

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 21 September 1967	2. LOCATION Panama Canal Zone	12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical Meteor ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 22/0340Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5 - 10 seconds	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE se
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Rapidly moving object appeared to come through a saddle formed by hills at a low altitude. Definitely below clouds which were at 1600 ft. No sound. Emitted a luminous light over its entire surface. Object similar in size to a C-54 fuselage as seen at 1500 ft a mile distant. Object disappeared suddenly with what seemed an erratic upward movement.		11. COMMENTS Description & course of object are those of a bolide.

COUNTRY PANAMA		REPORT NO. IR-14-57	(LEAVE BLANK) 1135203
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT UFOB			
AREA REPORTED ON Panama		FROM (Agency) Director of Intelligence	
DATE OF REPORT 7 Oct 1957	DATE OF INFORMATION 30 Sep 1957	EVALUATION B-6	
PREPARED BY (Officer) Capt Vernon D. Adams		SOURCE Witness	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFR 200-2			

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

On 1 October 1957, the Director of Intelligence was informed by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 USARCIB, that Pvt. William T. Hannon, 62nd Machine Record Unit, Fort Amador, Canal Zone, had reported sighting an unidentified flying object at 2240R, 21 September.

W/O INCL
ABI

Vernon D. Adams
VERNON D. ADAMS
Captain, USAF
Ass't. Director of Intelligence

APPROVED BY:

George Welter
GEORGE WELTER
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Director of Intelligence

*ATIC Amelmann
ASTRO (Robble)
(See last page
for ex. card)*

1 INCL.
Map

AVC

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At 1545R, 1 Oct 57, we were informed by ACofS, G-2 USARCARIB, that Pvt William T. Hannon, 62nd Machine Record Unit, Fort Amador, C.Z., reported sighting an unidentified flying object at 2240R, 21 Sept 57.

Pvt Hannon stated to the reporting officer, that on the night in question, he was behind the Fort Amador Post Exchange which is on the east bank and adjacent to the Panama Canal, when he became aware of a rapidly moving object on the opposite bank. The object appeared to come through a saddle formed by the hills on Fort Kobbe (approximately 2½ miles West) and was at a low altitude, stating that it was definitely below the clouds which were reported at 1600 feet. This object made no noise, and appeared to be emitting a phosphorescent or luminescent light over its entire surface. The object was moving in a straight line on a course of approximately 130 degrees. He stated the object was in sight between 5 and 10 seconds during which time it covered an estimated distance of seven miles. The object was similar in size and shape of a C-54 fuselage as seen at 1500 feet altitude and a mile distant. It disappeared suddenly with an erratic upward movement. Vision was partly obscured at this time by small trees. When he moved to another point, the object had disappeared. During the time the object was in sight, it progressed from a scattered cloud background to clear area. He said that he spent several minutes studying wind conditions and reflections from the rotating beacon at Albrook in an effort to explain the phenomena. He then attempted to call the radar station without success. The following morning, Pvt Hannon informed his unit commander of the incident. *Good clue*

A query of the Radar Officer of the 65th AAA Group at Fort Clayton revealed that the station situated on Tobago Island was on watch but had not made any reports of contacts which were in the immediate area. This site was approximately 7 miles across the water from the sighting.

Private Hannon is an intelligent, lucid, individual, with a serious mien.

1. DESCRIPTION

- a. Cigar shaped
- b. About the size of C-54 fuselage as seen from 1500 feet and a mile distant.
- c. Luminescent white *← good clue.*
- d. one
- e. N/A
- f. No external features discernable
- g. None
- h. See narrative report for additional details

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2. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

- a. The glow or light object was emitting
- b. Angle of elevation about 30 degrees. Azimuth of initial observation was approximately 265 degrees.
- c. Angle of elevation at time of disappearance was 20 degrees and appeared to climb. Azimuth was approximately 154 degrees.
- d. Object seemed to make an erratic movement upward
- e. 5 to 10 seconds

3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION

- a. Ground visual, no contacts were made on a TPS-1D radar installation located approximately 7 miles from point of disappearance.

4. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING

- a. 22 0340Z September 1957
- b. night

0340Z - 5 = 2240h

→ 10:40 PM (Local)

5. LOCATION OF OBSERVER

- a. See inclosure #1 (Map of area)

6. IDENTITY OF OBSERVER

- a. Private, 62nd MRU, Ft. Amador
Administrative Clerk, Machine Record Unit.
Individual can be classified as reliable.

7. WEATHER CONDITIONS

- a. Local thunder shower had just terminated, clouds scattered and low. Winds light from west. Visibility good.

- b. Winds aloft - 22 0000Z observation

surface 110 - 04
 6000 170 - 09
 10,000 200 - 02
 16,000 020 - 06
 20,000 010 - 13
 30,000 330 - 09
 50,000 340 - 15
 80,000 - -

- c. 2238R Observation Detachment 11, 9th Weather Group
1600 sctd 12 mi vsby Wind C
2255 Observation
Clear 12 mi vsby Wind C

Observers summary:

From approximately 2000R to 2230R observer reported occasional distant lightning in West. Thunderstorms close to Albrook from 2202R to 2230R East quadrant.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Rawinsonde balloon releases

1st release - 1831R

2nd release - 2000R (estimated) a light is attached to balloon if darkness requires initial tracking by visual means.

8. Negative Radar Report

9. None

10. Assistant Director of Intelligence, CAirC.

The reporting officer believes the observer witnessed a weather phenomena associated with thunderstorms commonly called fire balls.

12. None

Concur: One of the few instances a reporting officer attempts to properly evaluate and identify the UFO.

Support, based on known knowledge of Bobbs (Fireballs):

1. Straight line
2. More than 6-8 seconds
3. glow brilliantly + fluorescent light
4. enter earth's atmosphere at decided angle

