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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: MJ-12 And Truman's Signature

From: Steven W. Kaeser <steve@konsulting.com>
Date: Thu, 15 Oct 1998 11:32:49 -0400
Fwd Date: Thu, 15 Oct 1998 19:46:48 -0400
Subject: Re: MJ-12 And Truman's Signature

>Date: Wed, 14 Oct 1998 23:06:08 -0700 (PDT)
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>From: Jim Deardorff <deardorj@proaxis.com>
>Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: Re: MJ-12 And Truman's Signature

Responding to Bob, Jim wrote-

>Bob,

>Interesting that it dates back that far. I wouldn't have thought
>that they'd have so much paperwork back around 1800 to need one.
>But a president's secretary has to have all the letters all
>lined up properly in advance on the device if it's going to save
>the president any time.

>But it does seem to be a more plausible solution to the
>duplicate-signature problem than that it occurred by chance,
>though the latter may not be totally out of the question, as a
>previous list member pointed out.

> Jim

If you are referring to my post, "previous list member" sounds a little like I've left the group. . . . <g>

What I think we're describing here is a pantograph, or an extension of it. You can find a simple explanation of that device at:

<http://www.edc.org/LTT/ConnGeo/pant.html>

While this could be designed to generate multiple signatures that all look the same, it isn't very effecient and wouldn't serve too useful a purpose for Government officials. The problem is that the signer has to be there to sign his name, so the other pens can mimic his signature on multiple documents. That would require a lot of organization and effort, and I'm not sure that would be the case very often (especially with Government as we know it today, but I'm not going to go there. . . . <g>)

The autopen, to my knowledge, was used extensively by President Kennedy, and I don't know if its use at the White House goes back further than that. The Autopen was also a large mechanical device that recorded the pen strokes, and could be duplicated by anyone who then had access to it. Kennedy had more than 20 different autopen signatures that were used through the years, and there is at least one book on the market that provides

examples of all those signatures. I have several documents with President Carter's signature, and I can hold them up to the light and see that the autographs are exact duplicates.

As an aside, I would note that they were also popular among some Members of the House and Senate, but that has now given way to a computer graphic signature that is used on many Congressional responses.

Steve

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