

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <i>2 MAR 52</i>	2. LOCAL JN <i>NATIONAL CITY, CALIF</i>	3. SOURCE <i>AERO ENGR</i>	
4. TIME Local <i>1930 PST</i> Z <i>0330</i>	5. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <i>ONE</i>	6. SHAPE <i>BALL</i>	7. COLOR <i>GREEN</i>
8. COURSE <i>E</i>	9. ALTITUDE <i>21000'</i>	10. ANGULAR VELOCITY <i>_____</i> ° per second	11. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
12. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <i>(GAP) GROUND VISUAL</i>	13. LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED <i>5sec.</i>	14. MANEUVERS <i>DRIFTING</i>	
15. CONCLUSIONS  <i>Meteor</i>		16. COMMENTS <i>COMPUTED BY COSVIC - 348' DIAM. COSVIC. A/C DESIGN ENGR, MEMBER OF "FLYING SAUCER SIGHTING CLUB"</i>	



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF  
18th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
AF SPECIALIZED DEPOT, BOX 310, MAYWOOD, CALIF.

18D 24-0

11 July 1952

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Findings of Unconventional Airborne Objects,  
San Diego, California, March to June 1952.

TO: Director of Special Investigations  
Headquarters United States Air Force  
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Source of information, an aero-nautical engineer, San Diego, California, and associates residing in different localities in the San Diego area, have formed a "Flying Saucer Sighting Club". When an unidentified aerial object is sighted, other members are alerted for further identification, tracking, and triangulation. Source has submitted various sketches and mathematical computations concerning sightings made during four month period, March to June 1952.

2. DETAILS: Mr. [REDACTED], residing at 2408 E. 18th Street, National City, California, employed as an engineer with the Consolidated-Vultee Aircraft Corporation, San Diego, California, advises that he, along with several other engineers, has formed a voluntary "Flying Saucer Sighting Club". The members of this club live in various points in and around San Diego and its suburbs. According to [REDACTED], when one member sights an unidentified object in the sky, he immediately alerts other members of the club by telephone so that a triangulation and additional sightings can be made.

Mr. [REDACTED] has submitted to this office reports along with various mathematical computations covering sightings made by this group on 2 March 1952, 9 May 1952, 13 May 1952, 21 May 1952, and 14 June 1952. All these sightings were made at night and concern meteor-like objects.

Included with the above are reports submitted by two of Mr. [REDACTED]'s colleagues, a Mr. [REDACTED], San Diego, California, and Mr. [REDACTED], San Diego, California. These reports concern the sighting of a green fire ball on 2 March 1952 at the [REDACTED] by Mr. [REDACTED] and Mr. [REDACTED], and a similar sighting on 9 May 1952 by Mr. [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED].

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOR DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: MCIS

CC:

5

7-3712-44



18D 24-0

Subject: Findings of Unconventional  
Airborne Objects, San Diego,  
California, March to June 1952.

UNCLASSIFIED

11 July 1952

All of the above reports, along with the computations of Mr. [redacted] and his colleagues, are inclosed in the attached envelope as Inclosure #1 to this report, for the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attention: MCIS.

3. ACTION: No further action in this matter is contemplated; however, if and when additional reports are received from Mr. CARR, they will be promptly forwarded for evaluation.

KEEFE O'KEEFE  
Colonel, USAF  
District Commander

✓ CC: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: MCIS,  
w/incl as listed in above letter



UNCLASSIFIED



REPORT ON GREEN "FIRE BALL"

Date: March 2, 1952  
Place: National City, California  
Time: Approximately 7:30 P.M. PST

While driving my car east on 18th St., my wife and I observed what appeared like lighting flashing and illuminating the surrounding ground, houses, and trees with a green light.

My wife exclaimed, "Look, it's lightning!" I said, "Yes, that's unusual, look, it's green!" I looked around in the sky and saw through the windshield, by leaning forward over the steering wheel and looking up, a green ball of brilliant light. In size, it was about as large as the full moon. The color was about that given off by burning copper, such as a soldering iron in a gas flame, or the arcing of a street car trolley on a sleety night.

The outline of the object was sharp, not fuzzy. The light seemed to flicker, with darker areas seeming to appear within the green light. No trail was observed behind the object although the newspaper account stated that other observers had seen a trail. The object did not appear to be incandescent.

As far as I was able to determine, the object was either stationary or drifting slowly eastward. Its motion may have been due to the motion of the car. Inasmuch as the car windows were closed, and due to the sound of the engine, I was unable to detect any sound connected with the object.

The Object appeared to be very close, probably no more than a mile to the south of me. I would estimate it to be approximately  $40^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$  above the horizon. The light did not fade out or grow dimmer, but disappeared instantly leaving an image of the complimentary color, reddish orange, in its stead. The object was visible to me for about 5 seconds. This object was also seen by Mr. [REDACTED], San Diego, Calif., who estimated its declination at approximately  $20^{\circ}$ .

I am an aircraft design engineer for Consolidated-Vultee. I have been an amateur astronomer for 15 years and have seen hundreds of meteors fall. I am convinced that this was not a "meteor" except in the sense that it was an aerial phenomenon. In my opinion the object was not falling, nor was it flying in the sense that an airplane flies. I believe that the explanation for this type of object lies outside the limits of our present knowledge and can not be explained by conventional means.

The above is a true statement.

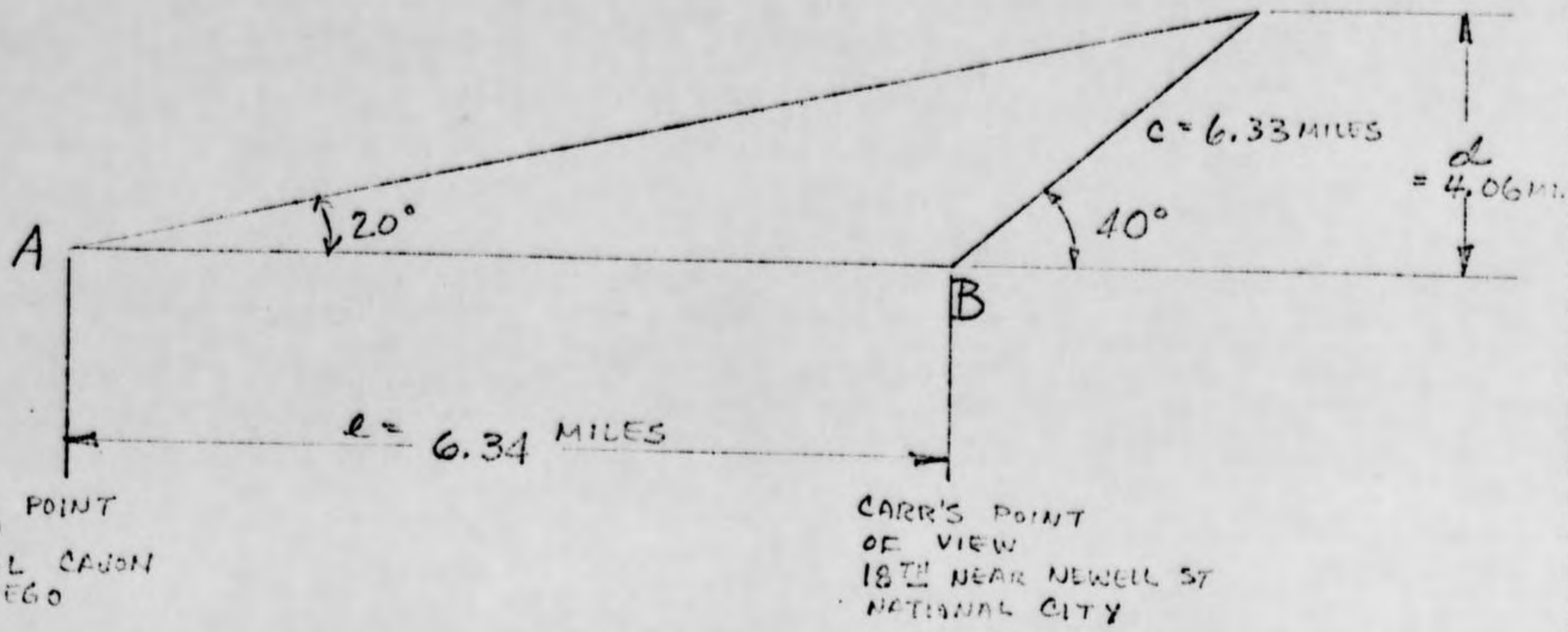
/s/ [REDACTED]

See attached computations.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY



COMPUTATIONS ON GREEN FIREBALL OF MAR. 2, 1952



$$d = \frac{e}{\cot A - \cot B}$$

$$= \frac{6.34}{2.75 - 1.19} = \frac{6.34}{1.56} = 4.06 \text{ MILES}$$

$$c = d \csc B$$

$$= 4.06 \times 1.56$$

$$= 6.33 \text{ MILES}$$

$$\frac{1}{4}'' = .0208 \text{ FT.}$$

$$2 \text{ FT.} = .00038 \text{ MILE} = \text{ARM LENGTH}$$

$$6.33 \text{ MI.} = 33,422 \text{ FT.}$$

$$\frac{.0208 \text{ FT.}}{.00038 \text{ MI.}} = \frac{X \text{ FT.}}{6.33 \text{ MI.}}$$

$$.00038X = .1317$$

$$X = 346.5 \text{ FT. DIA.}$$

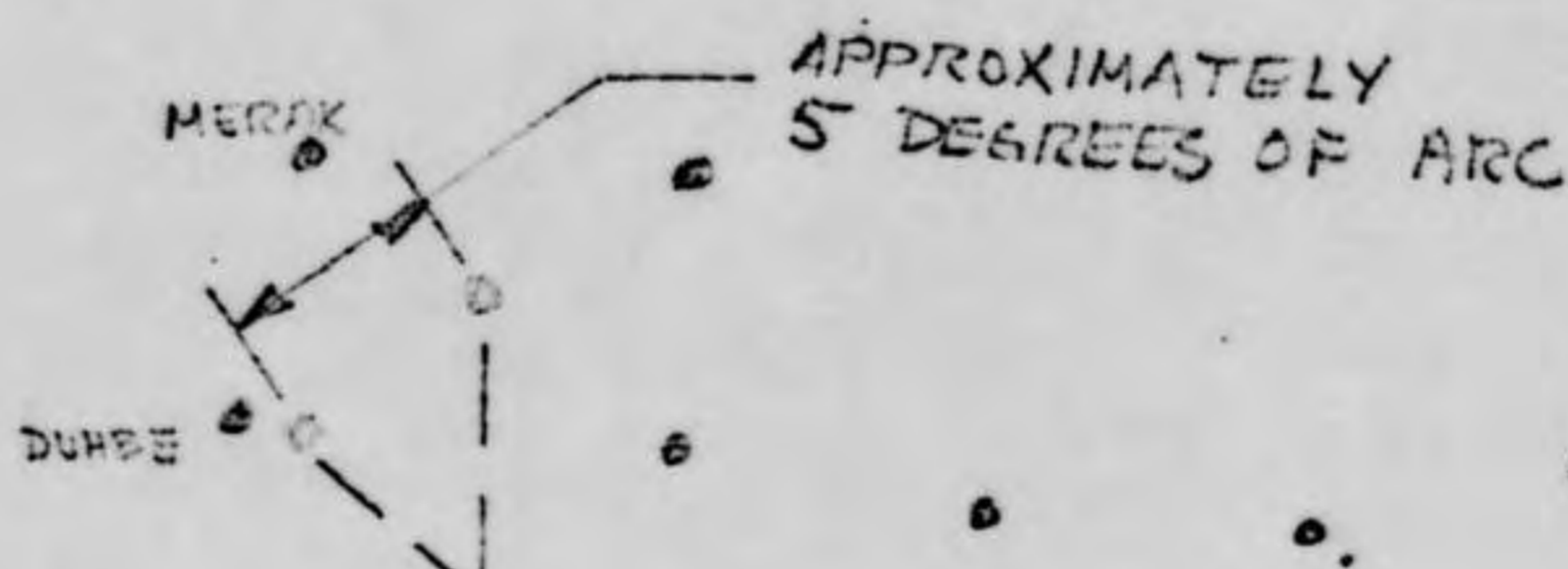
$$\frac{.0208 \text{ FT.}}{2 \text{ FT.}} = \frac{X \text{ FT.}}{33422 \text{ FT.}}$$

$$2X = 695.18$$

$$X = 348 \text{ FT. DIA.}$$



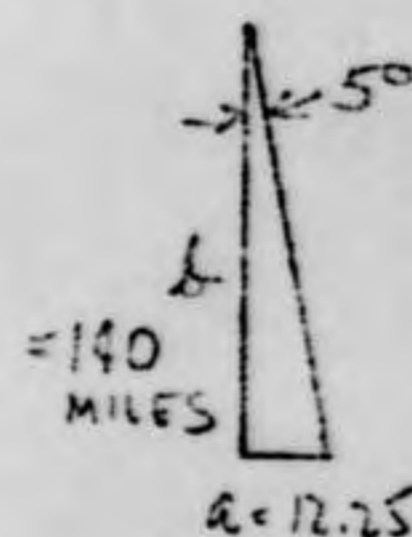
8:55 P.M. P.D.S.T.  
 MAY 13, 1952  
 LATITUDE 32° NORTH



DECLINATION OF  
 URSA MAJOR = APPROX. 57°

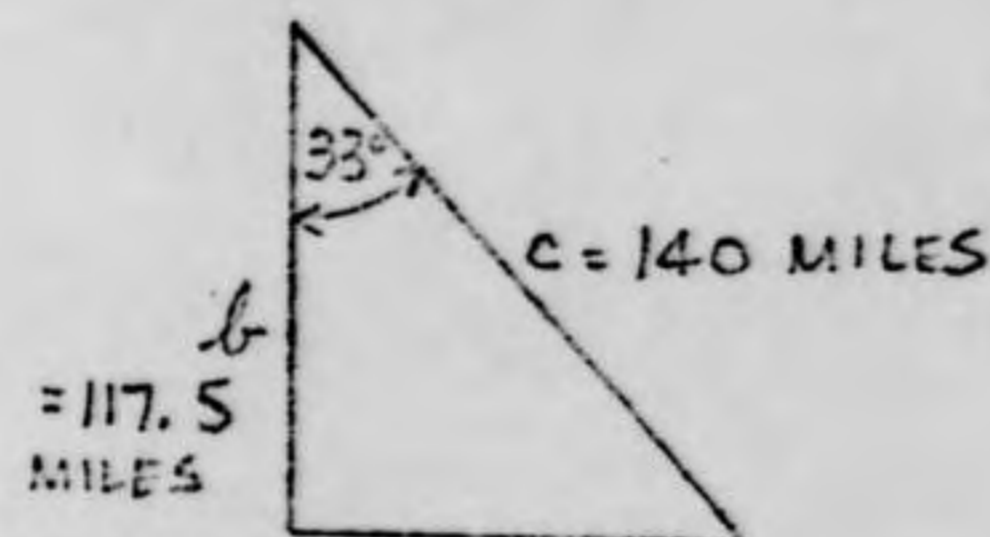
POLARIS

ALTITUDE OF POINT OF  
 ORIGIN OF RED TRAIL  
 LEFT BY OBJECT = 117.5  
 MILES.



$$b = a \cot 5^\circ$$

$$= 12.25 \times 11.43 = 140.0175$$



$$b = c \cos 33^\circ$$

$$= 140 \times .8387$$

$$= 117.418 \text{ MILES}$$

ASSUMED TO BE 90° ANGLE (CHECK IN EPHEMERIS FOR TIME, DATE & LONGITUDE)

BASE LINE

CARR'S POINT OF OBSERVATION  
 2408 E. 18TH ST,  
 NATIONAL CITY,  
 CALIFORNIA.

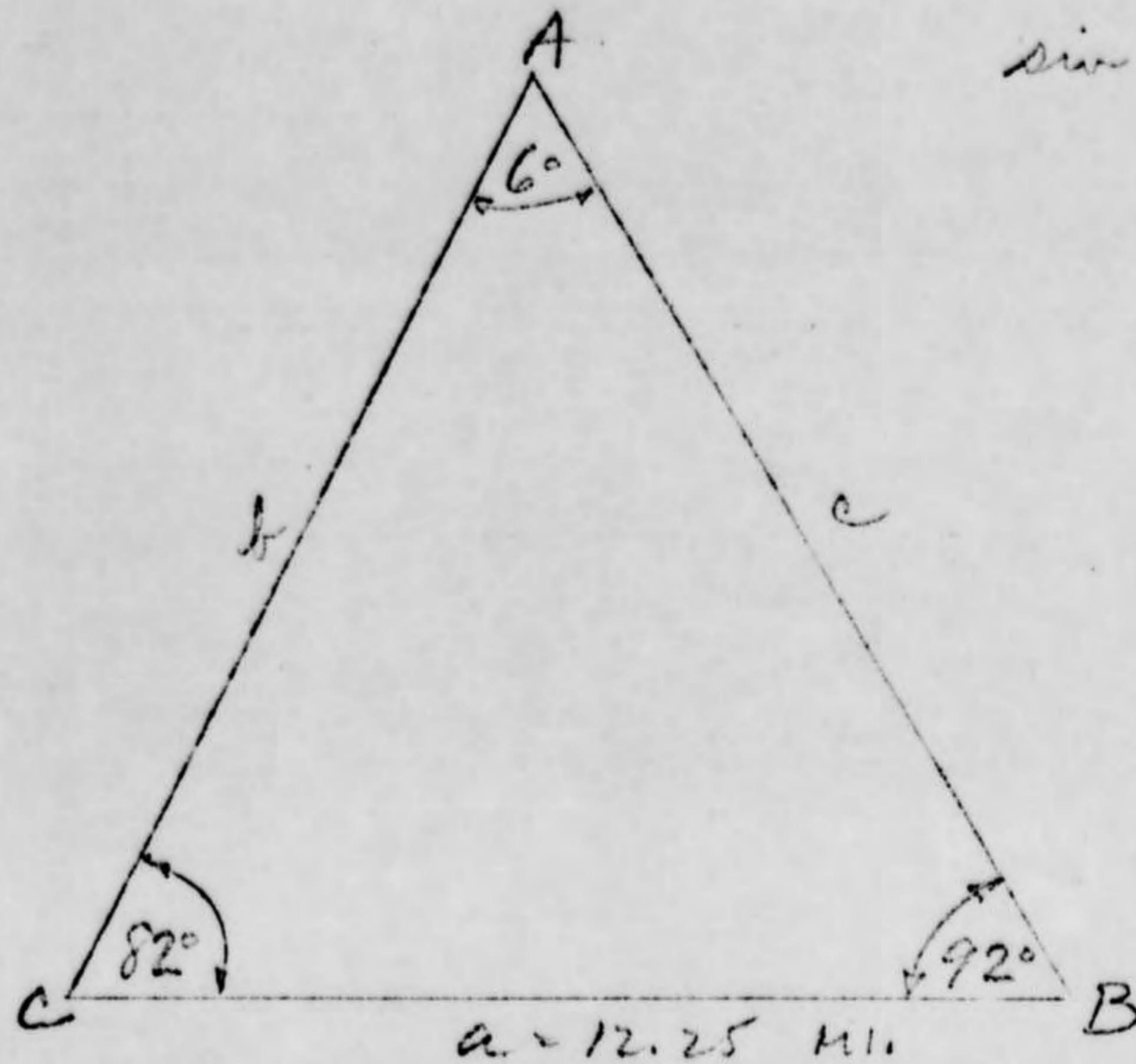
12.25 MILES  
 PER COUNTY SURVEYOR'S MAP

HANEY'S POINT OF OBSERVATION  
 970 1ST AVE  
 EL CAJON,  
 CALIFORNIA.

SIGNED: [Signature]



FOR VAL<sup>-</sup> OF 6° OF ARC (17th Ursa Major  
8° FROM MERIDIAN



$$\sin 92^\circ = .99939$$

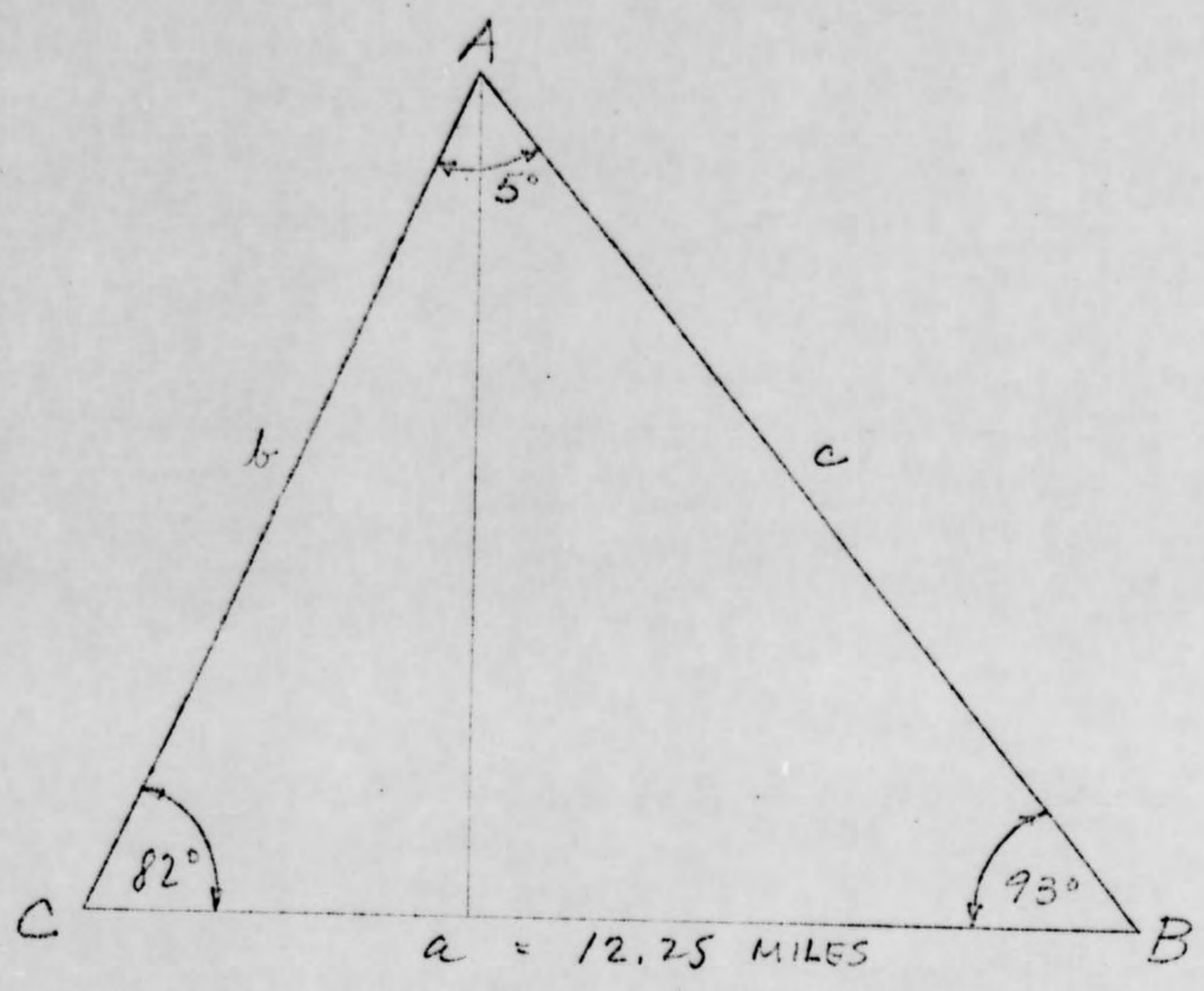
$$\begin{aligned} b &= \frac{12.25 \times .99939}{.1045} \\ &= \frac{12.243}{.1045} \\ &= 117.1 \text{ MILES} \end{aligned}$$



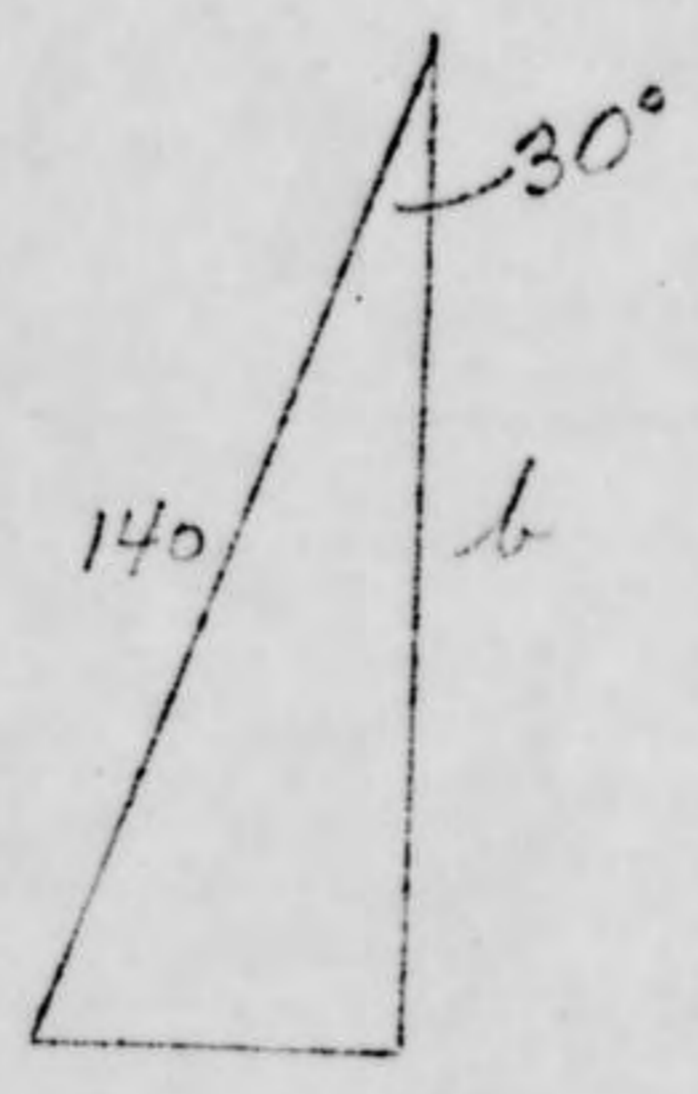
$$\begin{aligned} b &= 117.1 \times \sin 30^\circ \\ &= 117.1 \times .5 \\ &= 58.55 \text{ MILES} \end{aligned}$$

FOR VALUE OF  $\theta$  OF ARC WITH ORISA HORIZONTAL  
8° FROM MERIDIAN

$$\cos 3^\circ = \sin 93^\circ = .99863$$



$$\begin{aligned} b &= \frac{a \times \sin B}{\sin A} \\ &= \frac{12.25 \times .99863}{.0872} \\ &= 140.17 \text{ MILES} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} b &= 140 \times \sin 30^\circ \\ &= 140 \times .866 \\ &= 121.24 \text{ MILES} \end{aligned}$$



**'GREEN WITH LONG TAIL'**

**Hundreds See Fireball Flash Across S. D. Sky**

Hundreds of startled San Diegans saw a "green fireball with a long tail," believed to be a meteor, streaking through the sky south of here soon after 7:30 last night.

The Union, the Coast Guard station, Navy installations and the police were flooded with calls from curious residents in all sections of the metropolitan area

who reported seeing the phenomenon.

Most of them agreed it was a large mass of green light, trailing a long, fiery tail. It angled downward for several seconds and then apparently burned out and disappeared from view.

Rudolph M. Lippert, secretary of the San Diego Astrophysical Society, tentatively identified it as a large meteor. He said the "big fellows usually have a greenish color." Airline pilots, the Coast Guard and the Navy also tentatively evaluated it as a meteor.

The Coast Guard sent a helicopter aloft to investigate the reports but it saw nothing unusual. Chester Silvernail, State College astronomy professor, said reports seemed to indicate that the fireball probably was a meteor.

He said this could not be accurately determined without reports of the direction of travel, speed and altitude.

**IN THE UNION TODAY**

- Comics—Page a-8.
- County News—Page a-4.
- Editorials—Page b-2.
- Financial—Pages a-12, 13.
- Sports—Pages b-3, 4, 5.
- TV-Radio—Page a-6.
- Theaters—Page a-9.
- Women's News—Pages a-10, 11.

*Monday 3-4-52*

is  
pe  
st  
it  
h  
th  
s  
w  
h  
tr  
if  
o  
C