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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: Max Burns Hoax Exposed

From: Roger Evans <[moviestuff@cyberjunkie.com](mailto:moviestuff@cyberjunkie.com)>  
Date: Fri, 25 Jun 1999 22:41:53 +0000  
Fwd Date: Sat, 26 Jun 1999 13:59:41 -0400  
Subject: Re: Max Burns Hoax Exposed

>From: Mike Wootten <[mike@woottenm.freemove.co.uk](mailto:mike@woottenm.freemove.co.uk)>  
>Date: Fri, 25 Jun 1999 14:47:26 +0100  
>Fwd Date: Fri, 25 Jun 1999 21:24:14 -0400  
>Subject: Re: Max Burns Hoax Exposed

>>From: Teri Edgar <[uzrqrll@mindspring.com](mailto:uzrqrll@mindspring.com)>  
>>To: <[updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)>  
>>Subject: Re: Max Burns Hoax Exposed  
>>Date: Tue, 22 Jun 1999 12:53:12 -0700

Previously, Teri has offered:

>>I'm beginning to doubt that those with "closed minds" will ever  
>>have a sighting, even if a 'FO lands in their driveway. Reality  
>>is based on our perceptions and if we cannot stretch our minds  
>>to accept anything beyond what society has told us it's alright  
>>to believe in, how will we ever perceive a UFO?

Mike replied:

>I'm affraid you seem to be missing the point here. I don't  
>approve of hoaxing, but this clearly illustrates that the  
>majority of ufologists don't have the capacity to truely  
>investigate the UFO phenomenon. Open mindedness has nothing to  
>do with this issue.  
>  
>If we really wanted to find out what UFOs were - from undefined  
>IFOs to ET - then religious words like 'belief' and 'open mind'  
>should be kept locked away. Ufology will never be a science if  
>we are not hard noised critics of the 'evidence'. Question and  
>doubt everything and you might just find some real answers.  
>  
>Alchemy would still be practised today of science had not  
>learned those lessons and I would not be typing this out on a  
>PC!

Hi, Mike.

You mentioned alchemy, science and religion. Alchemy became a science only after the practice of experimentation and observation was combined with copious note keeping to prevent repetition of errors and failed results. But, make no mistake, there were many occasions where someone simply thought, "What if I mixed this with this?" and came up with success, sometimes on the first try! Science today is not much different. In this fashion, I believe that many of the greatest advances in science came as a result of a leap of faith; someone in a lab or workshop simply wondering "What if...?"

Thus the fine line between religion and science disappears, if only for a moment. But it is within this moment that man shines the brightest as he demonstrates the ability to predict beyond what is predictable; to recognize the unrecognizable.

Remember, Thomas Edison had a minimal grade school education. Henry Ford was illiterate and signed his name with an 'X'. DeForrest was credited with "inventing" the amplification tube but could not explain how it worked in court when challenged over his patent. These are a few examples of people that used intuition as much as anything to explore the world around them. The "evidence" they studied was invisible to their contemporaries as it could only be seen through the eyes of someone with an open mind and a belief in the impossible.

Therefore, with all due respect, I think it is you that's missing the point. The "evidence" you suggest we should be hard nosed critics of simply does not exist...yet. This is not to say that it isn't right before our very eyes; indeed, it may very well be. However, since we really don't have a clue what we are looking for there's a very good chance that we might overlook it unless we drop our preconceived notions of what UFO's and ET's are supposed to "be".

I understand your frustration at the apparent "guessing game" that seems to invite anyone calling themselves a "UFO researcher". However, discoveries are not the sole property of the scientific elite. On the contrary, the average Joe on the street may fare better than the rigidly disciplined scientist when it comes to asking "What if...?" Since the average person hasn't been taught about what can't be possible, he or she is more likely to recognize what is possible or, more importantly, what is actually happening in front of their very eyes.

BTW, the concept of the "PC" was initially considered foolish by virtually everyone in the computer industry. It took a few people asking "What if...?" to make it a reality.

Take care,

Roger Evans

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