

"THE GREAT APES AND ASSORTED MONKEY BUSINESS"

By PAT/SALTY

"EVERYTHING'S THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT IT IS", A FAMOUS SAYING GOES.

I MODIFY THAT SOMEWHAT BY ADDING; ALMOST EVERYTHING IS ALSO ITS OPPOSITE.

TAKE MONKEYS, FOR INSTANCE.

OR - MORE EXACTLY - THE GREAT APES, EVEN IN THIS, THE GENERAL PUBLIC'S PERCEPTIONS ARE JUST PLAIN WRONG.

WHY? I'LL TELL YOU WHY; WITH PEOPLE, GORILLAS HAVE A FEARSOME REPUTATION.

THIS HAS BEEN SO SINCE THE EARLY 1800'S, WHEN THE WEST "DISCOVERED" THEM.

CHIMPANZEES, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE THE "POPULARITY VOTE"; AS CUTE, FUNNY, WONDERFUL, ETC.

IN POINT OF FACT, HOWEVER, NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH; IN FACT, THE EXACT OPPOSITE IS THE CASE! IN TRUTH (YOU ALL REMEMBER TRUTH, RIGHT?)

GORILLAS ARE THE GENTLEST OF ALL THE GREAT APES. SHY. NON COMBATIVE. NON CONFRONTATIONAL. HUGE WIMPS, SOME WOULD SAY.

WHEREAS CHIMPANZEES CAN BE REAL BASTARDS; SPITEFUL, MEAN, NASTY, AND EVEN OUTRIGHT DANGEROUS.

GORILLAS, WHEN ENCROACHED UPON AND WHEN THEY FEEL THREATENED IN THE WILD, BLUFF ATTACK (BEAT THEIR CHESTS, REAR UP AND CHARGE WILDLY BUT THEN ALWAYS PULL UP TO A DEAD STOP →)

(2)

BEFORE CONTACT OF ANY KIND IS MADE)
BUT WHAT DO CHIMPANZES DO IN THE WILD
- OR IN CAPTIVITY - WHEN THEY ARE
ENCROACHED UPON? They swing, kick, bite,
They throw things; STONES, ROCKS,
BRANCHES, EVEN THEIR OWN EXCRETMENT,
AND THEY DON'T BLUFF, EITHER.
THERE ARE HUNDREDS, IF NOT THOUSANDS,
OF RECORDED CHIMP ATTACKS ON PEOPLE
OVER THE YEARS.

YET NEVER ONE RECORDED ATTACK UPON
A PERSON BY A GORILLA - EVER -
DISPITE ALL THEIR FEARSOME REPUTATION!
INDEED, ANY GORILLA ATTACK UPON A
PERSON WOULD^{BE} LETHAL CONSIDERING
THEIR TREMENDOUS SIZE AND POWER.

OF COURSE - JUST LIKE PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS
ABOUT THINGS SUCH AS WORLD WAR TWO -
YEARS OF MASS MEDIA PORTRAYALS ARE A
MAIN CAUSE OF ALL THE PUBLICS
MISINFORMATION; GORILLAS PORTRAYED
AS DANGEROUS, FEARSOME KILLERS AND
JUNGLE THREATS; CHIMPANZES PORTRAYED
AS TARZANS CUTE LITTLE COMPANIONS
AND AS ROLLER SKATING LITTLE CLOWNS, ETC.
BUT THATS ALL MEDIA BULLSHIT!

FANTASY THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH REALITY.
INDEED, ILL GO FURTHER; THE GENERAL
PUBLICS PERCEPTIONS AND BELIEFS
CONCERNING SUCH THINGS - CONCERNING
A GREAT MANY THINGS, IN FACT - HAVE LITTLE
OR NOTHING TO DO WITH HISTORY OR REALITY. X