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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Resolving a Case of Mistaken Identity

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <updates@globalserve.net>
Date: Mon, 11 Aug 1997 02:41:07 -0400
Fwd Date: Mon, 11 Aug 1997 02:41:07 -0400
Subject: Re: Resolving a Case of Mistaken Identity

>Date: Sun, 10 Aug 1997 23:10:12 -0400
>From: Gary <galevy@pipeline.com>
>To: UFO UpDate <updates@globalserve.net>
>Subject: Resolving a Case of Mistaken Identity

>Resolving a Case of Mistaken Identity

>On Friday night August 8 I posted "Evaluating UFO Scenarios
>Using Counterintelligence" part 4a of UFOsearch essay #9:
>Science, Counterintelligence and UFOs. When I opened my email
>box on August 10 I found this preface to the essay by
>our list administrator.

>[It has been brought to my attention that 'Val German'
> is, in all probability, aka 'Val Valerian', aka 'John
> Grace', formerly associated with John Lear. The following
> should be read with that information in mind - ebk]

The 'list administrator' was given some information
pertaining to the author of the series - it was plugged
into the next article in that series when it arrived on
the same evening.

>As I had not been contacted regarding this question of
>Val Germann being confused with John Grace and Val Valerian
>prior to release of the essay to the list I had no
>opportunity to address this issue and prevent this potentially
>embarrassing situation.

Potentially embarrassing for whom? This issue could have
been addressed quite some time ago by Val Germann who on
Sunday, 10 Aug 1997 23:17:34 -0400 via Gary Alevy, wrote:

>As I perused the "NARG" material I noticed that Mr. Grace was
>sometimes said to write under the name of "Val Valerian," the
>name of a 1950's contactee, or actual alien, some said, who was
>ensconced in the Pentagon! Oh, well. Years later, when I began
>posting to UseNet, I wondered if anyone would bring up this
>"similarity" in names. No one did. Then last year I was
>informed that in Volume III of Jerome Clark's UFO ENCYCLOPEDIA I
>was IDENTIFIED with John Grace and Val Valerian, that is, my name
>was said to be another pseudonym for Mr. Grace. I have tried to
>correct this impression by writing to the publisher of the
>ENCYCLOPEDIA, with what result I do not know.

If, as Val says, he has known about this "impression" for a while

it could have been handled publicly, via the Net, sooner.

Jerry Clark is a subscriber to this List and doubtlessly has been following the related threads. The subject of the misinformation could be taken up with him, here on the List.

Gary continued:

>2 - I was disappointed to see the essay prefaced with
> remarks that could give the impression of disparaging
> the author and the Science, Counterintelligence and UFOs
> series in the eyes of the readership of the list.

Had this matter been handled sooner - we would not now be discussing this.

> I wish that the the article could have been held for
> posting while fact checking was done; I was not contacted,
> nor was the author.

This List facilitates the discussion and publication of information regarding UFO related phenomena including that relating to subscribers to UpDates.

I understand what Gary is saying but the onus is not on the 'List Administrator' to conduct "fact checking" - that is part of the List's process.

>3 - It is also unfortunate that the archived version of
> the article contains the remarks in question and they
> may prove difficult to remove.

Yes, it is unfortunate - but also fortuitous that this and subsequent discussion will also be archived.

And finally, to quote Val Germann:

>At the end of the day none of this is very important. That is,
>those who CAN do are going to DO what they are going to do,
>regardless of what anyone says. Though the sun may be shining on
>Mr. Clark's side of the ufological street, it has been raining
>pretty steadily on mine.

Val, none of the work that any of us do is easy. We all have moments that we'd rather forget about. But they are only moments. The most recent have served to bring misinformation about you to your peers attention in a public forum. Now we know.

Errol

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