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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Charges Against Max Burns Dismissed

From: John Rimmer <magonia@magonia.demon.co.uk>
Date: Thu, 18 Mar 1999 19:50:52 +0000
Fwd Date: Fri, 19 Mar 1999 09:33:02 -0500
Subject: Re: Charges Against Max Burns Dismissed

>From: Roy Hale <roy.hale@virgin.net>
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>Subject: Re: Charges Against Max Burns Dismissed
>Date: Wed, 17 Mar 1999 16:12:19 -0000

>>From: Max Burns <AlienHype@aol.com>
>>Date: Tue, 16 Mar 1999 02:06:29 EST
>>To: Updates@globalserve.net
>>Subject: Charges Against Max Burns Dismissed

>>Something that I find very alarming is the fact that as press officer. for Bufora Dr David Clark, has not Once attempted to >>stifle the very critical remark's and comments made of Bufora, >>by his collaboratorand friend from way back in university days >>Andy Roberts.

>>If he feels at all comprimised by his choices available, I offer >>that Dr David Clark offer his resignation as press officer for >>Bufora.

>>In light of his inability to uphold the right of free speech, in >>view of his personal choices that he has displayed which is a >>clear conflict of interests.

>I feel in light of the actions that have been raised, concerning >Max Burns investigation into the "Sheffield Incident", that it >would be the right thing to do for Mr Clarke to resign his >position forthwith as the BUFORA Press Officer.

>This is an outrageous situation for such an organisation. Why >has BUFORA allowed this kind of thing to carry on without any >action being taken from the board of BUFORA?

>Dr Clarke (Amongst others) has quite obviously shown a personal >interest in damning anything that Max has had to say concerning >the above case (I wonder who exactly is giving Malcolm Robinson >grief at this moment on allowing Max to present his case!), I >just wonder if the head people at BUFORA are in fact happy with >the conduct of their Press Officer. If you feel strongly on this >point I suggest you contact BUFORA with your views.

>Free speech for UK ufologists? We can but dream.....

As readers of Magonia and this list will know, I have very little time for BUFORA, which I consider an ineffectual and over-centralised bureacracy whose primary aim is to provide nice titles for its inner circle of management suits.

However, they are not in overall control of British ufology, most of which manages perfectly well without them. So if BUFORA decides that it does or doesn't want a particular speaker at any of its meetings, it is *not* a free-speech issue. Burns has plenty of other platforms to propound his views about the so-called Sheffield Incident and I see no reason why he should expect BUFORA to give him a free run at a lecture.

However, it now appears that the new lecture secretary at BUFORA does want to give him a chance to address a BUFORA audience, so what's yer problem, Jimmy? (as they say in the part of the world where the lecture secretary comes from).

Burns's committment to free speech, curiously, does not seem to prevent him from demanding that David Clarke shuts Andy Roberts up when the latter expresses views critical of BUFORA. Nor does Roy Hale's dislike of "giving people grief" prevent him from starting a write-in campaign to have David Clarke removed as BUFORA's press officer!

As BUFORA's internal democracy is about on a level with that of North Korea, I'm sure that they'll do what they like without taking any notice of what anybody so irrelevant as their members might say!

--

John Rimmer

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Abandon hope all ye who press Enter here

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