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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Writers & Fees

From: jan@cyberzone.net (Jan Aldrich)
Date: Thu, 11 Sep 1997 22:39:41 -0700
Fwd Date: Fri, 12 Sep 1997 01:00:29 -0400
Subject: Re: Writers & Fees

> Date: Thu, 11 Sep 1997 10:58:17 -0400
> From: Peregrine Mendoza <101653.2205@compuserve.com>
> Subject: Writers & Fees
> To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>

> The Duke of Mendoza presents his compliments to the List.

> For the record:

> I last saw Richard in Detroit in sixty-eight... and I last saw Phil Klass
> in London in April at the FT UnConvention. We were sitting around gassing
> in the green room, with Rebecca Keith among others (so she can probably
> confirm this). Phil remarked that he had calculated that over the years he
> has made about 6 cents an hour on UFO books, conference appearances and his
> newsletter after expenses. Since he's been slagging off ufology for about
> 30 years now I guess we can safely say he concluded a long time ago that he
> wan't going to be in this business for the money.

> Yours &c
> Postbox D. Mailvan
> Chicken Counter

I wouldn't go shedding any tears for Phil just yet. There are certain tax benefits that no one mentioned: depreciation on computers and other equipment, home office deductions, SEP or Keogh retirement plans, insurance benefits, etc. Also, if you can arrange your income properly one year you could have a big loss to put against other income. Of course, if you can arrange a trip and just do a little research while there, you can write off your vacation. So, 6 cents an hour does not tell the whole story by a long shot.

BTW: I just hit the high points on possible tax benefits. You do want some income, though. Otherwise, the Infernal Revenue will say you are just engaging in a hobby and disallow everything.

Jan Aldrich

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