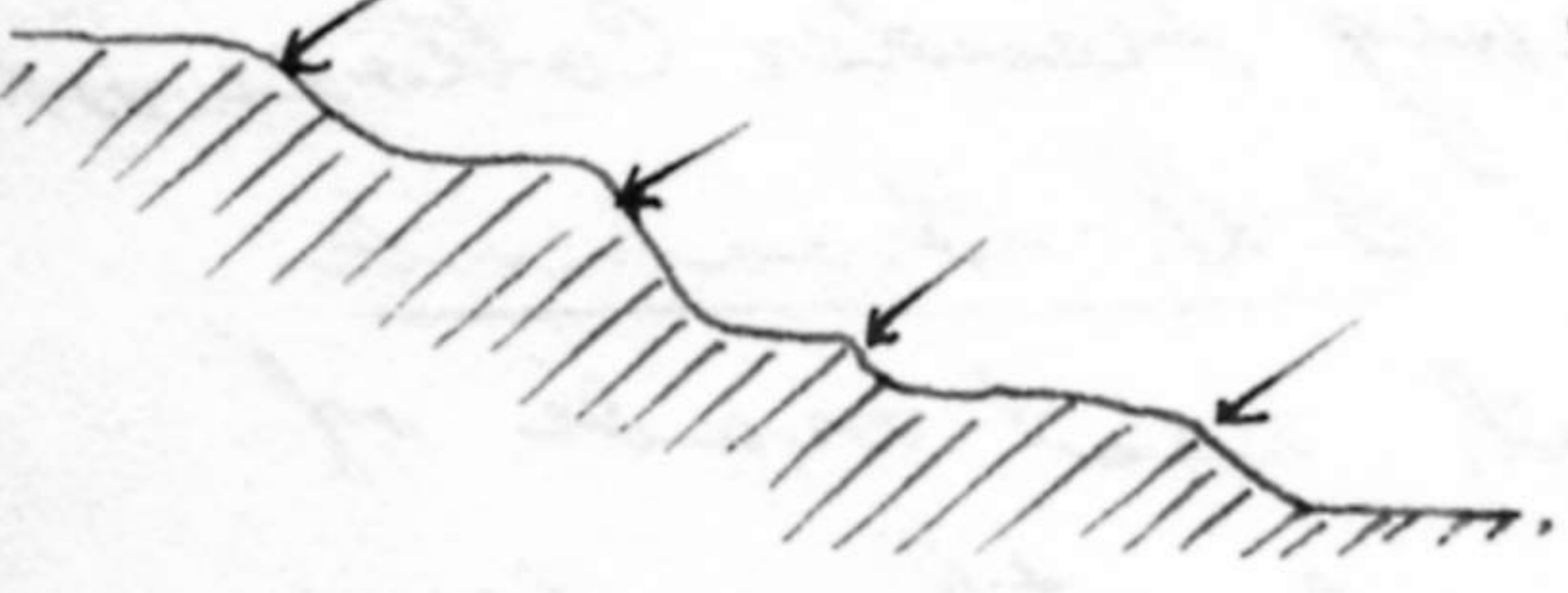


served a ^{→ similar flight} of 15 birds at the north terminal of the Deer Creek ridge in back of mt. Timpanogos where a group of Conifer line the top & west exposure. Just N. E. of the N. Fork Deer Creek divide They seemed to favor a certain spot. Their gliding was small directions and not at the same height.

7-5-33

The general nesting habits of the nighthawks are much the same, as shown by data gathered during the field observation for this season. A nesting site usually chosen is either a small hill, a ridge or a knoll bordering a valley or canyon. Protruding ridges are good. One very noticeable thing is the fact that the nest site chosen is nearly always placed in a position that is directly facing the valley or canyon. Occasionally one finds a ridge that protrudes into the valley in which a number of erosional levels or old elevated floor levels descending in a step-like manner. If one were looking for eggs on such a ridge, he would have the best luck by taking ~~and~~ his course directly down or up the ridge crest proper and making his most careful inspection just over the brow of the successive levels. One would also have to consider the



density of the sage brush. Usually it is not necessary to deviate from the highest backbone of the ridge. There is many exception to this plan, If, however, one were to follow

this plan, there would be a greater average of nests found, by taking the required time it takes to thoroughly inspect each knoll and use that time in examining the leading ridges. Found no nests placed close together, although in many cases nest were found on opposite ridges with a gully between. It was peculiar in that the six nests were always found in pairs in the same locality. On one prominent knoll, where the ridge gradually tapered off to a flat top I flushed a parent bird about 15 ahead. The bird was six feet from its nest. Only egg shells and droppings at this nest. Just across the gulch on a parallel ridge I flushed another bird. The nest was placed 4/5 of the distance up ridge. Like all other birds, and it is a thrill to observe, this one jumped about 3 feet high and flew down the ridge for a distance of about 20'. She showed the true spirit of her parental devotion by fluttering over the sage brush tops and along the ground in a very slow and graceful manner. She kept her tail at a right side angle to her body. On alighting she spread out her tail and wings as if injured. All this time on accompaniment of rasping noise was heard. It resembled a combination of the clicking noise of a bicycle wheel slowly rotating with a piece of cardboard hitting the spokes as the wheel revolves, each spoke clicking as it passed the rigid card. With this noise was blended a mechanical hum of a window screen being scratched by a finger nail steady drawn across it. The young which seemed to be about a week and a half old remained motionless upon the nest which was in reality the bare ground, with its eyes.