

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 18 June 53 18/2400Z	2. LOCATION Key West, Florida
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION POSSIBLE SEARCHLIGHT Object changed direction sharply eliminating Astro. Winds aloft do not coincide with weather balloon. One TBI was equipped with a search light at the time (Pointing straight ahead).
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object was observed from a boat in Key West area. Appeared as a bright light which appeared to be "focusing". Observer stated that it moved toward, parallel and away from him.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE W and S	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
 FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

19 JUNE 1953 MINNESOTA, FLA.

Unclassified

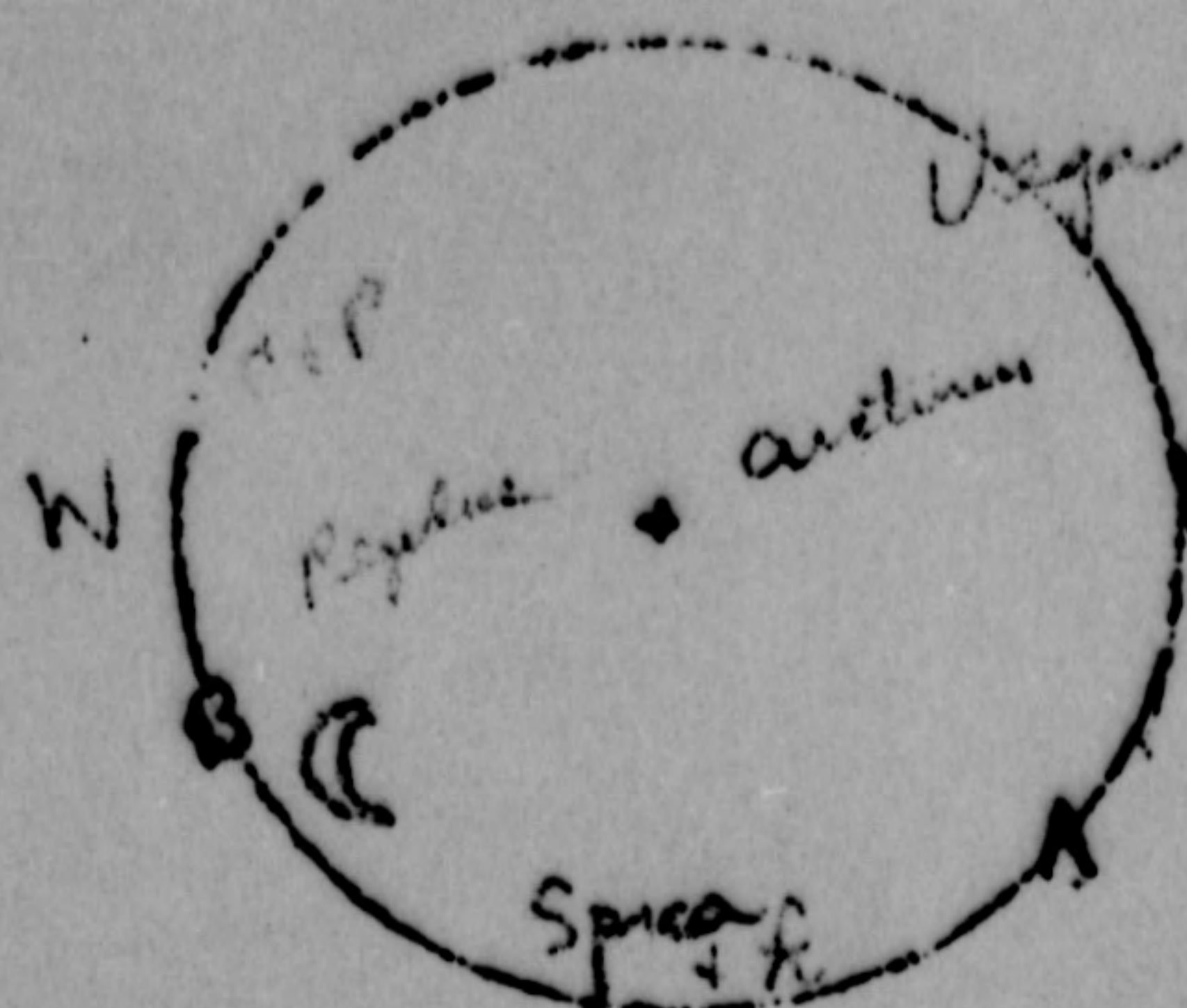
Project HENRY

PPS-161

B-India

26220

flight path



number of UFO

noct day twi

mea sta rap

disc li oth

many few one 2+1

AF GOC ciy

air gro rad at 12a

color yellow, like moon, with

greenish tinge

Duration 13 sec.

Moon 1st Gr.

J
P
U

Meteorological/moon reflection.

Time 19:13 ± 10

Date 19 June 53

Location Fla

reliability

Sunset: +20° + 30° (upper limb)

18:42

19:04

22:00

18:53

at 75°

= 81

+24 min

End of Twilight: 20:06

20:41

18:77

19:17

± 3

INFO NEEDED:

1. ? Cloud cover -
2. ? Size
3. ? Solidity of obj.
4. Steadiness of flight path
5. Did it get smaller as for distance
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

+25° - 50°

3 cycles illumination

PLAN OF ATTACK:

1. Polaroids, neg. & presump. frames -
2. very vivid
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS:

1. Very well illuminated object
2. Looked like a bright star
3. 19 June 1953 - 1st time - cont
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
8. "The night the moon fell."
- 9.
- 10.

15 February 1954

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
New York 21, New York

Dear Mr. [REDACTED],

Because of our geographical proximity to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the Air Technical Intelligence Center has asked the McMillin Observatory to cooperate with them in the capacity of technical consultants to "Project Bluebook." Accordingly, we receive from ATIC reports of unidentified flying objects which indicate, from the initial data received from the observers, that an astronomical or meteorological interpretation of the phenomenon may be in order.

We have received your report of the phenomenon witnessed last 19 June, near Key West, Florida, and we were particularly impressed with the fine job done, both in observing and in reporting.

A few additional questions come to mind which, we feel, might help us clear up the incident.

I shall be in New York some time this week, and would appreciate very much the opportunity of spending a short while discussing this with you personally. Since Mrs. Rothchild also observed the object, perhaps she would be willing to contribute her report as well.

I trust you will find it convenient to cooperate with us in this matter. I shall probably contact you Wednesday morning.

Very truly yours,

J. R. Gluck
Emerson McMillin Observatory

Summary of Investigation of observations, 19 June 1953, Key West, Fla.

Interrogated Mr. & Mrs. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], N.Y. They both talked a great deal, not waiting for questions to be put to them.

Mr. [REDACTED] is a deliberately careless, highly sophisticated individual of 54, resembling Sir Cedrick Hardwicke, who made a well-executed entrance into the room zipping up his trousers, followed by flinging himself full-length upon a couch and pouring himself not less than 4 ounces of Hennessy. He considers himself the epitome of observers -- in fact, he states he can see stars in the daytime. As he reached over to refuel his glass I could well believe him. The character of the observers is, I believe, relevant to the interpretation of the phenomenon being investigated.

The observers reconstructed the incident: namely, that they, along with a guide-fisherman, had been fishing off Key West, 19 June 53. The time was at twilight, everything was still, no clouds at all except a cumulonimbus piling up on the SW horizon, some 11 miles distant. Suddenly, a half-moon shaped object "like a quonset hut on its side, lit up out of nowhere, 20° high, and in the next 13 seconds traveled thru approximately 100 degrees of arc, rising to 30° when it was abeam, directly south, and then disappearing in the SW, behind the thunderhead. In the 13 seconds under observation, the object lit up, or went through, $2\frac{1}{2}$ cycles, of illumination, of 3 seconds each, during which time it glowed a translucent, greenish-yellow, with dark splotches or markings on it. The outline of the object was still visible as it passed through the darkened phases. There was no sound associated with this phenomenon. All three people saw it; one was wearing polaroid goggles, another, prescription sunglasses, and the 3rd observer (Rothchild) observed with the unaided eye.

Mr. [REDACTED] calculates that at a distance of 12-14,000 feet, the speed would have been 3,400 mph and the size of the object 600 feet.

Evaluation:

1. The incident took place within 2 minutes of sunset.
2. No one saw the moon at the same time. However, on 19 June, the moon was at 1st quarter, putting it near the meridian at sunset. Yet, they all stated emphatically that the moon was not visible.

[REDACTED] says, just after the incident, he turned around to the north and spotted Polaris, to help him determine the elevation of the object.

Now, how could anyone be able to see Polaris, a 2nd magnitude star, in very bright twilight, and yet fail to see a quarter moon, which, as they had been facing south, must have been looking them square in the face?

October 29, 1953

FROM:

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
New York 21, N. Y.

TO:

Department of Defense,
Air Force Information Centre,
Pentagon Building,
Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT: U.F.O.

REMARKS:

1. Object observed June 19, 1953, 1913 EST. Seen by three witnesses, two of whom are navigators.

Reason for delay in making mention of this matter is that none of the observers knew what to do with data on phenomenon.

2. If it is so desired, would be able to give you complete details.

Respectfully submitted,

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

lhr/nw

NOTE:

Questionnaire
sent 9 Nov 53

58558

NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
Air Force Information Centre,
Pentagon Building,
Washington, D. C.**



NOV 2 11 11:23
AIR FORCE INFORMATION CENTER
WASHINGTON D.C.

26220

Oct 30 15 30:43
IN
OFFICE SECRETARY OF
THE AIR FORCE

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?

19 June 1953
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 19 13
Hour Minutes

Watch time
(Circle One): A.M. or ~~P.M.~~

3. Time zone:

(Circle One): ☒ Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
☒ Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Marathon, Monroe County Florida.
Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or Country

Additional remarks: Estimated position-- Lat. N 24° 41' 15"
Long. W 81° 4' 40"

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____ plus or minus 1
Hours 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

? at ± 2 min.
of sunset?

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
~~x.~~ 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~~ Not visible *But moon was at 1st quarter*

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

(Circle One): ~~x.~~ 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 Like moon at similar altitude.

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. <u>Change brightness?</u> | <u>Yes</u> | No | Don't Know |
| f. <u>Change shape?</u> | Yes | No | Don't Know |
| g. <u>Flicker, throb, or pulsate?</u> | <u>Yes</u> | 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: Cl. - No. clouds at end of run.

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): or Solid? b. Transparent? c. Don't Know.

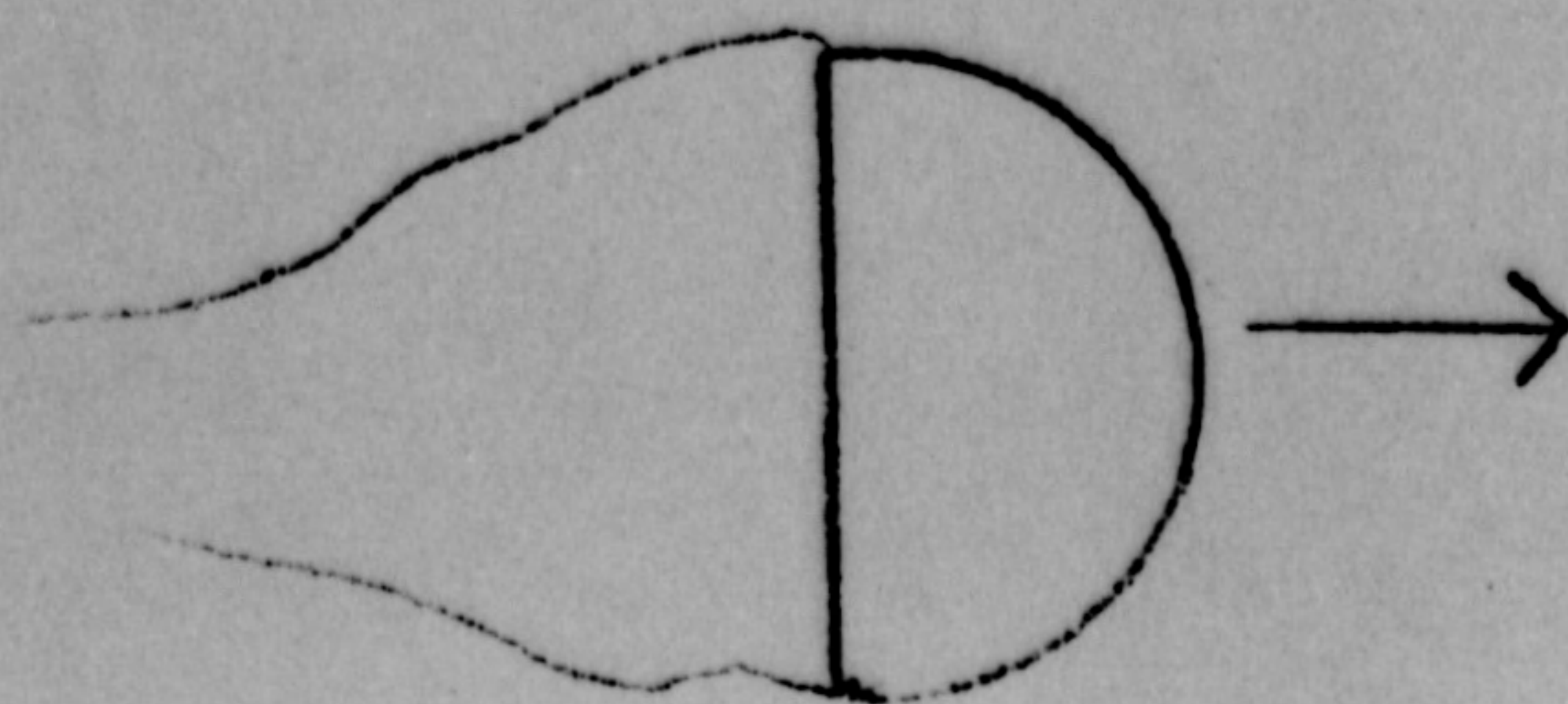
15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|---------------|----------------|-----|---------------|
| 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 Weird, not a sound as though it were traveling in a vacuum.
- b. Color Yellow, almost like moon with a slight greenish tinge. Colors seemed luminescent, fluorescent, almost like phosphorous.

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.



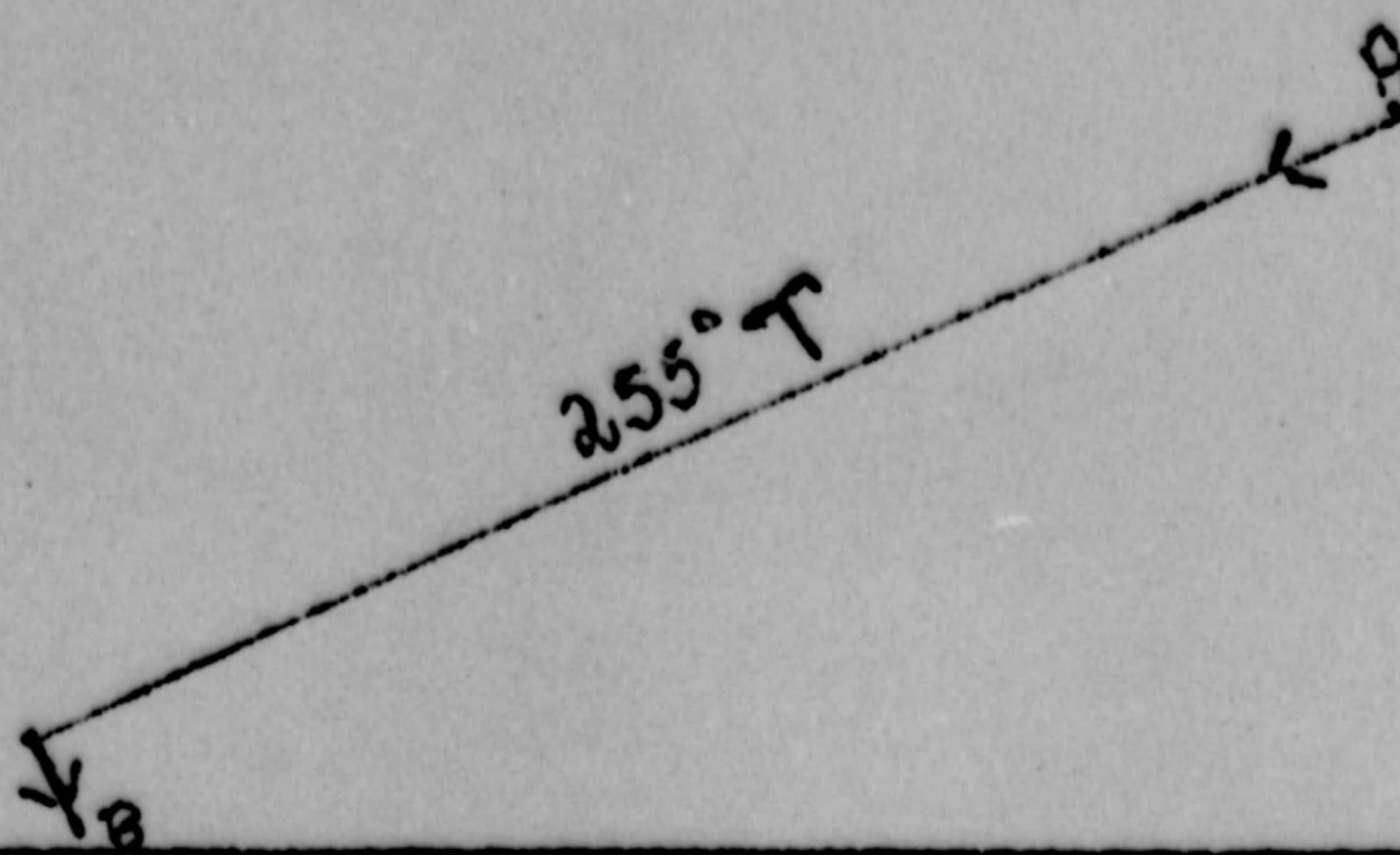
18. The edges of the object were:

- (Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred
 b. Like a bright star
 c. ~~Sharply outlined~~
 d. Don't remember

- e. Other Seemed to have a tapering tail that to me was dark and indistinguishable.

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.
600 feet. A pretty wild guess.

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 | h. Baseball |
| c. Dime | i. Grapefruit |
| d. Nickel | j. Basketball |
| e. Quarter | k. Other <u>2/3 size half-moon</u> at similar altitude. |
| 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 |
| b. Fairly certain | d. Uncertain |

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? After lighting up (see below) for 3rd. time for about 2 seconds object made 90° turn to port behind distant cloud bank we had been observing for some hours.

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.

Lighted portion of object had exact shape of Keufel and Esser half-circle I hold in my hand. Rear projection too dim to estimate other than apparently elongated triangle projected from base of semi-circle. Were I to attempt to construct it, would take a huge Quonset, lay it on its side, and to the bottom attach a tapering triangle about three times in length the radius of the Quonset. It would, at least the fore- or motor part be constructed of (this sounds quite insane, but you asked for it) soap jade that was translucent.



25. 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 Skiff at anchor, 4ft. water.

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?

Sitting in stern of skiff idly watching course of bone-fish my wife
had hooked and was playing. Fish was running approximately E.

Completely unobstructed view, no ships, no clouds (save the very distant
formation), looking right at spot and saw the damn thing light up.

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 | b. East | <u>120°</u> | e. South | g. West |
| b. Northeast | c. 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. Northeast | d. Southeast | <u>245°</u> | 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:

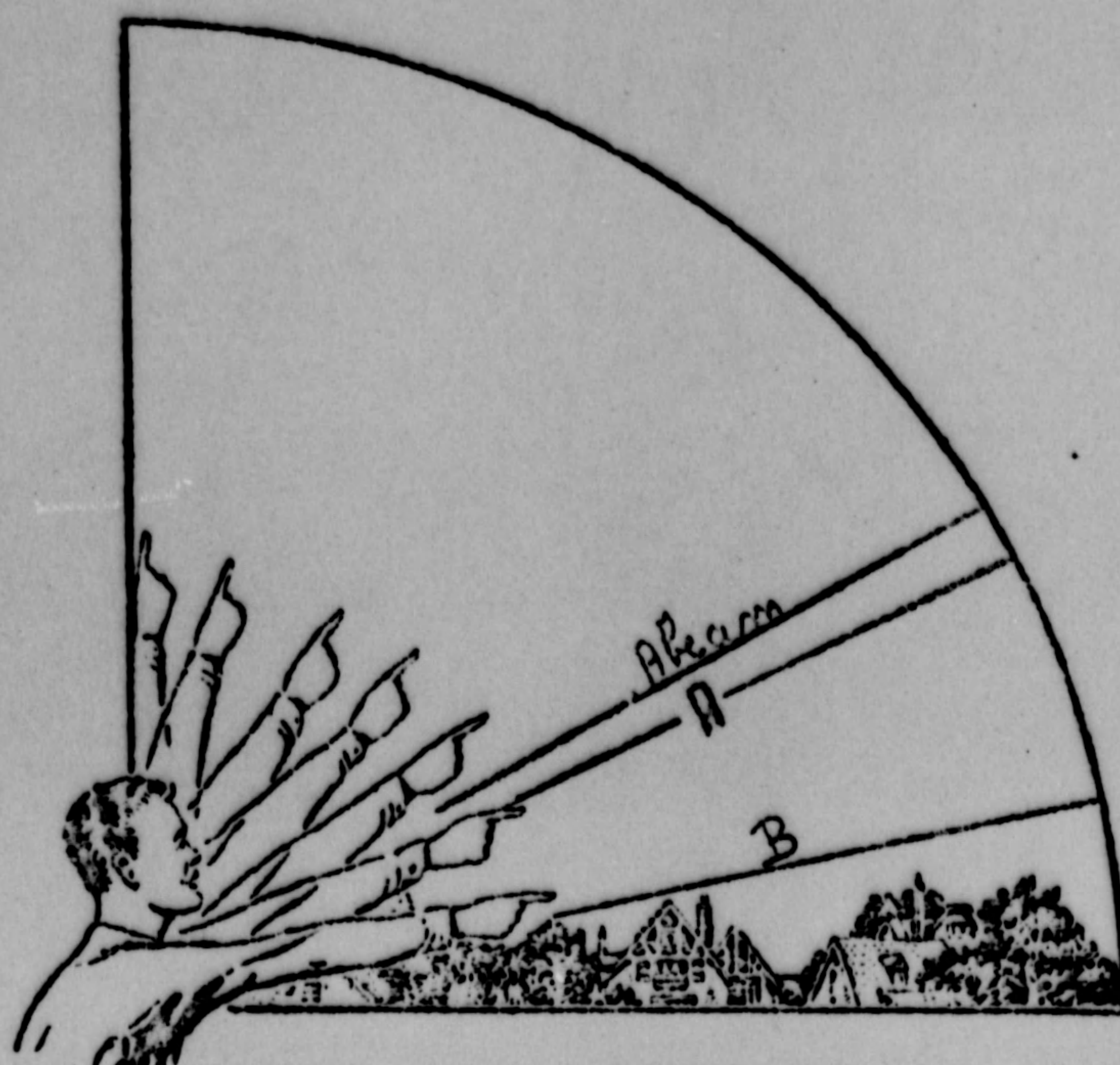
- a. From true North 120° degrees.
- b. From horizon 25° degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

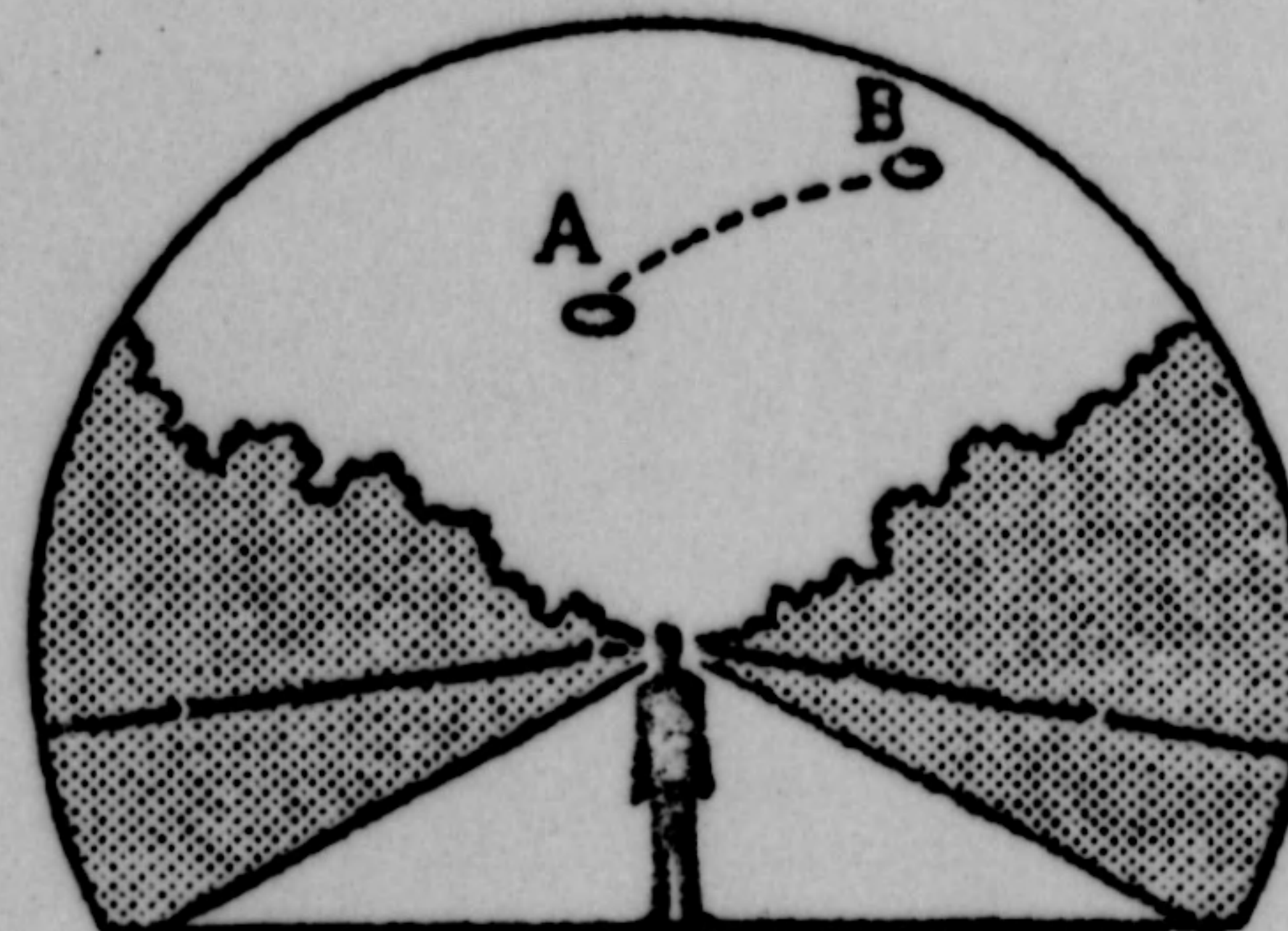
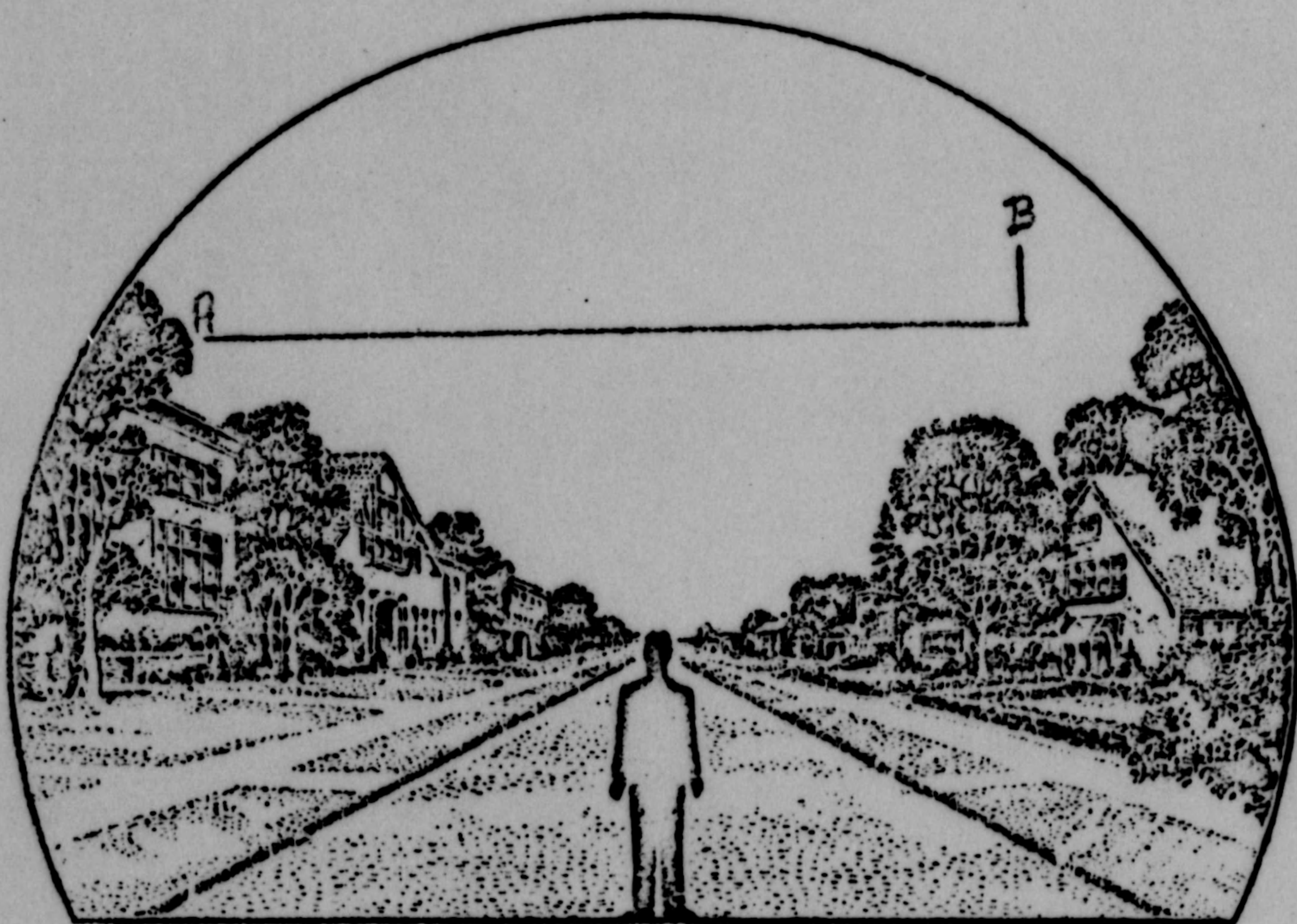
- a. From true North 245° degrees.
- b. From horizon 10° degrees. (see below)

30° when abeam.

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.



Not corrected for perspective.

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 Possibly Beaufort's #1
- 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
- b. Cool
- ☒ c. Warm 80° F.
- d. Hot
- e. Don't remember

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

15 October 1953
Day Month Year

App. Did not know to whom to address myself.

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: (Mrs.) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Street,
N.Y.C. 21, N.Y.

Capt. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~,
Marathon, Florida.

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?

If it was not a guided missile, I would rather not care to guess, or would prefer leaving it up to you. It most definitely was NOT a plane of any type, a reflection, (no ship in sight and we were 3 (road) miles from road, with nothing but mangrove island between it and us), a mirage, (I've seen them), a meteor of any sort, (seen them by the thousands), an atmospheric phenomenon, or a dirigible such as the Boca Chica ones.

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?

3,400 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?

12,500 feet. off.
14,500 azimuth.

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

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

ADDRESS [REDACTED] Street N.Y.C. City 21 Zone N.Y. State

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED]

What is your present job? Partner, D.H. [REDACTED] N.Y.

Age 54 Sex M.

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

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

b. High school Andover. (Type) _____

c. College Princeton. f. Other special training Com. USNRF ret.

d. Post graduate Sorbonne, Hobby has always been celestial--
Offered Com. teaching it at Columbia WWII.

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

16 November 1953.
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 1. [REDACTED]
(Please Print)

(Do Not Write in This Space)

SIGNATURE [REDACTED]

CODE:

DATE 11/16/52

On June 19, 1953, 1913, EST, was sitting in stern of skiff at anchor on the Flats just East of Marathon - estimated position, latitude North 24°, 41 mins., 15 secs., longitude West 81°, 4 mins., 40 secs. - watching my wife fight a bonefish from middle of skiff. Fish had been hooked some 10 minutes. Captain [REDACTED] was seated in bow of skiff.. wind Beaufort's No. 1, dry, warm (approx. 80°), few stars, just at twilight, no clouds of any kind save a thunderhead below Bahia Honda Bridge (some 12 miles distant) which we had been watching earlier in the afternoon, wondering if it might come up on us. The cloud had remained stationary and the distance was quite easy to judge as we had an unobstructed view of the sea and the 7 Mile Bridge was some 2 miles to our right. Cloud formation was obviously South^{west} of the termination of the Bridge and indeed we learned later that it had been squalling at Bahia Honda during the late afternoon and early evening. There was no rain of any kind at Marathon until after 2300 EST.

There were no ships in sight, nothing showing in the Stream, and not even a skiff any place near us. There was no noise of any kind and indeed, just prior to hooking the fish we had remarked on the absolute peace and quiet of the scene. The fish was running more or less due East, and I was following his course, when suddenly, out of the sky, as though a flashlight had been turned on, appeared a semi-circle of light (yellow in color, with a greenish tinge), altitude 30°, estimated height 8000 ft., moving on a 255° true course. The brightness was approximately that of the moon at a similar altitude, the size about 2/3rds of a half-moon -- which was indeed its shape. Object remain illuminated for approximately 3 seconds and then faded so that there was practically no luminosity. At the end of about 2 seconds of darkness, object again illuminated for 3 seconds, went off for 2 seconds, again illuminated, and after about 2 seconds, made a 90° turn and disappeared behind a cloud bank.

I was able to follow the path of the object somehow, even when it was not luminous, and knew exactly where it would emerge. The distance that the object ran during the some 13 seconds we had it in view was approximately 11 nautical miles. My reason for stressing the cloud bank formation and its distance is that it is by means of this that I marked the length of the run.

When abeam the object had an altitude of about 30° , and my recollection is that when it disappeared, its altitude was approximately 10° . This latter figure may be erroneous. If my recollection is correct, it would indicate either:

- (1) that I was wrong on my estimate of the height of the object when abeam (possible, but if it was higher, its size must have been completely fantastic),
- (2) that I misjudged the run of the object before it disappeared (seriously believe this to be improbable, as I had the cloud bank well marked),
- (3) that the object gained height on the run (this latter, ~~correct~~ in my opinion).

To me the most striking feature of the fantastic episode is the absolute and complete lack of noise that accompanied the phenomenon. There was not a sound of any kind, either before or after its appearance... if you can exclude my exclamation "Jesus Christ, what's that?"

It is my opinion that Captain [REDACTED] saw the object simultaneously with me and that my wife looked up and saw it at a fraction of a second after I did. The three of us were able to follow it during the entire run.

The formation, as mentioned above, was that of a round half-moon that was brightly lighted, but there did appear to be a dim, to me, very dim, after-part -- triangular in shape, attached to the base of the half-moon.

I have heard, but do not know of my own knowledge, that the object was picked up on Key West radar.

Respectfully submitted,

[REDACTED]

28 June 1953

Statement of Paul Mathias LEINO, Chief Radio Electrician, U. S. Navy, attached to HS-1, Seaplane Base, Key West, Florida, who resides at 1913 Patterson Avenue, Key West, Florida

This is my report of a strange object observed in the sky on the 18th past, at about 1900. It was first brought to my attention by my wife, Bobbie Jeanne, by asking if that was an airplane. Upon first observing the object, it appeared to me to be a very bright light such as a large arc search light. The light seemed to focus upon us and well, it seemed as if the object was trying to attract our attention by focusing the light and then kind of taking the light out of focus. I seen this phenomena two or three times. My wife said that she had observed it for, oh, a minute and a half, two minutes, something like that before she had called my attention to it. After two or three phenomena of this apparent focusing upon us by the light appeared to come toward us at a very rapid pace and then it veered off to the right at about a 30 or 35 degree angle from the horizon and where we were anchored in the boat, south of Little Spanish Key. This light then travelled several miles, I would say 15 to 20 miles in a Westerly direction and then it turned off leaving an object in the sky, oh, anywhere from 12, 14, 16 inches in diameter and continued in a Westerly direction for another 10 to 20 miles and then from this 12, 14, 16 inch diameter it veered directly or in a Southerly direction again and disappeared in a matter of seconds. The right angle flight of this object was at the speed approximately of a shooting star. There was no trail of any sort behind it except this very, very bright light, it seemed to me a carbon arc light. That is just about all that I can recall of the incident. It happened south of Big Spanish Key, here in the Keys, and we were anchored in about 20 feet of water. The object was anywhere from 20 to 30 miles from us at about a 30 or 35 degree angle from the horizon, come toward us from the South, veered off to the West, and disappeared back into the South. On the extinguishing of the light, it appeared to be, well, having been at sea and seen operations where the larger battleships use these very large 30 inch carbon arc search lights, the light appeared to be of that type and upon turning out it acted just as those lights that I have seen during maneuvers, well, some maneuvers that I have been in in the Navy, having been in several years. It just dimmed out, fluttered a little, and after the light was out I could still distinguish this object as a dark object, I wouldn't say it was exactly black, but it was a dark object in the sky anywhere from 12, 14, 16 inches in diameter and it continued for several miles in a Westerly direction before it turned South again and disappeared in a matter of a very few seconds or a very short time. The path of flight was upward. It was both upward and downward. As it come toward us at the first sighting, it come at a lowering altitude. It come from the horizon watching down, I would say it dropped about 2 degrees in the amount of travel that I saw and then upon turning right, it had a very slight increase of altitude, anywhere from 2, 3, perhaps even 4 degrees of rising altitude when it went in a Westerly direction and when it disappeared in a Southerly direction, it started in an up attitude again. We were in company with the "J" "D" of Key West, Florida, another fishing boat owned and operated by Joe Walker. He was on the Northern side of the island doing some fishing and about the time that this phenomena was observed, they were returning to the anchorage, but upon them arriving back with us, I asked them if they had seen it and they said, no, because at about the time that Mrs. Leino and I observed this phenomena they had become stuck upon a sand bar and all hands were out pushing the boat off the bar to get going again. The

light condition was right at dusk, around 1900. In this area it was still light enough that objects could be seen plainly for a good many miles. The weather was clear, no rain, some clouds in the sky. As a matter of fact, the object when my wife first observed it, came out from behind the clouds. The time of day, it was just before the stars came out. That is just about the time of day it was, just before the stars came out. I have observed falling stars, and meteorites in travel, prior to this, but this did not appear at all like anything that I had ever seen before, it was just this very, very bright light. It was a very bright light which seemed to be focusing upon us and then the focus would be lost and then it would come on again. It seemed like it was being focused on us and then as if they were trying to attract our attention. That is the way the wife explained it to me and the few times that I seen it, that it was just trying to get us in focus and then it would go beyond and then it wouldn't be focused and then to bring it back into focus and it was very, very bright upon its travel there was no trail of any sort that I could see. The closest distance that it got to me, I should say was within 20 miles. Not closer than 20 miles. Well, I am not a very good mathematician, but from where I was it was about a 30 degree angle right off the water at about a 30 degree angle at 20 miles. How high would that be? We will let a mathematician figure it out.

I was requester here to give my age, which is 43, I will be 42, this coming November, weight 184 pounds. I first enlisted in the Navy, July 15, 1935, was discharged July 15, 1941, reenlisted October 1, 1942, and have been in continuous service since then, a total of 13 years and 9 months, no, not quite 9 months, 8 months and 25 days naval service.

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO. TAC 16-53	(DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES)
SUBJECT FLYOB RPT		
AREA REPORTED ON South East Florida - Key West	FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Section 456th Trp Carr Wg (M), MIA, Miami, Fla.	
DATE OF REPORT 2 July 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 1 July 1953	EVALUATION c-3
PREPARED BY (Name) 1ST LT DONALD J. TWOMBLY	SOURCE Military Observer	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952, FLYOB RPT		

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.)

WO Paul M. Leino, USN, HS-1, Seaplane Base, Key West, Florida, observed an extremely bright light in the sky, south and west of Big Spanish Key near Key West, at approximately 1900 hours (2400 Z) on 18 June 1953, after having his attention called to it by his wife. He observed the light for approximately five (5) seconds during which time it appeared to move towards him (northward), then away from him (westward), then to the south, at a very high rate of speed. The object was first seen by Mrs. Leino who is said to have observed it for approximately two (2) minutes before calling her husband's attention to it. Salient features of the observation, in WO Leino's account, were the apparent "focusing" effect, the intensity of the light, and the object's speed and abrupt change of course.

This office has no comment on the significance of the report other than that the observer evidently saw a very bright light or lighted object which was not familiar to, nor recognized by him.

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

- 1- Object changed direction sharply - eliminating other
- 2- winds aloft do not correspond with movement of the object eliminating balloon
- 3- 1 TBM was equipped with a searchlight, & it was on at the time - pointing straight ahead
- 4- Loss - searchlight on A/C
- 5- Excellent report - letter of commendation will be sent - RWB.

2 INCL

1. Statement, WO Leino
2. Map

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

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

- 2 cys - Dir of Intel, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C.
- 2 cys - Channels
- 1 cy - Chief, ATIC, ATTN: ATIAA-2C, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio (info)

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 456th Trp Carr Wg (M) MTA, Miami, Florida	REPORT NO. 6	PAGE 2	OF 4	PAGES
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1. The following information is submitted in the order established by paragraph 7C, AFL 200-5.

a. As observed and described by WO Leino the object and/or light had no definite shape other than "round and oblong". The size, as reported to the Base Intelligence Officer, US Naval Base, Key West, was stated to be 12 or 14 or 16 inches in diameter; however, after questioning by this interviewer, it was ascertained that this was WO Leino's estimate of its exact size and Leino stated that as compared to his thumb held against the sky the light appeared to be approximately four (4) inches in diameter while the object seen after the light went out was approximately one quarter (1/4) to one eighth (1/8) of an inch in diameter. Color was described as an intense white exactly like a carbon arc lamp of the type to be found on battleships. There was only one light and one object seen and the light was described as coming from the object. No aerodynamic features, trail, exhaust, propulsion system, or sound were observed or noticed. During the time observed, the light and object traveled through approximately 90° laterally on two courses, westward and southeastward; degree of travel on the first or northwest-bound leg was not ascertainable. On the first leg it appeared to descend an estimated 2° from the horizontal, while on the second, or westward leg, it was described as climbing 2° to 4°, after which it levelled off, then arose again at a steeper angle on the last or southeast leg. It disappeared from sight, above the horizon, through what was described as dimming out or flickering out like a carbon arc light when it is extinguished and by diminishing in size. Subject was emphatic in declaring that there seemed to be an attempt to "focus" the light, basing his statement upon the varying intensity and brightness of the light which he described as being greatest when directly facing him and his wife. As used by him, "focusing" connotes aiming rather than clarifying a field of vision. No lighting of the area of observation was noticed. Speed was stated to be that of a meteor and sharp turns onto each of the last two legs were noticed as additional unusual features.

b. The observation was made at approximately 1900 hours EST (2400 Z) and lasted for an estimated five seconds. (Estimate of elapsed time was based on a test made for this interviewer consisting of counting up to five and adding the phrase "one thousand and " before each digit at a normal talking rate.) Mrs. Leino was mentioned as having observed the light for an estimated two (2) minutes before WO Leino's observing it, during which time the varying intensity was described as especially noticeable.

c. Observation was visual, no optical aids being used, and was made from a boat on the water.

d. At the time, the observer was in a boat anchored between marker buoys 33 and 34, over the 20 feet depth just south of Big Spanish Key, or at 24° 46' 30" north, 081° 25' west. Observer mentioned Little Spanish Key in the attached statement but corrected this when questioned by the interviewer from this office. Observer estimated the object to have been twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) miles away from him and at a height of 30° to 35° above the horizon at all times. However, he stated to the interviewer, after being led to discuss perspective in connection with true size and distance, that his estimate of distance was not based upon known constants but was based upon his estimate of the true size of the object. This also explains the discrepancy between size of the object as set out in the attached statement and size as indicated in paragraph a. above, i.e., not taking into account the effects of perspective.

e. Description of observer's experience set forth in the last paragraph of the inclosed statement was checked by the interviewer from this office and found to be true in all particulars. Personnel records pertaining to the observer, ~~indicated~~

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UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 456th Trp Carr Wg (M) MIA, Miami, Florida	REPORT NO. 6	PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES
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a Final Top Secret security clearance dated 25 March 1952, given by the Commanding Officer of the U S Naval Air Development Center, Johnsville, Pennsylvania. He was in the company of the interviewer for approximately one and one-half hours during which time he seemed very stable, extrovert in nature, friendly, mature, honest, and possessed of a quiet self confidence. His cooperation was excellent. He appears to be very religious although not ostentatiously so. He stated he believed life could exist on other planets and that he believed inter-planetary travel was possible but he was not convinced of its actuality at this time. He had heard reports of "flying saucers" and read articles concerning the phenomena. He stated he was slightly familiar with astronomy but that the object which he saw appeared to be different from any star or meteor which he had ever seen, both in intensity and ability to change course sharply. At the time of the sighting he and his wife were alone on their boat, fishing, and they remained on the boat for two more days. He stated they had nothing to drink aboard except coffee and water. No estimate can be given of his wife's reliability since lack of time during the visit to Key West prevented interviewing her.

f. Weather and winds aloft conditions at the time of the sighting were not available from the local weather station since they had been forwarded to the National Weather Records Station at Asheville, North Carolina. However, personnel stated that conditions had remained fairly constant throughout the twenty-four hour period and offered a report for 0900, 18 June. This is submitted solely as an indication of weather conditions for the over all period.

Altitude - Feet	Direction - Degrees	Speed - Knots
1,000	280	6
2,000	290	12
3,000	280	11
4,000	280	11
5,000	280	11
6,000	280	11
7,000	270	9
8,000	260	9
9,000	260	8
10,000	270	8
12,000	310	4
14,000	300	6
16,000	230	5
17,000	260	5

g. No unusual meteorological conditions were noted during the period. There were thunderstorms in clouds and frequent lightning, cloud-to-cloud, thirty (30) miles to the northwest of Key West at 2128 hours. The ceiling was composed of low scattered clouds at 22,000 feet and high broken clouds at 30,000 feet. Official sunset was at 1914 hours (0014 Z).

h. No physical evidence of the sighting was found nor were photographs taken.

i. No interception or identification action was taken.

j. Flights conducted in the area close to the time of the sighting were as follows:

Transient arrivals	Type	Number
1852	TV2	1
1900	SNB	1
1902	PLY	1

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UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 456th Trp Carr Wg (M) MIA, Miami, Florida	REPORT NO. 6	PAGE 4	OF 4	PAGES
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<u>Transient arrivals</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
1903	TV2	1
1924	JRB	1
<u>Local flights</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
1845 - 2145	SMB	1
1845 - 2145	TBM	2

One of the TBM's on local flight missions was equipped with a searchlight; however, it was not on a searchlight operations mission and the light is aimed directly forward.

2. Observer and his wife did not return to Key West until 20 June and, since he was on leave until 26 June, he did not report the incident to his superiors until the latter date. The sighting was reported to this office via the Base Legal Officer (Base Intelligence Officer) at Key West, the ONI in Miami, and the OSI at this base, and the report was received in the afternoon of 26 June. Efforts to contact the ONI in Miami and the Base Legal Officer at Key West proved fruitless on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning since both offices had closed for the week end. Due to the fragmentary incomplete nature of the first report no electrical report could be submitted. An interview was arranged at Key West on 1 July and it was decided that due to the lapse of time between the sighting and collection of all the facts the expense of an electrical report would not be warranted.

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

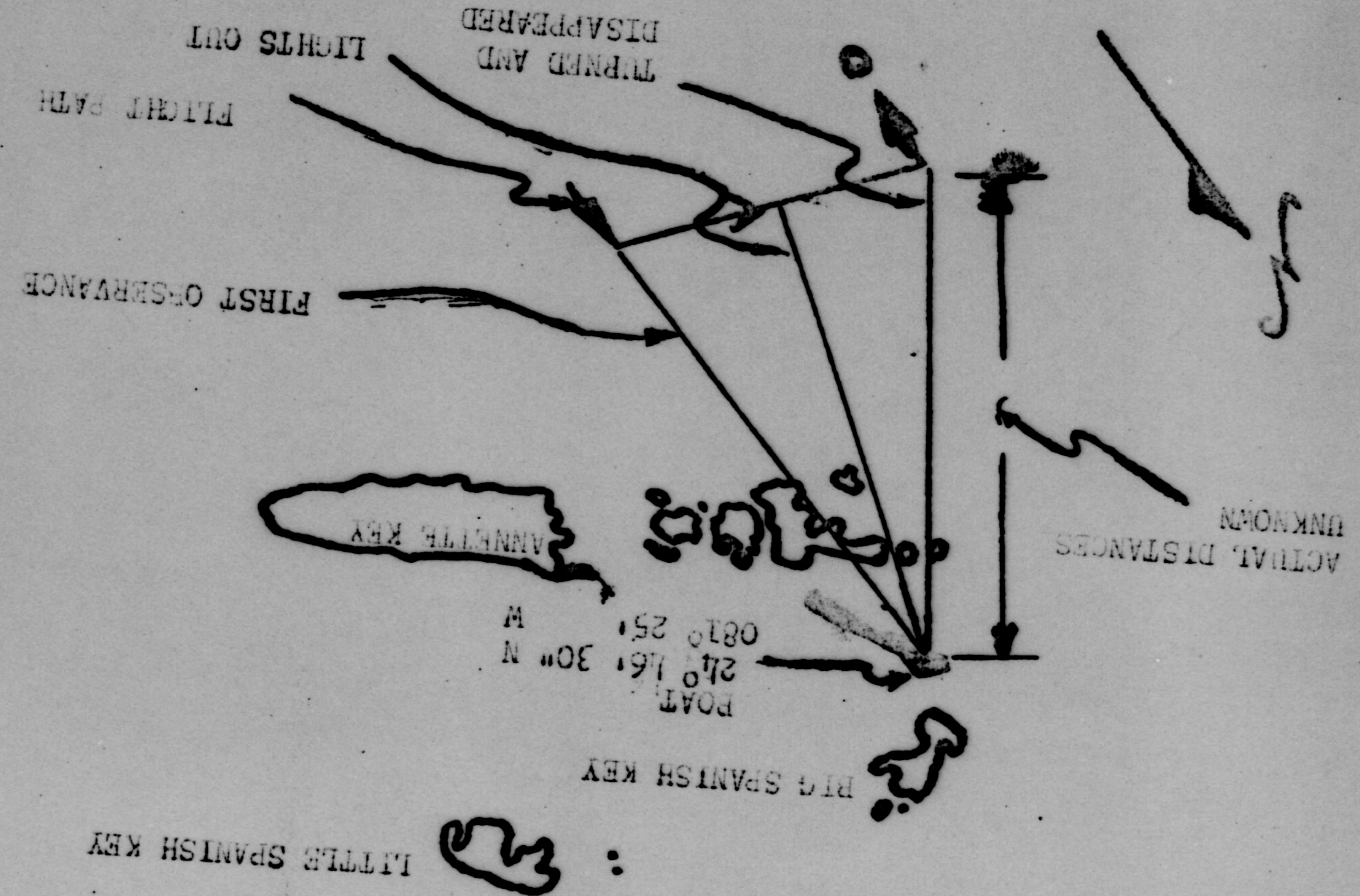
good report

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Small a

FLORIDA INTERCOASTAL WATERWAY -
 3261
 SCALE-1:80000
 MERCATOR PROJECTION
 U.S.C. & G.S. 1947
 (6th EDITION)
 LEGEND:



X
 24° 50' N
 81° 30' W

11 00 00 JUL 67

HEADQUARTERS
456TH TROOP CARRIER WING (M)
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Miami, Florida

WTH

9 July 1953

SUBJECT: Transmittal of AF Form 112, FLYOBRPT

THRU: Commander
Eighteenth Air Force
ATTN: Director of Intelligence
Donaldson Air Force Base
Greenville, South Carolina

Commander
Tactical Air Command
ATTN: Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

TO: Director of Intelligence
Headquarters, United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Subject FLYOBRPT, concerning incident on 18 June 1953 at Key West, Florida, reported by WO Paul H. Loino, submitted herewith.

2. Reference paragraph 2 of subject report, information concerning efforts to contact Navy personnel concerned is subject to ambiguous interpretation as to office closing hours. The Office of Naval Intelligence in Miami closes at 1630 hours on weekdays and is closed on Saturdays, with one person remaining to answer the telephone and furnish necessary locator information. Closing hours of Legal Office at Key West are the same.

1 Incl
AF Form 112 (quad)
w/2 incls

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

✓cc: Chief, ATIC, ATTN:
ATTAA-2C, Wright
Patterson AFB, Ohio

ROUTING		JOINT MESSAGEFORM		COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.	
FROM: (Originator) CG ATIC		DATE-TIME GROUP 161530Z JUL 53		SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED	
TO: COMDR 456TH TROOP CARRIER WG (M) MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MIAMI FLA		PRECEDENCE FOR: ROUTINE		ACTION INFORMATION	
INFO:		☐ BOOK MESSAGE		☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE	
FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-7-16-E		☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS		CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☒ NO	
		REFERS TO MESSAGE:		CLASSIFICATION	

ATIC has received AF Form 112 on 18 June 53 Key West sighting by WO Paul M. Leino. Request you determine whether TBN aircraft specified in report was operating search-lights at the time of sighting. Also request you determine whether other local aircraft noted were engaged in any unusual lighting operations. ATIC believes five second duration of sighting does not allow observer accurate estimate of object's course. TBN therefore may have headed toward him and then flew away and therefore could have caused sighting. ATIC regards your report as officially complete. In reply cite Project Blue Book.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

COORDINATION:

ATIAE-5 R. M. Olsson Date 16 July 53
Lt Olsson

ATIAE H. B. Johnston Date 16 July 53
Col Johnston

ATIA R. W. McDuffee Date 16 July 53
Col McDuffee

OFFICE OF RECORD
ATIAE-5
Official File Copy
10073

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

R. M. Olsson
LT R. M. OLSSON/vs

SYMBOL
ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE
65365

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

Robert C. Brown
OFFICIAL TITLE
ROBERT C. BROWN, MAJOR, USAF
ADJUTANT

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DD FORM 173

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48
WHICH MAY BE USED.

UNCLASSIFIED

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Much

10

HEADQUARTERS
456TH TROOP CARRIER WING (M)
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Miami, Florida

WIN

SUBJECT: Project Blue Book; FLYORPPT, Leino

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: ATIAA-2C
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio

*Key West FLA
24/2035*

1. The inclosed copies of correspondence between this Headquarters and the Base Intelligence Officer (Base Legal Officer), U.S. Naval Base, Key West, are submitted in reply to your message AFOIN-ATIAE-7-16-E.

2. In reference to paragraph 3, Inclosure 2, the interviewer contacted personally an officer in the Operations Office at Boca Chica Naval Air Station and the latter officer furnished the information as to aircraft movements after a telephone conversation with another office. There was no reason at the time to suppose that the information was furnished from what was evidently some sort of planning schedule that was later modified. Having been informed of the contents of Inclosure 2 when in conference with the Base Intelligence Officer at Key West at the time of investigating the De Forrest sighting (reference message AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-E), the interviewing officer personally reviewed aircraft movement control logs maintained by the CAA and the control tower to obtain pertinent information for the De Forrest report. This office regrets the error in not making personal absolute verification of information furnished in the Leino report.

3. In reference to inclosure 3, this office has furnished copies of AFL 200-5 to the Base Intelligence Officer, Key West, and has offered to furnish copies of JANAP 146. CIRVIS Reports, if copies are not readily available to the Base Intelligence Officer.

3 Incls

1. Ltr, 456th T C Wg (M)
20 July 1953
2. Ltr, USNB, Key West,
31 July 1953
3. Off memo, Legal Off,
Key West, 30 July 1953

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
456TH TROOP CARRIER WING (M)
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Miami, Florida

WIN

UNCLASSIFIED

20 July 1953

SUBJECT: FLYOBRPT, Leino

TO: Commanding Officer
U S Naval Base
ATTN: Base Legal Officer (Base Intelligence Officer)
Key West, Florida

1. Attention is invited to the inclosed wire message from Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, relating to the sighting of an unidentified flying object on 18 June 1953 by WO Paul M. Leino, and the subsequent report filed by this office, a copy of which was furnished to your Headquarters.

2. Information as to aircraft flights in the local area was obtained for the report from the office of the Operations Officer, Key West Naval Air Station (Boca Chica). If convenient, it is requested that your office secure and provide this office with the information requested by ATIC. This request is made due to the proximity of your Headquarters to the Naval Air Station, the curtailment of all but the most necessary flights from this base due to the Wing's imminent removal to Charleston, South Carolina, and to the fact that your office is conversant with Intelligence methods and the need to avoid publicity in these matters. If the commitments of your office prevent securing the pertinent information it is requested that this office be notified by mail as soon as possible.

3. Flights conducted in the local area close to the time of the sighting were reported as follows:

<u>Transient Arrivals</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
1852	TV2	1
1900	SNB	1
1902	PhY	1
1903	TV2	1
1924	JRB	1
<u>Local Flights</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
1845 - 2145	SNB	1
1845 - 2145	TBM	2

One of the TBM's reported on local flights was equipped with a searchlight.

4. This office appreciates the aid and efforts of your personnel in expediting preliminary processing of this investigation.

UNCLASSIFIED

1 Incl
TWX, ATIC. AFOIN-ATIAE-7-16-E
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

COPY

[REDACTED]

MO53

VVC035

YVC013

JEDWP E185

RR JESMM

DE JEDWP 88P

R 161530Z ZNJ

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY

JUL 18 05 15:53

UNCLASSIFIED

FM COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

TO COMDR 156TH TROOP CARRIER WG /M/ MIAMI INTL APRT MIAMI FLA

/ [REDACTED] FROM AFOIN-ATTAE-7-16-E ATIC HAS RECEIVED

AF FORM 112 ON 18 JUNE 53 KEY WEST SIGHTING BY WO PAUL M LEINO.

REQUEST YOU DETERMINE WHETHER TBN AIRCRAFT SPECIFIED IN REPORT WAS

OPERATING SEARCHLIGHTS AT THE TIME OF SIGHTING. ALSO REQUEST YOU

DETERMINE WHETHER OTHER LOCAL AIRCRAFT NOTED WERE ENGAGED IN ANY

UNUSUAL LIGHTING OPERATIONS. ATIC BELIEVES FIVE SECOND DURATION OF

SIGHTING DOES NOT ALLOW OBSERVER ACCURATE ESTIMATE OF OBJECT'S

COURSE. TBN THEREFORE MAY HAVE HEADED TOWARD HIM AND THEN FLEW AWAY

AND THEREFORE COULD HAVE CAUSED SIGHTING. ATIC REGARDS YOUR REPORT

AS OFFICIALLY COMPLETE. IN REPLY CITE PROJECT BLUE BOOK.

17/2132Z JUL JEDWP

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

COPY

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In reply address not the signer
of this letter, but the Comman-
der, U. S. Naval Base, Key
West, Florida, and refer to:

U. S. NAVAL BASE
KEY WEST, FLORIDA

Code 003
Ser 328

31 JUL 1953

From: Commander, U. S. Naval Base, Key West, Florida
To: Headquarters, 456th Troop Carrier Wing (M)
Miami International Airport
Miami, Florida
(ATTN: Donald J. TWOMBLY, 1st Lt., USAF, Intelligence Officer)

Subj: FLYOBRPT, Leino

Ref: (a) Hq. 456th Troop Carrier Wing (M) MIA ltr to CO NavBase
KWest, Fla. of 20 July 1953

1. The information stated in the third paragraph of reference (a) has been checked with the Operations Officer at the Naval Air Station and it has been determined that there were no aircraft in the air during the times in question. The two local flights, SNB and the TBM, were cancelled and were never airborne. The transient P4Y did not arrive at 1902 on the day in question, but had arrived prior to that date. Its final departure from the area was in the mid-afternoon of the date of the reported sighting.
2. We were unable to determine that any aircraft with searchlights were in the air in the Key West area at any time close to the time of the reported sighting.
3. The information you have on the two local flights was apparently obtained from a mimeographed flight schedule of Air Development Squadron ONE. These two flights were cancelled prior to the scheduled time of departure.

B. H. BERRY
By direction

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

OFFICE MEMORANDUM • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Lt. Donald J. Twombly, USAF
Intelligence Officer, 456th Troop Carrier Wing (M)
Miami International Airport, Miami, Florida

DATE: 30 July 1953

FROM : LCdr. B. H. Berry, Legal Officer, U. S. Naval Base, Key West, Florida.

SUBJECT: Aircraft directives; request for

1. It would be appreciated if you would send directives regarding reporting of these sightings to the undersigned and to the Operations Officer, U. S. Naval Air Station, Boca Chica Field, Key West, Florida

/s/B.H. Berry
/t/B.H. Berry

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Donald J. Twombly
DONALD J. TWOMBLY
1st Lt, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

Inc 3