

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,000

Have extraterrestrials ever visited Earth?

2

00:00:07,000 --> 00:00:17,000

Not long ago in Phoenix, Arizona, some say they looked up and saw this.

3

00:00:17,000 --> 00:00:20,000

Was there a UFO over Phoenix?

4

00:00:20,000 --> 00:00:23,000

Come on, be an aircraft or something.

5

00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:29,000

Late at night when you look into the sky, what do you see?

6

00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:33,000

No!

7

00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:38,000

No!

8

00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:05,000

UFOs have fascinated human beings for years.

9

00:01:05,000 --> 00:01:10,000

We've all seen movies about aliens, but could it actually happen in real life?

10

00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:13,000

For some people, the answer is clear.

11

00:01:13,000 --> 00:01:20,000

In a universe of infinite size, to assume where the only intelligent life is, well, stupid.

12

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:24,000

But so far there's no proof. Or is there?

13

00:01:25,000 --> 00:01:34,000

There are people who say there was a UFO event in 1997, one that's never been explained.

14

00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:40,000

It was the night of the 19th in Phoenix, Arizona, a totally normal night.

15

00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:45,000

That was about to get extremely strange.

16

00:01:45,000 --> 00:01:52,000

At some time between 8.15 and 8.45 p.m., a sighting was reported.

17

00:01:53,000 --> 00:01:57,000

A V-shaped object was near the town of Pauldin.

18

00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:04,000

Then, witnesses say it moved southeast, passing over Phoenix at about 8.30 p.m.

19

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:09,000

Just after 8.45 p.m., it disappeared.

20

00:02:09,000 --> 00:02:16,000

Hundreds of people said they saw it, but this is the only videotape that exists.

21

00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:23,000

A retired pilot named Terry Proctor captured the video from the front yard of his house

22

00:02:23,000 --> 00:02:27,000

in the town of Scottsdale, just north of Phoenix.

23

00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:32,000

At about 8.28 that evening, I was outside with my video camera

24

00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:36,000

and happened to look up, right about up in there,

25

00:02:36,000 --> 00:02:40,000

and a station of lights moving from north to south.

26

00:02:40,000 --> 00:02:45,000

To supplement Terry's video evidence, Tim Lee created this computer illustration.

27

00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:50,000

This is what Tim says flew over his home in north-central Phoenix.

28

00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:56,000

The right arm of the object went directly over this house, over the property,

29

00:02:56,000 --> 00:03:04,000

and the left arm of that was probably about two and a half blocks over in that direction.

30

00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:09,000

You could see that between the lights on each arm was solid.

31

00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:13,000

There was no stars. You could not see any stars between each light.

32

00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:21,000

Soon, witnesses say the object headed northwest and disappeared.

33

00:03:21,000 --> 00:03:24,000

But the show wasn't nearly over.

34

00:03:24,000 --> 00:03:28,000

Around 10 p.m. a second strange light pattern appeared.

35

00:03:28,000 --> 00:03:32,000

This one in the skies over Phoenix.

36

00:03:32,000 --> 00:03:38,000

And this time, at least four people in the area recorded the sighting on video.

37

00:03:38,000 --> 00:03:40,000

Chuck Rarejinn was one of them.

38

00:03:40,000 --> 00:03:42,000

It was around 9.55, 10 o'clock.

39

00:03:42,000 --> 00:03:44,000

I went out to turn off our watering system,

40

00:03:44,000 --> 00:03:48,000

and as I walked out the back porch, the city lights were underneath,

41

00:03:48,000 --> 00:03:52,000

and there were these nine lights suspended in the sky.

42

00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:56,000

Across town, Mike Kirsten saw the same thing.

43

00:03:56,000 --> 00:03:58,000

I just got done watching television about 10 o'clock,

44

00:03:58,000 --> 00:04:06,000

and I went out in my patio in our home faces southwest across the city of Phoenix.

45

00:04:06,000 --> 00:04:10,000

Mike noticed an amber light hovering above one of the nearby mountain peaks.

46

00:04:10,000 --> 00:04:13,000

He ran inside and grabbed his video camera.

47

00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:15,000

Figure this one out. Here's a devil.

48

00:04:15,000 --> 00:04:20,000

Suddenly, as he was recording, more lights appeared.

49

00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:25,000

One by one, they lit up, forming an arc.

50

00:04:25,000 --> 00:04:30,000

Mike wondered, was someone, or something, trying to send a message?

51

00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:37,000

Steve Blonder thought so. He was actually the lights to appear that night.

52

00:04:37,000 --> 00:04:40,000

Why?

53

00:04:40,000 --> 00:04:47,000

Because during each of the previous four nights, he had seen mysterious lights hovering in the sky.

54

00:04:47,000 --> 00:04:53,000

Individual, orange, amber-type lights every single night, around 10 after 9.

55

00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:58,000

Steve was so sure the lights would appear, he called in Bill Hamilton and Tom King.

56

00:04:58,000 --> 00:05:03,000

Two local UFO investigators.

57

00:05:03,000 --> 00:05:07,000

They jumped at the chance to document a UFO sighting in progress.

58

00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:12,000

As they watched the sky, one of Steve's neighbors shouted.

59

00:05:12,000 --> 00:05:17,000

There's another one!

60

00:05:17,000 --> 00:05:20,000

I had no idea what it was.

61

00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:24,000

Did anyone know? Bill Griner thinks so.

62

00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:30,000

30 miles to the northwest, Bill was driving his truck near Luke Air Force Base.

63

00:05:33,000 --> 00:05:38,000

He says that the military was verited in those unidentified lights in the sky.

64

00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:45,000

Bill says he watched three jets take off, and as soon as they were in the air...

65

00:05:45,000 --> 00:05:52,000

All three jets made an abrupt turn and headed for the closest object to the base, which was in the southwest.

66

00:05:52,000 --> 00:06:00,000

And as soon as the jets got to the object, it shot straight up and disappeared right in front of me.

67

00:06:00,000 --> 00:06:07,000

Soon the phones at the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Washington were ringing off the hook.

68

00:06:07,000 --> 00:06:10,000

National UFO Reporting Center, good afternoon.

69

00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:13,000

The center is a privately run organization.

70

00:06:13,000 --> 00:06:18,000

They gather information on UFO sightings and then make their reports available to the public.

71

00:06:18,000 --> 00:06:21,000

Peter Davenport runs the center.

72

00:06:21,000 --> 00:06:26,000

We certainly took more than a hundred reports all told about this incident.

73

00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:34,000

I think clearly that something very unusual had taken place over approximately two dozen cities in Arizona.

74

00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:38,000

Unusual? Definitely.

75

00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:43,000

Extraterrestrial? The public demanded an investigation.

76

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:51,000

The authorities refused to investigate. Did they have something to hide?

77

00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:55,000

Come on, be an aircraft or something.

78

00:06:56,000 --> 00:06:59,000

Find out next on Truth or Scare.

79

00:07:04,000 --> 00:07:11,000

So far, we know some very mysterious lights appeared in the Arizona sky in 1997.

80

00:07:11,000 --> 00:07:15,000

Twice. Hundreds of eyewitnesses came forward.

81

00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:21,000

A few of them even made homemade video tapes. And all of them had questions.

82

00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:27,000

The first place many people turned was to the local TV news.

83

00:07:27,000 --> 00:07:29,000

12 news. Blair Meeks.

84

00:07:29,000 --> 00:07:35,000

Phone calls start happening. Boom. What are these strange lights? What are these strange lights?

We're seeing lights over here. We're seeing lights over there.

85

00:07:35,000 --> 00:07:39,000

This is video of what thousands of Arizonans saw March 13th.

86

00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:42,000

Many of you saw this row of lights.

87

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:46,000

Local TV reporter Jim Schneebelt was trying to sort everything out.

88

00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:52,000

Some people reported seeing lights at 8.15. Other people reported seeing lights at 10.15.

89

00:07:52,000 --> 00:07:59,000

Some people saw them as stationary objects over the city. Some people saw them as moving objects coming in from the north.

90

00:08:01,000 --> 00:08:08,000

But while people swam TV and radio stations with phone calls, Luke is claimed that no one had called them with any sighting.

91

00:08:09,000 --> 00:08:14,000

Well, that's an interesting statement because I called them twice that night myself.

92

00:08:14,000 --> 00:08:21,000

This copy of his long distance bill shows that Peter did call. He says he spoke to operator number five.

93

00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:30,000

Very nice, very accommodating young woman who admitted to me that her switchboard that night, the 13th of March, had been, to use her term,

94

00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:37,000

paralyzed by calls to the switchboard about the object that had flown over Arizona earlier that night.

95

00:08:37,000 --> 00:08:42,000

If the Air Force did receive these calls, no one knows why they would deny it.

96

00:08:42,000 --> 00:08:48,000

Dozens of eyewitnesses and concerned citizens asked for some kind of government investigation.

97

00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:52,000

But for two months, nothing happened.

98

00:08:54,000 --> 00:09:02,000

Then on May 6th, 1997, at a Phoenix City Council meeting, Councilwoman Frances Barwood asked why.

99

00:09:02,000 --> 00:09:07,000

I said, can we find out why nobody's investigating? Can we look at? And there was this silence.

100

00:09:07,000 --> 00:09:11,000

People are starting to ask more questions. Thanks.

101

00:09:11,000 --> 00:09:12,000

Thank you.

102

00:09:12,000 --> 00:09:18,000

No one on the city council thought that an investigation was necessary. But Frances wouldn't give up.

103

00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:23,000

She kept pushing the city, trying to get officials to take the eyewitness reports seriously.

104

00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:31,000

Just when things seemed hopeless, Frances's hard work finally paid off.

105

00:09:32,000 --> 00:09:41,000

5th, Silvington, the governor of Arizona, announced that the state would conduct an official investigation into the events of March 13th, 1997.

106

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:49,000

On June 19th, Governor Silvington announced that a police investigation had found the source of the lights.

107

00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:53,000

And the governor even hinted that they had captured a suspect.

108

00:09:53,000 --> 00:10:00,000

Now I'll ask Officer Stein and his colleagues to escort the accused into the room so that we may all look upon the guilty party.

109

00:10:00,000 --> 00:10:02,000

Don't get him too close to me, please.

110

00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:09,000

Now this just goes to show that you guys are entirely too serious.

111

00:10:10,000 --> 00:10:17,000

Governor Silvington's investigation had all been a joke. Eyewitnesses like Sandra Hickman were not amused.

112

00:10:17,000 --> 00:10:24,000

I saw it. Other parents saw it. Teachers saw it. A lot of people in the valley saw it. But they won't give us an answer.

113

00:10:25,000 --> 00:10:34,000

The witnesses were tired of being ignored. With nowhere else to turn, they started searching for answers...on their own.

114

00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:44,000

A high-tech analysis of the lights brings up even more dramatic questions about just where they came from.

115

00:10:47,000 --> 00:10:49,000

Next, Untruth or Scare.

116

00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:56,000

The witnesses were shocked.

117

00:11:09,000 --> 00:11:13,000

Hundreds of witnesses had seen the strange hovering lights in March of 1997.

118

00:11:13,000 --> 00:11:16,000

Now Phoenix was burning with curiosity.

119

00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:19,000

Was this a bona fide sighting of extraterrestrials?

120

00:11:19,000 --> 00:11:21,000

Maybe there was another explanation.

121

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:27,000

For some reason, the governor's office considered the sighting a joke. There was no official investigation.

122

00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:39,000

But the people wanted answers. And since the government wasn't talking, they came here.

123

00:11:40,000 --> 00:11:45,000

Village Labs is a computer special effects company run by Jim DeLotoso and Michael Tanner.

124

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:51,000

The work they do for TV and movies, they also help investigate UFO sightings.

125

00:11:53,000 --> 00:11:56,000

Village Labs agreed to study the reports and videotapes.

126

00:11:57,000 --> 00:12:07,000

We're a lab. We're just like a police lab. We're just like a medical lab where professional investigators send us their evidence.

127

00:12:08,000 --> 00:12:11,000

Thanks for coming to the Phoenix Lights briefing number four.

128

00:12:12,000 --> 00:12:17,000

In town meetings like this, Jim and Michael listen to people describe what they'd seen that night.

129

00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:28,000

Everyone had seen the lights, but different people had different explanations.

130

00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:48,000

It took a long time for him to fly. 30 miles an hour. This thing didn't appear to fly. It appeared to float.

131

00:12:49,000 --> 00:12:51,000

Michael Tanner got to know the witnesses one-on-one.

132

00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:59,000

We have truck drivers. We have doctors. We have lawyers. We have retired military. And they're all genuine.

133

00:13:00,000 --> 00:13:03,000

You could see pretty much right through it. And that's when we first saw it.

134

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:08,000

And then eventually it just started coming out closer so we could see a better view of it.

135

00:13:09,000 --> 00:13:12,000

The investigators did interviews with more than a hundred witnesses.

136

00:13:13,000 --> 00:13:16,000

Then they put all their data together to make a timeline of the evening.

137

00:13:17,000 --> 00:13:20,000

Michael believes the two sightings were related.

138

00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:27,000

If the lights did come from a UFO, it could have arrived around eight and left at 10.30.

139

00:13:29,000 --> 00:13:35,000

Next, Jim turned to the physical evidence. The videotapes that were made the night of the phenomenon.

140

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:39,000

He took a tape of the 10 o'clock sighting into the lab.

141

00:13:40,000 --> 00:13:45,000

So the landmarks that we have are the hill that's in the foreground of my art.

142

00:13:47,000 --> 00:13:51,000

They loaded parts of the video into their computer to analyze the lights.

143

00:13:52,000 --> 00:13:58,000

Jim's research shows that a candle flame, a light bulb, and a street light all have different optical characteristics.

144

00:13:58,000 --> 00:14:04,000

In fact, even if some lights seem to look the same, they're actually very different from each other.

145

00:14:05,000 --> 00:14:07,000

If you know how to look at them.

146

00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:14,000

Jim examined the lights from airplanes and other sources in the city using the special software.

147

00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:19,000

His analysis shows that each type of light makes its own kind of frequency wave.

148

00:14:20,000 --> 00:14:23,000

Match the wave and you can tell what made the light.

149

00:14:23,000 --> 00:14:32,000

According to Jim's analysis, the mysterious lights over Phoenix weren't like anything he'd seen before.

150

00:14:33,000 --> 00:14:43,000

The unknown lights don't match. We can't get a match between the unknown and knowns that we have stored.

151

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:52,000

Some say the mystery is solved. Others are not so convinced. Is the truth still out there?

152

00:14:54,000 --> 00:14:57,000

Find out next on Truth or Scare.

153

00:15:05,000 --> 00:15:09,000

Lights seen above Phoenix had set off a wide-ranging investigation.

154

00:15:10,000 --> 00:15:16,000

Witnesses testified about what they'd seen and UFO investigators were called in to examine the evidence.

155

00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:20,000

Everyone involved in the case came up with their own theory to explain what they saw that night.

156

00:15:20,000 --> 00:15:22,000

The mystery remained.

157

00:15:25,000 --> 00:15:27,000

Isn't that weird? Look at that.

158

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:33,000

Skeptics said that there was a simple explanation. Military planes from nearby Luke Air Force Base.

159

00:15:34,000 --> 00:15:39,000

Others theorized it could have been some kind of hoax or even unusual weather phenomena.

160

00:15:41,000 --> 00:15:48,000

Then on June 25, 1997, a local TV station came up with a very convincing theory to explain the lights.

161

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:54,000

Well, it's a possible explanation into those mystery lights that appeared over the valley in March.

162

00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:59,000

But some of you aren't buying it. 12 News has video that might explain what was going on.

163

00:16:00,000 --> 00:16:06,000

Let's start with pictures that were taken on March 13. Many of you saw this row of lights as they hovered above the valley horizon.

164

00:16:07,000 --> 00:16:13,000

Now, take a close look at these pictures that we shot just last night. These are flares that the Air Force was dropping near Hilo Bend.

165

00:16:15,000 --> 00:16:18,000

Illuminators are used to light up battlefields during night combat.

166

00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:22,000

They're attached to parachutes and dropped out of planes from a high altitude.

167

00:16:23,000 --> 00:16:26,000

Flares like these can stay lit for as long as five minutes.

168

00:16:27,000 --> 00:16:30,000

If flares were the explanation, then where did they come from?

169

00:16:31,000 --> 00:16:35,000

At first, Air Force officials denied that any of their planes were in the area that night.

170

00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:39,000

But after the news report came out, they changed their story.

171

00:16:40,000 --> 00:16:46,000

Now they claim they were conducting night maneuvers near Phoenix and using illumination flares.

172

00:16:47,000 --> 00:16:53,000

Our unit was flying March 13, 1997 as part of Operation Snowbird and we were conducting night training.

173

00:16:55,000 --> 00:17:04,000

That particular night, our aircraft flew to the North TAC range and that's where they deployed the flares for the training mission that evening.

174

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:11,000

Since witnesses saw the lights in the sky to the southwest, the flare explanation would make sense.

175

00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:17,000

But some people still believe very different phenomena that they saw that night.

176

00:17:18,000 --> 00:17:22,000

Something that can't be explained way as military flares.

177

00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:33,000

While they look similar, they don't look the same as flares. Flares flicker. Flares illuminate

what's around them and these lights over Phoenix didn't do that.

178

00:17:34,000 --> 00:17:36,000

There was another crucial problem with the flare theory.

179

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:44,000

The Maryland Air National Guard stated that after they released the flares, they fell behind the mountain range to the southwest of Phoenix.

180

00:17:45,000 --> 00:17:53,000

But that's not what many witnesses reported seeing. They say the lights were in front of the mountains. So how could they have been flares?

181

00:17:56,000 --> 00:18:03,000

Dr. Leonoid Rudin might be able to settle the debate. His company is Cognitech, where they specialize in image processing.

182

00:18:04,000 --> 00:18:14,000

Dr. Rudin analyzed the same images that Jim DeLito so had studied. By comparing it to a video taken during the day, he came to a very different conclusion.

183

00:18:15,000 --> 00:18:21,000

He lines up the two images so that they are right on top of each other and then combines them into one tape.

184

00:18:22,000 --> 00:18:33,000

Now he can look at the night video and day video at the same time. After studying the moment that the lights disappeared, Dr. Rudin believes they fell behind the mountains.

185

00:18:34,000 --> 00:18:40,000

Therefore, the only conclusion we have is that those lights are behind the mountains, not in front of the mountains.

186

00:18:40,000 --> 00:18:50,000

What do you think it was? It's true. The 10 o'clock event looks a lot like flares.

187

00:18:55,000 --> 00:19:05,000

But remember, there was another sighting that night. About two hours earlier, those lights can't be explained so easily.

188

00:19:06,000 --> 00:19:14,000

A number of witnesses reported seeing a huge V-shaped formation passing over them between 815 and 845.

189

00:19:15,000 --> 00:19:21,000

Only one person captured it on video tape. But there are plenty of theories about what it was.

190

00:19:23,000 --> 00:19:32,000

Could be anything from a stealth aircraft or a black project. Could even be a military weapon that's actually creating like a hologram image.

191

00:19:32,000 --> 00:19:39,000

And that's why the description varies on the shape and makeup of the object.

192

00:19:40,000 --> 00:19:46,000

But if it was a secret military plane, they probably wouldn't have flown it over a huge city.

193

00:19:48,000 --> 00:19:55,000

Jim DeLitozzo thinks the first event was something more mysterious and that the air guard was investigating it themselves.

194

00:19:55,000 --> 00:20:04,000

But what probably happened is that unknown aircraft of unknown origin penetrated into military airspace. This has happened before.

195

00:20:05,000 --> 00:20:11,000

When the military released the flares, the unidentified visitors would have left the area, probably at top speed.

196

00:20:12,000 --> 00:20:13,000

Maybe they'll be back.

197

00:20:15,000 --> 00:20:18,000

Or maybe we'll be in the dark forever.

198

00:20:18,000 --> 00:20:25,000

Whether they're man-made, whether they're from another galaxy, whether they're flares, I don't know.

199

00:20:28,000 --> 00:20:33,000

At this point, they are truly UFOs, unidentified flying objects.

200

00:20:36,000 --> 00:20:41,000

The two separate UFO events that were seen that night over Phoenix were never completely explained.

201

00:20:42,000 --> 00:20:47,000

Around 10pm, the Maryland air guard says it dropped flares that landed behind the mountains.

202

00:20:48,000 --> 00:20:53,000

But some believe this doesn't fully explain that V formation moving so quickly across the sky.

203

00:20:54,000 --> 00:20:57,000

According to some, there may be things still left to investigate.

204

00:20:58,000 --> 00:21:02,000

Until then, we may never know exactly what crossed the skies of Phoenix.

205

00:21:11,000 --> 00:21:16,000

The first event was a mysterious event that was not fully explained.

206

00:21:17,000 --> 00:21:21,000

The first event was a mysterious event that was not fully explained.

207

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:26,000

The first event was a mysterious event that was not fully explained.

208

00:21:27,000 --> 00:21:31,000

The first event was a mysterious event that was not fully explained.

209

00:21:32,000 --> 00:21:35,000

The first event was a mysterious event that was not fully explained.

210

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:41,000

Thanks for watching!