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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Magonia Monthly Supplement 15, May 1999

From: Dennis Stacy <dstacy@texas.net>
Date: Sun, 30 May 1999 19:28:55 -0500
Fwd Date: Mon, 31 May 1999 12:28:15 -0400
Subject: Re: Magonia Monthly Supplement 15, May 1999

>From: Greg Sandow <gsandow@prodigy.net>
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>Subject: Re: Magonia Monthly Supplement 15, May 1999
>Date: Sun, 30 May 1999 09:38:22 -0400
><snip>

>>Editor: JOHN HARNEY
>>No. 15 May 1999
>>=====

>>EDITORIAL

>>I was surprised to hear that Stanton Friedman had attended a
>>recent UFO abduction conference in New York. I had thought that
>>he was a strictly nuts-and-bolts man, a believer in crashed
>>saucers and dead aliens hidden away at Wright-Patterson Air
>>Force Base. Yet now he is associating himself with those who
>>believe that the aliens are invulnerable, that their saucers are
>>invisible to ordinary (i.e., sane) folk, and that they can
>>return to them immediately, floating gracefully through walls,
>>at the first sign of potential trouble. Surely there is some
>>sort of inconsistency of belief here. Could someone sort it out
>>for me?

>Excuse me?

<snip>

>The NY abduction conference brought together people with a
>variety of abduction beliefs. Nowhere was it assumed that all
>participants agreed on everything. Does John Harney only attend
>functions at which everyone marches in intellectual lockstep?

>Of course, it's much easier to ridicule something if you don't
>consult the people involved for clarification of things you don't
>initially understand. Does Harney really want the help he asks
>for in his last sentence? Why didn't he simply pick up the phone
>and get the answer from Stan himself?

>Greg Sandow

Greg,

Not to choose sides in an already complicated issue, but I think Harney's point was this (or something similar): A one day symposium on the abduction phenomenon is being held; So why is Friedman, an historically nuts and bolts man, invited to speak

at same, say, in lieu of someone else, such as Kevin Randle?
Remember that discussion?

A quick glance at the index of my copy of Alien Discussions, for example, reveals not a single entry under Friedman, Stan or Stanton. Friedman has never been regarded as an abduction man (pardon the phrase), so the curious among us simply want to know why he is now presumed to have any meaningful input on the matter?

In Friedman's defense, abductions have never been a part of his portfolio. Would a direct call have necessarily changed anything? Friedman might say, "well, they asked me and I went," which still wouldn't explain why someone, presumably the conference organizer(s), asked him to speak in the first place, necessitating yet another phone call.

Harney is perfectly right and free as an editorial commentator to speak his mind, concluding with the plea: "Could someone sort it out for me?" Does Greg seriously believe that NY Times editorial writers are obligated to do original reporting themselves (ie, man the phones) when commenting upon already extant news items? Of course not.

Could someone sort it out for me as well while they're at it?

Diversity of opinion? Fine and well, but then why not call it a UFO conference as opposed to an Abduction conference? In other words, was Friedman invited because he had something original to add to the question of UFO abductions (has he investigated any abduction cases lately that anyone is aware of?) -- or because he was simply handy and friends of the family, so to speak?

To paraphrase Harney, Could someone sort it out for me?

Dennis

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