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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: First 'Grey' Report?

From: John Rimmer <magonia@magonia.demon.co.uk>
Date: Sun, 16 May 1999 16:00:59 +0100
Fwd Date: Mon, 17 May 1999 08:53:06 -0400
Subject: Re: First 'Grey' Report?

>From: Mark Cashman <mcashman@ix.netcom.com>
>Date: Fri, 14 May 1999 13:44:19 -0400
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>Subject: Re: First 'Grey' Report?

>>Date: Thu, 13 May 1999 22:45:47 +0100
>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>>From: John Rimmer <magonia@magonia.demon.co.uk>
>>Subject: Re: First 'Grey' Report?

Mark Cashman's reply is long and considered, and rather than split it up by comments I have snipped it all, and urge people to read the original text and follow up the links supplied.

It references a good selection of articles which examine psychological and neurological conditions which have a great deal of relevance to the UFO abduction phenomenon, and I would challenge little of what he says. However none of the extra information allows us to determine before hand whether an abduction has a physical element. The majority of abductees are perfectly convinced that their abduction is physically real and forms part of an unbroken continuum with the rest of their life experience. Cashman's reading list show us many of the reasons why this may not be so, but it does not demonstrate a readily observed, qualitative difference between non-physical and physical abduction experiences (always providing the latter do in fact exist).

My objection to John Velez's approach was that it seemed to assume, without adequate demonstration, that there was an easily identified type of 'real' abduction that was the only type worthy of serious investigation.

I am not as sanguine as Cashman about the existence of independently witnessed abductions. There have, of course, been multiple abductions, but it would be stretching the language to describe the second person in these as an "independent" witness. The Travis Walton case was cited, and although this is certainly an interesting and very complex case. My colleague on Magonia, John Harney has written about it at length (see the "ETH Bulletin" and "Monthly Supplement" on the Magonia website) challenging simplistic sceptical explanations such as Phil Klass's. It is clear however that the actual abduction (whatever it may have been) was not witnessed by Walton's workmates.

I simply comment that the abduction experience is incredibly complex, and research is not helped by the arbitrary writing-off of whole sections of it because of someone's a priori

assumptions as to what is or is not a real abduction.

--
John Rimmer
www.magonia.demon.co.uk
Abandon hope all ye who press Enter here

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