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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Mars Face Report, Austin, TX

From: JJ Mercieca <mufor@maltanet.net>
Date: Mon, 01 Dec 1997 11:21:58 +0100
Fwd Date: Mon, 01 Dec 1997 11:22:31 -0500
Subject: Re: Mars Face Report, Austin, TX

Stan McDaniel's rebuttal to Faye Flam's Mars Face article kindly posted to this list by Brian Cuthbertson.

Regards,

JJ Mercieca
Malta UFO Research
<http://www.mufor.org/>

November 30, 1997

Letters to the Editor,
Austin American-Statesman (by fax)

We of the Society for Planetary SETI Research (SPSR) greatly regret the article in the American-Statesman "MARS PROBE TO CHECK THAT FAMILIAR "FACE" (Nov. 27). The tone of the article is quite misleading. Dr. Mark J. Carlotto's presentation of a body of peer-reviewed scientific evidence to a technical seminar at the University of Pennsylvania is inappropriately concatenated with the speculations of tabloids, cults, and "believers." The article gives the erroneous impression that Dr. Carlotto has "followers" that constitute such cultish groups, and that he is out "spreading the word."

Dr. Carlotto has nothing to do with "cults" and "followers." He is one of a number of academically qualified scientists and professionals in our research organization who have carefully studied the data, presented and published peer-reviewed scientific papers, and found by four separate statistical tests that there is a favorable probability for some of the objects on Mars being artificial.

We are especially disturbed by the comments quoted from Dr. Michael Malin, who is not a NASA spokesperson but a private contractor. Dr. Malin has regularly shown that he has a mistaken understanding of Dr. Carlotto's procedures. His statement that if the "Face on Mars" turns out in new higher resolution images to still look like a face, this would prove nothing, is particularly reprehensible. It would appear that the actual "believers" are those in the opposite camp, who will not accept new data unless it suits their preconceived ideas of reality.

Sincerely,

Stanley V. McDaniel

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