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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: ETH [Extra Terrestrial Hypothesis] &c

From: clark@mn.frontiercomm.net [Jerome Clark]
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 1997 13:14:39 PST
Fwd Date: Thu, 13 Nov 1997 18:31:14 -0500
Subject: Re: ETH [Extra Terrestrial Hypothesis] &c

> Date: Wed, 12 Nov 1997 14:17:33 -0800
> From: Ed Stewart <egs@netcom.com>
> To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
> Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: Re: ETH [Extra Terrestrial Hypothesis] &c

> > Date: Wed, 12 Nov 1997 08:47:51 +0000
> > To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
> > From: Sean Jones <tedric@tedric.demon.co.uk>
> > Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: Re: ETH [Extra Terrestrial Hypothesis] &c

> You just need your emotions, your gut feelings and your belief
> system to think that you know what is possible. You are driven by
> faith. May well be that is where Ufology belongs, as a faith
> driven belief system and ultimately an ET related religion!

Ed,

I'm just curious, having seen you use the phrase "belief system" repeatedly. Every time I see the phrase, used by you or anyone else, I wonder what is the difference, meaningfully speaking, between "belief system" and "belief." Check it out by using "belief" in a sentence next time some strange compulsion is driving you, unnecessarily, to make two words out of one. "Belief system" is one of those dumb cant phrases sort of like "life style," when in 999 cases out of 1000 a mere "life" would do.

Of course, reading your remarks, I can't help being reminded of the classic presumptive error expressed as "What I know I know, and what you know you only believe." What "belief system" typically means in rhetorical exercises is "somebody's opinion I don't agree with."

Cheers,
Jerry Clark

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