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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Budd Hopkins

From: Jenny Randles <nufon@currantbun.com>
Date: Sat, 19 Jun 1999 17:31:00 +0100
Fwd Date: Sat, 19 Jun 1999 13:25:42 -0400
Subject: Re: Budd Hopkins

>From: Roger Evans <moviestuff@cyberjunkie.com>
>Date: Fri, 18 Jun 1999 21:15:00 +0000
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>Subject: Re: Budd Hopkins

>Hello all,

>I've been tied up in a massive documentary film project for the
>last several months and haven't been able to participate in the
>list. However, Jenny's statement above reminds me of my first
>commercial film project when I was about 24 or so. I used a
>piece of copyrighted music without permission (naughty me) and
>after handing the film over to a distributor began to feel pangs
>of guilt. I asked a friend of mine (who was a lawyer) if I might
>really get sued by the music's producers.

>His response? "One can only hope so," he said. "For, surely, it
>would be an indication of great profits for your little film.
>You would have made enough money for them to actually feel
>cheated!"

>Likewise, we can only hope that Jenny's concerns about impending
>lawsuits against ufologists are well founded. Why? Because, for
>damages to be proven, the "memories" dredged up by the use of
>hypnosis would have to be accepted (at some point) as fact; not
>only by the "victim" but by the courts as well.

>Despite the aftermath, it will be a welcome day when society and
>the courts declare any UFO experience as "real". Though I
>personally don't believe hypnosis is worth beans as an
>investigative tool, I wouldn't want to prevent Mr. Hopkins or
>anyone else from carrying on with their efforts. Sometimes the
>ends do justify the means...

Hi,

Unfortunately, as some of us know, a lawsuit does not have to be valid, justified or taken to court to be damaging. Vindictive suits are becoming common in a litigious society. The prospect of some person sensing an opportunity is there (if not to get money via an out of court settlement then to do so via a tabloid who will see this as a good story even if its legal, moral and factual merits are zilch).

Would that such a case could serve to benefit ufology. Sadly it would not. I am not for one moment suggesting such a case would be justified or successful, but I am afraid it could happen regardless.

Jenny Randles

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