**We Never Went to the Moon - William Charles Kaysing July 31, 1922 – April 21, 2005 Wikipedia Jan 2015**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill\_Kaysing

was a writer best known for claiming that the six [Apollo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_program) [Moon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon) landings between July 1969 and December 1972 were [hoaxes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoax). He is regarded as the initiator of the [Moon hoax movement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories).

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**Education and employment history**

Kaysing joined the [United States Navy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Navy) in 1940 as a [midshipman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Midshipman) and eventually was sent to an officers training school which led to his attending [University of Southern California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Southern_California).[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-biography-1) In 1949, he received his [Bachelor of Arts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bachelor_of_Arts) in [English](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_studies) from the [University of Redlands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Redlands). He later worked for a time as a [furniture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Furniture) maker, before working at [Rocketdyne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocketdyne) (a division of [North American Aviation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_American_Aviation) and later of [Rockwell International](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockwell_International)) from 1956 to 1963, where [Saturn V](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saturn_V) [rocket engines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocket_engine) were built. Kaysing was the company's head of technical publications but was not trained as an engineer or scientist.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-2)

Kaysing worked at Rocketdyne starting on February 13, 1956, as senior technical writer. On September 24, 1956, he became a service analyst; starting September 15, 1958, he worked as a service engineer; and starting on October 10, 1962, as a publications analyst. On May 31, 1963, he resigned for personal reasons.[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-3)

**Charges that the Moon landing was a hoax**

Main article: [Moon landing conspiracy theories](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories)

Kaysing asserted that during his tenure at Rocketdyne he was privy to documents pertaining to the [Mercury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Mercury), [Gemini](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Gemini), [Atlas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlas_%28missile%29), and Apollo programs, arguing that one does not need an engineering or science degree to determine that a hoax was being perpetrated. Even before July 1969, he had "a hunch, an intuition, ... a true conviction" and decided that he did not believe that anyone was going to the Moon.[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-Kaysing_2002.2C_p._7-4) Kaysing wrote a book titled *We Never Went to the Moon: America's Thirty Billion Dollar Swindle*,[[5]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-5) which was [self-published](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-publishing) in 1976.[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-6) The book was republished in 2002 by Health Research Books. In his book, Kaysing introduced arguments which he said proved the Moon landings were faked.

Claims in the book and subsequent sources include:

* [NASA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA) lacked the technical expertise to put a man on the Moon.
* The absence of stars in lunar surface photographs.[[7]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-7)
* Unexplained optical anomalies in the photographs taken on the Moon.[[8]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-8)
* The absence of blast craters beneath the [Lunar Modules](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_Lunar_Module). The rocket engines of the Lunar Modules should have generated an enormous dust cloud near their landing sites the final seconds of descent.[[9]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-9)
* The mysterious death of [Thomas Ronald Baron](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Baron), a quality control and safety inspector for North American Aviation.
* The Dutch papers had questions regarding the "authenticity" of the Moon landings.[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-Kaysing_2002.2C_p._7-4)

Kaysing also claimed that NASA staged both the [Apollo 1](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_1) fire and the [Space Shuttle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle) [*Challenger*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle_Challenger) [accident](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle_Challenger_disaster), deliberately [murdering](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murder) the astronauts on board. He suggested that NASA might have learned that these astronauts were about to expose the conspiracy and needed to guarantee their silence. A vocal advocate of [conspiracy theories](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conspiracy_theories), Kaysing believed there is a high-level conspiracy involving the [Central Intelligence Agency](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Intelligence_Agency), [Federal Reserve](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Reserve_System), [Internal Revenue Service](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_Revenue_Service) and other government agencies to [brainwash](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mind_control) the American public, poison their food supply and control the [media](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_media).[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-10) He also implied that the death of Thomas Baron in a traffic accident with a train a week after he testified before the [United States Congress](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Congress), and the disappearance of his 500-page report on the Apollo 1 fire, was not an accident. He was also a participant in the [Fox](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fox_Broadcasting_Company) documentary *Conspiracy Theory: Did We Land on the Moon?*,[[11]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-11) which aired on February 15, 2001.

On August 29, 1996, Kaysing filed a [defamation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defamation) lawsuit in [Santa Cruz County](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Cruz_County,_California) Superior Court against astronaut [Jim Lovell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Lovell) for calling his claims "wacky" in an article by [Rafer Guzmán](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Rafer_Guzm%C3%A1n&action=edit&redlink=1) for [*Metro Silicon Valley*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Silicon_Valley).[[12]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-12)[[13]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-13) Lovell is quoted:

*"The guy is wacky. His position makes me feel angry. We spent a lot of time getting ready to go to the moon. We spent a lot of money, we took great risks, and it's something everybody in this country should be proud of."*

The case was dismissed in 1997.[[14]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-14)

**Kaysing's theory of how the Moon landing was faked**

**Original theory from *We Never Went to the Moon: America's Thirty Billion Dollar Swindle* (1976)**

The launch preparation was normal. Since the [Rocketdyne F-1](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocketdyne_F-1) engines in the first stage of the [Saturn V](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saturn_V) rocket were "totally unreliable," a cluster of "five booster engines of the more dependable B-1 type as used in the C-1 cluster for the Atlas missile"[[15]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-15) were secretly installed, one inside each of the Saturn V's five F-1s. The five smaller rocket engines together would produce only one-half the [thrust](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thrust) of a single F-1. The public see the astronauts enter the Apollo spacecraft, but then they disembark before liftoff via a high-speed elevator to a duplicate of the spacecraft. During this transition period, [television](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Television) coverage is "lost accidentally." The rocket launch appears normal, although the weight of the fueled Saturn V on the launchpad is less than a one-twentieth of its original design specification, according to Kaysing. The second and third stages of the Saturn V are equipped with "mock" [Rocketdyne J-2](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocketdyne_J-2) engines. The third stage puts Apollo into a [parking orbit](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parking_orbit). The astronauts are flown to a Moon set in [Nevada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nevada), 80 miles from [Las Vegas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Las_Vegas). Fake signals from Apollo are sent to tracking stations. The Apollo spacecraft is jettisoned into the south [Polar Sea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polar_seas). The astronauts are comfortable in Nevada, free to wander about Las Vegas with [showgirls](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Showgirl), except for some check-ins with [Mission Control](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christopher_C._Kraft_Jr._Mission_Control_Center). They partake of the excellent [buffet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffet) served on the 24th floor of the [Sands Hotel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sands_Hotel_and_Casino) and watch color television broadcasts from a private [Telstar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telstar) satellite. The astronauts fake the landing and moonwalk on the Moon set. The simulated reentry of the [Apollo Command Module](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_Command/Service_Module) is really a drop from a [Lockheed C-5 Galaxy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lockheed_C-5_Galaxy) transport aircraft; the astronauts are flown to [Hawaii](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawaii), where they enter the Apollo Command Module, which is dropped out of sight of the recovery ship.

**Revised theory from *Conspiracy Theory: Did We Land on the Moon?* (2001)**

Kaysing:

*"The astronauts were launched with the Saturn V. Then, in order to account for their disappearance, they simply orbited the Earth for eight days and in the interim they showed these fake pictures of the astronauts on the Moon. But on the eighth day the command console separated from the vehicle and descended to Earth as, of course, was shown in the films."*

**Legacy**

Kaysing has inspired numerous people who do not believe the Moon landings were real. He encouraged [Ralph René](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Ren%C3%A9) to write "NASA Mooned America!"[[16]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-16) after René decided that he had done extensive research to likewise prove the landings were faked.[[*citation needed*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

Kaysing's daughter, Wendy L. Kaysing, has stated that along with Kaysing's nephew, Dietrich von Schmausen, she hopes to one day write a book about her father. This book is not to reiterate Kaysing's hoax claims but rather talk about her father as a person. This will include quotations, reflections, incidents, philosophies and goals set by Kaysing during his lifetime. Though no specific plans for a release date were given, the authors have stated the working title for this book will be *Life and Times with "Wild" Bill Kaysing, the Fastest Pen in the West*.[[17]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kaysing#cite_note-17)

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**See also**

* [*Astronauts Gone Wild*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astronauts_Gone_Wild)
* [Moon landing conspiracy theories](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories)
* [Ralph René](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Ren%C3%A9)
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**External links**

* [Bill Kaysing Tribute Website](http://www.billkaysing.com/)
* [A February 16, 1996, radio interview](http://www.nardwuar.com/vs/bill_kaysing/) with [Nardwuar the Human Serviette](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nardwuar_the_Human_Serviette)
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* ["Bezos Expeditions recovers pieces of Apollo 11 rockets"](http://news.cnet.com/8301-10797_3-57575364-235/bezos-expeditions-recovers-pieces-of-apollo-11-rockets/) by Jay Greene for [CNET](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CNET) (March 20, 2013), contradicting Kaysing's published claim that genuine Rocketdyne F-1 engines were not used.
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* [*The Truth Behind the Moon Landings: Stranger Than Fiction (2003) (TV)*](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0425571/) at the [Internet Movie Database](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Movie_Database)