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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Nick Pope - The Ministry of Defence Respond

From: Donald Ledger <dledger@ns.sympatico.ca>
Date: Sun, 03 Oct 1999 09:57:58 -0300
Fwd Date: Sun, 03 Oct 1999 17:16:52 -0400
Subject: Re: Nick Pope - The Ministry of Defence Respond

>From: James Easton <voyager@ukonline.co.uk>
>To: UFO UpDates <updates@globalserve.net>
>Subject: Nick Pope - The Ministry of Defence Respond
>Date: Sun, 3 Oct 1999 05:47:53 +0100

>Voyager Newsletter - Issue No. 8

>* Nick Pope - The Ministry of Defence Respond *

>On 7 August, 1999, I published the following:

>'An Open Letter to Nick Pope'

>Dear Nick,

>In the July issue of 'NICK POPE'S WEIRD WORLD', you wrote:

>"Over the past few months I'd been becoming more bullish in my
>response to certain people within ufology who'd been sniping at
>me over the years. Nobody likes criticism, and I'd been getting
>a fair bit - little of it constructive in nature. If people were
>criticising my views on, say, Roswell, then fine. I wasn't
>there, and so my view probably counts no more or no less than
>anybody else who's followed the case with a reasonable degree of
>interest. But it rankled when outsiders who'd probably never
>even visited MOD Main Building started casting doubts on my
>knowledge about - and access to - government and military UFO
>files. I've worked for the MOD for over fourteen years now, and
>three of those were spent researching and investigating UFO
>sightings, alien abductions, crop circles, animal mutilations
>and any other weird and wonderful reports that came my way".

>I trust I'm not one of the aforementioned 'critics' and perhaps
>you can help clear up some of the confusion which surrounds a
>number of claims.

>To recap; your appointment with the Ministry of Defence (MoD)
>was as an Executive Officer. To clarify for the 'uninitiated'
>(I'm a former Civil Servant), the standard grading hierarchy is
>clerical assistant - clerical officer - executive officer -
>higher executive officer - and upwards.

Snipped for brevity.....

Hi James and List,

I know little about Nick Pope and his involvement with the British Government, but to suggest that any government is not

associated with spin doctoring when in fact it is probably 75 percent spin doctoring, if not more, indicates a naive view of how government works. So-called democratic governments usually work on the myopic 4-5 year plan, or whatever term they have in office and worry little about the long term.

They channel most of their energies into getting re-elected, and controlling information is part and parcel of how they do it.

Having worked myself for a government for nearly 30 years, I have little hesitation in endorsing that view. Public relations and spin doctoring are not the sole property of the media.

To suggest that once assigned to a department or specific job that other duties cannot be added to your original duties in government is a seeming lacking of understanding of the trade, or a misrepresentation of same.

Your defence of the British government in this regard is touching, but in keeping with your views on the UFO subject. Like the government I find that your suppositions are often straw dogs supported by little evidence other than your own and your dogged determination to repeat them over and over as the solution. This is a ploy often used by government. I was prepared a year or so ago to accept your explanation as to the causes of the Rendlesham Forest sighting but since then your proofs on other cases have left me cold and wondering. I am sure that again you will repeat them over and over to whomever will listen. Whether indeed there is anything to Rendlesham is yet to be seen, however I now look upon that case as unresolved.

Also, James, you stated that you worked for the British Government. Do you still?

Don Ledger

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