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UFO UpDates Mailing List

An Honorable Man

From: John Velez <jvif@spacelab.net>
Date: Wed, 9 Sep 1998 02:57:48 -0500
Fwd Date: Wed, 09 Sep 1998 12:40:06 -0400
Subject: An Honorable Man

Hi All,

I have used this forum to 'bitch' about the media and how it usually uses and abuses abductees and UFO witnesses. Well, I just want to make as much noise about someone who is the exception to the rule; Jeff Rense. Just as we should criticize them when they get it wrong, we should reward those who 'get it right!'

Mein Kampf: (My 'Story')

Myself, Greg Sandow, and two of the members of AIC were guests on Jeffs' "Sightings on the Radio" program last Thursday night. As happens sometimes, there was a mis-communication and the name of someone who wished to remain anonymous was inadvertently mentioned on air. This person has a career and a family to protect. Although I think that he overreacted, immediately after the broadcast he set about severing all ties with anyone connected to the UFO community and changed his telephone number and e-mail address. He also had a small personal website which he took down.

All, because he -feared- the consequences of his accidental and unfortunate public exposure. I'm not going to politicize this post with my thoughts and feelings about having lost a friend or how those invisible bastards in our government have managed to intimidate witnesses by creating an atmosphere of fear and ridicule. Read Al Lehmberts last 'Ode' again, he says it all far more eloquently than I ever could.

This post is for Jeff.

Since last Thursday night I have been back and forth with Jeff trying to resolve this unintended but real violation of this persons anonymity. Take my word for it, most of these guys (media personalities) are only interested in what you can do for them. Jeff isn't like that. It's rare and he should be acknowledged/encouraged!

(Somehow) Jeff managed to talk the network into pulling a three hour program from their main server in Texas! (So that it is no longer archived on the website.) He is now working on getting all references to this individual removed from the program before it is reposted. Why, you may ask. Well, the answer is simple; this guy not only "talks the talk," he "walks the walk!"

Jeff Rense really cares about the people he works with and uses on his programs. Yep, blew my mind too! He quite simply didn't

have to do a bloody thing. He could have blown me off by telling me that it was beyond his control, or that the network wouldn't do it, or any number of other equally valid excuses. Instead, he puts a hole in his website archive, takes three hours of his own work offline, and is editing out valuable material for the benefit of an 'one time' guest. What does that tell you about Jeff Rense's character? Speaks volumes to me!

From this day forward I will sing the praises of Jeff Rense. He is an 'exception to the rule'. One of the very few media personalities (Don Ecker is also one) who treat their guests with dignity and genuine respect. Jeff has gone way beyond even that in this situation.

Mr. Rense, you have won my respect, and my heartfelt gratitude. My you have continued success in all your endeavors. I owe you one - big time! Call in the marker anytime it suits you. I am at your service.

On behalf of all the members of AIC I thank and salute Jeff for his efforts on our behalf and I thank him for every abductee or UFO witness that has ever been used/abused or screwed by the media. I hope that the Jeff Rense 'style' of doing business is the wave of the future. This guy has single-handedly restored my faith that there may be some hope for the role of the media in the education of the public about this phenomenon.

A tip of the old "Hatlo Hat" Mr Rense.

Peace,

John Velez, Webmaster: IF-AIC

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