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UFO UpDates Mailing List

What I did on summer vacation - 1 of 2

From: jvif@spacelab.net (John Velez)
Date: Tue, 8 Jul 1997 15:41:37 -0500
Fwd Date: Sun, 13 Jul 1997 04:45:09 -0400
Subject: What I did on summer vacation - 1 of 2

'What I Did On Summer Vacation'
John Velez

.....
{NOTE: Would anyone receiving this please give it the widest distribution possible. If you do, please be sure to credit UFO UpDates, Toronto,

updates@globalseve.net
as its source. Thank you. JV}

.....
Dedicated to: MM. You were there with a flashlight when I stumbled in the dark. I will love you and cherish our new friendship for all the days I have left in this world. Thank you for sharing some of your profound wisdom with this poor ignorant pilgrim. John

.....
To ALL,

As I sat in the airport in Albuquerque,(New Mexico) awaiting the boarding call for my flight home from the 50th Anniversary Roswell festivities, I was approached by a child of no more than three or four years of age. I was wearing a tee-shirt (the only thing I bought for myself at this orgy of crass commercialism) that depicted an extremely well drawn group of Grey aliens waving in a sort of 'greeting', and it had gotten his attention.

"Those are the aliens," he declared. And without missing a beat he continued in a very 'matter of fact' tone with, "They come for me and they take me. They take me out of my house into that big light outside and they make me a zombie. I can't move!" (He held his little arms out in front of him like Frankenstein and stiffened his little body in order to illustrate it for me.)

I asked him if he was afraid of them, and he replied with a very confident sounding, "No!" Whereupon he spun on his heels and redirected his attention to his slightly older brother (who had been standing close by listening and waiting) so that they could continue a 'running game' that they had been playing.

I was devastated! I had to quickly turn my face to the window so that all of the strangers surrounding me would not see the tears that had begun to well up in my eyes. An abductee from California that I had been sitting and speaking with asked me, "Why are you crying John?" With a massive lump in my throat that barely allowed me to speak, I managed to croak, "He's just a baby!"

She asked me if I was crying for him, or myself. After a brief second of contemplation I answered, "Both of us, ...ALL of us." She then attempted to comfort me by telling me that it was "alright." About how "wonderful" it was that the child's parents (who had been sitting across from us, and who had heard and followed every word of the exchange between myself and their child) were not, "discouraging or denying the boys belief in the aliens." !!!!!!!

Ahh, does anybody see anything wrong (here) in the rather 'cavalier' attitude displayed by my fellow 'abductee'? I was so swept up in emotion that I didn't even respond. I figured, why bother! If she couldn't see all of the myriad and terrible implications of this child's response to me and a mere image of the aliens, then it would just (probably) either go over her head, piss her off or, simply be dismissed as a lack of 'enlightenment' on my part.

She never applied the brakes long enough to question whether (maybe) the parents had coached junior for ugly purposes I wouldn't want to contemplate. Not to mention the psychological issues that the child would have to deal with, whether the experiences are actual or not. She just automatically (assumed) that the experiences were real and worse yet, thought that it was "alright". And she did so without thought or hesitation. I find that alarming. If enough people feel that way then for all intents and purposes the "Invasion" is over. The aliens win, good or bad, this rock and all its inhabitants are theirs. In Spanish its, "No les contestamos" (we will not contest/answer the challenge.)

Toddlers are spontaneous and ALWAYS brutally honest little critters. I know, ... I've raised two to adulthood. I believed the child too, but it didn't stop me from asking all the 'right' questions in my own head. I was upset at ALL of the possible scenarios that could have motivated that sweet, innocent child to say the things he did, and to respond to my tee-shirt in such an unsettling (to me) manner. This experience capped off three days of non-stop breakthrough revelations and learning experiences for me.

The whole of the three days that I spent in Roswell served to crystallize and confirm a great many things for me. Things that had been rumbling around underneath the surface with me for quite some time now. Things, that until now I have been unable to give expression to because I had not clothed them in words. That's what this post is all about.

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'The People'

After almost five years of deep involvement in trying to educate/condition the public about the alien presence on OUR world, I have arrived at the conclusion that THE ONLY THING that will convince people completely is an overt demonstration on the part of the aliens. One that would be undeniable to ALL, and tantamount to an open declaration of their presence here. It is my belief that NOTHING short of (that) will do. It's (sadly) just the way it is, and just about what it's going to take. In the (final) analysis, it really is, "up to them!" (The aliens)

The Roswell celebration was a perfect example of the basic impotence of the UFO community in this regard. With the exception of the presentation of "scientific evidence" that a fragment "allegedly" from the original Roswell crash debris field was of "extraterrestrial origin," (I am using the word 'allegedly' only because Derrel Sims & Co. are not yet prepared to reveal its source) and Linda Moulton Howes' excellent lecture on the mass sighting over Phoenix, Arizona on March 13th of this year, the rest of it was pretty much 'been dere, done dat'!

Although, if anyone from the Harvard hierarchy had attended a 'certain lecture' they would have quickly found themselves in the 'priest defrocking' business. <evil grin> My God, the man is _supposed to be_ an academic, _not_ a New Age priest! Direct quote: " Fifteen seconds with the aliens is equivalent in terms of spiritual growth to fifteen years of meditation." !!! I've done BOTH, he's wrong! And what "study" helped him to arrive at his figures and conclusions? I'm sorry, I believe I missed that one.

"Wow, Velez is really sounding cynical here" I hear some saying. Well, if it is, it's a cynicism based on (first hand) knowledge, disgust with the 'state of affairs' in UFOlogy, and personal (first hand) experience. I've paid my freaking dues twice over.

Most of it isn't really any one individuals fault, it's just the 'nature of the beast.' But it _is_ a position and set of beliefs that I

have arrived at honestly. (As anyone who knows me will testify.)

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'The UFOlogists'

Anyone who attempts to responsibly and carefully research and write about the subject of UFO's must (of necessity) dedicate huge amounts of time, labor, and personal resources to the task. Unless one is 'independantly wealthy' (which few in the field are,) then the necessity of seeking "compensation" for all of the above becomes imperative. People must eat and keep the rain off their heads.

This seeking of compensation in a rather limited market breeds fierce competition for that almighty (and always hard to acquire,) buck! So, what (we) end up with is finger pointing, incessant 'in' fighting, public character assassination and a really strange form of cannibalism which involves eating one's own. The end result for all is, a weakened and highly divided/polarized constituency among the UFO community. I don't want to be a part of that, OR to contribute to it in any way. I am never fond of being referred to as a "ufologist" at any time, or in any sense of the word.

Now I don't care what anybody thinks or says of them as individuals, but while I was in Roswell I watched honest, intelligent, and dedicated people like Kevin Randle, Stan Freidman, (Gentlemen, my apologies for putting your names together in the same sentence!<G>) John Mack, Budd Hopkins, Whitley Strieber, Linda Moulton Howe, Mike Lindemann, etc. etc. etc. going virtually sleepless while running around trying to spread the 'word'. The sad truth is, that rather than unify us, their individual efforts seem only to split people into 'camps'.

Among the abductionists there's the "Mack camp", the "Strieber camp," and the "Hopkins camp." Among the "Roswellians" we have the "Friedman camp," the "Randle camp," and (now) the "Corso camp!"

(I'm too flogging old for "camp" so count me out!)

And this fragmentation, this sub-division among members of the UFO community (whatever the hell that is) continues on and on ad nauseam and includes almost any and all that have written a book or given a talk on the subject. In fact, I'm going to give you a glaring example of one of the things that is terribly wrong with modern 'ufology' in one whack. Here's an advert for an 'upcoming'. Check this out!

"August 1997 will find The (organization name deleted) back on the AM Radio from (call letters deleted) in (Town name deleted). The (name deleted) Show will also be hosted by (name deleted), and will include live interviews in studio and via telephone. Michel Langevin, the publisher of Magical Blend Magazine will do a weekly New Age Music Review, authors will include Lynn Andrews, Dr. Hans Holzer, Jan and John Price, Raymond Fowler, Beatrice Stone and Lynneclaire Dennis to name a few. Other guests will include Dr. Richard Boylan, Ph.D., Channelers Paula Farmer (Elvis, John Lennon and JFK), Cliff Preston, psychic Barbara Swift, astrologer Kerwin Mcleister, Dr. Roger Leir and Derrel Sims, just to name a few."

Stuff like this really rattles my cage. It's unfu**ing real! They're not kidding either, this is a serious and very real advertisement folks, as Jack Paar used to say, "I kid you not!" To me, it reads like something that could have been co-written by Mel Brooks and Rod Sterling. <G>

Everybody's familiar with the Spanish dish, "Arros con Pollo." (Spanish style rice with chicken, which contains many and varied tasty ingredients.) Well, in Spanish we sometimes use it as an analogy by altering (bastardizing) it into, "Arros con culo." "Culo" in Spanish is slang for "ass." Implying that whatever the phrase, "Arros con culo" is being applied to is a, "contains everything, including the kitchen sink type of deal which (even includes) meat from someone's ass!"

That's what ufology has become in our time, just one big, "Arros con culo!" The above 'ad' illustrates this point clearly, (the lack of sanity, focus and unity) and brings it into a very sharp focus.

One or maybe two (serious people) are being presented,... no, make that, (lumped) together with charlatans, (including one super paranoid conspiracy nut that should be on heavy medication) and an array of assorted

snake oil salesmen. (I leave it to the readers intelligence and discretion to determine which is which! <VBG>)

The whole current situation in ufology is untenable, inefficient, and just downright counter-productive. Nowhere do I see attempts being made to garner consensus, or to unify or galvanize the UFO community into a force worthy of respect or consideration. Think of the resources we'd have if we pooled them. What I _do_ see is a group of tremendously gifted, bright and dedicated folks competing with each other for interviews, support, and air time. They are all, every man Jack of them, scattering their energies in every which direction.

What a shame that we live in a world where a Michael Jordan is worth millions, and where teachers for example or the brave and courageous pioneers such as some of those I have mentioned, have to scramble around and dedicate so much of their energies to eking out a living. Sometimes publicly shredding and humiliating each other in the process. It has been painful for me as a private citizen/abductee that cares about elevating the public awareness and consciousness of this phenomenon to witness this shameful 'in house' bickering and fighting. (SF & KR are ya listenin!)

My prayer for all of us is, that _one_ day all of this will change and become a thing of the past. It'd be nice to see a world where we can learn to put aside our differences and pool our resources rather than squandering them or scattering them to the four winds. A world where honest, intelligent, sincere, real and just plain sweet ordinary people, (like my dear and beloved Rebecca Schatte from the Great State of Texas, to mention just one) who have valid questions and points to make are acknowledged and recognised in the same way (and with the same amount of attention and respect) as a 'Strieber' or a 'Randle' would recieve. No one knows _her_ name though. Not as many as know 'Striebers' anyway. The fact that only a certain few are considered "experts" or worthy of attention speaks volumes.

"Divide and conquer" the saying goes. We need to unite,...or we will all perish as a community. I am willing to help anyone who is working towards the goals of unification and consensus.

To ufology as it exists today however, I say, "BAH, HUMBUG!" And _that's_ coming from 'alien spawn'!

John Velez, 7/7/97

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