

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 22 January 1965 22/1725Z	2. LOCATION Elkins, West Virginia
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Astronomical (SUN DOG) <i>[Solar Two]</i> Sun-Dog if position relation with the sun could be established as 22 deg from sun. Disappearance with turn of A/C and description of object in accordance with this analysis. Sun at 190 deg azimuth 00 deg elevation.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object brighter than snow on the mountains. Observed only as a pin-point of light. Shape perfectly round. Slight fuzziness. WX was clear, dry. Observation from within A/C. Observed almost directly below the plane. Believed to be between 2-8,000 ft below A/C. The sun would give the same appearance. Object paralleled the A/C until a turn was made at which time the object disappeared. <i>Reflection of sun on ice particles below</i>
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 Minutes	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Air-Visual	
7. COURSE Stationary	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

TDEW

UFO Sighting, Elkins, West Virginia, 22 Jan 65

26 Mar 65

Dr Donald H Menzel, Director
Harvard College Observatory
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Dr Menzel,

We received a report from a passenger on an airline flight near Elkins, West Virginia. The sighting has been evaluated as Sun Dog. A copy of this report is forwarded to you because of your particular interest in this phenomena. Should you feel that this observation is not a Sun Dog observation we would appreciate your professional opinion.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr
Major, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch

1 Atch
UFO Rpt, 22 Jan 65,
Elkins, W Va

22 JAN 65

Mrs Hunt/SAFOICC/72842/6 May 65

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

May 6, 1965

Reference is made to the unidentified flying object which you observed as a passenger in an aircraft on 22 January 1965 over the area of Elkins, West Virginia.

Your observation has been evaluated as a solar image by Doctor J. Allen Hynek, the Air Force civilian consultant to Project Blue Book. While rare, this unique phenomenon has appeared before, and on one occasion it was photographed. This phenomenon occurs only at certain angles with the sun, and the reflecting surface is a thin layer of ice crystals in the atmosphere. This layer is transparent and not visible from the aircraft.

I am enclosing a copy of the current report on Project Blue Book, the Air Force project on unidentified flying objects. I hope this report will be of interest to you.

Sincerely,

JOHN P. SPAULDING
Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Civil Branch
Community Relations Division
Office of Information

1 Atch
Blue Book Report

Mr. [REDACTED]
Falls Church, Virginia

HEADQUARTERS
FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: TDEW

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting, 22 Jan 65, Elkins, West Virginia

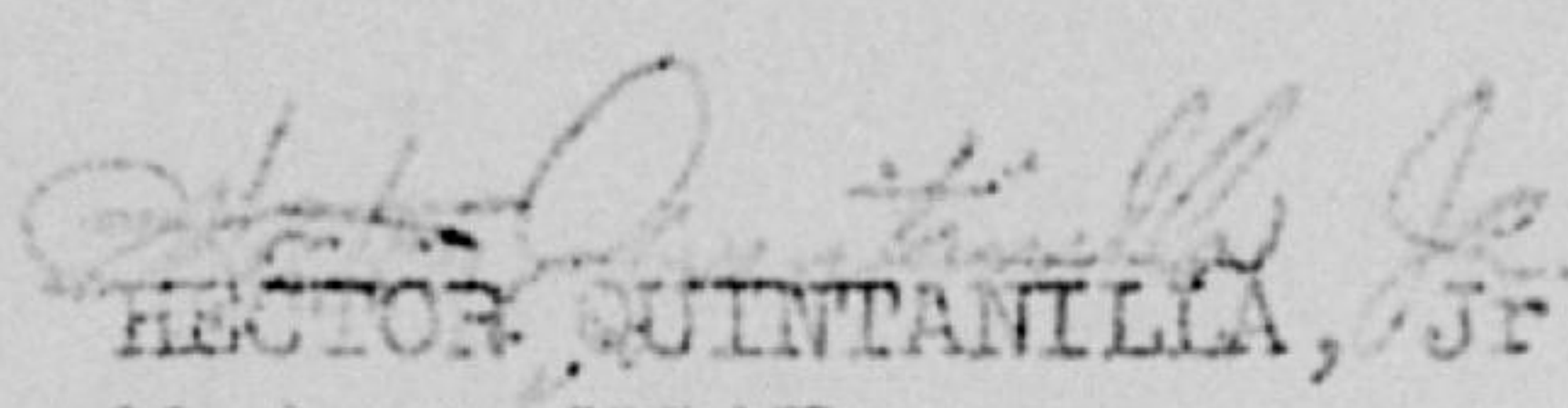
26 Apr 65

TO: Hq USAF SAFOI-CC (Mrs Hunt)
Wash D C 20330

1. This office is in receipt of a UFO report from [REDACTED] Jr of [REDACTED], Falls Church, Virginia. His observation took place on 22 January 1965 near Elkins West, Virginia. The following information is provided in order that a reply may be made to him from your office.

a. The above observation made from an aircraft has been evaluated as a solar image by Dr J Allen Hynek, Air Force Consultant to Project Blue Book. While rare, this unique phenomena has appeared before, and on one occasion it was photographed. This phenomena occurs only at certain angles with the sun and the reflecting surface is a thin layer of ice crystals in the atmosphere. This layer is transparent and not visible from the aircraft.

FOR THE COMMANDER


HECTOR QUINTANILLA, JR
Major, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena



YOU - THE NUCLEUS OF SECURITY!

~~_____~~
~~_____~~
Falls Church, Virginia

27 January 1965

Dear Mr. ~~_____~~

Major Ted Burkey requested that we send you the attached FTD Form 164 which is used for reporting a UFO observation to the Air Force. The form should be completed as fully as possible and returned to this office for analysis and evaluation. You will be advised of the conclusions reached by the Air Force upon completion of the investigation.

Sincerely,

MASTON M. JACKS
Major, USAF
Public Information Division
Office of Information

1 Atch
FTD Form 164

Mr. ~~_____~~
~~_____~~
Falls Church, Virginia

phone

U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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. 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?

27 JANUARY 1965
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 12:25-12:30

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? PASSENGER ON BRANIFF AIRLINE SET-FLIGHT #3 FROM DALLAS, TEXAS TO WASHINGTON DC (DULLES). SIGHTED UFO ABOUT 20-25 MINUTES OUT OF DULLES AIRPORT - POSSIBLY OVER ELKINS, W. VA.

Nearest Postal Address

City or Town

State or Country

WEST AND PERHAPS SOUTH OF STATION, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

5. How long was object in sight? (Total Duration)

Hours Minutes Seconds

a. Certain c. Not very sure
b. Fairly certain d. Just a guess

5.1 How was time in sight determined? ESTIMATED

5.2 Was object in sight continuously? Yes ✓ No _____

6. What was the condition of the sky?

DAY NIGHT
a. Bright a. Bright
b. Cloudy 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 d. To your left
b. In back of you e. Overhead
c. To your right 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. 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

10. The object appeared: (Circle One):

- a. Solid
- b. Transparent
- c. Vapor
- d. As a light
- e. Don't remember

11. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? (Circle One):

- a. Brighter
- b. Dimmer
- c. About the same
- d. Don't know

11.1 Compare brightness to some common object:

PIN-POINT OF SUNLIGHT WHEN PASSED THROUGH A MAGNIFYING GLASS - SMALLER MOUNTAINS APPEARED DARKER IN CONTRAST

12. 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 WITH SLIGHT FUZZINESS

13. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

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

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

No

15. 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:

16. 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:

17. Tell in a few words the following things about the object:

a. Sound COULD NOT DETERMINE (IN AIRCRAFT)

b. Color BRILLIANT WHITE - TRANSLUCENT SOMEWHAT

18. 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? DON'T THINK THIS METHOD IS VALID UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. A VERY SMALL PART OF THE OBJECT WOULD BE COVERED, IF PRESSED FOR AN ESTIMATE

19. 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.



PERFECTLY ROUND OBJECT

OBJECT SEEN LOOKING
ALMOST STRAIGHT DOWN AT THE
GROUND

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

(Circle One)

☒ Yes

☐ No

AT THE EXACT SPEED OF THE JET I WAS
FLYING IN AT THE TIME

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? 400 MPH(?)

21. 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? FROM 2000 TO 3000 FT

22. 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 (type) T70 JET

e. At sea

f. Other _____

23. 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 _____

24. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

24.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One)

a. North

c. East

e. South

g. West

b. Northeast

d. Southeast

f. Southwest

h. Northwest

24.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

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

(Circle One)

☐ Yes

☐ No

25. 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

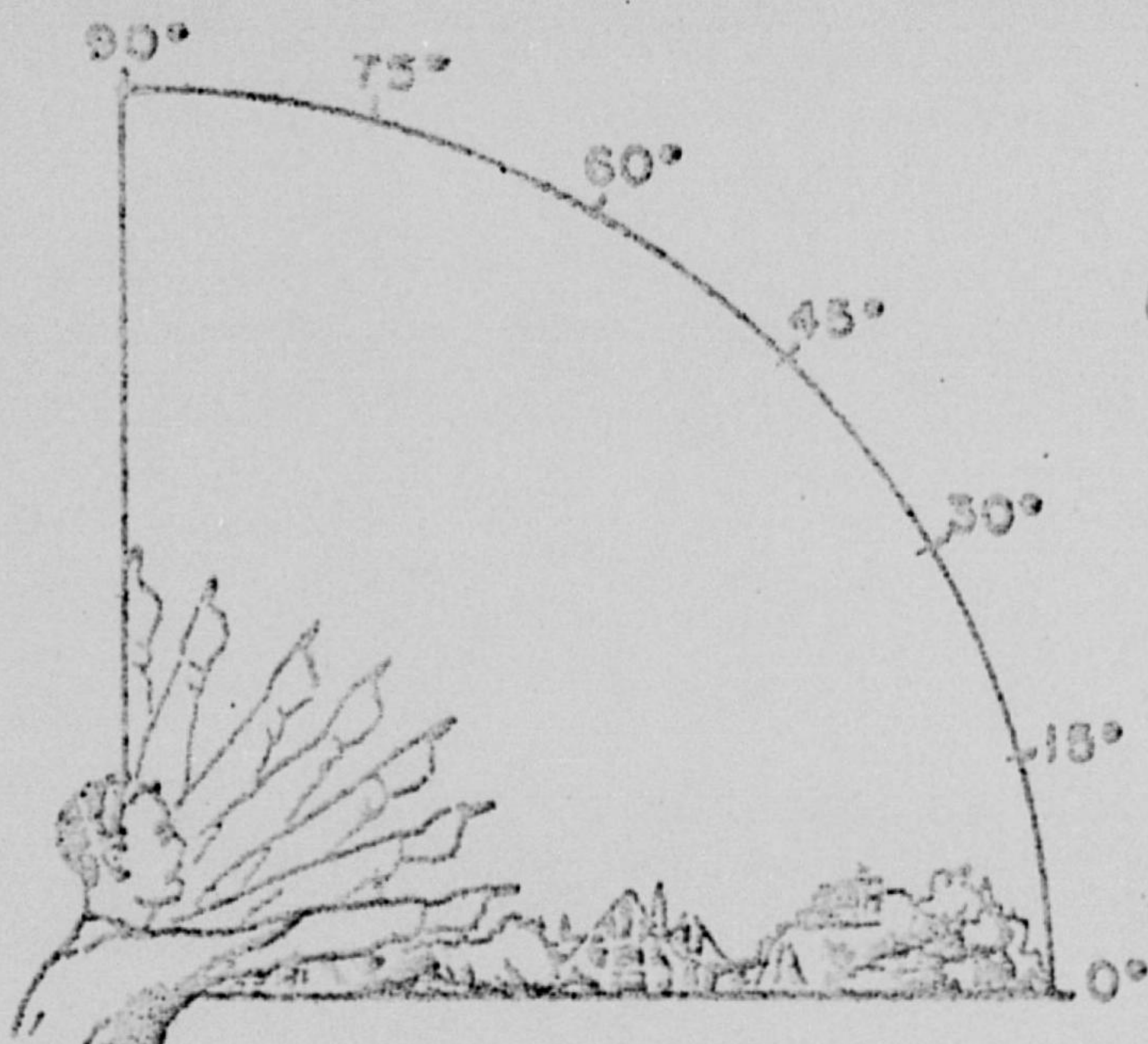
No

h. Other PIPERLINEAR WINDSHIELD

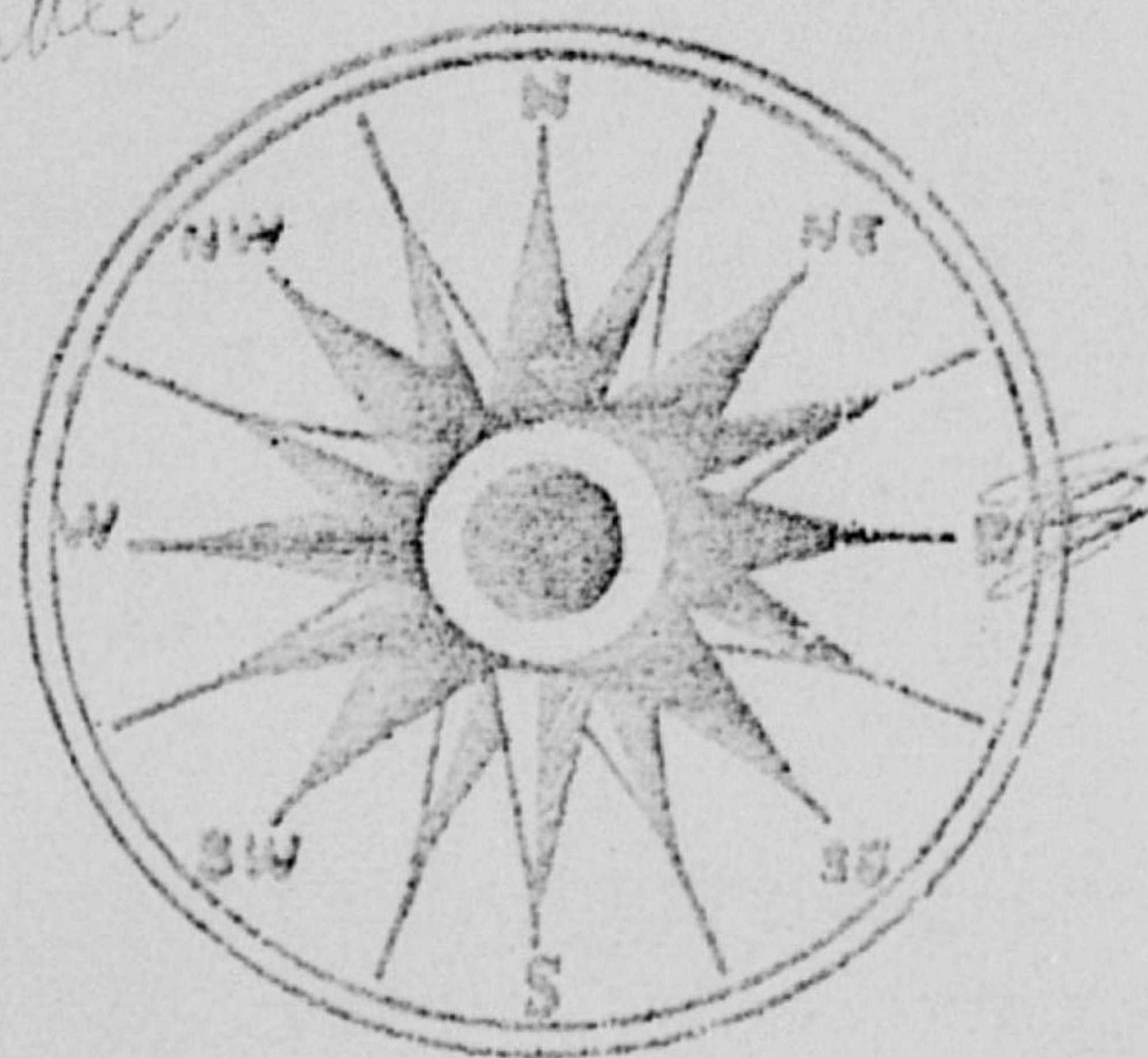
26. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw

THE SUN

27. 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. Place an "A" on the compass when you first saw it. Place a "B" on the compass where you last saw the object.



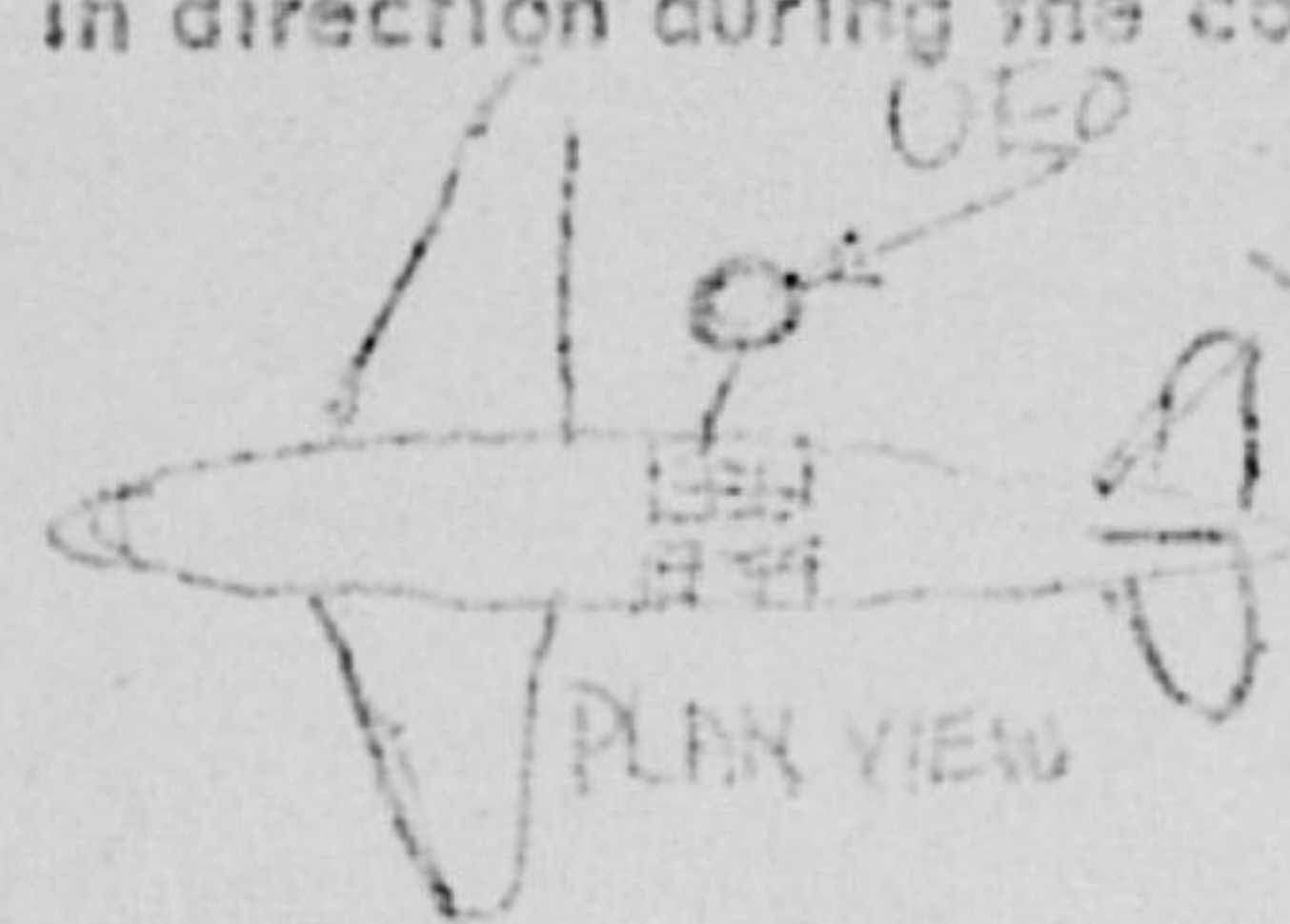
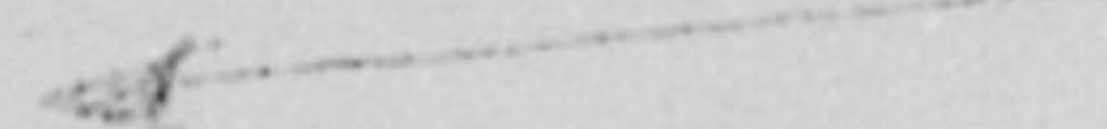
Not applicable



28. 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.

*DULES AB
XA*

*EAST OR EAST NORTH EAST
HEADING*



MOUNTAINS BELOW

UFO FRONT END VIEW

29. 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.

30. Have you ever seen this, or a similar object before. If so give date or dates and location.

No

31. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object? (Circle One)

☒ Yes

☐ No

31.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too? (Circle One)

Yes

☒ No

31.2 Please list their names and addresses:

I was one of the few passengers sitting in the window seat configuration - Starboard side - You had to look down at approximately 80° angle to see object.

32. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME

First Name

Middle Name

ADDRESS

Street

City

Zone

State

TELEPHONE NUMBER

AGE

SEX

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

Formerly a student pilot - travel by air (commercially) quite often.

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

26

Day

JANUARY

Month

1965

Year

*MAJOR TED BURKEY
USAF - WASH. D.C.*

34. Date you completed this questionnaire:

28

Day

JANUARY

Month

1965

Year

35. Information which you feel pertinent and which is not adequately covered in the specific points of the questionnaire or a narrative explanation of your sighting.

The UFO was noted by an unusual movement which raised my body exceptional high in the plane seats. The bright, round, light was travelling in the same direction, and what appeared to be the same ground speed. My attention was drawn to the fact that the object, if not an unusual reflection from the aircraft or other source, was not undulating with respect to the valleys, hills, and depressions as the object passed over the mountains. Its path was straight and unwavering. It gave the impression of being translucent, but not really so at the same instant. It appeared to be very close to the ground. The pilot banked the jet to approximately 15° down on the port side, appeared to make a slight change in heading to the left, at which time the object left my view, under the tail of the jet. The object was not in view when the jet returned to straight and level flight approximately 10-15 seconds later. I did not see it again. The precise location might be determined if the airline hostess makes the announcement of descent to Dallas Airport at the same time each identical flight. My sighting occurred about 2 minutes after she made this announcement. The object appeared as a flat plane with no 3rd dimension.