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### UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: Budd Hopkins

From: Dennis Stacy <[dstacy@texas.net](mailto:dstacy@texas.net)>  
Date: Wed, 16 Jun 1999 16:14:41 -0500  
Fwd Date: Wed, 16 Jun 1999 19:31:14 -0400  
Subject: Re: Budd Hopkins

>Date: Tue, 15 Jun 1999 17:19:53 -0400  
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)>  
>From: John Velez <[jvif@spacelab.net](mailto:jvif@spacelab.net)>  
>Subject: Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome

<snip>

>If you're going to critique Budd's (or anybody else's) "methods"  
>it would be nice if you familiarize yourself with them first.  
>Fair is fair Dennis. Never say stuff -about anyone- that you  
>cannot prove.

>Peace,

>John Velez

John, you have too much to say that is good regarding people,  
whereas I often don't. Am I getting cynical in middle age?

Actually, I had an article lined up by Budd for inclusion in  
UFOs 1947-1997: Fifty Years of Flying Saucers. Some of you may  
have seen it, most of you haven't. It was called "Sane Citizen  
Sees UFO" and originally appeared in The Village Voice for March  
1, 1976. It was a classic example of an investigation of a  
single case, that of George O'Barski, who ran a liquor store in  
Chelsea where Budd routinely bought his dinner wine.

I particularly wanted to use it because it was a damn good case,  
and I thought it would somewhat recast the public perception of  
Hopkins B.A. -- Before Abductions. Off the top of my head, I  
can't remember why it didn't make the final edit, but if memory  
serves (and often it doesn't in my case), I think the Village  
Voice was late in granting reprint rights, which they eventually  
did.

In any event, it demonstrates that, prior to researching  
abduction cases in the main, Budd was an excellent foot soldier  
when it came to investigating UFO cases per se.

To the best of my knowledge, however, Budd declined to  
participate in the MUFON Abduction Transcription project, for  
reasons only he can fully delineate. In a somewhat similar vein,  
I've not heard much of late about the attempt to have his  
collected alien writing samples analyzed by outside parties. In  
the meantime, Mario Pazzaglioni, who might have made a  
significant contribution to same, unfortunately passed away in  
November of last year.

This is Budd's material and he is of course perfectly free to do what he wants with it, even if that extends to withholding it from the scientific and ufological community (until the next popular book is published), while continuing to publish broadsides against Carl Sagan and NOVA for not treating the abduction phenomenon seriously and scientifically.

The question remains: is Budd himself scientific or not? That is, is his approach to the abduction phenomenon that of a scientist or that of a concerned human and therapist, or something of both? Does he keep anything even remotely resembling statistics from his own investigations? (Not much, according to Sandow himself.) Does he routinely publish his findings for other researchers to peer review, comment upon, and (god forbid the possibility!) criticize? A quick glance through recent issues of the MUFON Journal, IUR, and JUFOS doesn't turn up too many case investigations with his name on them.

An article in the Intruders Foundation newsletter remarked on the fact that the aliens never expressed interest in the human heart; until I pointed out that one of the Allagash abductees drew a picture of aliens opening a human chest cavity and hauling out the heart. (See the cover of the April, 1993, MUFON UFO Journal for same, or Fowler's book on the case.)

I've met Budd on several occasions, and like nearly everyone else, found him an imminently likeable guy. By most accounts I've read, so was Sagan.

If likeability were the issue, there wouldn't be any issue. But it isn't.

Budd is heading down a long, dark tunnel with no headlights on. It may not happen tomorrow, it may not happen the day after tomorrow, but it will happen. Sooner or later, one of his "patients" (or their families) is going to file a serious lawsuit against Hopkins over his use of hypnosis and there will be all sorts of hell to pay. One of his friends ought to take him aside and warn him of its inevitability.

Contrary to what you (and others) might think, I wouldn't like to see it happen to such a nice guy. But Budd is playing with fire. Not necessarily Boylan fire, but fire, nonetheless.

Dennis

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