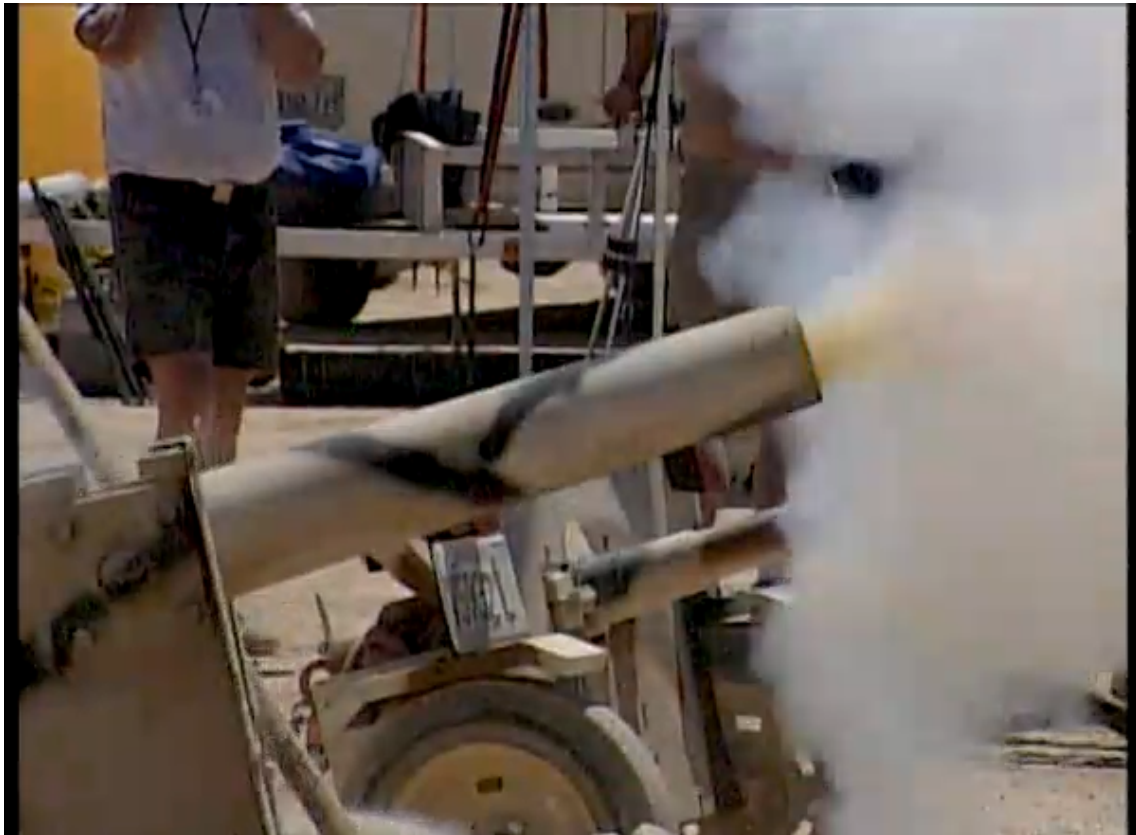


**MILITARY TECH****Guns, fireworks on center stage at secretive Desert Blast — Part 2**by: [George Knapp](#)

Posted: Sep 10, 2019 / 09:53 PM PDT

Updated: Oct 11, 2019 / 04:28 PM PDT

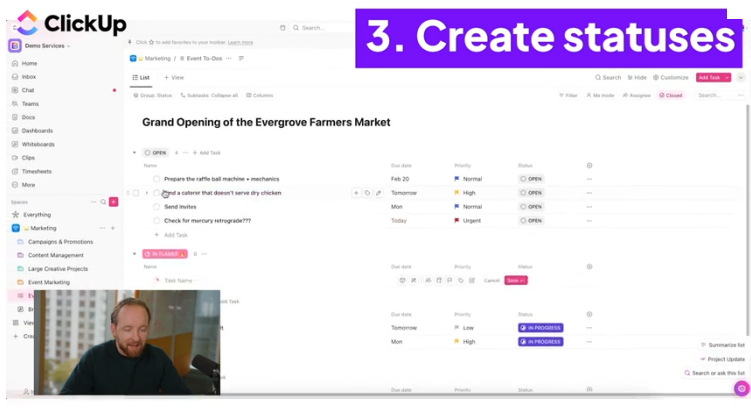
SHARE

A strange and secret ritual played out in a remote location during the 1990s. The exact dates and locations changed during the 13 years when Desert Blast was held in Southern Nevada. Fireworks experts, gun enthusiasts, rocket scientists and daredevil pilots gathered in relative secrecy to have fun and show off. You had to know someone to get invited, but it was an event the participants would never forget. Investigative reporter George Knapp was there. Aired on KLAS TV on May 24, 1999. Part 2 of a 2 Part series.

The barrage of 50 flares launched into the night sky was one of the milder events at the 1999 version of Desert Blast, and it was spectacular. The event kicked off with an all-day volley of assorted weapons fire and evolved into a fireworks free-for-all as the sun set.

A man setting up for the event talked as he worked: “This is a large shell, 12-inch shell, that goes in there. And it when it comes out, it just launches out of there with sectional lift pattern and it goes way up in the sky and blows.”

ADVERTISEMENT



1 / 6

Some of the fireworks are homemade. Some are commercial products. Once the bombardment begins, it continues unabated for hours and hours and includes far more displays than any Fourth of July show you’ve ever seen.

There are other evening attractions, including a competition for Miss Desert Blast, where contestants display their love of machines guns. The most chic way to get around the lake at night is by jet-powered go-kart. And thank goodness someone remembered to bring a flamethrower.

One man even donned a suit with all sorts of fireworks affixed, and danced for the crowd as the pyrotechnics engulfed him.

“All of this stuff when used properly is probably a lot safer here than going to a ballgame,” said one person in attendance.

But a ballgame usually doesn’t feature a flaming wall of death. And no ballpark has ever seen 4,000 pounds of rocket fuel and a ton of magnesium ignited at once.

Previous story: [Desert Blast draws crowd to secretive pyrotechnic orgy — Part 1](#)

Copyright 2025 Nexstar Media Inc. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

SPONSORED CONTENT

Oregon: New Rule For Cars Driven Less Than 50 Miles A Day

Financebuzz

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Learn More](#)

Cinnamon: The Greatest Enemy Of Blood Sugar (See How To Use It)

bloghealthnet

[Learn More](#)

MD: Building Muscle After 60 Comes Down To This 1 Thing

[READ NEXT >](#)

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name

[READ NEXT >](#)



Next story in 5

Cancel

Barefoot Vitality

Learn More

MD: Lotions Won't Tighten Crepe Skin! You Only Need This 1 Drugstore Item

Miami MD

Learn More

Chuck Norris Begs Seniors: Avoid These 3 Foods Like The Plague

Roundhouse Provisions

Learn More

Actress Leaks Los Angeles Trick For Slim Body: "We all do it"

Health News

Windows Users Don't Forget To Do This Before Sunday

lifestyletechtips.com

Read More

Medical Mystery Solved: Dementia and Memory Loss Has Been Linked To This Common Thing.

vitalgethealth

Click Here

Here's The Estimated Cost of a 1-day Gutter Guards Installation

HomeBuddy

Here's The Estimated Cost for a 1-day Gutter Guards Installation

HomeBuddy

LATEST MILITARY TECHNOLOGY VIDEO

READ NEXT >

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



READ NEXT >

Next story in 5

MYSTERY WIRE – James Goodall – Aviation Author – ...

Military Technology

4 years ago

MYSTERY WIRE – Bo Gritz – Part 3 of 3 – Training ...

Military Technology

4 years ago

MYSTERY WIRE – Bo Gritz – Part 2 of 3 – Training ...

Military Technology

4 years ago

MYSTERY WIRE – Bo Gritz – Part 1 of 3 – Training ...

Military Technology

4 years ago

Prototype military plane crashes outside Moscow, ...

Military Technology

4 years ago

Gatekeeper of the Nevada test site – Darwin Morgan

Military Technology

4 years ago

Darwin Morgan – NNSS – Mystery Wire Interview

Military Technology

4 years ago

Aired Feb. 2005 – Teleportation: The Air Force spent ...

Military Technology

4 years ago

READ NEXT >

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



READ NEXT >

Next story in 5

Bill Horton with model of wingless plane; plane on ...

Military Technology

5 years ago

More Videos

Mystery Wire Video

READ NEXT >

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



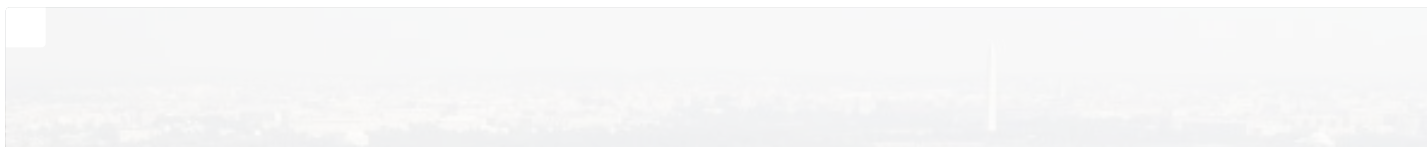
READ NEXT >

Next story in 5



THE LATEST

DON'T MISS



[READ NEXT >](#)

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



[READ NEXT >](#)

Next story in 5

- | **Skinwalker Ranch and the ‘hitchhiker effect’**
- | **Tic Tac, Gimbal videos: Why are UFOs always fuzzy?**
- | **How the UAP Task Force evaluated UFO cases**



LATEST MYSTERY WIRE NEWS

Nevada landed in UFO spotlight 75 years ago

UFO

3 years ago

- ▶ **Skinwalker Ranch and the ‘hitchhiker effect’**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **Tic Tac, Gimbal videos: Why are UFOs always fuzzy?**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **How the UAP Task Force evaluated UFO cases**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **UFO hunter’s deep roots with NASA, DoD**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **Physicist reveals he’s a UFO hunter for the Pentagon**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **DOD scientist: I’ve seen more UFOs than I can count**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **Scientists could speak in additional UFO hearings**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **UFO hearing fails to answer questions about ‘drones’**
UFO • 3 years ago
- ▶ **Congress holds first UFO hearing in 50 years**
UFO • 3 years ago

READ NEXT >

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



READ NEXT >

Next story in 5



Related Links

The unexplainable explained

The Latest

Area 51

Mysteries

Space Science

Video

8 News Las Vegas

UFO

Military Tech

Paranormal

True Crime

About

About Our Ads

READ NEXT >

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



READ NEXT >

Next story in 5

- [Privacy Policy](#) [11/18/2024](#)
- [FCC Applications](#)
- [Subscribe To Mystery Wire Push Notifications](#)
- [NewsNation](#)
- [Content Licensing](#)
- [Journalistic Integrity](#)
- [Do Not Sell or Share My Personal Information](#)
- [Terms Of Use](#)
- [Public File Assistance Contact](#)
- [The Hill](#)
- [BestReviews](#)
- [Nexstar Digital](#)
- [Sitemap](#)

© 1998 - 2025 Nexstar Media Inc. | All Rights Reserved.

READ NEXT >

Former CIA specialist reveals new secrets of Area 51, including real name



READ NEXT >

Next story in 5