

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 7 Sep 52		LOCATION Needles, California		12. CONCLUSIONS	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local: 1930 PST GMT:		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE civilian couple			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE S	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Dull glow color. Oval -Delta shaped. Normal flight.				11. COMMENTS	

COUNTRY		REPORT NO. SBAMA-IS-1-52	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT Flying Object Report			
AREA REPORTED ON United States		FROM (Agency) SIO Hq SBAMA Norton AFB, Calif.	
DATE OF REPORT 16 Sept 52	DATE OF INFORMATION 7 Sept 52	EVALUATION F-6	
PREPARED BY (Officer) Captain Walter Rutkowski		SOURCE [REDACTED]	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5 Joint Messageform SBIS-9-1-E			

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

PREAMBLE:

This report of a flying object is prepared from information contained in a letter arriving at Headquarters, San Bernardino Air Materiel Area, Norton Air Force Base, California.

SOURCE:

[REDACTED] a. Further information on source not available.

SUMMARY:

A single flying object, 200 feet wide with a delta shape and appearing luminous, traveled without sound on a north to south course at approximately 100 to 125 mph over Needles California at an altitude of 2,000 feet above the terrain. Observation of the flying object was made visually from the surface for a 15 second period on 7 September 1952 at 1930 PST by SOURCE and his wife. Observation was made during hours of darkness with ceiling and visibility unlimited. No physical evidence of the flying object exists.

1 Incl
Rpt of Fly Obj w/3 incls to
D/1 Hq USAF (w/2 incls to
ATIAA-2c)

Walter Rutkowski
WALTER RUTKOWSKI
Captain, USAF
Base Intelligence Officer

INCL.

7-3919-17

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) SIO HQ SBAMA Norton AFB, Calif.	REPORT NO. SBAMA-IS-1-52	PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES
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INTRODUCTION

1. A letter, dated 8 Oct 52, inclosure 1, containing information on a flying object arrived at this Headquarters on 10 Oct 52 via ordinary mail. Subject letter was addressed to: Intelligence Officer, Norton Air Force Base, San Bernardino, California and carried the following return address: 520 D Street, Needles, California. The source of the letter as derived from the return address and signature was D. H. Tittle, hereafter referred to as SOURCE. SOURCE reliability is unknown and truth of report cannot be judged.

GENERAL

2. SOURCE was sitting on the front porch of his home, [REDACTED], Needles, California, about 1930 PST, 7 September 1952, when he noticed a single object moving aloft from north to south, and he immediately called the attention of his wife to same.

3. SOURCE and wife agree that the flying object was of a design as indicated by the facsimile sketch attached as inclosure 2, i.e., a delta wing type aircraft. SOURCE writes that the aerial performance of the object was similar to that of a delta wing aircraft and that the flying object made no noise and maintained a steady course. SOURCE writes that approximately 15 seconds elapsed from the time he initially observed the flying object until it passed beyond some trees which interrupted his line of sight.

4. SOURCE initially writes that he could not determine the flying objects size, speed, or distance, but feels that it was at least one (1) mile away. SOURCE then writes that in the event the flying object was one (1) mile to the East of his position, he would estimate it to be flying at an altitude of 2,000 feet at 100-125 mph, and its width approximately 200 feet. SOURCE states that it would be difficult to estimate the thickness of the flying object as he and his wife could not see it clearly at anytime.

5. SOURCE writes that the flying object was light in color and seemed to have a dull glow or slight luminescence. SOURCE feels that the objects color or luminous appearance was not a result of reflected light from the city as it maintained its color or luminous appearance after passing over the city onto the desert. SOURCE writes that there were no clouds in the vicinity and that the moon did not rise for another hour. SOURCE further writes that he has ruled out the possibility that the unidentified object could have been a large flock of ducks or other birds because of the above.

6. SOURCE writes that he has ruled out the possibility that the unidentified object could have been a conventional aircraft as he is familiar with same, and believes that the only explanation for the unidentified object would be some atmospheric condition which formed a cloud-like shape that traveled in a direction opposite to the light prevailing breeze. SOURCE writes that such existancy, however, would not explain the dull glow that made the object visible on a dark night.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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7. SOURCE writes that he feels his information on his sighting will be vague, but that he has explained the matter to the best of his ability under the circumstances. SOURCE writes that he has reported this sighting to substantiate other possible reports of the same, that he felt it his duty as a citizen to render such report, and that he will answer queries on the sighting to the best of his ability.

REMARK

8. Weather and winds aloft condition at the time of the sighting as reported by the Norton Air Force Base Weather detachment was as follows:

1930 PST, 7 September 1952, Needles, California.

Clear. Visibility: 45 miles

Winds:

<u>Altitude</u>	<u>Direction</u>	<u>Velocity in Knots</u>
Surface	SW	10
2000'	190°	13
4000'	200°	11
8000'	190°	9
10000'	150°	9
14000'	170°	17
18000'	170°	19
30000'	200°	12

9. No physical evidence of the sighting such as fragments, photographs, or the like were included in report from SOURCE and existence of same was not reported.

10. No interception or identification action was taken by the 27th Air Division (Defense), responsible for same in the area of this sighting.

11. A report of air traffic in the vicinity of Needles, California at the time of this sighting has not been obtained.

12. Interview of SOURCE to obtain possible additional information or to evaluate reliability of SOURCE has not been attempted due to geographical location, i.e., distance, of SOURCE from this installation.

3 Incls:

1. Ltr, Flying Object
(orig to D/1 Hq USAF only)
2. Sketch, Flying Object
3. Ltr, Flying Object
(Verbatim cy of incl 1)

Walter Rutkowski

WALTER RUTKOWSKI
Captain, USAF
Base Intelligence Officer

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

SIO Hq SBAMA
Norton AFB, Calif.

REPORT NO.

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OF

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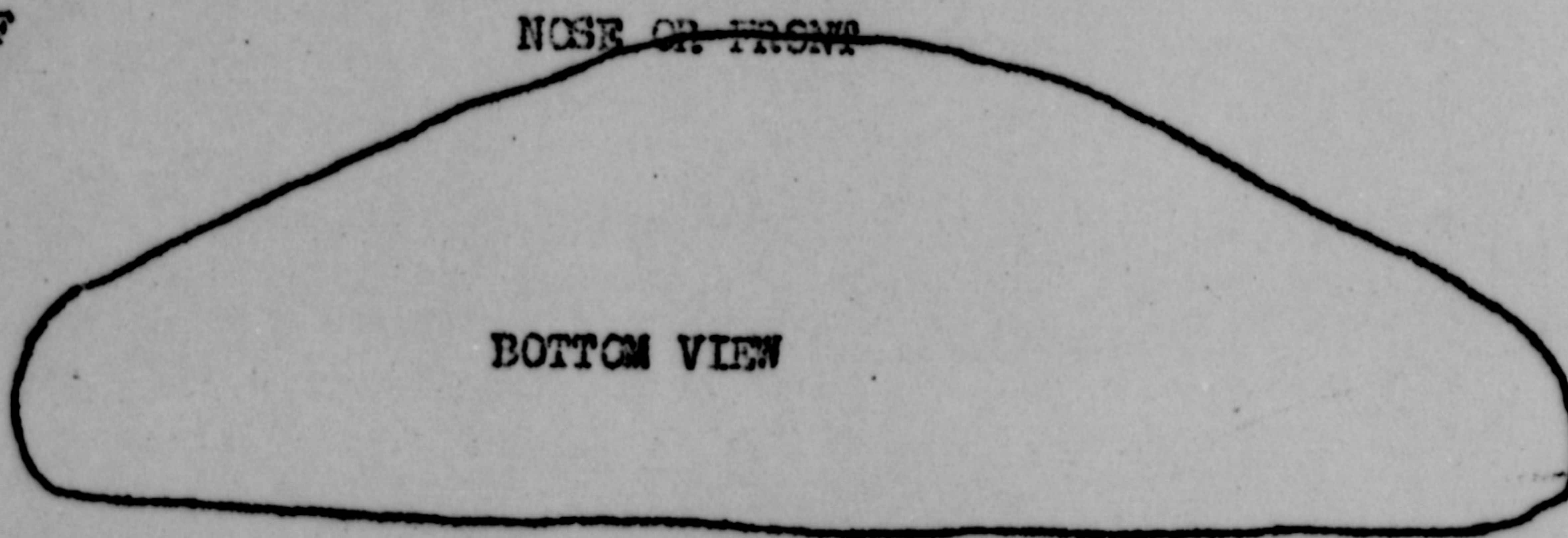
PAGES

DIRECTION OF
TRAVEL



NOSE OR FRONT

BOTTOM VIEW



SKETCH: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

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Ltr: Flying Object (Verbatim copy)

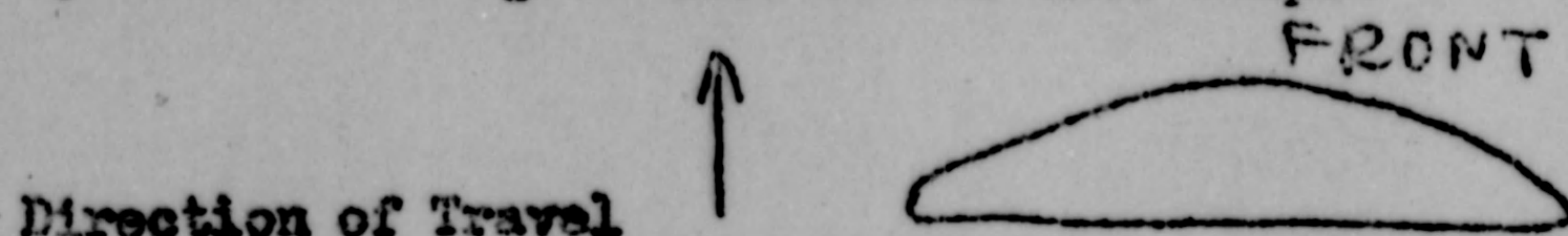
Needles, Calif.
Sept 8, 1952

Intelligence Officer
Norton A. F. Base
San Bernardino, Calif

Subject: Unidentified Object

Last night while sitting on my front porch at Needles, about 8:30 PM, I noticed an object moving from north to south and immediately called the attention of my wife to it. I have no way of knowing its size, speed, nor how far away it was, but I feel rather sure it was at least a mile away and probably farther.

My wife and I agree that it was this shape:



In other words it was on the order of a delta type craft and moved thru the air like the above type does. It made no noise and kept on a steady course. I estimate that from the time I first saw it, until it was shielded from view by some tall trees, about 15 seconds elapsed.

In the event this object was a mile to the east of where I was, I might roughly estimate that it was at an altitude of 2,000 ft. and was going about 100 - 125 miles per hour and its width about 200 ft. I would be hard to estimate its thickness, because we could not, at any time, see it very clearly.

This matter was light in color and seemed to glow a very dull glow, or was by some phenomenon slightly luminous itself.

I feel rather certain that the object was not lit up by the lights of the city, because it was just the same dull intensity after it had passed over the city and continued on over the desert. There were no clouds in the immediate vicinity, and it was fully an hour or more before the moon came up.

I have ruled out the possibility that it might have been a large flock of ducks or other birds because of the above.

I also have ruled out the possibility of its being a conventional aircraft, as I know them anyway, at least.

The only thing I can think it might have been would be an atmospheric condition forming a cloud-like shape and sending it in a direction almost opposite the light prevailing breeze that was moving at that time.

ACTION

SEP 11 01 00 1952

4. Ataa
2. Atic
3. C. files

WPT013

YDA014

KYC014

XDB008

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

11/1/52
INFOR

JWPNT A128

OPOP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN 333

DE JWPNT 252D

OP 102320Z ZNJ

FM CG SBAMA NORTON AFB CALIF

TO JEPHQ/D/1 HQ USAF WASH

JEDWP/ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLO

[REDACTED] / ATTN(TIAA2C SBIS-9-1-E FLYODRP) PD SINGLE FLY
OBJ 200 FT WIDE CMA DEPTH LGTH NOT REPT CMA OVAL DELTA SHAPE W/FLAT
BOTTOM SLIGHT CONVEX DOME PD OBJ LIGHT COLORED W/DULL GLOW OR LUMINOUS
APPEARANCE PD OBJ TVL W/O SOUND FR N TO S ON STEADY CRSE CMA OTHER
MANEUVERS NOT REPT CMA AT APRX 100 TO 125 MPH PD PRDLN METHOD OR
PRESENCE OF TRAIL OR EXHAUST NOT REPT PD OBSRN OF OBJ HALTED AFTER OBJ
PASSED BEYOND TREES INTERRUPTING LINE OF SIGHT PAR OBJ SIGHTED APPRX
1930 PST 7 SEPT 52 AND OBSR FOR APRX 15 SECONDS PD OBSRN VIS FR SURF
PD USE OF OPT OR ELECT EQUIP NOT REPT PD OBSR LOC 520 D ST NEEDLES
CALIF PD OBJ EST PASSING 1 MILE E ALT 2000 FT ABOVE TERRAIN PAR OBJ

PAGE TWO JWPNT 052D

SIGHTED BY D PD HPD TITTLE AND WIFE 520 D ST NEEDLES CALIF PD EST
OF OBSR RELIABILITY OR EXPER NOT POSSIBLE AS SIGHTING REPT MADE BY LTR
PD LTR INTEL AND FACTUAL PAR OBSR REPT NO CLOUDS MOON DUE 1 HR AFTER
OBJ OBSRN CMA PREVAILING WIND DIR OPPOSITE TO OBJ TVL DIR PD OBJ NOT
OBSR VERY CLEARLY AT ANY TIME PAR EXISTANCE OF PHY EVIDENCE NOT REPT
PAR NO FURTHER INFO AVAL FR OBSR LTR PD

10/2343Z SEP JWPNT

Cy 1

SEP 12

1511 010 15

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

SIO Hq SBAMA
Norton AFB, Calif.

REPORT NO.

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OF

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PAGES

Ltr: Flying Object (Verbatim copy) (continued)

Of course this does not explain the dull glow that made it be seen on the dark night, so I guess I will just keep on guessing and wondering.

All the foregoing will seem rather vague, I am sure, but I am merely explaining the matter the best I can under the rather vague circumstances.

It is possible others saw this and have reported it and if so, it would seem the more reports that come in would help you on the subject that much more.

I am merely trying to be a good citizen in reporting the above and should you have any questions on this subject I will be glad to try to answer them to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Yours Truly

s/

TENTATIVE
OBSERVERS QUESTIONNAIRE - 4764.00

SECTION A

1. When did you see the object:

1.1 Date: 7 Sept 1952
Day Month Year

1.2 Time of Day: 7 30 A.M. or P.M. (Circle One)
Hrs. Min.

1.3 Time Zone: (Circle One):

a. Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain

d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
b. Standard

1.4 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to the above question 1.2:

a. Certain
b. Fairly certain

c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

2. Where were you when you saw the object:

[Redacted] Needles Calif.
Postal Address City or Town State Country

Additional Remarks:

Was sitting on front porch
facing due east.

3. Where were you located when you saw the object:

(Circle One): a. Inside a building d. In an airplane
b. In a car e. At sea
c. Outdoors f. Other _____

3.1 Were you:

(Circle One): a. In the business section of a city?
b. In the residential section of a city? on a hilltop.
c. In open countryside?
d. Flying near an airfield?
e. Flying over a city?
f. Flying over open country?
g. Other _____

4. How did you happen to notice the object? Was sitting outside on front porch and saw object moving from left (North) to Right (South)
5. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?
- 8 Sept. 1952
Day Month Year

SECTION B

6. What were you doing at the time you saw the object? Sitting outside on front porch talking with wife.

6.1 What had you been doing for the 30 minutes before you saw the object? Try to list the activity or activities and the approximate amount of time spent on each.

Same as above — had been sitting in same place for almost an hour.

7. Were you moving at any time while you saw the object? (Circle One):

Yes

or

No

IF you answered YES, then complete the following questions:

- 7.1 What direction were you moving?

(Circle One):

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| a. North | e. South |
| b. Northeast | f. Southwest |
| c. East | g. West |
| d. Southeast | h. Northwest |

- 7.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

- 7.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One): Yes or No

8. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object?

(Circle One):

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| a. North | e. South |
| b. Northeast | f. Southwest |
| <u>c. East</u> | g. West |
| d. Southeast | h. Northwest |

8.1 What direction were you looking when the object disappeared?

- (Circle One):
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| a. North | e. South |
| b. Northeast | f. Southwest |
| c. East | g. West |
| <u>d.</u> Southeast | h. Northwest |

8.2 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to the above question and preceding question (8 and 8.1).

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

9. Were you wearing eye glasses when you saw the object? (Circle One):

Yes or No

10. How was the object seen?

- (Circle One):
- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. Through window glass | e. Through theodolite |
| b. Through windshield | f. Through sunglasses |
| c. Through binoculars | <u>g.</u> Through open space |
| d. Through telescope | h. Other _____ |

11. What do you remember about the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

11.1 CLOUDS (Circle One)

- a. Clear sky
- b. Hazy
- c. Scattered clouds
- d. Thick or heavy clouds
- e. Don't remember

11.3 WEATHER (Circle One)

- a. Dry
- b. Fog, Mist, or light rain
- c. Moderate or heavy rain
- d. Snow
- e. Don't remember

11.2 WIND (Circle One)

- a. No wind
- b. Slight breeze WSW
- c. Strong wind
- d. Don't remember

11.4 TEMPERATURE (Circle One)

- a. Cold
- b. Cool
- c. Warm about 90° F.
- d. Hot
- e. Don't remember

SECTION C

12. Estimate how long you saw the object?

<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>15</u>
Hours	Minutes	Seconds

12.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 12:

would not miss it more than 3 seconds either way.

- a. Certain
(b.) Fairly sure
 c. Not very sure
 d. Just a guess

13. Did the object look: (Circle One) Solid or Transparent

- probably transparent

14. Did the object at any time:

(Circle One for each question)

- | | | | | |
|------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 14.1 | Change direction? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.2 | Change speed? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.3 | Change size? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.4 | Change color? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.5 | Break up into parts or explode? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.6 | Give off smoke? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.7 | Change brightness? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.8 | Flicker, throb, or pulsate? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |
| 14.9 | Remain motionless? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | Don't know |

Don't lecture so

15. Did the object give off a light? (Circle One): Yes No Don't know

15.1 IF you answered YES, what was the color of the light? _____

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

16.1 Sound Did not make any sound I could hear.

16.2 Color Greenish white like snow

17. 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 they were traveling.

18. Did the object at any time:

18.1 Move behind something? (Circle One) Yes No Don't know

IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind.

not that I could see in the dark.

18.2 Move in front of something? (Circle One) Yes No Don't know

IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved in front of.

*not flat
could see
in the distance*

18.3 Blend with the background? (Circle One) Yes No Don't know

19. Which of the following objects is about the same actual size as the object you saw? (Circle One):

- a. Pea
- b. Baseball
- c. Basketball
- d. Bicycle wheel
- e. Office desk

- f. Automobile
- g. Small airplane
- h. Large airplane
- i. Dirigible
- j. Other _____

19.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 19.

- a. Certain
- b. Fairly certain

- c. Not very sure
- d. Uncertain

*Due to fact I
could not accurately
estimate distance from
object because of
darkness*

20. Try to tell the following things about the object:

20.1 How high above the earth was it?

20.2 How far was it from you?

20.3 How fast was it going?

20.4 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to the above questions:

- a. Certain
- b. Fairly certain

- c. Not very sure
- d. Just a guess

21. How did the object disappear from view?

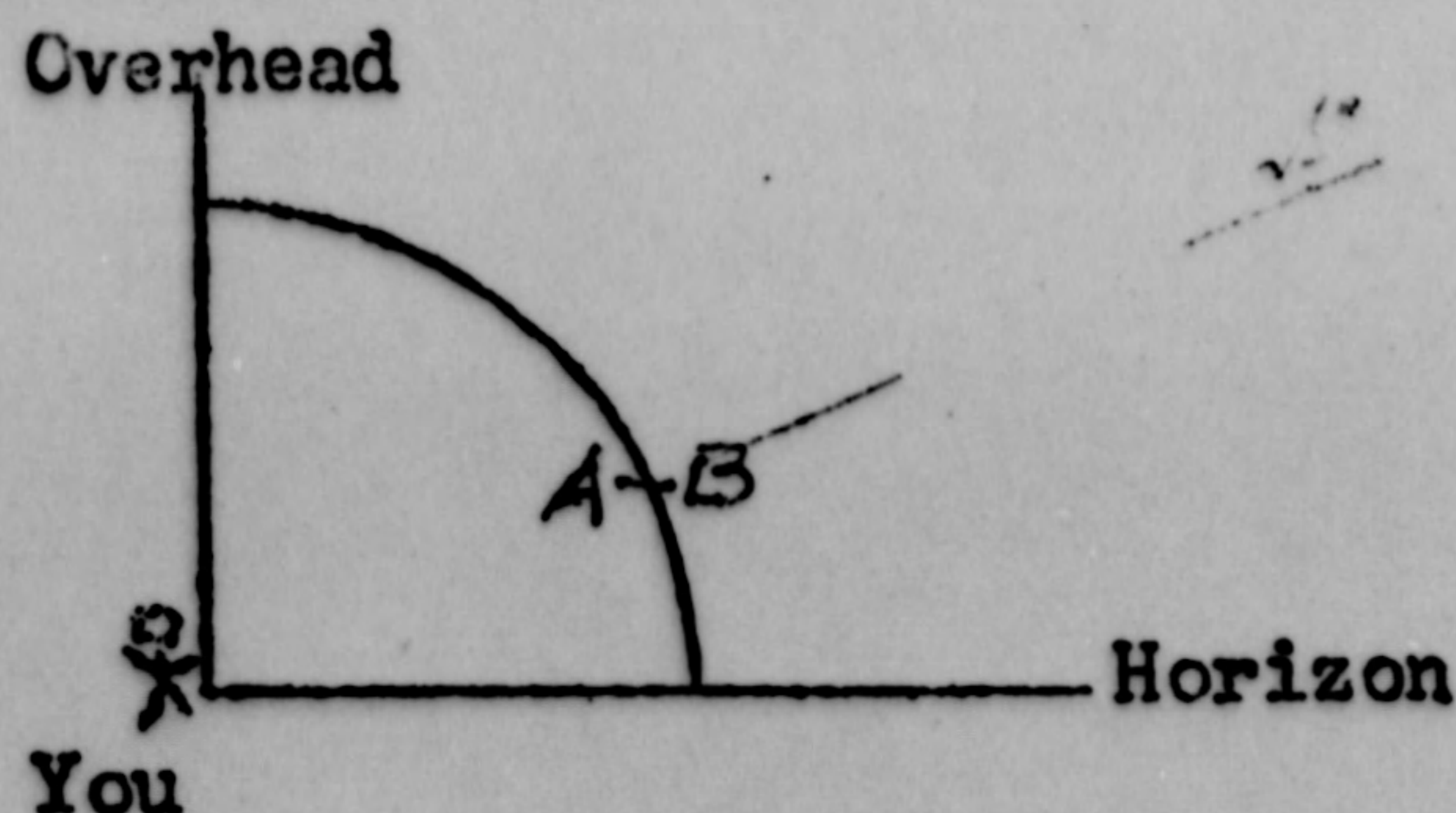
- (Circle One):
- a. Suddenly
 - b. Gradually

*Could not see if any more after
it had passed behind large tree*

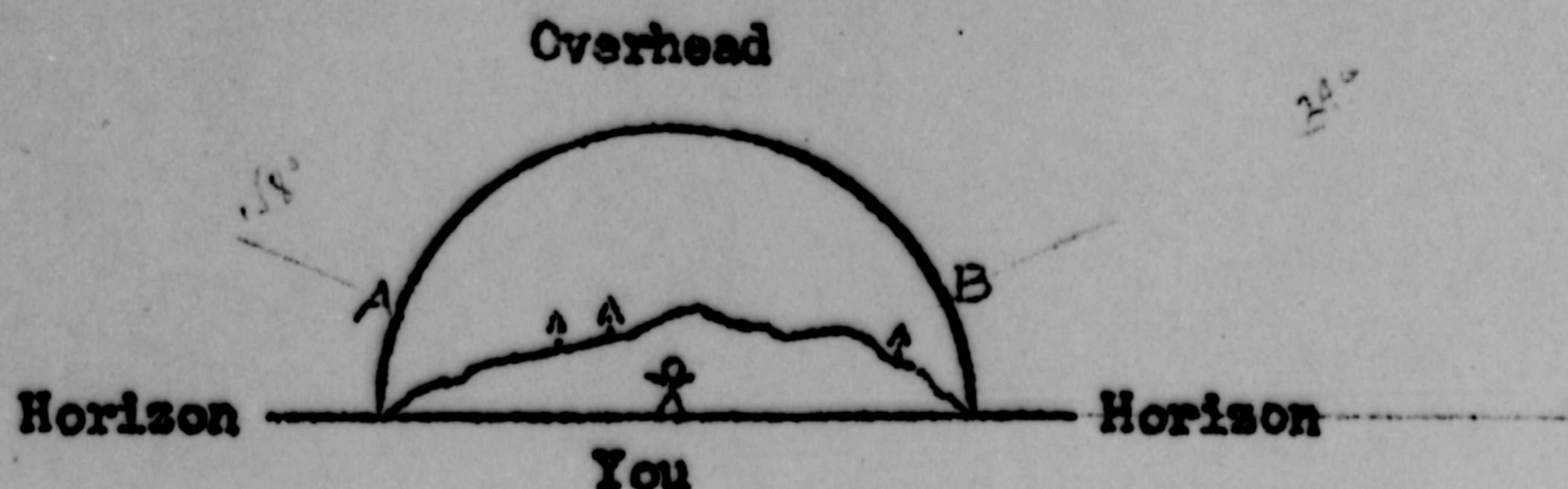
- c. Other _____
- d. Don't remember

SECTION D

22. In the following sketch, imagine your eye 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" to show where it was when you last saw it.



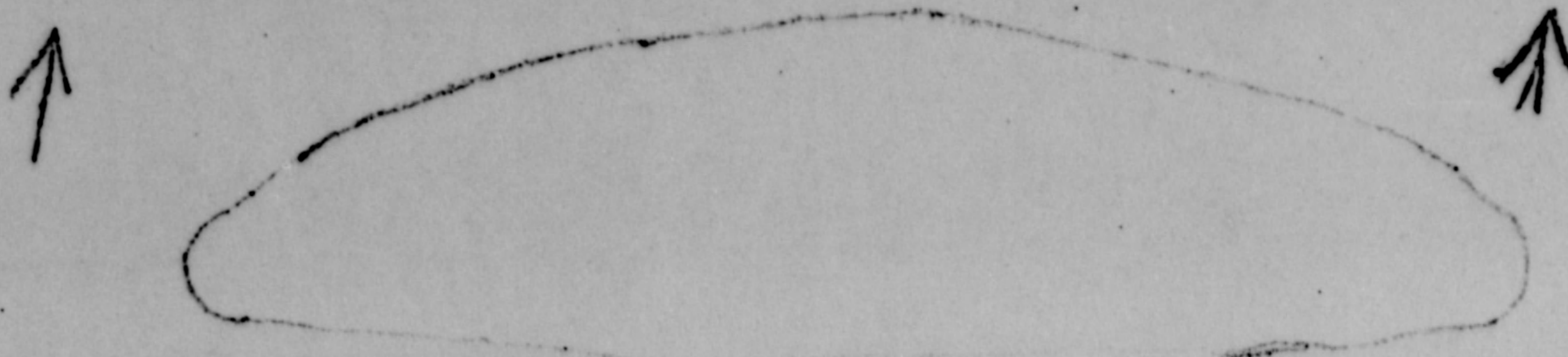
23. In the following sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you first saw it, and a "B" at its position when you last saw it.



24. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object made. Place an "A" at the beginning of its path and a "B" at the end of its path.

It travelled on a steady course from north to south, similar to an aircraft on a steady course. There was no other motion.

25. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw and place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.



To better illustrate what it looked like, I made this sketch as it would look from the top or bottom, although I saw it from the side mostly.
In other words it looked similar to a flying wing aircraft.

SECTION E

26. Was this the first time that you have seen an object like this?

(Circle One): Yes or No

26.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what conditions did you see other ones? _____

27. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

Possible atmospheric phenomenon, however I cannot explain the faint glow if it was the above.

28. Give the following information about yourself:

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

ADDRESS [REDACTED] Needles [REDACTED] Calif
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED]

What is your present job? Postal Clerk

Age 41

Sex Male

29. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One): Yes or No

29.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One): Yes or No

29.2 Please list their names and addresses:

[REDACTED] *wife*

30. Please add here any further comments which you believe are important.
Use additional sheets of the same size paper, if necessary.

I feel almost certain that this object was not an aircraft - or at least not an aircraft as I know them.

I feel almost certain that the object was not a large flock of ducks or other birds, or other objects that might be shown up by the reflected lights of the city, because the object had the same faint glow or faint illumination after it had passed over the city and on out over the dark desert, as when I saw it over the city.

It is hard for me to estimate the size, speed and altitude of the object, because, due to the darkness, I could not accurately estimate how far it was from me. If the object was $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile away I would roughly estimate its size as being about 250 feet by 100 ft and about 10 ft thick, although the latter would be much harder to estimate and I could be considerably off on this.

I feel sure the object was not shown up by the reflected sun's rays, because of the time of night.

(OVER)

I also feel rather sure the object could not have been a meteor, because if it was no farther from me than I thought it was, a meteor would be travelling much faster and probably would be leaving a trail.

It would be my guess — and purely a guess — that this object was some atmospheric phenomenon, but this probably does not explain why it was glowing faintly or was faintly illuminated enough to make it visible in a completely dark sky.

In the event your office might have an explanation or comments, or if I could be of any further assistance I would be glad to hear from you

[REDACTED]

5216

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