

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 29 Dec 61		2. LOCATION Goodlettsville, Tennessee		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☒ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1745 GMT 29/2245Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5-15 sec		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 2		9. COURSE SW and SE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING 2 cigar shaped objts larger than a/c. Golden color against pale blue sky. Vapor trails. 1 objt 195° other 155° moving W-E on horizontal path. Disappeared instantaneously. Looked like some form of a/c.				11. COMMENTS Contrails and flight characteristics indicate observation of a/c as probable cause.	

17 February 1962.

Commander Foreign Technology Division,
Wright Patterson Air Force Base,
Dayton, Ohio.

Attn: Aerial Phenomena Group

Dear Sir:

At 5:00 PM CST on December 29, 1961, Mr. [REDACTED] and myself were traveling south on US 31W about 10 miles north of Goodlettsville, Tennessee, when we saw what appeared to be strange objects in the sky. After observing these objects in the sky for sometime and being unable to identify them, I placed a call from a roadside phone booth to WPAFB and was connected with a duty officer who made a report of my experience. During this conversation I was told an investigation would be made and if the experience could not be explained more information might be required from me. As I have not been contacted, I assume the investigation resulted in a satisfactory explanation.

The February 19 issue of Newsweek has a small article describing the results of investigations performed last year and states that a very few reports were unexplained.

I would like to know whether an investigation was conducted on my report, and if so what were the results.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

ELD
FEB 12 1962
RECEIVED

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

TD-E/Major Friend/vw/69216

UFO Sighting, Goodlettsville, Tennessee

15 MAR 1962

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

The UFO sighted by you and Mr. [REDACTED] on 29 December 1961, near Goodlettsville, Tennessee, was determined to be non-persistent condensation trails illuminated by sunlight.

The objects appeared to be only five times their width because the condensation trails were non-persistent and were dissipating soon after they were formed.

There are two types of condensation trails, aerodynamic and engine exhaust trails. Since the aerodynamic type is usually of extremely short duration, we will contain ourselves to an explanation of engine exhaust trails. Engine exhaust trails arise when the water vapor in exhaust gas from an aircraft engine mixes with and saturates part of the air through which the aircraft is passing. The fuel used in both jet and conventional aircraft is a hydrocarbon which, upon combustion, results in the addition of water vapor and heat to the wake of the aircraft. The formation and the persistency of trails of this type is a function of relative humidity, pressure, and temperature. These trails may persist for many hours or only a few seconds.

Though the sun had set at the time of your sighting, the condensation trails, due to their altitude, were still in sunlight. The color of the contrails is attributed to dispersion.

We thank you for your interest in reporting an incident which might have been important to the security of the United States.

Sincerely

R. J. Friend Lt. Col. 15 Mar '62

EDWARD H. WYNN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science
and Components

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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?

29 Dec 1961
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 1745

Hour

Minutes

(Circle One):

A.M. or

P.M.

3. Time Zone:

(Circle One):

- a. Eastern
- ☒ b. Central
- c. Mountain
- d. Pacific
- e. Other _____

(Circle One):

- a. Daylight Saving
- ☒ b. Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Nearest Postal Address

City or Town

State or Country

Additional remarks:

5. How long was object in sight?

Hours

Minutes

Seconds

5.1 How was time in sight determined?

a. Certain

b. Fairly certain

c. Not very sure

d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

DAY

- a. Bright
- b. Cloudy

NIGHT

- a. Bright
- b. Cloudy

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, 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, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

- a. ☒ None
 b. A few
 c. Many
 d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

- a. Bright moonlight
 b. Dull moonlight
 c. No moonlight — pitch dark
 d. Don't remember

9. The object appeared:

(Circle One):

- a. As a light b. Shiny c. Dark d. Don't remember

*Both cigar shaped (larger than aircraft)
 length 5 times depth*

10. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars?

*Sky Pale blue
 Objects Golden Colored (like plane)*

11. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------------------------------|------------|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| d. Give off smoke? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| e. Change brightness? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| f. Change shape? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| g. Flash or flicker? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |
| h. Disappear and reappear? | Yes | ☒ No | Don't Know |

12. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know.

IF you answered YES, then tell what

it moved behind:

*Moved under cloud — see (small) light
 path like*

13. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know.

IF you answered YES, then tell what

in front of:

See above

14. Did the object appear:

(Circle One):

- a. Solid b. Transparent c. Vapor d. ☒ 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 | <i>Both got out of Car to look</i> | |

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

a. Sound

Traffic too noisy to hear, any sounds

b. Color

Golden (reddish)

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.

In auto traveling south. (looking S. 15° West)
 Object Followed to point 25° East of South.
 " " " 30° West of South (2nd object)
 " " " 10° above horizon (both objects)
 E → ← W
 45° West (2nd object)
 Seemed 2 miles apart.

18. The edges of the object were:

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

e. Other

19. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? 2

Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

Moved from West to East.
 on the horizon to horizon
 100° observer
 horizon

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.

1st object 25° E of S disappeared
2nd object 30° W of S disappeared

A
15° W of South 15 mi
45° W of South 5 mi

21. How large did the object appear to you as compared to an object with which you are familiar?

Larger than Aircraft

22. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick at arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head?

Half of Flat Toothpick at arms length would cover object

23. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how?

yes: gone instantaneously

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, 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.

Dirigible like

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

- a. Inside a building
- b. In a car
- ☒ c. Outdoors *outside of car.*
- d. In an airplane (type)
- e. At sea
- f. Other *US Highway 31 W*

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. 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?

Friend noticed it while driving

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

28.2 How fast were you moving? *35* 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. Northeast
- c. East
- d. Southeast
- e. South
- ☒ f. Southwest
- g. West
- h. Northwest
- i. Overhead

30. What direction were you looking when you last saw the object? (Circle One)

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

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North (thru east) and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North *195* degrees.
- b. From horizon *10* degrees.

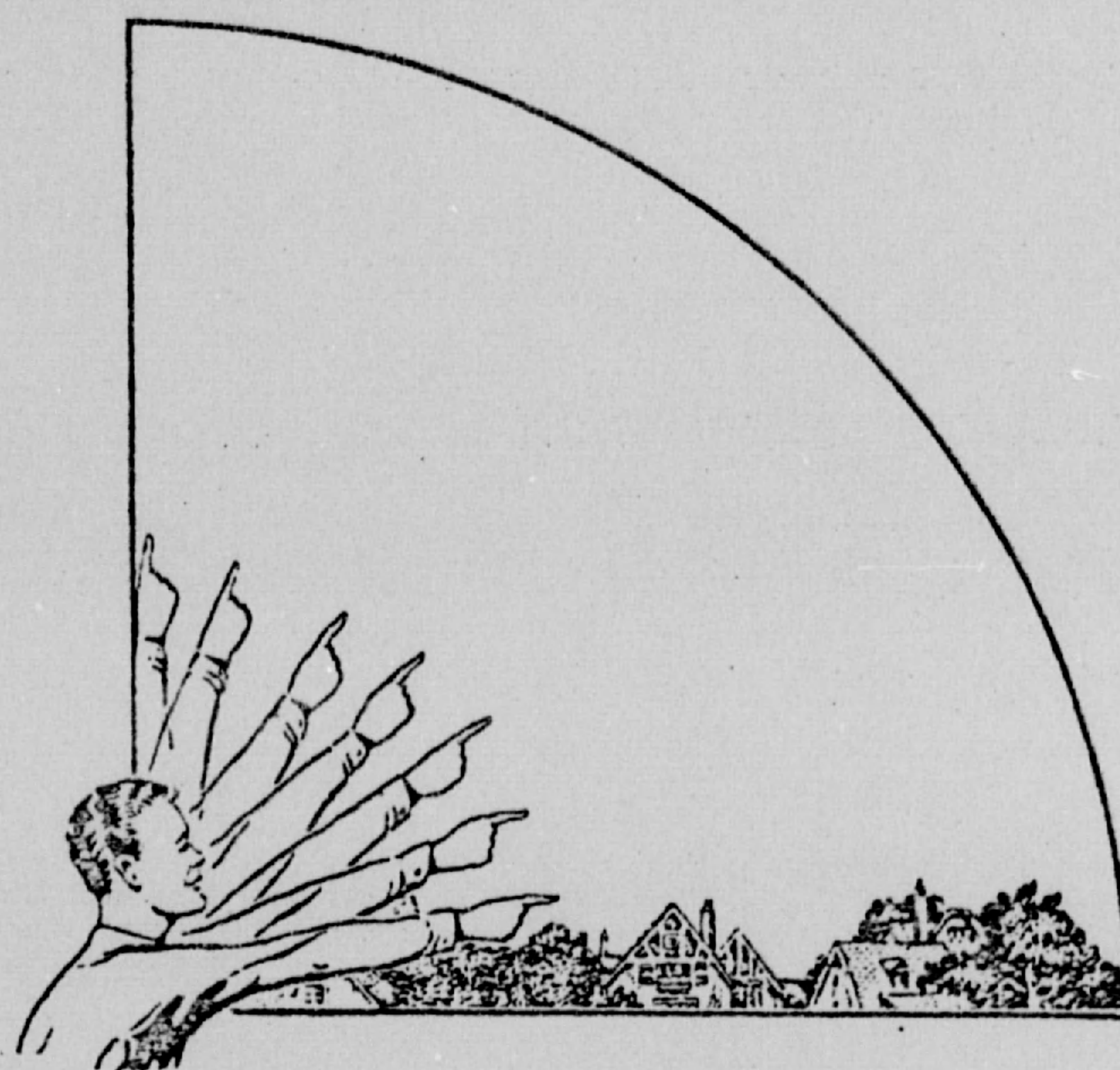
225°
10°

31.2 When it disappeared:

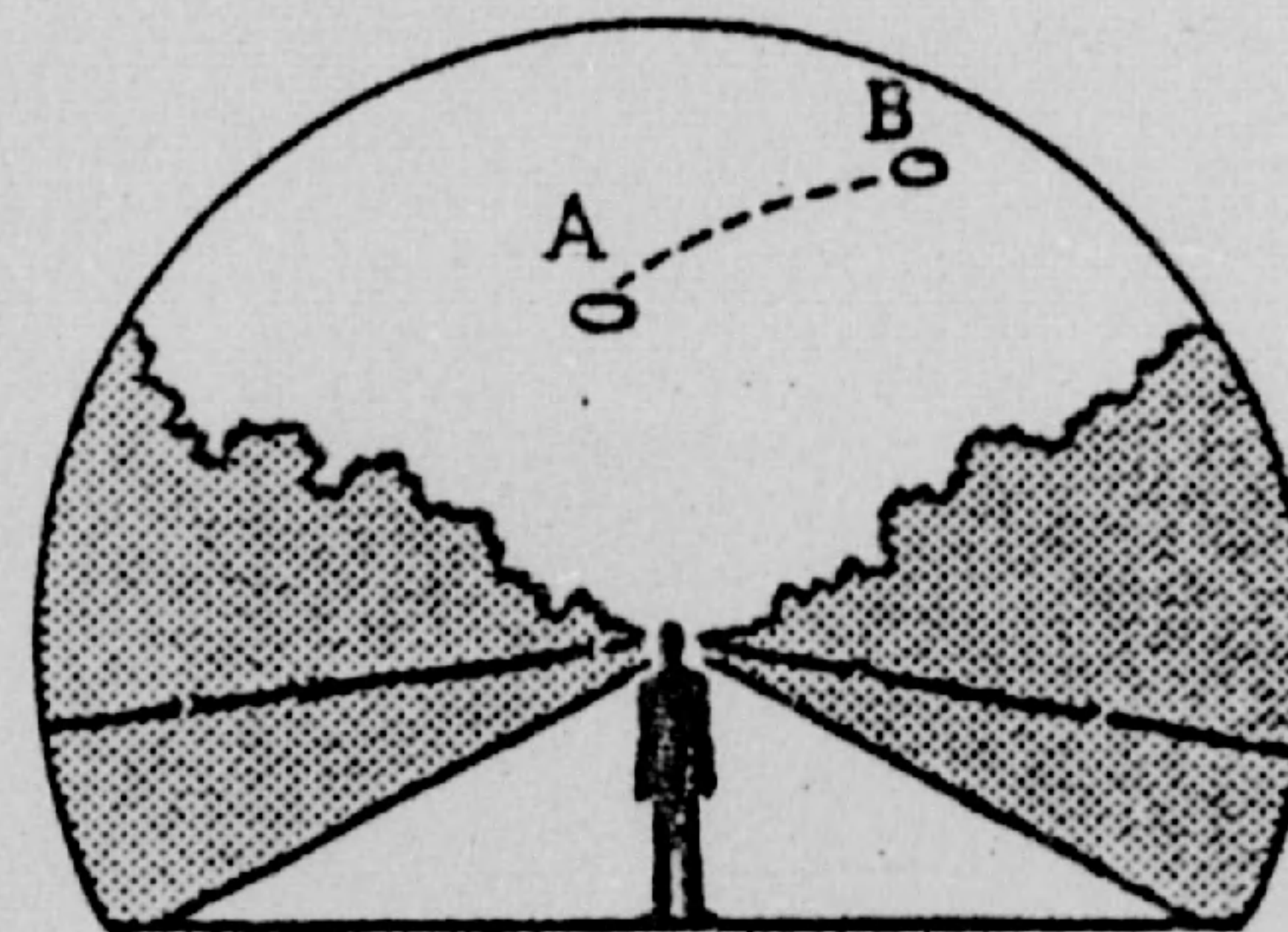
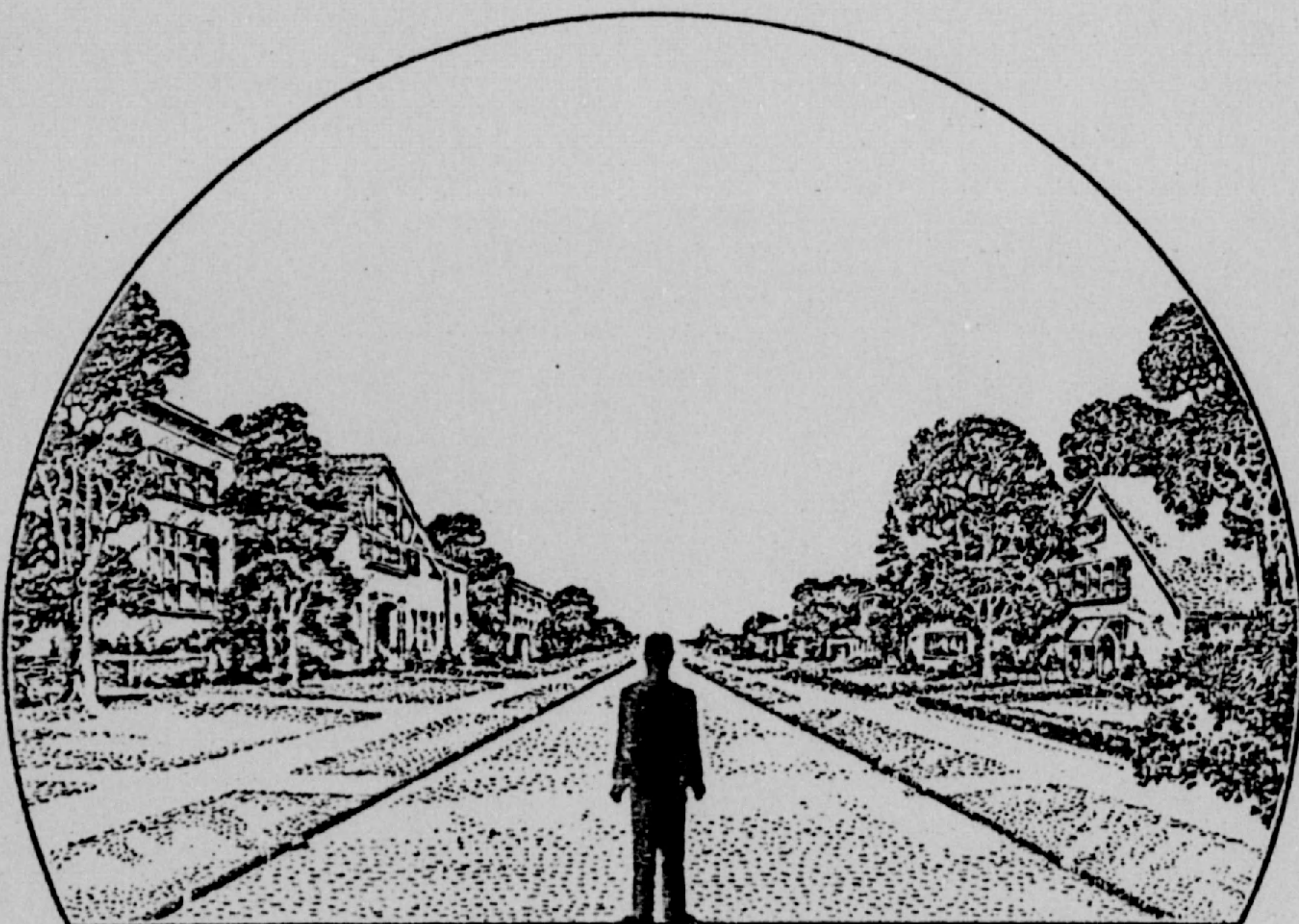
- a. From true North *188* degrees.
- b. From horizon *20* degrees.

210°
100°

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.



34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (Circle One)

- ☒ a. Clear sky
☐ b. Hazy
☐ c. Scattered clouds
☐ d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (Circle One)

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

*Cold 4° above zero
 Fahrenheit*

35. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object?

29
 Day

Dec
 Month

61
 Year

*Capt Smith, RT
 FTD BO*

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:

*[Redacted] (man who talked on telephone to Capt Smith)
 [Redacted] (companion) also from [Redacted]*

37. Was this the first time that you had seen an object or objects like this?

(Circle One) ☒ Yes ☐ No

37.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see other ones?

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

No idea, appeared like some form of aircraft

39. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?

(Circle One)

Yes

No

15 minutes for total time.

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate?

40. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One)

Yes

No

2 miles while drive

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was?

minutes

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

ADDRESS

Street

Zone

State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

Age

28

Sex

M

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any education, which might be pertinent.

Lt Air Force. (Inactive Reserve)

Pilot (Civilian) Private Pilot

Civil Engineer

Installation Engineer in AF

2nd (Took Flight Training) Civil Engineer

42. Date you completed this questionnaire:

29

Dec

61

Day

Month

Year

Note:

and companion on trip south will return in 7 days.

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.

Report taken by O.D. Capt RT Smith

NAME _____
(Please Print)

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

(Do Not Write in This Space)

CODE: