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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Handling the News Media: What MUFON Members

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <updates@globalserve.net>
Date: Sun, 29 Dec 1996 06:08:32 -0500
Fwd Date: Sun, 29 Dec 1996 06:08:32 -0500
Subject: Re: Handling the News Media: What MUFON Members

>I must reply to this "masterpiece of misinformation" that the writer is
>trying to pass the buck of the poor reporting of UFO by the media to the
>source where it actually belongs.....people within so-called UFO
>organizations who have no idea of what they are looking for or looking at.

>Now, as a journalist, broadcaster and parapsychologist, I too am
>concerned with the misinformation that gets to the media and the manner in
>which members of "ufology reporting clubs" gather their information and
>distribute it with their own hidden agendas.

[snip]

This is classic 'Pot Calling Kettle Black'..... McConnell
is a the "journalist, broadcaster and parapsychologist"
who boot-legged phoney 'Aurora' photos from Graham Birdsall's
'UFO Magazine', printed them in his 'newspaper', and spent
a full half-hour rhapsodizing about them on his 'radio show'.
This while apparently knowing their real source.

>On one show, a Director of an International UFO Organization who was
>identified in a recent book as having video tape footage of the
>Brookhaven, Long Island incident, told me that in order to try and get to
>the bottom of the Area 51 mystery, he actually trespassed on private
>property and was proud of it. He was a person who was saying that the
>conspiracy of the Area 51 was against the law in the manner that the
>government was hiding the truth from their citizens. I asked him, "so,
>inorder to prove that the government is breaking the law and that there is
>a conspiracy, it's alright for you to trespass on the private property of
>the US Government there by breaking the law?" There was a pause and no
>answer was brought forthwith.

[snip]

I was a participant in that 'show' - referred to above.
McConnell is a former policeman. Once a cop, always a cop.
Breaking the Law!? "...he actually trespassed {sic} on private
property..."! At that point in the 'show' his focus and
attention were completely lost. Actually, what Tom Theofanous
did answer, smugly and with a huge grin on his face was "YUP!"

Being a forty or so year radio veteran myself I have to say
that as a self-styled 'broadcaster' McConnell couldn't organize
a party in a brewery. He doesn't listen to his guests. He's too
busy thinking about either another 'interesting' question or
un-connected observation, leaping from one topic to another with
no real comprehension of what interviewing is about. Tom and I left
that night determined not to involve ourselves further with 'Mr.X'.
He displays an abysmal inability to differentiate between what is
important to showcase and what is not.

As to the 'book' that McConnell refers to... I won't demean the
authors who post here by mentioning either its title or so-called

writer. Suffice to say that 99% of it is pure unadulterated fiction. When we were sent a promo-copy several of us sat around just howling with laughter at the 'facts' about Carp, Long Island, Tom's doctoral degrees and the greed and naivete of the publisher.

As to having "a copy of the Brookhaven, Long Island tape", so what? There are many UFO researchers who've seen the tape. It's inconclusive. What does that have to do with the price of bacon?

[snippage]

>Rob McConnell,
>Executive Producer of THE INTERNATIONAL PARANORMAL BROADCAST NETWORK,
>Host of the IPBN Syndicated show THE 'X',
>Publisher of THE 'X' Newspaper.

Thanks Rob McConnell for yet another of your invaluable contributions to UFO research.

ebk

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