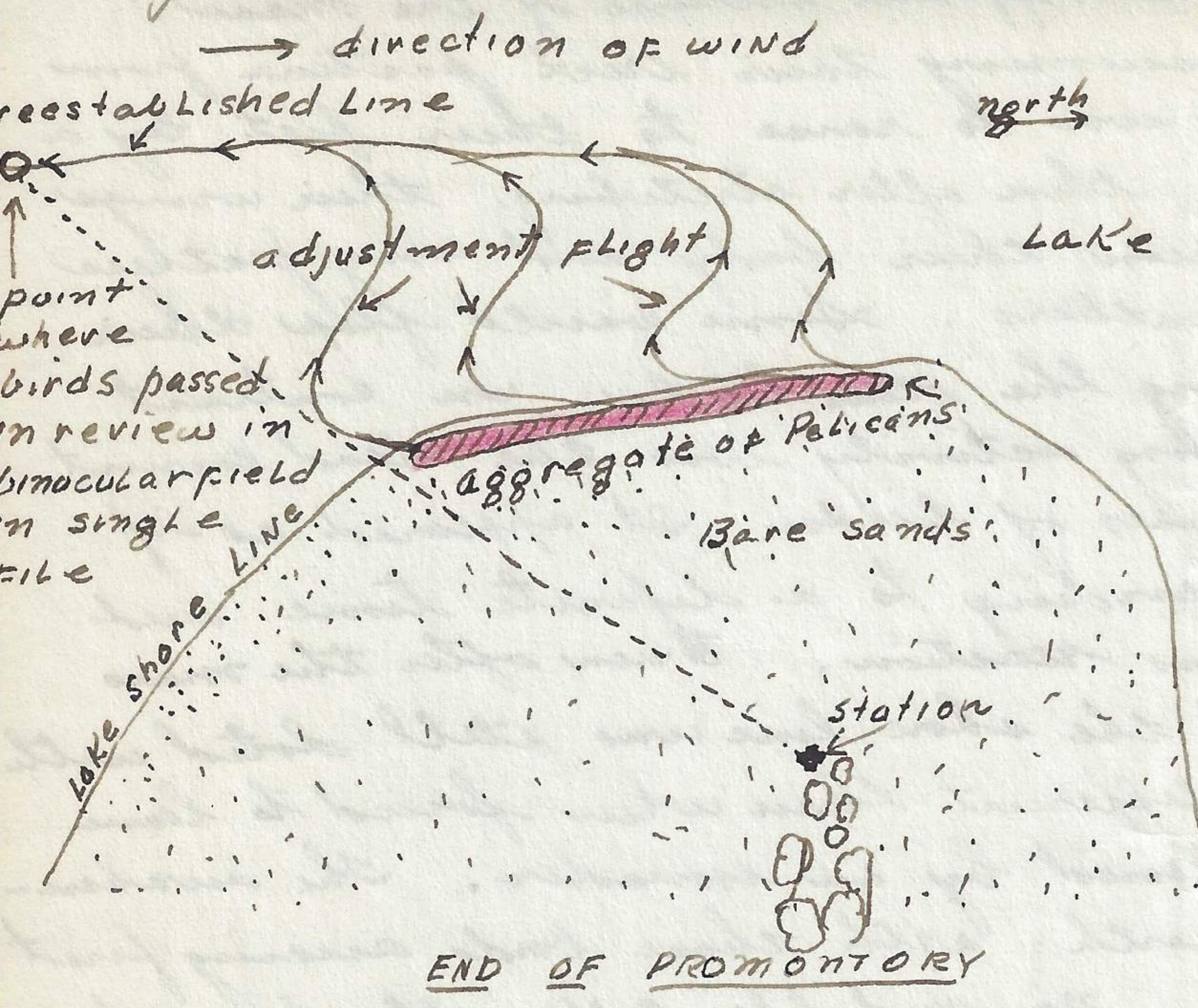


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but ^{fortunately} ^{they left area} was possible to get count as they established their long line further to the west and south.

in such a way that it was made by first flying directly into wind for elevation then swerving down and to the west and being ^{and being} ^{carried} taking advantage of the wind and then turning south again into the wind. Their reestablished line was only a few feet above the water surface.



The picture looking straight west was one of confusion and crisscross as there were several different directions of flight being carried on at the same moment, but actually

there was no confusion except in perspective ^{even} the adjustment flight was regular. Out of it all was a reestablished line of uniform direction, motion & rhythm. If traffic officer could only acquire the secret. It was only along a part of the reestablished line that I was able to make the count. As far as I could tell practically all birds trended south directly into the wind except the first group which flew west as indicated. Frequently and toward the last the birds passed the binocular fields in such number that it was necessary to estimate them by tens. The lights toward the last were fading and all that I could see was indications of wing beats as they slowly winged low across the water. It is highly possible that there were birds that left in a different direction or were flying high against poor background for visibility and in which case I would have missed, however I am confident that practically every bird passed in same direction across the point where binoculars were trained. The actual count being 2960 and if an error is to be found will be on the favorable side. The flight seemed endless and led one to believe in spontaneous generation from the mass of birds before me. The slight wind was probably responsible for the direction and manner of leaving. The flight ended abruptly at 7:08 P.M. at which time the twilight had advanced to the point where it was difficult to define the birds in flight. At 7:10 the gull in channel area made