# PROJECT 10073 RECORD

**1. DATE - TIME GROUP**
15Aug. 1968

**LOCATION**
Xenia, Ohio---Yellow Springs, Ohio

**3. SOURCE**
Civ. 4 Witnesses

**4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS**
1

**5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION**
30 min.

**6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION**
Visual

**7. COURSE**
Erratic

**8. PHOTOS**
☐ Yes
☒ No

**9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**
☐ Yes
☒ No

**10. CONCLUSION**
UNIDENTIFIED (on basis of present evidence--hope to get more later)

**11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS**

An object, or light, shaped first like plate, seen directly overhead by person riding in an open convertible going north. Later shaped like a cut of pie, tip upward, and enveloped in mist. Gold and white, with edges rounded off. Light said to be bright enough to light road and surroundingss Witness drove home and called three others--thought it was moon at first but abandoned this hypothesis because of shape, erratic motion. Discrepancy in time. Quarter moon was rising and should have been visible if eastern horizon entirely unobscured. Witnesses reject hypothesis of moon even though they failed to see the moon. Rejection emphatic.

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

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

11 November 1968

FTD (TDETR)
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: Project Card - UFO sighting, 15 August 1968, Yellow Springs, Ohio

To: Lt. Colonel Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. Enclosed is the record card for the [redacted] case referenced above.

2. Unfortunately, my plans for a trip to Cincinnati fell through and so I did not have an opportunity to talk further with Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] However, I expect that either on a future trip to Dayton, or independently, I will have occasion to be in Cincinnati in the next month or two at which time I would like very much to interview th[redacted] personally. I am not satisfied with the lack of details in their report; despite Mr. [redacted] technical training he was extremely vague in his description and if this vagueness persists after my personal interview, I would like to change the evaluation from "unidentified" to "unreliable report", but at the moment I do not have sufficient cause to do this.

J. Allen Hynek

J. Allen Hynek, Director
LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILL. 60201

JAH:lp
encl.

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY
60 GARDEN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

CABLE ADDRESS "OBSERVATORY"

AREA CODE 617 868-7600

November 12, 1968

Lt. Col. Hector Quintanilla, Jr. USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
HQ. Foreign Technology Division (AFSC)
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio 45433

Dear Colonel:

In case you have not seen it, I enclose a xerox of page 30 from the Flying Saucer Review, September/October 1968. I am honored to have my name so closely linked with yours. This is a criticism from an author that readers of the Flying Saucer Review might gain the opinion that he was perhaps a Lt. of Lt. Col. Quintanilla or, even worse, an associate of Dr. Menzel!

I have only one minor point to add to my previous discussion of the Yellow Springs case. The odor was said to be something like that of a bomber, by which I take it there was a smell of gasoline or other petroleum product. What about Ardene's car? I think that the question of odor could have been disposed of quickly, by a few apt questions.

One further point. The map shows some turns of the road. But it does not disclose whether the road was absolutely straight or whether it may have been winding. In the apparent maneuvers of the UFO, this would have been a significant fact, had it been determined.

Finally, what other sort of an answer could Hynek have expected from [redacted] husband than a complete declaration of faith in her reliability? He should have interviewed the people separately. And more frequently, he should have drawn [redacted] husband to one side, and then asked him such a question. The answer might have been very different.

Mr. Massa, of the Columbus dispatch, has called me a couple of times in the last few days. He is writing a story based on my paper published in the Roush Hearings. So, perhaps it will have done some good after all, since the reporter seems to be very sensible. I understand that it was to have appeared in the Columbus Dispatch, Sunday, November 10.

Sincerely yours,

Donald H. Menzel

Donald H. Menzel

DHM:md
Enclosure

TDPT (UFO)

Yellow Springs, Ohio, 15 Aug 68 Sighting

31 OCT 1968

Dr Donald H Menzel
Harvard College Observatory
60 Garden Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Dr Menzel:

Would you please give me your opinion on the attached case. I honestly don't feel that this case should be unidentified. I am not at all pleased with Dr Hynek's interview or with his evaluation. This is science?

I've also inclosed a map of the area, however, I would appreciate your returning it when you are through. Thank you.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch

2 Atch
1. Transcript of Dr Hynek's Interview w[redacted]
2. Map of area

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

November 11, 1968

Lt. Colonel Hector Quintanilla, Jr., USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch
Department of the Air Force
Hdqtrs Doreign Technology Division (AFSC)
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433

Dear Hector:

I enclose herewith an all-too-lengthy evaluation of the Yellow Springs case. I have elaborated, to show in detail, where, how, and why, I differ in my conclusion from those of Hynek. You are at liberty to send him a copy and I enclose an extra copy for you, in case you wish to do so.

It occurs to me that you are fairly near Yellow Springs. Why don't you get [redacted]n the phone and ask her the following questions. Do you ordinarily wear spectacles? For distance, for reading, or for both? Do you wear bi-focals, tri-focals, contact lenses? Were you wearing your glasses on the evening? Does your driver's license specify that you should wear these glasses? (This is a question designed to show whether or not she might be lying as to whether she had them on or not). Can she give you the name of her optometrist or optical shop? Can she give you the correction she has? Her statement is the most important. But you might even find out about the other three, if convenient. Actually, I think it is hardly worth it, but I would be willing to bet that she has some relatively marked eye trouble. Another thing to ascertain would be when she had her glasses last corrected.

I would, by all means, take this sighting off of the list of "unknowns." Good Lord! you've got enough unknowns on your list already. And, I think, whenever you can get what appears to be at least a 90%--and I would make this 99%--identification, why clog up the files? There are still a few cases that you have clogged up. One of them, I recall, is the so-calle[redacted] case of Oct. 1, 1948, at Fargo, N.D. Mrs.[redacted] and my analysis of it in our book is, beyond all question, correct. Yet Hynek has substantially resisted, simply because he has never conceded the ability of stars near the horizon to give the illusion of a "dog fight." By the same token, he has never been happy, apparently, about such phenomena as sundogs and associated apparitions. It would be interesting for

me to know how many of the cases that I have listed as solved in "The World of Flying Saucers," are still listed as "unknowns" in your files. If you would let me know, I'd like to re-examine the data and see if we can't get rid of a few more.

Finally, I enclose herewith a UFO sighting of my own, which leaves some uncertainties. I send it, just in case a material object was involved that might have been reported by someone else. I think that my analysis, however, is probably correct. I shall keep watching for a repetition.

Cordially yours,

Donald

DHM/db
Encls.

Donald H. Menzel

REPORT OF ANALYSIS OF THE [redacted] CASE OF
August 15, 1968, YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

by

Donald H. Menzel

I am not the least bit happy with either the interview or with Hynek's evaluation. In the first place, the time of moon rise, given by Hynek, is approximately correct. These are, I take it, all Eastern Daylight Time.

I have nearly always found that when some observer says "It looked like X, but it couldn't have been X because...," the reasons for the "because" are usually invalid.

Now for specifics. Hynek says that there was an inconsistency in the time, amounting to approximately an hour. This would have been worthwhile following up, but he does not go in to the origin of the discrepancy. Who was the second person, who claimed the later time? Did Ardene really remember correctly?

From the very start, Hynek starts talking about "the moon and this other object." Apparently he is already conditioned to the belief that a second object was involved, because his whole questioning appears to be predicated on this hypothesis. Apparently the reason that he questions the lunar identification is his inability to understand how the object could have had the reported motion.

There were two reported motions, one a spinning or rotatory effect, and the second a following or chasing of the car. With reference to the second, as one is driving along, seeing the moon apparently following him, as it races through the treetops, he can get the impression that the moon is chasing him. I remember, as a child, getting this sensation when I was traveling in a train or an automobile.

This case clearly exemplifies one of my major criticisms of the Air Force Questionnaire. I mentioned this more than a year ago when I sent in my suggested revisions. I want to know what the conditions are of Ardene's eyes. Is she myopic? Does she wear glasses ordinarily?

Did she have them on at the time? What is the nature of her correction? I think this is extremely important, although I know that the Air Force has sometimes taken the view that such questions "invade the privacy of the individual," which to me is absolute nonsense if you are going to investigate matters of this sort. If you don't ask the important questions, you might as well shut up shop and go to bed.

[redacted] herself said that it looked like "a plate." This certainly sounds like the moon to me, except for her report of motions. With a little light cloud or fog, I would say that the moon corresponded very well to what she said. She had no idea of the exact distance. She became confused and frightened. And her statement that it was just over head, even if it may have been only 30° or so above the horizon, was in itself an indication of an impression of nearness, to which I give very little weight.

The concept of the moon following a car is extremely clear. This is a well-known optical illusion. When she stopped the car, she noticed that it was stationary. This again is characteristic of this optical illusion. And her estimate of distance, 300 feet (?), though just a guess, is again characteristic of estimates of distance when one cannot get a real parallax. And her estimates of apparent diameter seem not inconsistent with the moon. Again, with her insistance on gyration, I think this could easily have been an optical illusion. I cannot understand why Hynek did not make some inquiries about her eyes. I don't even know whether she was wearing glasses or not. Besides, some of her description of the apparent motion strongly suggests autokinesis.

She comes home, goes in and announces that she had seen a "flying saucer" and she says that "you could truly tell that it was not the moon and you could truly tell that it was definitely a saucer." There is no question here, as to how she was able to make this distinction? Hynek gives the impression that he is already convinced that this object was not the moon and so he is agreeing with the girl. The description of the object as "a cut of a pie" seems not inconsistent with that of the moon viewed through some haze. Moreover, she does not indicate, nor does Hynek ask her, about which axis the rotation was taking place? He seems to assume that it was a flat disk rotating around the center. And that was what she said earlier, something like a plate. Now she changes her impression and says that it looked like a quarter of a pie. Why didn't Hynek question her on this point? When, for example, did it change

its appearance? And how? The color certainly sounds very much like the moon.

Then Mr. [redacted] identifies it as the moon. And as for the statement that "it's moving", they apparently used this motion to prove that it was definitely not the moon. Yet they do not ever explain how they "could definitely tell it was not the moon," though they keep repeating that assertion. Again, I think that autokinesis is involved here.

Then, I feel that Hynek makes a very serious error when he makes the assertion that "I would say that the first part of your sighting couldn't possibly have been the moon." Why not? And even if he were convinced of that, by making this statement he further conditions the witnesses and bolsters what I think was their erroneous conclusions from the observations. She is the one who kept claiming that what she and her parents saw was definitely not the moon. Because "it was a movement." Refers to the "jerky movement," which is again characteristic of autokinesis. Hynek should never have stepped in and backed their position. He is supposed to be a neutral party, trying to elicit the facts from them, and now he has backed up [redacted] so that she will always say that she saw something that was different from the moon, and the Air Force investigator already brought her up. But then [redacted] says "It looked to me like an ordinary moon in the beginning." Then "it kind of hovered and then it gradually moved on toward the east." Hynek concurs that this would be backward travel. But he fails to note, and he has significantly failed to take account of this phenomenon in previous cases, that it could have been autokinesis. And when Hynek states that he was surprised that the moon wasn't seen also, the answer to me is quite clear. This was the object that they were seeing. He tries to infer that they did not see the moon because of low clouds.

And when Hynek presses them to suggest the object that would most closely resemble the color and shape, an[redacted] says that "it would look just like the moon, a sort of reddish orange." Then he goes on to describing swinging. They ask about sounds, which appears to be imagination. And so does the "funny odor."

In reply to Hynek's direct question about whether it "moved across the sky," they replied "It really actually appeared to move." From what [redacted] said, the only reason for believing that it was not the moon is that "well, the moon never acted like that." [redacted]

himself then described it as similar to a "pale full moon on a very misty, foggy night." Hynek put the words into his mouth, like a "coronal discharge?"

In brief, I am quite convinced that the object was probably the moon. That strong autokinesis was involved. That many of the motions reported were imagined.

As for interview, I think it was faulty procedure to interview all of the witnesses at the same time.

Hynek seems to make something of the fact that Mr [redacted] has technical ability. And yet, when you read what he says, it means absolutely nothing. He quotes what the other people said. He talks about "a light started to come back," and then describes what would certainly be very much like the moon coming through the clouds. He gives you his comparison that it did so appear. He even mentions the "oval" character which would fit in with the phase of the moon at the time.

As you read through, you get the impression that people are answering for each other.

I am certainly not impressed about either the noise or the odor.

When [redacted] heard the noise when it was over her and close to her," why didn't Hynek ask [redacted]?

Hynek asks [redacted] how excitable she is? And of course she replies "I definitely keep my cool." There is a definite point that seems to have been missed completely, that [redacted] in saying "I have always somewhat believed in it, although until you really see it there is always something of a doubt. It's only logical that there are such things." To me, it is clear that [redacted] says that she is believing in flying saucers. That she has always believed in flying saucers. And this sort of a belief could have readily conditioned her when she saw and misidentified the moon.

Hynek gets briefly out of the time discrepancy, but I don't think he clarifies it at all. We get only the reply from [redacted] and nothing from anybody else. [redacted] assesment of the time, however, seems

reasonably consistent with the evaluation that it was the moon.

I cannot follow Hynek's reasoning that, as far as he could see, it was not the moon.

Hynek says "Unless we discount the testimony of all four." I don't see the testimony of all four. There is the testimony of Ardene, who, despite her declaration to the contrary, was probably very excited and hysterical. Under such conditions, autokinesis is common. I have observed it myself. Moreover the phenomenon can be transmitted to another person.

In brief, I have heard so much over the years, about "stars cavorting over the sky," and the impossibility of explaining them, and the lack of imagination and appreciation of auto-kinetic effects, that I think the time has come to review such cases. Or, in the case of new cases involving "jerky motions," to recognize the auto-kinetic syndrome.

I see no stretching of the evidence whatever to identify this object as the moon. And if, by the qualification "given" Hynek means to distinguish between the actual testimony and possible conclusions from that testimony, then he is not properly "weighing" the evidence as he claims. You do have to take into account the unreliability of humans witnessing such a phenomenon. I see no reason to assume that the "eastern horizon was obscured," simply because "not one of the four saw the rising quarter moon." That is a complete misstatement. Everyone, including Ardene, testified that the object "looked like the moon." It was Ardene who insisted that it could not be the moon because of its apparent motion. And Hynek concludes by the statement, which seems to me completely unwarranted by the evidence, that "it seems unlikely that all four, particularly the engineering student, would not have recognized the moon over a period of at least five minutes."

The transcript speaks for itself. The engineering student described what he thought he saw as the moon. The only reason he doubted it, was because of [redacted] insistence. And much the same response came from others. Moreover, I see no reason why, from the evidence itself, at least three of them reported that they were really seeing something that looked like the moon.

Finally, as for [redacted] statement about "keeping her cool," I refer to Lucy's [redacted]tatement that "when she came in the door, she looked like she was scared to death." And that is the impression I get from her actions.

To summarize my impression, there is absolutely nothing in this entire statement that leads me to suspect that something other than the moon was involved. Certainly no plasma phenomenon was necessary.

In my honest opinion, there is absolutely no reason to keep this sighting on the list of unknowns.

In defense of Hynek's position, however, I concur that the moon does not go jumping around by ten or twenty degrees. Nevertheless, what [redacted] said, that "it seemed to move, just very slightly, very slowly to one side, and back again to its general position." Hynek certainly recognizes that there been "other cases like it." When Ardene said that it was "directly overhead," Hynek clearly accepts her statement for its face value. He thinks that it was, as she claimed, at an altitude of 90°. On the other hand, even if it were relatively low on the horizon, if she thought it was within a few hundred feet, following her, she would have clearly still thought that it was "directly overhead." So I do not think that Hynek's question to her husband, concerning Ardene's reliability, was responsive.

I realize, too, that the moon and stars don't jump around the way [redacted] said this moon did. And the moon doesn't spin, either. [redacted] I've seen too many cases of both moving fog and autokinesis, to realize that human beings can make terrible mistakes of identification. I think that is what happened at this time. I simply don't share Hynek's faith in the reliability of human beings. If you wish, I have no objection to your showing him my reaction to this case. I predict in advance that he will think my assumptions too "ad hoc." That I am trying to consider this case as a single example, completely separate from other cases that may have some apparent similarity. On the other hand, here we have all the basic data. I think it is not justified to introduce any evidence from other cases into this one, despite apparent similarity. Each case has to be taken separately. I mention this point, because I gather from some of Hynek's comments, that he sees some pattern in the cases that attracts him. Frankly, I don't. There are too many-far too many-different kinds of stimuli that give rise to such phenomena. On a given night, even from the same locality, reports of UFO's will arise from a dozen entirely unrelated phenomena. And that is something

that, apparently, no one other than myself has generally realized or emphasized.

I think this case is about closed. It might be relevant to get significant weather data from the local weather bureau or from, preferably, from any nearby airport. And I would certainly like to have a chance to interview Ardene concerning her eyes. She was clearly a believer in saucers. Was she, by any chance, a member of any saucer organization? What had she read about UFO's? These are relevant conditioning things.

Very truly yours,

Donald H. Menzel

Donald H. Menzel

DHM/md

November 8, 1968

Returned map of the area as requested.

15 Aug 68

10 OCT 1968

TDPF (UFO) Lt Marano/70915/mhs/7 Oct 68

Request for UFO Information

Dr Donald H Menzel
Harvard College Observatory
60 Garden Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

1. Reference your letter of 15 July 1968. Please excuse the delay in replying.

2. We have reproduced a copy of the 25 February 1967 sighting from Fargo, North Dakota, for you. A copy of the file was sent to you on 24 November 1967, however, the attached case also includes material received since the 24th.

3. Inclosed is a copy of our evaluation card for a sighting from Eielson AFB, Alaska. Three of the four observers were aircraft controllers, and they all estimated that the "object" was eight to ten miles from them initially.

4. We also have a very interesting case for the late evening of 14 August 1968 or early morning hours of the 15th. The observers (apparently three very capable and reliable people) sighted a large orangish object that moved about in the sky, had a definite odor, and made a groaning noise. There was a strong inversion that night and the observers did not see the moon but did see stars. However, the moon should have been visible and in roughly the same position as the UFO. We have not evaluated this case yet because we are still trying to convince Dr Hynek that the moon may have been the culprit. We would appreciate your comments on this case.

5. Incidentally, we do not know anything about the decay of any Russian rocket body over Indiana in late June or early July 1968. Also inclosed is a copy of a letter that we recently received from Poltak Frantisek. Since it apparently involves St Elmos fire, we thought that you might be interested.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

4 Atch
1. Fargo N Dakota, 25 Feb 67
2. Evaluation Card, Eielson AFB
3. Yellow Springs, Ohio, 15 Aug 68
4. Ltr, [redacted]

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY
60 GARDEN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

CABLE ADDRESS "OBSERVATORY"

AREA CODE 617 868-7600

October 28, 1968

Lt. Col. Hector Quintanilla, Jr., USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch
Department of the Air Force
Headquarters Foreign Technology Division (AFSC)
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio 45433

Dear Hector:

Thank you for all of the interesting data you sent. I had seen the Sullivan article. I simply cannot understand Hynek. I could support the idea of an international UFO project only on the idea that it might take our mind off of the more serious worries of the world. Scientifically, the idea is of course nonsense. I have not seen the notice in the Electronic News for September 30. I agree with you. I, too, am completely disgusted! Off the record, I would say that if I were in your shoes, I would terminate the consulting agreement forthwith. Otherwise, it will appear that the Air Force is now, through a special panel, endeavoring to pass judgment on the Condon Report. This would be completely untenable and embarrassing. One knows in advance from the personnel involved what the answer will be. Incidentally, I was in New York while the American Astronautical Society was holding its meetings, and was surprised to hear of the UFO Panel being conducted there. I have no information, though, as to what transpired, because I was busy otherwise. I think your censure of 11 October is certainly deserved, but far too restrained.

I apologize for not having replied earlier to your letter of 10 October and its interesting enclosures. But I was busy myself on a panel of the International Astronomical Union, naming craters on the far side of the moon. Following that, I spent the week in Colorado.

I was very much interested in the Czechoslovakian report. It is almost certainly St. Elmo's fire, as you surmised.

With reference to the 25 February 1967 sighting at Fargo, N.D., I don't know what that was that the boy's saw. But the "object" seen by [redacted] in the northwest was almost certainly the Planet Venus. I quote from "Sky and Telescope" for March, 1967. "Venus, at magnitude -3.4, is striking in the evening sky, for it sets well after twilight ends." The changes of color and the rays are all consistent with the identification. I'd be inclined to think that probably the boys saw the same thing, but made an error in their determination of direction. That is very easy to do, especially if the road is winding.

I am not very much impressed with Hynek's investigation of the phenomenon. He makes the tacit assumption, which I believe is a serious defect of many such investigations, that the two separate groups saw the same "object." Well, if it was the same object, then it was the Planet Venus, beyond question. The boys might have seen something different.

There are lots of questions that I could ask, which apparently were not touched on. I'd like to know what the model of the Polaroid was. How did they determine the exposure time? Polaroid's have automatic controls for equalizing the exposure. But when one is taking the picture of a small bright object at night this control does not function satisfactorily. Are the spots on the picture stars? I would judge that they are not, because of their irregularity. I think pictures should have been taken under similar circumstances, to check the significance of the scratches seen at the edge of the film. How can one minimize the effect of camera warble for what must have been a fairly long exposure? There was nothing in the record to indicate that the object photographed by the boys might not have been a plane. The case is interesting, but the investigation leaves much to be desired.

No, in regard to the [redacted] case of 14 August 1968. After reading the record, I am completely convinced they were seeing the moon. It has been my experience that when a person says, in effect, "the sighting reminded me of ..., but it could not have been ...because...," then it almost always is "...", since the "because" is invalid. This would not be the first time that people have called the moon a UFO. I think that many of the UFO investigations have failed because the investigators take the statements of the witnesses at their face value. Under such circumstances, I subscribe to the motto that "People are Dumb!"

I would also concur with the identification of the Eielson sighting of 11 July 1968 as the moon.

I had some interesting discussions with M. Minnaert, the Dutch Astronomer, who was the chief individual working with me in naming craters of the far side of the moon. He is the author of a delightful book, "The Nature of Light and Color in the Open Air." Are you familiar with it? If not, you certainly should be, because it discusses many phenomena of meteorological optics. There is an inexpensive Dover edition, if you desire to get one.

He told me that he had discovered a number of extremely reliable observations of multiple images of the sun or moon, which in terms of reflection go up to 3 1/2 degrees! There is no simple explanation for these phenomena, but he was quite sure that something peculiar in the way of meteorological optics is responsible.

Sometimes I get discouraged at the situation. I have worked pretty hard, as you know, to get some sense into this area. I know of no other scientist that has gone as deeply as I have into the matter, with the possible exception of Hynek. But something definitely has happened to him and I don't know what it is. He now seems to regard the cases, not as individuals, but as part of a broad pattern. Apparently he feels you must solve the entire problem. In a letter to Condon he states: "Project Blue Book has limited itself, largely because of lack of funds and staff, to keeping files and dealing with cases solely on an individual basis. It is clear that each case, taken by itself, like a lone duck in a shooting gallery can nearly always be shot down by an ad hoc, frequently Menzelian approach."

I don't mind his reference to me in this fashion. In fact I consider it something of a compliment. But it shows his bias. I think each case has to be solved independently and on its own merits. For there are hundreds of different kinds of stimuli, usually completely unrelated. To me it sounds complete nonsense to say that you can solve individual cases, but you cannot solve them if you take them in a group. But why should my individual solutions be wrong, simply because they may not correspond to data in another, independent sighting. Frankly, I feel much of our present ignorance of UFO's must be laid at Hynek's door step, with his unimaginative approach to the subject. He, also, must take the blame for the fact that the Air Force questionnaire is so bad.

With thanks and best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Donald

DHM:md

Donald H. Menzel

I would also concur with the identification of the Eielson sighting of 11 July 1968 as the moon.

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With thanks and best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Donald

DHM:md

Donald H. Menzel

15 Aug 68

26 SEP 1968

TDPT (UFO) Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/ber/26 Sep 68

UFO Sighting of 15 August 1968, Yellow Springs, Ohio

Dr J Allen Hynek
Dearborn Observatory
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois 60201

1. Please forward a complete transcript of your conversation with the [redacted] regarding their UFO sighting by no later than 10 October 1968.

2. Did you make any effort to clarify the discrepancy of the time of the sighting? (One said 11:40 pm and one said 12:30 am).

3. Also include values for the azimuth and angular elevation of the moon at half-hour intervals from 11:30 pm, 14 August 1968 to 1:00 am, 15 August 1968.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

TDPT (UFO) OFFICIAL READING FILE

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

21 October 1968

FTD (TDETR)
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: Sighting of August 15, 1968, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

To: Lt. Colonel Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. Enclosed is the complete transcript and a summary of my taped interview with the Fogg family, witnesses in the above referenced sighting, as requested by you in your letter of 26 September 1968.

J. Allen Hynek

J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center
Northwestern University
Evanston, Ill. 60201

JAH:lp

September 22, 1968

For the Record: Summary of the [redacted] case of August 15, 1968,
Yellow Springs, Ohio.

I have just finished talking with [redacted] and Mr. and Mrs. [redacted], all of Yellow Springs. It took nearly an hour to get the details, and it is all on tape and has been transcribed, but a synopsis of the case follows:

[redacted] was coming home from Xenia, Ohio, driving a convertible with the top down, when she says she became aware of a bright light directly overhead. I quizzed her on this at length, but couldn't shake her story that it was overhead -- seemingly close, but she said she didn't know how high it was since she didn't know how big it was -- so give her a credit point or two for knowing that. The central part of the object seemed to be stationary, but the outer edges seemed to be spinning. She was some three miles from home but covered the distance in just a few minutes. She was frightened, and her mother-in-law said she came in very frightened, calling to the others to come out and look. Two did, and their first impression was that it was the moon, except at a considerable elevation. [redacted] who is a student at Cincinnati University and a coop student at the Field in propulsions systems, etc, was reading a book at the time upstairs and didn't come down at once, until he realized that they were all staying outside. He then went out but saw nothing, not even the moon. He stayed outside for ten minutes and the glow came back, and moved around, but not much, although he gauged its motion against the branches of a tree. The object or glow was now not overhead but about 30 or so degrees above the eastern horizon. It was, he said, like a full moon shining through a mist, and definitely not the moon, although he did not see the moon itself.

There is disagreement on the time, but they should have seen the moon unless there was a bank of clouds in the eastern sky, which happens more frequently than not -- it is rare that one can see down to where the sky meets the land. But unless we discount the testimony of all four, and would put it into the "plasma" category if I absolutely had to.

There also was disagreement on the sound, but they agreed on the odor, which was strong for about twenty minutes thereafter. One said that he was not conscious of any sound.

On the basis of the evidence given, particularly as to the angular elevation in the sky, the eastward motion when it did move away, and the misty appearance of the "object", I would suggest either insufficient information for a definitive evaluation, or "unidentified". To identify it as the moon is stretching the given evidence, and by all normal rules of the weighing of evidence, such identification is not warranted. The fact that not one of the four saw the rising quarter moon at the time but did see stars, causing me to think that the eastern horizon may have been obscured. It seems unlikely to me that all four, particularly the engineering student, would not have recognized the moon over a period of at least five minutes.

Transcript of:

UFO Sighting of 15 August 1968, Yellow Springs, Ohio. (Fogg)

Hynek: In one of my recent visits to Wright-Patterson AFB, I came across your sighting of August 15, 1968, and I am quite interested in it, and would like to ask a few questions about the general circumstances that were not covered in the report. How many of you were there actually at the time of the sighting?

[redacted] It sort of varied. My wife was first and then she came in the house and I guess she probably got a glimpse of the object and then my parents went outside, and then I came downstairs a little later. So there were actually four people that saw it at the time.

Hynek: I've found from past experience that, and I've been making observations for a good many years, that the best way to do this is to just ask you to sort of reenact the crime, so to speak. Could we all take a deep breath and start in from the beginning. There are a few things I didn't have straight in the report. First of all what sort of a night was it?

Mrs [redacted] t was dark. There was no moon, but it was clear.

Hynek: You could see the stars?

Mrs [redacted] You could see the stars but no moon. You could mistake the object for the moon except that the moon doesn't do that kind of performance.

Hynek: What sort of performance did it do? Another thing, there was some inconsistency in the time. One person says 11:45 to 11:50, and another person said 12:30 to 1:00 AM.

Mrs [redacted] The one that I have down on mine I know is definitely correct. I looked at the clock when I came in.

Hynek: What was the time on yours?

Mrs [redacted] I'd have to look at the report. I filled it out two days after I saw it and I still remembered the time then. I believe it might have been around 12:30 - 1:00, but whatever I had down on paper is correct.

Hynek: You are A[redacted] (Yes) I think you had 12:30. The reason I ask is that I have computed quite accurately the time of moonrise. The moon was at last quarter and it rose at 11:36 PM in Dayton area. Now that means that by 12:30 the half moon would definitely have been visible slightly to the north of east and that by 12:30 you should have seen the moon and this other object. And this is the primary reason why Wright Field tends to feel that perhaps what you folks saw was the moon, but what I find difficult to figure out is how it could have had the motion that you describe.

Ardene: Well, first of all about the moon - I really can't remember if there was a moon or not. I believe there wasn't, but I know there is more to it than

what I put down on the thing because I wasn't really quite sure if anyone would believe it would actuall happen. I just put down what my in-laws saw..... because when I told the sheriff all this he thought I was some sort of nut. I saw this movement over my motor car.

Hynek: Let's forget the moon for the moment and think more in terms of the actual actions. Where were you at the time, and were you coming home from someplace or what?

[redacted]: I was coming home from Xenia and I was on _____Road.

Hynek: And were you alone in the car?

[redacted]: Yes. I definitely spotted it somewhat over my car but I really was not aware that it seemed to be following the car. I was more aware of what it was and I sort of stepped on it because I was frightened out there by myself. I noticed it seemed to follow the car so I jumped out of the car and I ran about 12 feet up ahead. It seemed stationary. I thought this can't be because if it's that far above why is it just following my lights.

Hynek: When you say up above, where was it in the sky?

[redacted]: It seemed like it could have been maybe 300 feet above my car, but I don't know. The angle - straight above and it looked like a solid disc and it had a movement.

Hynek: You say straight above. You mean part way or really straight above?

[redacted]: Just about directly above and it seemed to be following the lights. Because when I turned out the lights and I went ahead it was still stationary where it was. When I turned the lights back on, it started moving along with the car. I left the car with the lights on so it remained there and then I came in to get my in-laws , and then it seemed to all of a sudden get smaller, so that means it must have gone straight up because you didn't hear the noise anymore. Then it went over to the back of the farm and .... saw it there and it left a smell and it had somewhat of a noise to it. Mr. [redacted] said the smell was like that of the German planes of World War II.

Hynek: I'd like to get more of the description of the actual object, and let me put it this way. If you had some magic way of putting something up in the sky, what familiar object that would resemble this would you choose to put up there that would most closely resemble what you saw?

[redacted]: Well, I would say most likely when it's directly overhead, a plate - a plate that was moving very rapidly because this had that sort of a spinning effect. It was very plain but it seemed to have that spinning effect with a glow around it.

Hynek: When you say it was spinning, what movement? Do you mean it was spinning or was it moving.

[redacted] Have you seen these little toys that gyrate - this was the type of spinning, and also once it seemed to have banked and it looked like a quarter shape of pie with the center being on top. It looked like a top, in a way, but it still had the funny vision of gyration and it was able to stay in one spot or shoot up directly, quickly, or back and forth.

Hynek: Did it ever pass between you and something?

[redacted]e: No.

Hynek: Did it ever pass in back of something?

[redacted] Yes - no, not really. I was the one that was moving at the time. I moved on the way past the tree and that was the only time.

Hynek: I'd like to ask you to do this. With your hand point as though you are pointing your finger at somebody with your arm outstretched, when you first saw it, how high would you have to have raised your arm to have pointed to it?

[redacted] All the way up because it was straight up.

Hynek: You mean when you first saw it, it was straight up?

[redacted]: When I first saw it, it was straight up and then after that - I don't have all this written out because first of all I didn't know how serious you people were about it - the first time I saw it, it seemed to me it was following my lights. It was directly overhead and then later on it was sort of like you might say a 40° angle, maybe.

Hynek: How did it disappear?

[redacted] To me it just seemed to have gotten smaller.

Hynek: This whole thing lasted about how long?

[redacted] I would say half hour, off and on.

Hynek: Now of course I can understand why you wouldn't be looking for the moon at this time, being frightened by this you wouldn't care whether the moon was up or not. But do you recollect what sort of a horizon do you have there in the east, where you were coming back from Xenia - trees or hills?

[redacted] It was very dark that night because you just couldn't miss it.

Hynek: But I mean in the daytime how does the east look? Does it look ----

[redacted] I would say lighter and the sky above, of course, is like everywhere else.

Hynek: What I'm trying to get at is how much of a horizon - can you see clear

to where the land meets the sky, or are there trees in the way?

[redacted] There are some trees.

Hynek: Now what color was the object?

[redacted] I would say a white and gold and yellow. Those are the colors it had during that time.

Hynek: And now how bright - can you compare the brightness with something?

[redacted] It was maybe the brightness of a mercury vapor.

Hynek: How far away - a mercury vapor a block away or two or three blocks away?

[redacted] I would say maybe two blocks away, maybe more. This was when it was white. When it was yellow and gold it was more of a softer....it wasn't very bright - enought so that you could tell, but when it seemed to go into a quarter piece it seemed very bright and more of a white light.

Hynek: Did it have any effect on your car in anyway?

[redacted] No, not that I noticed.

Hynek: Did you have your radio on at the time?

[redacted] I don't believe I did.

Hynek: What did it appear to be doing? You say following your car, but what gave you the idea that it was following <u>your</u> car and not something elee?

[redacted]: First thing I noticed - the road all of a sudden looked so light and everything else was somewhat dark and I wondered what it was. I happened to glance up. I don't know where it came from, when it started, it just was there and the reason I thought it was following me is because when I would leave the car and I gout out and I started running toward the house it was stationary, but when I got in the car and started driving toward the house it seemed to be moving along with me althought it seemed so far up it would definitely always be above me.

Hynek: You were in a car that had a top on it, I expect.

[redacted] It was a convertible and the top was down.

Hynek: What model car is it, by the way?

[redacted] It's a '67 Sunbeam Alpine.

Hynek: So that you were driving with the top down?

[redacted]: It could have come from behind, I don't know. I just can't remember. All of a sudden it was there.

Hynek: Coming from Xenia, you were traveling what direction?

[redacted] I was traveling north on . . . . . Road.

Hynek: You were traveling north and you think the thing came up from behind?

[redacted] It's the only logical explanation I have because I didn't notice it until all of a sudden.

Hynek: What were your feelings at the time?

[redacted]: Well, as a girl all by myself, I was somewhat scared because first of all I never quite believed in UFOs, not really, and I don't drink or take drugs or anything, so I knew it had to be the real thing. All I wanted to do is get to some population as quickly as possible.

Hynek: So you never stopped the car. You just kept on going.

[redacted] I stopped the car periodically because I got the idea that this was following my lights, so I got out of the car and I started running toward the farm, and I noticed it was stationary.

Hynek: At that itme, how high up do you think it was?

[redacted] Well, it depends on how large the object is. I'm just guessing - I don't even know - maybe 300, maybe a little.

Hynek: I should have asked really how apparently large was it. That is if you had held an aspiring tablet at arm's length, it will just cover the moon. Now if you had taken a dime, say, hold it out and estimate how much of the object it would have covered.

[redacted] Okay, at arm's length, at the time it was directly over, maybe 1/50 of it. (At the time she felt it was closest). When it shot off into the distance, I would say, it would cover about, maybe 1/4 to 1/2.

Hynek: How much of the sky did it seem to block out? You know how large the full moon looks in the sky.

[redacted] Definitely at the first sighting of it it was larger than that. I do want to say that when it was overhead it did seem to have a fog or a mist or something around it, the center part being stationary and the outer part having a gyration effect.

Hynek: Were there any other cars on the road?

[redacted] None. I was the only one that I could see.

Hynek: You were about how far from home at the time?

[redacted] I would say maybe about three miles.

Hynek: Were there other houses and things like that around?

[redacted] No.

Hynek: Now let me ask you to describe your actions as you stated - you said at one time you got out and ran to a farmhouse, and then what happened.

[redacted] First of all, I remained calm. I knew exactly what was going on, but I could tell, it seemed to me, that it was following the lights. And I really didn't know what to do, so I left the car with the lights on and started heading on up (to her house?) and then it remained stationary. A wild thought came into my mind, so I went back and got the car and I started heading toward the house again and it seemed to be moving, always being overhead so this is how I got the idea it was moving along. And I left the car where it was down the road and ran into the house to get other people, and all of a sudden it got smaller directly overhead and very quickly shot out to the horizon.

Hynek: In which direction to the horizon?

[redacted] East.

Hynek: Now at that time you should have seen the moon there because the moon was there in the east. How long after it first happened was it until you talked to somebody?

[redacted] Immediately. Because as I was coming into the house - they were seeing it move over that way and it was something that went off again and on again periodically.

Hynek: Who was the first one to see it after you?

[redacted] Mr. [redacted] My father-in-law, [redacted]

Hynek: What are the relationships there?

[redacted] Harold, the husband and [redacted]g, husband's father.

Hynek: When you first came in - please try to describe when you got to the house, what did you do. Did you hang on the door, or did you walk in?

[redacted] I just walked on in. I said would you come out here for a minute, there's a flying saucer. They ran out and didn't seem astonished. They said that's the moon - don't worry - and then I was satisfied. Then we watched it some more and you could truly tell that it was not the moon and you could truly tell it was definitely a saucer.

Hynek: When you then came out was it still overhead?

[redacted] It was heading out that way when I came out and they just saw, glancing at it, that it could have been the moon, but it definitely kept on its movement.

Hynek: How low to the horizon did it get when Mr. [redacted].....

A [redacted] I think it was still pretty high up. It was not down, it was over that direction but it was.....let's say we're looking at the trees - it was at least 12 feet above the trees all the time. But then it was moving to the left and to the right and going up and down.

Hynek: When that sort of motion went on, - if you had a ruler in front of you held out at arm's length, can you describe the number of inches it would have moved right or left or up and down.

[redacted] It would move almost a foot. And then it went up and then it seemed to disappear for a while. My husband came out and it came back again, and it moved, not as far this time, and then it got smaller. It definitely, truly was not the moon. Movement such as this, and changing shapes and colors that rapidly definitely was not the moon.

Hynek: Let me get the shape of it. You said it looked like a cut of a pie?

[redacted] Yes, a quarter piece of pie at one instance. It looked like a round saucer, maybe the bottom part of it, and then it seemed to take a dip or turn and all of a sudden it looked like a quarter piece of pie.

Hynek: I don't remember whether in your report you drew a picture of it.

[redacted] I drew a picture.

Hynek: Now that you know, as you put it, that someone is taking it seriously, I'm wondering whether you would be kind enough to redraw that from memory and give me a few more notions of directions?

[redacted] With paper and pencil, toward the middle, toward the top you put a dot. Now just draw a quarter piece of pie with that being the center cut down, and then you just make it rounder from one point to the other, except this is a large hunk of pie, with that being the top and a very bright light, white light at that shape. When it looked like this it was a yellow-gold.

Hynek: How long did it take you to get home from the time you first saw it?

[redacted] I wouldn't say any more than a few minutes.

Hynek: How long altogether did the other people see it?

[redacted] All of them saw it the same amount of time. I saw it just a few minutes more traveling time.

Hynek: Do you think there is any possibility that what you saw and what the others saw was different?

[redacted] That is a possibility, but I doubt it because it seemed to have still somewhat of the same type of motion to it. It truly did, although it wasn't in the same spot as it was when I came into the house and we went outside, but it seemed to have the same sort of personality about it.

Hynek: I was wondering about when Mr. Fogg came out and said "Oh, that's the moon"?

[redacted] At first glance they were laughing, but then they watched it for a couple more seconds and then said, "Hey, it's moving". As you watched it more, it proved itself it was definitely not the moon. But at first glance you see a light in the sky and when you see it like that it looked like the moon, but then when you see it actually moving away and changing color the way it did, and the smell which it left, you could definitely tell it was not the moon.

Hynek: The calculation shows that the moon came up at 11:36 and an hour from then it would have been about 10 to 15° above the horizon, and almost directly in the east, and it would have looked like half a pie, not like a quarter of a pie.

[redacted] I'd feel better myself if it had been the moon, but to be truthful I didn't notice it mainly because my eyes were just looking directly at that without glancing away.

Hynek: Well, certainly, I would say that the first part of your sighting couldn't possibly have been the moon.

[redacted] That definitely was not, but then what my in-laws and I saw I'm pretty sure was definitely the real thing because I would not have been attracted to something like a moon in the sky because I keep my eyes on the road. But something that I did see did attract me and it frightened me although I remained calm, and it was exactly as I told you, and what my parents saw was definitely not the moon. It was a movement. And I'm pretty sure it was the same thing because it had the same sort of movememnt. Like when I was coming into the house, it seemed to sort of jerk up, but it had the same sort of personality and movement, although it was not in the exact spot as before I came in the house. I'd be willing to get together with you.....

Hynek: I'll be in Dayton again. I get there about once every month and a half. How far from downtown Dayton do you live?

[redacted] In Yellow Springs. I'm getting ready to go back down to the campus in Cincinnati next week.

Hynek: There is a possibility that I will be in Cincinnati on Oct. 9. May I have your address?

[redacted] It's [redacted] Cincinnati.

Hynek: When I get to Cincinnati I will look you up because I would like to get a little more information on this. Also, I mean to be utterly blunt about it. I want to see what sort of person you are. I mean just how excitable you are.

[redacted] I definitely keep my cool. You never get the full facts over the phone and something like this is interesting, but it is very truthful. I've always somewhat believed in it, although until you really see it there is always something of a doubt. It's only logical that there are such things.

Hynek: And now before we get off the line here, the first person you spoke to was Mr. and Mr[redacted] I'd like to talk now briefly with someone who came out after you called them, and I'd like to get their reactions. I want to clear up the discrepancy in the time.

[redacted] I remember looking at the clock and I remember it lasted about a half hour. I saw it longer than the others did because I was on the road.

Hynek: The others all seem to say it was before midnight - you had it after midnight. (To Kingsley Fogg) Now would you be kind enough to just describe what you saw from the time that Ardene came in and called you outside.

[redacted] It just looked to me like an ordinary moon in the beginning. Then I looked at it and it was in one spot - then pretty soon it kind of hovered and then it gradually moved on toward the east. That would be backward travel of an ordinary moon to start with.

Hynek: It certainly would be. Now where was it in the sky when you first saw it?

[redacted] I would say it was kind of in a southeast situation.

Hynek: At what angular elevation up - that is, how high would you have to point?

[redacted] I couldn't say how high, because you wouldn't know how big the object was.

Hynek: I don't mean how high it was in feet, but I mean how far did you have to lift your eyes up in degrees.

[redacted] About 45° at the most.

Hynek: I'm rather surprised that the moon wasn't seen also, because it rose at 11:36 that night, however, they may have been clouds around the eastern horizon.

[redacted] I didn't see the moon at all, not even after this thing disappeared.

Hynek: That must mean that either it had clouded up or that this occurred earlier than you thought. If it occurred before midnight then you probably wouldn't have seen the moon because it takes a little time to rise. If you had to put something up in the sky by magic, so to speak, what thing would you choose to put up there that would most closely resemble it?

[redacted]: I don't know.

Hynek: Something like a Christmas tree ornament or a flashlight bulb - just something common - what would you put up there that would most closely resemble the color and the shape and all that?

[redacted] Well, the shape just looked like a flat light, just like the moon would look, but it was sort of a reddish orange.

Hynek: Well now, if you're familiar with angular measure and arc, how many degrees did it move from the time that you first saw it 'till the time that it disappeared, 10, 20°?

[redacted] Let's see, I would say it would swing pretty close to 20°.

Hynek: What are the possibilities that the thing could have been a helicopter or something like that with a bright light on it?

[redacted] No, because if you could see anything like that, you could have heard some engine noise.

Hynek: Well, there were noises, but it sounded like - in the report it was described as sort of a groaning sound.

[redacted] Well, that was one that we had seen back about 11 years ago.

Hynek: Describe the noise, the sound, of this one.

[redacted] I didn't hear too much of a noise.

[redacted] Ardene heard the noise when it was over her and close to her.

[redacted] I didn't hear too much of a noise on this one.

[redacted] We smelled a funny odor.

Hynek: For about how long?

[redacted] I would saw about 20 minutes after the thing disappeared.

[redacted] It got lighter as it would disappear and come back.

Hynek: When it disappeared and came back, how did you judge that - did it simply get brighter and change or simply move across the sky?

[redacted]: It really actually appeared to move.

Hynek: Appeared to move crossways?

[redacted]: It had a movement that no moon ever had. This was what attracted us and made us watch it.

Hynek: Well, the moon was never very high at that time, certainly, quite low in the sky near the horizon and if you saw this at 45° up, well then obviously couldn't have been the moon.

[redacted]: It just didn't have any of the characteristics of the moon after you really studied it. But at first glance - I got there just as my husband turned to me and said "well, that's just the moon" and we started to laugh and Ardene said "well, the moon never acted like that". Then we watched it and it was doing this movement.

Hynek: Can you recall some of the conversation you had during the time you were actually watching it? What did you say to each other?

[redacted]: That's kind of hard to remember.

Hynek: Is Mr. Harold Fogg there - is he the one that works at Wright Field now - Could I talk with him - What is your feeling about this whole thing (to Harold Fogg).

[redacted]: I don't believe what I saw and then what was explained to me by the other people. I really don't believe that there is a system of any sort that can operate, at least that I know of, with this kind of capacity. What else is there to say?

[redacted]: I just wanted to get your viewpoint on this since you're - what is your major, so to speak?

[redacted]: I'm majoring in aerospace engineering, and it's a field I've worked in . . . . . analysis structures which does some design work on existing systems and I've worked in propulsion and I've worked in advanced design.

Hynek: How would you then, in more technical terms, describe the kinematics of this object?

[redacted]: From what I saw, which was very vague compared to everyone else, I really couldn't describe it, only from what they had explained to you; I could only use their terminology.

Hynek: You mean by the time you got out there, it was mostly gone?

[redacted] Well, what happened - I was upstairs reading a book and then I heard the car come down the lane and I heard my wife come in and say something to everybody and everyone was talking and I guess they went outside. I stayed up there and was reading a while longer and I noticed that no one had come back in, so I went out and the light had gone. Everyone told me what they had seen, and so I waited around a little longer - they said "it went that-a-way", so I stayed looking at that particular direction and then later on - I'd say maybe 8 or 10 minutes after standing there - a light started to come back. And then it sort of grew - like closer in intensity. Before it was sort of an odd shape and it sort of took the shape of an oval or sphere. It just sort of stayed there for a while, with a little side motion and then . . . . .

Hynek: Compared to a very bright star, howwould you compare it?

[redacted] I wouldn't compare it to a star. It was much bigger than a star. It would look to me, after it had grown to its size, a pale full moon on a very misty, foggy night. Sort of a halo type effect around it.

Hynek: Sort of like a coronal discharge?

[redacted] The whole object seemed to have what I thought - I guess everyone else got a much closer look than I did, but I couldn't say it had a ring around it. It was just sort of like looking at the moon on a very foggy night. But there was no fog that night. It was hazy. The night wasn't hazy, the object was hazy.

Hynek: I'm still puzzled by the fact that since the American Nautical Almanac doesn't lie, and I'm an astronomer so I do know how to figure out the time of noor rise, the moon did rise there at 11:30 Eastern Daylight time, and what bothers me is that nobody saw it. It would have been low in the east and only a quarter moon and it's a little surprising that no one saw it at all. Of course, there may have been, so often there are, low clouds toward the eastern horizon which might have obscured it.

[redacted] I debated about it being the moon, but it didn't seem to have, from where I was looking - there were a few scattered clouds. It wasn't like a heavy overcase or anything, just a few narrow, band type clouds. But I didn't notice very many. Now the object that I noticed, if it was the moon, you would expect to see a lot more cloud overcast. It didn't seem to have any particular cloud type cover motion when the glow sort of came through and then went back. It looked as if it was approaching and its intensity grew brighter rather than a blanket sort of moving.

Hynek: Now its motion - were they quite uniform? Did it accelerate or decelerate or what - or were they discontinuous motions?

[redacted] It seemed to me to be spasmotic. I started to see a glow in this general direction and then it seemed to get bigger and more intense and then it started to take a shape rather than just sort of a part of a corner of some sphere, out to a round shape, a circular shape and then it sort of seemed to stop and hold this particular size. Now using a fence post and another sort of . . . . on the ground, it seemed to move, just very slightly, very slowly to one side, and back again to

its general position. And then it sort of stayed there a while and then took just about the opposite motion - it lost its intensity and sort of went back to the same shape that it had before, sort of a blob and then it was gone. I didn't see any more light back there and I stayed for maybe another 10 minutes.

Hynek: That is certainly very interesting. It's not unique. There have been other cases like it. There have been many, many cases reported of bright lights appearing almost directly over a car. So your wife doesn't need to feel that she is - she can get some comfort out of the fact that other people have reported very much the same thing. Well, I think I'll wait until I see you folkd in Cincinnati to get any further. In the meantime I'll report to Wright Field that as far as I can see it was not the moon. If Ardene says it was directly overhead, and I imagine that it's rather embarrassing for me to ask you whether she is reliable in reports like that, but I will ask it anyway. As her husband, what do you think about it?

[redacted] I would believe her. I would have no question about it.

Lucy: When she came in the door, she looked like she was scared to death. She said "Oh, there's something following me." She just looked like she was frightened. I'm sure she's seen something. We feel sure it wasn't the moon because we've had an experience that we never reported before, but if my husband hadn't gotten me awake to look at it too, I never would have believed him.

Hynek: How did you come to report this?

[redacted] We didn't until this thin happened, and there were similarities except that this time it was in the opposite direction. We mentioned on the report that we gave that there were certain things that were similar to what we had seen before.

Hynek: What I mean to ask is how did you happen to make the report this time?

[redacted] We were asked to.

Hynek: By whom?

[redacted] The names and addresses on the form, they requested who else had seen sightings.

Hynek: What I should have asked is - how did the Air Force get it in the first place. Did Ardene report it to the police or something?

[redacted] She reported it to the police and they didn't believe her and so she felt as thought she should do something so we contacted W-P and they sent her a form.

Hynek: Yes, I've seen that report.

[redacted] I have a copy of my letter here - it was written the 27th of August - and it's signed by Lt. Colonel Hector Q. I was real surprised when the form came. In fact, I didn't fill them out right away because we were busy doing some other things. Finally, I thought I'd better get busy.

Hynek: We're always interested in cases which have several witnesses and people are quite clearly and obviously respectable citizens. So I just with that Ardene had had someon with her in the car. Alright then for now, and I hope that if I do get to Cincinnati I'll see Harold and Ardene there and talk more with them.

[redacted]: The phone number in Cincinnati is [redacted]

Hynek: I thank you very much for being so cooperative and I can tell you more about what our investigations are like and what other reports we've had when I see you. If any of you have any afterthoughts or any bits of information that you think might be helpful, I can be reached very easily at Department of Astronomy, Dearborn Observatory, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60201, phone AC 312/492-7651.

DEARBORN OBSERVATORY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

Sept. 22, 1968

FOR THE RECORD: THE [redacted] CASE OF AUG. 15, 1968

I have just finished talking with [redacted], and Mr. and Mrs. [redacted], all of Yellow Springs. It took nearly an hour to get the details, and I have it all on tape, but a synposis of the case is simply this:

[redacted] was coming home from E Xenia, Ohio, driving a convertible with the top down, when she says she became aware of a bright light directly overheard. I quizzed her on this at length but couldn't shake her story that it was overhead---seemingly close, but she said she didn't know how high it was since she didn't know how big it was--so give her a credit point or two for knowing that. The central part of the object seemed to be stationary, but the outer edges seemed to be spinning. She was some three miles from home but covered the distance in just a few minutes. Shewas frightened, and her mother-in-law said she came in very frightened, calling to the others tocome out and look. Two did, and their first impression was that it wask the moon, except at a considerable elevation. [redacted], who is a student at Cincinnati U. and a coop student at the field in propulsions systems etc., was reading a book at the time upstairs and didn't come down at once, until he realized that they were all staying outside. He then went out but saw nothing, not even the moon. He satyed outside fork ten minutes and the glow came back, and moved around, but not much, although he gauged its motion against the branches of a tree. The object or glow was now not overhead but about 30 or so degrees above the eastern horizon. It was, he said, like a full moon shining through a mist, and definitely not the moon he said, although he did not see the moon itself.

There is disagreement on the time, but they should have seen the moon unless there was a bank of clouds in the eastern sky, which happens mote frequently than not---it is rare that one can see down to where the sky meets the land. But unless we discount the testimony of all four, and especially of the young woman, it was not the moon they saw. Rather I would put it into the "plasma" category if I absolutely had to.

There also was disagreement on the sound, but they agreed on the odor, which was strong for about twenty minutes thereafter. One said that he was not conscious of any sound.

On the basis of the evidence given, particularly as to the angular elevation in the sky, the eastward motion when it did move away, and the misty appearance of the "object", I would suggest either insufficient info. for a definitive evaluation, or "unidentified". To identify it as the moon, is stretching the given evidence, and by all normal rules of the weighing of evidence, such identification is not warranted. The fact that not one of the four saw the rising quarter moon at the time, but did see stars, inclines me to think that the eastern horizon may have been obscured. It vseems unlikely to me that all four, particularly the engineering student, would have not recognized the moon over a period of at least five minutes. Signed, J. Allen Hynek

Nocturise in Dayton on night of Aug 14 1968, was 23:30 EDST

14/15 AFR 80-17(C1)

# SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENA QUESTIONNAIRE

BUDGET BUREAU APPROVAL NUMBER 21-R259

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HAS BEEN PREPARED SO THAT YOU CAN GIVE THE U.S. AIR FORCE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON THAT YOU HAVE OBSERVED. PLEASE TRY TO ANSWER ALL OF THE QUESTIONS. THE INFORMATION YOU GIVE WILL BE USED FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES. YOUR NAME WILL NOT BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OF YOUR STATEMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION. RETURN TO AIR FORCE BASE INVESTIGATOR FOR FORWARDING TO FTD (TDETR), WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO 45433, IAW AFR 80-17. *(IF ADDITIONAL SHEETS ARE NEEDED FOR NARRATIVE OR SKETCHES ATTACH SECURELY TO THIS FORM OR ANNOTATE WITH YOUR NAME FOR IDENTIFICATION.)*

1. WHEN DID YOU SEE THE PHENOMENON?

DAY _____ MONTH AUGUST YEAR 1965

2. WHAT TIME DID YOU FIRST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?

HOUR 11 MINUTES 45 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

3. WHAT TIME DID YOU LAST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?

HOUR 11 MINUTES 50 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

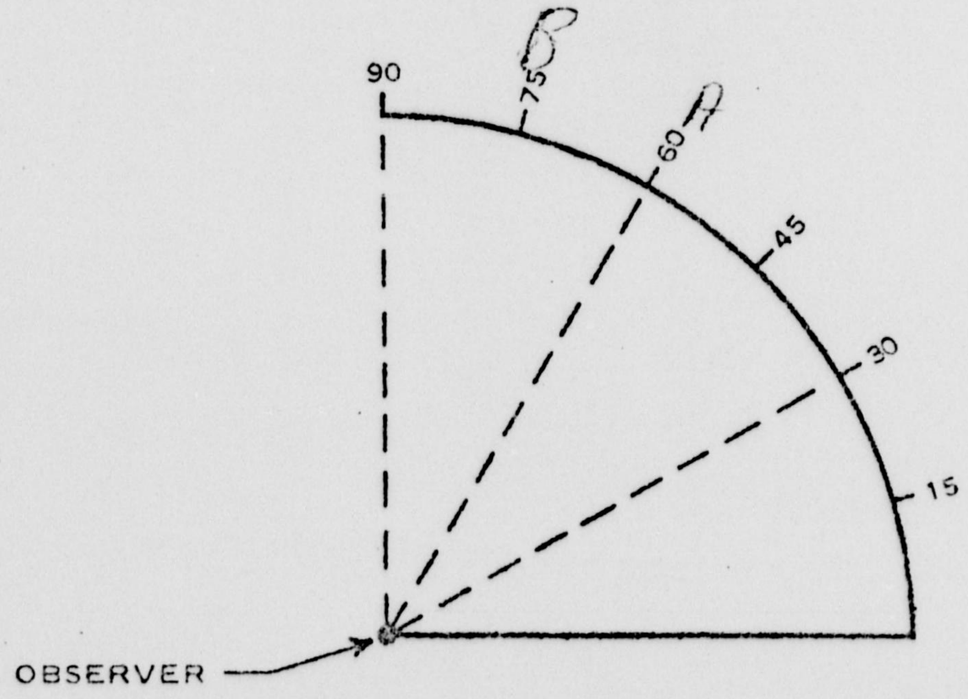
4. TIME/ZONE ☒ DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ☐ STANDARD

☒ EASTERN ☐ CENTRAL ☐ MOUNTAIN ☐ PACIFIC ☐ OTHER

5. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? IF IN CITY, GIVE THE NEAREST STREET ADDRESS AND INDICATE ON A HAND DRAWN MAP WHERE YOU WERE STANDING WITH REFERENCE TO THE ADDRESS. IF IN THE COUNTRY, IDENTIFY THE HIGHWAY YOU WERE ON OR NEAR AND TRY TO FIX A DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM SOME RECOGNIZABLE LANDMARK.

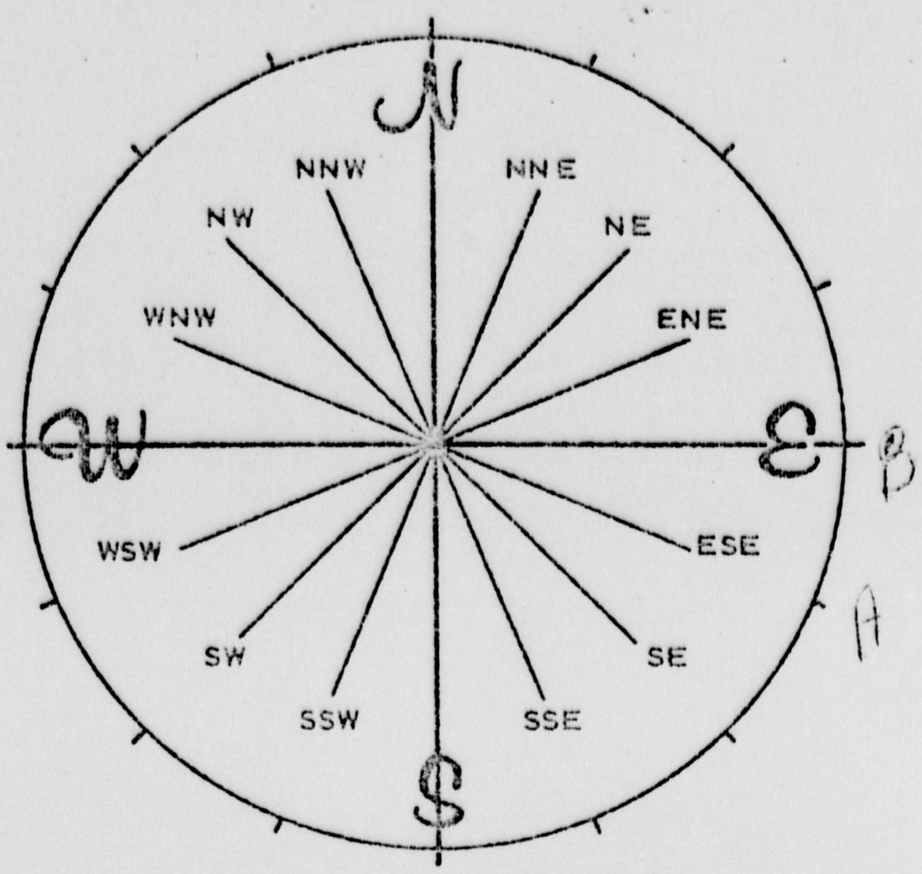
Our residence is [redacted] mile north of the Yellow Springs Fairfield Road and about the same distance from the East End Post, approximately one mile west of Route 68 and about 5 miles southwest of the Springfield airport

6. IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE POINT SHOWN IN THE DIAGRAM. PLACE AN "A" ON THE CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH THE PHENOMENON WAS ABOVE THE HORIZON, OR SKYLINE. WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE SAME CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH ABOVE THE HORIZON THE PHENOMENON WAS WHEN LAST SEEN.

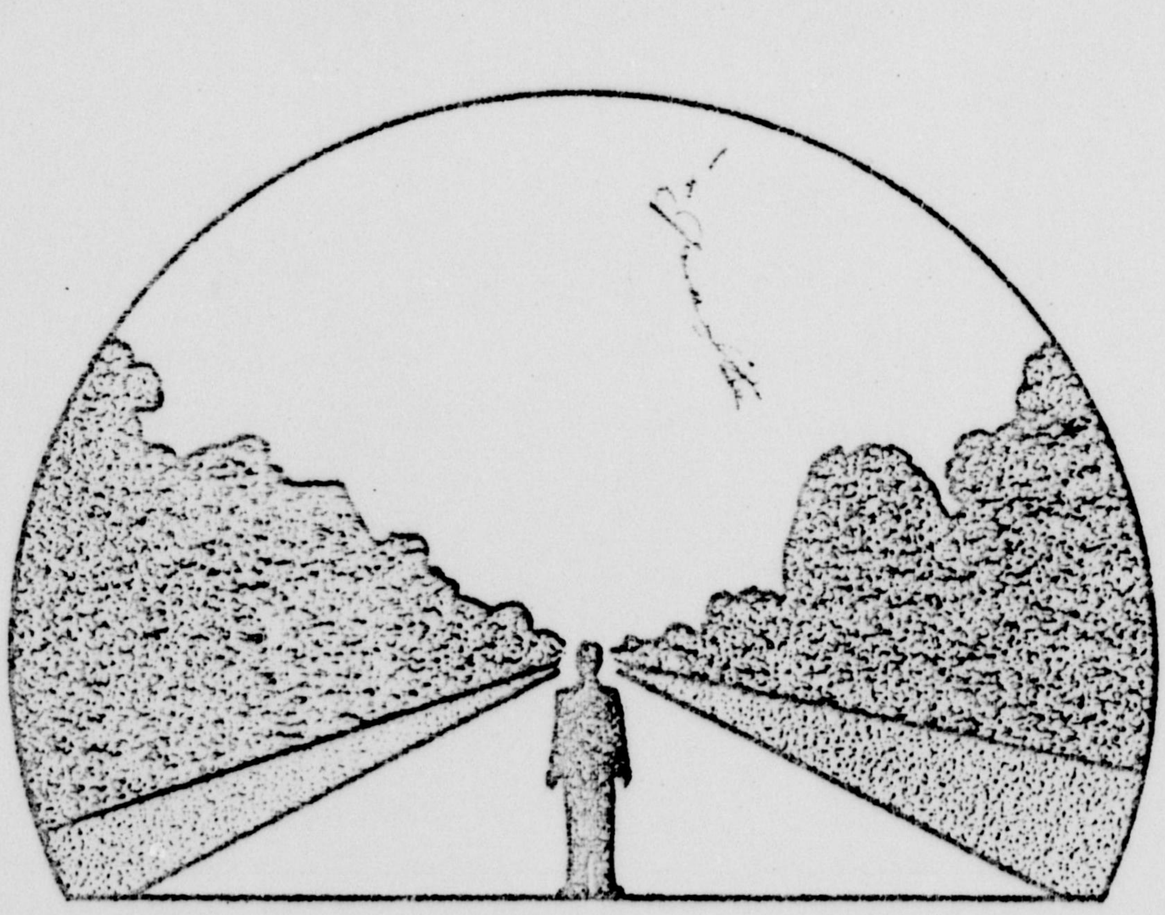


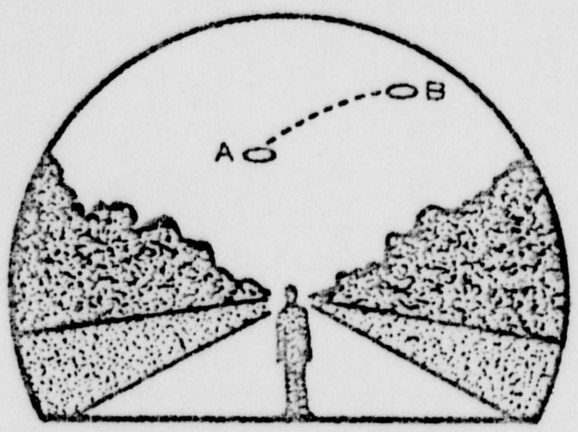

AF FORM AUG 67 117

6A. NOW IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE CENTER OF THE COMPASS ROSE. PLACE AN "A" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN.




7. IN THE SKETCH BELOW, PLACE AN "A" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN, AND A "B" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN. CONNECT THE "A" AND "B" WITH A LINE TO APPROXIMATE THE MOVEMENT OF THE PHENOMENON BETWEEN "A" AND "B". THAT IS, SCHEMATICALLY SHOW WHETHER THE MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE STRAIGHT, CURVED OR ZIG-ZAG. REFER TO SMALLER SKETCH AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMPLETE THE LARGER SKETCH.





8. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | OUTDOORS | | IN BUSINESS SECTION OF CITY |
| | IN BUILDING | | IN RESIDENTIAL SECTION OF CITY |
| | IN CAR ☐ AS DRIVER ☐ AS PASSENGER | X | IN OPEN COUNTRYSIDE |
| | IN BOAT | | NEAR AIRFIELD |
| | IN AIRPLANE ☐ AS PILOT ☐ AS PASSENGER | | FLYING OVER CITY |
| | OTHER | | FLYING OVER OPEN COUNTRY |
| | | | OTHER |

A. IF YOU WERE IN A VEHICLE, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

WHAT DIRECTION WERE YOU MOVING?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | NORTH | | EAST |
| | SOUTH | | WEST |
| | NORTHEAST | | SOUTHEAST |
| | NORTHWEST | | SOUTHWEST |

HOW FAST WERE YOU MOVING?

DID YOU STOP ANYTIME WHILE OBSERVING THE PHENOMENON? ☐ YES ☐ NO

EXPLAIN WHETHER SUCH MOVEMENT AFFECTS YOUR SKETCHES IN ITEMS 5 AND 6.

DESCRIBE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU WERE IN AND TYPE OF ROAD, TERRAIN OR BODY OF WATER YOU TRAVERSED DURING THE SIGHTING. STATE WHETHER WINDOWS OR CONVERTIBLE TOP WERE UP OR DOWN.

HOW MUCH OTHER TRAFFIC WAS THERE?

DID YOU NOTICE ANY AIRPLANES? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE WHEN THEY WERE IN SIGHT RELATIVE TO THE TIME OF SIGHTING THE PHENOMENON AND WHERE THEY WERE IN THE SKY RELATIVE TO THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON.

9. HOW LONG WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT?

| LENGTH OF TIME | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| approx 5 minutes | | CERTAIN OF TIME | | NOT VERY SURE |
| | X | FAIRLY CERTAIN | | JUST A GUESS |

HOW WAS TIME DETERMINED? We checked the clock just previous to the commencement of the sighting.

WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT CONTINUOUSLY? ☒ YES ☐ NO. IF "NO," INDICATE WHETHER THIS IS DUE TO YOUR MOVEMENT OR THE BEHAVIOR OF THE PHENOMENON, AND DESCRIBE SUCH MOVEMENT OR BEHAVIOR. INDICATE DISAPPEARANCES ON PREVIOUS SKETCHES.

10. IF THERE WERE MORE THAN ONE PHENOMENON, HOW MANY WERE THERE? DRAW A PICTURE TO SHOW HOW THEY WERE ARRANGED. DID THIS ARRANGEMENT CHANGE DURING THE SIGHTING?

11. CONDITIONS *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

| A. SKY | | B. WEATHER | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | DAY | | CUMULUS CLOUDS *(Low fluffy)* | | FOG OR MIST |
| | TWILIGHT | | CIRRUS CLOUDS *(High fleecy or Herring-bone)* | | HEAVY RAIN |
| X | NIGHT | | | | LIGHT RAIN OR DRIZZLE |
| X | CLEAR | | NIMBUS CLOUDS *(Rain)* | | HAIL |
| | PARTLY CLOUDY | | CUMULONIMBUS CLOUDS *(Thunderstorms)* | | SNOW OR SLEET |
| | COMPLETELY OVERCAST | | | | UNKNOWN |
| | | | HAZE OR SMOG | | NONE OF THE ABOVE |

C. IF THE SIGHTING WAS AT TWILIGHT OR NIGHT, WHAT DID YOU NOTICE ABOUT THE STARS AND MOON?

| (1) STARS | | (2) MOON | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | NONE | | BRIGHT MOONLIGHT | X NO MOONLIGHT |
| X | A FEW | | MOON WITH HALO | UNKNOWN |
| | MANY | | MOON HIDDEN BY CLOUDS | |
| | UNKNOWN | | PARTIAL *(New or quarter)* | |

D. IF SIGHTING WAS IN DAYLIGHT, WAS THE SUN VISIBLE? ☐ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," WHERE WAS THE SUN AS YOU FACED THE PHENOMENON?

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | IN FRONT OF YOU | | TO YOUR RIGHT | | OVERHEAD *(Near noon)* |
| | IN BACK OF YOU | | TO YOUR LEFT | | UNKNOWN |

E. SPECIFY THE MAJOR SOURCE OF ILLUMINATION PRESENT DURING THE SIGHTING, SUCH AS THE SUN, HEADLIGHTS OR STREET LAMP, ETC. FOR TERRESTRIAL ILLUMINATION, SPECIFY DISTANCE TO LIGHT SOURCE.

12. GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHENOMENON, INDICATING WHETHER IT APPEARED DARK OR LIGHT, WHETHER IT REFLECTED LIGHT OR WAS SELF-LUMINOUS AND WHAT COLORS YOU NOTICED. DESCRIBE YOUR IMPRESSION OF WHETHER IT WAS SOLID OR TRANSPARENT, WHETHER EDGES WERE SHARP OR FUZZY. DESCRIBE THE SHAPE OR INDICATE IF IT APPEARED AS A POINT OF LIGHT. INDICATE COMPARISONS WITH OTHER OBSERVED OBJECTS, LIKE STARS, A LIGHT OR OTHER OBJECT IN YOUR FIELD OF VIEW.

Bright orange in color - smooth edges - did not reflect any color - cried easily - pass for a moon or a star - night - when one stared at it and studied its pattern of movement.

| 13. DID THE PHENOMENON | YES | NO | UNKNOWN |
|---|---|---|---|
| MOVE IN A STRAIGHT LINE? | X | | |
| STAND STILL AT ANYTIME? | X | | |
| SUDDENLY SPEED UP AND RUN AWAY? | X | | |
| BREAK UP IN PARTS AND EXPLODE? | | X | |
| CHANGE COLOR? | | X | |
| GIVE OFF SMOKE? | | X | |
| CHANGE BRIGHTNESS? | | X | |
| CHANGE SHAPE? | X | | |
| FLASH OR FLICKER? | | X | |
| DISAPPEAR AND REAPPEAR? | X | | |
| SPIN LIKE A TOP? | | X | |
| MAKE A NOISE? | | X | |
| FLUTTER OR WOBBLE? | X | | |

14. WHAT DREW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE PHENOMENON?

Our daughter-in-law sighted the object as she returned to our home and came running into the house. We went outside to see the object quite similar to the ones I have seen but just the more. It started to move toward the East. It was at a large size and appeared to be shaped much like the moon. It would hover and then move eastward then hover and finally vanish quickly with a flash going into the East as it changed from a bluish color to a orange.

A. HOW DID IT FINALLY DISAPPEAR? (See above statement)

9. DID THE PHENOMENON MOVE BEHIND OR IN FRONT OF SOMETHING, LIKE A CLOUD, TREE, OR BUILDING AT ANY TIME?
☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

15. DRAW A PICTURE THAT WILL SHOW THE SHAPE OF THE PHENOMENON. INCLUDE AND LABEL ANY DETAILS THAT MIGHT HAVE APPEARED AS WINGS OR PROTRUSIONS, AND INDICATE EXHAUST OR VAPOR TRAILS. INDICATE BY AN ARROW THE DIRECTION THE PHENOMENON WAS MOVING.

16. WHAT WAS THE ANGULAR SIZE? HOLD A MATCH AT ARM'S LENGTH IN FRONT OF A KNOWN OBJECT, SUCH AS A STREET LAMP OR THE MOON. NOTE HOW MUCH OF THE OBJECT IS COVERED BY THE HEAD OF THE MATCH. NOW IF YOU HAD BEEN ABLE TO PERFORM THIS EXPERIMENT AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING, ESTIMATE WHAT FRACTION OF THE PHENOMENON WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED BY THE MATCH HEAD.

17. DID YOU OBSERVE THE PHENOMENON THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING? INCLUDE INFORMATION ON MODEL, TYPE, FILTER, LENS PRESCRIPTION OR OTHER APPLICABLE DATA.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | EYEGLASSES | | CAMERA VIEWER |
| | SUNGLASSES | | BINOCULARS |
| | WINDSHIELD | | TELESCOPE |
| | SIDE WINDOW OF VEHICLE | | THEODOLITE |
| | WINDOWPANE | | OTHER None |

A. DO YOU ORDINARILY WEAR GLASSES? [X] YES [ ] NO

B. DO YOU USE READING GLASSES? [ ] YES [ ] NO

18. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE SPEED OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF SPEED Unknown

19. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE DISTANCE OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF DISTANCE Unknown

20. IN ORDER THAT WE MAY OBTAIN AS CLEAR A PICTURE AS POSSIBLE OF WHAT YOU SAW, DESCRIBE IN YOUR OWN WORDS A COMMON OBJECT OR OBJECTS WHICH, WHEN PLACED IN THE SKY, SIMILAR TO WHERE YOU NOTED THE PHENOMENON, WOULD BEAR SOME RESEMBLANCE TO WHAT YOU SAW. DESCRIBE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE COMMON OBJECT AND WHAT YOU SAW.

At first sight, it appeared to be the moon but it was a different color and moved in the opposite direction from the moon. One could see it stop and hover, turn shape and quickly disappear.

21. DID YOU NOTICE ANY ODOR, NOISE, OR HEAT EMANATING FROM THE PHENOMENON OR ANY EFFECT ON YOURSELF, ANIMALS OR MACHINERY IN THE VICINITY? [X] YES [ ] NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

There was a peculiar odor in the air (My [redacted] said it smelled more like the old German mayflower engine they used on test at Wright Field.

A. DID THE PHENOMENON DISTURB THE GROUND OR LEAVE ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. [ ] YES [X] NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

22. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THIS OR A SIMILAR PHENOMENON BEFORE? [X] YES [ ] NO. IF "YES," GIVE DATE AND LOCATION.

In 1957 - at same address, approx 2:30 A.M. and in the light - at that time the object turned a tree, coming out from behind a tree, reverse a...

23. WAS ANYONE WITH YOU AT THE TIME YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? [X] YES [ ] NO. IF "YES," DID THEY SEE IT TOO? [X] YES [ ] NO.

A. LIST THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES

First [redacted]
Fir[redacted]
Thir[redacted]

all at same address.

24. GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE [redacted]

ADDRESS (Street, City, State and Zip Code) [redacted] Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

TELEPHONE (Area code and number) [redacted]

| AGE | | MALE | | FEMALE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 51 | | | X | |

INDICATE EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION INCLUDING OCCUPATION AND ANY EXPERIENCE WHICH MAY BE PERTINENT.

Part program director for the Senior Citizens Center.

The sighting in 1957 was observed by my husband (Wesley E.) and myself. It was not reported. Circumstances very similar. Only at this time there was a strong mine in the atmosphere which immediately disappeared when the object vanished. It was the late afternoon. 2:30 or 3 A.M.

The next morning the radio carried a report of the attempted interception of a plane from Columbus.

25. WHEN AND TO WHOM DID YOU REPORT THAT YOU HAD SIGHTED THIS PHENOMENON? None

NAME _____ DAY _____ MONTH _____ YEAR _____

26. DATE YOU COMPLETED THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. DAY 16 MONTH September YEAR 1968

10

27. INFORMATION WHICH YOU FEEL IS PERTINENT BUT WHICH IS NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, ALTERNATIVELY PROVIDE A NARRATIVE EXPLANATION OF THE SIGHTING.

15 Aug 68

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE OHIO 45433

REPLY TO ATTN OF: TDPT (UFO)

27 AUG 1968

SUBJECT: UFO Observation, 15 August 1968

TO: [redacted]
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Your name has been given to the Aerial Phenomena Office (Project Blue Book) as being a witness to an unidentified flying object. If you were a witness to an UFO sighting on 15 August 1968 would you please complete the attached AF Form 117 and return it in the envelope provided. If you were not a witness to this sighting, would you please make a statement to this effect on the attached form. The information which you provide will be used in evaluating this observation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

1 Atch
AF Form 117 w/envelope

12

AFR 80-17(C1)

# SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENA QUESTIONNAIRE

BUDGET BUREAU APPROVAL NUMBER 21-R259

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HAS BEEN PREPARED SO THAT YOU CAN GIVE THE U.S. AIR FORCE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON THAT YOU HAVE OBSERVED. PLEASE TRY TO ANSWER ALL OF THE QUESTIONS. THE INFORMATION YOU GIVE WILL BE USED FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES. YOUR NAME WILL NOT BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OF YOUR STATEMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION. RETURN TO AIR FORCE BASE INVESTIGATOR FOR FORWARDING TO FTD (TDETR), WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO 45433, IAW AFR 80-17. *(IF ADDITIONAL SHEETS ARE NEEDED FOR NARRATIVE OR SKETCHES ATTACH SECURELY TO THIS FORM OR ANNOTATE WITH YOUR NAME FOR IDENTIFICATION.)*

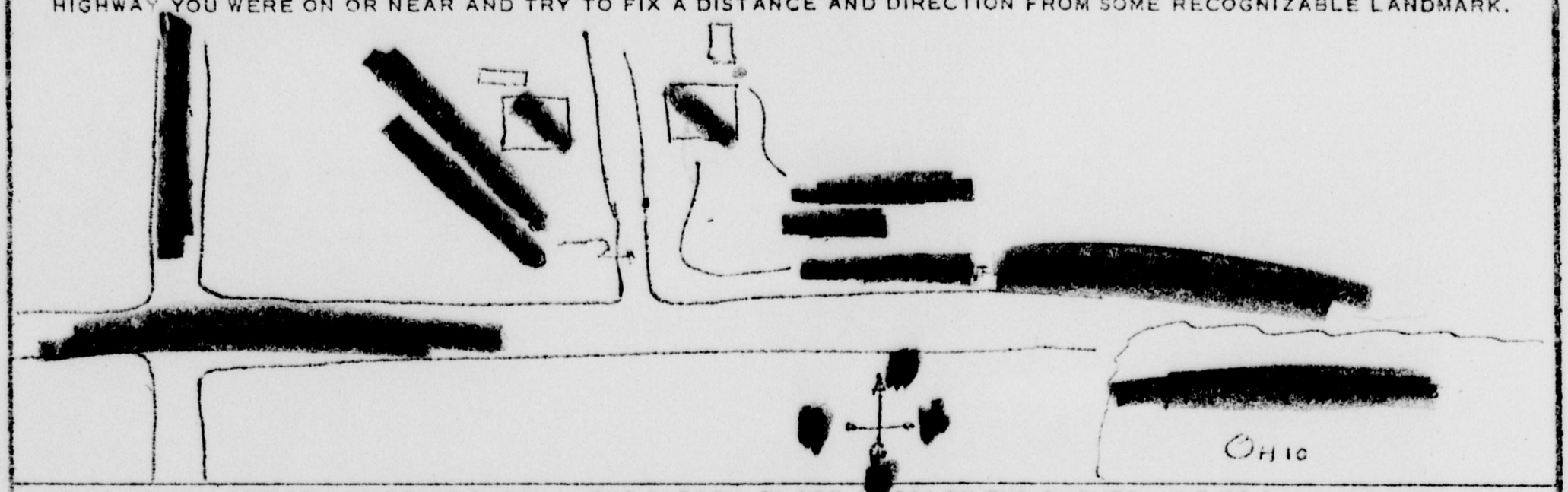
1. WHEN DID YOU SEE THE PHENOMENON?
DAY 15 MONTH Aug. YEAR 1968

2. WHAT TIME DID YOU FIRST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?
HOUR 11 MINUTES 50 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

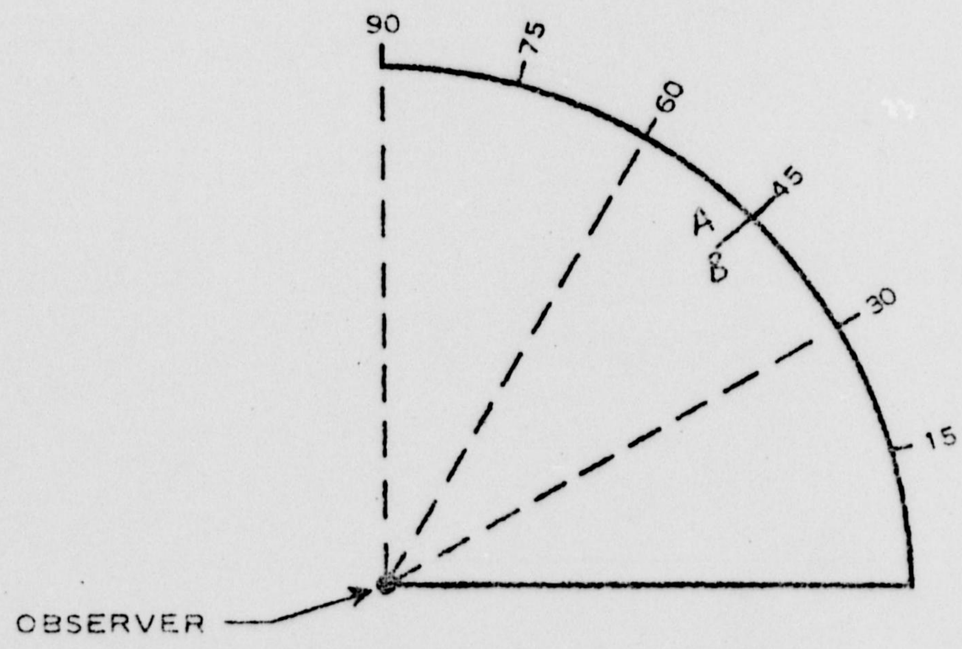
3. WHAT TIME DID YOU LAST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?
HOUR 12 MINUTES 00 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M. MIDNIGHT

4. TIME/ZONE ☒ DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ☐ STANDARD
☒ EASTERN ☐ CENTRAL ☐ MOUNTAIN ☐ PACIFIC ☐ OTHER

5. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? IF IN CITY, GIVE THE NEAREST STREET ADDRESS AND INDICATE ON A HAND DRAWN MAP WHERE YOU WERE STANDING WITH REFERENCE TO THE ADDRESS. IF IN THE COUNTRY, IDENTIFY THE HIGHWAY YOU WERE ON OR NEAR AND TRY TO FIX A DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM SOME RECOGNIZABLE LANDMARK.

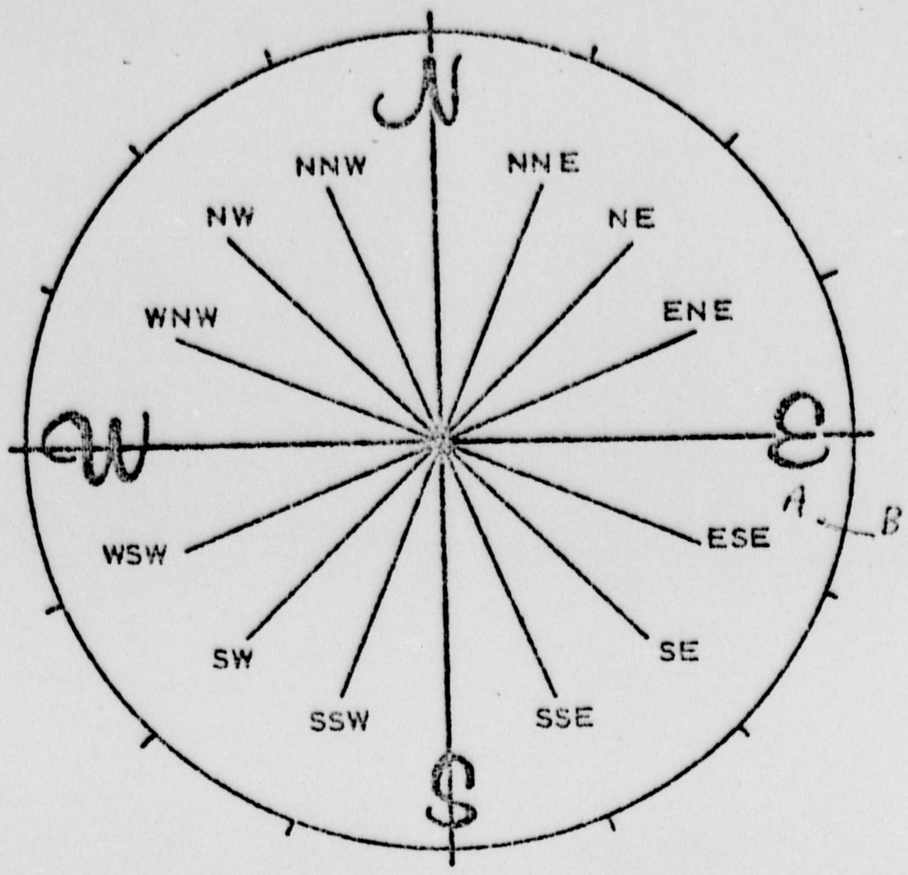



5. IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE POINT SHOWN IN THE SKETCH, PLACE AN "A" ON THE CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH THE PHENOMENON WAS ABOVE THE HORIZON, OR SKYLINE. WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE SAME CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH ABOVE THE HORIZON THE PHENOMENON WAS WHEN LAST SEEN.

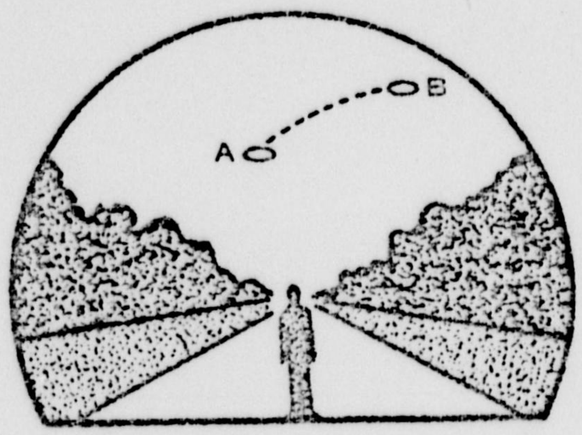


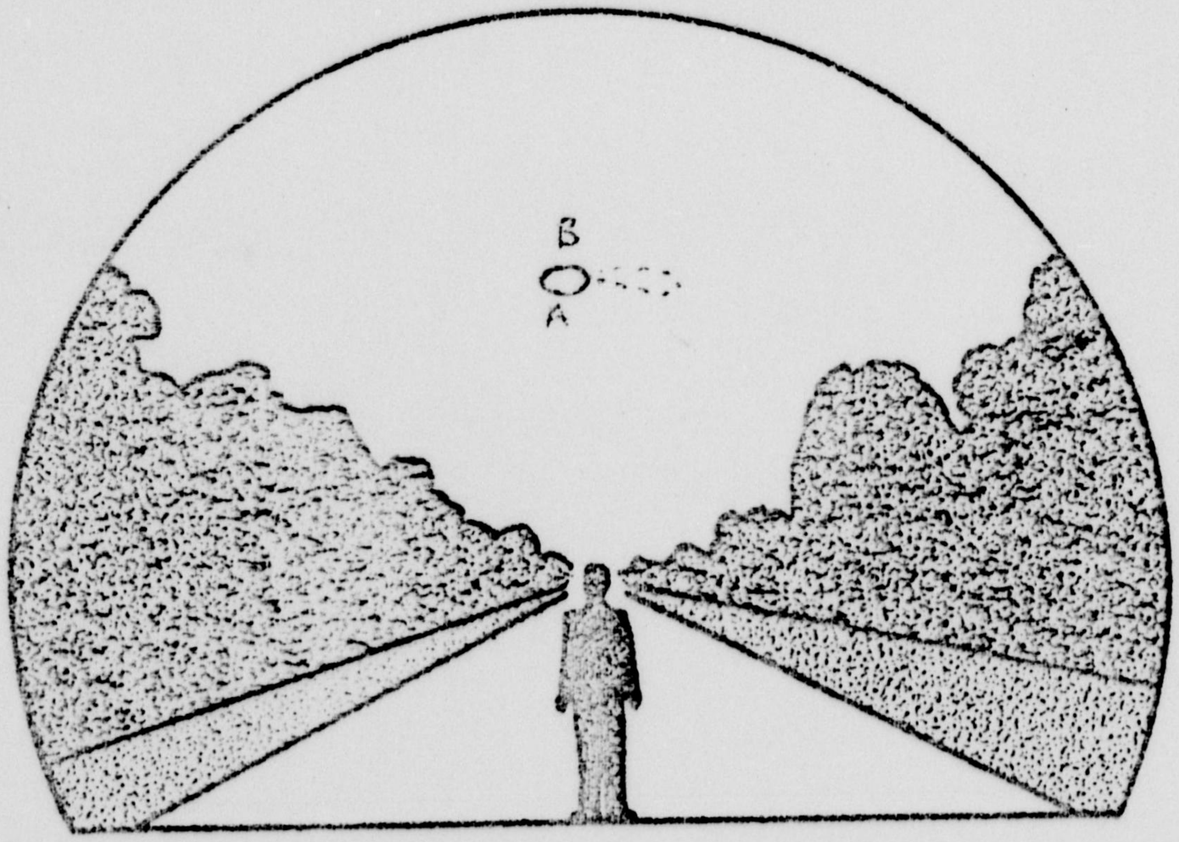

AF FORM AUG 67 117

6A. NOW IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE CENTER OF THE COMPASS ROSE. PLACE AN "A" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN.




7. IN THE SKETCH BELOW, PLACE AN "A" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN, AND A "B" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN. CONNECT THE "A" AND "B" WITH A LINE TO APPROXIMATE THE MOVEMENT OF THE PHENOMENON BETWEEN "A" AND "B". THAT IS, SCHEMATICALLY SHOW WHETHER THE MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE STRAIGHT, CURVED OR ZIG-ZAG. REFER TO SMALLER SKETCH AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMPLETE THE LARGER SKETCH.






14

8. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | OUTDOORS | | IN BUSINESS SECTION OF CITY |
| | IN BUILDING | | IN RESIDENTIAL SECTION OF CITY |
| | IN CAR ☐ AS DRIVER ☐ AS PASSENGER | X | IN OPEN COUNTRYSIDE |
| | IN BOAT | | NEAR AIRFIELD |
| | IN AIRPLANE ☐ AS PILOT ☐ AS PASSENGER | | FLYING OVER CITY |
| | OTHER | | FLYING OVER OPEN COUNTRY |
| | | | OTHER |

A. IF YOU WERE IN A VEHICLE, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

| WHAT DIRECTION WERE YOU MOVING? | | | | HOW FAST WERE YOU MOVING? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | NORTH | | EAST | |
| | SOUTH | | WEST | DID YOU STOP ANYTIME WHILE OBSERVING THE PHENOMENON? |
| | NORTHEAST | | SOUTHEAST | |
| | NORTHWEST | | SOUTHWEST | ☐ YES ☐ NO |

EXPLAIN WHETHER SUCH MOVEMENT AFFECTS YOUR SKETCHES IN ITEMS 5 AND 6.

DESCRIBE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU WERE IN AND TYPE OF ROAD, TERRAIN OR BODY OF WATER YOU TRAVERSED DURING THE SIGHTING. STATE WHETHER WINDOWS OR CONVERTIBLE TOP WERE UP OR DOWN.

HOW MUCH OTHER TRAFFIC WAS THERE?

DID YOU NOTICE ANY AIRPLANES? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE WHEN THEY WERE IN SIGHT RELATIVE TO THE TIME OF SIGHTING THE PHENOMENON AND WHERE THEY WERE IN THE SKY RELATIVE TO THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON.

9. HOW LONG WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT?

| LENGTH OF TIME | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 min. | | CERTAIN OF TIME | | NOT VERY SURE |
| | X | FAIRLY CERTAIN | | JUST A GUESS |

HOW WAS TIME DETERMINED?

By glancing at a clock both leaving and entering the house.

WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT CONTINUOUSLY? ☒ YES ☐ NO. IF "NO," INDICATE WHETHER THIS IS DUE TO YOUR MOVEMENT OR THE BEHAVIOR OF THE PHENOMENON, AND DESCRIBE SUCH MOVEMENT OR BEHAVIOR. INDICATE DISAPPEARANCES ON PREVIOUS SKETCHES.

10. IF THERE WERE MORE THAN ONE PHENOMENON, HOW MANY WERE THERE? DRAW A PICTURE TO SHOW HOW THEY WERE ARRANGED. DID THIS ARRANGEMENT CHANGE DURING THE SIGHTING?

N.A.

11. CONDITIONS *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

| A. SKY | | B. WEATHER | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | DAY | | CUMULUS CLOUDS *(Low fluffy)* | | FOG OR MIST |
| | TWILIGHT | X | CIRRUS CLOUDS *(High fleecy or Herring-bone)* | | HEAVY RAIN |
| X | NIGHT | | | | LIGHT RAIN OR DRIZZLE |
| | CLEAR | | NIMBUS CLOUDS *(Rain)* | | HAIL |
| X | PARTLY CLOUDY | | CUMULONIMBUS CLOUDS *(Thunderstorms)* | | SNOW OR SLEET |
| | COMPLETELY OVERCAST | | | | UNKNOWN |
| | | | HAZE OR SMOG | | NONE OF THE ABOVE |

C. IF THE SIGHTING WAS AT TWILIGHT OR NIGHT, WHAT DID YOU NOTICE ABOUT THE STARS AND MOON?

| (1) STARS | | (2) MOON | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | NONE | | BRIGHT MOONLIGHT | X NO MOONLIGHT |
| | A FEW | | MOON WITH HALO | UNKNOWN |
| | MANY | | MOON HIDDEN BY CLOUDS | |
| X | UNKNOWN | | PARTIAL *(New or quarter)* | |

D. IF SIGHTING WAS IN DAYLIGHT, WAS THE SUN VISIBLE? ☐ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," WHERE WAS THE SUN AS YOU FACED THE PHENOMENON?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | IN FRONT OF YOU | TO YOUR RIGHT | OVERHEAD *(Near noon)* |
| | IN BACK OF YOU | TO YOUR LEFT | UNKNOWN |

E. SPECIFY THE MAJOR SOURCE OF ILLUMINATION PRESENT DURING THE SIGHTING, SUCH AS THE SUN, HEADLIGHTS OR STREET LAMP, ETC. FOR TERRESTRIAL ILLUMINATION, SPECIFY DISTANCE TO LIGHT SOURCE.

MERCURY VAPOR LIGHT ATTACH TO POLE APPROXIMATELY 20 FT ABOVE GROUND, APPROXIMATELY 90 FT BEHIND POINT WHERE I WAS STANDING.

12. GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHENOMENON, INDICATING WHETHER IT APPEARED DARK OR LIGHT, WHETHER IT REFLECTED LIGHT OR WAS SELF-LUMINOUS AND WHAT COLORS YOU NOTICED. DESCRIBE YOUR IMPRESSION OF WHETHER IT WAS SOLID OR TRANSPARENT, WHETHER EDGES WERE SHARP OR FUZZY. DESCRIBE THE SHAPE OR INDICATE IF IT APPEARED AS A POINT OF LIGHT. INDICATE COMPARISONS WITH OTHER OBSERVED OBJECTS, LIKE STARS, A LIGHT OR OTHER OBJECT IN YOUR FIELD OF VIEW.

THE OBJECT ~~WAS~~ APPEARED AS A SELF-LUMINOUS, SOLID FOAM OF YELLOW LIGHT.

THE LIGHT STARTED TO APPEAR AND TOOK THE SHAPE OF A D. IT INCREASED IN SIZE AND BRIGHTNESS UNTIL IT APPEARED AS A SPHERE. O. IT SEEMED TO HOLD THIS SIZE AND BRIGHTNESS FOR AROUND 5 MIN, WITH SLIGHT MOVEMENT TO THE RIGHT AND THEN BACK TO THE ORIGINAL POSITION. THEN THE OBJECT STARTED TO GO SMALLER AND FAINTER ~~WAS~~ IN THE REVERSE OF IT METHOD OF ATTACK ONLY FASTER AND THEN VANISHED.

THE OBJECT DID NOT SEEM TO MAKE SHARP CUTTINGS AND IT WAS A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE AWAY.



14

| 13. DID THE PHENOMENON | YES | NO | UNKNOWN |
|---|---|---|---|
| MOVE IN A STRAIGHT LINE? | X | | |
| STAND STILL AT ANYTIME? | X | | |
| SUDDENLY SPEED UP AND RUN AWAY? | | X | |
| BREAK UP IN PARTS AND EXPLODE? | | X | |
| CHANGE COLOR? | | X | |
| GIVE OFF SMOKE? | | X | |
| CHANGE BRIGHTNESS? | X | | |
| CHANGE SHAPE? | X | | |
| FLASH OR FLICKER? | | X | |
| DISAPPEAR AND REAPPEAR? | X | | |
| SPIN LIKE A TOP? | | X | |
| MAKE A NOISE? | | X | |
| FLUTTER OR WOBBLE? | | X | |

14. WHAT DREW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE PHENOMENON?

My WIFE HAD FIRST SIGHTED THE OBJECT BUT MUCH CLOSER AND HAD CONTACTED MY PARENTS WHICH ALSO SAW IT MUCH CLEARER THAN I. I WAS UPSTAIRS READING AND CAME DOWN TO FIND OUT WHAT HOT THE CONSERVATION WAS ABOUT. THEY EXPLAINED WHAT THEY HAD SEEN AND POINTED OUT THE LOCATION THAT IT WAS LAST SEEN. I STOOD AROUND LOOKING TOWARD THAT POSITION OF THE SKY AND IN A FEW MINUTES THE LIGHT STARTED TO APPEAR. MY WIFE RAN ALSO WITH ME.

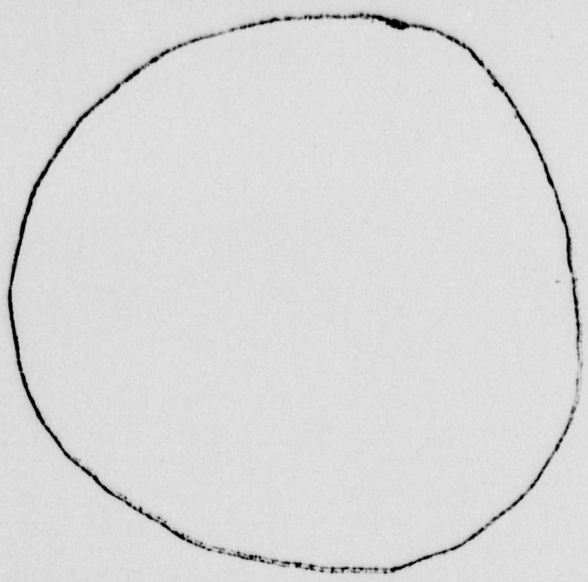
A. HOW DID IT FINALLY DISAPPEAR?

SLOWLY GREW FAINTER AND SMALLER.

B. DID THE PHENOMENON MOVE BEHIND OR IN FRONT OF SOMETHING, LIKE A CLOUD, TREE, OR BUILDING AT ANY TIME?
☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

15. DRAW A PICTURE THAT WILL SHOW THE SHAPE OF THE PHENOMENON. INCLUDE AND LABEL ANY DETAILS THAT MIGHT HAVE APPEARED AS WINGS OR PROTRUSIONS, AND INDICATE EXHAUST OR VAPOR TRAILS. INDICATE BY AN ARROW THE DIRECTION THE PHENOMENON WAS MOVING.

SHAPE WHEN APPEARING AND DISAPPEARING



SHAPE WHEN SEEN TO HOVER

16. WHAT WAS THE ANGULAR SIZE? HOLD A MATCH AT ARM'S LENGTH IN FRONT OF A KNOWN OBJECT, SUCH AS A STREET LAMP OR THE MOON. NOTE HOW MUCH OF THE OBJECT IS COVERED BY THE HEAD OF THE MATCH. NOW IF YOU HAD BEEN ABLE TO PERFORM THIS EXPERIMENT AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING, ESTIMATE WHAT FRACTION OF THE PHENOMENON WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED BY THE MATCH HEAD.

1/4 WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED BY THE MATCH WHEN AT MAXIMUM SIZE.

17. DID YOU OBSERVE THE PHENOMENON THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING? INCLUDE INFORMATION ON MODEL, TYPE, FILTER, LENS PRESCRIPTION OR OTHER APPLICABLE DATA.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NO | EYEGLASSES | NO | CAMERA VIEWER |
| NO | SUNGLASSES | NO | BINOCULARS |
| NO | WINDSHIELD | NO | TELESCOPE |
| NO | SIDE WINDOW OF VEHICLE | NO | THEODOLITE |
| NO | WINDOWPANE | | OTHER |

A. DO YOU ORDINARILY WEAR GLASSES? ☐ YES ☒ NO

B. DO YOU USE READING GLASSES? ☐ YES ☒ NO

18. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE SPEED OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF SPEED NOT APPLICABLE

19. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE DISTANCE OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF DISTANCE _____.

20. IN ORDER THAT WE MAY OBTAIN AS CLEAR A PICTURE AS POSSIBLE OF WHAT YOU SAW, DESCRIBE IN YOUR OWN WORDS A COMMON OBJECT OR OBJECTS WHICH, WHEN PLACED IN THE SKY, SIMILAR TO WHERE YOU NOTED THE PHENOMENON, WOULD BEAR SOME RESEMBLANCE TO WHAT YOU SAW. DESCRIBE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE COMMON OBJECT AND WHAT YOU SAW.

THE MOON ON A HAZEY NIGHT; ONLY THERE WAS NO MOON THAT NIGHT AND THE MOON DOES NO TRANSLATE ~~AS~~ FROM ONE POSITION TO ANOTHER, NOR DOES IT APPEAR AND DISAPPEAR BY ~~AN~~ CHANGE OF LIGHT INTENSITY.

21. DID YOU NOTICE ANY ODOR, NOISE, OR HEAT EMANATING FROM THE PHENOMENON OR ANY EFFECT ON YOURSELF, ANIMALS OR MACHINERY IN THE VICINITY? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

BUT I HAVE A SINUS CONDITION WHICH SOMETIMES MAKE ODOR ~~DECTION~~ DETECTION DIFFICULT. MY PARENTS AND WIFE NOTICED AN ODOR.

A. DID THE PHENOMENON DISTURB THE GROUND OR LEAVE ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

22. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THIS OR A SIMILAR PHENOMENON BEFORE? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," GIVE DATE AND LOCATION.

23. WAS ANYONE WITH YOU AT THE TIME YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? ☒ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," DID THEY SEE IT TOO? ☒ YES ☐ NO.

A. LIST THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Mr [redacted]
R [redacted]
Yellow Springs
Ohio 45387

Mrs [redacted]
Ohio 45387

Mrs [redacted]
Ohio 45387

24. GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME

[redacted]

ADDRESS (Street, City, State and Zip Code)

[redacted], Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

TELEPHONE (Include area code and number) [redacted]

| AGE | | MALE | | FEMALE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | X | | | |

INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION INCLUDING OCCUPATION AND ANY EXPERIENCE WHICH MAY BE PERTINENT.

Student at the University of Cincinnati studying Aerospace Engineering.
Work at Wright-Patterson A.F.B. /ASNFS-30 on a co-op job.

25. WHEN AND TO WHOM DID YOU REPORT THAT YOU HAD SIGHTED THIS PHENOMENON?
No one

NAME _____ DAY _____ MONTH _____ YEAR _____

26. DATE YOU COMPLETED THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

DAY 29 MONTH Aug. YEAR 68

27. INFORMATION WHICH YOU FEEL IS PERTINENT BUT WHICH IS NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, ALTERNATIVELY PROVIDE A NARRATIVE EXPLANATION OF THE SIGHTING.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433

REPLY TO ATTN OF: TDPT (UFO)

27 AUG 1968

SUBJECT: UFO Observation , 15 August 1968

TO: Mr [redacted]
[redacted]
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Your name has been given to the Aerial Phenomena Office (Project Blue Book) as being a witness to an unidentified flying object. If you were a witness to an UFO sighting on 15 August 1968 would you please complete the attached AF Form 117 and return it in the envelope provided. If you were not a witness to this sighting, would you please make a statement to this effect on the attached form. The information which you provide will be used in evaluating this observation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

1 Atch
AF Form 117 w/envelope

AFR 80-17(C1)

# SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENA QUESTIONNAIRE

BUDGET BUREAU APPROVAL NUMBER 21-R258

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HAS BEEN PREPARED SO THAT YOU CAN GIVE THE U.S. AIR FORCE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON THAT YOU HAVE OBSERVED. PLEASE TRY TO ANSWER ALL OF THE QUESTIONS. THE INFORMATION YOU GIVE WILL BE USED FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES. YOUR NAME WILL NOT BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OF YOUR STATEMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION. RETURN TO AIR FORCE BASE INVESTIGATOR FOR FORWARDING TO FTD (TDETR), WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO 45433, IAW AFR 80-17. *(IF ADDITIONAL SHEETS ARE NEEDED FOR NARRATIVE OR SKETCHES ATTACH SECURELY TO THIS FORM OR ANNOTATE WITH YOUR NAME FOR IDENTIFICATION.)*

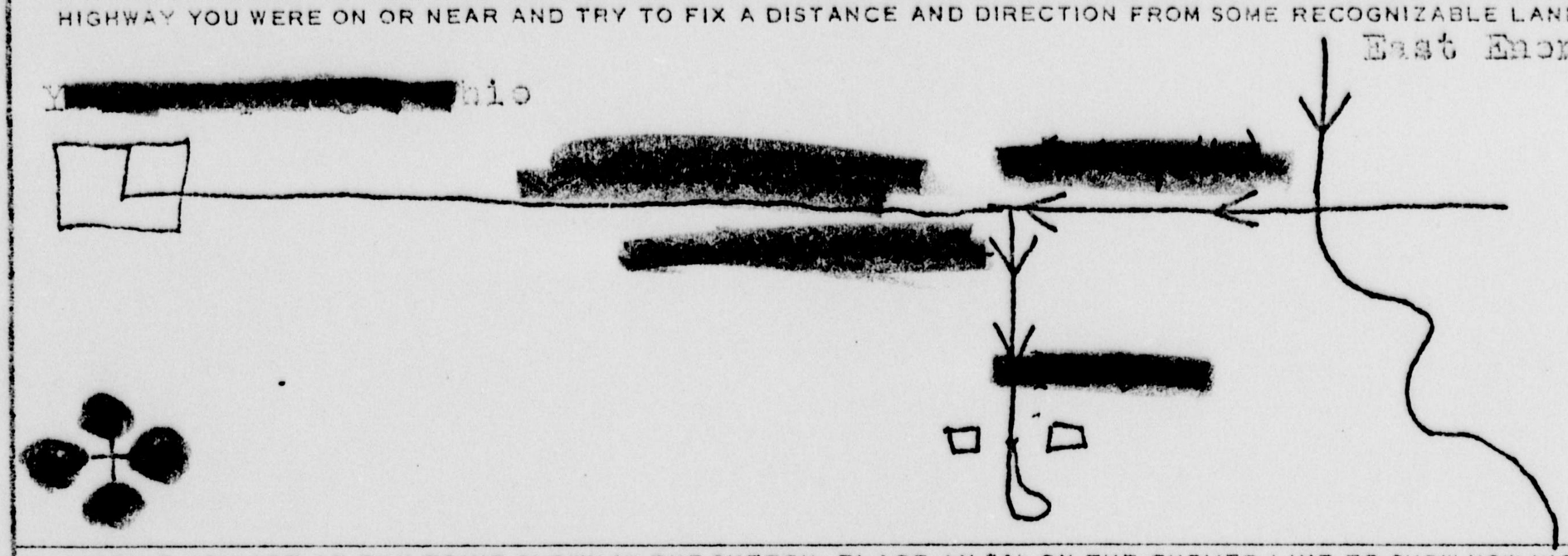
1. WHEN DID YOU SEE THE PHENOMENON?
DAY 14 MONTH [redacted] YEAR 1968

2. WHAT TIME DID YOU FIRST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?
HOUR 12 MINUTES 30 [X] A.M. [ ] P.M.

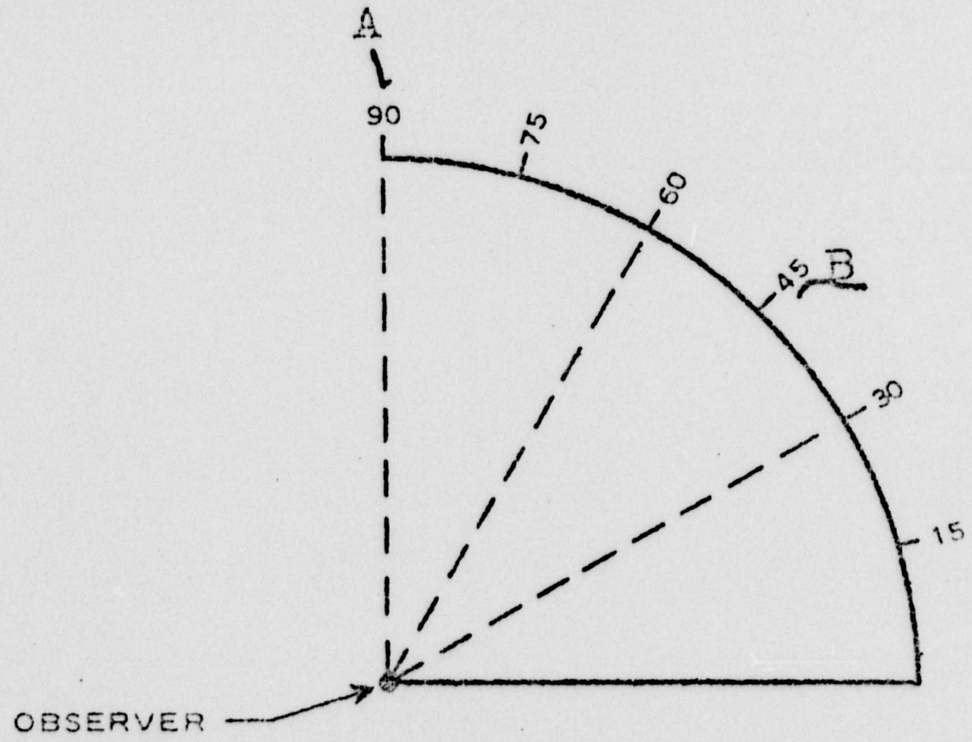
3. WHAT TIME DID YOU LAST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?
HOUR I MINUTES 00 [X] A.M. [ ] P.M.

4. TIME ZONE [X] DAYLIGHT SAVINGS [ ] STANDARD
[ ] EASTERN [ ] CENTRAL [ ] MOUNTAIN [ ] PACIFIC [ ] OTHER

5. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? IF IN CITY, GIVE THE NEAREST STREET ADDRESS AND INDICATE ON A HAND DRAWN MAP WHERE YOU WERE STANDING WITH REFERENCE TO THE ADDRESS. IF IN THE COUNTRY, IDENTIFY THE HIGHWAY YOU WERE ON OR NEAR AND TRY TO FIX A DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM SOME RECOGNIZABLE LANDMARK.

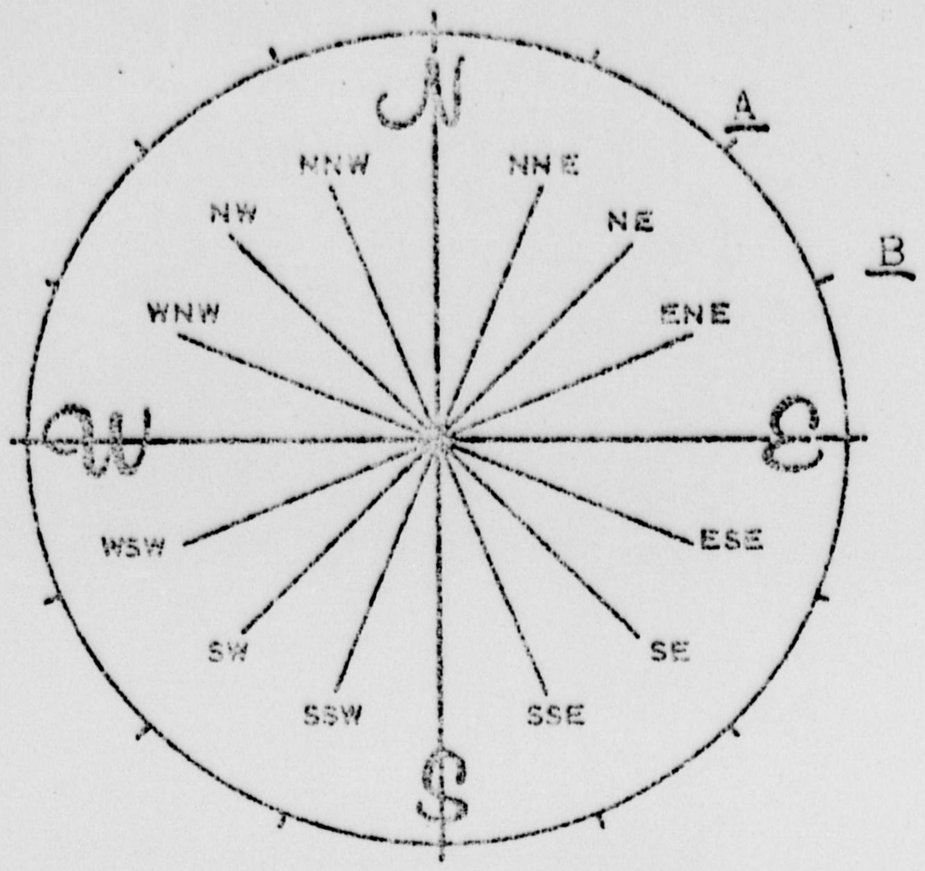



6. IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE POINT SHOWN IN THE SKETCH, PLACE AN "A" ON THE CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH THE PHENOMENON WAS ABOVE THE HORIZON, OR SKYLINE, WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE SAME CURVED LINE TO SHOW HOW HIGH ABOVE THE HORIZON THE PHENOMENON WAS WHEN LAST SEEN.

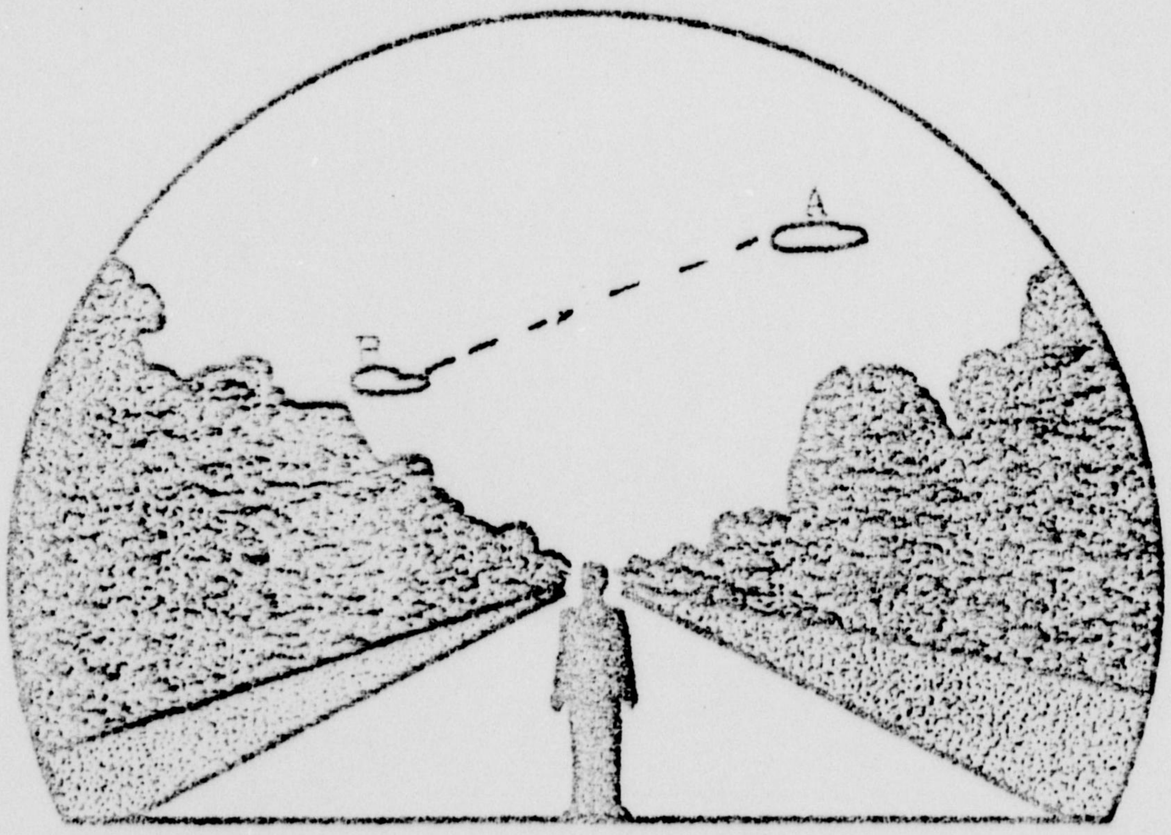


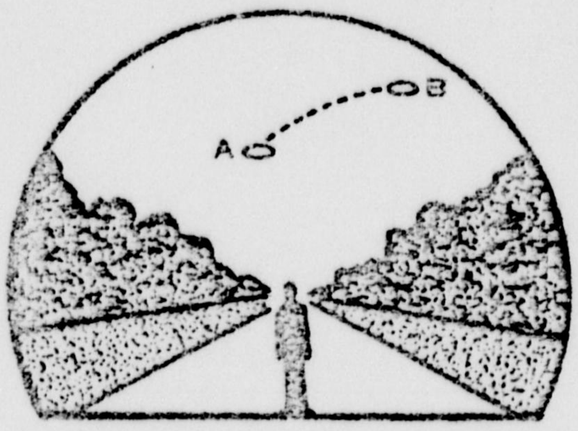

AF FORM AUG 67 117

8A. NOW IMAGINE YOU ARE AT THE CENTER OF THE COMPASS ROSE. PLACE AN "A" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN. PLACE A "B" ON THE COMPASS TO INDICATE THE DIRECTION TO THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN.




7. IN THE SKETCH BELOW, PLACE AN "A" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN FIRST SEEN, AND A "B" AT THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON WHEN LAST SEEN. CONNECT THE "A" AND "B" WITH A LINE TO APPROXIMATE THE MOVEMENT OF THE PHENOMENON BETWEEN "A" AND "B". THAT IS, SCHEMATICALLY SHOW WHETHER THE MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE STRAIGHT, CURVED OR ZIG-ZAG. REFER TO SMALLER SKETCH AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMPLETE THE LARGER SKETCH.



8. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | OUTDOORS | | IN BUSINESS SECTION OF CITY |
| | IN BUILDING | | IN RESIDENTIAL SECTION OF CITY |
| X | IN CAR XX AS DRIVER ☐ AS PASSENGER | X | IN OPEN COUNTRYSIDE |
| | IN BOAT | | NEAR AIRFIELD |
| | IN AIRPLANE ☐ AS PILOT ☐ AS PASSENGER | | FLYING OVER CITY |
| | OTHER | X | FLYING OVER OPEN COUNTRY |
| | | | OTHER |

A. IF YOU WERE IN A VEHICLE, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

WHAT DIRECTION WERE YOU MOVING?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | NORTH | | EAST |
| | SOUTH | | WEST |
| | NORTHEAST | | SOUTHEAST |
| | NORTHWEST | | SOUTHWEST |

HOW FAST WERE YOU MOVING?
40 MPH

DID YOU STOP ANYTIME WHILE OBSERVING THE PHENOMENON?
☒ YES ☐ NO

EXPLAIN WHETHER SUCH MOVEMENT AFFECTS YOUR SKETCHES IN ITEMS 5 AND 6.
Yes. It seemed to shake before it moved upward.

DESCRIBE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU WERE IN AND TYPE OF ROAD, TERRAIN OR BODY OF WATER YOU TRAVERSED DURING THE SIGHTING. STATE WHETHER WINDOWS OR CONVERTIBLE TOP WERE UP OR DOWN.
Smal sports car - Top down
Asphalt

HOW MUCH OTHER TRAFFIC WAS THERE?
None

DID YOU NOTICE ANY AIRPLANES? ☒ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE WHEN THEY WERE IN SIGHT RELATIVE TO THE TIME OF SIGHTING THE PHENOMENON AND WHERE THEY WERE IN THE SKY RELATIVE TO THE POSITION OF THE PHENOMENON.
Sometime after the showing there was a large transport.

9. HOW LONG WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT?

LENGTH OF TIME
half an hour

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | CERTAIN OF TIME | | NOT VERY SURE |
| | FAIRLY CERTAIN | | JUST A GUESS |

HOW WAS TIME DETERMINED?
By two clocks and three watches

WAS THE PHENOMENON IN SIGHT CONTINUOUSLY? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "NO," INDICATE WHETHER THIS IS DUE TO YOUR MOVEMENT OR THE BEHAVIOR OF THE PHENOMENON, AND DESCRIBE SUCH MOVEMENT OR BEHAVIOR. INDICATE DISAPPEARANCES ON PREVIOUS SKETCHES.
All but five minutes. It was in complete vision.



25

10. IF THERE WERE MORE THAN ONE PHENOMENON, HOW MANY WERE THERE? DRAW A PICTURE TO SHOW HOW THEY WERE ARRANGED. DID THIS ARRANGEMENT CHANGE DURING THE SIGHTING?

Just one.

11. CONDITIONS *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

A. SKY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | DAY | |
| | TWILIGHT | |
| X | NIGHT | |
| | CLEAR | |
| X | PARTLY CLOUDY | |
| | COMPLETELY OVERCAST | |
| | | |

B. WEATHER

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | CUMULUS CLOUDS *(Low fluffy)* | | FOG OR MIST |
| | CIRRUS CLOUDS *(High fleecy or Herring-bone)* | | HEAVY RAIN |
| | | | LIGHT RAIN OR DRIZZLE |
| | NIMBUS CLOUDS *(Rain)* | | HAIL |
| | CUMULONIMBUS CLOUDS *(Thunderstorms)* | | SNOW OR SLEET |
| | | X | UNKNOWN |
| | HAZE OR SMOG | | NONE OF THE ABOVE |

C. IF THE SIGHTING WAS AT TWILIGHT OR NIGHT, WHAT DID YOU NOTICE ABOUT THE STARS AND MOON?

(1) STARS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | NONE | |
| X | A FEW | |
| | MANY | |
| | UNKNOWN | |

(2) MOON

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | BRIGHT MOONLIGHT | X | NO MOONLIGHT |
| | MOON WITH HALO | | UNKNOWN |
| | MOON HIDDEN BY CLOUDS | | |
| | PARTIAL *(New or quarter)* | | |

D. IF SIGHTING WAS IN DAYLIGHT, WAS THE SUN VISIBLE? ☐ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," WHERE WAS THE SUN AS YOU FACED THE PHENOMENON?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | IN FRONT OF YOU | | TO YOUR RIGHT | | OVERHEAD *(Near noon)* |
| | IN BACK OF YOU | | TO YOUR LEFT | | UNKNOWN |

E. SPECIFY THE MAJOR SOURCE OF ILLUMINATION PRESENT DURING THE SIGHTING, SUCH AS THE SUN, HEADLIGHTS OR STREET LAMP, ETC. FOR TERRESTRIAL ILLUMINATION, SPECIFY DISTANCE TO LIGHT SOURCE.

Headlights

12. GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHENOMENON, INDICATING WHETHER IT APPEARED DARK OR LIGHT, WHETHER IT REFLECTED LIGHT OR WAS SELF-LUMINOUS AND WHAT COLORS YOU NOTICED. DESCRIBE YOUR IMPRESSION OF WHETHER IT WAS SOLID OR TRANSPARENT, WHETHER EDGES WERE SHARP OR FUZZY. DESCRIBE THE SHAPE OR INDICATE IF IT APPEARED AS A POINT OF LIGHT. INDICATE COMPARISONS WITH OTHER OBSERVED OBJECTS, LIKE STARS, A LIGHT OR OTHER OBJECT IN YOUR FIELD OF VIEW.

It appeared light. Aluminbua. Yellow, gold and white in color. I believe it was solid edges being sharp. Comparison maybe to a large moon.(at one time)

| 13. DID THE PHENOMENON | YES | NO | UNKNOWN |
|---|---|---|---|
| MOVE IN A STRAIGHT LINE? | X | | |
| STAND STILL AT ANYTIME? | X | | |
| SUDDENLY SPEED UP AND RUN AWAY? | X | | |
| BREAK UP IN PARTS AND EXPLODE? | | X | |
| CHANGE COLOR? | X | | |
| GIVE OFF SMOKE? | | X | |
| CHANGE BRIGHTNESS? | X | | |
| CHANGE SHAPE? | X | | |
| FLASH OR FLICKER? | | X | |
| DISAPPEAR AND REAPPEAR? | X | | |
| SPIN LIKE A TOP? | X | | |
| MAKE A NOISE? | X | | |
| FLUTTER OR WOBBLE? | X | | |

14. WHAT DREW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE PHENOMENON?

The moving light in the darkness.

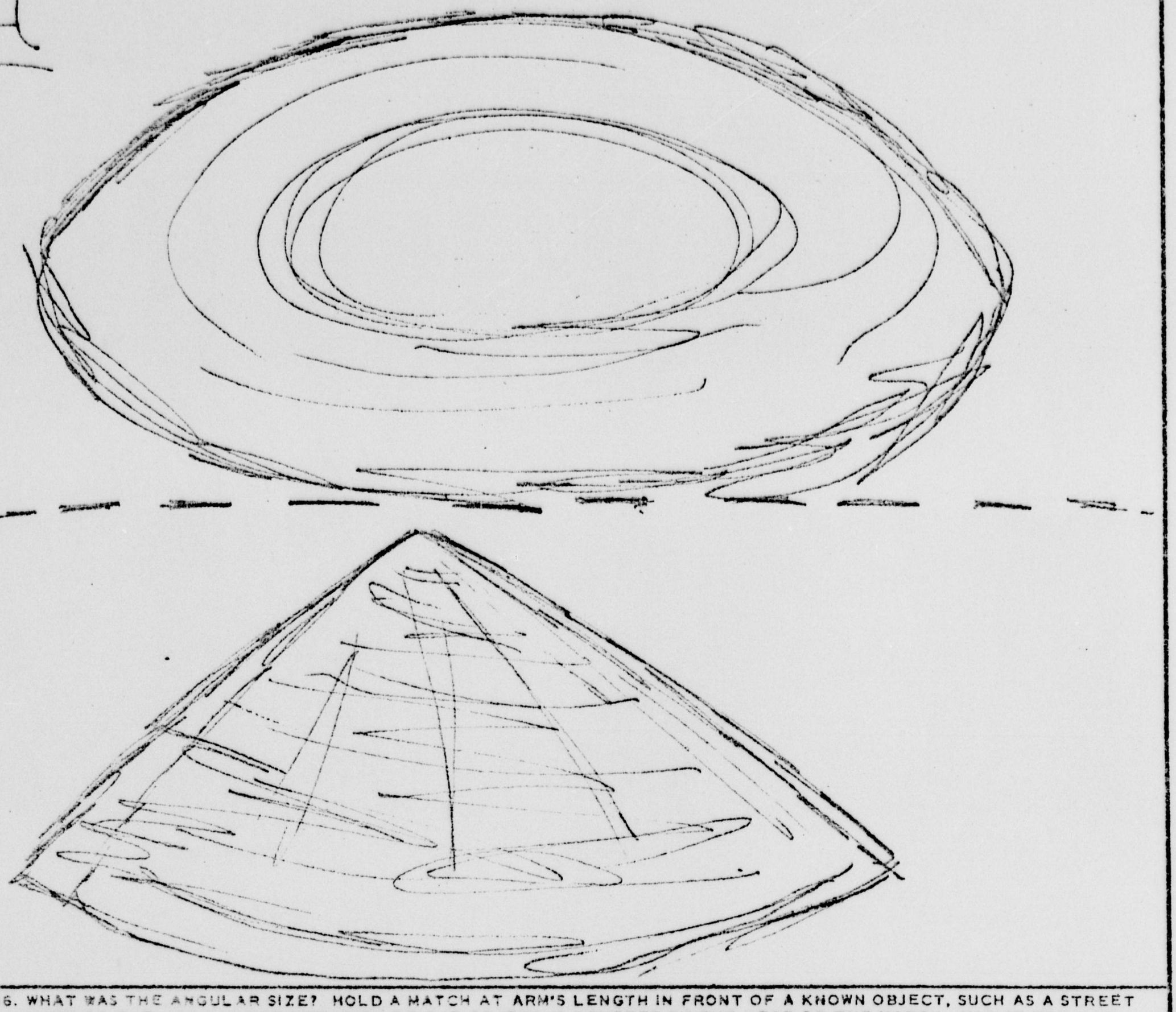
A. HOW DID IT FINALLY DISAPPEAR?

Seemed to get smaller.

B. DID THE PHENOMENON MOVE BEHIND OR IN FRONT OF SOMETHING, LIKE A CLOUD, TREE, OR BUILDING AT ANY TIME?
☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

15. DRAW A PICTURE THAT WILL SHOW THE SHAPE OF THE PHENOMENON. INCLUDE AND LABEL ANY DETAILS THAT MIGHT HAVE APPEARED AS WINGS OR PROTRUSIONS, AND INDICATE EXHAUST OR VAPOR TRAILS. INDICATE BY AN ARROW THE DIRECTION THE PHENOMENON WAS MOVING.

A



16. WHAT WAS THE ANGULAR SIZE? HOLD A MATCH AT ARM'S LENGTH IN FRONT OF A KNOWN OBJECT, SUCH AS A STREET LAMP OR THE MOON. NOTE HOW MUCH OF THE OBJECT IS COVERED BY THE HEAD OF THE MATCH. NOW IF YOU HAD BEEN ABLE TO PERFORM THIS EXPERIMENT AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING, ESTIMATE WHAT FRACTION OF THE PHENOMENON WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED BY THE MATCH HEAD.

About ¼

17. DID YOU OBSERVE THE PHENOMENON THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING? INCLUDE INFORMATION ON MODEL, TYPE, FILTER, LENS PRESCRIPTION OR OTHER APPLICABLE DATA.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | EYEGLASSES | | CAMERA VIEWER |
| | SUNGLASSES | | BINOCULARS |
| X | WINDSHIELD | | TELESCOPE |
| | SIDE WINDOW OF VEHICLE | | THEODOLITE |
| | WINDOWPANE | X | OTHER CONTACTS |

A. DO YOU ORDINARILY WEAR GLASSES? [X] YES [ ] NO (CONTACTS)

B. DO YOU USE READING GLASSES? [ ] YES [X] NO

18. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE SPEED OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF SPEED SLOW

19. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE DISTANCE OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF DISTANCE CLOSE

20. IN ORDER THAT WE MAY OBTAIN AS CLEAR A PICTURE AS POSSIBLE OF WHAT YOU SAW, DESCRIBE IN YOUR OWN WORDS A COMMON OBJECT OR OBJECTS WHICH, WHEN PLACED IN THE SKY, SIMILAR TO WHERE YOU NOTED THE PHENOMENON, WOULD BEAR SOME RESEMBLANCE TO WHAT YOU SAW. DESCRIBE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE COMMON OBJECT AND WHAT YOU SAW.

SOMEWHAT LIKE THE MOON, THEN SOMEWHAT LIKE A ⅛ OF A PIE.

21. DID YOU NOTICE ANY ODOR, NOISE, OR HEAT EMANATING FROM THE PHENOMENON OR ANY EFFECT ON YOURSELF, ANIMALS OR MACHINERY IN THE VICINITY? [X] YES [ ] NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

The oder was, according to [redacted] worked at W.P.A.F.B. during W.W. II in testing plane engines, quite noticeable. Like German planes fuel after being burned.

Noise was of a groaning nature.

A. DID THE PHENOMENON DISTURB THE GROUND OR LEAVE ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. [ ] YES [X] NO. IF "YES," DESCRIBE.

*******

22. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THIS OR A SIMILAR PHENOMENON BEFORE? ☐ YES ☒ NO. IF "YES," GIVE DATE AND LOCATION.

* * * * *

23. WAS ANYONE WITH YOU AT THE TIME YOU SAW THE PHENOMENON? ☐ YES ☐ NO. IF "YES," DID THEY SEE IT TOO? ☒ YES ☐ NO.

A. LIST THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES

[redacted]

[redacted] FAIRFIELD PK.

YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

24. GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS (Street, City, State and Zip Code) BOX 437 YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO FAIRFIELD PK.

| TELEPHONE [redacted] | AGE 21 | | MALE | X | FEMALE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

INDICATE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION INCLUDING OCCUPATION AND ANY EXPERIENCE WHICH MAY BE PERTINENT.

PHOTO AND X-RAY TECHNRCIAN

(MYSELF)

LAW STUDENT

AEROSPACE ENGINEER AT W.P.A.F.B. (HAROLD FOGG)

25. WHEN AND TO WHOM DID YOU REPORT THAT YOU HAD SIGHTED THIS PHENOMENON?

NAME [redacted] DAY 15 MONTH [redacted] YEAR 1968

26. DATE YOU COMPLETED THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

DAY 20 MONTH AUGUST YEAR 1968

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27. INFORMATION WHICH YOU FEEL IS PERTINENT BUT WHICH IS NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, ALTERNATIVELY PROVIDE A NARRATIVE EXPLANATION OF THE SIGHTING.

Only that the object moved and moved quickly when it moved. Made a diffinate sound, and odor.

[redacted]

Yellow Springs, Ohio

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TDPT (UFO) vmm

UFO Observation, 15 August 1968

15 AUG 1968

Mrs [redacted]
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Reference your telephone conversation with 2d Lt Marano on 15 August 1968 regarding your unidentified flying object (UFO) observation. We would appreciate it if you and your husband would complete the inclosed AF Forms 117 and return them in the envelope provided. Thank you for reporting your observation to the Air Force.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

1 Atch
AF Form 117 w/envelope

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**MEMO ROUTING SLIP**

*NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS*

1 TO: TDPTR / UFO

2

3

4 WEATHER DATA FOR WPAFB - 0030L, 15AUG68

| | INITIALS | ACTION |
|---|---|---|
| | DATE | CIRCULATE |
| | | COORDINATION |
| | | FILE |
| | | INFORMATION |
| | | NOTE AND RETURN |
| | | PER CONVERSATION |
| | | SEE ME |
| | | SIGNATURE |

REMARKS

0058L 8 CLEAR 7 67/64/0000

RMK58 SC E.

Upper air data not available; however, radiosonde indicates strong inversion at 2,000'.

Data obtained from records at Base Weather Station

FROM: TSgt Kist

DATE: 19 Aug 68

PHONE: 70069

DD FORM 1 OCT 50 95 Replaces DD Form 94, 1 Feb 50 and DD Form 95, 1 Feb 50 which will be used until exhausted.

AFSC - AAFB - WASH., D.C. 1967

MEMO FOR THE RECORD 23 SEPTEMBER 1968

Subj: UFO Observation, 15 August 1968

Information supplied in AF Form 117 by Mrs. [redacted] doesn't disagree with her initial report which Ardene made to Lt Marano in her telephone conversation of 15 Aug 68. The sighting occurred on 15 August 1968 at 0030 hours, EDT.



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MEMO FOR THE RECORD Typed 23 SEPTEMBER 1968

UFO sighting of 15 August 1968, 0030 hrs, 866-2427

Called ~~Dale Barns~~ (Aerial Advertizer). Mr. Barns said that his plane was in Cincinnati, Ohio last night.

15 Aug Yellow Springs Police Department, 767-7206, Geraldine Swisshelm

No complaints.

UFO sighting 15 August 1968, 0030 hrs

15 Aug Green Co Sheriffs Office, 372-4101

Mr. McKee, Nothing in log.

attach to 15 Aug 68. Yellow Springs, Ohio

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY
60 GARDEN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

CABLE ADDRESS "OBSERVATORY" AREA CODE 617 868-7600

December 4, 1968

Lt. Colonel, Hector Quintanilla USAF
Chief Aerial Phenomena Branch
Department of the Air Force
Headquarters Foreign Technology Division (AFSC)
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio 45433

Dear Hector:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 29. I am indeed glad that you agree with my evaluation of [redacted] case. I simply cannot see how in the world Hynek could have concluded otherwise.

I would completely agree further with your statement that there is no such thing as a reliable human observer. Not even myself! I consider it something of an honor to have my name turned into an adjective. And I am pleased that you recognize the validity of the Menzelian approach. There are a few items of my philosophy which you have probably absorbed from our correspondence, but which I do not think that I have previously stated clearly.

First of all, I feel that each case has to be treated completely separately. Even in the event of half a dozen sightings from the same night from the same area, the chances are quite high that each observer will have seen something entirely different. And, to try to relate them and put them into a single pattern renders analysis hopeless. This is why I do not go for the concept of "pattern approach."

In the early days--and even now--far too many of the Air Force sightings are listed as "unknowns." First of all, there should have been a special category implying "incomplete or faulty data." For most of the true unknowns cannot be solved because of that defect. And I still think that the Air Force questionnaire, though improved by the suggestions of mine that they did not accept, is still

very faulty. Frankly, if this office is to be continued in the Air Force, I think they should re-examine my recommendations, which were not made lightly, and completely revise again the questionnaire. And I would be glad to work along with you, sharpening up some of my questions, and answering objections that may very well be legitimate to my earlier suggestions. And it wouldn't cost the Air Force a cent. Sometime, perhaps in February, I would like to pay another visit to Wright Field and spend a couple of days working with you and talking about the problems. Perhaps the Air Force has a direct flight from Hanscom Field that I could use.

One other thing concerning my philosophy. I think the Air Force has been much too conservative in their evaluations of reports. They keep one on the list of unknowns until it is solved beyond all shadow of doubt. The well-know[redacted] case is an excellent example. Here again, I find that Hynek, with his combined conservatism and lack of imagination, refuses to accept the explanation I advanced in "The World of Flying Saucers." I think there is absolutely no question of this particular case. And I feel frustrated in that the Air Force still apparently lists it either as "probable balloon" or "unknown." By the way, what is the exact status? I think that the balloon was perhaps an initial stimulus, but the planet Jupiter was undoubtedly the force of the "dog fight."

I feel that, just as soon as one can suggest a reasonable natural solution, all be it a Menzelian one, within the data given, it should be so classified and taken off the books. Otherwise, the cranks and the believers will still keep it on as a probable UFO from outer space. Moreover they will say that the Air Force believes that these unknowns are from outer space.

Yes, I noted with some satisfaction the defeat of Congressman Roush for re-election.

I don't know that you have seen my Martians, clearly inhabitants of the UFOs. I am sending a few of them to you. I hope you and your wife enjoy them. With the Seasons Greetings, I am

Cordially yours,

Donald.

DHM:md
Enclosure

Donald H. Menzel