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UFO UpDates Mailing List

UFOSEARCH #13 - UFO History; Part IV

From: "Val Germann" <vhg@socket.net>
 Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:10:05 -0600
 Fwd Date: Thu, 19 Feb 1998 09:37:50 -0500
 Subject: UFOSEARCH #13 - UFO History; Part IV

UFOSEARCH #13 - UFO History; Part IV

Val Germann
 Columbia, Missouri

The Build-up to 1968; The Age of Zamora;
 Situation Report, December, 1967 -

Thus it was that by the end of 1967 the "triad" of today's ufology (flying saucers, mutilations and abductions) were all three in existence, the latter thanks to John Fuller's 'Interrupted Journey.' And right there with them was the fourth horseman, 'government cover-up,' perhaps the most important one of all, if subsequent events have much meaning. That is, the energy expended trying to gain access to assumed government secrets has been all out of proportion to the results of those efforts. And should we be surprised at this, since it has been government policy since at least January of 1953 to debunk UFOs in public?

I don't think so. I think it's been a dead end from the beginning, a vastly overrated effort, as a lot of people were trying to tell Keyhoe in the middle 1950s. But he preferred to tilt at windmills rather than do the hard work of nailing down the phenomenon once and for all. The temptation toward the 'big kill', the government secret, was too much for him to resist. And doing real research takes money, a lot of it, which Keyhoe did not have. So, he took the easy way.

Which was too bad because, when you think about it, nearly all of the really juicy 'secret stuff' has simply been leaked, for heaven's sake, and not been the result of pestering the government and its minions! There's a lesson there for somebody, though I don't think they're interested in learning it. Allen Dulles' great coups as a 'spy' came from the 'walk-ins', from sources upset with policy and actively looking to betray. But I would have to be pretty desperate before I'd put my life in the hands of an Allen Dulles, or nearly anyone else, these days. Who can you trust? I don't pretend to know.

So, as 1968 rolled onto the world's calendars the UFO arena was remarkably similar to what we see today. Public interest was high, Hollywood was helping out (the then-recent '2001, A Space Odyssey' a prime example) and nearly everyone was putting pressure on 'the government' for 'answers.' The primary difference between then and now was James McDonald, a world class scientist who was giving 'the government' and people like Allen Hynek, all they could handle. It was going to be a very interesting year!

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