

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 19 Jan 53 19/1130Z	2. LOCATION Aguadulce, Panama
3. SOURCE Civ. Man	10. CONCLUSION (HOAX) Photo sent to newspaper was a fake.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS A newspaper reporter observed an object traveling at a high rate of speed, having intense brilliance, without appearance of any known a/c.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	
7. COURSE Not Reported	
8. PHOTOS ☒ Yes ☐ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY: Panama
REPORT NO.: IR-9-53
AF 480 327

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: FLYCERPT
AREA REPORTED ON: Panama
DATE OF REPORT: 23 January 1953
DATE OF INFORMATION: 19-27 January 1953
PREPARED BY (Officer): John J. Abele, Captain, USAF
FROM (Agency): Dir/Intelligence, CAIR-C
EVALUATION: C-3
SOURCE: Press - Personal Contact
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable): IR-70-52

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List references at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112, Part II.)

On 27 January 1953 the Spanish language newspaper, LA HORA, reported the sighting of a flying object with intense brilliance and travelling at an incredible speed. The sighting occurred at about 0630 on 19 January 1953.

John J. Abele
JOHN J. ABELE
Captain, USAF
Asst Dir/Intelligence

APPROVED:
Lawrence P. Stover
LAWRENCE P. STOVER
Major, USAF
Dir/Intelligence

IR
1 pg (2 incl.)

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

- 2 INCLS.
1. Newspaper clipping
2. Newspaper picture
With original copy only

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w/2 incl (AB)
ATISDIB
10 MAR 53

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ATIC
CC, Caribbean Command

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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Dir/Intelligence, CAirC

IR-9-53

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OF 2

PAGES

On 27 January 1953, LA HORA, Panama Spanish language daily, printed the following:

"HAVE YOU SEEN THE FLYING SAUCER . . . ?

On 17 January 1953 this paper received information that a Flying Disk was seen in the early morning hours over Aguadulce. A reporter of this paper from Chitre on his way to the Capital City observed an object travelling at great speed, having intense brilliance, without the appearance of any known aircraft. This phenomena, seen by the reporter, and not wishing to alarm the public was withheld from publication until today so that the aerial defense of the Panama Canal could be previously alerted."

In an interview with Julio E. BRICEÑO, Director of the newspaper, it was learned that the picture (Inclosure 2) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] reporter in Chitre, was the observer. [REDACTED] is reportedly a cultured and educated man. He is a former Mayor of Chitre, highly respected and not subject to hallucinations or sensationalism.

[REDACTED] let the Reporting Officer read a report from [REDACTED] reporter in Aguadulce. [REDACTED] reports that there were other witnesses of this object which was sighted about 0630, 19 January 1953. Employees of the nearby Santa Rosa Sugar Mill and residents of the village of Pocrí also reported sighting similar or the same object. [REDACTED] reports the object as travelling at incredible velocity and having an intense brilliance.

COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER: [REDACTED] is well known for printing news that will create interest and sensation.

The man assigned the job of illustrating a flying saucer knew so little about photography that he tried to illustrate an object of intense brilliance by scraping a white spot on a negative rather than making a black spot.

It is possible that the whole story is fiction. The editors of the local papers feel that the Public Information Officer at Caribbean Air Command should have released the last similar incident, reported in IR-70-52, to the local press. Their first knowledge of this report came via a Drew Pearson syndicated column. There appears to be some resentment at being scooped.

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This CASE Includes

Two (2) Newspaper
Clippings.

MARTES 27 DE ENERO DE 1953

AF 480 327 - LA HOR

Saben Nuestros Vecinos Del Veloz Platillo...?

ATIC 10 9296A

A esta redacción han llegado informes que aparatos no identificados se vieron el Lunes 19 en la madrugada cerca de la población de Agua dulce.—Mientras un redactor de este periódico se dirigía de la ciudad de Chitré hacia esta capital, pudo observar un aparato a gran velocidad igual que con intensa brillantez cruzaba el espacio, sin tener las apariencias de nave aérea conocida. Este fenómeno impresionó de manera particular a nuestro redactor y corresponsal quien no queriendo alarmar mantuvo en reserva esta información que hoy se da a la publicidad para que las defensas aéreas del Canal de Panamá informen sobre este suceso.

ATIC DOCUMENT NO. 109296 27 Jan 53 Panama

On 27 Jan 53 the Spanish Language newspaper La Hora reported the sighting of flying object with intense brilliance and traveling at incredible speed. The sighting occurred at about 0630 hrs on 19 Jan 53. This sighting can be taken with a grain of salt, however, since the preparing officer reports that the newspaper involved has a tendency to report sensational events so that it can sell more copies.

(Inc 2
AF 480327

s Voladores En Aguadulce

 **LA HORA**
DIARIO POPULAR
MARTES 27 DE ENERO DE 1953

ATTC 109296B

Platillos Volados Vistos En Agua

(VEA PAGINA 9)



MA

ATIC 109296B

