

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

DATE 08/20/52	2. LOCATION Downey, California	11. CONCLUSIONS Not Ballon Possibly Balloon Possibly Balloon
3. OBSERVER [Handwritten Name]	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION X Visual      1. Ground-based 2. Air View      3. Aerial Intercept Radar	12. COMMENTS Not Aircraft Possibly Aircraft Possibly Aircraft
5. NOTES Yes XN	6. SOURCE Civilian man	13. EVALUATION Not Astronomical Possibly Astronomical Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS      9. DURATION 2                                  360°	14. SUFFICIENT DATA FOR EVALUATION Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Small object, very high was seen through binoculars by an ex-pilot living in Downey. Object left a thin trail, separated into two distinct objects which flew separate courses.	11. COMMENTS	



30. Please add here any further comments which you believe are important. Use additional sheets of the same size paper, if necessary.

So that this can be properly considered, I held a Commercial Pilot's license number [REDACTED] during the second World War, and have held, up to 5 years ago (since 1932) a pilot's license. This is my first sighting and is a subject I am deeply interested in. I will not attempt to judge the altitude, except to say it was extremely high. The sighting took place at an hour of that day in which the sun had dipped below the horizon, and only the extreme height of the object allowed it to be seen as it was high enough to still be in the light of the sun. I lost sight of the object as it came directly overhead. I lost it in the glasses, but I think, to its being farther west and I could no longer observe the reflection of the sun. As my letter stated, another object appeared to leave it, at a 90 degree angle, leaving a faint smoke and gaining speed very slowly. The original object left no trace of exhaust at any time. The fact that, even with the aid of binoculars, the size of the object wasn't appreciably larger, leads me to believe it was extremely high. However, the binoculars used were not a too powerful set.

The second sighting of this object was practically identical with the first, and the course practically the same. However, no binoculars were used and no object was seen to leave it. This second sighting about 2 1/2 weeks later, and somewhat shakes my belief that it can't be explained as identifiable object.

More information I cannot give you. Hoping this will be of some use to you in your files, I remain

Respectfully

[REDACTED]



C  
O  
P  
Y

August 11, 1952

To - Civilian Saucer Investigation  
Los Angeles, California

Subject: Sighting of Unknown Object

Dear Sirs:

On the evening of Aug. 8, 1952, at approximately 19:55 hrs., while standing in the front yard of Mr. [redacted] in North Downey, California, we sighted a very small object, flying very high, on a course of nearly 360°.

At first, both [redacted] and myself figured it was a weather balloon, but after I located the object in the field glasses, I realized it was traveling much too high and too fast. So we came to the conclusion it was an extremely high flying aircraft, although I couldn't make out any shape that resembled aircraft, as the object appeared round.

I kept the object in the glasses for a period of approximately five minutes, when it was practically direct overhead, when, from this object another object emerged, gaining speed slowly at 90 degrees to the original object (approx. 270 degrees) and leaving a thinly distinguishable trail, the color of which resembled the original object and the one that left it. The object that left the original object was about one quarter the size of the original. The colors of these objects, in the glasses, appeared slightly golden, yet, when seen with the naked eye, appeared to have the color of the first stars to appear in the evening, which, by the way, is what we thought it was until we assured ourselves it was moving.

If there was an aircraft (military) that was flying extremely high and released a rocket powered aircraft, as I have read about in magazines, then that is what I saw, and, because of the extreme height the sun was still shining on it, and explains the color.

If there were no flights of this kind, then I (we) have sighted something for your records. Either way, I would appreciate an answer to this letter, as I am quite a fan of your organization, and this is the first sighting in nearly two years of intermittent observation, that I have seen anything I couldn't explain to myself.

Please be advised that I have been a pilot (civilian) since 1930, put in three years instructing R.A.F. Cadets during the last World War, and haven't flown for over two years, as pilot. I am 40 years of age, and have lived in and around this area for 37 years.

*By Walter Rindel*  
8-20-52

Phone [redacted]

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]  
Downey, California

7-3119-10



TENTATIVE  
OBSERVERS QUESTIONNAIRE

4694.00

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SECTION A

1. When did you see the object:

1.1 Date: 8<sup>th</sup> August 1952  
Day Month Year

1.2 Time of Day: 7 55 A.M. or (P.M.) (Circle One)  
Hrs. Min.

1.3 Time Zone: (Circle One):

- a. Eastern  
b. Central  
c. Mountain  
d. Pacific  
e. Other \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving  
b. Standard

1.4 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to the above question 1.2:

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

2. Where were you when you saw the object:

[REDACTED] Downey Calif. U.S.A.  
Postal Address City or Town State Country

Additional Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where were you located when you saw the object:

- (Circle One): a. Inside a building  
b. In a car  
c. Outdoors  
d. In an airplane  
e. At sea  
f. Other \_\_\_\_\_

3.1 Were you:

- (Circle One): a. In the business section of a city?  
b. In the residential section of a city?  
c. In open countryside?  
d. Flying near an airfield?  
e. Flying over a city?  
f. Flying over open country?  
g. Other \_\_\_\_\_



4. How did you happen to notice the object? It was observed, by my friend and myself, while watching an airplane crossing overhead.
5. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?  
Several days after observing same, as I had to obtain  
Day Month Year the address.

## SECTION B

6. What were you doing at the time you saw the object? Standing in the front yard, preparing to leave for home.

- 6.1 What had you been doing for the 30 minutes before you saw the object? Try to list the activity or activities and the approximate amount of time spent on each.

Merely visiting and discussing business.

7. Were you moving at any time while you saw the object? (Circle One):

Yes

or

No

IF you answered YES, then complete the following questions:

- 7.1 What direction were you moving?

(Circle One):

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

- 7.2 How fast were you moving? \_\_\_\_\_ miles per hour.

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

(Circle One): Yes or No

8. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object?

(Circle One):

- |                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| a. North            | e. South     |
| b. Northeast        | f. Southwest |
| c. East             | g. West      |
| <u>d. Southeast</u> | h. Northwest |



8.1 What direction were you looking when the object disappeared?

- (Circle One):
- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| a. North     | e. South     |
| b. Northeast | f. Southwest |
| c. East      | g. West      |
| d. Southeast | h. Northwest |

Directly  
Overhead

8.2 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to the above question and preceding question (8 and 8.1).

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

9. Were you wearing eye glasses when you saw the object? (Circle One):

Yes or No

10. How was the object seen?

- (Circle One):
- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Through window glass | e. Through theodolite |
| b. Through windshield   | f. Through sunglasses |
| c. Through binoculars   | g. Through open space |
| d. Through telescope    | h. Other _____        |

11. What do you remember about the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

11.1 CLOUDS (Circle One)

- a. Clear sky  
b. Hazy  
c. Scattered clouds  
d. Thick or heavy clouds  
e. Don't remember

11.3 WEATHER (Circle One)

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

11.2 WIND (Circle One)

- a. No wind  
b. Slight breeze  
c. Strong wind  
d. Don't remember

11.4 TEMPERATURE (Circle One)

- a. Cold  
b. Cool  
c. Warm  
d. Hot  
e. Don't remember

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SECTION C

12. Estimate how long you saw the object?

\_\_\_\_\_ Hours      8 Minutes      \_\_\_\_\_ Seconds



12.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 12:

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

13. Did the object look: (Circle One) Solid or Transparent

14. Did the object at any time:

(Circle One for each question)

- |      |                                 |            |           |                   |
|------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 14.1 | Change direction?               | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.2 | Change speed?                   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.3 | Change size?                    | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.4 | Change color?                   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.5 | Break up into parts or explode? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.6 | Give off smoke?                 | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.7 | Change brightness?              | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.8 | Flicker, throb, or pulsate?     | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
| 14.9 | Remain motionless?              | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |

With reservation in answer to 14.5 & 14.6. See original letter. D.I.K.

15. Did the object give off a light? (Circle One): Yes No Don't know

15.1 IF you answered YES, what was the color of the light? \_\_\_\_\_

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

16.1 Sound None

16.2 Color Bright salmon or gold

17. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draw a picture of how they were arranged and put an arrow to show the direction they were traveling.

Refer to original letter.

18. Did the object at any time:

18.1 Move behind something? (Circle One) Yes No Don't know

IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind.

\_\_\_\_\_



18.2 Move in front of something? (Circle One) Yes   No  Don't know

IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved in front of.

18.3 Blend with the background? (Circle One) Yes   No  Don't know

19. Which of the following objects is about the same actual size as the object you saw? (Circle One):

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pea <i>note: smaller</i> | f. Automobile     |
| b. Baseball   | g. Small airplane |
| c. Basketball   | h. Large airplane |
| d. Bicycle wheel  | i. Dirigible      |
| e. Office desk  | j. Other _____    |

19.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 19.

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain | c. Not very sure |
| b. Fairly certain                              | d. Uncertain     |

20. Try to tell the following things about the object:

20.1 How high above the earth was it? No guess feet.

20.2 How far was it from you? No guess feet or \_\_\_\_\_ miles.

20.3 How fast was it going? No guess miles per hour.

20.4 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to the above questions:

Even by use of binoculars, the size didn't appear to enlarge appreciably. W.F.R.

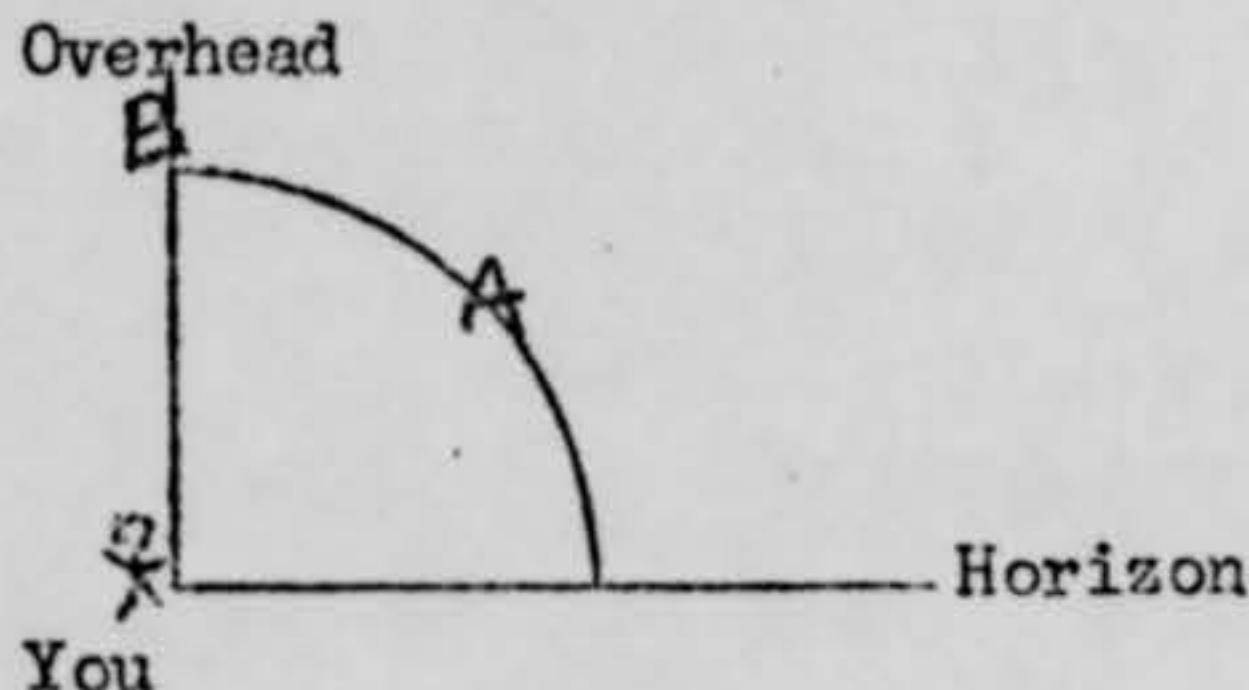
a. Certain	c. Not very sure
b. Fairly certain	d. Just a guess

21. How did the object disappear from view?

- (Circle One):
- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suddenly  | c. Other _____    |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gradually | d. Don't remember |

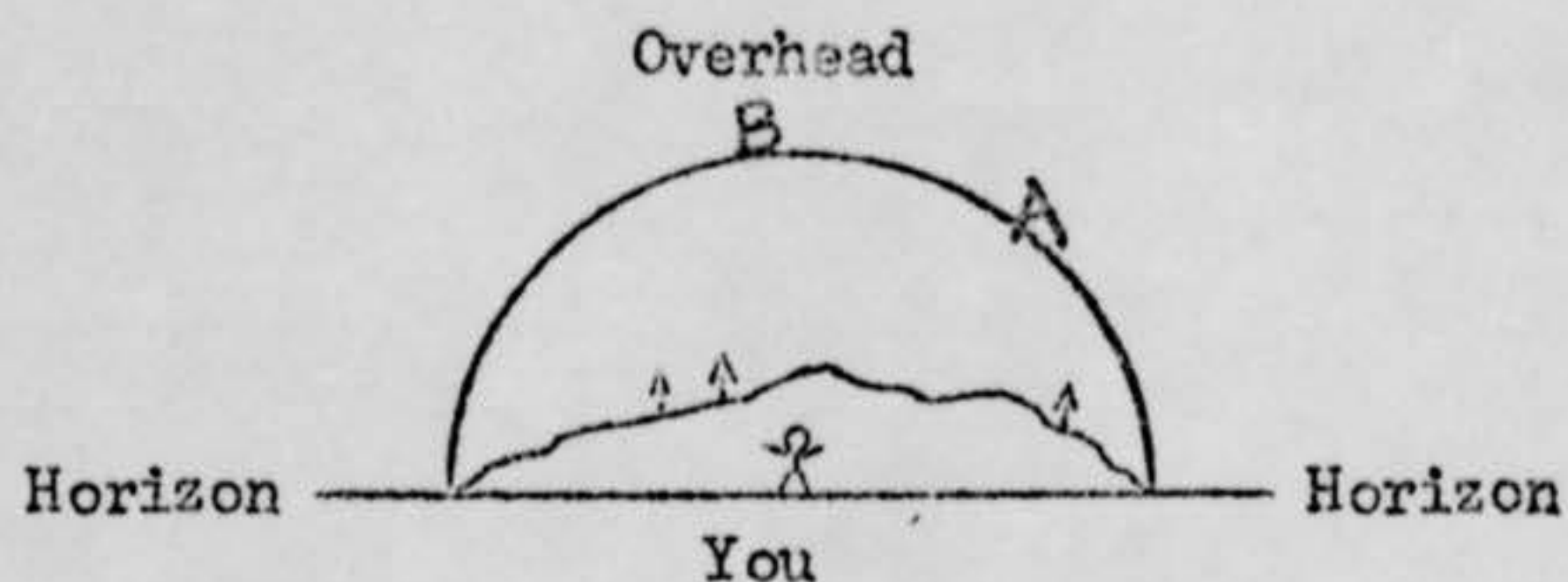
#### SECTION D

22. In the following sketch, imagine your eye at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you first saw it. Place a "B" to show where it was when you last saw it.





23. In the following sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you first saw it, and a "B" at its position when you last saw it.



24. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object made. Place an "A" at the beginning of its path and a "B" at the end of its path.

Motion not discernible. Too high.

25. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw and place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

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SECTION E

26. Was this the first time that you have seen an object like this?

(Circle One): Yes or No

26.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what conditions did you see other ones? \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Since seeing this one, I have seen another, the same size, shape, color and altitude and approximately the same time of day. Direction of flight practically identical. This sighting approximately two weeks after first sighting. W.F.K.*

28. Give the following information about yourself:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

What is your present job? Head Cattle Buyer

Age 40

Sex Male

29. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One): Yes or No

29.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One): Yes or No

29.2 Please list their names and addresses:

Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Downey, Calif.