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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Debunker Containment Strategy?

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve@konsulting.com>
Date: Thu, 22 May 1997 10:04:33 -0400
Fwd Date: Thu, 22 May 1997 10:59:06 -0400
Subject: Re: Debunker Containment Strategy?

> From: EdKomarek@aol.com
> Date: Wed, 7 May 1997 21:59:26 -0400 (EDT)
> To: updates@globalserve.net
> Subject: Debunker Containment Strategy?

> I would like to see a book written exploring the
>interactions and relationships between such debunkers as
>Karl Pflock, Karl Korff, Col. Weaver, Phil Klass, James
>Oberg, Carl Sagan, Donald Menzel etc. I would also like
>to see investigations of CSICOP and the tabloid press
>particulary the Weekly World News.

While such a publication would be of interest, I would rather see honest research into the psychology of those who tend to follow this genre with religious zeal. I believe that blind faith is easily focused and manipulated by gentle suggestions from the outside. Some sort of grand scheme of for the containment of information through the use of dis-information is not needed, IMHO, since much of the genre tends to feed on itself endlessly.

If one were to develop a so called "Debunker Containment Strategy", who would establish the line one would cross before your thoughts would be considered to be heresy. Unfortunately, this seems to follow a pattern of attacking the messenger, when you don't have the evidence or the ability to attack the message.

A few vocal individuals have indicated that major UFO research organizations should be investigated because of their expressed concerns about recent efforts by CSETI. But how should "peer review" be implemented, and by whom?

As with any volunteer organization, there is a certain amount independence and confusion among various groups within it. A recent statement on this list indicated that MUFONHQ@aol.com might not be connected with Walt Andrus and MUFON at all, but when I contacted that address I found that the message that had been sent out was written by Tom Deuley, Administrator for the UFO Coalition, who also works in Texas with Andrus and others. It appears that the address is real, and represents an outlet for information from MUFON and the Coalition. But the seeds of distrust have now been sown, and they can't easily be called back.

There was a time when religions were started by those who felt the need to expand or modify the existing faith. It appears that UFOlogy has developed that same pattern. IMHO, we have one extreme represented by the follower's of Heaven's Gate, and another represented by a number of researchers who are trying desperately to document official actions and force information to the surface. At which end of that spectrum would one place the responsibility of "peer review"?

Of course, the creation of a new religion often resulted in battles for

power, and Ufology appears to be no different. Unfortunately, the search for truth often gets trampled in the battlefield.

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