

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 09/2300 9 November 68 10/0400Z	2. LOCATION North Merrick, New York
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Possible Other (GROUND LIGHT)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	There is no reason why the observation could not have been of a ground light reflecting from the cloud bases.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 Second	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE South	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observer sighted a light, similar to a star, that moved southerly and disappeared after about 1 second. Weather condition were cloudy and overcast.

FORM

FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE)

Previous editions of this form may be used.

16 Nov 68
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 20330

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



Nov 25, 1968

Dear [REDACTED]

This replies to your letter of November 16, 1968, in which you reported that you and your father have seen an unidentified flying object (UFO).

Without additional information, we cannot offer an explanation of what you saw. However, if you will complete the inclosed questionnaire and mail it in the attached envelope, our technical people at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will be able to investigate further and make an evaluation.

Should you ever see another UFO, please report it as soon as possible to the nearest Air Force base. Each base in the United States has a UFO investigator. He is in a better position to make an on-the-spot investigation, which usually results in a more accurate analysis.

We are inclosing one additional copy of the sighting form in the event your father cares to complete it and send it to Wright-Patterson Air Force. In the meantime, you might be able to identify your sighting by looking at the categories of objects often reported as UFO's in the Project Blue Book we recently sent you.

Sincerely,

/s/

JAMES H. AIKMAN
Major, USAF
Chief, Civil Branch
Community Relations Division
Office of Information

Attachments

Mr. [REDACTED]

North Merrick, New York 11566

Project Blue Book Information Office

SP501

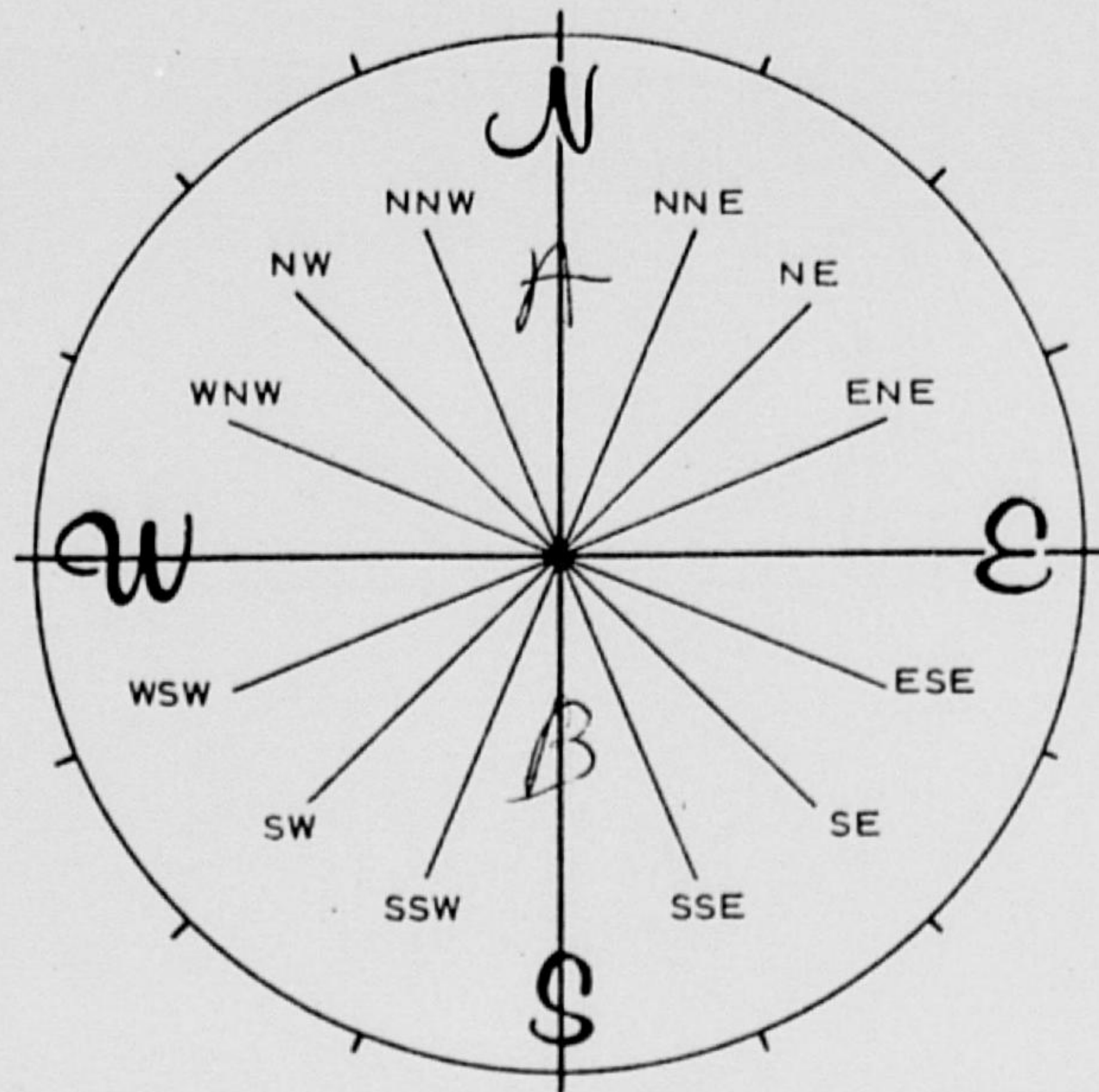
Washington, D.C. 20530

Gentlemen: Last week my father and I were sitting out in the backyard on chaise lounges (facing the sky) when we both saw a red light flash across the sky, much faster than a jet or an airplane. The night was very dark and very cloudy, so it was impossible that it could have been a comet, meteor, satellite, or something of that nature. If it was ~~something that~~ one of those, we wouldn't have been able to see it, because it would be above the clouds. It was very high up, and looked about as big as a bright star. I saw no vapor trail or exhaust. I have thought it over, trying every possibility as to what it might have been. I just can't identify it. Here are some facts you may need: TIME - 11:00 P.M. SKY - very cloudy. STARS - none visible. MOON - none. DESCRIPTION - very bright red, about as big as one sees a large bright star. Round in shape, no exhaust or vapor trail of any kind. SPEED - unable to be determined, but much faster than a jet.

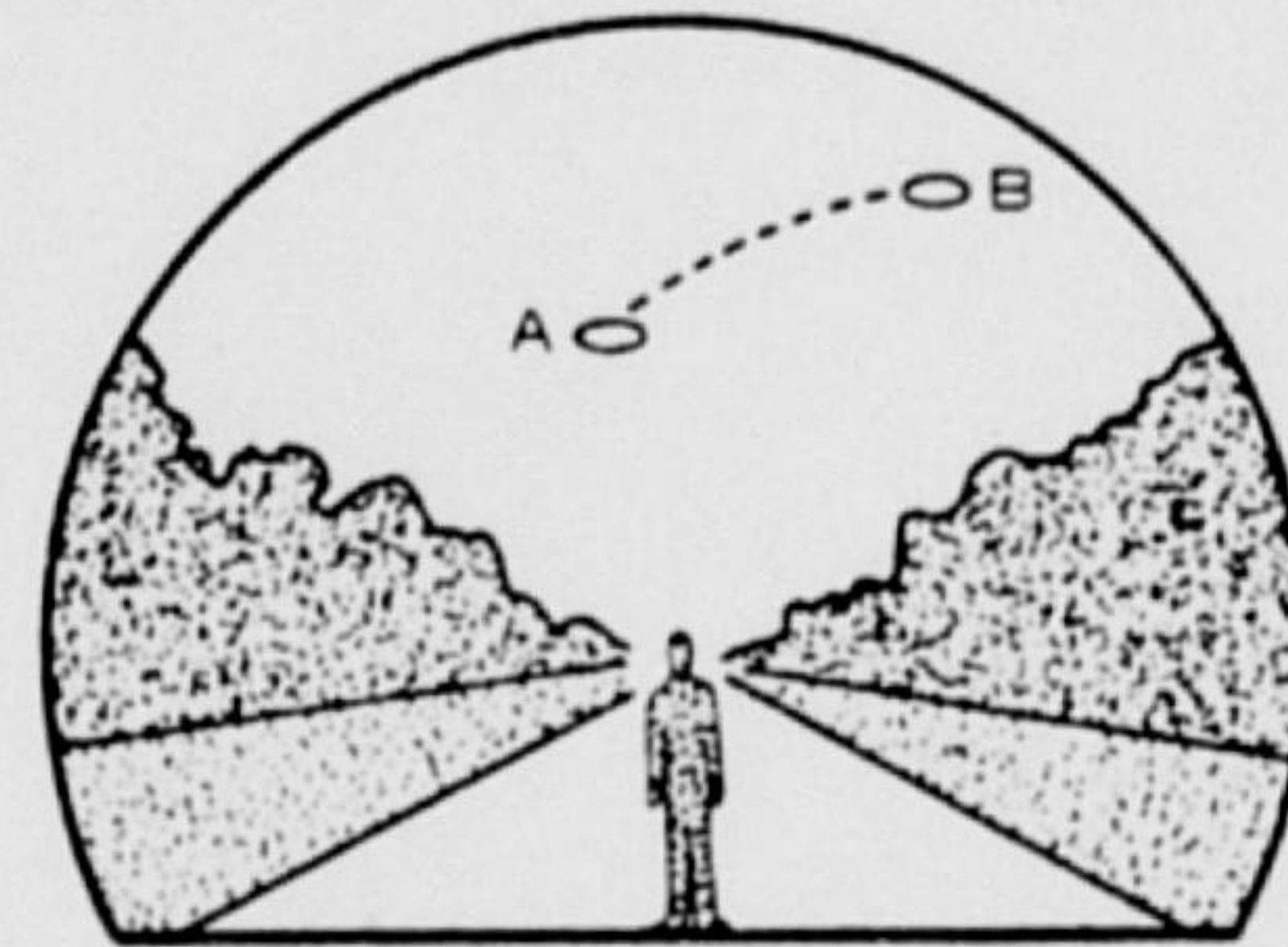
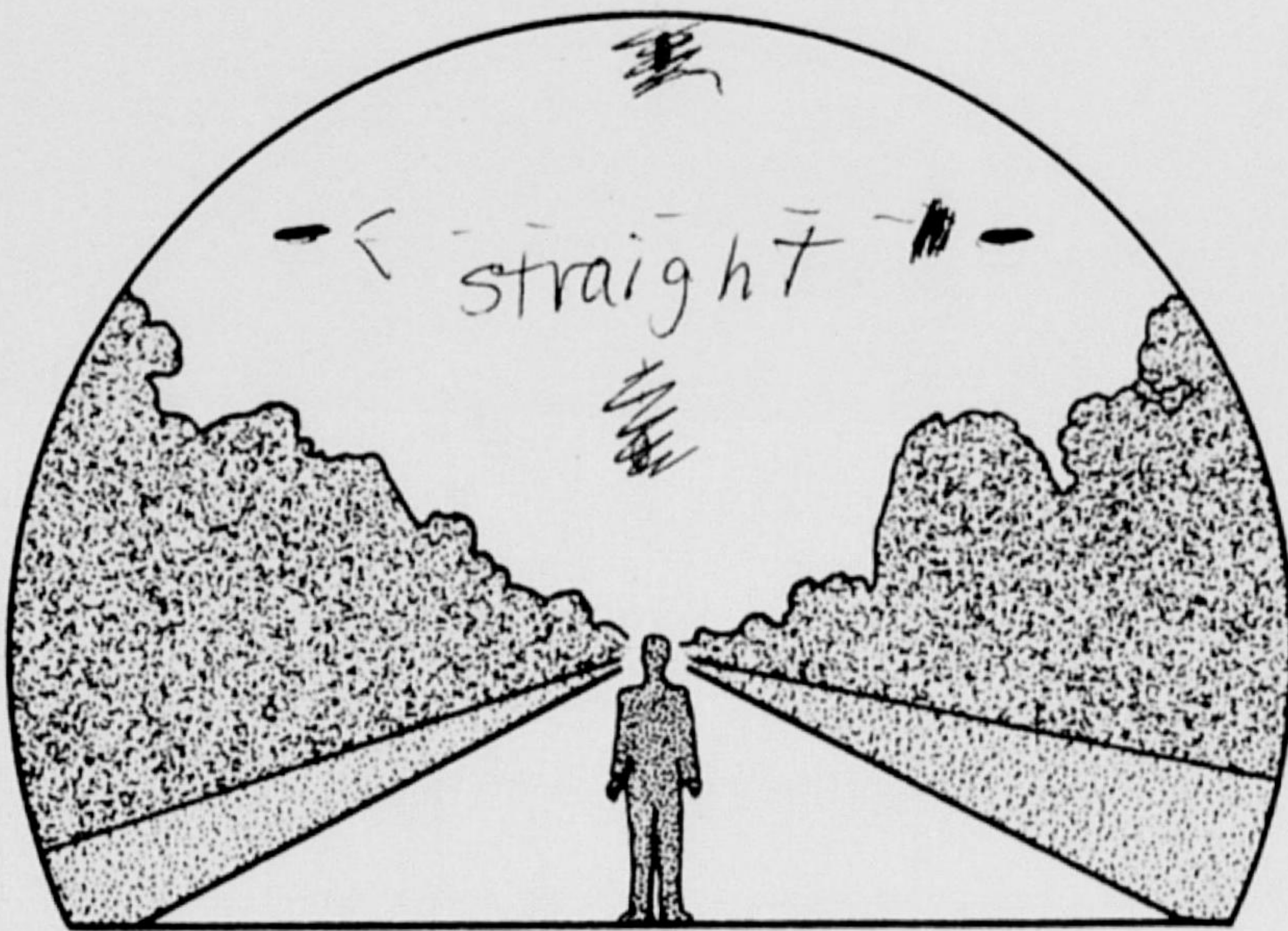
A. TOTAL DURATION OF SIGHTING - one second.
If you can identify it, please let me know what
it is. Please don't think this is a favor. It must
certainly be not I don't want to put you through
through more trouble than is absolutely necessary.

Sincerely,


6A. NOW IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE CENTER OF THE COMPASS ROSE. PLACE AN "A" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN.



7. IN THE SKETCH BELOW, PLACE AN "A" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN, AND A "B" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN. CONNECT THE "A" AND "B" WITH A LINE TO APPROXIMATE THE MOVEMENT OF THE PHENOMENON BETWEEN "A" AND "B". THAT IS, SCHEMATICALLY SHOW WHETHER THE MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE STRAIGHT, CURVED OR ZIG-ZAG. REFER TO SMALLER SKETCH AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMPLETE THE LARGER SKETCH.



SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENA QUESTIONNAIRE

BUDGET BUREAU APPROVAL
NUMBER 21-R258

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HAS BEEN PREPARED SO THAT YOU CAN GIVE THE U.S. AIR FORCE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON THAT YOU HAVE OBSERVED. PLEASE TRY TO ANSWER ALL OF THE QUESTIONS. THE INFORMATION YOU GIVE WILL BE USED FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES. YOUR NAME WILL NOT BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OF YOUR STATEMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION. RETURN TO AIR FORCE BASE INVESTIGATOR FOR FORWARDING TO FTD (TDETR), WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO 45433, IAW AFR 80-17. (IF ADDITIONAL SHEETS ARE NEEDED FOR NARRATIVE OR SKETCHES ATTACH SECURELY TO THIS FORM OR ANNOTATE WITH YOUR NAME FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

1. WHEN DID YOU SEE THE PHENOMENON?

DAY 9 MONTH NOV. YEAR 1968

2. WHAT TIME DID YOU FIRST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?

HOUR 11 MINUTES 0 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

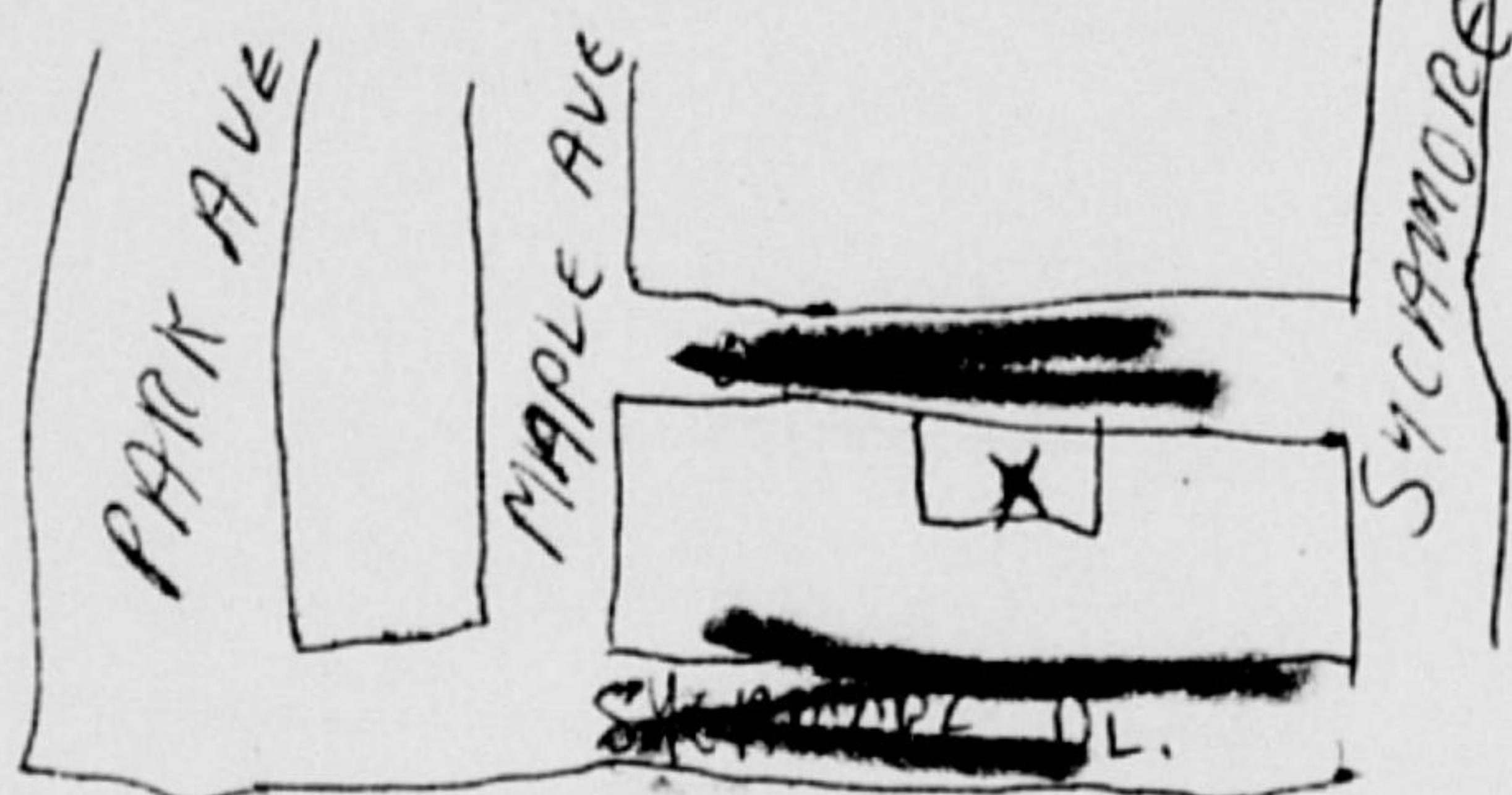
3. WHAT TIME DID YOU LAST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?

HOUR 11 MINUTES 0 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

4. TIME / ZONE

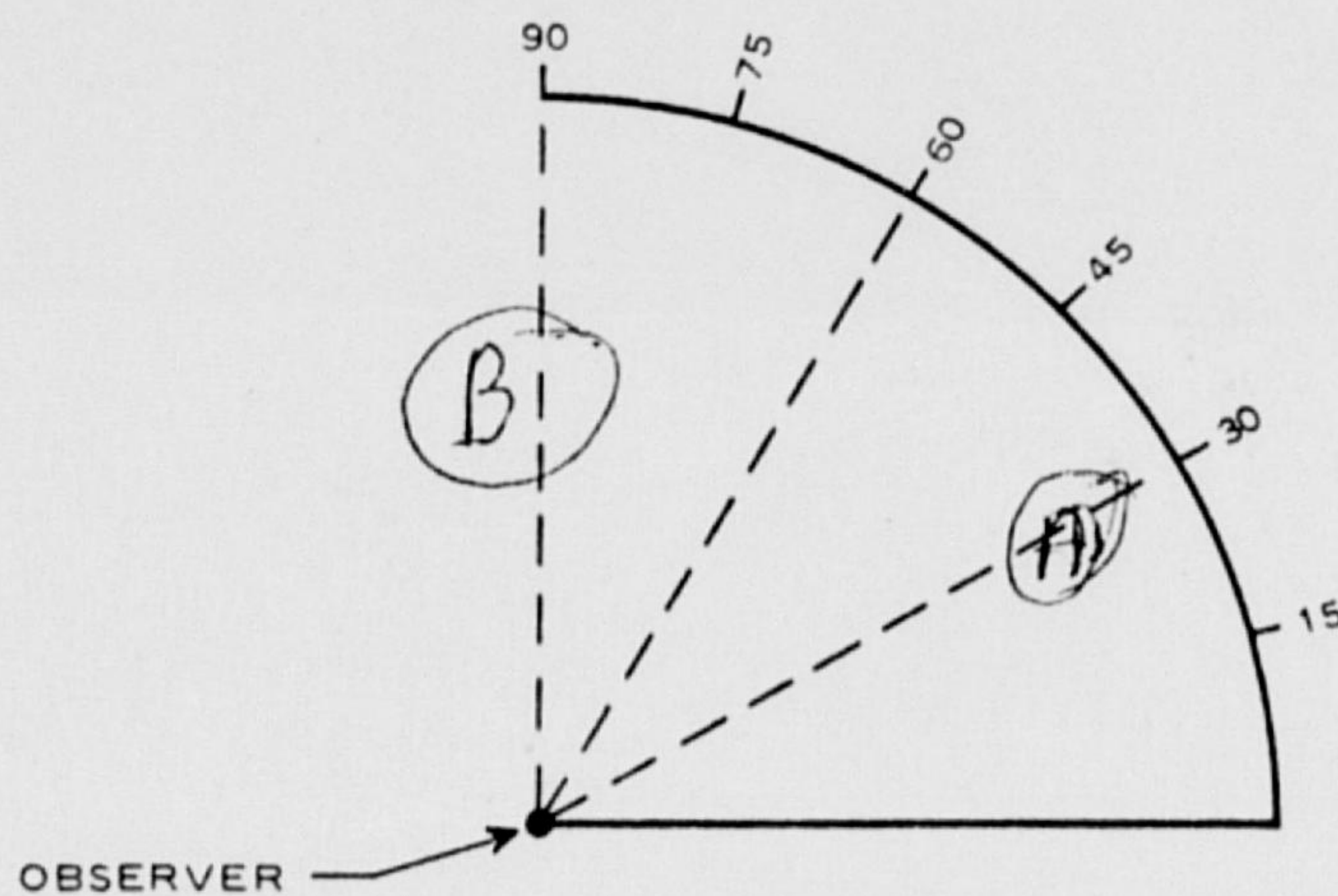
☐ DAYLIGHT SAVINGS☐ STANDARD☒ EASTERN☐ CENTRAL☐ MOUNTAIN☐ PACIFIC☐ OTHER

5. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? IF IN CITY, GIVE THE NEAREST STREET ADDRESS AND INDICATE ON A HAND DRAWN MAP WHERE YOU WERE STANDING WITH REFERENCE TO THE ADDRESS. IF IN THE COUNTRY, IDENTIFY THE HIGHWAY YOU WERE ON OR NEAR AND TRY TO FIX A DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM SOME RECOGNIZABLE LANDMARK.



X = where I was.

6. IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE POINT SHOWN IN THE SKETCH. PLACE AN "A" ON THE CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH THE PHENOMENON WAS ABOVE THE HORIZON, OR SKYLINE, WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE SAME CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH ABOVE THE HORIZON THE PHENOMENON WAS WHEN LAST SEEN.



10. IF THERE WERE MORE THAN ONE PHENOMENON, HOW MANY WERE THERE? DRAW A PICTURE TO SHOW HOW THEY WERE ARRANGED. DID THIS ARRANGEMENT CHANGE DURING THE SIGHTING?

only one

11. CONDITIONS (Check appropriate blocks.)

A. SKY		B. WEATHER	
☐ DAY		☐ CUMULUS CLOUDS (Low fluffy)	☐ FOG OR MIST
☐ TWILIGHT		☐ CIRRUS CLOUDS (High fleecy or Herring-bone)	☐ HEAVY RAIN
☐ NIGHT		☐ NIMBUS CLOUDS (Rain)	☐ LIGHT RAIN OR DRIZZLE
☐ CLEAR		☒ CUMULONIMBUS CLOUDS (Thunderstorms)	☐ HAIL
☐ PARTLY CLOUDY			☐ SNOW OR SLEET
☒ COMPLETELY OVERCAST			☐ UNKNOWN
		☐ HAZE OR SMOG	☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE

C. IF THE SIGHTING WAS AT TWILIGHT OR NIGHT, WHAT DID YOU NOTICE ABOUT THE STARS AND MOON?

(1) STARS	(2) MOON
☒ NONE	☐ BRIGHT MOONLIGHT
☐ A FEW	☐ NO MOONLIGHT
☐ MANY	☐ MOON WITH HALO
☐ UNKNOWN	☒ UNKNOWN
	☒ MOON HIDDEN BY CLOUDS
	☐ PARTIAL (New or quarter)

D. IF SIGHTING WAS IN DAYLIGHT, WAS THE SUN VISIBLE? ☐ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," WHERE WAS THE SUN AS YOU FACED THE PHENOMENON?

☐ IN FRONT OF YOU	☐ TO YOUR RIGHT	☐ OVERHEAD (Near noon)
☐ IN BACK OF YOU	☐ TO YOUR LEFT	☐ UNKNOWN

E. SPECIFY THE MAJOR SOURCE OF ILLUMINATION PRESENT DURING THE SIGHTING, SUCH AS THE SUN, HEADLIGHTS OR STREET LAMP, ETC. FOR TERRESTRIAL ILLUMINATION, SPECIFY DISTANCE TO LIGHT SOURCE.

Street lamp - about 100 ft. away.

12. GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHENOMENON, INDICATING WHETHER IT APPEARED DARK OR LIGHT, WHETHER IT REFLECTED LIGHT OR WAS SELF-LUMINOUS AND WHAT COLORS YOU NOTICED. DESCRIBE YOUR IMPRESSION OF WHETHER IT WAS SOLID OR TRANSPARENT, WHETHER EDGES WERE SHARP OR FUZZY. DESCRIBE THE SHAPE OR INDICATE IF IT APPEARED AS A POINT OF LIGHT. INDICATE COMPARISONS WITH OTHER OBSERVED OBJECTS, LIKE STARS, A LIGHT OR OTHER OBJECT IN YOUR FIELD OF VIEW.

BRIGHT RED, ~~SELF~~ LOOKED AS BIG AS ONE SEES A LARGE BRIGHT STAR, SELF-LUMINOUS, edges were fuzzy, appeared to be solid. It was round.

8. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? (Check appropriate blocks.)			
☒	OUTDOORS		IN BUSINESS SECTION OF CITY
	IN BUILDING	☒	IN RESIDENTIAL SECTION OF CITY
	IN CAR ☐ AS DRIVER ☐ AS PASSENGER		IN OPEN COUNTRYSIDE
	IN BOAT		NEAR AIRFIELD
	IN AIRPLANE ☐ AS PILOT ☐ AS PASSENGER		FLYING OVER CITY
	OTHER		FLYING OVER OPEN COUNTRY
			OTHER
A. IF YOU WERE IN A VEHICLE, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:			
WHAT DIRECTION WERE YOU MOVING?		HOW FAST WERE YOU MOVING?	
NORTH	EAST	DID YOU STOP ANYTIME WHILE OBSERVING THE PHENOMENON? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
SOUTH	WEST		
NORTHEAST	SOUTHEAST		
NORTHWEST	SOUTHWEST		
EXPLAIN WHETHER SUCH MOVEMENT AFFECTS YOUR SKETCHES IN ITEMS 5 AND 6.			
DESCRIBE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU WERE IN AND TYPE OF ROAD, TERRAIN OR BODY OF WATER YOU TRAVERSED DURING THE SIGHTING. STATE WHETHER WINDOWS OR CONVERTIBLE TOP WERE UP OR DOWN.			
HOW MUCH OTHER TRAFFIC WAS THERE?			
DID YOU NOTICE ANY AIRPLANES? ☐ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE WHEN THEY WERE IN SIGHT RELATIVE TO THE TIME OF SIGHTING THE PHENOMENON AND WHERE THEY WERE IN THE SKY RELATIVE TO THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON.			
9. HOW LONG WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT?			
LENGTH OF TIME		CERTAIN OF TIME	NOT VERY SURE
1 second		☒	JUST A GUESS
HOW WAS TIME DETERMINED?			
estimated			
WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT CONTINUOUSLY? ☒ YES ☐ NO. IF "NO," INDICATE WHETHER THIS IS DUE TO YOUR MOVEMENT OR THE BEHAVIOR OF THE PHENOMENON, AND DESCRIBE SUCH MOVEMENT OR BEHAVIOR. INDICATE DISAPPEARANCES ON PREVIOUS SKETCHES.			

15. DRAW A PICTURE THAT WILL SHOW THE SHAPE OF THE PHENOMENON. INCLUDE AND LABEL ANY DETAILS THAT MIGHT HAVE APPEARED AS WINGS OR PROTRUSIONS, AND INDICATE EXHAUST OR VAPOR TRAILS. INDICATE BY AN ARROW THE DIRECTION THE PHENOMENON WAS MOVING.

←
DIRECTION

no exhaust or vapor trail

16. WHAT WAS THE ANGULAR SIZE? HOLD A MATCH AT ARM'S LENGTH IN FRONT OF A KNOWN OBJECT, SUCH AS A STREET LAMP OR THE MOON. NOTE HOW MUCH OF THE OBJECT IS COVERED BY THE HEAD OF THE MATCH. NOW IF YOU HAD BEEN ABLE TO PERFORM THIS EXPERIMENT AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING, ESTIMATE WHAT FRACTION OF THE PHENOMENON WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED BY THE MATCH HEAD.

The whole thing would have been covered.

13.	DID THE PHENOMENON	YES	NO	UNKNOWN
	MOVE IN A STRAIGHT LINE?	✓		
	STAND STILL AT ANYTIME?		✓	
	SUDDENLY SPEED UP AND RUN AWAY?		✓	
	BREAK UP IN PARTS AND EXPLODE?		✓	
	CHANGE COLOR?		✓	
	GIVE OFF SMOKE?		✓	
	CHANGE BRIGHTNESS?		✓	
	CHANGE SHAPE?		✓	
	FLASH OR FLICKER?		✓	
	DISAPPEAR AND REAPPEAR?		✓	
	SPIN LIKE A TOP?		✓	
	MAKE A NOISE?		✓	
	FLUTTER OR WOBBLE?		✓	

14. WHAT DREW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE PHENOMENON?

I was looking up, and there it was.

A. HOW DID IT FINALLY DISAPPEAR?

It went beyond some houses, I couldn't see it anymore.

B. DID THE PHENOMENON MOVE BEHIND OR IN FRONT OF SOMETHING, LIKE A CLOUD, TREE, OR BUILDING AT ANY TIME?
☒ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

~~It moved~~

17. DID YOU OBSERVE THE PHENOMENON THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING? INCLUDE INFORMATION ON MODEL, TYPE, FILTER, LENS PRESCRIPTION OR OTHER APPLICABLE DATA.			
☒	EYEGLASSES		CAMERA VIEWER
	SUNGLASSES		BINOCULARS
	WINDSHIELD		TELESCOPE
	SIDE WINDOW OF VEHICLE		THEODOLITE
	WINDOWPANE		OTHER
A. DO YOU ORDINARILY WEAR GLASSES? ☒ YES ☐ NO		B. DO YOU USE READING GLASSES? ☐ YES ☒ NO	
18. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE SPEED OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF SPEED <u>thousands</u> <u>of mph.</u>		19. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE DISTANCE OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF DISTANCE <u>5000 ft.</u> <u>up.</u>	
20. IN ORDER THAT WE MAY OBTAIN AS CLEAR A PICTURE AS POSSIBLE OF WHAT YOU SAW, DESCRIBE IN YOUR OWN WORDS A COMMON OBJECT OR OBJECTS WHICH, WHEN PLACED IN THE SKY, SIMILAR TO WHERE YOU NOTED THE PHENOMENON, WOULD BEAR SOME RESEMBLANCE TO WHAT YOU SAW. DESCRIBE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE COMMON OBJECT AND WHAT YOU SAW.			
It looked like a star, except that it was red, and it moved <u>very</u> fast (much faster than jet)			
21. DID YOU NOTICE ANY ODOR, NOISE, OR HEAT EMANATING FROM THE PHENOMENON OR ANY EFFECT ON YOURSELF, ANIMALS OR MACHINERY IN THE VICINITY? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.			
A. DID THE PHENOMENON DISTURB THE GROUND OR LEAVE ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.			

27. INFORMATION WHICH YOU FEEL IS PERTINENT BUT WHICH IS NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE,
ALTERNATIVELY PROVIDE A NARRATIVE EXPLANATION OF THE SIGHTING.

COLOR - Red (VERY BRIGHT)

SPEED - Thousands of MPH,

ELEVATION - AT least 50,000 ft.

SIZE - as large as one sees a star.

EXHAUST - none.

SOUND - none

ODOR - none

~~NIGHT~~ - cloudy, no stars, no moon.

TIME - 11:00 PM

DAY - NOV. 9, '68

The object was going south. It was in
view about 1 second. It was round.