PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 20 or 21 Oct 68 1830Z 2330Z	2. LOCATION Decatur, Illinois
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Other (CONFLICTING DATA)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 95 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS The observer sighted a white light that was similar to a star, however after looking at it through a telescope, he desided that it wasn't.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE SSW to WSW	COMMENTS: In observers original letter, he gave the date of the sighting as 20 Oct 68. In his completed 117 he gave the date as 21 Oct 68. At 6:30PM local Arcturus was at about 23 deg elevation in the west and at 8:05PM local, Arcturus was on the horizon at 302 deg azimuth. It seems quite likely that the observer was looking at Arcturus, however because of the conflict in dates the sighting is being carried as Conflicting Data.
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes XX No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes XX No	[redacted]

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

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.)*

[redacted]

1. WHEN DID YOU SEE THE PHENOMENON?
DAY Monday 21st MONTH Oct. YEAR 1968

2. WHAT TIME DID YOU FIRST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?
HOUR 6:00 MINUTES :30 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

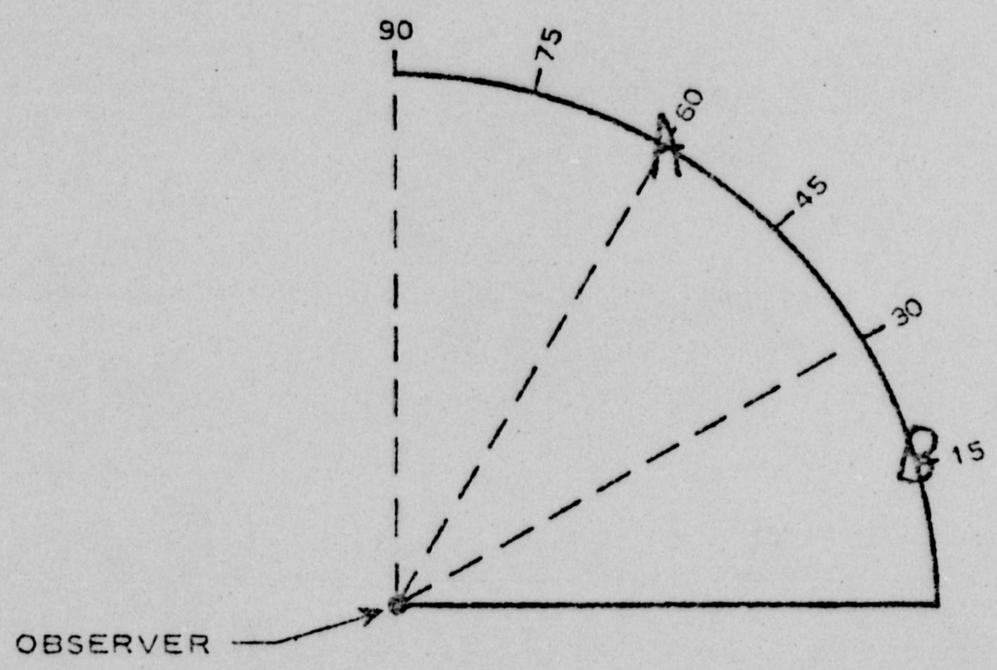
3. WHAT TIME DID YOU LAST SIGHT THE PHENOMENON?
HOUR 8:00 MINUTES :05 ☐ A.M. ☒ P.M.

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.

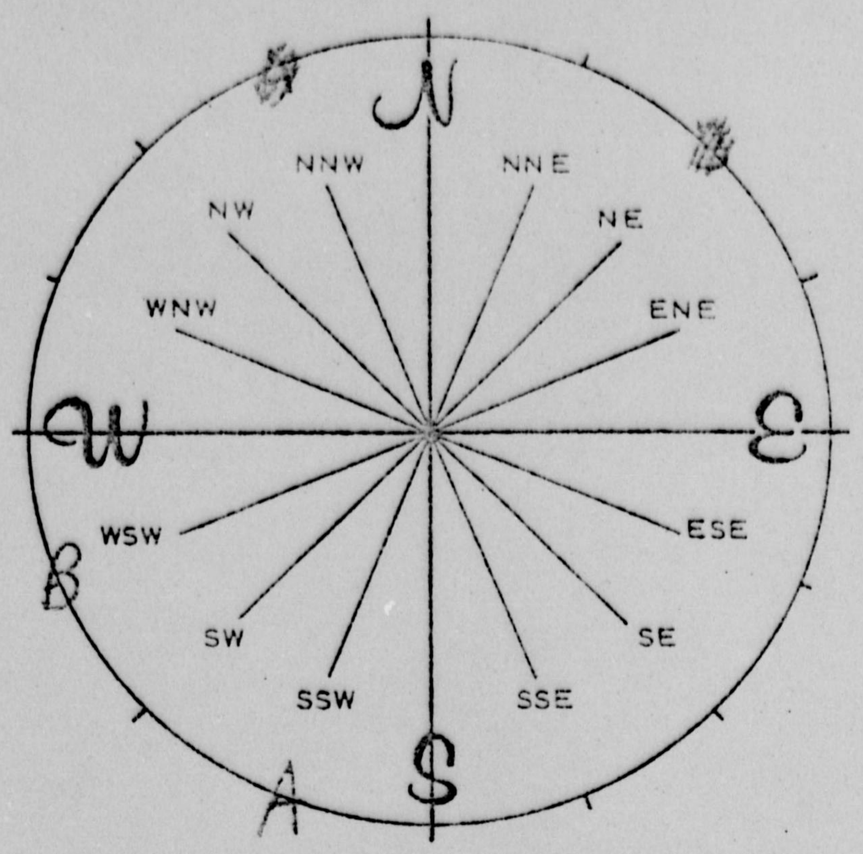
I was at [redacted], DECATUR, ILLINOIS. THE Road ~~INSIDE~~ IN FRONT of our house IS CALLED "South ~~Talor~~ Talor Road". I was about 200 to 250 feet away from this road IN OUR backyard. THEN I MOVED INSIDE AFTER WATCHING The object for 5 MIN. AND watched it through my SISTERS room WINDOW. AT FIRST WHEN I WENT IN, I didn't mind ~~it~~ anything about it till I VIEWED IT AGAIN 30 MINUTES LATTER through my SISTERS WINDOW. then I watched it.

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.

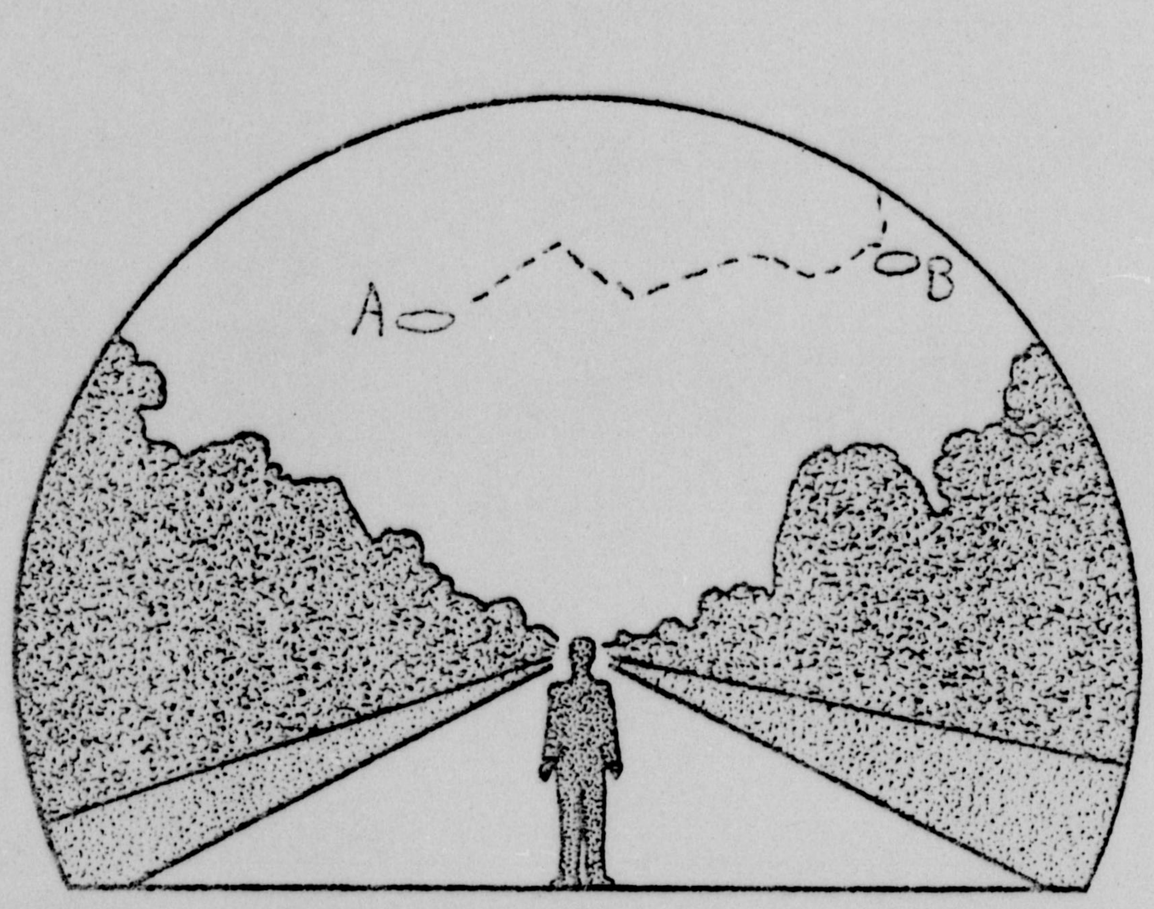


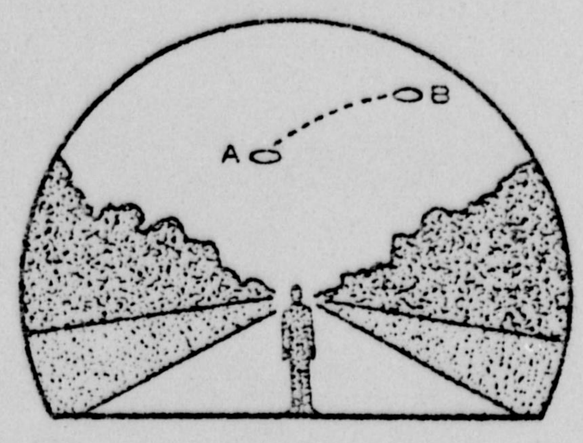
AF FORM AUG 67 117

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
X	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				
1 hour, 35 min.	X	CERTAIN OF TIME		NOT VERY SURE
		FAIRLY CERTAIN		JUST A GUESS

HOW WAS TIME DETERMINED?

By CLOCK IN HOUSE-AND WATCH

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.

I can't say, because For thirty minutes I did not wacth it. But when I was WATCHING IT IT DID NOT ~~Dis~~ DISAPEAR AT Anytime.

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?

THERE WAS ONLY ONE.

11. CONDITIONS *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

A. SKY		B. WEATHER			
	DAY	FEW	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	X	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		NO MOONLIGHT
X	A FEW		MOON WITH HALO		UNKNOWN
	MANY	X	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.

The Moon (new moon)

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 very light and I think it was self-luminous. It was completly white and solid. The edges were sharp at first then turned fuzzy. It appeared as if ~~there~~ there were a hole in the sky. A very solid hole. But I'm sure it ~~was~~ wasn't the clouds parting. It changed shape from small to large and then back to small. It looked like a huge light like the one in our backyard.

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?

I'm always looking around in the sky and it just caught my eyes. It startled me.

A. HOW DID IT FINALLY DISAPPEAR?

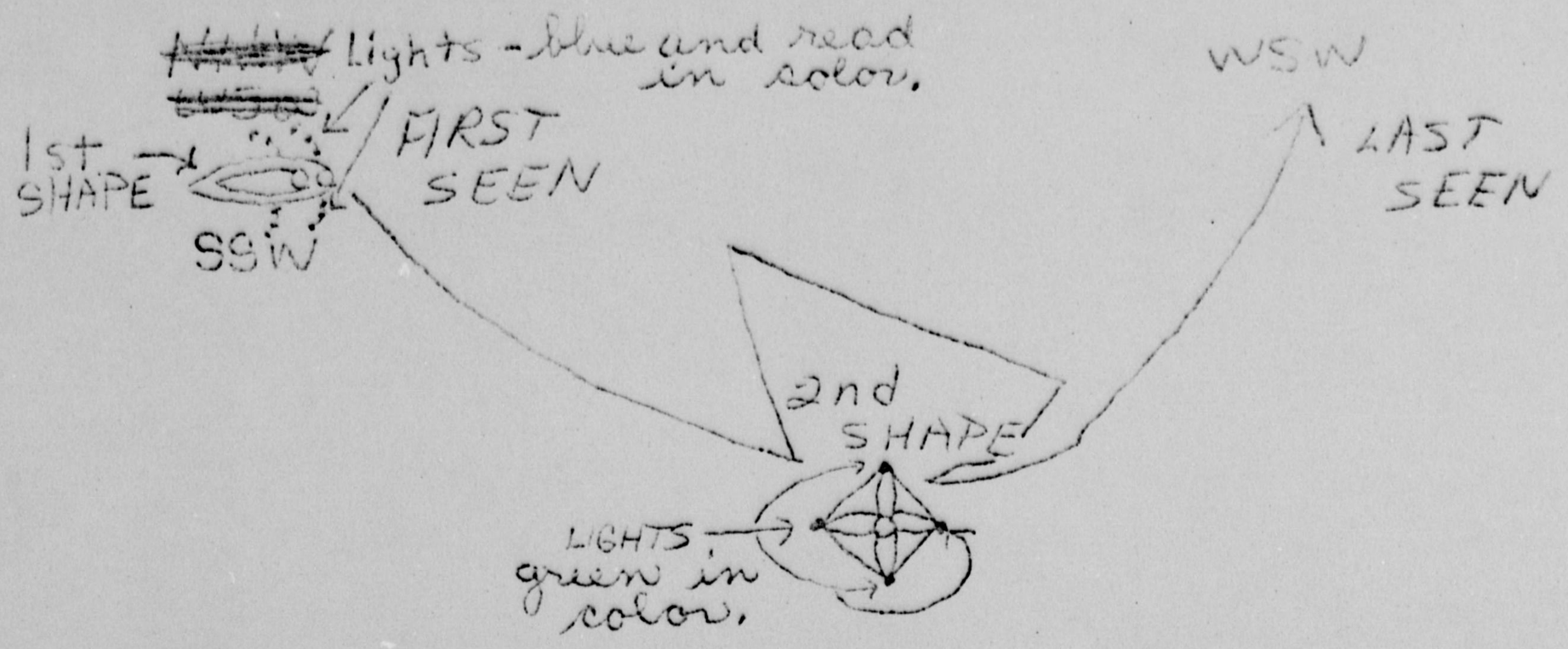
It finally disappeared by flying off and disappearing in the NE.

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.

Once behind a tree but just for about 35 seconds.

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.

It changed shape from this to this



These shapes of the object is drawn as they looked through the telescope I was using. The lightning which came out of the object, came from the center.

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 1/4 of the object would be 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	X	TELESCOPE
	SIDE WINDOW OF VEHICLE		THEODOLITE
X	WINDOWPANE		OTHER

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

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

18. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE SPEED OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF SPEED 10 MPH

19. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE DISTANCE OF THE PHENOMENON? GIVE ESTIMATE OF DISTANCE 1/2 MILE.

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.

Well, I would say that the object was mostly similar to a street light. The object had a glow all to itself like a street light, but a street light glows real fuzzy around the edges, but this object changed from real shiny (glow) like the moon to a real fuzzy (glow) like the street light. It did not change this glowing action real fast like a star ~~twinkle~~ twinkeling but real slowly; about 50 seconds

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.

No odor, noise, or heat, but ~~in~~ in the last few minutes it was in sight it shot out lightning like light which made me feal real cold and clamy. But it was not lightning because it was real ~~quite~~ quiet outside.

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

It was my sister, Gail, but she only observed it for a few minutes.

24. GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME

[redacted]

ADDRESS (Street, City, State and Zip Code)

[redacted] Decatur, Illinois. 62521

TELEPHONE (Area code and number)	AGE		MALE		FEMALE
[redacted]	13	X			

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

Well, I don't have an occupation, but I hope to someday form my own UFO research organization. I am very interested in flying saucers. I have all kinds of information on UFO's (flying saucers), And I know I've never seen anything like this before. I'm also interested in astronomy, which is one of my favorite fields of science, and in chemistry.

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

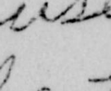
NAME Project Blue Book DAY 21 MONTH Oct. YEAR 1968

26. DATE YOU COMPLETED THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

DAY 24 MONTH Oct. YEAR 1968

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

I would like to give the sighting just as it happened - all together!

I first spotted it when I was outside around 6:30 P.M. The object first caught my eye when I looked up and seen the moon; then I looked over and seen the object. It looked as if there was a hole in the sky! Well, I didn't pay much attention to the object and went inside. After being inside about 30 minutes I walked upstairs to my room; but as I went around the stair case which is in my sisters room, my sister said, "Terry, look out here in the sky!" When I did I seen the object and my mind flashed back to when I seen that hole in the sky at 6:30 P.M. This was around 7:05 P.M. I went and grabbed my telescope which I looked through and focused the object in the viewer. It looked like this -  The trails of light which blinked off and on very slowly had red and blue lights on them. Then I took the telescope away from the window and checked for smuges on the window or the telescope lenses which might show up in the viewer, there were none. The moon

very few clouds). Then I looked through the telescope again and the object was shaped differently. Like this - (in the shape of a diamond) to the object - (in the shape of a diamond) there glowing a dark greenish color. Not constantly glowing, but not flickering either. The lights would dim, (but not completly out) and then glow real bright. This process altogether took about 25 seconds each time. It was now about 7:40 P.M. My mother hollered for me to get my bath. I dashed down and took my bath as quickly as possible I returned up-stairs and the object had moved down about 20 degrees in the sky. Suddenly the object shot lightning like bolts out of the center which was glowing intensly. The object was still shaped like this . As it shoot out these bolts of light I felt a coldness all through me, like there was something or someone telling me go away, go away. The object then slowly disappeared in the NSW.

SAF-OICC/Miss Turnure/76526/October 23, 1968

Oct. 23. 1968

Dear [redacted]

This replies to your letter of October 20, 1968, in which you described your sighting of an unidentified aerial object.

Had you reported your sighting to Chanute Air Force Base that evening or the next morning, the local UFO investigator would probably have been able to make an accurate evaluation of what you saw. Without additional information, we cannot offer an explanation. However, if you will complete the inclosed questionnaire and mail it in the attached envelope, our technical people at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will be able to investigate further and make an evaluation.

We are sending you some newer material on UFO's that may help you to identify the object you saw. In addition, you might be interested in a pamphlet, Aids to Identification of Flying Objects, for sale at 20¢ each by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

Sincerely,

JAMES H. AIKMAN
Major, USAF
Chief, Civil Branch
Community Relations Division
Office of Information

Attachments

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Decatur, Illinois 62521

WPAFB

SAF-OICC

Coord Cy - SAF-OICC
Cmbk Cy - SAF-OIC
Activity Cy - SAF-OIC
Reader Cy - SAF-OI
Stayback

Decatur, Illinois 62521

[redacted]
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Chief, Civil Branch
Community Relations Division

Oct. 20, 1967

Dear [redacted]

My name is [redacted]
and I live at R.R. [redacted], Decatur, Ill.
I have written to you twice before and now I have some information that may startle you. Tonight (the date is above) around 7:15 P.M., me and my sister [redacted] walked by here & room window and seen the brightest object I've ever seen. At first I thought it was a star, but just to be curious I ran and grabbed my telescope. I stuck

the telescope up to the
window and peered through.
After spying the object I
focused the lense and
saw what seemed to be
two comets. (Picture below)

Then I took away the
telescope and looked at
it with my eyes. It still
looked like a star. But
But when I looked through
the telescope again it looked
somewhat like this.

All this time it was
glowing brilliantly. Not
bright like a ~~flash~~ strobe
light or a street light
but like there was a
hole punched in the
sky. Kind of weird. It
was flickering but not
moving at all. My
mom yelled at me to
come and take my bath
so I hurried down and
took it. It took me
no longer than 20 minutes.
I dashed back in my
room and grabbed my
telescope. But when I
got to the window it

(the object) was nearly as
sight giving off bolts of
light like lighting would.
~~It~~ But it was lightning be-
cause I heard no ~~thun~~
thunder and it was very
quite outside. Finally the
object disapeared in the
southwest. I've never
seen anything like it before
and when it gave off ~~the~~ its
bolts of light it give me
a kind of tingle through
my body. I would have
reported it to Chanute
Air Force Base but it
was now 8:05 P.M. and
my mom would have

never let me. Well
I don't know what else
to say because right now
my mind is wondering.

Please Answer I
would like to be know.

Your Friend,
Sincerely,

[redacted]