

Is There Life Beyond Planet Earth?

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This essay is in Two Parts: Part One deals with the well recognized topic of potential signs of life resulting from our space probes. Part Two deals with the much more controversial topic of evidence for visitation from and possible contact with humans by extraterrestrial intelligent life.

Part One

In our search for life beyond Earth, our various space probes have begun to explore a) meteors and comets, b) the moons of the planets of our solar system, c) the planets themselves, and d) exoplanets in other solar systems that lie in what we refer to as “the habitable zone.” What has been reported to date is the presence of organic compounds and water in many locations – the ingredients that are considered essential for life to arise. To date, no evidence of any simple or complex life forms per se have been reported. The expectation is that discoveries of at least simple life forms are very highly likely – if in fact they have not already been found without notice to the public.

Discovering simple life forms beyond Earth – especially if they are genetically related to us in any way – will have significant implications for the worldviews of most humans. As we continue our space explorations, discovering complex life forms – whether related or not – will be much more challenging. And discovering complex intelligent life forms will require major adjustments to most of humanity’s worldviews and all of its religious belief systems. In this last regard, the calculations emerging from the Mathematical SETI analysis perspective indicate the virtual assurance that there are likely to be millions of complex intelligent life forms in just our Milky Way Galaxy. It seems that it is just a matter of time until our existing space telescopes and exploration programs discover life beyond Earth, simple or complex, with all that that implies.

Part Two

Do we already know that beyond Earth not only does intelligent life exists but intelligent life far more advanced than ourselves? The answer to this question has been evolving mostly over the last 75 years since the end of WWII and is related to the evidence that has accumulated that supports the visitation and interaction of intelligent extraterrestrial life forms with humans. The position of many has been to deny that this evidence exists or to contend that it is fabricated or totally inadequate. This position predominated and was promoted by world governments until about the year 2000. 2001 was a watershed year

with the Disclosure Project presentation to the National Press Club in Washington (5/9/01) of evidence for UAP [Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena] that supports the ETH [Extraterrestrial Hypothesis]. This presentation, led by Steven Greer MD, was especially impressive because it included the testimony of 20 different high ranking expert whistleblowers – mostly from the military and intelligence branches of the U.S. government. This presentation got the attention of the media and the public; and eventually in 2022 and 2023 the Intelligence and Oversight Subcommittees of the U.S. House of Representatives have sought full disclosure [has not happened yet – at least for the public!].

The first 20 years of the new millennium saw an explosion of published reports of sightings of UAP and various types of contact events with extraterrestrials. In addition, there have been the revelations of multiple, additional expert whistleblowers – many retired from the military and intelligence agencies who have revealed that our government was well aware that UPA was real and much of it of likely extraterrestrial origin. These whistleblower sources have also described the secrecy and disinformation programs of the government divisions that were formed to assess UAP. During this same period, it is important to note that the various disciplines of the academic domain have taken up the issue of the presence of advanced alien intelligence and its implications for humanity's future. Indeed, the evidence supporting ETH has been viewed as substantial enough to warrant across the board interdisciplinary scientific investigation.

The answer to the key question in Part Two remains undecided, but the matter of an intelligent extraterrestrial involvement in Earthly events is now being taken seriously. If the evidence for extraterrestrial engagement by higher life forms in Earthly events is accurate, humanity has arrived at a truly watershed moment. We are not alone. We are surrounded by extra Earthly life, probably of all kinds and degrees of complexity. We are not special. We are not the center of any kind of cosmic attention. We are a minor intelligent species among many with much development required to meet “the existing intelligence standard.”

If humans are a less developed intelligent life form, how we engage this moment of profound realization about our diminished status as a species in the universe will determine our future options to participate with others in the exploration of the cosmos, be eliminated, or be subjugated to the interests of more powerful alien entities. Opportunity or threat? Clearly if we are the newcomers on the intelligence and technology block, we are not in a position to command; so we had better seek to cooperate with the extraterrestrial forces that will support our existence as we evolve to greater awareness and sensitivity as a species. Humility becomes the rule of the moment followed by a great many societal adjustments.

Resources

The brief overview above that I offer of the evidence for life beyond Earth is merely suggestive. The research related to Part 1 is enormous with the focal subdiscipline being exobiology or astrobiology. The literature and video presentations related to Part 2 are varied from very serious academic research work to speculative – even highly fanciful – popular offerings. Theories dealing with the ETH [Extraterrestrial Hypothesis] range from cautious assessments based on variables available from different scientific perspectives to explicitly religious or deep conspiracy interpretations. And, of course, skepticism and denial remain common. Below I offer some options within the more credible materials related to the position considered in Part 2:

Academic and Scientific Resources

To get a glimpse of the extent of this most serious literature, I suggest going to the Google Scholar Search Engine and entering the terms “UAP Extraterrestrial” in the search window [443 citations]. From among the plethora of listed works, I recommend the following 2022 overview volume:

Jensine Andresen and Octavio Chon, eds., **Extraterrestrial Intelligence: Academic and Societal Implications**, [Cambridge Scholars Press] 2022, 330 pp.

Sixteen well respected scholars from around the world offer articles from the perspective of different disciplines assessing the extraterrestrial intelligence issue. In a separate document, “Excerpt – Extraterrestrial Intelligence,” I provide a copy of the Table of Contents and description of the Contributors associated with this work to indicate the credentials of the participants and the breadth of the perspectives covered. Andresen alone has two additional books in the works on this issue.

Media Resources

In a separate document, “Selected UAP Extraterrestrial Resources,” I provide a 9 page listing [102 citations] of print and video works – mostly in the last five years – that I have gathered together. I have excluded the most dubious works. A second separate document, “Reports of Efforts to Suppress the Extraterrestrial Basis for UAPs, 1947 – 2007,” describes the active disinformation campaign that has been extant among world governments. I recommend the following three works to get an initial idea of the evidence cited in this category on the extraterrestrial presence and intelligence issue:

In Plain Sight: The Intelligence Community and UFOs, 2023 documentary, 1hr, 21min. available free on TUBI.

This recent documentary includes revealing testimony especially from the 1947 Roswell UFO crash site case from Richard Doty, career counter intelligence officer in the US Air Force, and John Ramirez, career counter intelligence officer in the CIA. Includes information about one extraterrestrial “biological entity” who survived the Roswell crash and was kept in a secret facility where he underwent extensive investigation by many different scientific experts over the 5 year period that he lived. He is said to have been the source of both very valuable information and genetic material that later confirmed his DNA relationship to humans on Earth. Ramirez also describes attending a one day CIA symposium for CIA intelligence officers involving a three part briefing with the revealing titles of: “UFO Studies Done by the CIA in the Past,” “The Evidence of Alien Hybrids and CIA Interest in Hybridization of the Human Genome,” and “Information Technology to be Disseminated Very Rapidly with Devices Not Yet Invented” [prior to cell phones]. Clearly, there can be no evidence of alien hybrids without extraterrestrial humanoid aliens, and no interest in hybridization of the human genome without alien contact with humans! The topic of the second session alone confirms the reality of the basics claimed for the extraterrestrial phenomena.

H.J. Risch and R. Risch, **UFOs and Beyond - Anatomy of Truth: The Beginning of Disclosure**, 2023 [publication date 6/2/23], 733 pp.

This is a very comprehensive and up to date assessment of the credible evidence for extraterrestrial presence and contact with humans on Earth. The authors served in the U.S. military for long careers with high security clearances.

Steven Greer MD, **“Unacknowledged: An Expose of the World’s Greatest Secret,”** 2017, a 1 hr 40m video documentary – available free from many media sources including Amazon Prime and Netflix.

Greer offers the perspective of The Disclosure Project, which he founded. This documentary includes interviews with whistleblowers and references to supporting written materials. Greer has spent the last 30+ years in pursuit of the extraterrestrial issue, and he and his Disclosure Project have had a significant impact since 2001 on public awareness at all levels of evidence for extraterrestrial presence and contact with humans on Earth. I agree with Greer’s view that humans should pursue cooperative and not defensive contact with any extraterrestrial presence, but I do not agree with Greer’s contention that the evidence supports the view that this extraterrestrial presence is universally benign.

Conclusion

Life beyond Earth in the Universe is statistically a given. The evidence for intelligent extraterrestrial life in the cosmos and its presence on Earth remains very controversial. But it is important for us humans to realize that this matter has become much less contentious in recent years. If extraterrestrial presence and contact with humans on Earth is confirmed, the consequences will be revolutionary for the worldviews of all human societies. It is concern over the potential negative impact of this disclosure that is regarded as one significant motivator for both initial and continued official denial and secrecy. But, if there is a definitive, affirmative conclusion on this matter, it must be revealed so humans can begin the extensive process of adjustment. Yes, the shock will be substantial, but, if managed well, the revelation can contribute to bringing modern humans to their senses and lead to much greater cooperation among nations and restraint with respect to human self-centered excesses. If managed poorly, the results can be catastrophic both among nations and for humanity continuing to live in the condition of complex society.

The Time for Careful and Full Disclosure at the Global Level is NOW!