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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: UFOs and Counter-Intelligence

From: **Greg Sandow** <GSANDOW@prodigy.net>
Date: Thu, 02 Jan 1997 16:27:51 -0500
Fwd Date: Thu, 02 Jan 1997 17:30:01 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs and Counter-Intelligence

I'm not sure what there is in Frank Drake's bio that should make anyone suspicious.

Should we be worried because he served in the Navy? Does that make him an intelligence operative?

Am I missing something here?

The bio is incomplete, in any case. Drake's currently at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

And about Drake's famous equation, which is supposed to show us how many intelligent civilizations there are in the universe...its main value, I think, is simply to put any number at all on something so unknown. Once you begin to put a number on something, it seems more scientifically legitimate.

But as for the equation getting any results...well, here's Drake's own conclusion, after running the numbers (most of which he had to guess at, of course). I'm quoting from his book, which he tells how he presented his figures at a meeting:

"We've reached a conclusion," I said. "Our best estimate is that there are somewhere between one thousand and one hundred million advanced extraterrestrial civilizations in the Milky Way."

Quite a margin for error, wouldn't you say?

Greg Sandow

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