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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome

From: **Jenny Randles** <nufon@currantbun.com>
Date: Thu, 17 Jun 1999 11:57:02 +0100
Fwd Date: Fri, 18 Jun 1999 00:21:31 -0400
Subject: Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome

>From: Jim Mortellaro <Jsmortell@aol.com>
>Date: Wed, 16 Jun 1999 14:50:36 EDT
>Subject: Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome
>To: updates@globalserve.net

>>From: Jenny Randles <nufon@currantbun.com>
>>To: UFO Updates
>>Subject: Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome
>>Date: Mon, 14 Jun 1999 16:45:43 +0100

>>Thanks for all the messages that flooded in over the weekend. To
>>be honest I had not even noticed that UFO UpDates was on the cc
>>list of the original Robert Moore and I thought I was only
>>talking to a few UK UFologists. I was quite surprised to see my
>>'spooof' went global. But no matter, it was an interesting
>>exercise.

>>Let me qualify 'spooof'. This was not really trickery. Rather it
>>was a deliberate exercise in taking an idea to its natural
>>extreme. Many people in the UK have been furious over the Max
>>Burns lecture saying BUFORA lost the plot by inviting him. There
>>were demands for mass walk outs over the issue.

>Boy, did you put one over on us. Whew! We all thought you
>were serious. What a bunch of maroons we are!

>However, I do understand how this can happen. On more than one
>occasion, I have attempted, thru hummers, uh, thru HUMOR, to
>yell at somebody or other for saying something which I
>originally thought was out of line while in reality, I was out
>of line all along.

>Just one last question, and I do not expect you to answer it as
>I am without portfolio, have not published anything (on UFOs)
>and am not a recognized researcher... nor am I an unrecognized
>researcher. Having said all that, I expect nothing from anyone,
>except either a chuckle, or a chuckle and some personal
>recognition that the offende, not the offender (that'd be me)
>got the message. So my question is, based on your more recent
>admission that you were merely joshing, my question is, Dear Ms.
>Offende, what is the temperature of the sand?

>Jim Gesundt & Jaime Mortellaro, UFO Research without portfolio
>but a lot of Moxie... we mix it with our Gripple and rhubarb
>wine.

Hi,

Er never very hot in Britain, if thats what you meant. Our
summers and winters tend to blend into one season known
colloquially as 'by eck its nippy' (see 'Northern dialect phrase

book' by E By Gum for translation)

I have been quite amazed as a newcomer to this net thing (only six or seven weeks of it - seems like forever, but no matter) how what starts as a nice discussion degenerates rapidly into a brawl. Why? Can't we argue facts and theories minus personalities and accept other peoples views? I can.

The asrgument about Budd Hopkins is nothing to do with him as a man nor with his sincerity - both of which are above reproach as far as I have seen. It has all to do with the position he adopts on the evidence and, because he is so admired, the effect that has generally on the UFO community. He is, absolutely, entitled to hold his views and stand his corner defending them. But he has to appreciate that what he says is regarded very seriously by thousands of people simply because of who he is. For that reason people who have influence must be willing to have their views debated. But we must also do that in a civilised fashion, accepting that they can be right and we can be wrong.

The very same thing applies to Nick Pope - the MoD man in the UK. I like him too, but because he is taken so seriously by so many people he has to consider carefully what he does and says because many will perceive that as an endorsement. As such I was not happy with his decision to tell the story of the Florida tollbooth abduction without giving his readers a proper insight into the matter. But my being willing to answer questions on the issue to the London Times earlier this year (after much soul searching, three years of pleading with Nick to do it himself and when they asked me - rather than me approach them) had nothing to do with my wanting to get at Nick. Far from it. In fact it was all about doing the right thing by UFology. We all have a right to do what we believe in, just as we all have a right to dispute those who feel differently. But this has to be done with compassion and moderation - not as cat calling and personal abuse.

Seems easy enough to me.

My response, by the way, was less a joke than an attempt to push an idea to a logical conclusion and see how people liked where we then were. This is known to science as developing an experimental model and its an acceptable way of trying things out without actually blowing up the planet in the course of ones mistakes.

Best wishes,

Jenny Randles

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