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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: UK UFO Photo 'Hoax' Genuine?

From: **Larry Hatch** <larryhat@jps.net>
Date: Sat, 06 Mar 1999 06:45:55 -0800
Fwd Date: Sat, 06 Mar 1999 10:20:45 -0500
Subject: Re: UK UFO Photo 'Hoax' Genuine?

>Date: Fri, 5 Mar 1999 15:36:18 -0500
>From: David Clarke <dclarke14@compuserve.com>
>Subject: Re: UK UFO Photo 'Hoax' Genuine?
>To: UFO Updates <updates@globalserve.net> ,

>>Date: Thu, 4 Mar 1999 17:39:59 -0500
>>From: Robert Moore <ENGIMA9@compuserve.com>
>>Subject: Re: UK UFO Photo 'Hoax' Genuine?
>>To: UFO Updates <updates@globalserve.net> ,

>>SCHOOLBOY Alex Birch, blamed for hoaxing the world with a
>>sensational DIY flying saucer snap 37 years ago, now insists his
>>story was true.

><snip>

>>Sorry, I don't buy this at all! Alex Birches' photograph is a
>>hoax, pure and simple. It looks like it is - a fuzzy image of
>>'UFOs' painted onto a sheet of glass!

>Don't worry Robert - no one is falling for this story; I was
>simply posting this tale (which appears in the Yorkshire Post
>and various other tabloids today) as an example of how
>unscrupulous people are jumping on the UFO industry bandwagon.

<snip>

>This cautionary tale should teach us a few basic lessons:

>1) Hoaxers are not necessarily always in it for the money: they
>get satisfaction out of fooling people and making them believe
>in something which is not real, the more the better, and others
>"get off" on the fame and attention fake UFO stories bring them.

>2) Multi-witness sightings do not indicate genuine UFO
>sightings. Here there were three witnesses who successfully lied
>for ten years. One is still doing so.

>3) Kodak's top experts analysed the Birch photos in 1962 and
>pronounced them genuine. The British MOD too were baffled
>and could only offer a shaky "ice crystals" explanation (I have the

>PRO file on the case). Need I say any more?

= = =

Dear David and Robert:

Thank you for a most interesting, enlightening and amusing account of this affair!

It should make all of us us pause before we invest too much credibility in any particular sighting report; most especially those involving photographs.

Could you please give me the date and location of this non-event, just in case I still list it in my personal database?

If I do find it there, you may be assured that it will be dealt with accordingly!

Obviously, I do not dismiss all UFO reports, or there would be no such catalog here.

Very best wishes

- Larry Hatch

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