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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: Time to retire 'UFOlogist', 'UFOlogy'

From: [ej77@dial.pipex.com](mailto:ej77@dial.pipex.com) (Mike Wootten)  
Date: Sun, 17 May 1998 19:03:07 GMT  
Fwd Date: Sun, 17 May 1998 22:25:45 -0400  
Subject: Re: Time to retire 'UFOlogist', 'UFOlogy'

>From: SGB List 2 <[SGBList2@aol.com](mailto:SGBList2@aol.com)> [Stephen Bassett]  
>Date: Sun, 17 May 1998 13:09:03 EDT  
>To: [updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)  
>Subject: Time to retire 'UFOlogist', 'UFOlogy'

>It is time to retire the term "UFOlogist". While lights in the  
>sky are always of some interest, the field deals with objects  
>which are identified - identified by their being piloted directly  
>or indirectly by non-human intelligence.

>When I see a plane land at Washington National Airport, I do not  
>know the name of the pilot, his or her birth place, the  
>destination from which it has come, or the number of passengers.  
>None the less it is not an unidentified object - it is a plane  
>piloted by humans.

>I suggest a movement toward "extraterrestrial phenomena  
>research(ers)". Every time we use the words "UFOlogy or  
>UFOlogist" we put a lie to the state of the field and implant it  
>in the subconscious of the general public.

An interesting point but have I missed something? When was it  
declared that UFOs had an extraterrestrial origin. I know most of  
the UFO community would love it to be so, but there is no proof  
that UFOs are ET vehicles.

Witness testimony, although compelling, is not enough to prove  
such a staggering claim.

At least UFOlogist as a term is open ended in its purest sense.  
The term "extraterrestrial phenomena research(ers)" would be  
enough in itself to lead the witness on and the 'researcher'  
wouldn't need to open his or her mouth to get the 'truth' THEY  
want to hear.

Read your UFO history. The subject has evolved and mutated over  
the years. This mutation is not down to ETs but the belief  
systems of the ufologists themselves. The ET myth is our own  
elusion.

But don't get me wrong. The UFO subject is worthy of  
investigation and research - but the right kind. The objective  
kind.

BTW considering 90 odd percent of cases turn out to be IFOs,  
should we all not be called IFOlogists as this is what we  
investigate most of the time!

ATB  
Mike

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