PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 6 August 1962	2. LOCATION Santa Cruz, Bolivia	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 2025 GMT 07/0025Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Civilian	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5 secs	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one breaking	9. COURSE West

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Obj in sight for 5 secs. Brilliant & was either falling or flying thru sky. Arc descending toward the Western horizon. Extreme brilliance altho no illumination of the surrounding buildings. Several particles trailing at regular intervals. As each trailing obj extinguished another would drop off main body. Disappearance accompanied by increase in brightness & disappeared instantaneously.

11. COMMENTS

Probably a bolide. Case evaluated as Meteor sighting since all info in accord with this analysis.-

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

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(Classification)

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COUNTRY	BOLIVIA	REPORT NO.	IR 1,521,039
SUBJECT	(U) Reported Sighting of Falling Object	DATE OF REPORT	31 Aug 1962
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO	6 Aug 1962	REFERENCES	AFM 200-1 Chapt 13 Par 82
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	La Paz, Bolivia, 28 Aug 62		
EVALUATION	B-3	FROM	Air Attaché, Bolivia
SOURCE	US Civilian Oil Co employee	PREPARED BY	Lt Col Edward J. Fox

SUMMARY Forwarded is a duplicated copy of a letter report concerning the sighting of an unidentified falling, fiery object due west of Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The sighting was reported to have taken place at 2025 hours (local) 6 Aug 1962.

COMMENTS:

The letter report was written (or dated on 2 Aug 62) by a [redacted], a Gulf Oil employee in Bolivia, and was addressed to h[redacted]ger in La Paz. A date stamp of 23 Aug 62 indicates that the letter was received by the Bolivian Gulf Oil Co on that date. Copies of the letter were forwarded to the Service Attaché offices on 27 Aug 62. Although I do not personally know the reporting individual he is well known by the USARMA and is reported to be a sharp, reliable person. Also the USARMA states that this same individual has previously reported similar sightings in the same area.

Copy of subject letter report follows:

PETROLEUM HELICOPTERS DE BOLIVIA
CASILLA No 678
SANTA CRUZ BOLIVIA

Mr. [redacted]

Bolivian Gulf Oil Company
La Paz, Bolivia

Subject: Unidentified Flying Object Sighted

Dear Sirs:

In answer to your request for written information the sighting of an unidentified flying object, I submit the following information:

On the night of August 6, 1962 at hours 2025 in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, my attention was directed to a brilliant object falling or flying through the sky. It first appeared to my unobstructed view at approximately a 45 degree angle from the horizon due west of Santa Cruz. Its brilliance was slightly less than the intensity of the sun at midday, but the object was much smaller. As far as I could determine, there was no

OCT 16 1962

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illumination of my immediate surroundings resulting from the object. As I did not see the object at the beginning of its appearance (its presence being indicated to me by another person) I cannot describe its original appearance. As I first saw it, the object was apparently descending in a nearly vertical path toward the western horizon. Small particles of its substances were trailing it at regular intervals, each extinguishing itself as a new one separated from the original body. My best estimate of the number of glowing particles or illuminations in trail of the original is seven or eight, each spaced at intervals approximately two to three times the diameter of the original object forming a straight line behind the original.

The object was in my view for about three seconds and in view of my companion about two seconds before that. Its disappearance occurred in an almost instantaneous increase in brilliance and sudden extinction of the original object. The trailing illuminations extinguished themselves in turn. The weather at time of occurrence was a clear sky with a small amount of smoke and haze. Wind was from the northwest at about five to ten knots.

Signed: K[redacted]l

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Edward J Fox
EDWARD J. FOX
Lt Colonel, USAF
Air Attaché

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Classification Cancelled
Auth: DoD Directive 5200.1
By: [redacted]
Date: 6 Dec 1966
AFR 205-1 Para 21-7c
3 Years

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