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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: UFO Cults - A research question...

From: John W. Ratcliff <jratcliff@worldnet.att.net>
Date: Mon, 11 Jan 1999 23:54:23 -0600
Fwd Date: Tue, 12 Jan 1999 10:50:13 -0500
Subject: Re: UFO Cults - A research question...

John W. Ratcliff <jratcliff@worldnet.att.net> stupidly wrote:

>>Perhaps the next time a group of CSETI cultists go tramping
>>about the dark....

<snip>

As soon as I hit the 'send' button on this message I thought, boy, that's going to get me in a bunch of trouble. I need to follow up my previous message with a tiny bit of clarification. First, CSETI is no more or less a cult than the Roman Catholic Church. As I said before, either call them all cults or none of them. Unfortunately I usually call them all cults since I can rarely see much of a distinction; and the mainstream cults love to use that term for the newcomers.

Let me clarify. I have the utmost respect for Steven Greer in his efforts to bring about a more open dialogue on the subject of the UFO phenomenon, and end the culture of secrecy in the USAF regarding this topic. I fully support his efforts and respect him as a compassionate and driven man. Where I differ with Greer is on his methods to contact these 'extraterrestrials' and his assumptions about benign space brothers. I believe that trust is earned, and in no way, shape, or form has any aspect of the UFO phenomenon engendered a sense of trust. The UFO phenomenon has appeared hostile, subversive, sometimes benign, always secretive and has never been an open, honest, or equal exchange between two species. Even if you don't accept evidence of hostility, common sense suggests an air of great caution.

Regarding my classification of CSETI's contact protocol as a cult, let me clarify.

There is absolutely no objective distinction between a group of people attending a Virgin Mary apparition and the CSETI protocols.

Catholics attending a Virgin Mary apparition utilize meditation techniques, chanting, deep focused thought, musical tones, all in an effort to contact a higher spiritual being.

CSETI protocol uses mediation, musical tones, and deep focused thought to contact higher spiritual beings.

That one group believes their apparition to be the mother of Jesus Christ and the other group believes their apparition to be benign space brothers in UFOs is a hair split so fine that to

the outside objective observer appears to be irrelevant.

The actual work which has been done by Steven Greer to open up a dialogue in government on the UFO subject is to be commended. However, it is my humble opinion that his stated belief in benign aliens, his lack of critical assessment of their motives or criticism of their cover-up (meaning the space brothers), his blind view of the negative interactions between some aspects of this phenomenon, his lack of historical perspective of the amorphous nature of the phenomenon, and his ritualistic contact protocols goes a long way towards destroying his credibility in his other more worthwhile efforts.

Just this author's humble opinion of course.

John W. Ratcliff

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