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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: Snipers & Shooters

From: Jerome Clark <[jkclark@frontiernet.net](mailto:jkclark@frontiernet.net)>  
Date: Sat, 03 Oct 98 17:10:45 PDT  
Fwd Date: Sat, 03 Oct 1998 18:34:17 -0400  
Subject: Re: Snipers & Shooters

>From: Roger Evans <[moviestuff@cyberjunkie.com](mailto:moviestuff@cyberjunkie.com)>  
>Date: Fri, 02 Oct 1998 22:34:54 +0000  
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)>  
>Subject: Snipers & Shooters

>>From: Jerome Clark <[jkclark@frontiernet.net](mailto:jkclark@frontiernet.net)>  
>>Date: Wed, 30 Sep 98 10:11:38 PDT  
>>Fwd Date: Thu, 01 Oct 1998 11:13:36 -0400  
>>Subject: Re: Snipers & Shooters

>Since you don't doubt the poster's good intentions, then it's  
>clear to me that you DO understand his or her intent. So why  
>make an issue of it?

I'm afraid I don't follow you here.

>THAT is EXACTLY the sort of activity, I feel, most people on the  
>list would like to see as a thing of the past. Beyond that, are  
>you suggesting that people should be excused for being rude just  
>because the subject of UFOs is a passionate topic for them?

Please reread what I have written - more than once - on the  
necessity of civility in UFO (and, one hopes, all human)  
discourse. My definition of "rude" discourse kicks in when one  
poster calls another a jackass, a Nazi clone, or a charlatan, or  
otherwise indulges in rhetoric that demonizes one's opponent.  
But there are many grades of vigorous, aggressive debate and  
rhetoric that I - and, I suspect from recent postings responding  
to yours, most - would find acceptable, even entertaining and,  
more important, illuminating.

>After all, this is not an oral debate, subject to sudden  
>impulses and unintended breaches of civility due to the 'heat of  
>the moment'. Anyone participating in this listing must sit down  
>and THINK about what they are going to write. Or, at least, they  
>SHOULD.

Absolutely.

>And finally, no one is suggesting that differences of opinion or  
>open disagreements is unique to ufology. And no one wants  
>everyone to think and talk the same way. On the contrary, the  
>need to hear the nuances in each person's view makes 'getting  
>rid of the static' even more important.

Agreed.

Cheers,  
Jerry Clark

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