So far, the 'Ape's' mythos has yielded five films and a short lived TV series. From these science-fiction tales has emerged a near complete future history of our planet, which ends abruptly when the Earth is blown up. But the 'Ape's' films have also shown how we might all be saved from total destruction.

It was fairly difficult to work out an accurate Chronology of the 'Ape's' history. The first film begins 2,000 years in the future, then the series goes back in time to 1973. Taken at face value, the Chronology appears to be correct, not linear. When one tries to put the Chronology on a linear scale, the many contradictions begin to show. The greatest contradiction is the two different accounts of how the Apes rebelled against their human masters. When Cornelius and Zira are asked about this in 'Escape...!', they say that after two centuries of being pets, the Ape became slaves, and three centuries after that, they rebelled. But in the events of the rebellion in 'Conquest....', the Ape have done all this in a mere nine years! Another contradiction connected with this is that at the end of 'Battle for...', the Lawgiver says that there is world peace in 2670. But in the first film, Dr. Zaius says that by that time, humans were definitely inferior to the Apes.

So what is the truth?

The best explanation I can come up with is that they are BOTH true. What has happened in the last three films is different to the historical events mentioned in the first film. It follows that something must have changed the past, something that happened between films 2 and 3. This something is Air Force One (Taylor's Starship). It had gone back in time between these films, back from 1995 to 1973. The events it caused in the past (the actions of the sentient Ape's it contained) altered the past. This altered past is shown in the last three films. Now; where does the TV Series fit in? The answer to this is simple. In the first episode, 'Escape From Tomorrow', Burke and Virdon discover a book that is dated 2503. In the altered past (as can be seen from the Chronology below), no skyscrapers such as the one shown in the book could have existed. This means that the TV Series must take place in the unchanged past, before it was changed. That's enough for the moment, I think. And so onto the Chronology...

1972 February:
Air Force One is launched containing Astronauts Taylor, Dodge, Stewart and Landon on the first interstellar flight to the Orion System. Earth loses contact with the ship as it approaches the speed of light.

November:
Six months after the first launch, Astronauts "Skipper" and medic John Brent are launched along the same flight path as Air Force One to probe its unexplained disappearance. This craft also loses contact with Earth.

(And now onto the unaltered history of Earth).

1972-1988:
Space exploration expands. The world becomes more scientifically based, and living standards increase. The facts of the two Starships lost in 1972 was never found out, and to prevent their supposed destruction happening to other ships 6 years are spent improving Space-Fly techniques.

1988 August 19th:
Astronauts Virdon, Burke and Jones are launched from Earth to explore the star Alpha Centauri.

1992:
Whilst circling Alpha Centauri and scanning the system, they are hit by an electrical storm. Pete Burke hits the emergency homing button just before his ship goes out. The system took 16 years to perfect then comes into play. Although the engines of their craft are damaged beyond repair, their momentum still carries them towards Earth, but at an incredibly slow speed. The unconscious Astronauts are automatically placed in suspended animation for the long trip home.

(A Little note here for devoted Ape fanatics: You can tell the difference between the three Starships as Burke's has U.S. flags on the front fins, Brent's has only the "UNITED STATES" painted down the front, and Taylor's Starship is devoid of any markings at all).

1992-2182:
Human civilization has continued to advance, and machines are being used for many purposes as human leisure time increases. Many Space Explorations take place, although some never return to Earth.

Then, c.2050, the GREAT PLague strikes. Brought back from a distant solar system by a returning Starship, it soon wipes out the complete Cat and Dog populations of the planet. Luckily, it does not affect any other species, including Man. Humans, to replace their lost pets, turn to keeping birds, small primates, lizards etc. The primates become the most popular pets due to their higher intelligence and ability to be trained easily. They become a common household animal as larger and larger ones are taken in.

2182:
By this time, nearly every human household contains Chimpanzees, Orangutans or Gorillas as pets.

2282:
After two centuries of being pets, the Apes are now being used as slaves as their vast potential had been realised. Their intelligence is being increased through selective breeding and artificial stimulation. (If anyone wants to, they can fit STAR TREK in here: There are no Ape's aboard the 'Enterprise' as they are not reliable enough for space travel).

2382-2682:
During this period, the humans are being served both by their machines and their Ape slaves. They no longer have to struggle to survive, and are beginning to lose interest in space travel.

(In fact, a long-term genetic breakdown must have been taking place. This means that advanced medicine had interfered with the process of natural selection, so that characteristics which had formerly been unfavourable are spread through the population. An example of this today)
mankind have been wiped clean due to general demoralization and the genetic breakdown. They are driven away from ape cities as useless and unproductive animals and begin to live in the forests, wild.

Meanwhile, the constantly growing Forbidden Zones have cut up and isolated the ape civilizations. Progress is slow to a halt in some areas, like the ape city near New York. There all knowledge that humans once had a major civilization is etched on the Ship's chronometers. Little is known of the events of the next thousand years. I have put down what is known by inference from later, more definite events.

3085: The fall of mankind is complete. By about 3400, the minds of

is the fact that all people who wear glassmee couldn't have survived five thousand years ago, but in the 20th century they do survive to reproduce and spread the defective gene."

Finally, a Chimpanzee named Aldo learns to articulate. He refuses his masters' orders and leads an ape rebellion. The humans, their capacity to act against the Apeas lowered by genetic breakdown, are defeated by the Apeas.

In the chaos that follows, Numa's gorillas are exploded and the world is devastated. Only the major cities of the planet are totally destroyed, the surrounding lands are alive but not rich with fertile soil. The ability of the world to support a large population is lost forever.

This period of 68 years contains many changes. The ape and human populations move away from the radiation-soaked cities, and the ape cities change from slaveholding toot whelped into unexpected by the Apeas. The ape become divided into racial classes. The pompous, authoritative Orangutans become the governing class. The Sambes, with their brutal nature and low intelligence, become the soldiers and policemen of the Ape states. The Chimpanzees' high intelligence leads them to become mainly Scientists.

The ape states split up, scattered across the world, and know nothing of each other. One State, situated in the California area, consists of a 'Central City' surrounded by farmlands and villages. Each village is governed by a 'Prefect', who is always a Chimpanzee.

(At about this period, science was beginning to be discredited. The ape had seen, and felt, the ruin that mankind brought to the Earth. They were beginning to feel that Man was capable of nothing but destruction and evil, and so was evil himself.)

The belief that Man is evil is summed up and immobilized by a respected Orangutan, when he writes the 'Sacred Scrolls.' The Orangutan writes the Sacred Scrolls for two reasons. The first is that he feels that his fellow apes must be warned against Man, as some of them were beginning to take men into their houses as pets. The second reason for the Scroll is to provide laws for the apes.

The Sacred Scrolls are accepted and regarded religiously by the Apeas, who give the Orangutan who wrote them the title of 'Lawgiver'.

Due to poor conservation methods, dessert begin to bloom between the centres of Ape Civilization. The ape city near the ruins of New York becomes isolated from the rest of the world. Not all of the humans had left the ruined cities in 2683. Some had remained behind. In the crumbling city of New York, for instance, the humans there had set up an underground civilization (more of this latter). The long-term radiation effects are by now beginning to show. The humans are mutating. They are beginning to lose their outer skin layers, and are developing rudimentary telepathic powers. They have found a Nuclear Missile, and begin to worship it.

(These Mutants, as shown in "Beneath...", considered themselves superior to the "slobbering, materialistic apes", to quote some of them. They obviously considered themselves fortunate to have been mutated, and so they worshiped not the Nuclear Missile itself, but the symbolisms of the nuclear forces that made them what they were.)

One of the Starships lost between 2922 and 2482 returns to Earth, landing in Southern California. The crew were all killed by the apes. Zalus, the leader of the Council in that area, begins to fear the threat of ancient human Astronauts from Outer Space.

(The events of 3073 are told in the first episode of the TV Series.)

3085: June 14th: Zalus' fears are realized as Jones, Alan Virdon, and Peter Burke crashland in his region after 1,093 years of drifting in space. Jones does not survive the crash. The Events of "THE PLANET OF THE APES" TV SERIES begin.

Virdon, Burke and Galen have fates as yet untold. (At the beginning of every TV episode, the titles give the date as "3085", even though "3085" was the date given by the Ship's chronometers. Little is known of the events of the next thousand years. I have put down what is known by inference from later, more definite events.)

3085: The fall of mankind is complete. By about 3400, the minds of

3954: November 25th:
The first launched Starship, Air Force One, containing the three surviving manlike females and four dead male females and females in an inland lake near the ruins of New York. (More about the geography of the land later) Events of "THE PLANET OF THE APES" begin.

Late 3954-Early 3955:
Dr. Zalus, the Orangutan "Minister of Science and Chief Defender of the Faith", has succeeded in calming the disturbances caused by George Taylor's appearance and abilities. But General Ursus, who is far beyond his control. Several scouts are lost in the Forbidden Zone and war is on. There is also a Chimpanzee political underground—and while pretending to go along with Dr. Zalus, Cornelius and Zira have been aiding the genius chimpanzee Dr. Milo in his studies of the salvaged Air Force One. He is analyzing it and attempting to identify it for flight. The Chimpanzees plan to use it as the kind of tamman evidence they feel Ape City needs to escape total loss of the light of Truth.

(Or not clear how Milo salvaged Air Force One. I can only speculate on this. The most logical way would be to make divers down to cut it in half, then send a large balloon down, inflate it and float the section to the surface. Milo could then have launched the arrow-like command module from it's base, but whether the command module can be separated from the possibilities for separate flight is debatable.)

3955: January:
Cornelius and Zira are married.

February:
Brent's Starship crashlands in the Forbidden Zone. "Skipper" is lost in the crash. Events of "BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES" begin as Brent encounters Nova. Just after the Ape war, the war is over, Milo sends Cornelius and Zira a message telling them that Air Force One is ready for flight. (This was possible as the Starship had crash-landed into a lake and was undamaged.)

Brent's Arrival Plus Two Days: THE END.

The Nuclear Missile that the Mutants worshipped was the "Alpha-Omega Nuclear Device", the ultimate bomb. It is detonated and it sets fire to the air itself, scourching the Earth to a cinder.

The shockwave of the Alpha Omega Bomb is just as it reaches orbit and Cornelius, Zira, and Milo are hurled back into the past.

(It is not certain who is speaking at the end of 'Beneath...'. Maybe it was Milo who, up in the Starship, said..."We've lost the universe, at present, contains billions upon billions of spiral galaxies. In one of them, one-third from the edge, is a medium-sized star, and one of its satellites, a green and insignificant planet..."

The power of the Alpha-Omega Bomb must have been greater than the power of the device that exists today, known as 'Doomsday'. No official estimate has been made of this Bomb, but a 50,000 megaton cobalt-salt device has been mooted which could kill the whole human population who are deep underground and who stayed there for more than five years. Given that power as being less than that of the 'A-O' Bomb, it is not surprising that, this shockwave was powerful enough to break the time barrier.

Now--- Air Force One has been thrown back to 1971, and so has altered the past by its very presence of being there.

So what follows is the altered history of Earth.

1973 September:
Air Force One reappears within附近 Space, over the South Pole, and lands off the Californian Coast, slightly north of San Clemente (probably just off Laguna Beach). Events of "ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES" begin.

(At the beginning of the file, only the Command Module is shown to have landed, and so whether this was all that took off in the first place is still left undecided.)
March: The events conclude with the murders of Zira and Cornelius, and their son begins his long education under Armando's care. The baby at first named "Milo" but this is changed to "Evan" by Armando to protect the child from the authorities.

1974-1981: The governments of Earth are growing more totalitarian in order to cope with increasing economic, political and energy-related pressures. All information containing knowledge of the two lost Starships and the secrets of the future revealed by Zira and Cornelius were locked away under heavy security clearance. Few are allowed access to it. Publicity is spread that the two talking chimpanzees were a hoax, and nothing more. (These developments are the logical culmination of what had happened in 'Escape...'). Another reason for the authorities to hide everything up would be to conceal from the public the embarrassing fact that Dr. Hanelin had disobeyed the President's orders, had murdered the Apes, and had been killed himself.)

1982: Caesar, aged 7, begins his bare-back riding acrobatics with Armando's circus. (With political repression the smaller circuses have been forced to play to dwindling country audiences, thus helping Caesar to avoid dangerous publicity)

1982: The year of the Plague from Space. It is brought back by an Astronaut, and all the cats and dogs die. It appears to be harmless to all other species, including Man.

1982-1991: Humans replace their lost pets by taking in other animals, and eventually the larger primates become pets. In this generation of Apes, the Plague's genetic effects show themselves: both their nature and intelligence are increased. (This Plague appears to be different from the Plague of the unaltered history of Earth. It is birthplace could have been nearer to our planet, so it was discovered earlier, and it affected the Apes in the way shown above.)

There is a vast reverse migration of people from the suburbs into the cities. This results in the large towns becoming almost feudal fiefs surrounded by farmlands: the "province". Pollution in many areas is brought under control. In 1985 a massive air purification plant is built in the Rockies that keeps California air perfectly clean. The Ape becomes a slave class. Ape Management is incorporated as a new public branch of the government in 1986, and the Ape's mental development is accelerated by the massive training programs of that establishment. (In about six years, the Apes have progressed, if you can call it that), from being pets to slaves. That this could have happened so fast and have been a result of the Government's fear of the Ape revolt; as predicted by Cornelius and Zira. So it appears that the two talking chimpanzees had influenced the past, and therefore changed the future.)

1991 April: Armando and Caesar visit a part of Los Angeles, San Fernando. The events of "CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES" begin. (The city they visited must have been San Fernando as in 'Battle for... the city is said to be South of a rural area where Ape City is situated. The large city best suited to the specifications is San Fernando, as it is west of a relatively rural area, the Joquin Valley.)

June: Caesar, aged 17, leads an Ape rebellion and defeats the human forces of the city.

1994: This is another way in which the two dead chimpanzees have influenced the past. Only their son, Caesar, is intelligent enough to lead a successful Ape Rebellion in early 1994. In the other history it took the Ape three centuries to rebel.)

1992: Caesar leads his people from the city to the province. In this case, the Joquin Valley. Here, Caesar attempts to build a home for his people with the aid of a few human advisors.

December: NUCLEAR WAR. Laser defense ABM systems prevent war from utterly destroying life. Major cities burned but surrounding areas livable to a certain degree.

1992-2000: The Human population that remains is in a state of shock. There is little or no communication over great distances so Caesar's community, now completely isolated, takes in the survivors in its area and a new Ape/Human Society begins to develop. Despite Caesar's wishes humans become effectively, second class citizens, and cultural divisions are strong. In the Ape's Aldo names himself "General" and begins to train an army of Gorillas. Caesar's son by Lisa is born, and named Cornelius after his grandfather.

Meanwhile, another branch of humanity is developing; the ones that survived the war and stayed in the cities. Mutants. They have radioactive flesh on decaying bones. Inspector Kolp has taken over in the ruins of New York and runs a scavenger city full of repressed hate.

(Thee 'Mutants' have not mutated into monstrous beings with awesome powers. They are just humans malformed by the radiation, and most of them, including Kolp, are mad.)

2004 November: The events of "BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES" begin and conclude. Caesar has finally made complete equality between the Humans and the Apes.

2004-2670: The idea of peaceful co-existence has spread around the globe. Both Ape and Humans realize that they must live in peace to prevent the detonation of the Alpha-Omega Bomb in 2395.

After 2670: ?

Well there you have it. The Chronology is a long one, covering nearly two thousand years plus nearly seven hundred years again.

There is a lot of room for endless speculation and a multitude of new films. For example, anything could have happened in the first history between the dates 3085 and 3994. A lot can happen in nearly 900 years. And what happened after 2670 at the end of the Chronology? Did the world get better, did we get saved? A film is definitely called for here. Maybe the new film, "The Secret On The Planet of The Apes", will provide an answer.

In "The Planet of The Apes", Cornelius shows us a map of the terrain near New York. When you compare it to a present-day map, the Ape City could be said to be situated in New Jersey somewhere along the path of the Hudson River. The lake into where Air Force One first crashed must be opposite New York, but further inland. At the end of 'Planet,' Taylor comes across the Statue of Liberty, and it is on the shoreline. This means that somewhere along the line the Hudson River must have dried up. This theory is reinforced as Brent and Nova rode from what was New Jersey to Manhattan without coming across any water. They entered the Manhattan Pliza subway station on 8th Street/9th Avenue. They then went past the remants of the New York Public Library, the Stock Exchange and Radio City (a famous Theatre/Cinema) to end up near Lexington Ave., beside St. Patrick's Cathedral. If this route is traced out on a map, Brent and Nova entered the underground labyrinth in the centre of Manhattan, just below Central Park. They then went South, turned around, and arrived back near where they had first come from. Why were they not taken by the Mutants before they did all that, was never made clear.

There is one date specified in the first film that I decided to disregard completely in the Chronology. When Taylor's Starship crashed in the lake, the chromium aboard read 3975. But in the second film, Brent said the date was 2975. But again (A right?) in the third film 324a said that Taylor's chronometer had now read 39551 What had caused this mysterious change of date?

The way out of this contradiction, I see it, is to say that the chronometer aboard Air Force One had been broken
in the crash, and had thus shown the wrong date. When Dr.
Hilo repaired the salvaged spacecraft, the chronometer had then
shown the real date - 3955.
The Apes Saga has been set in another, almost parallel,
Universe. (To complicate things even further!) This has been
proved as all the Astronauts have worn the emblem A.N.S.A.
instead of N.A.S.A., and besides, we could not have sent ships
to the stars as early as 1972.
In working out the Chronology, I could not fit in the original
Marvel Comics stories.

There are too many of them to be consistent and they are not
really part of the magnificent Science Fiction of the five
films. The dates and events given in the novels cannot be
depended upon as the "real" stuff. They have been written
from the original Screenplays of the films, and not from the
versions that finally reached the screen. So far, except for
'Planet...', the Marvel adaptions have been taken from the
novels, not the films, so they couldn't be used for information
either. The only way to get the accurate facts is to sit
through the five films with a notebook.

7. Favourite new character
8. Favourite revived character
9. Favourite heroine
10. Favourite villain
11. Favourite team of heroes
12. Favourite comic publisher
13. Favourite editor
14. Most disliked comic book
15. Most disliked comic character
16. Most disliked comic artist
17. Most disliked comic writer
18. Favourite fanzine
19. Favourite adzine
20. Favourite fan writer
21. Favourite fan artist
22. Favourite fanzine cover
23. Favourite fanzine article
24. Favourite comic dealer
25. Most over-priced comic (name dealer, comic and its
price)

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page 2.