

Background/Summary

Sunday, August 29, 2021 8:49 AM

Facts

July 20, 1969 - [4:17 p.m. EDT] [Apollo 11 becomes the first manned spacecraft to land on the moon.](#)

[Neil Armstrong](#) (commander), [Buzz Aldrin](#) (lunar module pilot) and [Michael Collins](#) (command module pilot) were the crew.

The Apollo 11 spacecraft consisted of the command module, Columbia, and the lunar module, Eagle.

The crew traveled 240,000 miles from the Earth to the moon in 76 hours.

ABC, CBS and NBC spent, collectively, between \$11 million and \$12 million on Apollo 11 coverage and covered the mission from Sunday morning until Monday evening.

Timeline

May 25, 1961 - President John F. Kennedy addresses Congress, "First, I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth. No single space project in this period will be more impressive to mankind or more important for the long-range exploration of space; and none will be so difficult or expensive to accomplish."

November 21, 1962 - President Kennedy tells [NASA](#) Administrator James Webb, "This is, whether we like it or not, a race. Everything we do [in space] ought to be tied into getting to the moon ahead of the Russians."

May 18, 1969 - Apollo 10 lifts off from Kennedy Space Center, Florida. This launch is a dress rehearsal for Apollo 11. The crew, Thomas Stafford, John Young, and Eugene Cernan, orbit the moon and then return to earth eight days, three minutes and three seconds later.

July 16, 1969 - At 9:32 a.m. EDT Apollo 11 lifts off from Pad A, Launch Complex 39, Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

July 20, 1969 - At 1:47 p.m. EDT Armstrong and Aldrin, in the lunar module Eagle, separate from the command module. Collins remains onboard the Columbia orbiting the moon.

- 4:17 p.m. EDT - The Eagle lands.

- 4:18 p.m. EDT - "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed," Armstrong reports. When the lunar module lands on the moon's surface at the Sea of Tranquility, it has less than 40 seconds of fuel left.

- 10:56 p.m. EDT - Armstrong says, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," as he becomes the first human to set foot on the moon.

- 11:15 p.m. EDT (approx.) - Buzz Aldrin joins Armstrong on the moon. The men read from a plaque signed by the three crew members and the president, "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon, July 1969 A.D. We came in peace for all mankind."

- 11:48 p.m. EDT - President Nixon speaks to Armstrong and Aldrin via radio from the Oval Office, "(it) certainly has to be the most historic telephone call ever made." They speak for two minutes and the call is televised on both ends.

- Armstrong and Aldrin spend over two hours collecting moon rock samples and data, and spend the night on board the Eagle.

July 21, 1969 - At 1:54 p.m. EDT - The Eagle departs from the moon to rendezvous with Columbia.

- 5:35 p.m. EDT - The Eagle docks with Columbia. After transferring moon rocks, data, and equipment, the Eagle is jettisoned, and the crew begins the flight back to Earth.

July 22, 1969 - Columbia reaches a trajectory toward Earth.

July 24, 1969 - At 12:50 p.m. EDT Columbia splashes down, eight days, three hours and 18 minutes after liftoff. The astronauts return to Earth in the Pacific Ocean about 900 miles from Hawaii, then go into quarantine aboard the USS Hornet.

August 10, 1969 - The astronauts are released from quarantine.

July 9, 2019 - The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in partnership with the US Department of the Interior and 59 Productions announces a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing July 16 through July 20. Included in the presentation "Apollo 50: Go for the Moon," will be a full-sized projection on the east side of the Washington Monument for three nights July 16 through July 18 of the Saturn V rocket that sent Apollo 11 into orbit.

From <https://www.cnn.com/2013/09/15/us/moon-landing-fast-facts/index.html>

Three can keep a secret, if two of them are dead.

Benjamin Franklin

From https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/benjamin_franklin_162078

Moon landing conspiracy theories claim that some or all elements of the [Apollo program](#) and the associated [Moon landings](#) were [hoaxes](#) staged by [NASA](#), possibly with the aid of other organizations. The most notable claim is that the [six crewed landings \(1969–1972\)](#) were faked and that [twelve Apollo astronauts](#) did not actually walk on the [Moon](#). Various groups and individuals have made claims since the mid-1970s that NASA and others knowingly misled the public into believing the landings happened, by manufacturing, tampering with, or destroying evidence including photos, [telemetry](#) tapes, radio and TV transmissions, and [Moon rock](#) samples.

Much [third-party evidence for the landings](#) exists, and detailed rebuttals to the hoax claims have been made.^[a] Since the late 2000s, high-definition photos taken by the [Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter](#) (LRO) of the Apollo landing sites have captured the [Lunar Module descent stages](#) and the tracks left by the astronauts.^{[a][b]} In 2012, images were released showing five of the six Apollo missions' [American flags erected on the Moon](#) still standing. The exception is that of [Apollo 11](#), which has lain on the lunar surface since being blown over by the Lunar Module [Ascent Propulsion System](#).^{[a][b]} [Conspiracists](#) have managed to sustain public interest in their theories for more than 40 years, despite the rebuttals and third-party evidence. Opinion polls taken in various locations have shown that between 6% and 20% of Americans, 25% of Britons, and 28% of Russians surveyed believe that the crewed landings were faked. Even as late as 2001, the [Fox television network](#) documentary *Conspiracy Theory: Did We Land on the Moon?* claimed NASA faked the first landing in 1969 to win the [Space Race](#).^[c]

From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories

Former [President Bill Clinton](#) in his 2004 autobiography, *My Life*, states: "Just a month before, Apollo 11 astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong had left their colleague, Michael Collins, aboard spaceship Columbia and walked on the moon...The old carpenter asked me if I really believed it happened. I said sure, I saw it on television. He disagreed; he said that he didn't believe it for a minute, that 'them television fellers' could make things look real that weren't. Back then, I thought he was a crank. During my eight years in Washington, I saw some things on TV that made me wonder if he wasn't ahead of his time

From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories_in_popular_culture

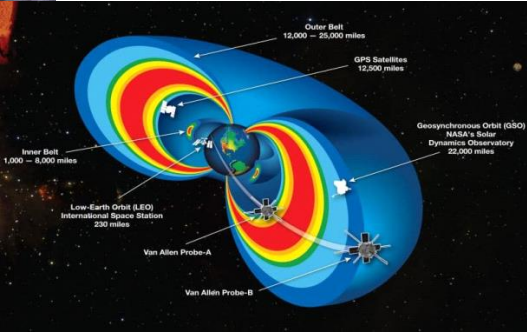
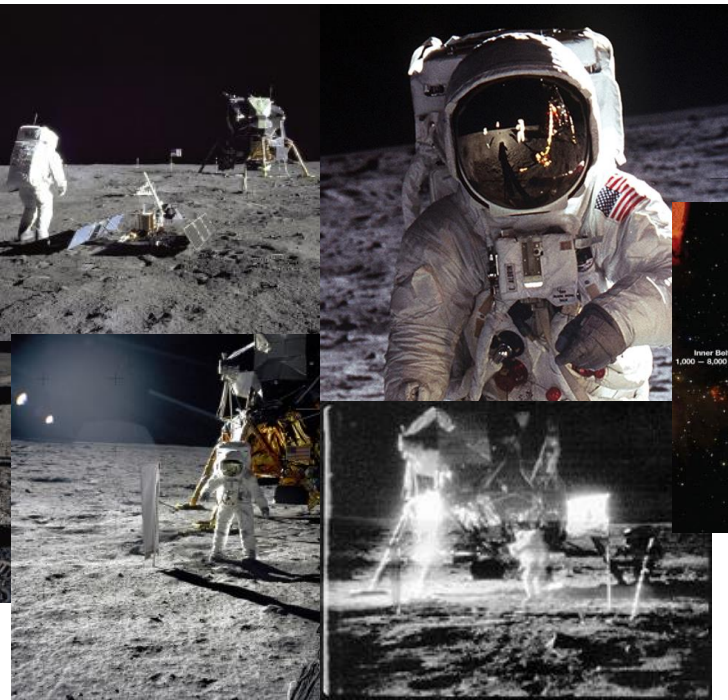
There's has long been speculation over whether the U.S. actually landed on the moon on July 20, 1969. Plenty of failed attempts had preceded the successful launching of three astronauts - Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins - into orbit, making them the first three American men embarking on a cosmic journey no American had been on before. The pressure to stay in the space race was high before the successful Apollo 11 launch. There was a deep-seated need at NASA and within the U.S. government to outdo the USSR, who were also cultivating a space program at the time. This has led to numerous conspiracy theories developing in the years since as to whether the moon landing was real, and if it wasn't real, how it was faked. The general feeling behind the Kubrick theory is this: Why not pull in a Hollywood heavy like the director of *Dr. Strangelove* and *Spartacus* to direct fake footage of a moon landing and pretend NASA had not only gone to space but had also touched down on the astronomical body?

From <https://screenrant.com/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theory-stanley-kubrick/>

Evidence

Tuesday, August 31, 2021 6:34 PM

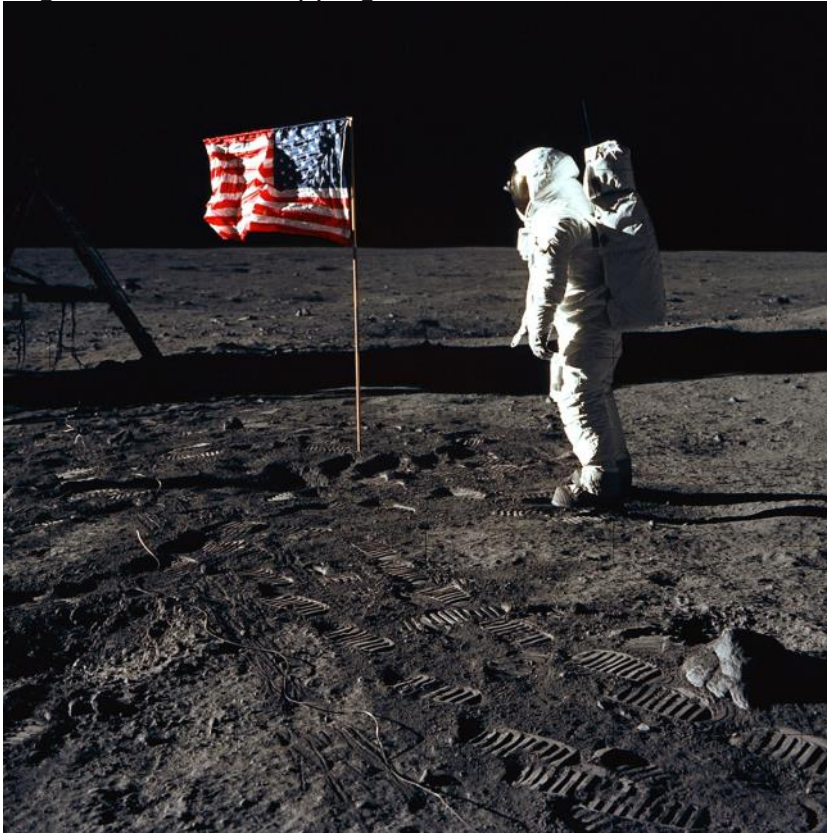
- [Flag](#)
- [Shadows](#)
- [Camera](#)
- [Missing data](#)
- [Radiation](#)
- [Stars](#)



Flapping Flag

Monday, August 30, 2021 6:44 PM

The moon landing is fake because the American flag looks like it is flapping in the wind.



Buzz Aldrin with the American flag on the moon in 1969.
NASA

If you look at the American flag in still pictures from the Apollo 11 mission, it appears to be flapping in the wind. But how can that be, since there's no wind on the moon?

The simple answer is, it isn't flapping, Fienberg says. That's because it isn't an ordinary flag. If the astronauts had planted a regular flag on the moon, it would've hung slack like flags do on Earth when there's no wind. This wouldn't make for a very appealing photo, so [NASA](#) designed special flags for astronauts to take with them ([all six Apollo missions](#) that made it to the moon planted an American flag there).

These flags [had a horizontal rod](#) inside to make them stick out from the flagpole. The Apollo 11 astronauts had trouble extending the rod all the way, and in still pictures, this creates a ripple effect that makes the flag look like it's waving in the wind. In video images of the flag, you can see it only moves while the astronauts are grinding it into the moon's surface. After the astronauts step away, it stays in the same bent shape because of the partially-extended rod.

From <https://www.history.com/news/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theories>

The [flag](#) placed on the surface by the astronauts fluttered despite there being no wind on the Moon. This suggests that it was filmed on Earth and a breeze caused the flag to flutter. Sibrel said that it may have been caused by indoor fans used to cool the astronauts since their spacesuit cooling systems would have been too heavy on Earth.

- The flag was fastened to a T-shaped rod (see [Lunar Flag Assembly](#)) so that it did not hang down. The flag only seemed to flutter when the astronauts were moving it into position. Without air drag, these movements caused the free corner of the flag to swing like a [pendulum](#) for some time. The flag was rippled because it had been folded during storage – the ripples could be mistaken for movement in a still photo. Videos show that when the astronauts let go of the flagpole it vibrates briefly but then remains still, [source](#).
- This theory was further debunked on the MythBusters episode "NASA Moon Landing".

From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement

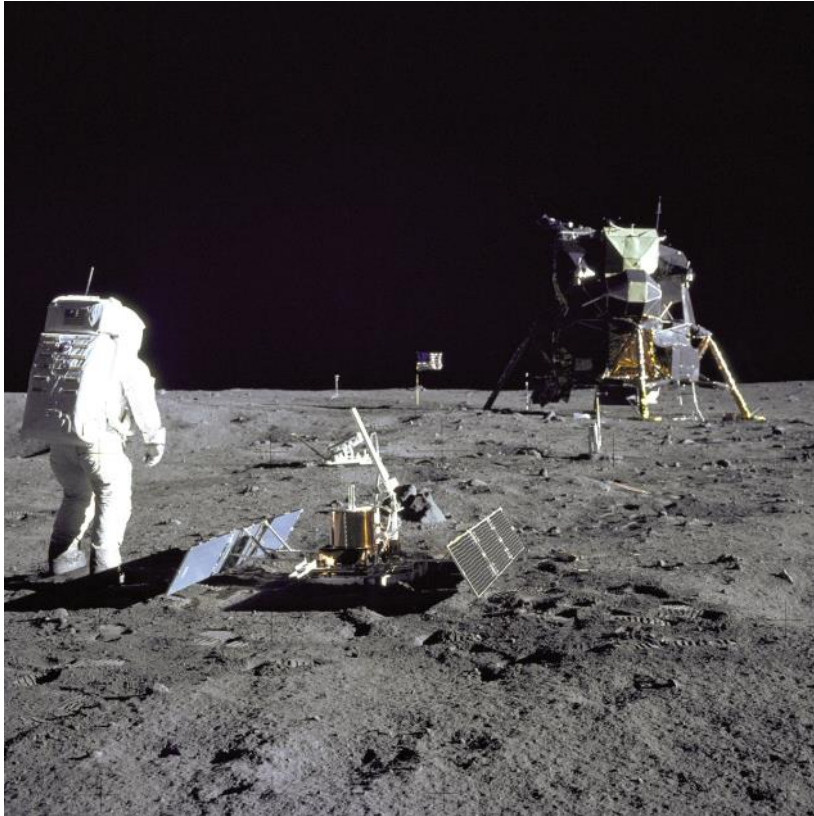
Those who are believers in the idea that the moon landing was a hoax state many reasons as to why it could never have actually happened, and most of them deal with their ideas of how physics works. The most widely known piece of evidence is the fact that the flag placed on the moon by the astronauts seemed to have been waving in the footage taken by the astronauts. If this was the case, as many skeptics of the moon landing believe, then there is no way they were actually on the moon because that would mean there was enough wind to make the flag wave. Since there is no air let alone wind on the moon, then it would have been impossible for this to occur. But to contradict this "fact" many scientists have said that the flag was placed in a bent shape by the astronauts and because there is extremely low gravity on the moon, the flag stayed in the bent position. If you look closely at the footage, you can see the flag in fact doesn't wave at all and instead stays still in its bent position

From <https://u.osu.edu/vanzandt/2018/04/18/the-apollo-moon-landing-was-a-hoax/>

No Stars

Monday, August 30, 2021 6:45 PM

The moon landing is fake because you can't see the stars.



Aldrin during the Apollo 11 extravehicular activity on the Moon. He has just deployed the Early Apollo Scientific Experiments Package (EASEP) where you can see the Passive Seismic Experiment Package, the Laser Ranging Retro-Reflector and the Lunar Module "Eagle".
NASA

"One of the first arguments I heard and one of the easiest to debunk... is the fact that there are no stars in the lunar sky," Fienberg says. Or rather, there are no stars *in the pictures* that Armstrong and Aldrin took on the moon. But if you've ever used a camera before, it's easy to understand why.

"All of the exposures of the astronauts on the moon are daylight exposures," he explains. "The surface was brightly illuminated [from the sun]. And the astronauts are wearing bright white space suits that are highly reflective."

The exposure on the astronauts' cameras was too short to capture the space suits and the moon's surface while also capturing the comparatively dimmer stars. The same thing happens if you go onto someone's back porch at night and turn on the lights. Even though you can see the stars from where you're standing, a quick-exposure camera won't be able to capture them.

From <<https://www.history.com/news/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theories>>

There are no stars in any of the photos; the Apollo 11 astronauts also stated in post-mission press conferences that they did not remember seeing any stars during [Extravehicular activity](#) (EVA).⁴⁴⁴ Conspiracists contend that NASA chose not to put the stars into the photos because [astronomers](#) would have been able to use them to determine whether the photos were taken from the Earth or the Moon, by means of identifying them and comparing their celestial position and [parallax](#) to what would be expected for either observation site.

- The astronauts were talking about naked-eye sightings of stars during the lunar daytime. They regularly sighted stars through the spacecraft navigation optics while aligning their inertial reference platforms, the [Apollo PGNCs](#).⁴⁴⁵
- Stars are rarely seen in [Space Shuttle](#), [Mir](#), Earth observation photos, or even photos taken at sporting events held at night. The light from the Sun in outer space in the Earth-Moon system is at least as bright as the sunlight that reaches the Earth's surface on a clear day at noon, so cameras used for imaging subjects illuminated by sunlight are set for a [daylight exposure](#). The dim light of the stars simply does not provide enough [exposure](#) to record visible images. All crewed landings happened during the lunar daytime. Thus, the stars were outshone by the sun and by sunlight reflected off the Moon's surface. The astronauts' eyes were adapted to the sunlit landscape around them so that they could not see the relatively faint stars.⁴⁴⁶ The astronauts could see stars with the naked eye only when they were in the shadow of the Moon.⁴⁴⁷
- Camera settings can turn a well-lit background to black when the foreground object is brightly lit, forcing the camera to increase shutter speed so that the foreground light does not wash out the image. A demonstration of this effect is here.⁴⁴⁸ The effect is similar to not being able to see stars from a brightly lit car park at night – the stars only become visible when the lights are turned off.
- A special far [ultraviolet](#) camera, the [Far Ultraviolet Camera/Spectrograph](#), was taken to the lunar surface on [Apollo 16](#) and operated in the shadow of the [Apollo Lunar Module](#) (LM). It took photos of Earth and of many stars, some of which are dim in visible light but bright in the ultraviolet. These observations were later matched with observations taken by orbiting ultraviolet telescopes. Furthermore, the positions of those stars with respect to Earth are correct for the time and location of the Apollo 16 photos.⁴⁴⁹
- Photos of the solar corona that included the planet [Mercury](#) and some [background stars](#) were taken from lunar orbit by Apollo 15 Command Module Pilot [Al Worden](#).⁴⁵⁰
- Photos of the planet [Venus](#) (which is much brighter than any of the stars) were taken from the Moon's surface by astronaut [Alan Shepard](#) during the Apollo 14 mission.⁴⁵¹

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement>

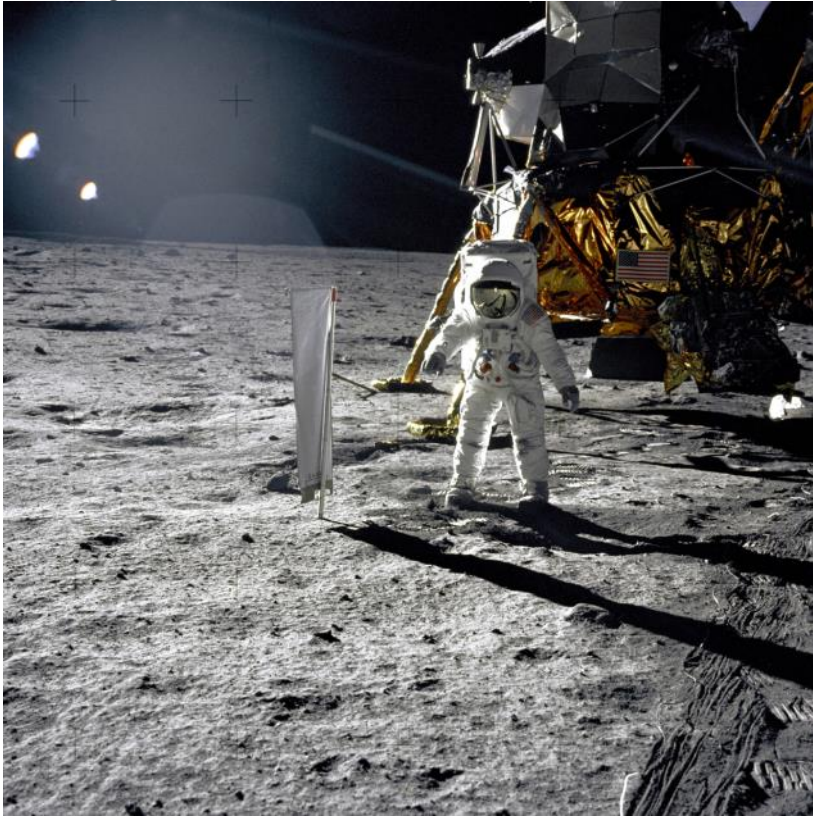
A third attempt to prove that the astronauts did not go to the moon is the fact that there was not a single star in any of the pictures taken when the astronauts landed. This is used as evidence to prove that those pictures were not taken on the moon because, if you are in space, then how could there not be any stars around? With this piece of evidence, there are two sets of conspiracies that emerge about the moon landing: there are those who believe it never happened and then there are also those that believe the astronauts made it to the moon but faked the pictures on earth. But according to astrophysicist Brian Koberlein, this is actually a common phenomenon in photographs. Because the moon is quite bright in comparison to the sky around it, the light of the stars gets drowned out and overpowered by the light of the moon when standing on it. This is why no stars can be seen in any pictures taken on the moon and therefore debunks the conspiracy that the pictures were not taken on the moon.

From <<https://u.osu.edu/vanzandt/2018/04/18/the-apollo-moon-landing-was-a-hoax/>>

Wrong Shadows

Monday, August 30, 2021 7:59 PM

The moon landing is fake because the shadows aren't right.



Aldrin pictured with the Lunar Module "Eagle."
NASA

In images from the moon landing, it is possible to see certain objects even though they are in shadow. Skeptics argue that if the sun were the only source of light, this wouldn't be the case. Therefore, the fact that you can see some objects in shadow must be the result of special [Hollywood](#) lighting.

From <<https://www.history.com/news/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theories>>

The angle and color of shadows are inconsistent. This suggests that artificial lights were used.

- *Shadows on the Moon are complicated by reflected light, uneven ground, [wide-angle lens](#) distortion, and [lunar dust](#). There are several light sources: the Sun, sunlight reflected from the Earth, sunlight reflected from the Moon's surface, and sunlight reflected from the astronauts and the Lunar Module. Light from these sources is scattered by lunar dust in many directions, including into shadows. Shadows falling into craters and hills may appear longer, shorter and distorted. Furthermore, shadows display the properties of [vanishing point](#) perspective, leading them to converge to a point on the horizon.*
- This theory was further debunked on the [MythBusters](#) episode "[NASA Moon Landing](#)".

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement>

Multiple Light Sources



From photographs, theorists tried to prove that there were other sources of light as the shadows fall into different directions and were of varying lengths. NASA explained the science behind it is that the astronauts were taking their photos in a hilly, brightly-lit landscape, while the sun was close to the horizon, so of course the contours of the ground would produce shadows of varying lengths.

From <<https://top10unknown.com/2019/12/23/10-reasons-the-moon-landings-could-be-fake/>>

Camera work

Monday, August 30, 2021 7:59 PM

The moon landing is fake because you can't see Armstrong's camera.



Neil Armstrong took this photograph of Aldrin with a 70mm lunar surface camera.
NASA

In one of the pictures from the moon landing, you can see Armstrong clearly reflected in Aldrin's visor. Some skeptics have pointed out that Armstrong does not appear to be holding a camera, so someone else must be taking the picture. But that isn't true.

Armstrong couldn't walk around the moon with a regular hand-held camera. In his bulky suit, he needed something that was easy to manipulate. The camera he used on the moon was [mounted on the front of his suit](#), which is where his hands are in the reflection.

From <<https://www.history.com/news/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theories>>

Who filmed Neil Armstrong stepping onto the Moon?



The Apollo TV camera as it was mounted on the side of the Lunar Module

- Cameras on the Lunar Module did. The [Apollo TV camera](#) mounted in the Modularized Equipment Stowage Assembly (MESA) of the [Apollo Lunar Module](#) gave a view from the exterior. While still on the Module's ladder steps, Armstrong deployed the MESA from the side of the Lunar Module, unpacking, amongst other things, the TV camera. The TV camera was then powered on and a signal transmitted back to Earth. This meant that upwards of 600 million people on Earth could watch the live feed with only a very slight delay. Similar technology was also used on subsequent Apollo missions. [See references](#). It was also filmed from an automatic 16mm movie camera mounted in a window of the Lunar Module.

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement>

Missing Data

Monday, August 30, 2021 8:07 PM

Missing data

[Blueprints](#) and design and development drawings of the machines involved are missing^{[\[1\]\[2\]\[3\]](#)} Apollo 11 data tapes containing [telemetry](#) and the high-quality video (before [scan conversion](#) from [slow-scan TV](#) to standard TV) of the first moonwalk are also missing^{[\[1\]\[2\]\[3\]\[4\]](#)}

Tapes

Main article: [Apollo 11 missing tapes](#)



Photo of the high-quality SSV image before the scan conversion



Photo of the degraded image after the SSV scan conversion

Dr. David R. Williams (NASA archivist at [Goddard Space Flight Center](#)) and Apollo 11 flight director [Eugene F. Kranz](#) both acknowledged that the original high-quality Apollo 11 telemetry data tapes are missing. Conspiracists see this as evidence that they never existed^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} The Apollo 11 telemetry tapes were different from the telemetry tapes of the other Moon landings because they contained the raw television broadcast. For technical reasons, the Apollo 11 lander carried a [slow-scan television](#) (SSTV) camera (see [Apollo TV camera](#)). To broadcast the pictures to regular television, a [scan conversion](#) had to be done. The [radio telescope](#) at Parkes Observatory in Australia was able to receive the telemetry from the Moon at the time of the Apollo 11 moonwalk^{[\[4\]](#)} Parkes had a bigger antenna than NASA's antenna in Australia at the Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station, so it received a better picture. It also received a better picture than NASA's antenna at [Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex](#). This direct TV signal, along with telemetry data, was recorded onto one-inch fourteen-track analog tape at Parkes. The original SSTV transmission had better detail and contrast than the scan-converted pictures, and it is this original tape that is missing^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} A crude, real-time scan conversion of the SSTV signal was done in Australia before it was broadcast worldwide. However, still photos of the original SSTV image are available (see photos). About fifteen minutes of it were filmed by an amateur [8 mm film](#) camera and these are also available. Later Apollo missions did not use SSTV. At least some of the telemetry tapes from the [ALSEP](#) scientific experiments left on the Moon (which ran until 1977) still exist, according to Dr. Williams. Copies of those tapes have been found^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)}

Others are looking for the missing telemetry tapes for different reasons. The tapes contain the original and highest quality video feed from the Apollo 11 landing. Some former Apollo personnel want to find the tapes for posterity while NASA engineers looking towards future Moon missions believe the tapes may be useful for their design studies. They have found that the Apollo 11 tapes were sent for storage at the U.S. National Archives in 1970, but by 1984, all the Apollo 11 tapes had been returned to the Goddard Space Flight Center at their request. The tapes are believed to have been stored rather than re-used^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} Goddard was storing 35,000 new tapes per year in 1967^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} even before the Moon landings.

In November 2006, [COSMOS Online](#) reported that about 100 data tapes recorded in Australia during the Apollo 11 mission had been found in a small marine science laboratory in the main physics building at the [Curtin University of Technology](#) in [Perth, Australia](#). One of the old tapes has been sent to NASA for analysis. The slow-scan television images were not on the tape^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)}

In July 2009, NASA indicated that it must have erased the original Apollo 11 Moon footage years ago so that it could reuse the tape. In December 2009 NASA issued a final report on the Apollo 11 telemetry tapes^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} Senior engineer Dick Nafzger, who was in charge of the live TV recordings during the Apollo missions, was put in charge of the restoration project. After a three-year search, the "inescapable conclusion" was that about 45 tapes (estimated 15 tapes recorded at each of the three tracking stations) of Apollo 11 video were erased and re-used, said Nafzger^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} In time for the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing, [Lowry Digital](#) had been tasked with restoring the surviving footage. Lowry Digital president Mike Inchalik said that, "this is by far and away the lowest quality" video the company has dealt with. Nafzger praised Lowry for restoring "crispness" to the Apollo video, which will remain in black and white and contains conservative digital enhancements. The US\$20,000 restoration project took months to complete and did not include sound quality improvements. Some selections of restored footage in high-definition have been made available on the NASA website^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)}

Blueprints



[Lunar Roving Vehicle](#) flown on Apollo 15

[Grumman](#) appears to have destroyed most of their LM documentation^{[\[1\]\[2\]\[3\]](#)} but copies of the blueprints for the Saturn V exist on [microfilm](#)^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)}

Four mission-worthy [Lunar Roving Vehicles](#) (LRV) were built by [Boeing](#)^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} Three of them were carried to the Moon on Apollos 15, 16, and 17, used by the astronauts for transportation once on the Moon, and left there. After Apollo 18 was canceled, the other LRV was used for spare parts for the Apollos 15 to 17 missions. The 221-page operation manual for the LRV contains some detailed drawings^{[\[1\]\[2\]](#)} although not the blueprints.

From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement

Van Allen Belt

Tuesday, August 31, 2021 6:07 PM

A second, lesser known argument for a conspiracy is the idea of the Van Allen Belts. The Van Allen Belts are two regions of high radiation that surround the earth and are located inside the earth's magnetosphere. For the astronauts of Apollo 11 to have passed through these belts would have caused more than a normal amount of radiation exposure, which could lead to radiation sickness. Because the astronauts did not show any symptoms of this, many believe that they did not actually pass through these belts and did not go to the moon. Oppositely, according to NASA, the astronauts were in the Van Allen Belt for only a short time, sustaining .18 rads of radiation- which is about the same dose of radiation one gets from an x-ray. So, although it seems like the hoax believers are presenting scientifically back facts about the Van Allen belts, they are in fact incorrect about the amount of radiation one is exposed to when passing through the belts.

From <<https://u.osu.edu/vanzandt/2018/04/18/the-apollo-moon-landing-was-a-hoax/>>

The astronauts could not have survived the trip because of exposure to radiation from the [Van Allen radiation belt](#) and galactic ambient radiation (see [radiation poisoning](#) and [health threat from cosmic rays](#)). Some conspiracists have suggested that [Starfish Prime](#) (a [high-altitude nuclear test](#) in 1962) formed another intense layer on the Van Allen belt.^[1]

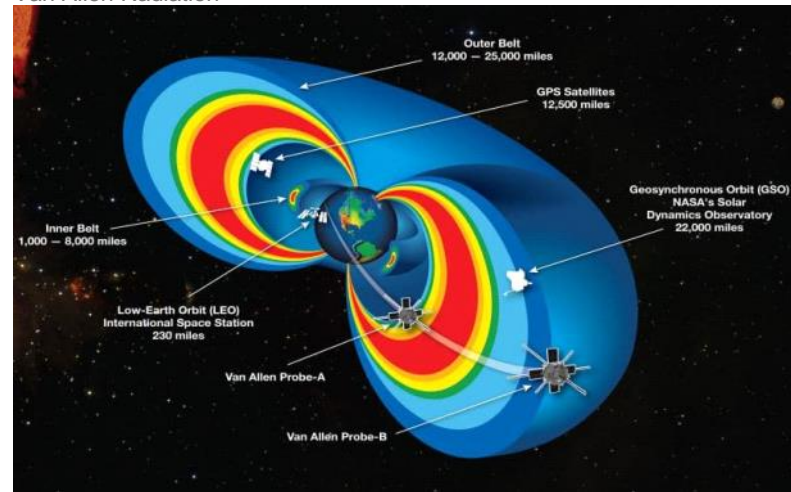
- There are two main Van Allen belts – the inner belt and the outer belt – and a transient third belt.^[2] The inner belt is the more dangerous one, containing energetic protons. The outer one has less -dangerous low-energy electrons ([Beta particles](#)).^[3] The Apollo spacecraft passed through the inner belt in a matter of minutes and the outer belt in about 1+/- hours.^[4] The astronauts were shielded from the ionizing radiation by the aluminum hulls of the spacecraft.^[5] Furthermore, the orbital transfer trajectory from Earth to the Moon through the belts was chosen to lessen radiation exposure.^[6] Even [James Van Allen](#), the discoverer of the Van Allen belt, rebutted the claims that radiation levels were too harmful for the Apollo missions.^[7] [Phil Platt](#) cited an average dose of less than 1 rem (10 mSv), which is equivalent to the ambient radiation received by living at sea level for three years.^[8] The total radiation received on the trip was about the same as allowed for workers in the nuclear energy field for a year^[9] and not much more than what Space Shuttle astronauts received.^[10]

Film in the cameras would have been fogged by this radiation.

- The film was kept in metal containers that stopped radiation from fogging the film's emulsion.^[11] Furthermore, film carried by uncrewed lunar probes such as the [Lunar Orbiter](#) and [Luna 3](#) (which used on-board film development processes) was not fogged.

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement>

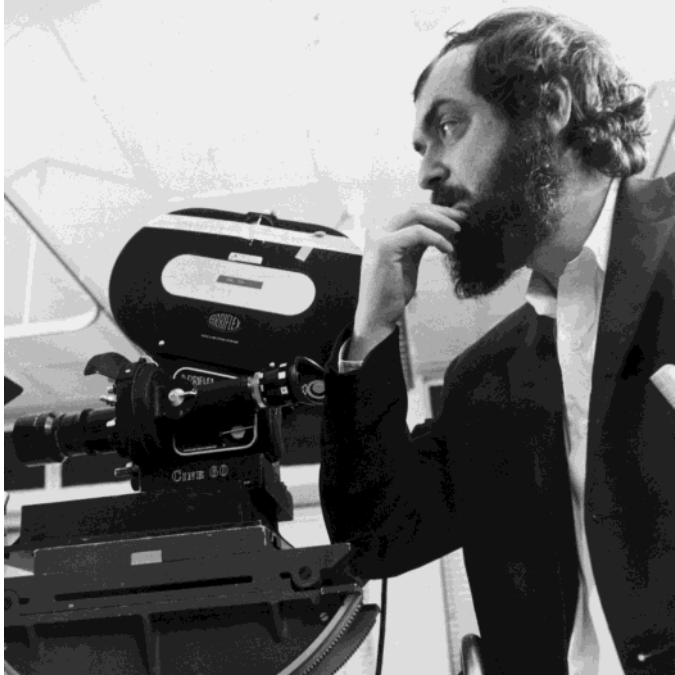
Van Allen Radiation



A Van Allen radiation belt is a zone of energetic charged particles, most of which originate from the solar wind, that are captured by and held around a planet by that planet's magnetic field. Therefore To reach the moon, astronauts had to pass through it. Apollo's mission was the time in history to transport living humans through the belt. Conspiracy theorists contend that the sheer levels of radiation would have cooked the astronauts en route to the moon, despite the layers of aluminum coating the interior and exterior of the spaceship. But NASA countered this argument by the short time it took the astronauts to traverse the belt so they received very small doses of radiation.

From <<https://top10unknown.com/2019/12/23/10-reasons-the-moon-landings-could-be-fake/>>

The moon landing is fake because Stanley Kubrick filmed it.



American film maker Stanley Kubrick.
Evening Standard/Getty Images

Director [Stanley Kubrick's](#) film [2001: A Space Odyssey](#) wowed audiences in 1968 for creating a realistic image of outer space. It was so compelling that some conspiracy theorists later wondered if the government had actually hired Kubrick to film the moon landing in a soundstage (possibly like the one [James Bond ran through](#) in the 1971 film *Diamonds Are Forever*).

The thing is, the moon landing footage didn't look real because Kubrick filmed it—Kubrick's movie *2001* looked real because Kubrick [enlisted astronomical artists and aerospace engineers](#) to help him with it. The only "evidence" that Kubrick filmed the moon landing has itself [proved to be a hoax](#).

Denial of America's great progress in space exploration and belief in these myths is "more of an ideological thing—a political thing—than it is a scientific thing," Fienberg notes.

To those who know the moon landing was real, [conspiracy theories](#) that it was a hoax may seem silly and innocuous. But their consequences aren't: they spread misinformation, make people susceptible to other false theories and could earn you [a punch from Buzz Aldrin](#).

From <https://www.history.com/news/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theories>

There was a bit of interesting timing happening in regards to where Kubrick was in his career and when the Apollo 11 launch would take place. In 1968, Kubrick was working on [2001: A Space Odyssey](#). At this same time, NASA was in the final stages of preparation for the Apollo 11 launch. Recent years of exploded capsules, technical failures, and technological setbacks would have supported the idea NASA was trying to find another way to pull off this launch without having to lose any more lives. So, the decision was made to pretend as if the Apollo 11 spaceflight and subsequent moon landing had happened. The theory goes that Kubrick was considered a person of interest to help NASA out because it looked like, according to the theory, the Apollo 11 launch wouldn't happen.

ADVERTISING

The theory then claims that Kubrick was approached by NASA in secret while he was in post-production on *2001: A Space Odyssey*. NASA wanted Kubrick's assistance because he had just shot this epic film on space. In NASA's mind, Kubrick would be an asset in creating this faked moon landing footage because he'd spent so much time re-creating the environment of outer space - and he was a great director, full stop. The plan, according to this conspiracy theory, was that the Apollo 11 ship would really launch and the capsule of the ship would splash down into the ocean, but all footage shot while Armstrong, Aldrin, and Collins were allegedly in space would be footage shot by Kubrick and woven into a cohesive live broadcast.



Alleged Stanley Kubrick involvement

Filmmaker [Stanley Kubrick](#) is accused of having produced much of the footage for Apollos 11 and 12, presumably because he had just directed [2001: A Space Odyssey](#), which is partly set on the Moon and featured advanced special effects.^[a] It has been claimed that when *2001* was in [post-production](#) in early 1968, NASA secretly approached Kubrick to direct the first three Moon landings. The launch and splashdown would be real but the spacecraft would stay in Earth orbit and fake footage broadcast as "live from the Moon." No evidence was offered for this theory, which overlooks many facts. For example, *2001* was released before the first Apollo landing and Kubrick's depiction of the Moon's surface differs greatly from its appearance in the Apollo footage. The movement of characters on the Moon in *2001* differs from that of the filmed movement of Apollo astronauts, and does not resemble an environment with 1/6 the gravity of Earth. Several scenes in *2001* show dust billowing as spacecraft landed, something that would not happen in the vacuum environment of the Moon. Kubrick did hire [Frederick Ordway](#) and [Harry Lange](#), both of whom had worked for NASA and major aerospace contractors, to work with him on *2001*. Kubrick also used some 50 mm f/0.7 lenses that were left over from a batch made by [Zeiss](#) for NASA. However, Kubrick only got this lens for [Barry Lyndon](#) (1975). The lens was originally a still photo lens and needed changes to be used for motion filming.

The [mockumentary](#) based on this idea, *Dark Side of the Moon*, could have fueled the conspiracy theory. This French mockumentary, directed by William Karel, was originally aired on Arte channel in 2002 with the title *Opération Lune*. It parodies conspiracy theories with faked interviews, stories of assassinations of Stanley Kubrick's assistants by the [CIA](#), and a variety of conspicuous mistakes, puns, and references to old movie characters, inserted through the film as clues for the viewer. Nevertheless, *Opération Lune* is still taken at face value by some conspiracy believers.

An article titled "Stanley Kubrick and the Moon Hoax" appeared on Usenet in 1995, in the newsgroup "alt.humor.bestof-usenet". One passage – on how Kubrick was supposedly coerced into the conspiracy – reads:

NASA further leveraged their position by threatening to publicly reveal the heavy involvement of Mr. Kubrick's younger brother, Raul, with the [American Communist Party](#). This would have been an intolerable embarrassment to Mr. Kubrick, especially since the release of [Dr. Strangelove](#).

Kubrick had no such brother – the article was a spoof, complete with a giveaway sentence describing Kubrick shooting the moonwalk "on location" on the Moon. Nevertheless, the claim was taken up in earnest;^[a] Clyde Lewis used it almost word-for-word,^[a] whereas [Jay Weidner](#) gave the brother a more senior status within the party:

No one knows how the powers-that-be convinced Kubrick to direct the Apollo landings. Maybe they had compromised Kubrick in some way. The fact that his brother, Raul Kubrick, was the head of the American Communist Party may have been one of the avenues pursued by the government to get Stanley to cooperate.^[a]

In July 2009, Weidner posted on his webpage "Secrets of the Shining", where he states that Kubrick's *The Shining* (1980) is a veiled confession of his role in the scam project.^[a]^[a] This thesis was the subject of refutation in an article published on [Seeker](#) nearly half a year later.^[a]

The 2015 movie *Moonwalkers* is a fictional account of a CIA agent's claim of Kubrick's involvement.

In December 2015, a video surfaced which allegedly shows Kubrick being interviewed shortly before his 1999 death; the video purportedly shows the director confessing to T. Patrick Murray that the Apollo Moon landings had been faked.^[a] Research quickly found, however, that the video was a [hoax](#).^[a]

From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement

Origin

On 10 December 2015, the web site *YourNewsWire.com* [published](#) a video purportedly showing film acclaimed director Stanley Kubrick, who helmed such groundbreaking films as *Dr. Strangelove*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and *A Clockwork Orange*, confessing to having helped NASA fake the Apollo program moon landings:

A stunning new video has emerged 15 years after Stanley Kubrick's death in which Kubrick admits that the NASA moon landings were faked.

Filmmaker T. Patrick Murray interviewed Kubrick three days before his death in March 1999. He was forced to sign an 88-page NDA to keep the contents of the interview a secret for 15 years.

Below is a transcript from the interview with Stanley Kubrick, in which the 2001 Space Odyssey Director admits on camera that, "*the moon landings ALL were faked, and that I was the person who filmed it.*"

In the interview, the alleged Stanley Kubrick figures confesses that:

Kubrick: I perpetrated a huge fraud on the American public, which I am now about to detail, involving the United States government and NASA, that the moon landings were faked, that the moon landings ALL were faked , and that I was the person who filmed it.

Murray: Ok. (laughs) What are you talking ... You're serious. Ok.

Kubrick: I'm serious. Dead serious. Yes, it was fake.

Murray: Why are you telling the world? Why does the world need to know that the moon landings aren't real and you faked them?

Kubrick: I consider them to be my masterpiece.

Murray: And you can't take credit, or even talk about ...

Kubrick: Well, I am now ...

Murray: So, you can't talk to Roger Ebert about it. Does that frustrate you? Why did they have to fake it? Why would they have to do that?

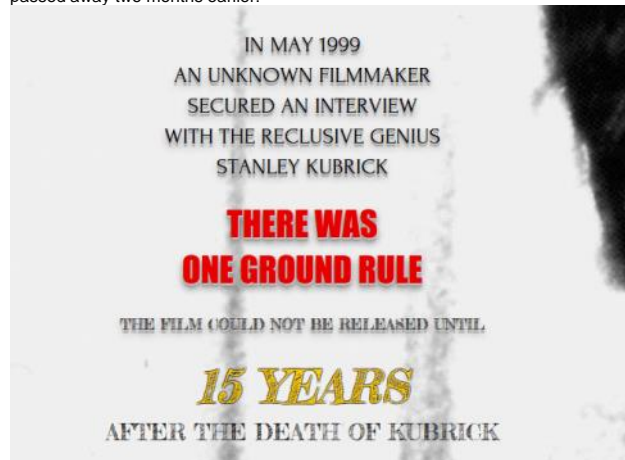
Kubrick: Because it is impossible to get there ... *2001* was very ambitious, but that's not to say that faking the moon landing was not ambitious. But I learned things from making *2001*, and that's why I got this gig in the first place.

Murray: That makes sense

Kubrick: Well, it was easy for me, because I didn't think a whole lot about the morality of it. But I didn't. And I could see that Neil [Armstrong] was, he was bothered by it.

This video has been circulating online since at least August 2015 and is one of several clips purportedly showing Kubrick talking about his alleged involvement in faking the U.S. moon landings. While there are various edits of this infamous (and fake) interview circulating on YouTube, the videos all originated with a new [film](#) from T. Patrick Murray titled *Shooting Kubrick*.

Murray claimed on the *Shooting Kubrick* web site that he was granted unprecedented access to interview the director in May 1999, which would have been quite an impressive feat since Kubrick had passed away two months earlier:



Although the date could be a simple typographical error, that was not the only questionable aspect of the interview. The man being interviewed simply doesn't look or sound like Stanley Kubrick when compared to a video of the real Kubrick accepting the D.W. Griffith Award in 1997:

Euthemore, unedited versions of the interview contain hints that the "Stanley Kubrick" in the video is



Yes, there was a Kubrick-NASA connection back in the late '60s but it was not as secretive or sinister as this conspiracy theory alleges. In reality, Kubrick had approached two aerospace contractors, as well as NASA employees, Frederick Ordway and Harry Lange, to consult on *2001: A Space Odyssey*. The men were called in for their expertise to help make the scenes depicting humans landing on the moon in the film look real.

There's also the fact that *2001: A Space Odyssey* was released before the Apollo 11 spaceflight. This matters because the footage Kubrick shot for *2001: A Space Odyssey* differs greatly from the footage of Armstrong and Aldrin walking on the moon's surface. The footage from each respective event varies significantly. It all boils down to this: If Kubrick did shoot the moon landing footage, why wouldn't he have replicated what he shot in *2001*? In *2001*, when the astronauts touch down for the first time, dust flies up and reacts to the movement. This didn't happen in the moon landing footage because the Moon is in the vacuum of space and nothing would move. Additionally, the movements of the characters in *2001* differ greatly from the movements of Armstrong and Aldrin. The *2001* characters move a little easier and quicker, unlike the astronauts during the actual moon landing, who are moving slower since the Moon has 1/6 the gravity Earth has.

ADVERTISING

From <<https://screenrant.com/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theory-stanley-kubrick/>>

Is The Shining Stanley Kubrick's Moon Landing Apology?

The devil has always been in the details with Kubrick's 1980 film *The Shining*. Some believe there are details within *The Shining*, placed there specifically by Kubrick, to tease his involvement in helping to fake the moon landing. To be clear, Kubrick has never explained the reasons behind the following Apollo 11-specific choices he made for set design, costume design, or storytelling. These are simply connections made by the average moviegoer which have attached themselves to the conspiracy theory over the years and helped it grow in its infamy.

ADVERTISING

Among the details picked out by viewers over time they believe connect Kubrick to the moon landing are: Danny's Apollo 11 sweater is believed to be Kubrick directly linking himself to the actual event; the room number was allegedly changed from "217" to "237" to reference the Moon being 237,000 miles away from Earth (it's actually 238,900 miles); the powdered drink Tang, which happens to be the astronaut's drink of choice, is displayed prominently in the Overlook Hotel's pantry; and finally, the word "All" in Jack's typed out "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" allegedly resembles "A11" or, "Apollo 11." Some of these details are apocryphal and some are based on speculation; none prove Kubrick was ever involved in the Apollo 11 moon landing.





From <<https://screenrant.com/moon-landing-fake-conspiracy-theory-stanley-kubrick/>>



Although the date could be a simple typographical error, that was not the only questionable aspect of the interview. The man being interviewed simply doesn't look or sound like Stanley Kubrick when compared to a video of the real Kubrick accepting the D.W. Griffith Award in 1997: Furthermore, unedited versions of the interview contain hints that the "Stanley Kubrick" in the video is an actor. In a since-deleted clip, the interviewer called his subject "Tom" and instructed him on how to tell the next part of his story:

"You don't say he said anything. You say what he says. Tom, I'm giving you directions. You don't have to imitate him (Richard Nixon). You're not reporting it. You're repeating it ... We're doing exposition here. That's how we're going to sneak it in."

A spokesman for Kubrick's widow also proclaimed that "[t]he interview is a lie, Stanley Kubrick has never been interviewed by T. Patrick Murray the whole story is made up, fraudulent and untrue." T. Patrick Murray has not admitted that his interview with Stanley Kubrick is a hoax, but he certainly is banking the mystery's driving interest in his project:

-  **Sheenu Das** I'm a huge fan of Kubrick but what's the authenticity for this claim?!
- August 13 at 5:22pm
-  **T Patrick Murray** I'll give you a link to watch it free! then YOU judge yourself 😊
- August 17 at 3:08pm
-  **T Patrick Murray** that's part of the mystery of it all
- August 17 at 3:08pm
-  **Sheenu Das** Fantastic!
- August 17 at 3:12pm

From <<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/false-stanley-kubrick-faked-moon-landings/>>

The Shining

Tuesday, August 31, 2021 6:16 PM

The Shining Theory: Kubrick's Movie Is About The Apollo 11 Moon Landing

The Shining, according to one theory, is about the Apollo 11 moon landing, evidenced by Danny's sweater, cans of Tang, the twins, and Jack's typing.



The Shining, according to one theory, is about the Apollo 11 moon landing. Some believe Stanley Kubrick was involved with the United States government in filming a staged version of the moon landing, and that he used *The Shining* to hint at and apologize for his involvement. The evidence is compelling.

The Shining, released in 1980, is one of **Stanley Kubrick's** most well-known and well-analyzed films. This is due, in part, to the odd symbolism seen in it and his other films. Kubrick is known, after all, for including deeper meanings in his work and then leaving things open for interpretation. During his life, he was careful never to present his own views and believed that audiences were attracted to "enigmas and allegories", and preferred movies that didn't provide all of the answers.

ADVERTISING

Interestingly, when the Apollo 11 moon landing happened in 1969, there were some who believed the footage that was shown across the world was staged. Kubrick, as a well-respected filmmaker of the time, was theorized to have been a part of filming the staged footage. Given **Kubrick's talents**, it's not impossible to imagine he could have pulled off such a stunt.

If he had, he would be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement, and be forced never to talk about the experience. As far-fetched as this idea might sound, it's not impossible, nor is it impossible to imagine he might insert clues into his cinematic work, such as *The Shining*, either to support this theory or to poke fun at it.

ADVERTISING

Every Clue The Shining Is About The Apollo 11 Moon Landing

With the release of **2001: A Space Odyssey** (1968) only a few months before Apollo 11 landed on the moon, it's easy to imagine Kubrick having access to the experience and set pieces required to film a realistic scene involving Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong walking on the moon. Assuming Kubrick was a part of this government conspiracy, it might have weighed heavily on his mind, especially because he was forbidden from speaking about it. So, he inserts clues into his next movie as an apology for his involvement, which just happens to be *The Shining*.

ADVERTISING

In *The Shining*, there are several clues that it is at least partially about the Apollo 11 moon landing. It starts with Danny's sweater. Apollo 11 is never mentioned in **Stephen King's novel**, so why is Danny wearing a sweater that says "Apollo 11 USA" in Kubrick's film? Also interesting to note is how the camera lingers on several cans of Tang in the pantry, which is a drink originally developed for astronauts.

Other clues that *The Shining* is about the Apollo 11 moon landing include the strange way "All" looks in Jack Torrance's manuscript. Although **Jack is clearly typing** "All work and no play make Jack a dull boy" over and over again, the "All" looks a lot like A11, for Apollo 11. What's more, if this theory is correct, then the dead twins that Danny sees in the hallway may represent the two Gemini space missions that failed. Of course, Kubrick neither confirmed nor denied this theory about *The Shining* that, even to this day, remains compelling.

From <<https://screenrant.com/shining-movie-theory-apollo-11-moon-landing/>>

Faked Moon Landings and Kubrick's 'The Shining'

Did Stanley Kubrick film NASA's fake moon landing and then hide his veiled confession in the film adaptation of Stephen King's "The Shining" a decade later? Of course not, but this lunar conspiracy theory is one of the most enthralling yet. Slip on your tinfoil hat and prepare to have your mind blown, gentle reader.

By **Robert Lamb**

Published on 1/21/2010 at 11:09 AM

Everyone at Discovery Space loves a good space conspiracy theory, from Ray Villard's **awesome post** about NASA airbrushing out moon cities to Ian's **weekly battle** against whatever the latest cosmic doomsday craze happens to be. We all know these "theories" are just so much bunk, but we can't look away.

To quote John Hodgman: "Truth is stranger than fiction, but never as strange as lies." We love strange things, and the following conspiracy theory is one of the strangest (yet oddly compelling) ones I've ever heard. Are you ready?

The U.S. government hired director Stanley Kubrick to film the fake moon landing and, to protect the lives of himself and his wife, he made 1980's "The Shining" as a veiled confession of his part in the secret project. This would have seen Kubrick filming the landing conjointly with "2001: A Space Odyssey."

That's the argument Internet conspiracy theorist Jay Weidner makes on his webpage "**Secrets of the Shining**." Yes, all the new age advertisements, Egyptian fonts and Alex Grey illustrations along the rail make this a very hard sell on the discerning reader. But the whole theory (like the best of them) is strangely fascinating. Weidner grasps onto various bits of imagery in the film and deviations from Stephen King's novel as Kubrick revealing his secrets to the unsuspecting audience.

The basic premise is that, in the film, the protagonist Jack Torrance and his son Danny both represent different aspects of Kubrick, the pragmatist and the artistic visionary. Jack (Kubrick's practical side) makes a deal with the manager of the Overlook Hotel (America) to protect it through the coming winter (the Cold War). Weidner also points out that the Overlook, like America, is new, garish and built on the bones of Indians.

All of this builds on the notion that the moon landings were faked as a show of strength to the Soviet Union. But Weidner waves his crackpot flag a little more fervently by stating it was all necessary to "hide the advanced U.S. saucer technology from the Soviet Union."

Consider the following additional evidence:

Room 237: In King's novel, the haunted room is numbered 217. In the movie, it's 237. Why? "Because the average distance from the Earth to the Moon is 237,000 miles." It's actually 238,857 miles, but close enough, right? Weidner proposes that the haunted room represents the filming of the faked moon landing itself. "It's just like pictures in a book, Danny. It isn't real."

You probably remember the creepy twins from the film, the slain children of the previous Overlook caretaker. In King's novel, however, **there** was only one slain child. Weidner insists that Kubrick's alteration is a nod to NASA's previous Gemini (Get it? twins!) program. Given the genuinely creepy nature of this scene, you might not have noticed that Danny is in fact wearing an "Apollo 11" sweater. It's easy to get caught up on that last little factoid. View it here.

The Bears: The film features a large number of stuffed bears and, in one disturbing scene, Danny witnesses a man cavorting in a hotel room with a stranger in a horrifying bear suit. (Sheer nightmare juice!) Follow the conspiracy argument and all these bears, naturally, represent the looming Soviet threat.

The Typewriter: In one scene, the film reveals that Jack has been typing "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" over and over again. In one of Weidner's more, um, far-fetched moments, he proposes that "all" should actually be read "A11" for Apollo 11.

The Dead Guy: In King's novel, Danny sends a psychic distress signal to the hotel's elderly black chef Dick Haloran - and Haloran lives to escape the Overlook with the child and his mother. In the movie, however, the Overlook uses Jack to kill Haloran pretty much the second he arrives on the scene to save everyone. The reason for this alteration? Weidner insists that Kubrick wanted to tell the world that he had naively tried to tip someone off about his role in the moon landing hoax - and his doing so resulted in their murder. Worried for his own life and that of his wife, Kubrick had to reveal the secret both widely and clandestinely to protect himself.

From <<https://www.seeker.com/faked-moon-landings-and-kubricks-the-shining-1765004443.html>>

Reasons

Monday, August 30, 2021 8:01 PM

Space Race

Motivation for the United States to engage the [Soviet Union](#) in a [Space Race](#) can be traced to the then on-going [Cold War](#). Landing on the Moon was viewed as a national and technological accomplishment that would generate world-wide acclaim. But going to the Moon would be risky and expensive, as exemplified by [President John F. Kennedy](#) famously stating in a [1962 speech](#) that the [United States](#) chose to go *because* it was hard.^[1] Hoax theory debunker [Phil Plait](#) says in his 2002 book *Bad Astronomy*^[2] that the Soviets – with [their own competing Moon program](#), an [extensive intelligence network](#) and a formidable scientific community able to analyze NASA data – would have 'cried foul' if the United States tried to fake a Moon landing,^[3] especially since their own program had failed. Proving a hoax would have been a huge propaganda win for the Soviets. Instead, far from calling the landings a hoax, the third edition (1970–1979) of the [Great Soviet Encyclopedia](#) (which was [translated into English](#) between 1974 and 1983 by [Macmillan Publishers](#), and was later made available online by [TheFreeDictionary.com](#)^[4]) contained many articles reporting the landings as factual, such as this article on Neil Armstrong.^[5] Indeed their article on [space exploration](#) describes the Apollo 11 landing as "the third historic event" of the [space age](#), following the launch of [Sputnik](#) in 1957, and [Yuri Gagarin's](#) flight in 1961.^[6] Conspiracist [Bart Sibrel](#) responded, incorrectly asserting that, "the Soviets did not have the capability to track deep space craft until late in 1972, immediately after which, the last three Apollo missions were abruptly canceled."^[7] In fact, the Soviets had been sending [uncrewed spacecraft](#) to the Moon since 1959,^[8] and "during 1962, deep space tracking facilities were introduced at IP-15 in [Ussuriisk](#) and IP-16 in [Evpatoria](#) (Crimean Peninsula), while Saturn communication stations were added to IP-3, 4 and 14,"^[9] the latter having a 100 million km (62 million mi) range.^[10] The Soviet Union tracked the Apollo missions at the Space Transmissions Corps, which was "fully equipped with the latest intelligence-gathering and surveillance equipment."^[11] [Vasily Mishin](#), in an interview for the article "The Moon Programme That Faltered," describes how the Soviet Moon program dwindled after the Apollo landings.^[12] Also, there was nothing "abrupt" about the [Apollo cancellations](#), which were made for cost-cutting reasons. These were announced in January and September 1970,^[13] two full years before the "late 1972" claimed by Sibrel.^[14] (See [Vietnam War](#) below.)

NASA funding and prestige

Conspiracy theorists claim that NASA faked the landings to avoid humiliation and to ensure that it continued to get funding. NASA raised "about US\$30 billion" to go to the Moon, and [Kaysing](#) claimed in his book that this could have been used to "pay off" many people.^[15] Since most conspiracists believe that sending men to the Moon was impossible at the time,^[16] they argue that landings had to be faked to fulfill Kennedy's 1961 goal, "before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth."^[17] In fact, NASA accounted for the cost of Apollo to the US Congress in 1973, totaling US \$25.4 billion.^[18]

Mary Bennett and David Percy claimed in the 2001 book *Dark Moon: Apollo and the Whistle-Blowers*, that, with all the known and unknown hazards,^[19] NASA would not risk broadcasting an astronaut getting sick or dying on live television.^[20] The counter-argument generally given is that NASA in fact *did* incur a great deal of public humiliation and potential political opposition to the program by losing an entire crew in the [Apollo 1](#) fire during a ground test, leading to its upper management team being questioned by Senate and House of Representatives space oversight committees.^[21] There was in fact no video broadcast during either the landing or takeoff because of technological limitations.^[22]

Vietnam War

The American Patriot Friends Network claimed in 2009 that the landings helped the United States government distract public attention from the unpopular [Vietnam War](#), and so crewed landings suddenly ended about the same time that the United States ended its involvement in the war.^[23] In fact, the ending of the landings was not "sudden" (see [The Space Race](#) above). The war was one of several federal budget items with which NASA had to compete; NASA's budget peaked in 1966, and fell by 42% by 1972.^[24] This was the reason the final flights were cut, along with plans for even more ambitious follow-on programs such as a permanent [space station](#) and crewed flight to Mars.^[25]

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories#Alleged_Stanley_Kubrick_involvement>

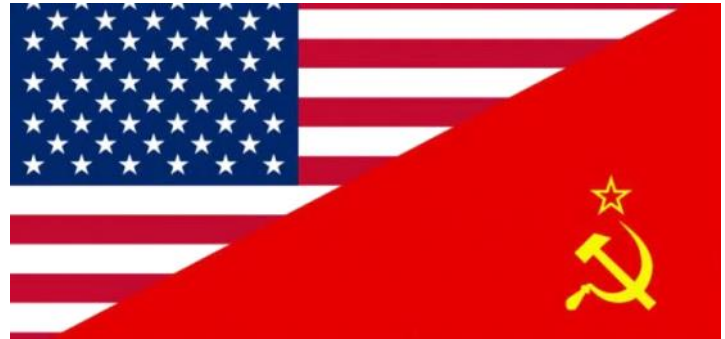


There isn't a single cohesive story or origin when it comes to the "moon landing faked" conspiracy because it is one with many versions. Though some less extreme theorists believe that it did happen, but not in the way it was relayed to the public, many others assert that NASA never went to the moon at all. Like any good conspiracy, there needs to be a motive. In this case, the largest motive for the faked moon landing was the mounting tension between the United States and the USSR at the time. The Cold War was going strong and the Soviet's successful launch of Sputnik, the first Earth satellite, set off the much-hyped Space Race.

The competition for spaceflight capability was symbolic of a greater, general technological supremacy. Landing on the moon, a risky and pricey endeavor, was seen as the ultimate accomplishment. In a speech JFK gave on the moon mission, he emphasized that the U.S. chose to go to the moon *because* it was hard, not despite it. Boom. Motive.

From <<https://allthatsinteresting.com/moon-landing-faked>>

10 — Desperation for Dominance



During the cold war, the US government wanted to win in every field. The Soviet Union's space program was performing very well and they were very close to launch a successful moon mission. But Americans can't let that happen so they faked a moon landing.

From <<https://top10unknown.com/2019/12/23/10-reasons-the-moon-landings-could-be-fake/>>