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Location: [Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1997](#) -> [Aug](#) -> Re: The Roswell Quagmire - An Analogy

## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: The Roswell Quagmire - An Analogy

From: Henny van der Pluijm <hvdp@worldonline.nl>  
Date: Fri, 15 Aug 1997 23:41:01 +0200 (MET DST)  
Fwd Date: Fri, 15 Aug 1997 18:50:13 -0400  
Subject: Re: The Roswell Quagmire - An Analogy

>Date: 14 Aug 97 09:26:04 EDT  
>From: BOB SHELL <76750.2717@CompuServe.COM>  
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>  
>Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: The Roswell Quagmire - An Analogy

>>Date: Wed, 13 Aug 1997 23:08:57 +0200 (MET DST)  
>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>  
>>From: Henny van der Pluijm <hvdp@worldonline.nl>  
>>Subject: The Roswell Quagmire - An Analogy

>Henny,

>You are a genius, sir! Wonderful analogy and highly imaginative.

>Remember the old Indian proverb about the blind men and the elephant??

>Bob

Thanks, Bob

The reason I posted this - for those who didn't get the message - was that no matter how much the statements from witnesses to some event might differ, that doesn't say ANYTHING about the credibility of a case or the witnesses.

This is true for any kind of occurrence that is witnessed by more than one person and is certainly not unique to the UFO field.

Now that doesn't prove anything about Roswell. But I noticed that more than a few contributors to this list assume that just because witness reports vary in this case, the case is flawed. Sorry, folks, that's not how the world works.

I have a feeling that the commentators who assume that all witness reports must corroborate each other word for word, don't have much experience with investigating anything and certainly not with interviewing people. Try to interview three people about a matter and you get three different answers. Interview three people about a sensitive matter and you get three very different answers.

In a case such as Roswell where hundreds of people have been interviewed by dozens of investigators, variation is rampant. Add to that all kinds of uninformed assumptions about the behavior

of the US military and about what kind of military report is relevant or not, and you get a total mess.

Add to that the nonsensical assumption that people are lying constantly about all kinds of things - that includes witnesses as well as the US Air Force! - and you get a stinking rotten quagmire inhabited by lizards and rattle snakes while a few wide eyed staring cuckoos are singing 'cuckoo - cuckoo - cuckoo' until the sun goes under.

Maybe it's better to let the Roswell case rest in peace for some time now. I personally think attention of the UFO field should move on to things like the artefacts in the possession of Dr. Vernon Clark and Linda Moulton and to people like Col. Corso.

The artefacts are hard evidence and you won't get people with a better reputation than Corso for a while. Sadly, Corso has already been tainted by the non-affair of the foreword from Sen. Thurmond and the passage in his book that says that Maj. Marcel was at the Roswell crash scene.

JHC, people! If I didn't live on the other side of the Atlantic I would have phoned Corso months ago about this book and let him explain all the seemingly incredible ingredients in his book.

Maybe William J. Birnes, who wrote the book, was under time pressure and used some assumptions of his own in the book. Maybe Corso was on vacation and couldn't be reached in time and Birnes decided to finish the book anyway before the deadline because the publisher insisted on publishing it before the Roswell festivities. Who knows?

Corso has already explained that it was Birnes who didn't include a lot of documentation because Birnes, as a ghost writer with an audience in mind, gave priority to the story itself. Not because of greed, but because it is his job.

Of course, people who think that the trivialities and miscommunications of the real world don't apply to the UFO field, and that professional people don't have to eat when they write about UFOs, have already dismissed the book as a hoax.

Corso himself has already been accused of concocting the 'scam' just to sell 80,000 books. As if Corso has remotely viewed the success of his book. As if he doesn't have a pension. As if this 82 year old man with totally impeccable credentials and only a few years left to live has suddenly undergone a major character change that only 13 year old adolescents can undergo. As if military oaths don't exist, etc. etc. etc.

Consider for a change that the Pentagon is totally silent about the book, even after the interviews on the national tv networks that Corso did. Consider that his story does corroborate the findings of Linda Moulton Howe and Dr. Vernon Clark about an alien material that allegedly comes from Roswell. (Where is Linda anyway?)

As far as I'm concerned the truth is out, unless proven otherwise, but some people in the UFO field simply don't realise it.

/-----\  
Met vriendelijke groet/Best wishes  
Henny van der Pluijm  
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