

1

00:00:00,587 --> 00:00:12,787

It may be the largest mass UFO sighting ever witnessed over America.

2

00:00:12,787 --> 00:00:18,707

March 13, 1997, the skies above Arizona ignite.

3

00:00:18,707 --> 00:00:20,707

Major sighting here.

4

00:00:20,707 --> 00:00:23,227

Fiery globes seen by thousands.

5

00:00:23,227 --> 00:00:24,507

They started multiplying.

6

00:00:24,507 --> 00:00:27,706

One light became two lights, a third, a fourth.

7

00:00:27,706 --> 00:00:32,706

The lights of an ultra-silent aircraft, seemingly as large as a battleship.

8

00:00:32,706 --> 00:00:37,706

It was so big I could not see the front of the back side to side of this craft.

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00:00:40,706 --> 00:00:44,706

Do ancient crews over 1,000 years old show a pattern?

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00:00:44,706 --> 00:00:47,706

It looks like a saucer with fire.

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00:00:47,706 --> 00:00:50,706

Or could it be a top secret government program?

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00:00:50,706 --> 00:00:55,706

There are large vehicles that fit the descriptions you heard.

13

00:00:55,706 --> 00:00:58,706

What does the state's former governor now say?

14

00:00:58,706 --> 00:01:01,706

I describe what I saw at Binghouda Worldly.

15

00:01:01,706 --> 00:01:07,706

This is case number 97202, Arizona Lights.

16

00:01:07,706 --> 00:01:23,705

Music

17

00:01:23,705 --> 00:01:26,705

Something is in the sky and something is happening.

18

00:01:26,705 --> 00:01:30,705

And I'll go to my death knowing that what I saw was true.

19

00:01:30,705 --> 00:01:34,705

Thousands of people all over Arizona saw something that night.

20

00:01:34,705 --> 00:01:39,705

I believe the phoenix lights are real and that's a fact.

21

00:01:39,705 --> 00:01:41,705

Music

22

00:01:41,705 --> 00:01:49,705

On the evening of March 13, 1997, residents throughout Phoenix, Arizona are outside looking skyward.

23

00:01:49,705 --> 00:01:54,705

The large number of spectators are there to gaze at the Hail Bob Comet,

24

00:01:54,705 --> 00:01:58,705

a comet last seen more than 2,000 years ago.

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00:01:58,705 --> 00:02:02,705

But instead, something else appears in the darkness.

26

00:02:03,705 --> 00:02:06,704

Something quite unexpected.

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00:02:06,704 --> 00:02:12,704

A mass sighting that came to be known as the Phoenix Lights.

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00:02:12,704 --> 00:02:14,704

Music

29

00:02:14,704 --> 00:02:20,704

What people saw on March 13, 1997 put Hail Bob to shame.

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00:02:20,704 --> 00:02:24,704

Music

31

00:02:24,704 --> 00:02:31,704

The most famous aspect of the case is the videotape footage of anomalous lights that appeared over Phoenix around 10pm.

32

00:02:32,704 --> 00:02:34,704

Music

33

00:02:34,704 --> 00:02:41,704

According to eyewitnesses, the lights seen are red or orange in color and appear to blink on.

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00:02:41,704 --> 00:02:43,704

Music

35

00:02:43,704 --> 00:02:48,704

They also very interestingly describe them as hovering or maintaining altitude.

36

00:02:48,704 --> 00:02:50,704

They don't seem to descend over time.

37

00:02:50,704 --> 00:02:57,703

Music

38

00:02:57,703 --> 00:03:02,703

But the 10 o'clock lights are only part of a complicated story.

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00:03:02,703 --> 00:03:04,703

Music

40

00:03:04,703 --> 00:03:10,703

Earlier that same evening reports flood in from across the state of additional sightings.

41

00:03:10,703 --> 00:03:18,703

Some describe a V-shaped formation of lights while others claim they see an actual boomerang shaped crack.

42

00:03:18,703 --> 00:03:26,703

According to the eyewitnesses, what is seen in the skies above Arizona is absolutely enormous.

43

00:03:27,703 --> 00:03:31,703

Reports describe the craft as being nearly a mile wide.

44

00:03:31,703 --> 00:03:39,703

At times it hovers silently in the night sky, but it is also capable of achieving incredible speeds.

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00:03:39,703 --> 00:03:45,702

Clearly, this massive craft is unlike anything known to exist.

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00:03:45,702 --> 00:03:48,702

Music

47

00:03:48,702 --> 00:03:53,702

The people who watched it were actually in shock.

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00:03:53,702 --> 00:03:56,702

Music

49

00:03:56,702 --> 00:04:02,702

The boomerang is allegedly spotted as early as 7.55pm in Henderson, Nevada.

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00:04:02,702 --> 00:04:06,702

Then in Paulden, Arizona at 8.15pm.

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00:04:06,702 --> 00:04:08,702

Peska at 8.70pm.

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00:04:08,702 --> 00:04:10,702

Phoenix at 8.30pm.

53

00:04:10,702 --> 00:04:13,702

And Tucson at 8.45pm.

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00:04:13,702 --> 00:04:18,702

No images of this massive craft are known to exist.

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00:04:19,702 --> 00:04:24,702

Are these separate sightings or different aspects of the same event?

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00:04:28,702 --> 00:04:35,701

The investigation aims to find the answers to the numerous events in Arizona's crowded skies.

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00:04:35,701 --> 00:04:41,701

Pat Uskert will uncover local history of UFO sightings in the Phoenix area.

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00:04:41,701 --> 00:04:47,701

I think we're really talking about something that is either so top secret that it's decades ahead

of what we know,

59

00:04:47,701 --> 00:04:52,701

or we're looking at a genuine extraterrestrial visitation here.

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00:04:52,701 --> 00:04:57,701

Dr. Ted Ackworth will examine the video evidence of the 10 o'clock lights,

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00:04:57,701 --> 00:05:01,701

and will conduct an experiment to replicate the event.

62

00:05:01,701 --> 00:05:05,701

One thing I want to look at closely is the dynamic aspect of these lights,

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00:05:05,701 --> 00:05:08,701

how they move or don't move in the night sky.

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00:05:08,701 --> 00:05:13,701

And Bill Burns will analyze the nature of the alleged boomerang craft.

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00:05:13,701 --> 00:05:20,701

A lot of people say that the craft over Phoenix that night at 8 o'clock was an extraterrestrial spacecraft.

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00:05:20,701 --> 00:05:25,700

The investigation has enlisted the help of documentary filmmaker James Fox.

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00:05:25,700 --> 00:05:29,700

He has been chasing this mystery since 1997.

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00:05:29,700 --> 00:05:31,700

I have been investigating this for quite some time.

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00:05:31,700 --> 00:05:35,700

Something very large flew over the state of Arizona, and to this day it remains inexplicable.

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00:05:44,700 --> 00:05:48,700

Lights in the sky over Phoenix are nothing new.

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00:05:51,700 --> 00:06:01,700

Carved into these mountain rocks are ancient clues that the Hohochum Indians may have seen UFOs more than 1,000 years ago.

72

00:06:02,700 --> 00:06:13,699

The night skies over Phoenix seem to have a history of strange events that led to the 1997 mass sighting and through to the present day.

73

00:06:16,699 --> 00:06:19,699

I believe they were not of this world.

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00:06:19,699 --> 00:06:24,699

And I thought, wow, I'm just seeing things that most people are never going to see in a lifetime.

75

00:06:25,699 --> 00:06:30,699

These events occurred over 11 years ago. Why are people still talking about them?

76

00:06:30,699 --> 00:06:32,699

The eyewitnesses aren't buying the explanation.

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00:06:33,699 --> 00:06:43,699

UFO hunters passed for and received an official statement from the Air Force in regard to the 10 o'clock lights over Phoenix on March 13, 1997.

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00:06:44,699 --> 00:06:52,699

It states that the lights were caused by LUU-2 illumination flares, dropped by A-10 Thunderbolts.

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00:06:52,699 --> 00:06:59,699

The Maryland Air National Guard performed the drop as a training mission over the Berry Goldwater Mountain Range.

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00:07:00,699 --> 00:07:04,698

The only explanation is flare from the Maryland National Guard.

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00:07:04,698 --> 00:07:11,698

They're saying that their flares dropped from the Air National Guard and I think a lot of the witnesses in the videotaped evidence will suggest otherwise.

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00:07:17,698 --> 00:07:24,698

As the initial step in his investigation, Pat checks in with Richard Ruelas, a reporter for the Arizona Republic.

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00:07:25,698 --> 00:07:29,698

Ruelas has been covering the Phoenix lights phenomenon since the beginning.

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00:07:31,698 --> 00:07:41,698

A lot of times, UFOs are seen in little small rural areas. This was an event over a major city and a lot of people saw it.

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00:07:41,698 --> 00:07:43,698

So it's not something that could be easily discounted.

86

00:07:43,698 --> 00:07:45,698

But apparently there were two events.

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00:07:45,698 --> 00:07:49,698

One of the big confusions about the Phoenix lights is that there were two separate incidents that night.

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00:07:52,697 --> 00:07:54,697

Around 8 o'clock people see a V formation.

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00:07:55,697 --> 00:08:00,697

About 10 o'clock there are hovering orbs on the western part of Phoenix.

90

00:08:00,697 --> 00:08:02,697

That's not what most people saw.

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00:08:02,697 --> 00:08:07,697

Most people who saw the Phoenix lights on the ground saw this V overhead.

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00:08:10,697 --> 00:08:16,697

An important figure in the story of the Phoenix lights is Councilwoman Frances Emma Barwood.

93

00:08:17,697 --> 00:08:27,697

On May 6, 1997, citing public safety concerns, Barwood asks for an official investigation into the incidents of March 13.

94

00:08:27,697 --> 00:08:36,697

Just the mere mention of a politician that we should spend state government resources on investigating a UFO gets her laughed at.

95

00:08:37,697 --> 00:08:43,696

Why would people stick their necks out and get burned when there was really nothing going on that night?

96

00:08:43,696 --> 00:08:48,696

For me to imagine that it was much to do about nothing, I think maybe it was much to do about something.

97

00:08:52,696 --> 00:08:58,696

All Frances said was, as a matter of public safety, what's hovering over the city of Phoenix?

98

00:08:58,696 --> 00:09:02,696

The word UFO was never uttered.

99

00:09:02,696 --> 00:09:09,696

She never said the word ET, extraterrestrial, flying saucer, spacecraft. She never said it.

100

00:09:10,696 --> 00:09:13,696

I couldn't understand why does anybody want to know the truth?

101

00:09:13,696 --> 00:09:20,696

The Arizona Republic did cartoons with, you know, I think it was flying saucers going in one ear and out the other.

102

00:09:20,696 --> 00:09:24,696

And another one with a switch on the side of my head going off.

103

00:09:24,696 --> 00:09:28,696

Not only do they not want to know, it's like they don't protest too much.

104

00:09:31,695 --> 00:09:33,695

So Frances, what sort of response was there?

105

00:09:33,695 --> 00:09:36,695

I started getting phone calls at 7 o'clock in the morning.

106

00:09:36,695 --> 00:09:39,695

It didn't stop until 11 o'clock that night.

107

00:09:39,695 --> 00:09:46,695

And over the summer we take a break and I tried to call back everybody. I called over 700 people.

108

00:09:46,695 --> 00:09:49,695

Did you pursue any investigation on your own to follow up on this?

109

00:09:49,695 --> 00:09:54,695

I referred all the phone calls to the governor, Governor Simington at the time.

110

00:09:58,695 --> 00:10:03,695

Arizona's governor, Fife Simington, is pressured to find an answer to the sightings.

111

00:10:03,695 --> 00:10:08,695

He calls a press conference on the morning of June 19, 1997.

112

00:10:08,695 --> 00:10:12,695

Simington states that he will look into the issue.

113

00:10:12,695 --> 00:10:15,695

So we're going to get to the bottom of it. We're going to find out if it was a UFO.

114

00:10:15,695 --> 00:10:21,694

Later that same afternoon, the governor calls for another unscheduled press conference.

115

00:10:21,694 --> 00:10:28,694

And 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.

116

00:10:29,694 --> 00:10:32,694

He starts talking about the Phoenix lights.

117

00:10:32,694 --> 00:10:36,694

And we thought, wow, you know, he's really going to check into this.

118

00:10:36,694 --> 00:10:46,694

Anyway, out walks his chief of staff in this costume and like an extraterrestrial.

119

00:10:46,694 --> 00:10:49,694

And we realized this was a big joke.

120

00:10:51,694 --> 00:10:55,694

You know, first of all, not at all like Fife. Doesn't have a sense of humor.

121

00:10:55,694 --> 00:10:58,694

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

122

00:11:04,694 --> 00:11:14,693

Was it your perception or is it your perception to this day that there was something organized against you because you dared to ask that question once at a city council meeting?

123

00:11:14,693 --> 00:11:18,693

It seems that way. So many people wanted to know the answers.

124

00:11:18,693 --> 00:11:27,693

And never did I have anybody negative from my constituents or anybody in the city or anybody in the state.

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00:11:27,693 --> 00:11:31,693

The negativity came from government officials.

126

00:11:36,693 --> 00:11:38,693

But other details emerge.

127

00:11:38,693 --> 00:11:45,693

Strange video taken in the days, months, even years before the mass sighting may hold clues.

128

00:11:46,693 --> 00:11:51,693

And the governor, who laughed at first, now makes a stunning reversal.

129

00:11:51,693 --> 00:11:54,693

What did he see with his own eyes?

130

00:11:54,693 --> 00:11:57,693

I saw a large, a delta-shaped dark object.

131

00:12:04,692 --> 00:12:09,692

That night we seen a bunch of lights appear like over towards South Mountain area.

132

00:12:09,692 --> 00:12:16,692

The March 13, 1997 sightings in Arizona are complicated, combining multiple sightings across the state.

133

00:12:16,692 --> 00:12:23,692

An immense boomerang-like aircraft, sometimes reported as five lights in a V-shaped formation.

134

00:12:23,692 --> 00:12:29,692

And perhaps most famously, a series of red-orange orbs above Phoenix.

135

00:12:40,692 --> 00:12:46,692

Bill and James Fox are meeting with Mike Christen, an eyewitness to the Phoenix lights.

136

00:12:46,692 --> 00:12:47,691

Hey, go look at this!

137

00:12:47,691 --> 00:12:49,691

Oh my God!

138

00:12:49,691 --> 00:12:59,691

On March 13, 1997, Mike is out on his balcony enjoying the cool night air, when he spots a bright orange light in the distance.

139

00:12:59,691 --> 00:13:01,691

You tell me what it is.

140

00:13:02,691 --> 00:13:06,691

So I went in to get my video camera to shoot it.

141

00:13:06,691 --> 00:13:14,691

As I was doing that, it went out, and the light appeared to the right of this thing, a little bit lower.

142

00:13:17,691 --> 00:13:19,691

That light went on.

143

00:13:22,691 --> 00:13:26,691

Then another one went on before I knew it, this entire array of lights had gone up.

144

00:13:27,691 --> 00:13:30,691

Eight or nine lights, and they formed this arc.

145

00:13:31,691 --> 00:13:39,690

I videotaped that for about two and a half minutes, and then the lights slowly started to go off more in the time, and not in the same order that they went on.

146

00:13:39,690 --> 00:14:03,690

The Air Force's explanation for the lights is that they were caused by LU-U2 illumination flares.

147

00:14:03,690 --> 00:14:12,690

According to official documents, the flares were dropped from A-10 Thunderbolts as part of an annual training exercise called Operation Snowbird.

148

00:14:12,690 --> 00:14:18,690

The flares were ignited over the very Goldwater Gunnery Range, beyond the Estrella Mountains.

149

00:14:18,690 --> 00:14:21,690

Both are visible from Mike's house.

150

00:14:21,690 --> 00:14:24,690

Had you ever seen a light like that before in your life?

151

00:14:24,690 --> 00:14:28,689

I had not. I've always seen maybe one or two lights or so off in the distance.

152

00:14:28,689 --> 00:14:32,689

This is the first time I've ever seen them this far to the east.

153

00:14:34,689 --> 00:14:40,689

They were extremely bright compared to any of the lights I've seen before, and I thought it was unusual the way they held their pattern.

154

00:14:40,689 --> 00:14:43,689

Is that what the flares usually do that you've seen in the past?

155

00:14:43,689 --> 00:14:49,689

No. Flares will drop in different rates, they will drift because of the wind, and they won't hold the pattern.

156

00:14:49,689 --> 00:14:54,689

Lights that Mike saw, one, looked nothing like the flares he'd seen before.

157

00:14:54,689 --> 00:14:59,689

Two, they were preceded by an orange orb that Mike couldn't identify.

158

00:14:59,689 --> 00:15:04,689

Could they have been different types of flares? Those are the questions we have to answer.

159

00:15:10,689 --> 00:15:13,689

What do you think you captured on videotape that night?

160

00:15:13,689 --> 00:15:15,689

Could have been one of three things in my estimation.

161

00:15:15,689 --> 00:15:21,688

Number one, it could have been a hoax, which I don't think it could have been a hoax because it was pretty elaborate.

162

00:15:21,688 --> 00:15:25,688

It could have been an alien spacecraft, but I have no proof of that.

163

00:15:25,688 --> 00:15:29,688

And the only other thing that I can figure out could be some kind of a military experiment.

164

00:15:35,688 --> 00:15:41,688

Some of the behaviors these lights strike me as strange as described by the witnesses, and therefore they definitely bear further investigation.

165

00:15:42,688 --> 00:15:48,688

Ted sets his sights on a flare experiment he plans to conduct in California's Long Beach Harbor.

166

00:15:48,688 --> 00:15:54,688

Using hand-launched maritime parachute flares, he will test the military's explanation.

167

00:16:00,688 --> 00:16:07,687

Another witness to the 10 o'clock lights over Phoenix is Dr. Lynn Keatay, a physician and documentary filmmaker.

168

00:16:08,687 --> 00:16:13,687

Dr. Keatay chooses to remain anonymous for seven years after the incident.

169

00:16:14,687 --> 00:16:24,687

In 2004, at great risk to her professional reputation, she comes forward with the stunning revelation that these lights have appeared before.

170

00:16:26,687 --> 00:16:33,687

I was experiencing these phenomena for two years prior to the mass lighting. I had a very close lighting to our home.

171

00:16:37,687 --> 00:16:43,687

I tried to take everything in, the size, the shape, the color. They were about three to six feet each. They were warbs.

172

00:16:46,687 --> 00:16:50,687

There was a uniform amber color throughout. It didn't glare at all.

173

00:16:55,686 --> 00:17:04,686

According to Dr. Keatay, another set of lights appeared in January 1997, two months before the mass sightings over Phoenix.

174

00:17:04,686 --> 00:17:12,686

She sees what she believes to be a massive triangular formation, and she manages to capture the triangle shape on film.

175

00:17:13,686 --> 00:17:21,686

There were six points of light that seemed to be attached to something, moving slowly in tandem behind South Mountain.

176

00:17:21,686 --> 00:17:33,686

After seeing strange lights in both February 1995 and January 1997, Dr. Keatay is not surprised when she sees some familiar lights two months later.

177

00:17:34,686 --> 00:17:36,686

On March 13th.

178

00:17:39,686 --> 00:17:47,685

I saw the six lights pop on, and I fumbled with my camera and got out there really quick. And by the time I got it focused, that's what I saw.

179

00:17:55,685 --> 00:17:57,685

And we're looking in the direction of South Mountain?

180

00:17:57,685 --> 00:17:59,685

Yes, to the airport.

181

00:18:05,685 --> 00:18:13,685

So Lynn, just to play devil's advocate for a minute, what would you say to someone who suggested that what you saw was a military flare?

182

00:18:13,685 --> 00:18:22,685

There's no way that it could have been military. Military flares flicker, and they can't keep information. They drift with the wind. These were orbs.

183

00:18:22,685 --> 00:18:37,684

Another eyewitness who manages to capture his experience on tape is Stephen Blonder, the author of Oracle of the Phoenix.

184

00:18:37,684 --> 00:18:48,684

And like Dr. Keatay, March 13th was not the first time that Steve and his neighbor, Jaylene Brugman, claimed to have seen something inexplicable in the Phoenix sky.

185

00:18:49,684 --> 00:18:53,684

March 10th was the first night that I saw strange lights in the sky.

186

00:18:55,684 --> 00:18:57,684

Did you see it on there?

187

00:18:57,684 --> 00:18:58,684

Yeah, I got it.

188

00:18:58,684 --> 00:19:10,684

I got out my video camera, and I started filming this thing, trying to get a close-up of what it was. And it was this orange pulsating light that was unlike anything I've ever seen in my life.

189

00:19:12,684 --> 00:19:15,684

Jaylene, how did you get involved in this?

190

00:19:15,684 --> 00:19:21,684

His wife, Susie, came over the next day and just was in shock. He said, we saw him in the UFO last night.

191

00:19:25,683 --> 00:19:31,683

For the next three nights, Steve's balcony becomes the scene of nightly viewing parties.

192

00:19:31,683 --> 00:19:33,683

Susie, they're back.

193

00:19:34,683 --> 00:19:44,683

And each night, they are not disappointed. But it's the sighting on the 13th that captivates Steve and Jaylene as well as the rest of Phoenix.

194

00:19:44,683 --> 00:19:46,683

Major sighting here.

195

00:19:46,683 --> 00:19:48,683

That's... No, there's five.

196

00:19:48,683 --> 00:19:49,683

Another one just showed up.

197

00:19:49,683 --> 00:19:58,683

Like the other eyewitnesses to the lights, neither Steve nor Jaylene accept the official explanation for what they saw that night.

198

00:19:58,683 --> 00:20:02,683

I was very upset when I saw the flare story come out, because I knew it wasn't flares.

199

00:20:07,683 --> 00:20:11,683

The flares at ANG claimed they dropped were LU2 illumination flares.

200

00:20:11,683 --> 00:20:16,682

The eyewitnesses were surprised that there wasn't any illumination or sky lit up around the flares.

201

00:20:16,682 --> 00:20:23,682

But it is possible that the environmental conditions that night wouldn't have allowed for that kind of reflection around the flare.

202

00:20:27,682 --> 00:20:38,682

UFO hunters invites Jaylene and her husband, Jason, also an eyewitness that night, to participate in an experiment spearheaded by Ted in Long Beach, California.

203

00:20:39,682 --> 00:20:45,682

We're doing the best we can to approximate what would have been the kind of military flares that would have been deployed from aircraft.

204

00:20:45,682 --> 00:20:51,682

And we'll just see if our witnesses who saw the lights over at Phoenix think that these lights look like the military explanation.

205

00:20:52,682 --> 00:20:59,682

The team is using standard maritime flares in place of the LU2 military flares.

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00:20:59,682 --> 00:21:05,681

Maritime flares are used by ships in distress to visually signal rescuers.

207

00:21:05,681 --> 00:21:09,681

When launched, they shoot nearly 1,000 feet into the air.

208

00:21:10,681 --> 00:21:22,681

Both the LU2 and maritime flares are deployed with parachutes, and Ted is primarily interested in the way the flare's flight characteristics are perceived by the witnesses.

209

00:21:23,681 --> 00:21:28,681

Well, I have no way of predicting what's going to happen. We'll just have to launch these flares and see what they look like.

210

00:21:29,681 --> 00:21:33,681

We're all ready to shoot. We've got five flares. Make sure they're looking at the trajectory.

211

00:21:33,681 --> 00:21:38,681

That's one of the most important aspects here in the test. Okay, we're going live in ten seconds.

212

00:21:42,681 --> 00:21:48,681

The flares are sent aloft. Now it's up to the witnesses to decide.

213

00:21:49,681 --> 00:21:52,680

But could there be another military angle to this case?

214

00:21:53,680 --> 00:22:04,680

The lights over Phoenix could mask one of the largest clandestine government projects ever created, a top secret stealth aircraft that is utterly enormous.

215

00:22:11,680 --> 00:22:18,680

The UFO hunters are in Long Beach, California, conducting a flare experiment with Jaylene and Jason Brugman.

216

00:22:19,680 --> 00:22:24,680

Eye witnesses to the so-called Phoenix Lights event of March 13, 1997.

217

00:22:25,680 --> 00:22:34,680

The official explanation put forward by the Air National Guard is that the lights over Phoenix were flares. LU2 flares dropped from 810 ward hogs.

218

00:22:35,680 --> 00:22:49,679

Because Ted is primarily concerned with the flight characteristics, he'll substitute one parachute flare for another using maritime flares instead of the LU2s.

219

00:22:50,679 --> 00:22:55,679

They are easier to control and the eye witnesses can be closer to the source of light.

220

00:22:56,679 --> 00:22:59,679

Do you have any special instructions for the witnesses?

221

00:22:59,679 --> 00:23:05,679

I want to make sure the witnesses are looking at a few different things, primarily the trajectories of the flares.

222

00:23:06,679 --> 00:23:10,679

As they float down, they follow a similar trajectory to what they had seen in Phoenix.

223

00:23:14,679 --> 00:23:18,679

Okay guys, we are locked and loaded. Eyes in the sky in ten seconds.

224

00:23:19,679 --> 00:23:20,679

I'll take one.

225

00:23:24,679 --> 00:23:25,679

Okay, you ready?

226

00:23:26,679 --> 00:23:29,679

There it is. It's the first one.

227

00:23:52,678 --> 00:23:53,678

Let's call it in.

228

00:23:55,678 --> 00:23:56,678

Check calling Titan Bill.

229

00:23:57,678 --> 00:23:58,678

So how was it?

230

00:23:59,678 --> 00:24:05,678

What I noticed is, even though they were, the other ones came on at different times, but they all were staying in the line.

231

00:24:09,678 --> 00:24:14,678

The ones that we saw were hovering, maintained altitude. They never dropped.

232

00:24:15,678 --> 00:24:17,678

The lights went out at the same altitude.

233

00:24:18,678 --> 00:24:22,677

Would you guys say what you saw that night is totally different from what you just saw right now?

234

00:24:22,677 --> 00:24:26,677

Totally different from what these flares showed here tonight.

235

00:24:30,677 --> 00:24:36,677

We do know there are many other witnesses and some of the things they've described just do not seem possibly consistent with flares.

236

00:24:38,677 --> 00:24:48,677

The hang times, the blinking on and off, the spread over the distance, the velocities just are not consistent with any kind of flare configuration that I could imagine.

237

00:24:48,677 --> 00:24:52,677

So it really leaves me wondering overall whether or not it could have been flares in 97.

238

00:24:58,677 --> 00:25:08,677

With eyewitnesses discounting flares in the field test, Ted turns to the video from that night to see if any other characteristics of the lights could be distinguished.

239

00:25:09,677 --> 00:25:17,676

Ted, an image analyst Terence Masson, study the 10 o'clock footage from both Mike Christen and Steve Blonder.

240

00:25:18,676 --> 00:25:22,676

We have a source for Mike in the northern part of Phoenix and Steve who is in the southern side.

241

00:25:23,676 --> 00:25:26,676

They're about 15 miles apart roughly across the basin.

242

00:25:27,676 --> 00:25:32,676

It seems that they've both taken footage of what appears on initial analysis to be the same thing.

243

00:25:35,676 --> 00:25:39,676

To the naked eye, the lights in the footage seem to be over the city.

244

00:25:40,676 --> 00:25:43,676

After several minutes, the lights appear to blink out.

245

00:25:44,676 --> 00:25:46,676

There are theories that they're flares that are flaming out.

246

00:25:46,676 --> 00:25:49,676

Now the curious thing is that when they go off, they don't go off in order.

247

00:25:50,676 --> 00:25:58,676

If they were flares getting dropped out of an aircraft successively and their burn times are approximately equal, they'd probably flare out in order as well.

248

00:25:59,675 --> 00:26:07,675

Though the behavior of the lights seems to contradict the flare explanation, their physical appearance may back up the Air Force's claims.

249

00:26:09,675 --> 00:26:14,675

So regarding the LUU-2 flare theory from the military, we know chromatically they're pretty white.

250

00:26:14,675 --> 00:26:18,675

What do you think from the footage here? Is that consistent with the military's explanation?

251

00:26:19,675 --> 00:26:28,675

It seems to be, but as we've seen many times, the video quality, most of these lights, if they do have any color in them, that you see with the naked eye, they're still going to show up on video as white.

252

00:26:29,675 --> 00:26:30,675

It's basically over exposed points in the black.

253

00:26:31,675 --> 00:26:34,675

It's not proof that they're flares, but it's consistent.

254

00:26:35,675 --> 00:26:36,675

Possibility is right.

255

00:26:37,675 --> 00:26:39,675

I'm on the fence, I guess I have to say.

256

00:26:40,675 --> 00:26:47,675

It seems pretty unlikely to me that these were a string of flares floating down on parachutes, but then again we're dealing with appearances.

257

00:26:48,675 --> 00:26:50,674

We don't have a lot of quantitative data on this, and I don't really feel that they were flares.

258

00:26:51,674 --> 00:26:53,674

I can't quantitatively prove it one way or another.

259

00:26:56,674 --> 00:27:04,674

Pat and Bill return to Arizona in order to track down witnesses to the other multiple sightings on the night of March 13, 1997.

260

00:27:05,674 --> 00:27:09,674

They are on the trail of an alleged second object seen on the same night.

261

00:27:10,674 --> 00:27:17,674

Witnesses report a boomerang-shaped craft flying over the state of Arizona between 8 and 10 p.m.

262

00:27:20,674 --> 00:27:25,674

Because there are no known photographs or video of this alleged massive craft,

263

00:27:26,674 --> 00:27:32,674

UFO hunters has enlisted the help of John Bavresco, a sketch artist and computer graphic expert.

264

00:27:33,674 --> 00:27:41,673

Based on multiple eyewitness testimonies, John will create a composite image of what was in the skies over Arizona that night.

265

00:27:43,673 --> 00:27:47,673

8.13 p.m. March 13, 1997.

266

00:27:48,673 --> 00:27:55,673

Dana Valentine is sitting on the back porch of his father's house when he sees five lights in a V-formation approach.

267

00:27:56,673 --> 00:28:00,673

I watched a little longer and came by about 10 minutes and I figured these should have been on top of me by now.

268

00:28:02,673 --> 00:28:06,673

Intrigued, Dana brings his father outside to watch the lights with him.

269

00:28:07,673 --> 00:28:16,673

We couldn't tell if it was five units or one huge one, but as it got closer we believed that it was starting to be one big one because it was just huge.

270

00:28:20,673 --> 00:28:23,673

So it didn't look like it did have a body shape to it.

271

00:28:24,673 --> 00:28:27,673

It definitely was one big object to me.

272

00:28:28,672 --> 00:28:29,672

How big?

273

00:28:29,672 --> 00:28:30,672

Would you say that it was?

274

00:28:30,672 --> 00:28:36,672

If I had to go from the left light to the right light, I'd have to say probably close to a mile.

275

00:28:39,672 --> 00:28:46,672

John takes the visual details and puts the information into the CGI program. He shows the image to Dana.

276

00:28:47,672 --> 00:28:55,672

Okay, what I've done here is an animation of a direct overhead shot basically on how you witnessed it as it passed over.

277

00:28:55,672 --> 00:29:02,672

Lights look good. The size is right. That's definitely what I saw.

278

00:29:03,672 --> 00:29:07,672

Dana's description of the V-formation is consistent with other witness testimony.

279

00:29:08,672 --> 00:29:14,672

A mile from tip to tip, five large lights and completely noiseless in flight.

280

00:29:15,672 --> 00:29:22,671

Bill, James and John meet with another witness, Terry Mansfield, who claims to have observed a boomerang-shaped craft.

281

00:29:23,671 --> 00:29:30,671

All of a sudden one of my volunteers pointed straight up and said, oh my gosh, what's that? And we all looked straight up.

282

00:29:31,671 --> 00:29:35,671

First thing I noticed was there were no more stars. I couldn't see the stars anymore in the sky.

283

00:29:35,671 --> 00:29:42,671

And it appeared as if there were a black, shimmery, satiny piece of material right over my head.

284

00:29:46,671 --> 00:29:52,671

Terry seems to see details that few others report. The craft seems to shimmer in the night sky.

285

00:29:53,671 --> 00:29:57,671

It was so big, I could not see the front, the back, side to side of this craft.

286

00:29:58,671 --> 00:30:01,671

Was it so large that it spanned from horizon to horizon?

287

00:30:01,671 --> 00:30:05,671

Where I was standing, I could not see the edges of this, whatever it was, that was flying overhead.

288

00:30:06,671 --> 00:30:11,670

You said you saw a surface on the bottom of this craft and it was kind of shimmery.

289

00:30:12,670 --> 00:30:18,670

Really, it was if there was a soft ripple of an undulation, it was very fluid. I felt like I could reach up and touch it.

290

00:30:21,670 --> 00:30:25,670

Terry's past experience makes her a knowledgeable witness when it comes to aircraft.

291

00:30:26,670 --> 00:30:31,670

Having been in the Air Force with my husband for 22 years and my father-in-law is an Air Force pilot for 26 years,

292

00:30:32,670 --> 00:30:36,670

we've seen jets, we've seen planes, we've seen helicopters, we've seen all kinds of military aircraft.

293

00:30:37,670 --> 00:30:42,670

Well, I think I've got something here that could represent what Terry saw. See if this works out.

294

00:30:43,670 --> 00:30:49,670

You've got the undulation just right. You've got the, we've got black, silvers, little bit of grays.

295

00:30:49,670 --> 00:30:52,670

It looks very fluid. Very, very similar to what I saw.

296

00:30:53,670 --> 00:30:56,669

Right, it's just because the whole screen is covered with what I saw that night, which is, that's exactly...

297

00:30:57,669 --> 00:30:58,669

The thing is just enormous.

298

00:31:01,669 --> 00:31:06,669

One of the most powerful forms of evidence is a corroborating witness testimony from people who don't know each other,

299

00:31:07,669 --> 00:31:10,669

never heard of each other, so we've got a lot of evidence.

300

00:31:11,669 --> 00:31:17,669

One of the most powerful forms of evidence is a corroborating witness testimony from people who don't know each other,

301

00:31:18,669 --> 00:31:24,669

never heard of each other, so what this does for the case is it adds another mosaic tile to a much larger picture.

302

00:31:27,669 --> 00:31:37,669

Orbs, a mysterious string of lights, and a massive V-shaped object that appears to undulate are all reported over Phoenix in March 1997.

303

00:31:38,669 --> 00:31:42,669

Are these sightings all related or completely separate incidents?

304

00:31:43,669 --> 00:31:49,668

And is it possible that the technology responsible is a top secret invention of our own?

305

00:31:50,668 --> 00:31:55,668

There are large vehicles that sort of fit some of the descriptions you heard.

306

00:32:00,668 --> 00:32:05,668

Whatever was going over my head, it seemed to be so low that I could reach up and touch it.

307

00:32:05,668 --> 00:32:09,668

And it was absolutely silent.

308

00:32:11,668 --> 00:32:17,668

Video evidence from March 13, 1997 has shown strange light formations in the Phoenix skies,

309

00:32:18,668 --> 00:32:24,668

and numerous witnesses have reported seeing unexplained objects and other orbs hovering above Arizona.

310

00:32:26,668 --> 00:32:30,668

Is there something about this area that attracts these objects?

311

00:32:30,668 --> 00:32:35,667

Pat meets Jeff Woolwine, a UFO researcher at the foot of the White Tank Monument.

312

00:32:36,667 --> 00:32:39,667

These hills are riddled with petroglyphs.

313

00:32:40,667 --> 00:32:44,667

Rock art carved into the landscape, primarily by the Hohocom,

314

00:32:45,667 --> 00:32:53,667

a Native American people who lived here from 200 BCE to 1400 CE and then mysteriously disappeared.

315

00:33:01,667 --> 00:33:08,667

Clearly, the Hohocom were seeing things in the sky as we're seeing now, strange objects, strange lights, if you will.

316

00:33:09,667 --> 00:33:16,667

They didn't have video cameras back then, they had stone bowlers to record something significant, something to remember in history.

317

00:33:17,667 --> 00:33:21,667

They wanted to copy this down so people would understand what had happened here.

318

00:33:24,667 --> 00:33:28,666

Pat and Jeff hike to the spot where strange petroglyphs have been found.

319

00:33:30,666 --> 00:33:34,666

Among the petroglyphs is an image Jeff believes to be significant.

320

00:33:36,666 --> 00:33:38,666

You'll notice this interesting line here.

321

00:33:39,666 --> 00:33:41,666

It has a block here, a block here, a block here in the line.

322

00:33:42,666 --> 00:33:44,666

In today's world what we like to call them is barbells.

323

00:33:45,666 --> 00:33:54,666

Barbell shaped UFOs, like this one videotaped over Phoenix on January 24, 2005, are well known to modern researchers.

324

00:33:55,666 --> 00:34:03,666

It's possible that local tribes people were inspired to record their own sightings on these very rocks nearly a millennium ago.

325

00:34:04,666 --> 00:34:06,666

And when you say barbell you mean a barbell shaped UFO?

326

00:34:07,666 --> 00:34:08,666

Barbell shaped UFO, correct.

327

00:34:09,666 --> 00:34:13,666

Right now I'm looking at glyphs that are very interesting, but again they are Jeff's interpretation.

328

00:34:14,665 --> 00:34:17,665

You could speculate it could be the sun in a star, but it could also be a light in the sky.

329

00:34:18,665 --> 00:34:19,665

That's correct.

330

00:34:19,665 --> 00:34:26,665

These people could have been recording UFOs or they could have been recording celestial events, you know stars, comets, that sort of thing.

331

00:34:27,665 --> 00:34:30,665

So at this time it's just a theory, but it's a very interesting one.

332

00:34:35,665 --> 00:34:44,665

While Jeff's interpretation is a personal one, even government experts who have studied the petroglyphs for years have difficulty explaining some of the images.

333

00:34:45,665 --> 00:34:56,665

Doc Tallboys is a park ranger and works with the Arizona State Historical Preservation Office on the study, cataloging and mapping of all the sites in the White Tank Mountain Regional Park.

334

00:35:00,665 --> 00:35:02,665

So Doc, what's your take on the White Tank Mountain petroglyphs?

335

00:35:03,665 --> 00:35:06,664

The Ho Ho Cums really observed what was going on around them.

336

00:35:07,664 --> 00:35:12,664

They had, they were great observers of celestial events, seasonal events.

337

00:35:12,664 --> 00:35:17,664

They really left us an interesting pictorial history of that from their point of view.

338

00:35:18,664 --> 00:35:23,664

We have pictures that could look like alien beings, men wearing helmets.

339

00:35:24,664 --> 00:35:30,664

We have one obvious one that we look at it one way, it looks like a saucer with fire coming out to the bottom.

340

00:35:31,664 --> 00:35:41,664

We're strictly speculating on what these things mean. We have no idea what they mean, because there's no Rosetta Stone, there is no bridge to translating what they might have been.

341

00:35:43,664 --> 00:35:55,663

But while the mysteries of the ancient petroglyphs are hidden by history, the truth behind the light seen over Arizona may have been intentionally kept secret.

342

00:35:56,663 --> 00:36:04,663

In nearby Mesa, Arizona, Bill and James Fox arrive at the Arizona Wing Commemorative Air Force Museum.

343

00:36:05,663 --> 00:36:16,663

They are meeting with aviation expert and author Bill Scott, who did research on a highly classified Black Operations aircraft for an article in Aviation Week Magazine.

344

00:36:17,663 --> 00:36:23,663

What he pieced together in his research bears striking similarities to what was witnessed over Phoenix.

345

00:36:25,663 --> 00:36:29,663

Apparently it was up to a mile across, it could fly silently, it could hover.

346

00:36:29,663 --> 00:36:34,663

When it took off, the witnesses described it as had they blinked they would have missed it.

347

00:36:35,663 --> 00:36:37,663

It was a boomerang shape, boomerang shape, V shape.

348

00:36:38,663 --> 00:36:45,662

You have done a lot of research, you've written a lot of articles for aviation week in space technology. What is your take on this?

349

00:36:46,662 --> 00:36:53,662

We came across a number of Black programs, highly classified programs that probably included near neutral buoyancy.

350

00:36:53,662 --> 00:37:00,662

In other words, it's a vehicle filled with helium and had a rigid hull, so we call them rigid hull airships.

351

00:37:01,662 --> 00:37:06,662

Some of these were reporters being very large, you know, perhaps the wingspan of a football field.

352

00:37:07,662 --> 00:37:12,662

They typically were triangular shaped, some were sort of boomerang shaped.

353

00:37:16,662 --> 00:37:22,662

No pictures, official diagrams or blueprints of these types of vehicles have been released by the government.

354

00:37:23,662 --> 00:37:30,662

If the US military does operate these massive aircraft, they still remain secret.

355

00:37:32,661 --> 00:37:36,661

These things might have been developed for special forces operations.

356

00:37:37,661 --> 00:37:42,661

The nice thing about this particular vehicle design is it can carry fairly large payloads.

357

00:37:43,661 --> 00:37:49,661

So you can put an entire small unit of fully outfitted troops on board.

358

00:37:49,661 --> 00:37:55,661

Is there any projected point, at least in your estimation, when these covert aircraft will be revealed to us?

359

00:37:56,661 --> 00:38:02,661

They may never be revealed, because as long as it's an advantage, we don't want people to know about them. That's the way the Black world thinks.

360

00:38:07,661 --> 00:38:14,661

While the rigid hull airship sounds similar to reports of the boomerang, it is not an exact match.

361

00:38:14,661 --> 00:38:22,660

Some of the performance characteristics, such as amazing speed and the strange undulating surface, don't seem to be consistent.

362

00:38:23,660 --> 00:38:29,660

The rigid hull airships that I looked at would not display some of the characteristics that some of your observers did.

363

00:38:30,660 --> 00:38:34,660

I like this idea of blinking out and disappearing immediately. I don't know how to explain that.

364

00:38:35,660 --> 00:38:40,660

I'm just saying that there are large vehicles that sort of fit some of the descriptions you heard.

365

00:38:44,660 --> 00:38:49,660

Can the events that transpired in Arizona be explained by these covert programs?

366

00:38:50,660 --> 00:38:53,660

And are the UFO stories merely part of a disinformation campaign?

367

00:38:54,660 --> 00:39:01,660

Former Arizona Governor Fife Simington comes forward to put the issue to rest once and for all.

368

00:39:02,660 --> 00:39:04,660

I describe what I saw as being otherworldly.

369

00:39:05,660 --> 00:39:09,660

The Governor of Arizona

370

00:39:10,660 --> 00:39:19,659

Bill and James Fox are meeting with Fife Simington, the Governor of Arizona from 1990 to 1997.

371

00:39:20,659 --> 00:39:28,659

On June 19, 1997, the Governor holds a press conference and promises to investigate the Phoenix Lights event.

372

00:39:28,659 --> 00:39:37,659

But then, later that same afternoon, he calls another conference and brings his Chief of Staff out before the press dressed as an alien.

373

00:39:40,659 --> 00:39:44,659

Now, Simington explains his actions.

374

00:39:46,659 --> 00:39:57,659

The whole world descended on us. We were just inundated from all over the world, the Peking News Bureau, the BBC, everybody sort of descending on Phoenix about the lights over Phoenix and what was happening.

375

00:39:58,659 --> 00:40:05,658

I was in a hurry with my staff and made the decision at that point to do a spoof to try to kind of lighten the atmosphere.

376

00:40:06,658 --> 00:40:17,658

But I didn't realize I was going to offend so many people. I was just simply trying to kind of add some levity to this atmosphere, which I thought was really starting to get a little too hyped up, a little over the top, too much hysteria.

377

00:40:18,658 --> 00:40:33,658

You've said repeatedly that you pursued all these avenues to get to the bottom of what was going on in Phoenix in March of 1997. What were those avenues, Governor, and how did you pursue them?

378

00:40:33,658 --> 00:40:44,658

I asked my staff to call the commanding officer at Luke Air Force Base and to call the head of the Department of Public Safety and the general who was in charge of our guard to try to find out what it was.

379

00:40:44,658 --> 00:40:48,658

And the Air Force totally blanked us. They just said we have no comment. That was it.

380

00:40:49,658 --> 00:40:51,657

No comment. Not we don't know, but no comment.

381

00:40:51,657 --> 00:40:52,657

We have no comment.

382

00:40:52,657 --> 00:40:58,657

That's unacceptable, though. I mean, that's just not acceptable. You have to know what flies around in your airspace, right?

383

00:40:59,657 --> 00:41:06,657

As a governor, you know that no comment means a lot more than we don't know there's nothing there.

384

00:41:06,657 --> 00:41:11,657

Well, I know as a governor the worst comment that a governor could make is no comment to the press.

385

00:41:11,657 --> 00:41:22,657

No comment means there's something to comment about. So for the first time we found out that the Air Force knew there was something there, but would not talk about it.

386

00:41:23,657 --> 00:41:36,657

In 2006, Governor Simington agrees to be interviewed for James' documentary Beyond the Blue and drops a bombshell on camera.

387

00:41:36,657 --> 00:41:38,657

A lot of people saw it in Northrop County, and I saw it, too.

388

00:41:41,656 --> 00:41:49,656

Simington, a pilot and retired Air Force officer, admits that he himself saw the boomerang-shaped craft.

389

00:41:50,656 --> 00:41:56,656

Fife, can you describe what exactly you saw on March 13, 1997?

390

00:41:56,656 --> 00:42:02,656

I've described it as a delta-shaped craft, but it was a large, dark object, and it was enormous.

391

00:42:02,656 --> 00:42:06,656

It was so big it was hard to really determine how fast it was going because it was so large.

392

00:42:06,656 --> 00:42:12,656

It was very odd. The whole thing, it was kind of had a iridescent quality to it, and it was just astounding.

393

00:42:12,656 --> 00:42:15,656

I mean, much bigger than anything I'd ever seen in the air.

394

00:42:15,656 --> 00:42:18,656

I realized that I was seeing something that was truly extraordinary.

395

00:42:21,656 --> 00:42:24,656

Fife, why did you decide to come forward?

396

00:42:24,656 --> 00:42:30,655

I figured, well, enough time has passed, and I can see that there are a bunch of people that are really angry with me for what I did,

397

00:42:30,655 --> 00:42:33,655

so this is really an opportunity right now to set the record straight.

398

00:42:33,655 --> 00:42:44,655

I'm no longer Governor, and I'm just a Joe citizen, and I don't want people who are my constituents to be upset with me for something that really I'm on the same page.

399

00:42:45,655 --> 00:42:52,655

In your opinion, as an airfield chef or as a pilot, do you think that this craft you saw was military?

400

00:42:52,655 --> 00:42:57,655

Do you think the craft you saw might have been extraterrestrial or something along those lines?

401

00:42:57,655 --> 00:43:01,655

I've used the word before to describe what I saw as being otherworldly.

402

00:43:01,655 --> 00:43:09,655

I just don't believe that it came from anything that we know on Earth, so you call it extraterrestrial, otherworldly.

403

00:43:09,655 --> 00:43:16,655

It was an incredible thing to see, and I just don't know of any earthly explanation for what we saw.

404

00:43:22,654 --> 00:43:26,654

In my opinion, we're looking at some kind of extraterrestrial craft that passed over the city.

405

00:43:26,654 --> 00:43:32,654

Multiple eyewitnesses agree on that, including the Governor of Arizona himself, who said that this thing was from another world.

406

00:43:32,654 --> 00:43:36,654

I can't imagine that hundreds of people across Phoenix would be so fooled.

407

00:43:36,654 --> 00:43:39,654

It really does leave me wondering, could this have been something more?

408

00:43:39,654 --> 00:43:42,654

I think it's a real craft. I don't think it's an illusion.

409

00:43:42,654 --> 00:43:45,654

I think it's a craft that has amazing aerodynamic qualities.

410

00:43:45,654 --> 00:43:54,654

I think it's a solid craft, but I think it is our own neutral buoyancy triangular spacecraft.

411

00:43:55,654 --> 00:44:05,654

Tests have shown the lights captured on video on March 13, 1997, behave unlike conventional flares.

412

00:44:05,654 --> 00:44:12,653

And witnesses across the state remain convinced that they saw something extraordinary.

413

00:44:12,653 --> 00:44:18,653

Was the state of Arizona a testing ground for a new and still secret technology?

414

00:44:18,653 --> 00:44:25,653

Or were the witnesses on the ground truly seeing an object from beyond this world?