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Location: [Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1999](#) -> [Apr](#) -> Re: Were Arnold UFOs Fireballs?

UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Were Arnold UFOs Fireballs?

From: Donald Ledger <dledger@ns.sympatico.ca>
Date: Sat, 10 Apr 1999 10:10:46 -0300
Fwd Date: Sat, 10 Apr 1999 15:48:50 -0400
Subject: Re: Were Arnold UFOs Fireballs?

>From: Bob Young <YoungBob2@aol.com>
>Date: Thu, 8 Apr 1999 23:52:56 EDT
>Subject: Re: Were Arnold UFOs Fireballs?
>To: updates@globalserve.net

>>From: Donald Ledger <dledger@ns.sympatico.ca>
>>Date: Thu, 08 Apr 1999 20:40:47 -0300
>>Fwd Date: Thu, 08 Apr 1999 21:04:04 -0400
>>Subject: Re: Were Arnold UFOs Fireballs?

><snip>

>>With an approximate time of 2.5 to 4 seconds from top of
>>atmosphere to ground level for a meteor's travel, how can anyone
>>in that field even consider meteors? How does something like
>>this get in a SETI journal?

>Hi, Don:

>Where did you get these numbers? A meteor begins to glow about
>115 kms until about 50 kms, and if it is large enough then drops
>at free fall to the Earth's surface. Larger meteoroids can
>continue to glow to lower altitudes than small ones. Meteoroid
>speeds upon entering the atmosphere range from 11 to 74
>kms/sec depending upon whether the Earth catches up to the
>meteoroid in its orbit or it hits us head on.

>So, 2.5 to 4 seconds might be a good length of time for some
>visible meteors, others have a longer "dark" flight. Also, the
>hypothesis obviously refers to a meteor travelling in a near
>horizontal path. A bright, widely photographed fireball like
>this back in the early 1970s is known to have had a zenith to
>horizon time of 1 minute.

>Also, it is now believed that very bright meteor fireballs of
>this type are not related to meteor showers, believed to come
>from comets, but have their origins in the asteroid belt as
>rocky objects.

>Clear skies,

>Bob Young

Hi Bob,

I picked a number right in the middle for the sake of argument
46 kps or 28 mps. I used 60 miles for the approx. top of the

atmosphere where you are using about 70 miles.

I ignored bolides they because they slice through the upper atmosphere at about 60 miles or so; much higher than Arnold's objects at 6-7,000 feet.

In any event for the writer of the original article, to attribute Arnold's sighting to meteors was amatuerish and uninformed at best.

Don

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