

DARKER SIDE
OF
THE MOON



"They" Are Watching Us!

ROB SHELSKY

GEORGE KEMPLAND

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**Darker Side Of The Moon
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By

**Rob Shelsky
And
George Kempland**

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~ DEDICATION ~

There is one person we would especially like to thank, because she has been such a good friend and loyal supporter for so many years.

Diane Elizabeth Powell

We wish to acknowledge you for your loyalty, dedication, mountains of help, and always just being there for us.

Again, thank you, so very much!

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Introduction

What's Going On?

Something Is Coming!

The world seems to be entering a strange new era. Whether we like it or not, certain events are combining to rush at us like some impossible juggernaut, seemingly unstoppable, unavoidable, and inescapable. Moreover, this dawning age is one filled with new types of uncertainty, because of all this. It's as if we were aboard a speeding train, one moving ever more rapidly, and we have no idea what or where our destination will be. We race toward enigmas.

Unlike the 20th Century, which was wracked with mainly ideological and industrial upheaval, this time, events seem to be moving in a different direction. The rising interest in "2012" is just one example. But things are going even further and in a more bizarre way, much more dramatically so. Major social turmoil, there definitely will be as a result, no doubt.

However, this time, the causes will be of a very different nature than just mere governments warring with each other. This time, it won't be just something as simple as "isms" fighting each other for dominance in the world.

Something Is Happening!

Most of us already know this, can intrinsically "feel" it. Weird events are manifesting themselves, despite our best efforts to ignore them, to pretend they aren't happening, or just don't exist. Consequently, people are uneasy and growing more so by the day.

They are asking questions they've never asked before and lots of them! What's more, people are asking these questions with a new intensity. Once, we exercised just a mild curiosity about such subjects, with a complacent intellectual interest in certain ideas, and even considered some questions as just a form of party entertainment. Now, things are different. Now, we want to know! We have to know! We want answers.

Why? Well, there seems to be a growing consensus among many of us that whatever is coming is getting closer, drawing ever nearer, and is now almost here! Whether it's Christians thinking the End of Days are approaching, New Age believers feeling the coming dawn of a New Age, people wondering about the dire implications of "2012," or just everyday folk trying to deal with the massive technological/social changes flooding in upon them, like some vast tsunami, everyone seems to feel that something huge is impending. A crisis or crises seem to be coming. We sense we're approaching a turning point, a major one!

As a result, our questions are also coming thick and fast. Again, they reach a new sense of urgency. This is because on some level, we truly know time is running out for the answers that we so desperately need, and may have to have just in order to survive. What questions? Well, there are all sorts. But a truly major one, one that concerns the near future of all humankind and our individual places in it, seems to concern a variety of mysterious objects we keep sighting in our skies and seas. These objects, collectively, we call UFOs.

UFOs—What's Going On?

This subject might seem completely unconnected at first glance to the concerns expressed above. Nevertheless, no matter how disparate all these topics seem, or how "out-of-this-world" this last one is, UFOs, may first appear, they have one underlying principle in common to them, one general theme.

that runs throughout them all. That is, these mysteries seem to be looming on the near horizon.

~~This is true of UFOs no less than the other mysteries. Still, the results of some of these enigmas may envelop us very soon, very soon indeed, and perhaps before most of us are ready to deal with them. Maybe, this is where our real fear lies, in the dread of not being able to cope, of not being ready for not knowing what's coming! We believe this has become a general anxiety, a social angst spanning much of the population of the world.~~

Well, whether or not any of us are ready, these approaching events will profoundly affect us in our own lifetimes, and already have for many. Furthermore, we don't know what the ultimate outcome of these events will be, but they each constitute an unknown, and so a crisis for us.

Will they fundamentally alter our viewpoint of the world and universe in which we live? Oh, yes. They will unquestionably change how we view what has happened in the past, how we live now, and where we are headed to in the future. These effects will come down upon us as individuals and as a species, like it or not. The very survival of all life on this planet, all of it, may even be at stake!

Worse, it appears we are approaching not just a single crisis, but many, and they all seem to be coming toward us at once. One major definition of the word "crisis" means "turning point." Well, we are coming to a nexus of such turning points. Like multiple threads coming together through the eye of a needle, enigmatic events are about to confront humanity and they may well be of cosmic proportions.

A multitude of related questions about these UFOs plagues us, as well, including even the issue of "2012." Are these things all real? Are aliens truly abducting people? Where do UFOs come from? Do they exist? Who are they? Have they always been here, or is this a more recent phenomenon? Are they planning to come again in force? Do they represent a threat, a danger, or a promise of something better? What are the implications of such things? What do they want? Why are they here?

Arriving At Startling Conclusions!

Well, it may just be possible to arrive at some real answers to all this. Moreover, we think we have. By using the abundance of evidence now at everyone's easy disposal and then applying the Principle of Occam's Razor to it, we have, step by step, arrived at certain incredible conclusions. They are profound and disturbing in their nature and implications at the very least, and for some, may be truly frightening in the extreme. We personally found them to be so, and thus felt we should share the conclusions here in this book, partly for this very reason, just because they are so disturbing. Furthermore, they do seem to be the most probable answers based on the Principle of Occam's Razor.

Here in this book, *Darker Side Of The Moon "They" Are Watching Us?* we intend to show in the same step-by-step process, for the benefit of the readers, just how we arrived at the conclusions we did. We will show from the very beginning the means by which we provide real answers, ones that can be acted upon and tested in the future by anyone. We include scientists in this last, especially scientists (if they ever care to do so), because they really should be turning their attention to these topics, instead of just castigating people in their millions for being just subject to "mass hysteria" and victims of sightings of swamp gas, Venus, etc., instead of genuine, strange objects in our skies and oceans.

The answers we've found might even help us to survive as a species, or at least as individuals, but at the very least, they should make us all more aware of what we are really facing from "out there." And "to be forewarned is to be forearmed," as "they" say. To paraphrase, we feel that in this case ignorance is definitely not bliss, but rather a very dangerous diversion for one to indulge in, indeed.

And one more thing to support our contentions, we'll provide Internet links to much of the information in the Endnotes of this book, so you can go check all this out for yourself. And if you

don't like the links we provide, there are much more available via a simple search of any available search engine, such as Google or Yahoo.

We feel this is a new and better approach in many respects to referencing. Why? Well, most of us don't have the time or wherewithal to check out libraries or to buy such source materials that authors traditionally use in referencing their work. And although we do reference many standard sources in this way, we put particular emphasis on reliable Internet sources, so that the reader can simply copy and paste such links into their browsers, go to these sites, and check much of this out for themselves quickly and easily, if they so wish.

Make no mistake; *Darker Side Of The Moon “They” Are Watching Us?* is definitely not just another rehash of accounts about UFOs, UFO abductions, ancient aliens, or the like. Nor is it an attempt to prove their existence. That’s been done! And it’s been done by many other authors, although admittedly, by some much better than others.

No, simply compiling more evidence isn’t our intention here. What we intend to do is to break new ground over the whole alien/UFO controversy. You see, we’ve sifted through the existing evidence, and have arrived at some startling conclusions. These new conclusions, and just how we arrived at them, we will show in this book.

How will we go about doing this? Well, again by a systematic process. So:

1. First, we’ll start by discussing just what “real” evidence for UFOs actually constitutes. This involves what we think evidence constitutes, how we perceive things as evidence, and whether evidence for UFOs and the related subjects is reliable. (We’ll tell you right here, we think a lot of it is.) The reason we’ll spend some time on this, is that it is such a big issue, such a “bone of contention” between ufologists and scientists.

2. Secondly, we’ll explain the phrase “extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence,” what it means, and how this is often used, and the real reasons for it being used, and by whom.

3. Thirdly, and perhaps most importantly, we’ll tackle all the issues by using a powerful tool, the Principle of Occam’s Razor, [1] a major method invoked by scientists the world over to help find the most probable answers to many questions.

Why is this last considered a new approach to the UFO subject? Well, seemingly hardly ever, to any real degree, at least, is the Principle of Occam’s Razor used or applied by UFO authors or researchers in trying to arrive at conclusions. You see, repeatedly, UFO authors list all the evidence and data very well, but seldom do they really attempt to arrive at answers or conclusions that may be of any real use to the average person, other than their claiming these events are real because of all the available evidence they’ve given to prove them.

In this book, we now take that much as a given, that much has been proven already. Again, we feel the evidence is there and in abundance to prove the existence of UFOs.

However, we can go much further than just this by using the Principle of Occam’s Razor, which we’ll explain in depth later. We will try to determine what all these phenomena might actually, truly mean for our futures and us, as individuals. The thrust in *Darker Side Of The Moon “They” Are Watching Us?* is to come up with some real answers, ones we can rely upon and so use to determine reasonable courses of action.

However, we are making one notable exception to the above idea that we will not produce an abundance of evidence to support any claims. This is because our research has taken us in a new direction, as the result of some of our conclusions. Although this topic has been discussed before by others, it has mostly been done so on the Internet, and again, no extrapolations have been made to any real degree as to what it all might mean—until now, here in this book. So, we will produce some solid evidence solicited originally by NASA itself, and more from several other sources.

We believe this will constitute a major step forward in our understanding of the whole UFO question. Because, with so uncertain a future facing us all, we need all the input, all the data and knowledge we can get, to first understand, and then hopefully help us to survive possible coming events. And remember, as “they” say, “knowledge is power.” We need to acquire such power for ourselves, as individuals, and use it to our advantage, even to help insure our survival, if need be.

So with this in mind, let's get started!

Chapter 2

A Preponderance Of Evidence

Before we get into discussing the nature of evidence, what even constitutes evidence, let's make one thing abundantly clear from the very outset. We wish to restate that we are not trying to prove the existence of UFOs. In our opinion, that's already an accomplished fact, a "done deal," as "they" say. We feel UFOs are a real phenomenon. Why? Well, for years, book after countless book, and show after show on television and radio, and even docudramas in the theatres, have repeatedly discussed whether UFOs, alien abductions, ancient aliens, and such, exist.

Authors and researchers have done this through a plethora of books, all citing individual cases their thousands, even tens of thousands. And these cases are usually just drawn from the ones actually reported to the appropriate authorities. One must assume, therefore, that there are thousands more cases besides these, as well, ones which go unreported, since the stigma of reporting such a "crazy" event stops many from admitting such things even happened to them.

The twin fears of ridicule and ruining one's career loom large as factors in this resistance by many people to the reporting of what they have witnessed. [2] So many people simply don't report "officially" such events. Thus, we can say with reasonable assurance that the numbers of actually reported UFO sightings thus form only the small tip of a much bigger and mostly submerged iceberg of such strange events.

Even so, the "official" reports made, all combine to form almost a seemingly limitless supply of evidence in their own right. This comes to us in the form of sworn anecdotal evidence, as well as thousands of eyewitness accounts and testimonies. There are countless photos and videos, audio recordings, and other reports often made by very reliable persons, including officials of governments and members of the military of various nations, as well as qualified researchers and trained observers in various fields of endeavors, such as MUFON.

This reporting of evidence has also been made by experienced radar operators, seasoned military pilots, skilled commercial jet pilots, numerous police officers, soldiers, sailors, military investigators, military officers, control tower operators, and just so many others whose bona fides simply can't be credibly questioned. [3] Moreover, these accounts come to us from all over the world and have done so for decades, if not centuries, and even millennia!

In addition, this same reporting holds true on the government level, as well as for the individual level. Even a former Admiral of England (United Kingdom), Lord Hill-Norton, having been privy to classified information, has insisted there is more to all this than we are led to believe and further research into the matter of UFOs should be a high priority. A former British Ministry Of Defence (MOD) member, Nick Pope, [4] declares that British airspace is repeatedly "penetrated" by strange and unknown "structured craft and this fact is of importance. [5] None other than Winston Churchill wanted the matter investigated, as well. [6]

The top-level, highly acclaimed French government study, COMETA, [7] thoroughly researched the UFO phenomena by using highly respected, qualified individuals for the government's report, and concerning themselves with only the most reliable accounts of such events. They came to some incredible conclusions, ones with strange implications as to the existence of UFOs. The Swedish, Belgian, Brazilian, [8] and many other governments have all done similar sorts of investigations at various degrees, and all of them, without exception, made it clear they think something is definitely going on. This "something" seems to be truly extraordinary in nature, and most likely "out of this world" or "other world" in origin. At least, this is so, if we are to believe their reports.

There has even been what some scientists would refer to as "hard" evidence of such events, as well. These include actual video and sound recordings (some ascertained by qualified specialists n

to have been tampered with in any way), [9] and government released radar tracking recordings (with Belgium), etc., and so certified by those governments as being true and correct.

Moreover, planes, helicopters, etc., have had to take evasive action to avoid midair collisions. In addition, there are other and different forms of evidence available from many other different types of sources. The amount of such evidence in total is simply overwhelming!

All of these things have been revealed to us over the many decades. Taken as individual pieces of evidence, they are incredibly compelling and intriguing items. And yes, some of the reports are stronger in nature as to their probable reality, of being “real” evidence, than others. Mistakes do happen even to the best-trained observers. Misidentifications are made...sometimes. But according to Nick Pope [10] and others, some cases simply can't be refuted in this matter. They stand out from the crowd as being virtually unassailable.

Again, the sheer preponderance of evidence, taken in its totality, is awesome in its size, variety and content, to say the very least. So although skeptics might (however badly they wish to) refute some individuals' testimonies, and even those of trained specialists and observers on a one-by-one case basis, how do they then account for the thousands, even hundreds of thousands of remarkable similar cases that have occurred, and are still occurring around the world?

Do we really have that many trained, highly qualified people, ones we entrust to fly our planes and to guide them to safety on the ground, who are so bad at their jobs of reporting what they see that they get it all so unbelievably and so often wrong? Are our astronauts, military pilots, radar operators, commercial jet liner pilots, navigators, police officers, soldiers, government officials, etc., all so extraordinarily poor at their jobs that they are just “seeing things,” or misinterpreting what they see that badly? Unlikely! This is unlikely in the extreme.

Therefore, taken together, and despite allowing for a considerable amount of some possible misidentifications, such an enormous abundance of evidence still forms a formidable accumulation of proof, a “preponderance of evidence” in favor of the fact that the UFO phenomenon does exist.

And millions have come to believe the phenomenon of UFOs is, indeed, real, and it does exist. We include ourselves in this last viewpoint. In addition, this viewpoint on our part was only arrived at over several decades of studying this whole subject with a close and jaundiced eye, for we are by nature skeptics.

So whether certain doubters and the United States government wish to deny all this (although, in the case of the US government doing this, and despite having had their own military operators tracking on radar and then scrambling jets on occasions to intercept such so-called “nonexistent” UFOs) is, at this point, of little consequence to us. Who really cares what they say?

After all, the United States government is just one of many governments around the world. And many others think there is something to the phenomenon and publicly have stated so. What's more, some of those governments, by inference, have said they suspect the United States of hiding what it really knows, just as many individuals studying the problem think this, as well.

Whether or not the U.S. is hiding anything, there is just too much other evidence from elsewhere around the world, from decades of sightings just about everywhere, and again, in the form of official reports, radar tracking, and recordings (visual and audio), to continue to ignore this issue any longer.

To reiterate; UFOs exist. It's that simple. In addition, people believe this to be so and in incredible numbers. For instance:

1. Roughly 33 percent of Americans alone, as of the year 2000, believe that UFOs are real and do exist. [11]

2. Another recent poll, as reported on CNN, reported that figure as apparently having grown until it is now slightly over 50 percent! [12]

3. If that isn't surprising enough, another poll suggests that one in five adults, worldwide [13]

believe UFOs are real. If we take the world population as being just about seven billion approximately, at the time of the writing of this book, then this number then translates to close 1,400,000,000 (one billion, four hundred million) people who believe in UFOs worldwide. This is a truly significant number! [14]

4. Yet another recent poll done nationally in 2002 by the SyFy Channel cites the fact that now 70 percent of Americans actually feel that our government is not telling the public everything it knows about UFOs. Sixty-eight percent feel our government is more knowledgeable about alien life than it will admit to, as the SyFy Channel also stated. [15]

So this figure can vary some from poll to poll, depending on who took it, when it was taken, and whatever biases toward administering the poll there might have been (more on biases later), by the various pollsters involved, and even exactly who they chose to poll.

However, irrespective of which poll you choose, when translated into actual numbers, they all still show millions of Americans believing in UFOs and feeling there is enough evidence to give credence to the actual existence of them. This, in itself, is an astounding phenomenon.

On a global scale, it means hundreds of millions of people worldwide (again, even perhaps over a billion), who think enough evidence, that a “preponderance of evidence” exists to prove UFOs are actually real. So they believe in their existence. They are convinced. The current amount of evidence satisfies them, as it does us here.

What’s more, this vast number of people wants to know more. They want legitimate investigations done of the phenomena, and they want the answers revealed in their entirety, not just in the form of redacted documents in their thousands, with all the important information carefully blacked out of them! Repeatedly, groups around the world have called for such investigations, and some of the groups are composed of very reputable government officials and other professionals. The United States, more than any other country in the world, has refused to do this to any real degree, through the very old and so poorly run Project Bluebook,” notwithstanding. [16]

Therefore, as stated, for us the debate as to whether UFOs exist is over for us. What their exact nature may be, we’ll discuss later on, but as for their actual existence, in our minds, there can be no question of this. For those who would like a quick, short overview of some of the cited cases, just go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_UFO_sightings. If you don’t like Wikipedia then just do a quick search on the Internet and you’ll find many other sources.

Also take note of this; either the fact UFOs exist is true, or millions upon millions of people have been in gross error, or consistently lied to authorities on what they saw. This means this last group purposely, endlessly, and repeatedly falsified reports (including government reports of various countries), faked countless photos and videos, and committed an equally countless number of hoaxes not only over decades, but even centuries, for that matter.

So which of the following three versions regarding beliefs about UFOs seems the most likely to be the simplest answer and so true?

1. There are an incredibly widespread and massive number (and by massive, we mean millions of people here if not more likely hundreds of millions) who make grave and constant mistakes, terrible errors in reporting what they see, (with many such reports being made by well-educated and trained observers). Or,

2. All these countless reports are just elaborate and unbelievably long-term hoaxes mixed in with elaborate conspiracies that have been perpetrated upon the world repeatedly and for generations. Moreover, these conspiracies and hoaxes would also have to involve lies by many of whom we see as upstanding citizens and so who would have had no obvious reason to do such a terrible thing, since they would only harm their reputations or careers. Or, finally,

3. Alternatively, we are really seeing something very strange in our skies. In which case, is there

something “out there?” Apparently, the answer to that is yes. And could the answer be just that simple that something strange is going on, is real?”

The answer, of course, should be the simplest one, and so should be obvious. That is, the third choice, (Number 3) that we really see something often and its nature is very bizarre, otherworldly, and even frightening to many.

To select the first answer would mean having to invoke the idea of an implausibly huge number of eyewitnesses, many of whom are trained experts, who somehow keep getting what they see terribly wrong, repeatedly and without exception, and have done this over centuries.

Alternatively, as with the second choice, it would involve an incredible number of elaborate hoaxes perpetrated over centuries. It would also have to include an equally elaborate set of conspiracy theories to account for having deliberately hoodwinked the public, not only now, but also throughout history. Again, this would mean a truly gargantuan number of people having deliberately lied and having conspired against the truth for some strange reason. And over and over again!

Another thing to remember about choosing an answer is that sometimes the phenomena have even been dangerous and deadly to those who say they saw UFOs, or encountered them more closely. Please don't forget that in some cases, people have actually died because of such encounters. In one report released from the archives of the Russian Navy, it mentions several divers who died underwater while trying to pursue a UFO (called a “USO” when underwater) through the water.

Now really, can any rational person believe the Russian Navy risked the lives of those men for something as trivial, as just “swamp gas,” an “hallucination,” or an underwater “optical illusion?” No, hardly! For more on this event, please go to <http://rt.com/news/russian-navy-ufo-records-say-alien-love-oceans/> and if you don't like this particular source, again, simply search under this topic. There are many other available websites, all of which report and corroborate this archived release in almost exactly the same way. We liked this one, because it was so thorough.

Then there is the matter of all those who claimed to have been burned by some type of radiation (often with photographic evidence taken at doctors' offices to support this contention), developed cancers, or strange growths on or in their bodies. [17] In some cases, these have also led to untimely and strange deaths. Besides, we're not even including what might be happening to possible abductees here.

Furthermore, one other truly remarkable and tragic item is the death of nine cross-country skiers/mountain climbers in the old Soviet Russia, who died under manifestly extraordinary circumstances before ever having even started their climb. The weird conditions of their deaths, one that local officials subsequently tried to cover up, angered the primary member of the investigating committee to the point that he resigned in protest.

In addition, this event also has photographs, forensic evidence, etc., to support it actually happened and just as described. That the nine young people died is an undeniable fact. That they died while racing for their lives, fleeing from their own tent (which tent they had cut to pieces from the inside with sharp implements to aid their quick escape), and that they suffered burns, and all sorts of other unimaginable traumas, is not a matter of contention. This much is also a fact.

That the authorities simply can't account realistically for how they died (some tried to call it simple hypothermia from exposure, but then one must ask, what drove nine people, ones only partially clothed and some shoeless, out of their tent into such frigid “exposure” in the first place?). Again, that these young people are dead is an indisputable fact. It's also a given that their deaths involved massive internal traumas to some of their bodies. What's more, there were no marks visible on the exteriors of their bodies to account for these traumas. Also, there was burning of portions of their corpses, skin turned orange, symptoms such as apparent premature aging, high radiation levels around the tent and on some of their clothes, etc. None of this can be accounted for by simple exposure to the cold.

Remember, these were well-experienced cross-country skiers and climbers. They had done the sort of excursion many times before. They knew all about the dangers of hypothermia. So they would not flee out into the night, in bitterly cold weather, without a very good reason.

As a strange side note, the mountain they were to climb, was named OtorTEN, which literally translated means “don’t go there” and the place where they set up camp was called Kholat Syakh Mountain, which in English means, “Mountain of the Dead,” both so named by the local Mansi people. For some reason, a reason now lost in antiquity, apparently.

How does this involve UFOs? Well, several independent reports from different locations nearby refer to sightings of glowing balls of orange light spotted for several nights in that area, and a flying “circular” disk seen heading that way near the time of the actual event. Certainly, being unidentified, these constitute “UFOs” by the very definition.

For more on this event, go to either of these sites:

http://www.forteanimes.com/features/articles/1562/the_dyatlov_pass_incident.html

Or,

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dyatlov_Pass_incident

You will notice that, as stated in both reference articles, “Soviet investigators determined only that ‘a compelling unknown force’ had caused the deaths.” [Emphasis added.] So definitely, yes, the UFO phenomenon has deaths related to it.

To return to our main subject here: we have just illustrated above our first example of the use of the Principle of Occam’s Razor to arrive at the most reasonable and simplest conclusion about UFOs. If you remember, we were initially faced with several choices. We had to choose as an explanation one of the following three:

1. A tremendous number of mistaken cases of identity by countless observers over centuries as the cause of these UFO sightings.

2. An elaborate, complex, and improbable scenario of countless hoaxes and lies, ones that also must have been perpetrated for countless decades, perhaps even centuries or millennia. Or,

3. We accept the third and the simplest answer that there is something there in our skies and seas, something extraordinary, and people are seeing and reporting about it on a very regular basis.

The simplest and most straightforward explanation in this case declares that people the world over, now and over long numbers of years/centuries/millennia, have and still are seeing some very fantastic and peculiar things and it isn’t always just “swamp gas,” folks! Not when it also seems to be able to harm, maim, and kill, or at least result in deaths and sickness as collateral damage in the process of seeing such things. Therefore, by the Principle of Occam’s Razor, we should choose the simplest choice—that people are seeing something strange and it’s having a real effect on lives. In other words, UFOs are real.

Now, having already used it once, in the next chapter, we’ll explain exactly what the Principle of Occam’s Razor actually is, why it works so well, and why we should use it always.

By repeatedly applying the Principle of Occam's Razor throughout this book, as we just did at the end of Chapter 2, we hope to arrive at some likely, or at least, very probable conclusions, just as scientists would. Then we can try to use these conclusions to advance our knowledge of what all this may mean for us, this whole UFO phenomenon in all its guises, what it may portend for us all.

The conclusion of the last chapter was that most people are actually, truly, and frequently witnessing and encountering something very strange in the skies of Earth. We call these weird objects "UFOs."

By using the Principle of Occam's Razor, and so accepting this simplest and most straightforward of explanations, again, we must conclude these are real phenomena. Therefore, we must reject the more improbable idea that all these sightings simply form an incredibly massive number of cases of mistaken identification of more mundane things. We must also discard the even more implausible idea they are a result of some elaborate and endless series of worldwide hoaxes/conspiracies perpetrated in their thousands or hundreds of thousand and over an incredible amount of time.

So given the possible explanations, the simplest answer is this is really happening. UFOs, repeat a phrase (and it does bear repeating), really are "out there."

Please remember, we aren't so intent with proving the existence of anything in this book, because we feel that's been done already, and repeatedly. Instead, our focus lies on giving some real answers here as to what this all may mean for us, humanity as a whole, here on Planet Earth. But we did want to illustrate how the Principle of Occam's Razor can be applied to help pick the most likely answer. In this case, do UFOs exist?

The answer seems to be, yes. And if UFOs are actually here, as the Principle of Occam's Razor seems to show, then why are they here? What are they? Are they aliens? If aliens are in our skies, what's their purpose in being here? We need to find answers to these questions.

And like many authors, many pundits make endless suppositions about these phenomena, arguing against the available evidence, but no methodology ever seems to be applied to attempt to winnow all this down to the most likely, the most probably correct answers as to what it all may really mean for us. We wish to attempt to do this. And we do feel the Principle of Occam's Razor is the best way to find those answers.

Opponents to the idea of the reality of UFOs, those scientists and various government officials along with others, certainly use the Principle of Occam's Razor readily and quickly enough in their arguments to deny the existence of UFOs, ancient aliens, etc. Scientific skeptics fall back on this very same principle all the time in television shows, and interviews to refute such claims.

So why shouldn't we use the same method ourselves, if it works so well for them? Why shouldn't proponents of UFOs apply the Principle of Occam's Razor, too? As the old saying goes, "what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," after all. If a method works so well for them, let's then see if it works equally well for proponents of the existence of UFOs.

Additionally, although evidence is given in abundance, various suppositions made, no one seems to have thought (until this book), to try applying that same principle used around the world by scientists to arrive at the most likely of conclusions. Why have UFO enthusiasts and believers failed to apply this sound principle to any real degree?

Well, there is one very telling reason for this, and it is the statement that "extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence." Scientists use this all the time when asked why they won't seriously discuss the reality of UFOs. And far too many of us who think there is something to these phenomena

then fall into this same trap. Shortly, we will discuss this “trap,” why we choose to call it such.

~~To summarize this section, why is the Principle of Occam’s Razor used everywhere and so often by scientists? Why is it so relied upon by them? The answer is simple. They use it because it works most of the time. That’s why. Which is why we intend to use it here now, finally, and throughout the book, at every possible turn we can, because the principle does work well, and for anyone who chooses to use it.~~

The Principle of Occam’s Razor

As we illustrated it at the end of Chapter 2, is simplicity itself, literally. Wikipedia defines it the way:

“Occam's razor (or Ockham's razor) [1] often expressed in Latin as the *lex parsimonia* translating to law of parsimony, law of economy or law of succinctness, is a principle that generally recommends, when faced with competing hypotheses that are equal in other respects, selecting the one that makes the fewest new assumptions...” [18]

In case that sounds a bit convoluted, more simply put, the Principle of Occam’s Razor means that when given the choice of more than one possible answer to a problem, with all answers seeming about equal in most other respects, then the best way to go is to pick the simplest, least complicated answer of all of them.

As shown at the end of Chapter 2, when it comes to “theories” as to why thousands are seeing UFOs every year and millions have claimed to be abducted, the simplest answer is not that it’s a massive series of complex hoaxes or elaborate conspiracies over countless decades/centuries, or an incredible number of mistakes. It’s not mass hysteria, or hallucinations. Those answers are too complicated.

Again, the simplest answer is that something is going on! So according to the Principle of Occam’s Razor, this is the answer we’re going to use here, and as a basis upon which to build. And before skeptics scream we’re being too “across the board,” we freely admit that many sightings may be mistakes, even the vast majority of them, but even by officials’ own admissions, some simple cannot be explained away in any normal way.

Therefore, those sightings, by default, must be real. And if real, that means we have UFOs in our skies. Again, “simple mistaken identification of mundane things” wouldn’t cause deaths and injuries to the observers. After all, seeing the planet Venus should hardly be fatal...yet, something killed those nine Russian students and those divers we earlier mentioned, as well as many others.

So step one is complete. To summarize, we have arrived at the simplest conclusion, and that there is something to all these UFO sightings. UFOs exist. But we need to know more. Now with the Principle of Occam’s Razor at our disposal, one so favored by scientists, let’s move on and find out just what else this all entails!

Chapter 4

Perception of Reality

To understand the process of how we arrived at our conclusions using the Principle of Occam's Razor, it is imperative we first share exactly how we went about doing this. We need to clarify what the premise for our "acceptance of evidence" is, and how we went about doing all this, because it forms the foundation of everything, all of our conclusions. If that evidence is wrong, this means that all our conclusions in this book would be wrong, as well, despite using the valuable Principle of Occam's Razor. Therefore, we had to approach the topic of what constitutes evidence very carefully.

The first necessary step was to reorder our perceptions of the world around us before even considering any evidence. We had to decide what really constitutes reality. No, this does not mean we took off into flights of fancy, sailed to another astral plane, or put ourselves in any sort of trances, or other "enlightened" states with or without psychotropic drugs.

Quite the opposite is the fact. We wanted to make sure we were seeing the world as it actually is, not as we think, imagine, or wish it to be. Cold, perhaps an even harsh and gritty reality was our goal, and not just a "perception" of some candy-coated version of it all, or anyone's "version" of it for that matter. This had to hold true for us whether it meant rejecting the UFO enthusiast's perceptions or the other extreme, and the most skeptical of a scientist's disbeliefs. We just wanted as close to the "real thing" as we could get.

Perception Is Not Reality

This concept is of paramount importance when we look at, examine, and discuss evidence related to UFOs and their related subjects. What we "perceive" or want to be true, does not necessarily make something true at all. However, just what is perception, exactly? Well, a good definition of perception is the way we look at things, the way we see the world around us. Again, and we can't say this often enough here, perception is not reality, [19] no matter how many Hollywood or Madison Avenue advertiser types may tell us it is or should be.

Unfortunately, due to the constant repetition of that now cliché phrase by such hard sell, business types, many people really do think the two things, perception, and reality, equal each other for all practical purposes. Although this may be true in advertising, it is definitely not when it comes to dealing with reality and evidence for it.

But perception is powerful, all too powerful at times. Why? Well, this is because perception controls not only how we see things, but also and MORE IMPORTANTLY, how we react to them, and furthermore, how we then act upon those very reactions, as well. It's a chain of events we've forged and often on a very wrong set of initial assumptions. Moreover, we all do this sort of thing and we do it a lot, daily and even hourly!

The Germans have a marvelous word for our perception of things, "weltanschauung." [2] Roughly, this refers to our particular world viewpoint and encompasses all our personal belief systems, our own sets of ideas through which we perceive the entire world. It is, therefore, our "worldview" of how we believe things "really are," but again, this is not necessarily, how things actually are.

We just can't stress this particular point enough here. For instance, if you already "believe" UFOs exist, you may see a bright object in the sky, Venus, and be inclined to think it's a UFO, when it's really, in fact, just the planet Venus. Even so, you might make a report you saw a UFO. However, the reverse is also true. If your perception is based on a highly skeptical background, and a disbelief in UFOs, you may see an actual UFO, but insist it "had to be" Venus.

You see, to create or construct our personal worldview, our perception of just what reality is, each of us uses many sources and we acquire our perceptions over a long period. Information may come in the form of learning through books or schooling over the years, as well as through our parents, friends, family, and other authority figures. It also comes to us through specific life experiences, or events that happen to us as individuals along our road through life.

All this input, this information or “evidence” of how things are, how life and reality is, helps us to evolve each of our personal and particular worldviews, our weltanschauung, if you will. Once we’ve formed these, once created, they are very strongly held viewpoints, often kept virtually intact in their entirety for a person’s lifetime! We may even be willing to kill and/or fight each other in order to preserve such viewpoints, such personal perceptions of how things are, or how we think they should be.

Do you doubt this? Well, just think of how many people are fighting and dying right now because of personal and strongly held religious convictions. Various people have done this sort of thing for millennia, because they are so convinced, their religious viewpoints are the correct ones that they must fight to the death to preserve or spread them.

Yet, in the final analysis, these are just “beliefs” held by them, and ones with little or no empirical evidence to support them. In addition, we’re not limiting this to any single religion, either. Almost all religions have had adherents who did this, and some of them still are doing this—killing for the sake of their religious beliefs and convictions. Mind you, we’re not trying to say religions are “bad.” We’re simply pointing out, using religion as an example, what strong beliefs can lead to, and that can be, and many times has been in the past, a life, or death matter.

The same has often held true for political beliefs. Heaven knows, we have had our share of such “isms,” political beliefs as to how people should be governed over the last couple of centuries, and literally millions upon millions of people have died directly because of this phenomenon. Again, beliefs can lead to “life or death” matters.

Whether it was Hitler’s Germany trying to spread the ideals of Nazism, with their concept of Aryan supremacy, or Stalin’s Communist Russia, where dissidents were summarily executed in droves, or any other country’s “isms,” for that matter, whether fascist, anarchist, or whatever, the average person, it seems, was usually the main victim of them all. Many people died because of others’ strongly held political beliefs, beliefs those adherents felt to be “true” at any price—that price being human lives (usually other human lives and not theirs).

Why are we talking about this, here in a book about UFOs? Well, it’s to show that our worldviews are incredibly powerful things, terrifying at times in their implications and consequences, literally often resulting in major matters concerning life and death.

Furthermore, can this information or evidence we use to construct our worldviews be a major problem for us when recognizing what’s truly real? Can our personal weltanschauung form an obstacle when it comes to dealing with the wider subjects of UFOs, alien abductions, and ancient aliens?

The answer is an emphatic YES! Unfortunately, just this sort of thing happens all the time and too often. The first thing that occurs when some type of evidence, any type for that matter with regard to UFOs is submitted, whoever is the recipient of it immediately invokes their personal worldview, again, their weltanschauung, to judge the validity of any such evidence presented. And often, that response takes the form of ridicule and extreme skepticism.

What Constitutes Evidence— “There Be Monsters Here”...Or Not?

So let's examine the idea of so-called evidence, evidence of anything. And we say “so-called” because what constitutes evidence is often just in the eyes of the particular beholder. Two people can look at exactly the same thing and arrive at two very different sets of conclusions about it.

This, as we all know, happens all the time! Have you ever listened to the witnesses' testimony of a crime? Their stories can vary incredibly, and yet they all saw the same thing...supposedly.

Total objectivity is virtually a human impossibility, and this is so whether it is with regard to a scientific experiment under rigorous sets of controls, or just judging the nature of a fellow human being, one we chance to meet at a cocktail party, for example. Precisely because we are human, we see everything through a set of mental and/or emotional filters, which in total, constitute our personal perception of reality. There's that word again, “perception.”

Nevertheless, we can't help it. Our shields are always up, if you will, and locked firmly in place. We acquire these shields or filters for very practical reasons. They have value. They help us to survive in this harsh reality. They do this by allowing us speedily to recognize things, so we can quickly respond to them, perhaps in time to save our lives. They help us to function, to go about our daily routine, and to deal with unexpected situations—to a point!

As an example of this, every time we see a dog, we don't consciously think through the whole process of what it looks like, how it sounds, and how it behaves, in order to figure out that it actually is a dog. Our preconceived notions of what canines are kick in quickly, allow us automatically to know a dog when we see one, and we do this just about instantly.

So, these sorts of preconceived notions, these automatic mental filtering processes, which form our perception of reality, are acquired in our lives to save us a lot of time and effort, especially when we may be in danger and so response time is critical. Our shields serve a real purpose. There is no doubt of that. Instantly, we usually know what a “dog” is.

In addition, there can be powerful emotional overtones attached to these shields or filters, as well (which form even more filters through which we perceive reality), often very strong ones, and for much the same reasons. If a dog once savagely attacked you as a child, then when you see another dog there could well be an emotional reaction tied to your perspective of it.

In such circumstances, we've tagged the idea of “dog” with the added emotional filter of strong fear, even terror, and possibly the idea to act by fleeing upon seeing one, or at least not to go anywhere near it! This emotional tagging or added filtering is to help protect us in the future, whenever we again confront such similar and potentially dangerous situations. This aids us in our personal survival.

Still, sometimes, we're completely wrong in this perception of what constitutes a “dog” or the danger involved. When is a dog, really a dog? Maybe, it's a coyote, or a wolf, or something else entirely. For example, when you walk up to someone's house and ring the doorbell, often a dog barks loudly from inside. If you are afraid of dogs, this instantly gives rise to “real” fear on your part. The sound of a loudly barking dog, one that “sounds big” has driven away many a would-be visitor, door-to-door salesperson, or burglar from someone's door.

So the loud barking of a dog, for all practical purposes, then equals for us a sure signal of a dangerous animal being on the premises. Nevertheless, sometimes, it doesn't mean it's a dog at all, but rather just the sound of one, and nothing more.

Owners, as most of us know, sometimes just use an automatic recording of a barking dog that triggers when someone knocks or rings a bell. They do this purposely to scare away would-be burglars, and often this works. For many burglars, the sound of a barking dog does truly equal a real dog, as f

as they are concerned, and so they go somewhere else.

~~In other words, they first “react” and then “act” as if the sound meant there was truly a dog there even when they aren’t sure, which is the whole intent of the recorded trickery perpetrated by the owner. But it’s not “reality.” For in “reality,” there is no dog there.~~

In this case, our mental filters in how we perceive reality as a whole, have acted to deceive us about what is actually “real.” The perception filters automatically did this for our safety, but they were still completely wrong. So such a filter about dogs can constitute an outright bias, an “acquired prejudice and lead to completely wrong conclusions.

So preconceived notions, our perceptions of reality, can make us look at something new (UFO evidence?) and not see it for what it really is, or perhaps may even make us come to a very erroneous assumption about what we are actually seeing. In addition, what if the dog you think you see is not a dog at all, but something else entirely? Sound impossible? Not so!

As a personal example, if we have never seen a possum before, we might just think we were seeing a giant rat. Does this sound farfetched? I wish it were, but it isn’t. I know this possibility to be true, because the first time I ever laid eyes upon a possum, I thought it was a giant rat. Yes, that sounds incredibly naïve, but I was a city boy, in my very early twenties. The thing I saw had a long snout, whiskers, a long ropy tail, and ears that made it look very like a rat to me! More importantly, I had heard urban myths of giant rats that dwelled in sewers in cities, and came out at night. Could that be one of those? I was very much “afraid” it could be. I was convinced I saw a “giant rat.”

Therefore, a very strong emotional preconception came into play for me, old evidence I had experienced and was now applying to this new event, and so it helped to color how I viewed what I actually saw, my “perception” of it. Instead of reality, that is, a harmless possum sneaking in the open back door of my house to eat the cat food set out there, I saw my perception instead, that is, a giant dangerous rat, and so reacted accordingly. When it hissed at me, I ran! And if called upon in court to testify at the time, I’d have sworn I saw a giant rat.

And yes, before anyone questions it, I do have a reasonably high IQ, so that wasn’t the cause of the problem. Still, I didn’t know what I was “really” seeing, despite this fact. I had never before confronted such a thing. So, who knew?

Of course, now when I see a possum, I know it to be a possum. I won’t be fooled twice! However, I can never quite look at a possum without feeling a secret twinge of humiliation....

In any case, here, you see, I saw a monster where there was no monster. But is the reverse true, as well? Yes, sadly, it is. Sometimes there are monsters there, and we just don’t see them as such.

The point is, when we see something new, discover new evidence, we automatically try to fit it into preconceived notions of what we’ve seen before, our original perceptions of reality. In the case of the history of UFOs, ancient witnesses described what they saw based on what they had seen (and what was already known to them) before. So UFOs spotted in the sky by members of Alexander The Great’s army (while trying to invade India), saw silvery “flying shields.” [21] Emperor Constantine saw a “cross” in the sky.

Others in antiquity described UFOs as “flaming chariots” strange “signs from God,” “comets” (everything unusual in the sky in times past was often referred to as a “comet”), “magic carpets,” “shields,” etc. [22]. Again, those ancient witnesses’ descriptions of what they saw were all based on their already acquired perceptions of things they’d seen, things they had already knew about from their everyday life. And instantly, they related these new things to those old ones, if only for descriptive purposes.

Now, centuries later and partly because of this, we dismiss out of hand their sightings, for we no longer seriously believes these days in “magic carpets,” for instance. But we must always remember that that was just their attempt to describe something they’d never seen before. It was just their personal

perceptions trying to fit in something new, by comparing it to something they'd already seen in everyday life.

Even recently, we've done this and still do. Over the years, we variously have had such descriptions as "airships," "flying saucers," "disks," "crescents," "triangles," "cigars," etc., for UFOs [23]. Always, it seems, we humans try to relate something new we see to something we've already seen. This, in itself, is a form of giving in to our preconceptions based on personal perceptions. Again, even now, we always try to relate the new to the old, "make it fit in." Whether it's a giant rat that we see instead of a possum or a "flying shield" instead of an alien spacecraft this is so.

In this way, we often try to make new things into something we might expect to see, based on prior evidence from other similar and earlier events in our lives. Simply put, when later described (and probably so preserved, ultimately, in our actual memories this way, too), we think we actually saw a "fiery chariot," (if we happen to have been living at the time of the Roman Empire, for example).

The same is true for people who claim to have seen aliens. And because those descriptions often somewhat resemble characters from stories, legends, and myths, those witnesses are then ridiculed by others of us for having seen "little green men," "goblins," or various other fairy folk. Of course, it never seems to occur to those same skeptics those tales of old, of goblins and trolls might just have originated from witnesses of the day seeing such aliens, too.

The same holds true today. Today, rather than seeing a UFO, we are told by scientists who hold their own strongly preconceived and negative notions on the subject, that we are seeing swamp gas, weather balloons, tricks of lighting, the planet Venus, strange-shaped clouds, or outright optical illusions, and/or mass hallucinations.

Is this possible? Of course, it is. Just about anything seems possible. Moreover, it is true that many people have mistaken mundane things, such as the planet Venus, or odd-shaped clouds for UFOs. Nevertheless, the reverse is true, as well. Many, many people have seen something they simply can't explain with ordinary answers, but then try to make them ordinary; because they simply can't or won't believe, what they saw was a real UFO.

As an example of someone trying very hard to explain UFOs away, one extreme skeptic, who was totally against the idea of the existence of UFOs, and who simply had to find a more ordinary reason for every such sighting reported, was a victim of his own preconceived notions in this regard, and very often, in our personal opinions. He even once claimed it was just a firefly trapped between the panes of glass of the windshield of a major commercial jetliner, which the pilot, copilot, navigator, and various flight attendants then must have mistaken for a UFO!

Really, how sadly desperate can we be to hold on to our current perceptions of reality to such a pitiful, painful, and pathetic degree? To invoke this sort of an explanation was utterly ridiculous. His answer doesn't take into account how a firefly might get in between sealed panes of glass on a jetliner in the first place (incredibly unlikely, because it wasn't a new jet just built, so the firefly should have been dead long ago). Nor does his explanation account for how it somehow managed to survive subzero temperatures for long hours and yet still happily fly around inside those incredibly narrow spaced panes of glass, and while the jet was cruising at altitudes of 32,000 feet or more.

Neither does such an explanation take into account how three, well-trained, long-experienced professionals could continuously mistake a common firefly for a UFO for such a long period. His theory also doesn't account for how the firefly could have changed dramatically in size and brilliance as reported of the UFO by the cabin crew. In addition, apparently fireflies can even show up on radar and sometimes even be tracked? Oh, come on! The old saying, "desperation knows no bounds" certainly seems true in this skeptic's feeble attempts at an explanation for the UFO sightings.

So preconceived perceptions of what reality is can be rigid to the point of utter inflexibility. The

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