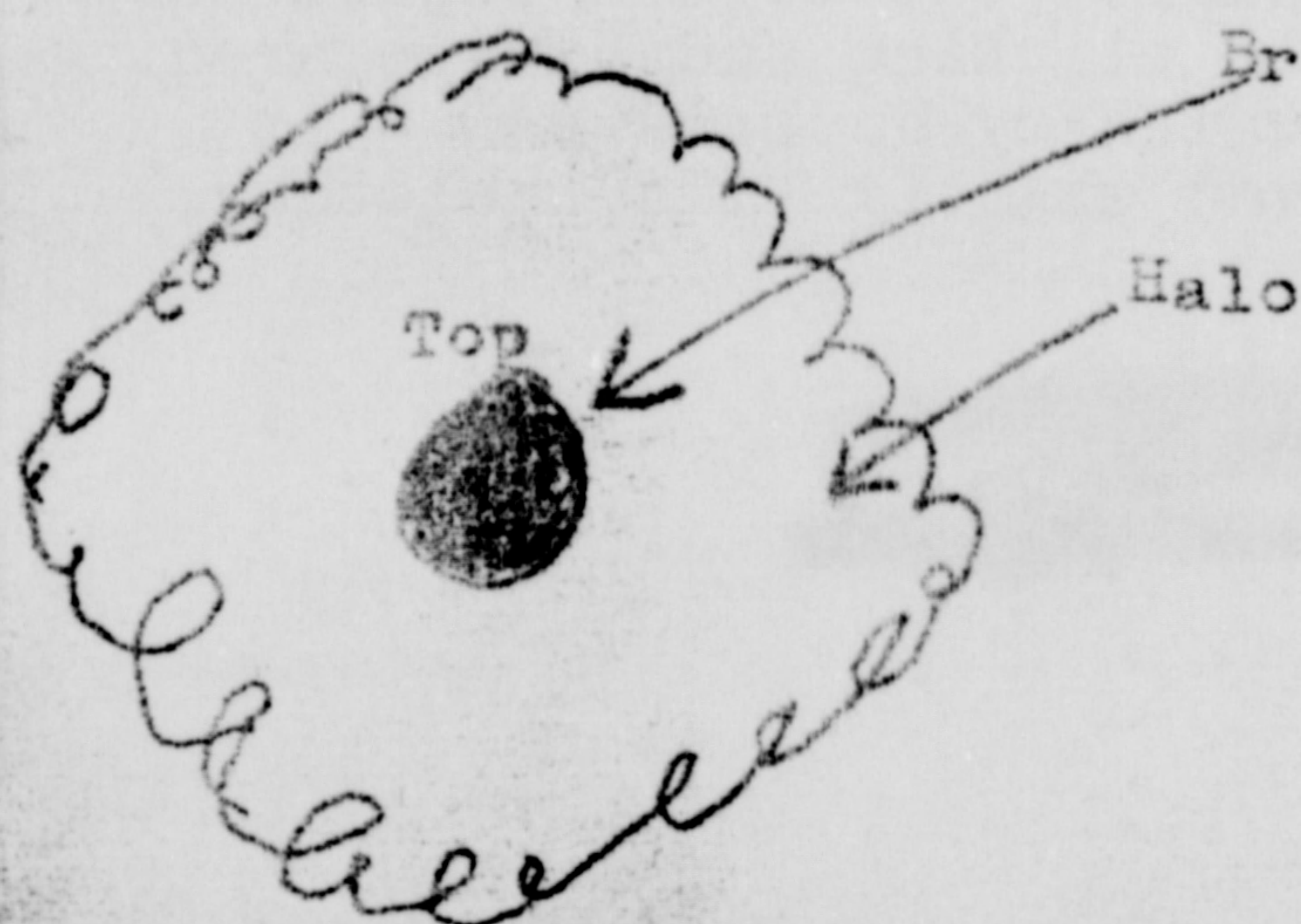
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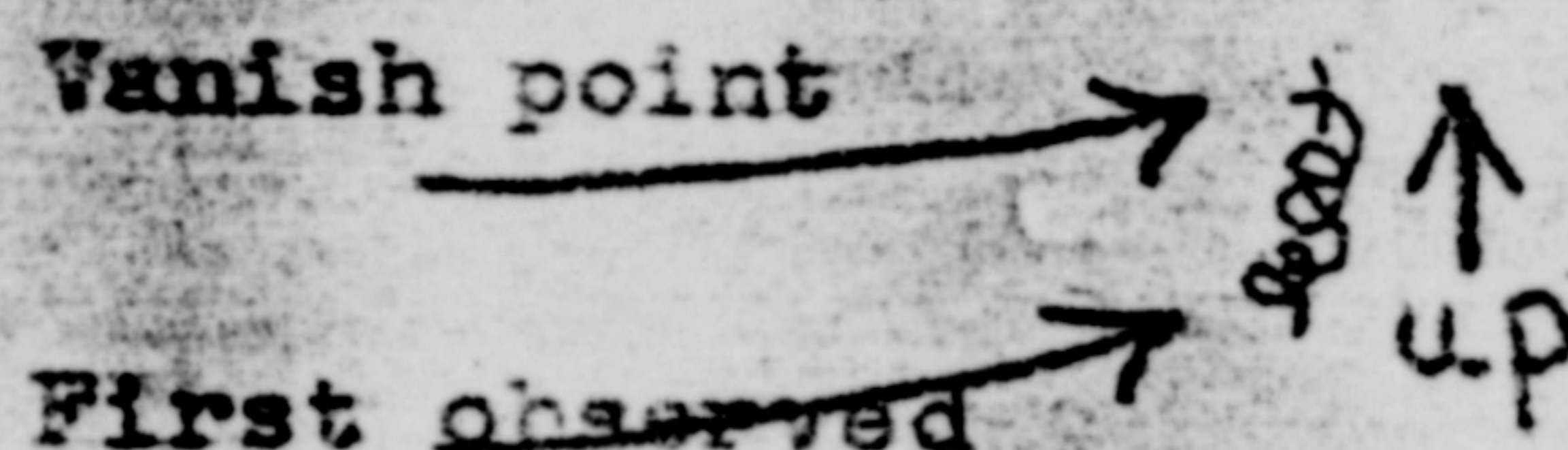
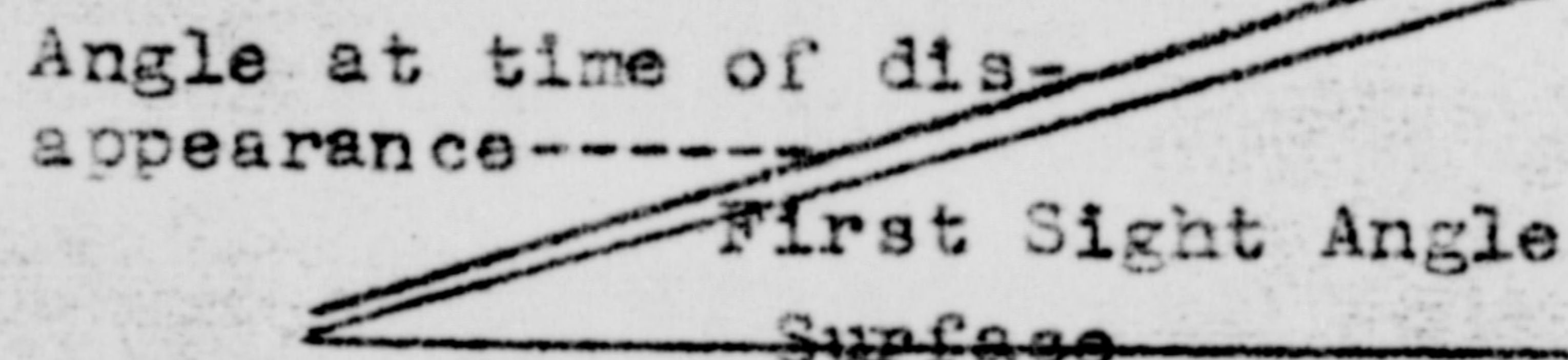
PAGES

Sketch of Sighting

Time, approx. 1947, 24 Feb 53
Height of ceiling--1400 ft.
Depth of overcast--very thin
Distance--no estimate due to overcast
Total observed time--3 to 7 seconds



Apparent size--approximately 3/16 inches
at 2 1/2 feet from eye.



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], USAF
Perrin AFB, Texas

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DOD DIR 5200.10

Observation of Mrs. [REDACTED]

We went outdoors. We were going to a show. The time was twenty minutes to 8 p.m. CST. My husband went to the garage - I walked the length of the driveway, waiting for him to drive the car out. I then looked up and shouted, "Say, what's this?" I saw two round objects in the sky, unusually visible, through the thick overcast sky. The time, I think, was then seventeen minutes to 8 p.m. These two objects seemed fiery red, one seemed higher than the other. Both seemed to be climbing. When my husband came upon the scene, the bottom object seemed to speedily go into an oscillation as if climbing and disappeared. But one remained, just as fiery as ever, which my husband saw - it lasted a fleeting second, and it too behaved exactly like the other, and disappeared.

[REDACTED]
MRS. [REDACTED]

INCL.

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INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

26 March 1953

Dear Dr. Hynek:

We have been receiving your comments and evaluations on the wires we have been sending you week by week and they have been very helpful, to say the least. We were gratified to find that you explain many recent sightings by the presence of Venus because we have been evaluating many as astronomical or Venus ourselves, and, as you stated in your last letter, corroboration of this sort is good. I can't fathom why so many apparently experienced sources such as pilots and control tower operators are fooled by Venus, but I can see why it may fool inexperienced ones.

We estimate that about 25 of our number of January, February, and March reports can be attributed to this astronomical body. We are comparing your conclusions with ours on the evaluations you send down and in most cases, as I stated before, they match up pretty well.

As far as follow-ups on the valuable sightings are concerned:

(1) Port Austin, 17 February - Combination visual and radar - have asked them for an amplifying AF Form 112 to determine whether the radar pick-up and the visual sighting are actually of the same object. The radar personnel involved have been asked to fill out our Electronics Data Sheet which is set up for such sightings, and when it arrives ATIC radar specialists will evaluate it for possible weather interference, size of track, etc. Have also requested temperature v.s. altitude, altitude v.s. dew point rates through our liaison with A.F. Weather Service. When all this needed information arrives we will piece it together and try and evolve a conclusion. This sighting has top priority at Blue Book.

(2) The Shreveport sighting of 27 February likewise Sherman, Texas, 25 February are being followed up by our standard questionnaires as you suggested.

Concerning Dr. Menzel's proposed contract: We don't buy it either in its present form. I would like to get together with you and talk this over as we have done with Dr. Kaplan of U.C.L.A. who, incidentally, thinks it shows sloppy thinking but has merit here and there. He suggests that we talk the whole thing over with Menzel but I don't like this idea. In the first place, we know that one can't explain all saucer sightings by mirages which is the core of his whole plan.

Will telephone you in the near future on this and other matters. Ed has left for Denver Intelligence School, so that leaves me as temporary head of the Project until a replacement can be found for the vacationing Ruppelt.