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## cold war timeline Star Trek timeline

Posted by Timo S Saloniemi - 2008/09/14 19:27

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Forgive me if I do not use quotes. I am pulling this from memory and would have it listed as general statements instead of direct quotes. In Space Seed, Spock does say that in the late 1990's a group of these young supermen took control. But in the same seen he also says records of that time period are sketchy at best. Adding would you reveal to a war weary world that some 80 or 90 of these young supermen were still unaccounted for. With the statement that the records of that time period are sketchy at best, could allow the actual time for Khan to be shifted about 100 years from the 1990 stated in the TOS episode after further research. Within the framework of TOS, certainly. But the sketchy records in the later shows prove to include near-complete family records for the cryo-stored not-quite-celebrities from the 1980s in TNG The Neutral Zone ; the complete works of Dixon Hill; and just about every little detail of the Bell Riots, including (misattributed) photos. So sketchy either has to mean that the material existed in great detail but had simply not been sorted out by the time of Space Seed , or that there were real lacunae in it but those only affected very short periods of time, not an entire century. To be sure, all these detailed historical records we hear about are from the time after Space Seed . Perhaps time-travel missions like the one Kirk pulled in Assignment: Earth were crucial in getting the sketchy records clarified? Perhaps there was nothing sketchy about the past after these missions? A whole century's worth of history or more could have been completely rewritten, and the rewrite accepted as the uncontested truth from there on. Timo Saloniemi

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Maybe it was a limited exchange of nukes, plus some bio-tech warfare ala The Stand that wiped out many urban populations. The safest place was in the rural mountains until either a cure was developed or, if it was an organic disease, the virus or bacteria all died out due to lack of hosts. Would explain the intact cities with all the familiar pre-21st century landmark buildings. Then again, there's a concept for the war that would leave the cities completely untouched, even by bioweapons. If we bundle up WWII and the Eugenics Wars, we have a source of sorts for the motivations of the conflict, and for its nature. Proponents of eugenics would surely target the unworthy , perhaps killing millions or poor people in remote areas while deliberately protecting the worthy in their gleaming cities. The weapons used would be hunger and disease and adverse weather and pollution, with bullets and bombs only applied in countries that did not matter internationally. Such a massacre could even remain clandestine for the most part, leading to confusion about the actual death toll or the timespan of killing. People who opposed the eugenics proponents would perhaps abandon the cities and run for the hills, but would have limited means to fight back. The conflict could then perhaps culminate in somebody getting fed up with the slaughter and giving the city-folks their own medicine, leveling a limited number of cities with nuclear weapons. Hence, a neat 37 million dead, a short not a nuclear holocaust period of combat, but only from a certain point of view. This could work dramatically in the Trek context - the use of hunger and disease as weapons in the late 20th and early 21st centuries would sound semi-plausible to those who want to see Trek as taking place in our timeline/universe. Eco-weapons would also be a fashionable subject for the early 21st century audience. And the sinister workings in the background would be classic scifi material for all audiences. The final catharsis of a fair-and-square nuclear shootout would be good for drama as well. Best of all, none of it would have to affect the adventures of our Trek heroes, unless they happened to live in the brief years (months? minutes?) of the actual shootout part. They'd see nothing amiss in 1996 or 2015... Timo Saloniemi

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What was the status of th Eugenics Wars in the Voyager episode, where the crew travels back to the 1990's? Not being fought on the beaches of California as of 1996 AD. We didn't really get to see any newsstands, though. (Would have been cool to see a fake CNN piece on the wars when the Voyager crew monitored Earth TV transmissions!) The briefly glimpsed model of a DY-type ship in Rain Robinson's room suggests that this tech actually existed in the 1990s, or was about to exist in the next few years. It would be \*really\* odd for a project represented by this model to come to fruition only a hundred years later - one would assume that all the aesthetics of the craft would change even if the century-old concept was retained. Timo Saloniemi

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Posted by Richard Brown - 2008/09/14 19:27

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Posted by GeneK - 2008/09/14 19:27

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I have heard that TPTB have chafed under some of the restrictions that Roddenberry's estate placed on future Trek productions and set Enterprise earlier in the timeline to work around them. You've heard wrong. Roddenberry and his estate have no ability to place any restrictions at all on Trek, it's owned lock, stock and barrel by Paramount. The only influence Roddenberry ever had on Trek's development after he sold the concept was what he did with it when he had active control of production and what influence his pronouncements had on what the fans would or would not accept. To a great extent TPTB made an effort to avoid offending him when he was alive because if he'd gone direct to the fans over something he opposed it could have been financially harmful to the franchise, but he's gone now, and all we can do is theorize about what he might think and say about something if he were here. It's \*possible\* that there's still enough fear of how Trek's fan base would react to a major revision of Trek that TPTB might try to finesse it in the way you suggest, but I can't say that anything they've done so far makes me think they're very worried about that. GeneK

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Posted by Chris Basken - 2008/09/14 19:27

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very worried about that. I think Roddenberry, while he was still active in the show, had a lot of pull over what

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happened with TNG too. But once he stepped down he probably lost it. As for TPTB and fear

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As for TPTB and fear

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and wouldn't raise a stink over bad stories because it's science fiction. All the more to lament his passing, I guess...

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Posted by Dwayne Allen Day - 2008/09/14 19:27

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years. Perhaps we could simply say that the world was much more factionated in the Trek universe than in ours in the 20th century? Can you say factionated if it's not really a word? D

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Posted by Paul Stowe - 2008/09/14 19:27

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I think Roddenberry, while he was still active in the show, had a lot of pull over what happened with TNG too. But once he stepped down he probably lost it. Roddenberry directly controlled the first two seasons of TOS, TMP and TNG up until his health forced him to withdraw. While he was alive, TPTB ran many of their ideas past him to be blessed, for precisely the reasons I mentioned earlier, his ability to influence the attitudes of fans with his opinions. As for TPTB and fear

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Posted by Mark Whitehead - 2008/09/14 19:27

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Glory, we avoided a nuclear holocaust on the level suggested in ST:FC.

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I recently rewatched some TOS episodes as well as episodes from more recent series and I have some questions about the established Star Trek timeline for 20th - 21st century. Is there a version somewhere on the web? What, if any, are the major continuity issues in the Star Trek timeline? How does the Enterprise timeline on startrek.com fit into this? <http://www.startrek.com/launch/keyevents.asp> It doesn't seem to acknowledge the Eugenic Wars, for instance. What is the established Star Trek timeline for the 20th and 21st centuries? Thanks for any insight! Best Regards, Janne

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As the Voyager episode Future's End , when they traveled back to the 1990's was set in the present , and I, for one, have never heard of a company called Chronowerx (sp?), I would have to think that the entire ST universe, and therefore the timeline is in a parallel universe. Chronowerx was founded on technology that Henry Starling salvaged from the wreck of Braxton's ship when it crashed on Earth in 1967 after his initial attack on Voyager. Since the episode ends up unraveling the chain of events that began with that encounter, his ship never went back in time, never crashed, and Starling never found it. In the timeline that resulted, Starling probably ended up running a computer repair shop in Pasadena... GeneK

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Posted by Keith Morrison - 2008/09/14 19:27

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But there's a saying quality is sometimes hard to define but you know it when you see it. Shows like B5, Stargate SG-1 had/have it, and its the attention to the details (and thread continuity) as well as NOT insulting the intelligence of the audience will inconceivably lame excuses to resolve story plots. The continuity is the big thing. For not having a tight story arc which B5 did, SG-1 does a marvelous job with continuity because the continuity allows you to tell deeper

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stories. Not everything need be solved in an hour and the audience can stand the bad guy getting away if you know that he or she will probably show up again. That, and actually allowing the technology of the show to change, give a reason why it changes and show the results of said change. That's one of Trek's issues. The shows exists in a form of stasis where things aren't allowed much latitude for change.

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Posted by Mike Dicenso - 2008/09/14 19:27

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happen until the 2080s: On Earth

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Posted by Warrior - 2008/09/14 19:27

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Since the day of our first contact with Vulcans is rapidly approaching, and since we have to kill 600 million people in a nuclear war at least ten years before that, not to mention send manned ships outside the orbit of Pluto and to the surface of Mars... It will be very, very problematic for the real world to keep up with the Trek timeline, and vice versa. It's not just a matter of ignoring one or two minor events like unfought local wars or undiscovered scientific facts or unlaunched space missions. It's a whole different world out there. Most sci-fi writers, in general, are simply too optimistic about their storyworlds' timelines. For example, Data said that TV wasn't around much after the 22nd century, and that the sport of baseball would come to an official end in the year 2240. How likely do those things seem? Trek should simply have added another millennia to its time estimates. Overall, most sci-fi authors should do something on that order, and would do well in general to take their lead from Frank Herbert when it comes to forming timelines.

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