

8.3 UFOs - Overall Hypotheses

For several dozens of years, the systematic collection and scientific study of unusual atmospheric phenomena have permitted a number of major advances. Of course, on analysis, a good proportion of the sightings have proven completely explicable: satellite, re-entries sounding balloons, etc. This has furthermore enabled the precision of the observers, as well as the veracity and consistency of the testimonies, to be tested. Cases of hoaxes are, on the whole, very rare and quite easy to detect. The majority of the observers provide reliable reports, although it is necessary to take into account the problems of diverse assessments.

Most of the sightings of all types have also enabled the credible and well-documented sightings called UAP Ds (category D unidentified aerospace phenomena), for which no explanation has been found, to be classified separately. However, these phenomena are often attested by means of consistent testimonies all the way up to visual sightings coupled with radar sightings. Of course, if there had only been ten or so UAP D [sightings], this ambiguous file could just have been classified as "no action," but we are no longer at that point and are far beyond that. Thus we are forced to seek plausible explanations. All sorts of hypotheses have been constructed, and they may be classified as follows:

8.3.1 Non Scientific Hypotheses

"We are being manipulated without realizing it" (by a very secret, very powerful, and very knowledgeable group of people; by strange, unknown, or even extraterrestrial beings; by spirits; by the devil; by our psychological fantasies; etc.). Obviously, we cannot say *a priori* whether these hypotheses are true or false [since] they cannot be proven; their main drawback is that they aren't much good to us.

Parapsychological phenomena and collective hallucinations should be classified in this category.

The same is true of the idea that is sometimes expressed that the futuristic craft sighted are actually products of the future activity of humanity. Our descendants of the distant [future], who have found the way to go back in time, come to observe us...

It is obviously classic to try to reconstruct and observe the past via any of the traces that it leaves, and one could theoretically observe it directly (for example, by discovering a well-oriented mirror on a planet located a few light years away). It is, however, out of the question for such an observation to be able to influence a bygone time in any way, even by being detectable.

8.3.2 Secret Weapons of a Superpower

UAP Ds would then be piloted or remote-controlled craft of terrestrial origin. There is no lack of observers to believe that the object with fantastic performances that they saw maneuvering in the sky is the state of the art of military progress, which would explain the secrecy in which they are cloaked. Certainly studies such as those regarding the stealth aircraft or magnetohydrodynamics actually lead to impressive progress. But besides the fact that it would be extremely unwise to expose to the eyes of laymen and foreign experts in this way what there has been so much interest in concealing, it can be added today that