

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 21 July 65 22/0340Z	2. LOCATION Corpus Christi, Texas
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS Two	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 45 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Round silver object size of North Star. Two objects no details, no features observable. Initial sighting at 30 deg elevation 315 deg azimuth. Disappeared at 200 deg on the horizon. Other object disappeared on heading of 200 degrees over the City of Corpus Christi. Object appeared close together initially and separated with flight path generally to the SE from the NW. Manuvers were marked by zig-zag, stopping and accelerating. Reported duration as 15-20 minutes. WX clear with visibility unlimited. Dry air aloft, no inversions.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE SE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	COMMENTS: Objects apparently not attached yet moving together. Random motion to the East erratic flight. Duration increased to 45 minutes at which time the objects disappeared into the Earth's shadow. Flight in accord with Balloon sighting. Possible Balloon sighting. Balloon check, Holloman Negative NCAR Palestine's Very Remote.

INCOMING
MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH

UNCLASSIFIED

AF IN: 29998 (23 July 65) N/1cc

ACTION: NIN-7

INFO: XOP-1, XOPK-8, SAF-CS-3, JCS/DIA-1,

SMB C135 ZCZCHQA092ZCWJX915

PP RUEAHQ

DE RUMGDA 6 2041645

ZNR UUUUU

P 231645Z

FM LAREDO AFB TEX

TO RUEAHQ/CSAF WASH DC

RUEAHQ/CSAF

RUEAGL/AFSC

RUMGKG/29 AIRDIV RICHARDS GEBAR AFB MO

RUMGALE/ADC

BT

UNCLAS DCC-OPACP 00023

FOR AFSC (FGEIGN TEC DIV)/CSAF (ENIN)/CSAF (SAFO) SUBJECT:

LFO IAW AFR 200-2, PARA 14.

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT CS;

(1) SHAPE - "ROUND".

(2) SIZE - ABOUT THE SIZE (AND M, 8573) OF THE NORTH SWR"

(3) COLOR - "SILVER"

(4) NUMBER - "TWO"

(5) FORMATION - NO CONSTATM FORMATION NOTED.

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TO		
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	DSMG	

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YL DETAILS - NO DISCECIBLE FEATURES.

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(7) EXHAUST OR TRAIL - NONE DISCERNIBLE

(8) SOUND - NO UNUSUAL SOUND.

B. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT(S).

(1) SON AND NEPHEW OF OBSERVER WERE SHARING IN INTEREST IN
ASTRONOMY WHEN THEY OBSERVED PHENOMENA DESCRIBED. MR. [REDACTED] WAS
CALLED AND HE IN TURN CALLED HIS WIFE FROM THEIR HOME TO OBSERVE SAME.
INFORMATION BASED ON REMARKS OF MRS. [REDACTED] VIA TELEPHONE 22 JULY
65 WITH THIS OFFICE.

(2) FROM INFORMATION GIVEN OBJECTS FIRST OBSERVED AT APPROX
315 DEGREES AND 30 DEGREES ABOVE THE HORIZON.

(3) ONE OBJECT DISAPPEARED APPROX 200 DEGREES AT THE HORIZON,
ONE OBJECT DISAPPEARED OVER THE CITY (CORPUS CHRISTI) APPROX 300
DEGREES ROM POINT OF OBSERVATION.

(4) OBJECTS APPEARED CLOSE TOGETHER INITIALLY, THEN SEPARATED.
FLGITH PATH GENERALLY NW TO SE. MANEUVERS WERE MARKED BY TURNING,
STOPPING, AND ACCELERATING IN VARYING COURSES, ZIG-ZAGGING LEFT AND
RIGHT.

(5) OBJECTS DISAPPEARED W DIFFERING POSITIONS.

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STAFF MESSAGE DRAFT

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(6) MR. [REDACTED] REPORTED AN OBSERVATION OF 15 - 20 MINUTES

DURATION.

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C. MANNER OF OBSERVATION: GROUND-VISUAL; NO OPTICS.

D. TIME AND DATED: 0540Z/22 JULY 65/NIGHT.

E. LOCATION OF OBSERVERS: 30 DEGREES N/ 97 DEGREES 19' W.

F. IDENTIFYING DATA:

(1) CIVILIAN - [REDACTED] CORPUS CHRISTI,
MACHINIST, CONSIDERED RELIABLE BY NAS PERSONNEL, IS SAID TO HOLD A
PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSE: 4 [signature]

G. WEATHER AND WINDS:

(1) CLEAR

(2) NOT AVAILABLE AT LAFB.

(3) CEILING UNLIMITED.

(4) VISIBILITY 15 MILES PLUS.

(5) CIRRUSFORM HIGH SCATTERED.

(6) NONE

(7) NOT AVAILABLE AT LAFB.

H. NO OTHER METEOROLOGICAL DATA RELATIVE.

I. NONE TAKEN.

INCOMING
MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH

UNCLASSIFIED

AF IN: 29998 (23 July 65)

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J. NO WEATHER BALLONS RELEASED IN OR NEAR AREA REPORTED AT TIME OF REPORT.

K. REPORT PREPARED BY 1ST LT DAVID A. ELLIS, 74368A, CPOB.

PAGE 4 RUWGDA 6 UNCLAS

INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION FOR DEFINITIVE CONCLUSIONS AT THIS LEVEL;
SUGGESTS ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA. PSADATS OFFERED PRELIMINARY NEGATIVE
REPORT. WEATHER STATION REPORTS RELATIVELY DRY AIR ALOFT RULING OUT
POSSIBLE REFRACTION. LT STOCKSTAD, USN, CORPUS CHRISTI NAS,
FORWARDED INITIAL REPORT AND PROVIDED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION.
AUTOKINESIS EFFECT NOT UNLIKELY.

L. NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE AVAILABLE.

BT

NNN

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY DELIVERED TO DIA.

N

21 Jul 65

FTD (TDEW)

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

24 August 1965

Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]

Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]

Reference your unidentified flying object observation of 21 July 1965 which you reported to Laredo AFB, Texas. The information which we have received is not sufficient for an evaluation. In order that a proper evaluation be made it is requested that you fill out the attached FTD Form 164 and return them in the envelope provided.

We would particularly like to know:

- a. How extensive were the turning and zig-zag motions of the objects?
- b. When they stopped?
- c. How long they were motionless?
- d. Were both motionless at the same time?
- e. Were both objects exactly the same?

A detailed diagram of the motions and the magnitude of these motions would be helpful.

The Air Force wishes to thank you for your interest in this program.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr
Major, USAF
Chief, Project Blue Book

M/R: 21 Sep 65 contacted Holloman AFB, N Mexico, Balloon Control Center - Negative.

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

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?

10:05 PM
21 July 1965
 Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 10 05
 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?

[REDACTED] Corpus Christi Texas
 Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or County

5. How long was object in sight? (Total Duration) 45
 Hours Minutes Seconds

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

5.1 How was time in sight determined? By wrist watch

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:

Twice as bright as north star

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 Metallic sheen
Like a High airplane

13. 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 |

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

Object was high enough
to be in sun directly overhead, when last observed
object went to east in earth shadow.

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 None To Far away

b. Color Silver

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? all

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.

object was oblong like a SLIM Football

20. 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? _____

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? _____

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) _____
- 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

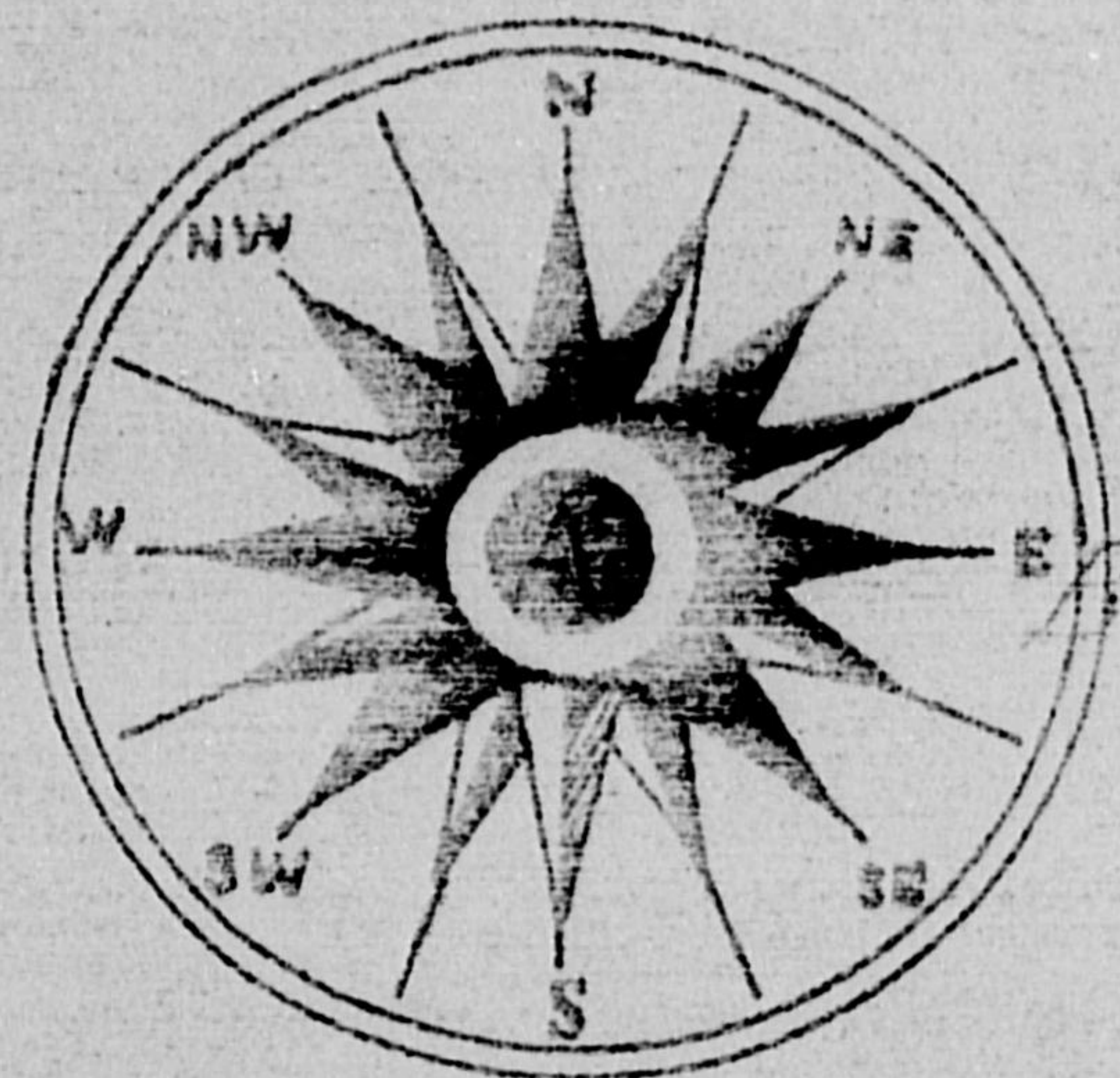
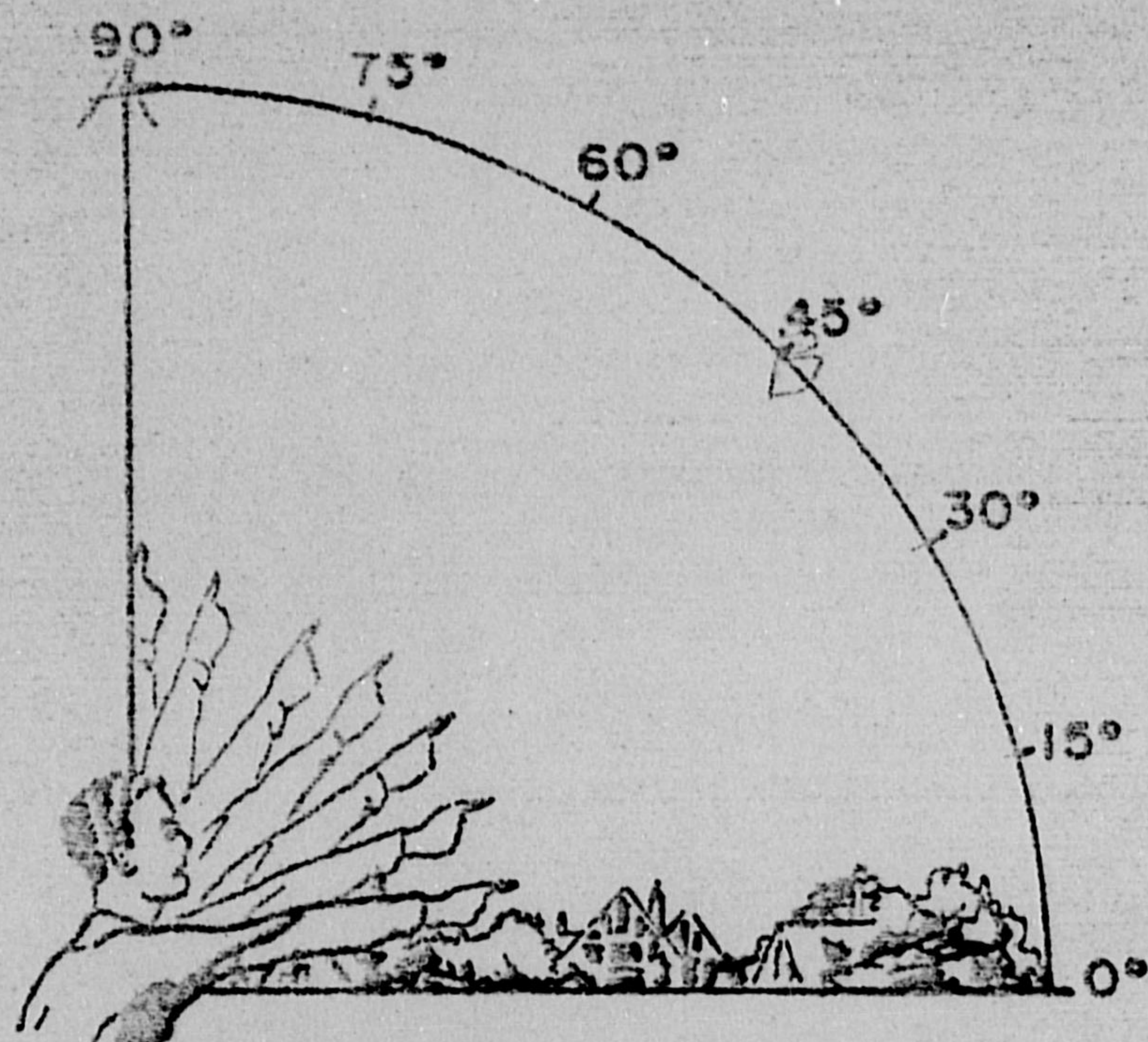
☒ No

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 | _____ | |

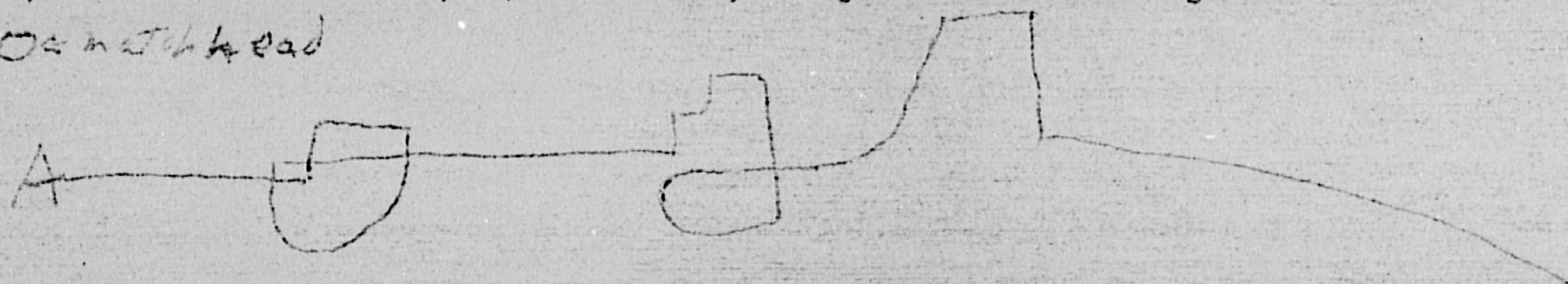
26. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

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.



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.

On match head



29. 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.

more or less side by side about 50 ft.
Time and up to 5° apart at Times apparently
at random

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:

Mary Ann Thornton

Mary Lee Thornton

Larry D. Thornton

Anna Marie Thornton

Same as before

32. Please give the following information about yourself:

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

ADDRESS [REDACTED] Farmer Christi Texas
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED] AGE 35 SEX male

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

I have excellent eye sight and am a licensed pilot. This object traveled very fast at times and completely stopped at times. On 2 (two) occasions it appeared to make 90° turns (square) without any obvious acceleration or deceleration. HOW?

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

21 July 1985 Tower crew
Day Month Year

NAVAL Air Station Corpus Christi
Texas

34. Date you completed this questionnaire:

~~Aug~~ 26 ~~30~~ Aug 1965
Day Month 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.

Object was clearly defined although very high. It had a distinct metallic glint and changed brilliance only due to reflection of suns rays as it changed direction. It was in sight at all times during the sighting until it finally went into the earths shadow.

Height should be easily obtained as the 45° angle is very accurate when last seen going into shadow due east from my location at 10:50 pm. Object must have been very large to be seen so plainly at so great a height. At one time it was motionless for approximately 5 minutes and several times for 1 minute.

Both objects were the same in size but one was more active.

FTD (TD. EW
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO 45433

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



AIR MAIL

FTD (TDEW)
PROJ BLUE BOOK
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