Weather Note

JET CONDENSATION TRAIL SHADOWS

DONALD H. LOKKE

4756 Staples Ave., Fort Worth, Tex.

Jet condensation trails are a common occurrence over most of the United States. During the years of 1955 and 1956, shadows of jet condensation trails were observed and photographed on two occasions in northeastern Kansas. The shadows were noted at noon on November 1, 1955, at Lawrence, Kans., and again prior to sunset on June 14, 1956, west of Lecompton, Kans.

The accompanying photographs record the observations of November 1, 1955, when numerous contrails were left as jet planes swept across the sky. The point of observation was located at the western edge of the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence, Kans., at approximately 38°57′30′′ N., 95°15′ W. Both photographs were taken with a Leica camera with 50-mm. Elmar lens; f/9 at 1/60 sec., 35-mm. Kodachrome film.

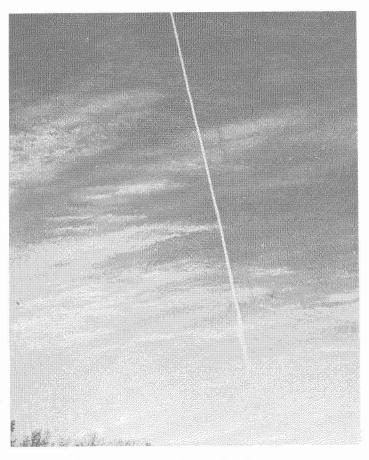


FIGURE 1.—Looking in a westerly direction from the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence, Kans., at 11:58 a.m. (estimated) CST, on November 1, 1955. Shadow is located to the right of jet condensation trail.

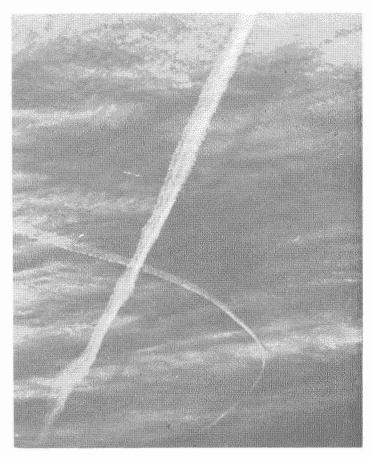


FIGURE 2.—Looking in a west-northwesterly direction from the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence, Kans., at 12:02 p.m. (estimated) CST, on November 1, 1955. Shadow is to the right of the condensation trail.