

Bermuda Triangle

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Introduction

There have been scientific studies, Fiction theories, cases and theories about the existence of the Bermuda Triangle all trying to prove its reality or to deny its existence. Regarding all this, we've decided to compare and contrast all this in order to get to the point in which we, as students, can take a valid point of view on this topic.

We will give out data about the topic, all the possible causes the triangle may have and, finally, we will give out our final verdict about the veracity or falseness of the Bermuda Triangle, a mystery that has been chasing humanity for more than 50 years.

Problem Question

How much of the Bermuda Triangle story is reality and how much is science fiction?

General Objective

To establish what is truth and what is fiction about the Bermuda Triangle

Specific Objectives

- To identify what science and the studies can prove about the Bermuda Triangle
- To discover people's testimonies about Bermuda Triangle encounters
- To compare and contrast documentaries and movies about the Bermuda Triangle

Non-Fiction Studies

Bermuda Triangle is a strange triangular area on the Atlantic Ocean where many ships sailing through it or planes flying over it have apparently disappeared without a trace. Such incidents have been happening since centuries. More than 1,000 ships and planes have disappeared in the triangle area over the past five centuries and such mysterious incidents on the Atlantic continue to take place even at present days.

The facts, however, are quite far from what is generally known or believed to be true. Many stories and myths have been created by writers through sheer imagination which they used uncontrolled to draw publicity to their books. In many cases, the facts got blurred. Many theories, controversies and counter arguments have come up over the years challenging the mysteries that created fear psychosis among people since ages.

How did it all start?

The abnormalities on the sea were first noticed in 1950 by Edward Jones in the daily newspaper Miami Herald. However, the mystery started catching wide-scale attention in 1952, when George Sand wrote in Fate magazine about incidents like Flight-19, a training flight of five torpedo bomber planes, which went missing during a routine training session in 1945 and never returned. Following, several authors wrote about various other mysterious incidents in the triangle area. While some of such reports were without much substance, several incidents had actually occurred and remained unexplained. The words around the mystery started spreading fast, and soon Bermuda Triangle was a reality, at least in the minds of millions all over the world.

Defying 70 years of fevered speculation, a skeptical scientist has dared to declare that the mystery of the [Bermuda Triangle](#) has been 'solved' by claiming there was no mystery in the first place. [Karl Kruszelnicki](#) has insisted the reason why so many ships and planes vanish without trace in the area between [Bermuda](#), Florida, [Puerto Rico](#) is nothing to do with aliens or fire-crystals from the lost city of Atlantis. Instead, the Australian scientist 'revealed', the high number of [disappearances](#) is explained by nothing more supernatural than plain old human error plus bad weather and the fact that lots of planes and ships enter that area of the Atlantic Ocean.

Cases and testimonies:

Flight 19 disappearance: this still remains as one of the most mysterious cases on the Bermuda Triangle. The name is given to the Five TBM Avenger bomber planes, and it also came known as the Lost Patrol. The planes took off on December 5th, 1945 from the Naval base at Florida. The planes never returned, and the final report that the US Navy gave showed “unknown reasons” as the cause of disappearance.

The flight consisted on the five training planes that were led by Commander Charles Taylor; the planes were designed to bomb and destroy enemy submarines. In all the planes, there were other 13 trainees, who went for their routine training session.

It was 2:10 pm when the planes took off from the Naval Air Station one after another on December 5, and it was a clear day. The path they were supposed to follow was to fly into the sea and towards the East for 56 miles, to Hens & Chicken Shoals to practice bombings. Then they would fly other 67 miles east, and to the Bahamas. They would turn north and move other 73 miles and then head over to the Naval base again. This way, they would cover a triangular area over the sea.

Taylor sent a message to the tower at about 3:30 pm, saying his compass was malfunctioning and he was around some islands in South Florida. He said he didn't fly east due to the compass problems. The command he was given was to immediately fly to Miami. However, he was wrong, as he actually flew to the East as planned, so he ended up moving towards the North and further into the sea.

At 3:45 pm he talked again, saying “cannot see land, seem to be off course”. One of the trainees was caught saying “if we would just fly west, we would go home”. He was right.

It wasn't the first time Taylor got lost. He was lost other three times during World War II, and had to ditch his plane to the sea so he could be rescued. Also, he had poor knowledge of the area. This may be a turn to this story.

At 4:45, Taylor was instructed to give control to one of his trainees, which apparently he didn't do. By 5:50, the flight was spotted on the radar at east of New Smyrna Beach, Florida. However, communication was poor and there was no way to pass their location to the crew, and the planes were low in fuel.

The last transmission of the flight 19 was at 7:04 pm. At 7:27 pm, two Martin Marine planes, which could also land on water, were sent to look for the five planes. The planes looked all night and during the next day, but there was no sign of the TBM Avengers. The rescue planes were supposed to meet at the search zone, but the second Mariner never showed up either.

Mary Celeste –The Ghost Ship: it was originally called The Amazon, when it was built on 1861 in Canada. On December 4, 1872, this ship was found without a

single person on board, even when the ship was still sailing. She was heading towards the Strait of Gibraltar, and off the coast of Portugal, the crew was experienced, and there was good weather.

It seemed as if a bad spirit had taken over the ship, as it had many changes in ownership and had many misadventures. Her first owner, Robert McLellan, fell ill and died. She suffered several damages under John Parker, costing him the ownership. The ship had to be repaired again after the first Atlantic crossing after it collided with another ship. None of her owner gained any profit, and many owners were actually left bankrupt.

After several repairs made by her new owner James Winchester, the Mary Celeste was appointed for a trip from New York to Genoa, Italy. The captain was Benjamin Briggs, a very experienced sailor man who had his wife and child on board, too. The ship departed on November 7, 1872. She carried 1701 barrels of raw alcohol and had full insurance.

After almost a month of her sail, the Dei Gratia found the Mary Celeste on the coast of Portugal. The ship looked abandoned but still under sail. The crew was very experienced and they had enough food for six months.

The most understandable explanation was that the ship fell in hands of the North African pirates, who operated on this area. They could've killed all the crew and then threw them to the sea. However, there hadn't been reports of piracy for more than one decade, there were no signs of violence, and they spared all valuable possessions of the crew members.

Fiction theories

More than 50 ships and 20 planes have disappeared in the Bermuda Triangle over the last century, and there is no single theory that can explain all disappearances. The planes and ships have been victims to different circumstances and situations while cruising over the triangle area and were in different physical locations.

One of those theories is the Methane Gas Theory, which is known to exist below the ocean floor trapped in the sediments in form of methane hydrates. If such gas finds its way out and starts rising through the water can reduce the density of water in that area so ships passing over that area can sink in no time. Such gas release can also create explosions and saturate the atmosphere with methane gas causing planes to crash.

Another theory is that from time to time a rift in space-time opens up in the Bermuda Triangle, and that planes and ships that are traveling the area at this time are lost in it.

Also it's said that from the satellites there has been seen strange hexagonal clouds that are capable of blasting winds to the ocean below at huge speeds. Planes and ships under such cloud can sink in no time.

Also some theories point to the Aliens, that electromagnetic fields near Bermuda Triangle area attract alien UFOs to the area and aliens abduct planes and ships for never been seen again.

About the electromagnetic fields below Bermuda Triangle also it's said that they attract planes and ships to the bottom of the ocean and there they disappear. These theories can include portals, the Atlantis, geomagnetic anomalies, etc.

Portal theories say that when ships and planes pass through there is a supernatural feature which opens a vortex or a portal that may take planes and ships to another dimension and other time line, etc.

The Bermuda Triangle is one of the biggest mysteries of the earth that may have a logic explanation or may be the exception of what we now could be possible in our planet. All anomalies that happen in Bermuda Triangle that make planes and ships disappear and never been seen again could be the discovery of new climates, species, places, also scientific developments like portals or time traveling, etc.

Fiction vs nonfiction:

After all of what we've learned about the Bermuda Triangle, there are two main things that can be said regarding this mystery.

1. There have been many disappearances and it is almost impossible to impute all of them to bad weather or human mistakes. In most cases, crews were experienced and weather was all right, but the planes and ships still disappeared. The ones that weren't like that, for all of them to be attributed to the same two causes? That's just an immense coincidence that cannot be thought of.
2. However, the many fiction theories that circle this mystery are almost impossible to prove, or have even been proved wrong in other circumstances. Still, several theories show at least one scientific basis, and they might actually be possible without the necessity of having great imagination.

Because of this, we may say that the Bermuda Triangle is not just some speculation, but that there is actually something off going in this area. What is wrong here? We probably won't know for sure right now, but the strongest and most probable theories would be the following:

- Time to time a rift in space-time opens up in the Bermuda Triangle, and that planes and ships that are traveling the area at this time are lost in it.
- It's said that from the satellites there has been seen strange hexagonal clouds that are capable of blasting winds to the ocean below at huge speeds. Planes and ships under such cloud can sink in no time.
- Some theories point to the Aliens, that electromagnetic fields near Bermuda Triangle area attract alien UFO's to the area and aliens abduct planes and ships for never been seen again.

Conclusions

- Even if the Bermuda Triangle is real or not, people know that in some part of the Atlantic Ocean there have been mysterious disappearances of some ships and planes that may be caused by a supernatural force, a climate phenomenon or human mistake.
- For now, the Bermuda Triangle is an unexplainable phenomenon for us, but maybe farther studies will suggest a solution to this mystery and make it something common.
- People's imagination gets into the point of organizing amazing events to their concepts, especially from movies so they start making conclusions with no, or little, scientific basis.
- Scientists have used their logic and have studied climate to determine what may be the scientific and real causes for the disappearances; however, they haven't been able to establish a specific reason.