29 mar 90

SECRET/NOFORN

PROJECT SUN STREAK

WARNING NOTICE: INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PROJECT NUMBER:	5196 (Tng)	SESSION NUMBER:	1
DATE OF SESSION:	26 MAR 90	DATE OF REPORT:	26 MAR 90
START:	1043	END:	1102
METHODOLOGY:	[redacted] Solo	VIEWER IDENTIFIER:	052

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1. (S/SK) MISSION: To describe the target site (Soviet Shuttle Launch) in Stage 3 terminology, working solo.

2. (S/SK) VIEWER TASKING: Encrypted coordinates only.

3. (S/SK) COMMENTS: No Physical Inclemencies. 052 "doorknobbed" the site very strongly throughout most of the session, finally settling onto the main shape gestalts in Stage 3.

4. (S/SK) EVALUATION: 3

5. (S/SK) SEARCH EVALUATION: N/A

MONITOR: 018

HANDLE VIA SKEET CHANNELS ONLY

SECRET/NOFORN

CLASSIFIED BY: DIA (DT)
DECLASSIFY: OADR

PL: none
AV: none

052
26 March 9C
Ft. Meade
1043
018

881115
884032

Miss BK

881115
884032

A- Wavy Across
Sgt
B. Water

○ A. up, angle rough

○ B. structure

881115
884032

A. wavy across sight

B. water

OA - down angle rough

O B. structure

S2

Black

Blue

Red

Church Bell sound
(clang)

Angle

0 cool air

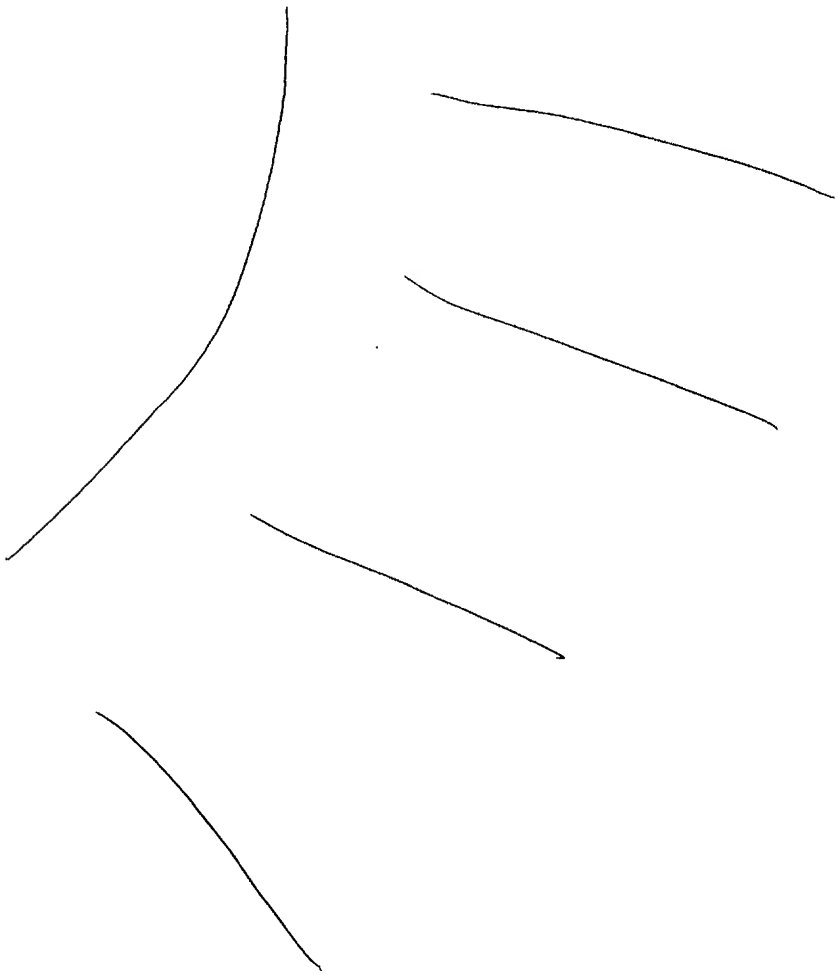
0 Cold

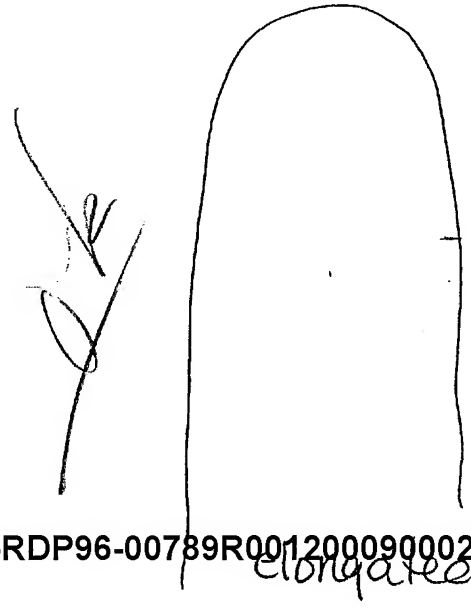
0 Big

Blue

Salt taste

Bright





Cold

Bright

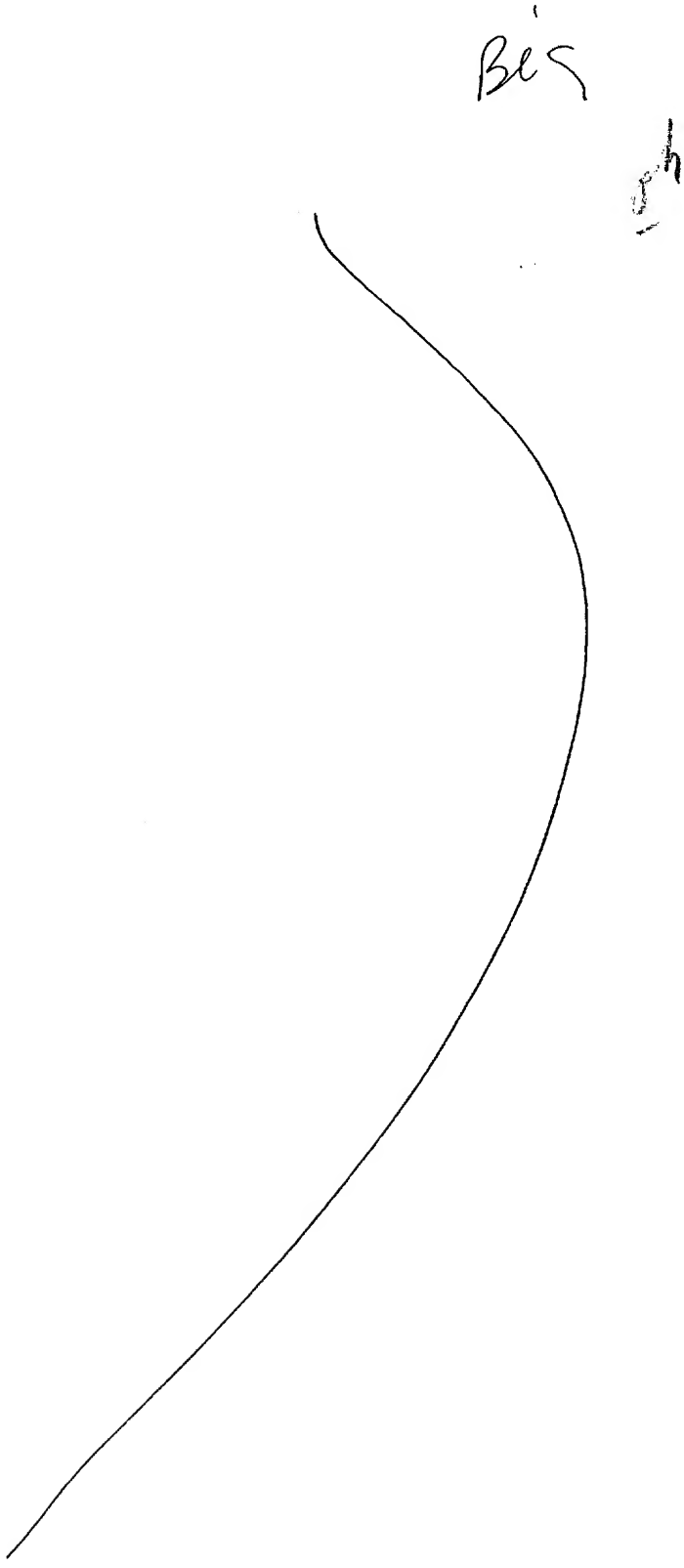
ok

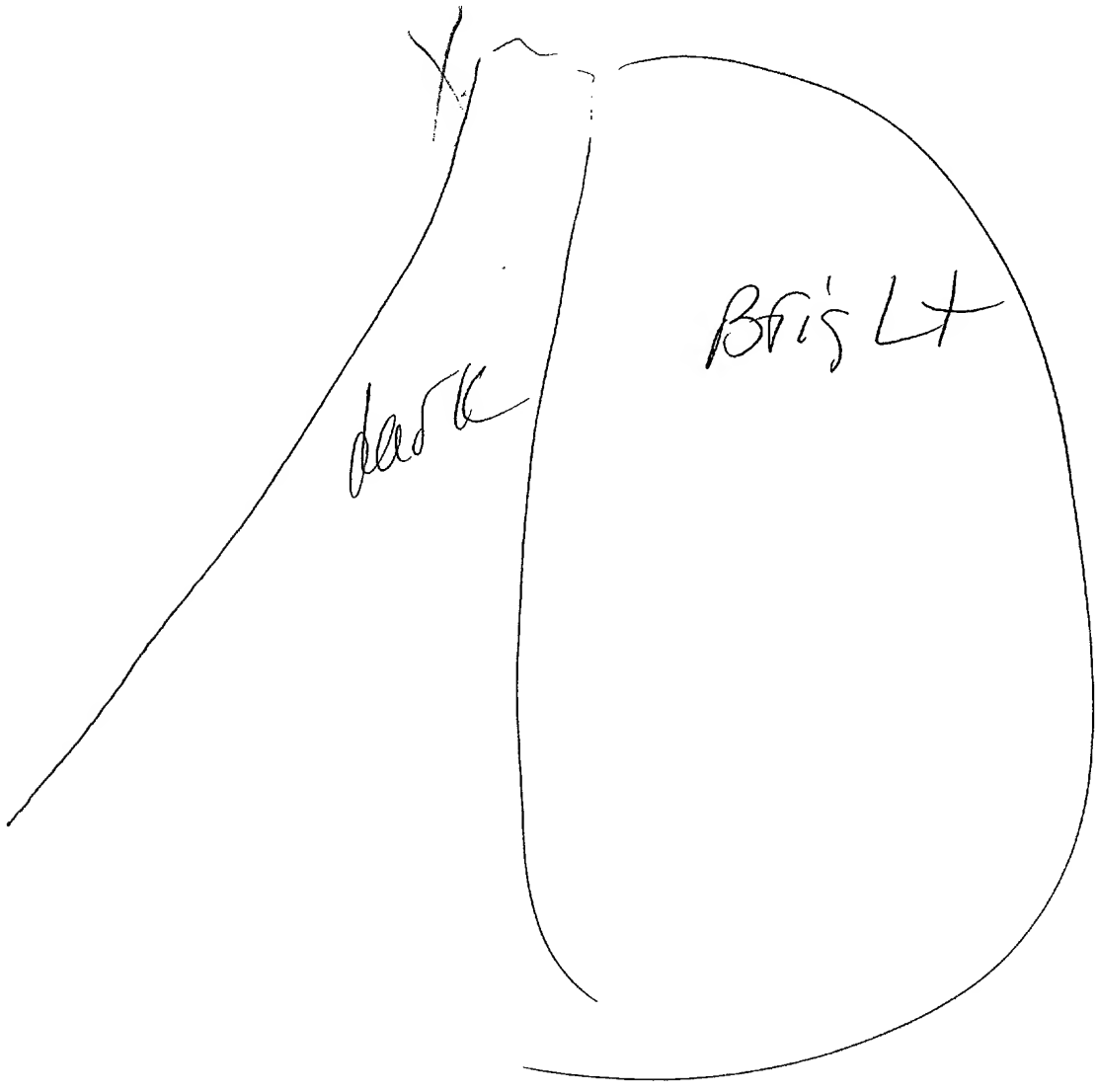
ok

Bright

All BK

8





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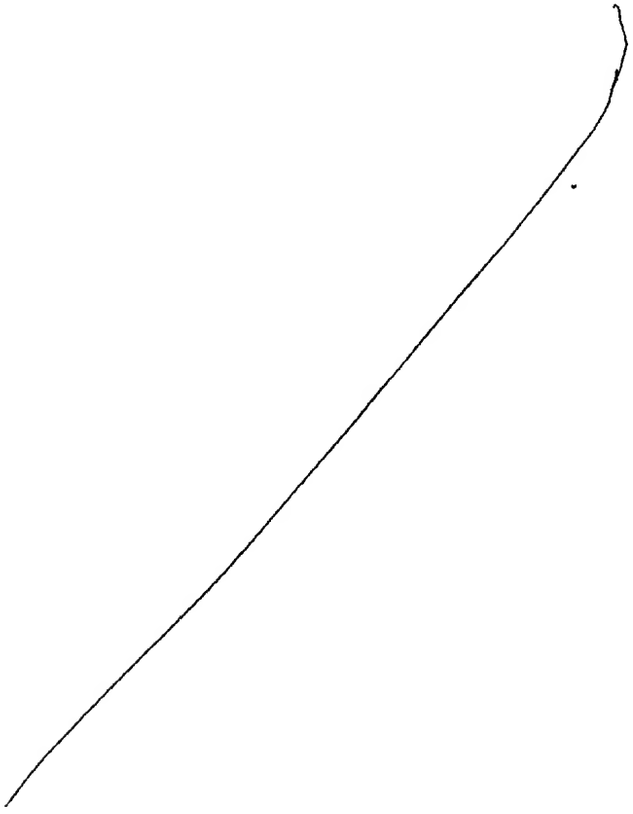
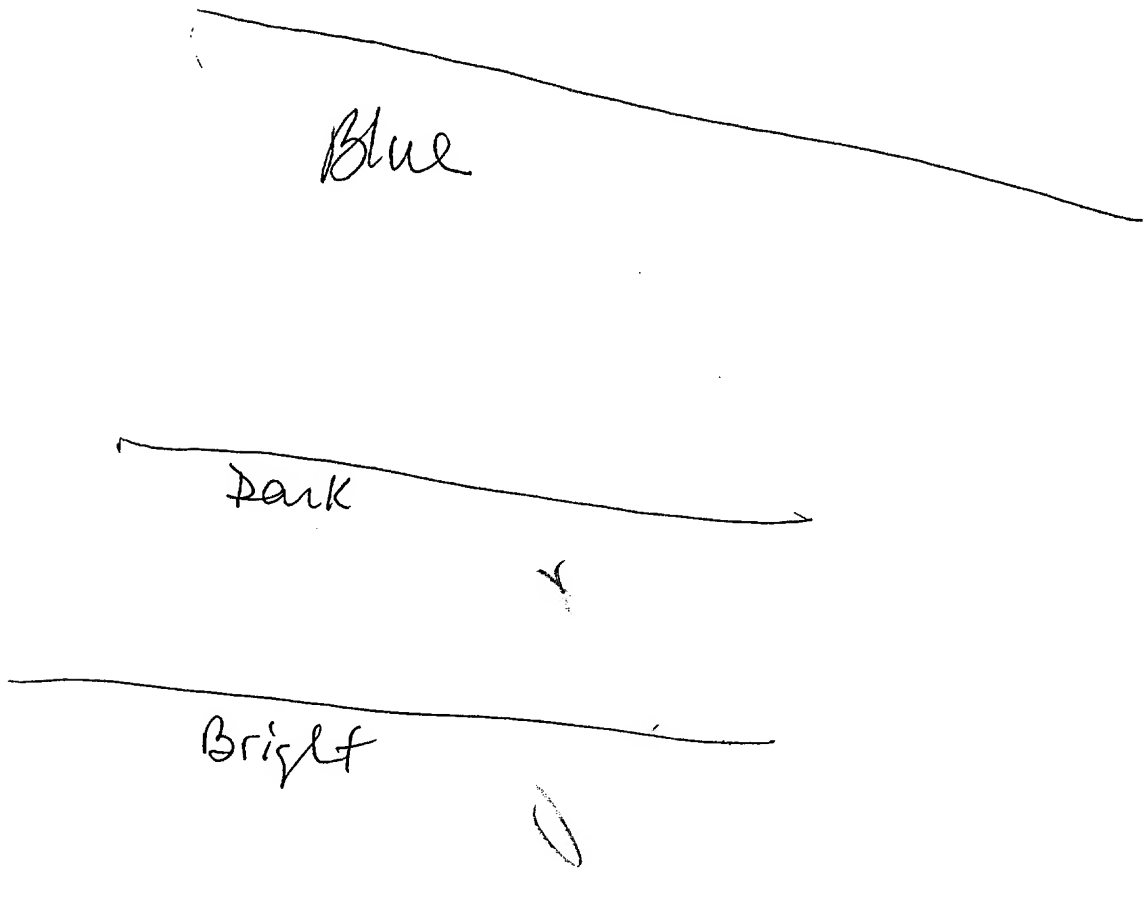


Bright diagonal

flat dark horizontal



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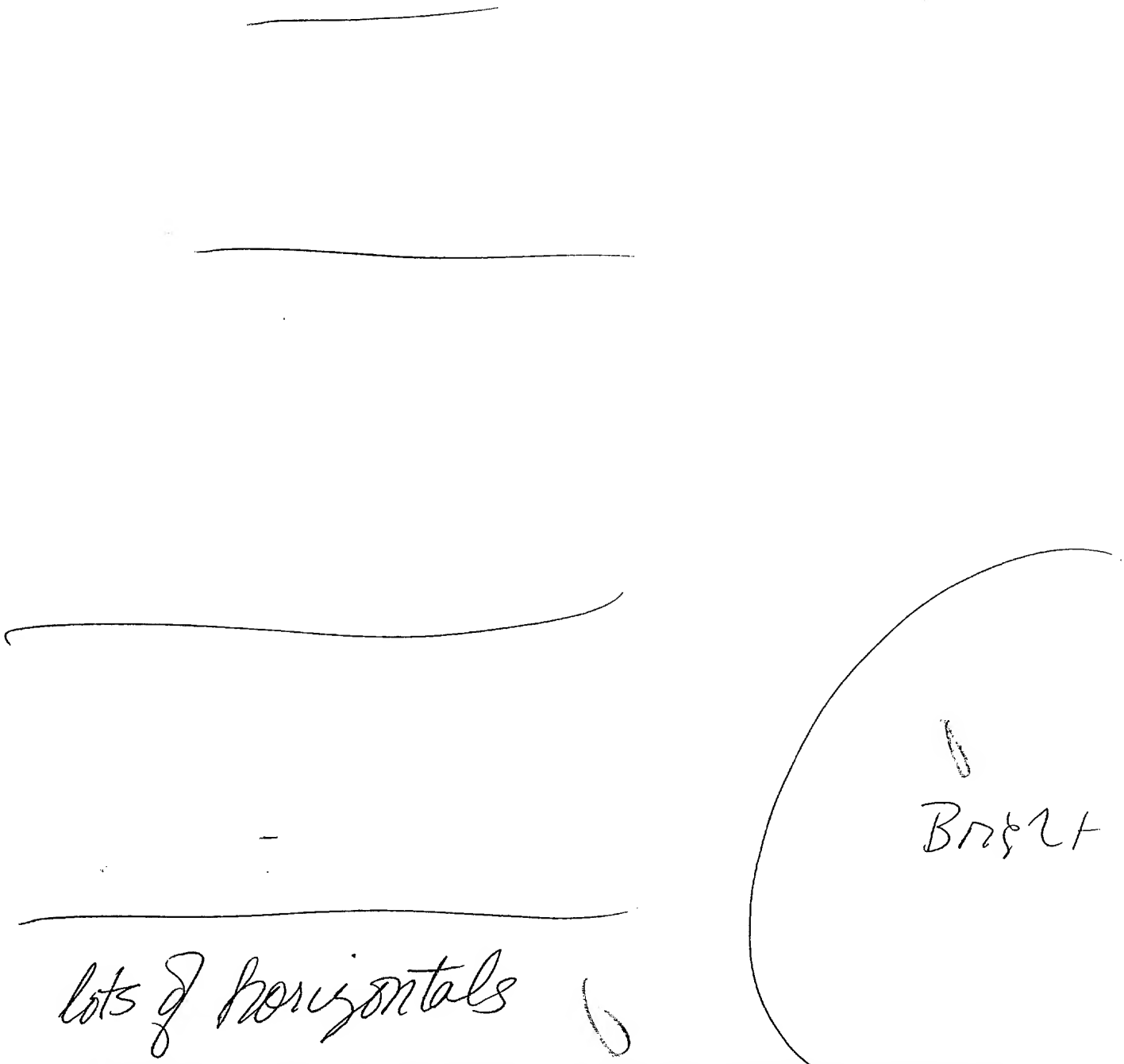

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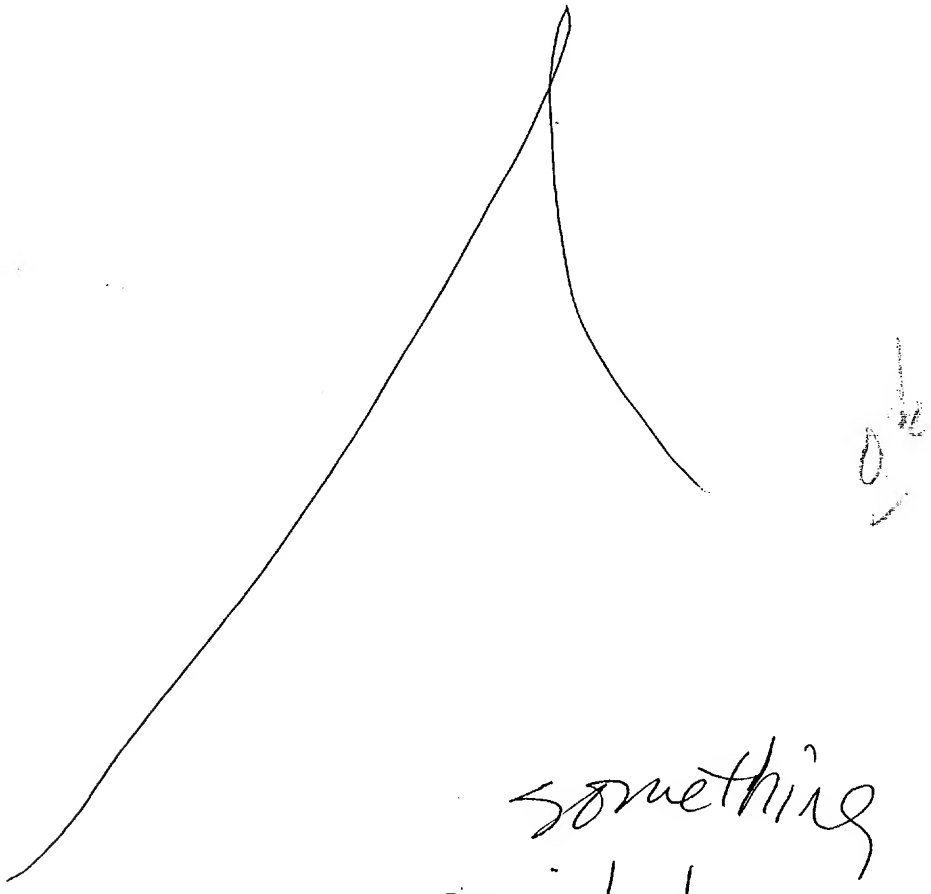
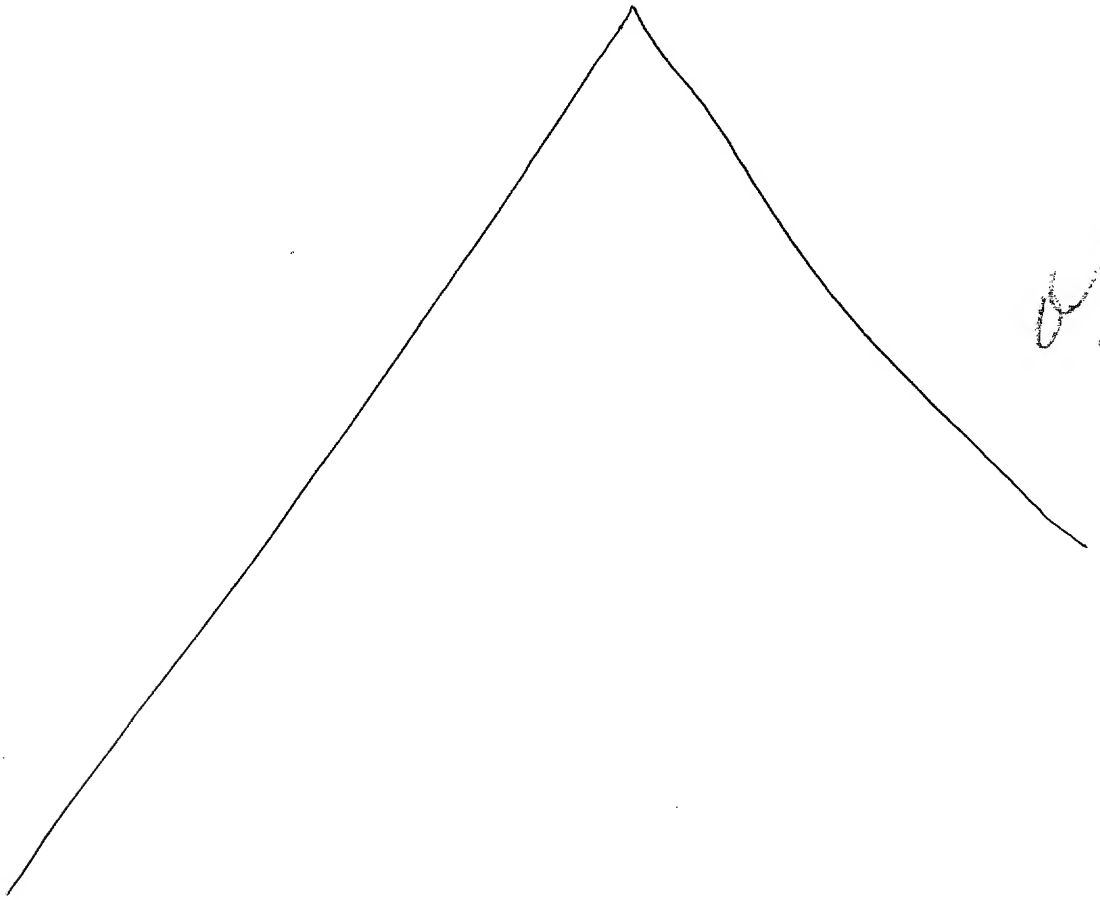


something
pointed

Ste 1100



its pointed

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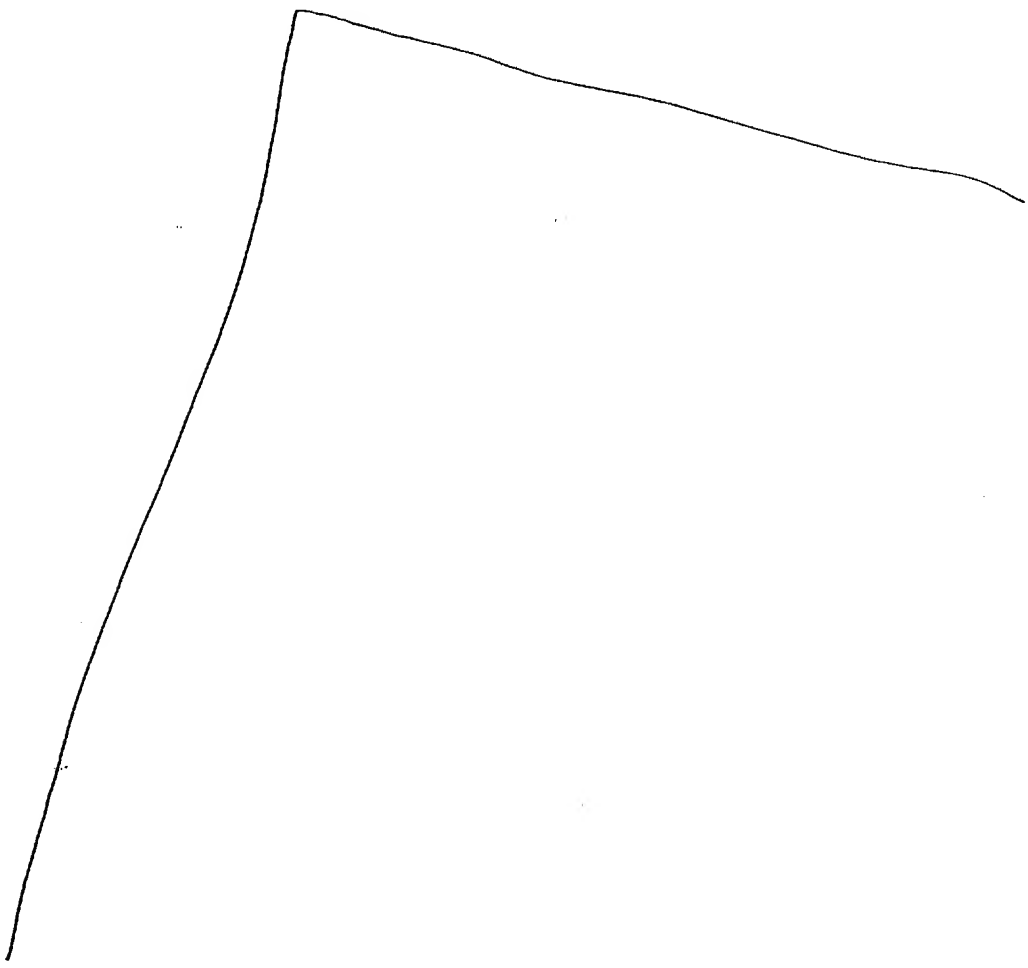

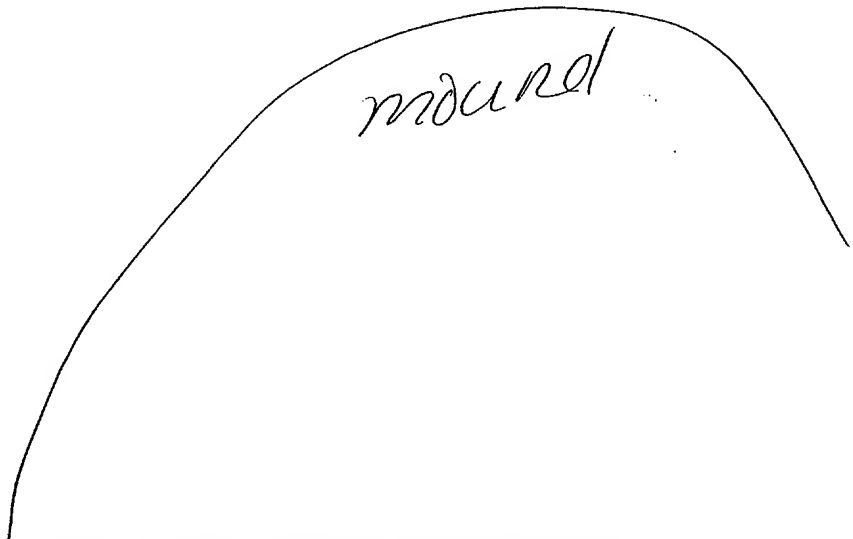

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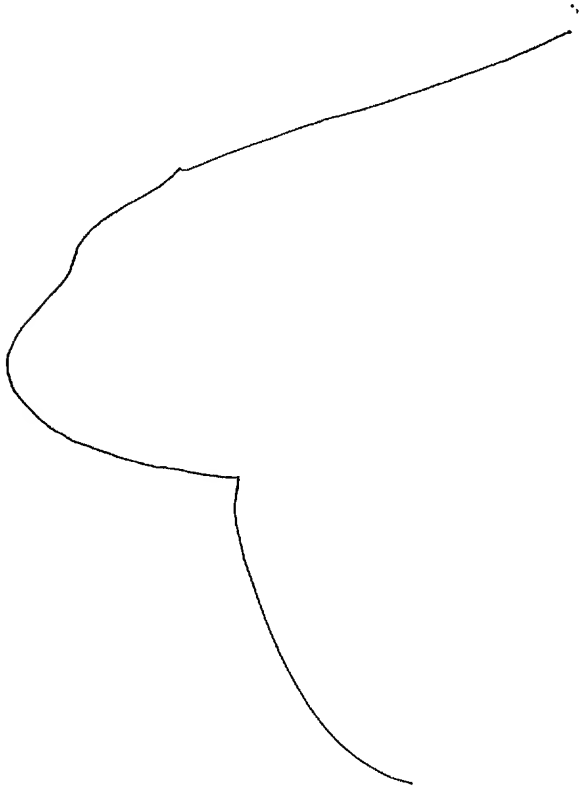

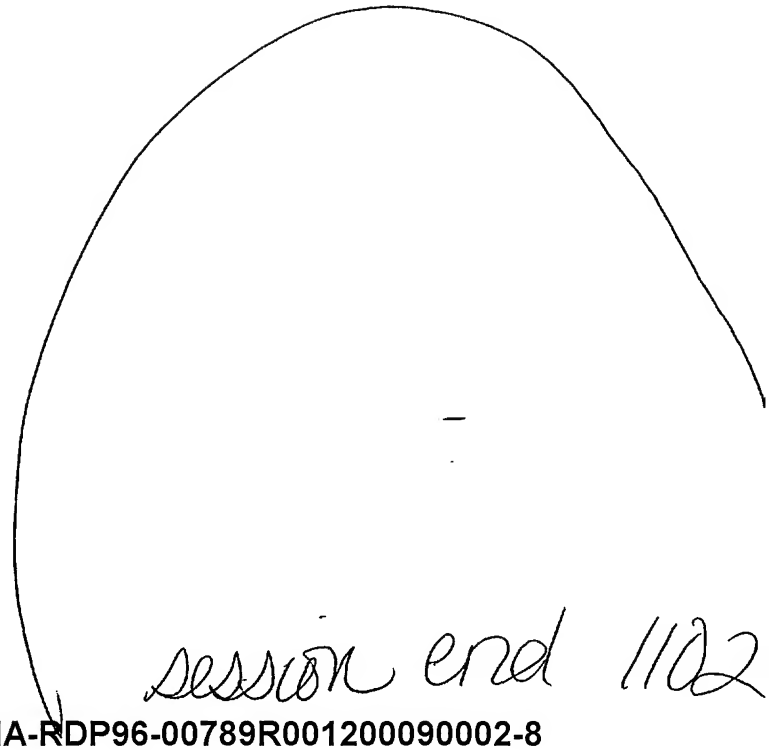

session end 1102

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Soviets Launch Shuttle For 2 Unmanned Orbits

SHUTTLE, From A1

A picture of the gleaming black-and-white Buran, which outwardly looks remarkably similar to the U.S. space shuttle Discovery, was published by the Communist Party newspaper Pravda yesterday. The newspaper said that the Energia rocket was programmed to send the shuttle back to earth if one of its engines failed.

Unlike Discovery, which made a four-day manned flight in September following the 32-month period of inactivity caused by the Challenger disaster in January 1986, Buran is not equipped with its own booster rockets. It has only small engines, used for steering in space.

Pravda predicted that the most difficult part of the operation would be bringing the shuttle safely back to Earth. The shuttle will land on a special landing strip made out of reinforced concrete that is nearly as wide as a football field. The U.S. program has not included launch of an unmanned shuttle.

A successful testing of Buran could help the Soviets in their ambitious program for the construction of space stations and space launching pads for the exploration of other planets.

On Saturday, cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov broke the world space endurance record by remaining on board the orbiting Mir space station complex for 326 days.

The Soviet space program has, however, also experienced several significant setbacks in recent months. In September, the crew aboard a joint Soviet-Afghan mission to the Mir station was stranded smarooned in space for a day because of a failure in the computer-powered landing systems of their Soyuz-TM module.

In Washington, staff writer Kathy Sawyer reported:

Americans experts who study the Soviet space program have expressed surprise at what they perceive as a major risk the Soviets appear to be taking with this launch.

"They have 10 or 12 major wickets—major new things—they've got to get through on this mission," said author James Oberg, who had predicted the Soviets would first fly a mock-up or "shell" of a shuttle before risking a fully equipped model.

The launch phase could be particularly risky, experts said, because this will be only the second operation of the giant Energia booster.

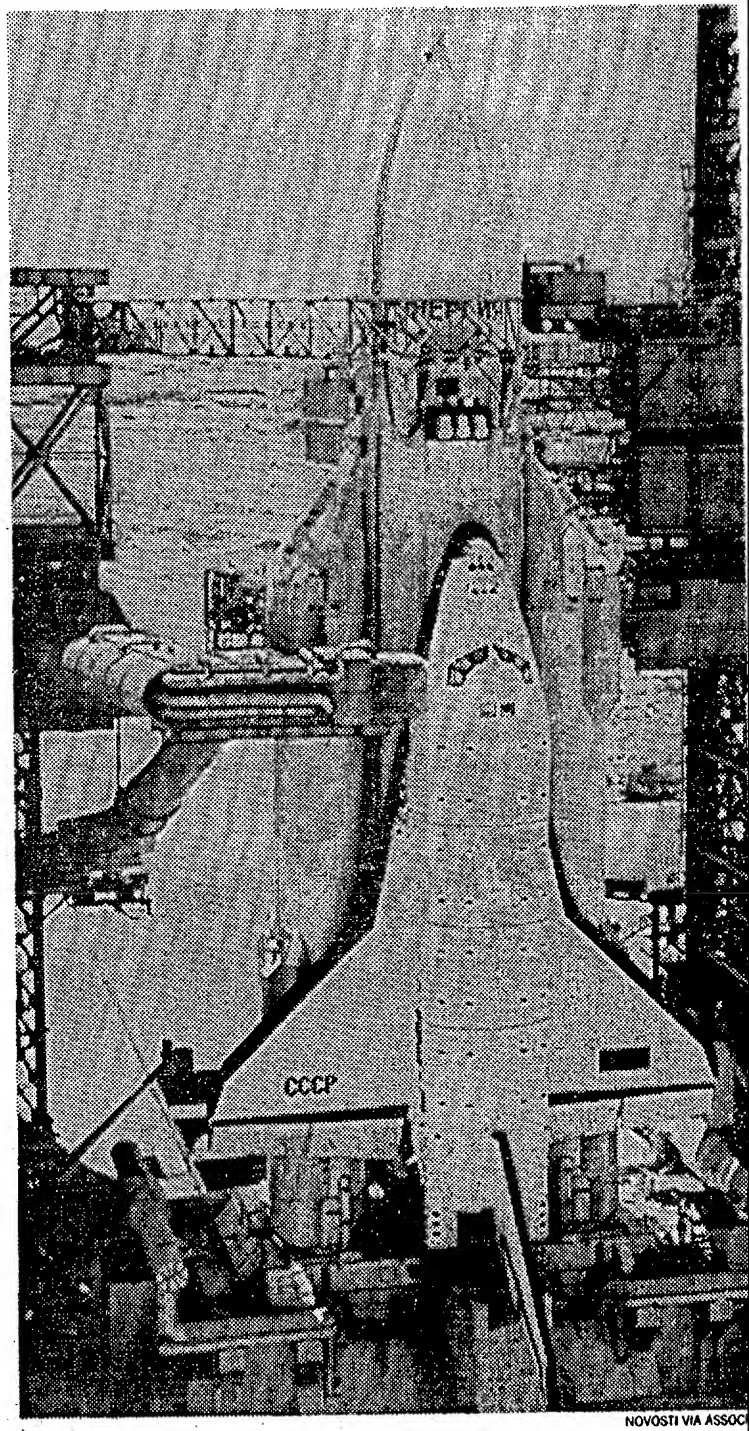
Also, some observers believe it may not be possible to throttle the Soviet booster engines.

Unlike the American shuttle engines, which may be throttled, the Soviet shuttle may have to charge through the period of maximum stress at full throttle, experts said.

The Soviets have little experience with hypersonic flight.

The experts added that during the period of the shuttle's reentry to earth the craft may travel up to 25 times the speed of sound.

They said the craft's onboard computers must respond correctly and unaided to the forces the shuttle encounters.



NOVOSTI VIA ASSOC

Soviet shuttle awaits launch at Baikonur Cosmodrome in Central Asia.