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UFO UpDates Mailing List

From: DONZON@aol.com (by way of Erik <Beckjord@transbay.net>)
Date: Sat, 29 Mar 1997 18:55:37 GMT
Fwd Date: Sun, 30 Mar 1997 08:50:38 -0500
Subject:

To Insiders Ufo List:

This opinion from Don W., MUFON,L.A.:

To Erik Beckjord:

Your statement dated 3/27/97 2:15:51 PM:

> Imnsho, the garbage foisted on the Net and the World by Brown,
> and later, by Ed Dames, about the Hale-Bopp "object" was seemingly
> seized on by the computer freaks in that web-site-making cult in San Diego,
> and the end result has been:
>>
> DEATH.
>>
> Thanks Art Bell, for letting these idiots on, to pass on their
> fako-messages. The three of you can share the blame.

Erik, that is an extremely irrational and irresponsible statement to make. The deaths of the UFO cultists cannot be blamed on the airing of information by Art Bell and the support of Courtney Brown and many other responsible people. Those people were in a long-lived cult that had for many years been convinced they needed to leave their earthly bodies for their own salvation.

Those people were responsible for their own lives and their own deaths. Responsibility cannot be assigned to anyone who, in their best judgement, is simply putting information out there for people to utilize. If you continue to have a newsgroup, you are putting yourself in jeopardy of doing what you have just condemned Art Bell for doing.

I suggest you put out a public apology to the people you mentioned above and I dare you to forward this letter to the same lists you posted your condemnation letter.

Don Waldrop (DONZON@aol.com)
Director, MUFON Los Angeles

Reply:

If you stand near a cliff with 1000 excitable turkeys around you, and set off firecrackers, you can blame the turkeys. but you also take some blame on yourself.

People who post bullshit about hollow spaceships built by aliens and sub-space beings, next to a comet, and the people who ALLOW THAT TO GO ON THE AIR, may not be 100% responsible for the suicides, but given the fact that stupid people who are emotionally unstable and dependent on tv shows (X-Files, Star Trek) and a sociopath leader do exist and are

"on the edge", I think it vastly irresponsible for the people named above to

GIVE THEM THE EXTRA PUSH.

I would say the same thing about Orson Welles and his 1938 War of the Worlds radio show.

There are fools out there, millions of them, and they are not nearly as bright as the people on this list, who are above average people.

You do not yell "FIRE !" in a crowded theatre.

You do not yell "RAPID DOG LOOSE! " at the Convention of Mothers carrying small children.

You do not yell "SHIP IS SINKING!" on a crowded ferry full of people who never have been to sea and who cannot swim.

You do not let CB blather on for four hours to a large and gullible audience.

As for Art Bell, he once put on HARLEY BYRD (anybody not know him...?) despite calls from me, and from many others to Art.

Who is next? Charlie Manson (he has a web site now,,,)?

Ratco Slobovitch (?) the ethnic-cleansing general from Bosnia??

Death-cult rappers? Assasins? Killers?

Where does media reponsibility start?

Not with Art....

EB

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