

# Arizona sightings, and Hale-Bopp silliness

From: **Ian Kennedy**  
Date: Sun, 6 Apr 1997 16:16:43 -0800  
Subject: Arizona sightings, and Hale-Bopp silliness

I saw the piece on "Strange Universe" and have seen many MUFON folks, including a poster to this mailing list rave about the tapes. My spin:

1- Could they be flares? You bet. Why couldn't you see the plane dropping them? Because it was VERY far away and consumer camcorders have lame low-light ability and crappy resolution. If they were so far away why were they so bright? Because they're designed that way : to illuminate an entire battlefield.

2- But some went up! How could that be? Answer: Thermals. I've seen a thermal suck a paper bag off the ground and carry it up thousands of feet. I've experienced it first hand in a sailplane. The atmosphere is not static and it is VERY plausible for a flare, on a parachute to rise in a column of thermally active air. The southwest is "thermal paradise" for glider geeks.

Watching the video on "SU", it looked like a plane flying in a straight line dropping flares. Even the first ones dropped were lower than the last ones by the time the last ones appeared.

On another note : I was out watching the comet the other night when these losers got out of their car, looked at the comet and said (an exact quote!) "I think I CAN see something in the tail!" Sheesh.

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