

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 2 Jan 58	2. LOCATION Woodridge, England	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical VENUS <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 02/17-02	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 hr 15 mins	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE stationary
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Oval shaped, dull reddish-orange obj, size of grapefruit. Tremendous size for a star. Started moving, turned upon end w/what looked like 3 tail-like protrusions. At that point it seemed about 3 times larger. Obj moved slowly up and down, then to right & back to left, then down to orig position. All the time the obj grew dimmer, until it turned to an orange glow & disappeared.		11. COMMENTS It was the opinion of the AACSTower operators & weather personnel on duty at the time of the sighting, that the obj could have been the planet Venus. ATIC concurs.

01/17 40.2

W. W. C. T.

CLASSIFICATION

7 8

COUNTRY OF ACTIVITY REPORTING		REPORT NO.	(Leave blank)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNS		DATE OF INFORMATION	
U.K.		2 Jan 58	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT		DATE OF COLLECTION	
79th Fighter Bomber Squadron		8 Jan 58	
PREPARING INDIVIDUAL		DATE OF REPORT	
William F. Manning, Captain, USAF		8 Jan 58	
NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE		EVALUATION	
A/2C [REDACTED]		F-6	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON (Dots)			
ACTIVE			

REFERENCES (BAIR Subject, previous reports, etc., as applicable)

AFR 200-2 12 August 1954.

SUBJECT (Descriptive title. Use individual reports for separate subjects)

UF&OB

SUMMARY (Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 112a unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List inclosures, including number of copies)

On the evening of 2 January 1958 a large, dull reddish orange object about the size of a grapefruit was observed at a 20 to 30 degree elevation. It moved Southwest growing larger and brighter, then disappeared.

APPROVED

Harlan B. Ferrill
HARLAN B. FERRILL
Colonel USAF
DCS/Intelligence
Hq Third Air Force
APO 125, New York, New York

INCL S

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CLASSIFICATION

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

REPORT NO.

79th Fighter Bomber Squadron

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

The following information is submitted in compliance with AFR 200-2,
12 August 1954, Subject: UF0B.

(1)(a) Oval shaped.
(b) Grapefruit.
(c) Dull reddish orange.
(d) One of three overlapping.
(e) Refer to (d) above.
(f) Refer to 2(d).
(g) Negative.
(h) Negative.
(i) Refer to 2(d).

(2)(a) Tremendous size for a star.
(b) Southwest, 20 to 30 degree elevation.
(c) Approximately same as 2(b) above.
(d) Started moving at 1810Z, turned up on end with what looked like three tail-like protrusions. At that point it seemed about three times larger than original observation. The object did not speed up but moved slowly up and down, then to the right and back to the left, then downwards to the original position. All the time the object grew dimmer, until it turned to an orange glow, then disappeared.
(e) Refer to 2(d).
(f) 021740Z to 021815Z.

(3)(a) Ground visual.
(b) Negative.
(c) Negative.

(4)(a) 021740Z January 1958.
(b) Night.

(5) RAF Station Woodbridge.

(6)(a) Negative.
(b) [REDACTED] A/2C USAF, Det. 5, 603rd Communications Squadron teletype operator.
[REDACTED], A/2C USAF, Det 5, 603rd Communications Squadron.
[REDACTED], A/1C USAF, Det 5, 603rd Communications Squadron.

(7)(a) No low clouds. Very few middle clouds. High thin Cirrus at 25,000 ft.
(b) East/North-east winds, 15 to 20 knots from surface to 15,000 feet.
West/North-west winds, 50 to 60 knots at 15,000 to 40,000 feet.
(c) Unlimited except for a few clouds at 24,000 feet.
(d) Unknown.
(e) Unknown.
(f) Negative.

(8) Negative.

(9) Negative.

(10) The following type aircraft were in the area after 021700Z: Five F-86, One F-84-F and one L-20 aircraft.

(11) There definitely was an unusually bright object sighted at the time indicated, however, it was the opinion of the AACCS Tower operators and weather personnel on duty at the time of the sighting, that it could have been the planet Venus.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	3	OF	3	PAGES
79th Fighter Bomber Squadron						

(12) Negative.

William F. Manning
WILLIAM F. MANNING
Captain, USAF
Intelligence Officer

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Venus Most Prominent

Venus, the only planet now visible in the evening, is a brilliant object in the sky and will soon be joined by the Leonids, "shooting stars."

By JAMES STOKLEY

PLANET SKIES—Venus is seen in the south at dusk. Its change of look makes it look like a flying saucer, a bright light in the sky as part of the spectrum.

What you see is the planet Venus, now reaching its greatest prominence, which comes just before its disappearance from the evening sky early in 1958.

Venus is far brighter than any other star or planet seen in the night sky and there is no difficulty in finding it. Indeed, it is best observed long before the sky is dark. However, if you know where to look you can see it in broad daylight.

After it has set behind the sun last April 11, Venus has gradually been drawing to a point of visibility. That means that it has been moving across the southern sky in the west and the west and south since April 11. It will continue to do so until the end of the month, and the best time after sunset to observe it will be that it will start moving toward the north.

At the present time, Venus goes toward the east, passing west of the North Star, Polaris, which will be the case until October, when it will have moved into the east of November 11. At that time it will be 10° from the sun.

Bright Birds in the Sky

These maps do however show the stars that are now visible.

Toward the west is the head of the top of the northern cross which is really part of the constellation of Ursa Major. The head is to the bird star, in fact, the word is *Ursus* and *ursus* means "bear." The cross represents the wings and the lower part of the cross has long necks stretched forward in flight. At the head is Aldebaran, a star of the second magnitude on the astronomical brightness scale. Below Ursa is another first magnitude star, Vega, in Lyra, the lyre. To the left is another bird, Aquila, the eagle with the star Altair.

High in the south you can see the four stars that form the "great square," part of the constellation of Pegasus, the winged horse. Although these are not among the brightest stars, their characteristic arrangement makes them a good meeting place from which to find other groups. The horse, actually, is upside down in the sky, as the row of stars extending westward from the low right corner of the square is his head.

The star at the upper right, Alpheratz, is

part of Pegasus, but in the neighboring group of Andromeda. This constellation represents the Ethiopian princess who, according to mythology, was chained to a rock to be devoured by a sea monster, represented by the constellation of Cetus, the whale, in the south. Fortunately, she was rescued by the hero, Perseus, who is seen in the north east.

Andromeda's mother, Cassiopeia, is seen in the north, a group forming the letter M, above Polaris, the pole star. Alongside her is her husband, the king, Cepheus.

Turning now toward the east we can see what is generally considered to be the finest constellation in the sky making its debut for the season.

Orion: Season's Finest

This is Orion, the warrior, easily recognized because of the three stars in a row that form his belt. To the left is Betelgeuse, to the right is Rigel, both of the first magnitude. Although being so low in the sky they do not appear as bright as they

would in the evening because we can see them high in the south.

In the upper left corner, the only other brilliant star is Deneb, the tail of the figure stands Andromeda, the princess, of the first magnitude. Cetus.

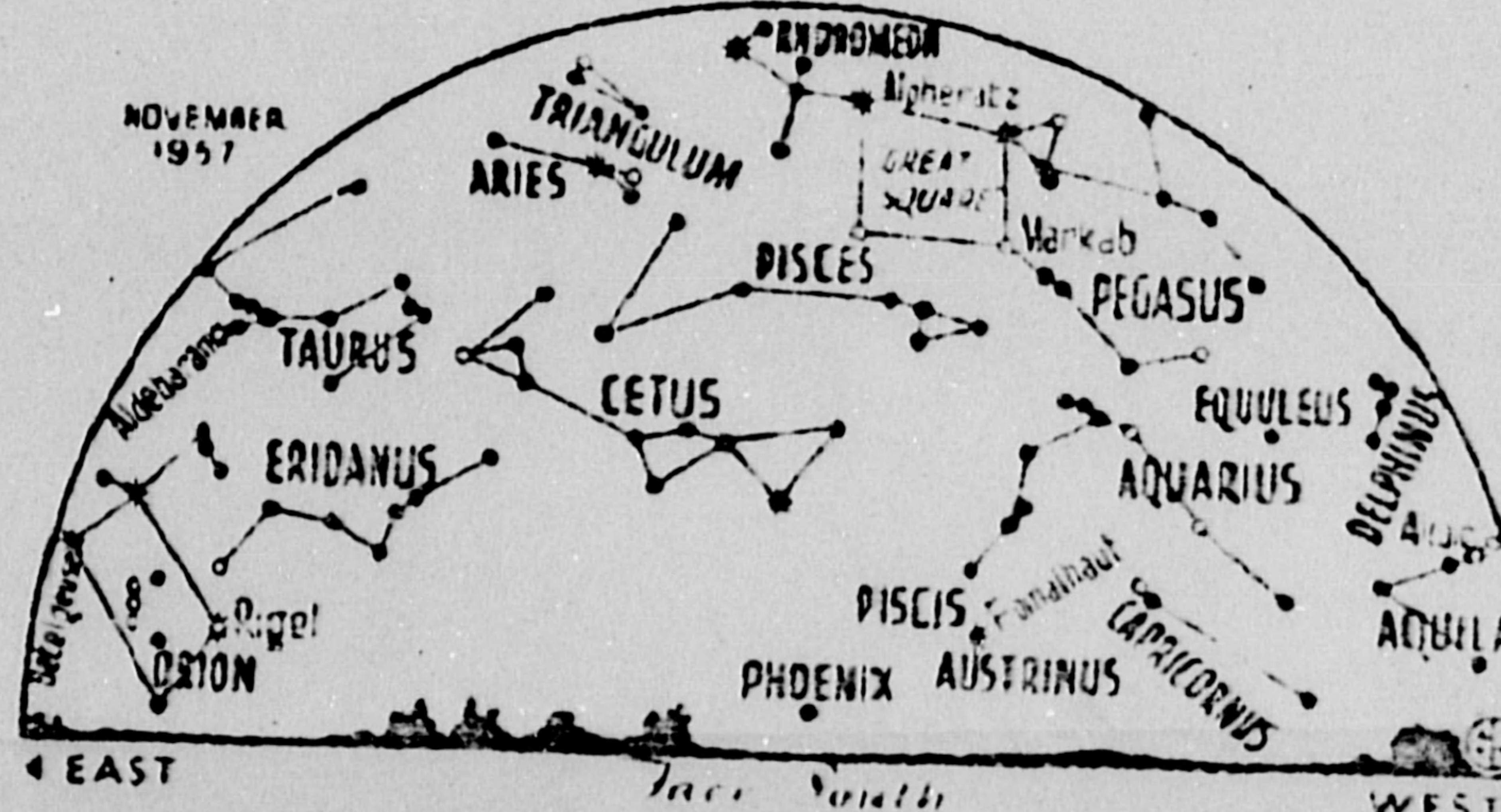
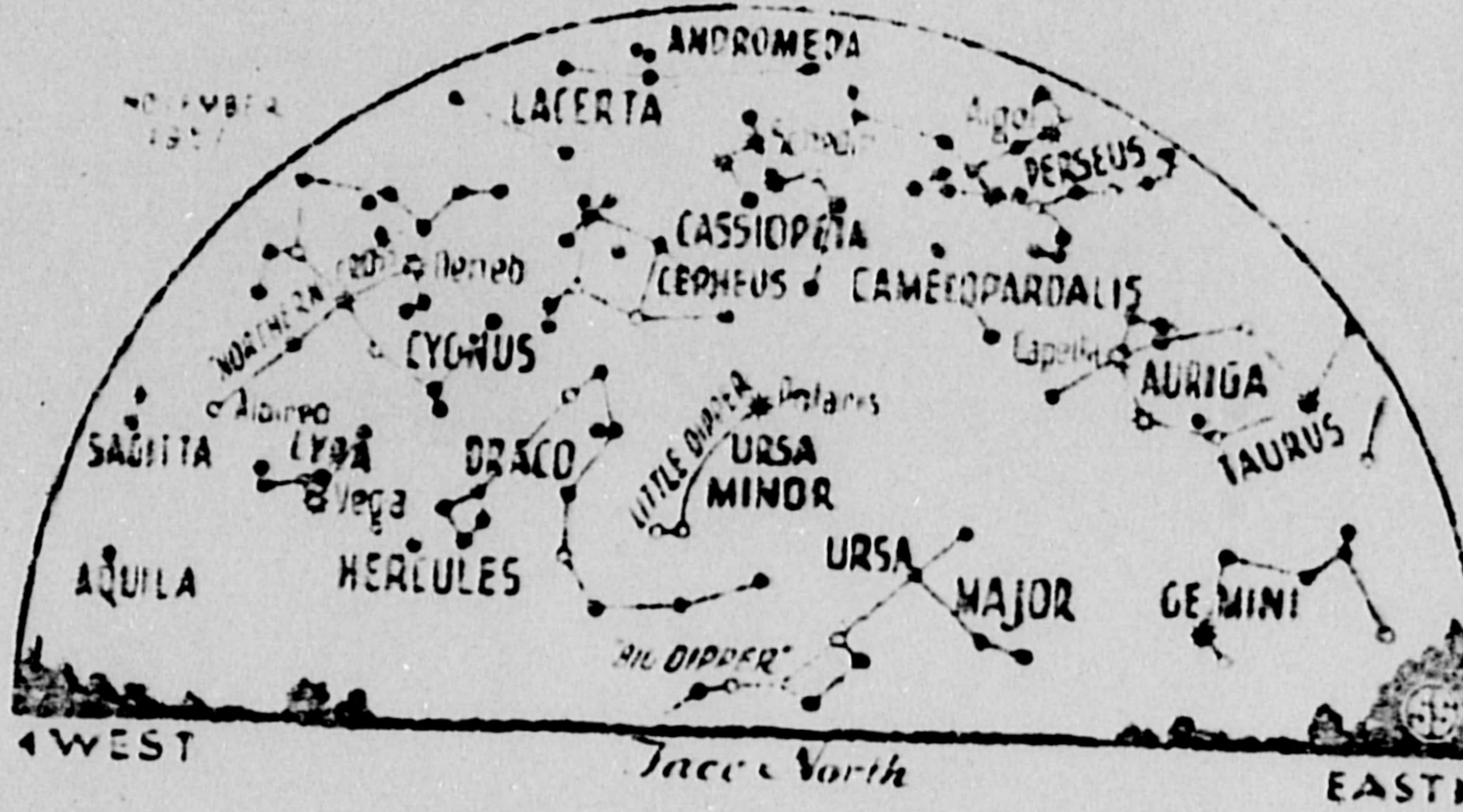
Although only Venus is now visible in the evening, two other planets appear in the southeast before sunrise. Brightest of these is Jupiter, in the constellation of Virgo, the virgin. It is close to the bright star Spica. However, it exceeds the star in brilliance about ten times.

Farther east is Mars, rising about an hour ahead of the sun. Its brightness is about half that of Spica. Mercury and Saturn are both too near the sun to be easily visible in November.

Shower of "Stars" to Come

November is the month bringing one of the year's famous showers of meteors, or "shooting stars," which appear from about the 13th to the 16th.

They are most numerous after midday because then we are on the forward side of the earth in its annual movement around the sun. Thus we face them head on. This is different from the evening hours when we are on the rearward part and see only those that catch up to us.



SYMBOLS FOR STARS IN ORDER OF BRIGHTNESS

1. Brightest star in a group that is visible to the naked eye.

2. Second brightest star in a group that is visible to the naked eye.

3. Third brightest star in a group that is visible to the naked eye.

4. Fourth brightest star in a group that is visible to the naked eye.

5. Fifth brightest star in a group that is visible to the naked eye.