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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Filer's Files #27 - 99

From: **Jim Mortellaro** <Jsmortell@aol.com>
Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1999 12:15:47 EDT
Fwd Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1999 22:14:11 -0400
Subject: Re: Filer's Files #27 - 99

>Date: Wed, 14 Jul 1999 16:54:31 -0400
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>From: Steven Kaeser <steve@konsulting.com>
>Subject: Re: Filer's Files #27 - 99

>>Subject: Re: Filer's Files #27 - 99
>>From: Mark Cashman <mcashman@ix.netcom.com>
>>Date: Tue, 13 Jul 1999 14:03:44 -0400
>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>

>>>From: George A. Filer <Majorstar@aol.com>
>>>Date: Sat, 10 Jul 1999 10:27:41 EDT
>>>Subject: Filer's Files #27
>>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>

>>>30th MUFON CONFERENCE

>>>Joe Firmage was the star of the MUFON Conference... Joe
>>>Firmage is an exceptionally intelligent and extremely gifted
>>>person who states matter of factly that he has been told by high
>>>ranking government officials that extraterrestrials are visiting
>>>us. Only a few hundred persons are privy to this secret.
>>>Unfortunately, he refused to reveal his sources.

>>Why is anyone paying attention to Firmage? Why did MUFON give
>>him podium space? We've heard this same drivel over and over
>>again. It is no more credible from Firmage than from Adamski.

><snip>

>>The salesman part is true. The slick depends on the gullibility
>>or ignorance of the audience. The insight is non-existent.

>>Firmage is just another ACC. A lot of hot air taking us for a
>>ride to nowhere.

>Mark-

>Joe Firmage gave a very moving presentation that really took
>most of those at the conference by surprise. I'm not sure I
>would have called him the "Star" of the symposium, but he was
>the only speaker to get a standing ovation at the conclusion of
>his talk (which followed Bud Hopkins on Saturday evening).

<snip>

Hi Steve, Mark, Luke, John, Jaime, et Al, mostly Al...

Regarding Mr. Fromage...

The man may have everything in it's proper perspective. He may

not. The point I wish to make in this post is that no matter what number he came up with in answer to the question of God, the Universe and Everything, that the level of credence given to that number is directly proportional to both bankroll and the manner in which it was garnered. The information contained therein had little to do with it. Which sucks big time. In my view at least.

To put it another way, it has been said many times on this list, that extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence. In the case of Dr. Cheese (or Dr. Vin Fraiss), one may add "extraordinary money garnered in a most extraordinary way" to the equation. Face it folks, if some farmer out in the West with big bucks, did what Rockefeller did, that is, fund a study; and a similar study was funded by, oh, say, ME, I'll give you fantastic odds as to whose study would get proper press. In fact, both studies may have nearly the exact conclusions, the same words, the same science and scientists, but the one funded by the man with the best color blood and the best smelling buns would get the best review. And get it beginning to end.

The question of whether or not Mr. Firmage has, is or will, do Ufology any good is not at issue here. From my perspective, the issue is the manner in which the good, if any is ultimately done, was the end which gave the means it's justification. And if one views this question from this stated angle, then how much value has the content in the face of the form? And how does this define us as intellects?

Personally, I thank Mr. Firmage for coming out of his closet. I also came out of mine most recently. But I'm not worth billions and I was not the darling of Wall Street. I wasn't (and am not now) a stain on the couch! Except to my mommy (I'm an only child!). It was not all that hard for me to do. However in the doing of it, I did not make the New York Times, the LA Trib or even the Washington Post. So much for my "WOW" signal generating capability, eh?

Mainstream scientists take some big hits when it comes to exiting their closets of sand (where they are supposed to have their heads buried). And when they come out, they are disbarred, disrobed, have their licenses to examen feet taken away, et. al. Especially Al.

So much for science and scientists.

The same is true of those who give their lives to the study of UFOs and who have little professional status by way of the CV. In the face of making their life's work the vocation AND the avocation, of becoming experts in their areas of study, in spite of spending their own limited resources and being forced to literally beg on the street, they are given the ridicule they deserve. Fools to a man, eh?

Ah, but have a rich man, a famous man, a man accomplished by virtue of his successes in, say, cheese, or wine, come out of his closet ... and the "WOW" signal is immediately given the credence it does not necessarily deserve. Not a scientist, not a silly fossifer, not anything but a cheese or wine man. But a rich one. And he's got the Motts.

"Steal a little and they throw you in jail. Steal a lot and they make you King!"

And some of you wonder why I drink Gripple? Fools!

Jim

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