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Entertainment Section, page D4

Independence Day no hit with believer in extraterrestrials

MONTREAL (CP) -- 'Independence Day' may be off to an earth-shaking start at the box office, but it hasn't impressed Rael, a self-proclaimed extraterrestrial amabassador to Earth.

Rael, author of a book called 'Space Aliens Took Me To Their Planet', says the movie gives the wrong idea about the mild-mannered beings who inhabit another planetary system.

'Independence Day' pits patriotic Americans against alien invaders who turn cities into trash.

But extraterrestrials wouldn't hurt a fly, says Rael, who claims he linked with them in 1973.

"It's terrible," said the middle-aged man, born in France with the name Claude Vorilhon.

"We shouldn't apply our models of violence to beings from space. They're full of peace and love. They created us."

'Independence Day' is meant to promote fear and dispair, said the former auto racing journalist.

"Now that they've eliminated the Russian menace, the Americans are making up a space enemy", he said.

"This movie was financed by the CIA and the U.S. Army. It aims to frighten people so they'll keep believing they need weapons to protect themselves."

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