

649

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/19/96

[REDACTED] Westhampton, New York, [REDACTED], and was advised of the identity of the undersigned Agents. Also present during the interview was his wife, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

On the evening of July 17, 1996, [REDACTED] explained that he had just finished exercising for approximately 23 minutes on the track located at the Westhampton High School. At approximately 8:15 PM or 8:25 PM, [REDACTED] began to walk in a south westerly direction to his vehicle parked in the school parking area. [REDACTED] stated while he was walking back to his vehicle, he observed just above his line of vision, and the tree line directly in front of him, an object (object number one) ascending from behind the trees. [REDACTED] stated that the object originated from the south beyond Mill Road in Westhampton, New York. [REDACTED] explained that the sun was directly behind him, above his shoulders, and there were no clouds in the direction he was facing.

[REDACTED] stated object number one appeared to be bright white light with a reddish pink aura surrounding it. [REDACTED] said the object continued to maintain that appearance throughout his observation, except for, the last second, when he believed the object impacted with another object. [REDACTED] compared the moving object to a "fire work."

Initially, object one ascended almost vertically beyond the tree line with no apparent direction and at moderate speed. Object one evolved into a "squiggly" pattern going up vertically and increasing in velocity and then arced off to the right in a south westerly direction. [REDACTED] stated that the object continued to stay just above his line of vision, and he never had to pick up his head up to observe the events.

[REDACTED] stated that he observed a second stationary object (object number two) that appeared to glitter in the sky. Object number one was heading toward object number two, which [REDACTED] said he would not have seen if it was not for object

Investigation on 7/19/96 at Westhampton, New York (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028 - CCI-304

by SA WILLIAM JOHNSON
SA ROBERT DEBERTY (WD:dp)

Date dictated: 7/19/96

2403

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 7/19/96, Page 2

number one drawing his attention to it. However, object number one appeared like it was initially going to slightly miss object number two unless it made a dramatic correction at the last moment. In less than a second, [REDACTED] believed object number one impacted with object number two; however, [REDACTED] explained that it occurred when he must have blinked because he did not actually see the point of impact. [REDACTED] then observed a white "puff" (white flash) approximately the size of a small ball in the sky, however, he heard no noise. Out of the puff came two objects that arched upward from the initial impact trailing smoke. [REDACTED] said the objects then appeared to turn into large rectangular balls of fire descending at an angle down past the horizon of the trees. [REDACTED] stated that the rectangular fire balls were the equivalent in size to a quarter (1/4) of a piece of paper (8"X11") from his vantage.

Initially, [REDACTED] said the explosion appeared to be approximately 1.5 - 2.5 miles from where he observed the event, and he recalled he was concerned that the burning object might have landed on Dune Road or the outlying beach area.

After the burning object fell beyond the horizon of the trees he did not observe or hear anything else.

[REDACTED] believed, after some retrospect, the entire chain of events took approximately seven (7) seconds from the time he first sees object number one and when the explosion occurred.

[REDACTED] further described object number one as an elongated object that had an oval "head" with an extremely bright white center that had a reddish pink "aura" about the object. The tail was the size of his pinkie nail which seemed to become smaller as it ascended in the air. The tail, grey in color, moved in a "squiggly" pattern which provided a sense of direction.

After the explosion, [REDACTED] got into his vehicle with the windows down and the radio off and drove in the direction of this occurrence. [REDACTED] drove to Dune Road, Westhampton, where he met his wife. [REDACTED] believed he had witnessed some type of explosion over the beach area; however, he did not know actually what he had observed. Later that day, [REDACTED] learned of the plane crash and realized that he had observed the entire occurrence.

2404
At the conclusion of the interview, [REDACTED] brought the undersigned Agents to the exact location where he made his above

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FD-302a (Rev. 11-15-83)

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

. On 7/19/96 . Page 3

described observations and he reenacted the events prior, during and immediately following the event. In addition, a rough draft drawing was created. [REDACTED] point of reference was a telephone pole next to a yellow fire hydrant located on Mill Road.

2405

000244

1A-1617

FD-340 (Rev. 7-29-92)

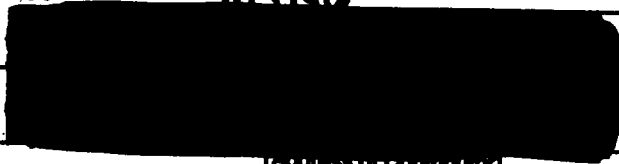
Universal Case File Number 265A-NY-259028-302

Field Office Acquiring Evidence NYO

Serial # of Originating Document _____

Date Received 7/19/96

From _____



(Address of Contributor)

Westhampton NY

(City and State)

By SA William C Johnson

(Name of Special Agent)

To Be Returned Yes No

Receipt Given Yes No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

Yes No

Title:

see CCI-304

Reference: _____

(Communication Enclosing Material)

see Ser 2859

Description: Original notes re interview of



7/19/96

2406

196

7-19-96.

[REDACTED]

W. Hampton, NY

- sd he was exercising on the W. Hampton beach track on the evening of the explosion.
- ~ 23 min of exercise
- walking back to his car - stretching - walking SW to car.
- in line of vision look straight ahead observed something behind trees (coming up from) (S) of High School beyond Mill Road.
- observed what was described as bright-colored object that changed colors from a reddish-pink - bright white w/ pink aura. object stayed bright white w/ pink aura (firework).
- object initially came up above tree line vertically (sd. appeared vertical) and evolved into a squiggly pattern going up.
- slightly above his line of sight w/o having to move head up much.
- Observed something glittering, but not original moving object (Object #2). Very short time (split second) object #1, the moving object, hits the glitter spot.
- Observed a white "puff" not large possibly size of a small ball w/ no sound
- heard no sounds during event.
- Out of the "Puff" two objects arced upward - from the puff. Both objects trailing off w/ smoke.

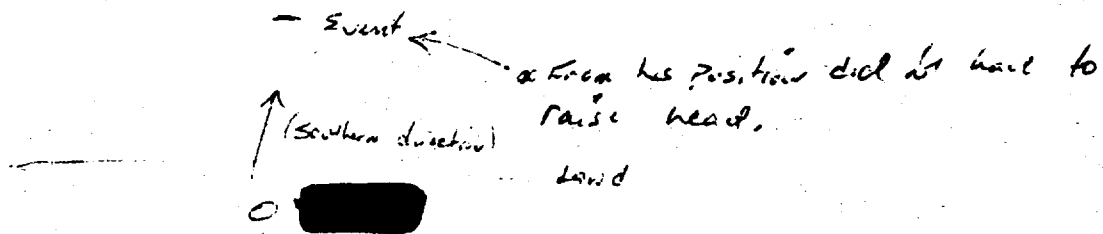
Specimen
 testimony
 compared to
 1.
 2407

(i.e. space shuttle explosion).

- sd didn't see any metal pieces of debris falling
- next observation, a big ball of fire descending, appeared to be "expanding rectangular" in shape, descending in the distance behind the horizon of the tree line. Falling object descended @ a distinct angle and not straight to the ground.

① 12: object appeared to be approx. $\frac{1}{4}$ of a 8" x 11" sheet of paper.

- Initial Impression, object did not seem to be that far in the distance (\approx 1.5-2.5 miles), i.e. DUNE Rd + Beach.
- Recalled being concerned for family @ beach.



- sd the object was approx. 1 digit or a finger over the tree line where he stood.

- after the object disappeared into horizon of trees did not observe anything or hear anything

Chronology of Events

- Initially, believed took a 20-25 secs, after counting believed it took approx. 7 secs.

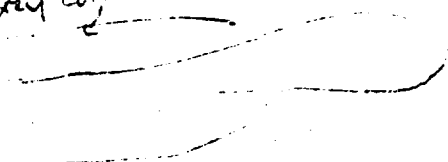
2408 - thinks when he blinked, he missed 2 objects actually hitting each other before separating.

#3
Smoke Trail - oval "head" w/ extremely bright w/ white center and reddish pink "aura" and a tail size of a pinkie nail and seemed to get smaller as it ascended. Sd the fall provided the direction and a squiggly motion.

(Sd w/ a second the #1 object + #2 object turn into one object - seemed to be in less than it takes to blink.)

The object #1, appeared to be going in the general direction of object #2, however not directly and seemed as though it would have missed the object object #2 unless it corrected itself at the last second.

Grey color



Bright white - appeared as a flash ahead of smoke trail. Appeared to have oval head and a reddish pink aura.

- Sd the sun was above his shoulders directly behind him, and time was approx. 8¹⁵ - 8²⁵ p - The sky had no clouds in the direction of the object or event.

2409 Initially noticed a spot above tree lined moving definitely in upward direction. Object became faster once it began to squiggle. Initially having vertical direction to the ground and after it began to "squiggle" it angled off to the

- against - sd., "Squiggly" does not initially appear to be heading toward the very small pt. (object #2) but then all of a sudden the two objects connect (Blat of an eye).

- sd he would have never seen object #2 if it was not for the squiggly that went in that general direction.

sd he didn't know that object #2 was a plane until he found out later that a plane had gone down.

- he explained that he only saw the white dot "lead" most of the way to the object #2, however, the last second it disappeared.

- sd he can't attest to smoke trail below object #1, the moving squiggly - only that it appeared gray.

After, sd he got in his car w/ windows rolled down and radio off to check on his family's safety. Met wife @ beach on Dune Rd.

sd, also present @ interview, sd. she believed she observed plane go overhead @ approx 800-810 when she was on way to Cupogue Beach (county beach) @ the W. Hampton Dunes. (1)

- While driving on Dune Rd - heading SW, on (R) side she noticed an aircraft appeared low, Large Aircraft.
- Didn't observe flames or hear explosion.
- by time she arrived at beach, PD helicopter arrived @ flew over head direction of Center Maiches.
- Act up w/ [redacted] @ 8³⁵-8⁴⁵ p.m.

[redacted] Cont. . . .

- Said he drove in direction of the event toward the Westhampton Main Beach - thinking it was related to the ~~movie~~ movie company shooting near the beach.
- thought something exploded by mistake..
- [redacted] believes that from his observation - squiggly missed the object #2 and then must have really turned toward the object to have hit it, but he did not actually see the actual contact.
- saw "glowing" stationary spot & then a puff and a "bang bang" →
- puff was a white cloud.

000250

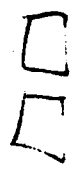
(From memory) x = approx 1.5 miles to beach

License

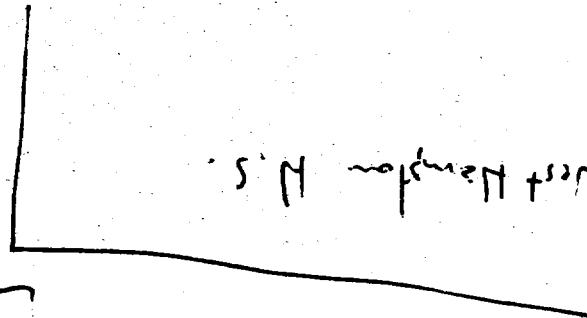
Sun position



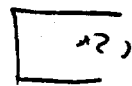
Trash bins



West Hampton N.S.



x



Work
Lamp post
Telephone
Poles

no wind

Telephone poles

o from pling
Telephone poles

lim
lim
↓

x

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/21/1996

On July 20, 1996, three locations were visited. The purpose of these visits was to record general sighting information from three (3) previously interviewed witnesses who, at these respective locations, made observations of Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight 800 and/or "a flare" which seemed to be launched in the general direction of TWA flight 800 at approximately 8:30 PM on July 17, 1996.

The three (3) locations visited were:

- (1) Rogers Beach, West Hampton Beach, New York (NY), for plotting observations previously reported by [redacted] 650
- (2) West Hampton Beach High School Parking Lot, for plotting observations previously reported by [redacted] 649
- (3) East side of Center Moriches inlet, end of jetty, for plotting observations previously reported by [redacted] 129

The personnel making these visits were: Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) - Special Agent (SA) Paul Shea, SA Peter C. Casazza, SA William F. Lynch; Suffolk County Marine Bureau (SCMB) - Deputy Inspector Douglas Matulewich, Police Officer Vincent Termine, Sergeant Charlie Gerlach; Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD) - Police Officer Ken Treder; Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Senior Intelligence Officer Robert A. Doherty; and Surface to Air Missile Armaments Analyst Thomas F. LeBlanc.

At the above locations, azimuth directions based on witness statements were taken by SCMB personnel using a GPS 45 Personal Navigator and a hand bearing magnetic compass.

The purpose of recording this and other similar information was to allow for future interpretation of this data.

Investigation on 7/20/1996 at West Hampton Beach, New York 265A-NY-259028-SUB 302

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SAs WILLIAM F. LYNCH
PETER C. CASAZZA, PAUL SHEA (PS:iaw)

Date dictated 7/20/1996 NEW YORK

TC

1890

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/14/97

On May 8, 1997, [REDACTED] Eastern Suffolk Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Oakdale, New York, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was interviewed at Westhampton Beach High School parking lot regarding his observations on the evening of July 17, 1996. Present at the interview was [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Naval Air Warfare Center, China Lake, California. [REDACTED] was introduced to [REDACTED] as a member of the Department of Defense. [REDACTED] was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview. During the course of the interview, [REDACTED] first drew a picture of what he saw on the night of July 17, 1996, on a piece of paper on which had already been drawn a tree line and ground line approximating his view of these frames of reference and the sky while facing south (this drawing was labeled #1). The tree line was visually estimated to extend approximately two (2) degrees maximum above the ground line. At the conclusion of the interview, after [REDACTED] had drawn his own sketch of his observations, [REDACTED] was given a drawing taken from a slide presentation of the Central Intelligence Agency's Office of Weapon's Technology and Proliferation (a copy of this drawing was labeled as drawing #2a). This drawing was the C.I.A. office's probable trajectory of TWA Flight 800 after the last transponder reading when viewed by a hypothetical witness perpendicular to the flight path of the aircraft. [REDACTED] was informed that this drawing was done by another observer so as not to taint his observations as conflicting with a government agency's analysis. [REDACTED] was also informed the orange 'bursts' on the drawing indicated probable points of explosions. [REDACTED] drew his modifications on this drawing (drawing #2b). During the interview [REDACTED] provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, [REDACTED] had just finished exercising at the track at Westhampton Beach High School and walked in an approximate direction of southeast toward his car in the parking lot of the school. He stopped in the parking lot to stretch facing south, shoulders square to the Southern boundary of the parking lot. [REDACTED] was located a foot or two east of a speed bump which ran towards the shore and was located just west of the second row of parking north of the softball fields of the high

Investigation on 5/8/1997 at Westhampton Beach, NYFile # 265A-NY-259028 - CC 15610 Date dictated 5/14/1997
by SA Bradley S. Morrison
SA Steven A. Bongardt (SAB:sab)

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

On 5/8/1997

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school. [REDACTED] leaned all the way forward bending at the hips while straddling his legs for a few short moments and then leaned back, rotated up and looked at the sky. [REDACTED] stated that the sky was clear at this point. A very short time later [REDACTED] stated words to the effect of "I could have missed it if I had not been looking"), [REDACTED] observed an object, like "a firework", rise straight-up, neither angling to the right or left, ascend in the sky close to a telephone pole (near a fire hydrant). This telephone pole was near the tree line on his horizon. The object ascended "fairly quick" and [REDACTED] impression was that it had risen from somewhere behind and below the tree line as there was no space between the tree line and where he had first observed it. He could not recall seeing an actual physical object but did recall seeing a small flame or plume. At some small vertical distance above the tree line, this "firework" (object) angled to the right (west) and appeared to "slow" and "wiggle" while doing so, still ascending upward. After this change in direction, the object appeared to "speed up" and then [REDACTED] lost sight of it. [REDACTED] did not know why he lost sight of the object and mentioned that he "might have blinked". At the point he lost it, the object was still moving up and to the right (west).

The next two observations [REDACTED] recalled making almost simultaneously. First, in the direction the object was traveling, but at a higher point in the sky, [REDACTED] saw a second object. [REDACTED] stated that he saw this second object because he was looking in the direction of the first object and the second object appeared to "glimmer". [REDACTED] stated the "glimmering" object appeared to be reflecting light as opposed to emitting light. Second, almost immediately after [REDACTED] noted the second object, and "microseconds" or "seconds" after he had "lost" the first object, [REDACTED] saw a "red dot" at the "glimmering" object followed by a "puff". Very quickly after that first "puff", [REDACTED] saw a second "puff" up and to the left (east) of the first "puff". [REDACTED] stated he then observed the "red dot" a little to the right of the second "puff". The second "puff" turned into a "fire box" about the size of a finger nail as it descended from right to left (west to east) in an increasingly downward sloping arc. [REDACTED] stated that the "red dot" was more magenta colored at this point and that both it and the "fire box" descended at the same rate of speed - approximately half the speed of the object or "firework" he had observed ascend. [REDACTED] could not recall the "fire box" changing in any way as he

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

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lost sight of it below the tree line. The "fire box" came down in the same location on the tree line as [REDACTED] had seen the first object, or "firework", ascend.

While [REDACTED] explained what he saw he used his hands to simulate the movement of the objects he had observed - up and to the right at an angle above the horizon for the "firework" object and down and to the left (left half of an upside down "U" shape) for the "fire box" and dot descending down to his visual horizon (the tree line). [REDACTED] recalled the duration that he saw the ascending "firework" object as five (5) seconds and the total duration of his entire observations as twenty (20) seconds. He estimated the time that it took the second "puff" to descend to the horizon was approximately ten (10) seconds. [REDACTED] was given a nautical plotting tool, a Weems and Plath Parallel Plotter, which consisted of a clear plastic rectangle on a small roller. The clear plastic rectangle had various measurement scales on it, one of which was nautical miles for a chart of scale 1:80,000. [REDACTED] estimated the height of the first "puff" and "glimmering" object to have been at approximately six (6) Nautical Mile Units above the ground line while he held the plotter at an arm's length. This equated to 5.6 inches. While [REDACTED] repeated his observations, [REDACTED] again estimated the first "puff" (and where he saw the "glimmering" object) to have been at a relative height of just greater than the combined height of two school buses relative to a standard school bus that he observed approximately thirty (30) yards away. [REDACTED] further estimated that the first "puff" (and "glimmering" object was horizontally observed somewhere between the small building located immediately in front of him (just south of the parking lot and immediately west of the softball field) and the larger building to the right of the smaller building (located just east of the intersection of Depot Road and Mill Road).

[REDACTED] initially thought he had observed a firework and decided to attempt to watch more of them down at the beach (in the direction his observations occurred) where he was to meet his girlfriend. He stated that when he went down to the beach he was asked by another man if he had come to the beach to watch the fireworks. [REDACTED] replied in the affirmative and the man informed him that he did not think there was a fireworks display occurring. When [REDACTED] heard reports of an airplane crash while returning home, he started to wonder whether or not he had seen

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 5/8/1997

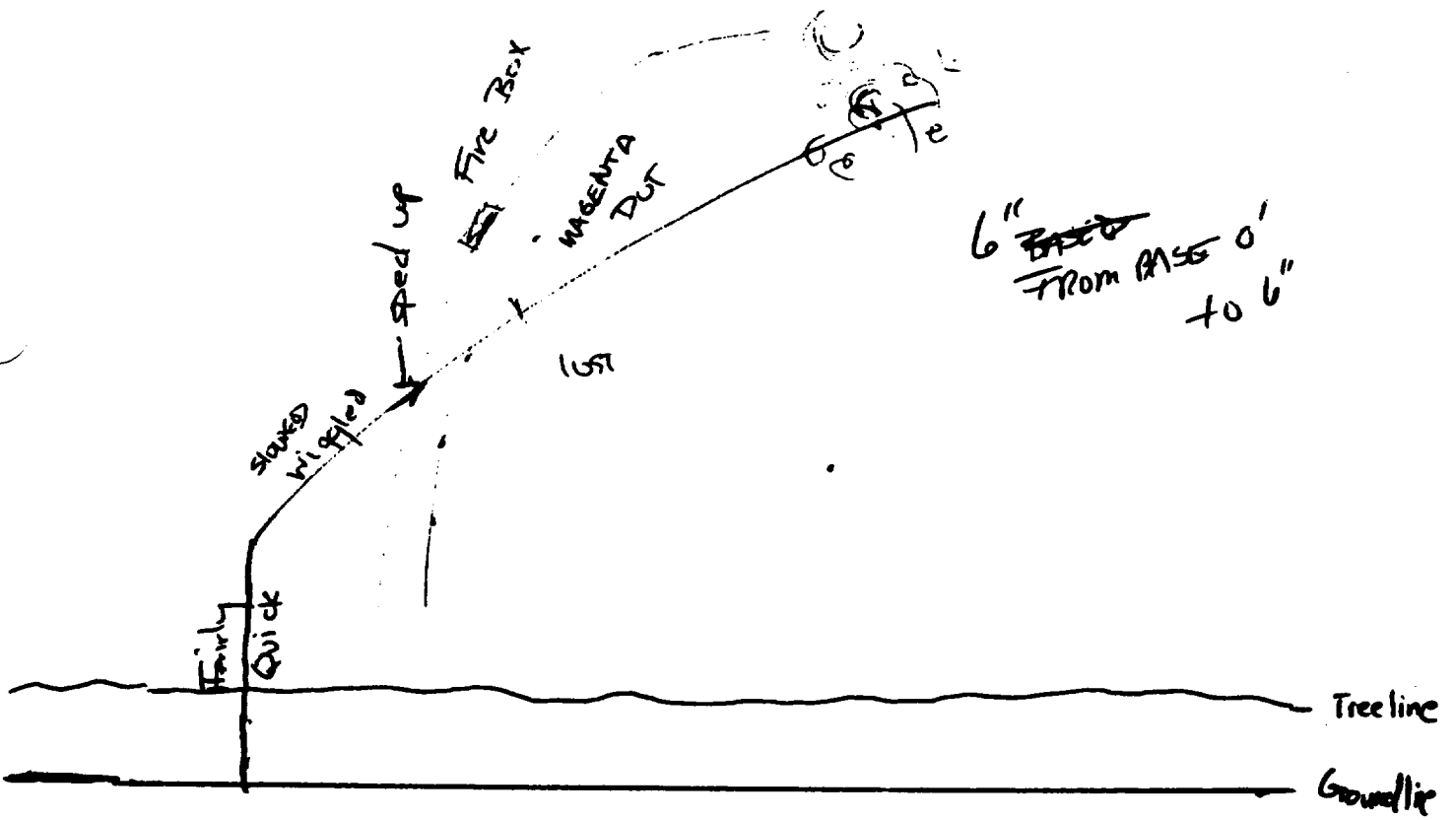
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something accidentally hit an aircraft. When he learned it was a Boeing 747 he felt that only a missile could have hit an aircraft at that height. In the last several months, [REDACTED] started to question his recollection of what he had observed because he had not heard of any determination as to the cause of the crash being do to a missile. Although his recollection of his observations had faded somewhat, [REDACTED] stated that what he felt he remembered was accurate and consistent with what he recalled of the incident immediately after it occurred. [REDACTED] further stated his observations were not altered by his ideas about what he thought he had observed as he learned more about what actually happened.

[REDACTED] drew a sketch of what he remembered on a sheet of paper that he was given which included an approximate tree line and ground line (Drawing #1). When given Drawing #2a, [REDACTED] felt it was pretty accurate except that it was "missing the entire first part" and sketched that part of his observations into the drawing (Drawing #2b). He also added the two separate lines of objects descending to the primary thicker black line already in the drawing.



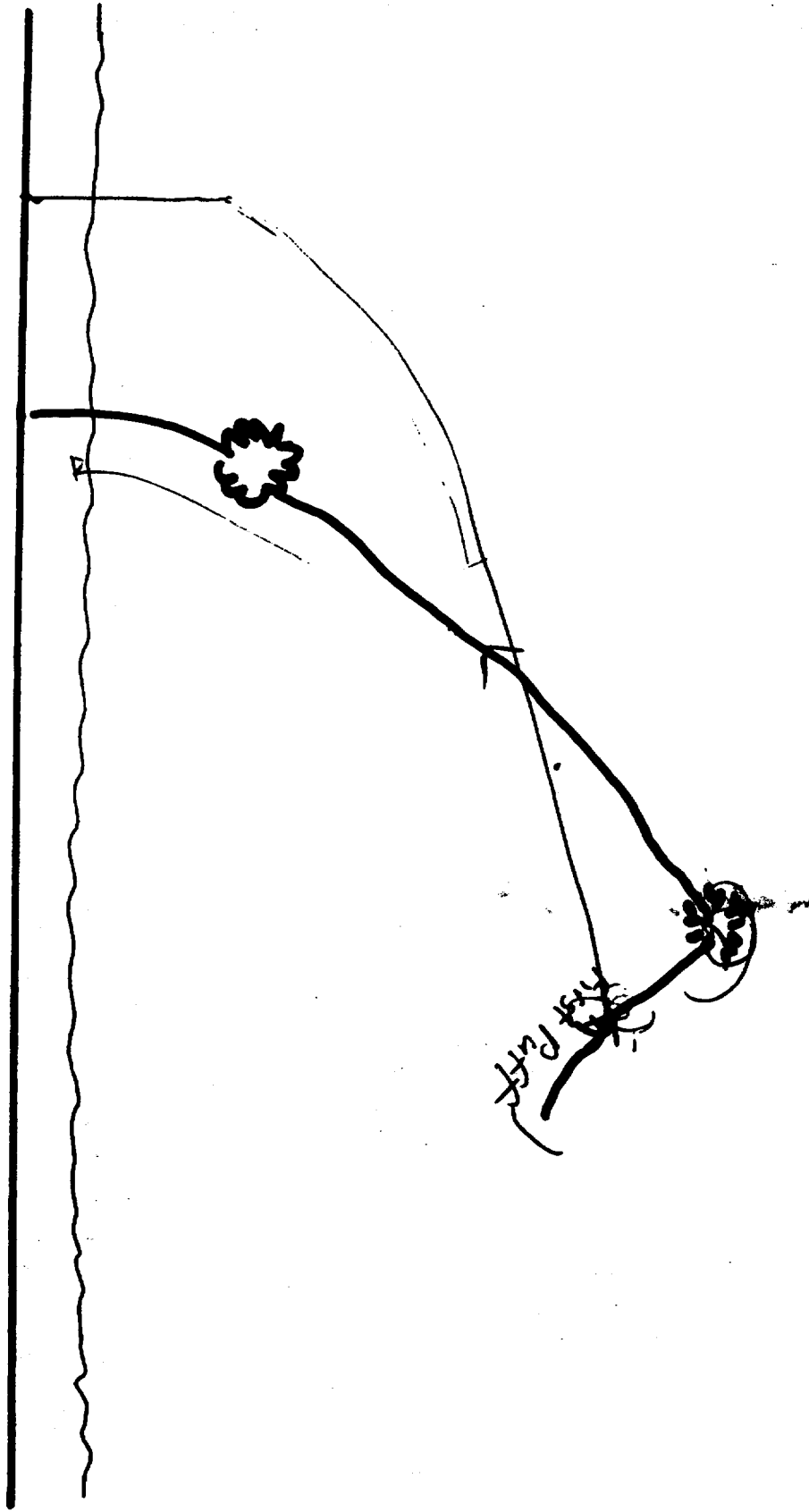
ON 5/8/97
at WHB High School



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@ WHB Hwy. 4



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