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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### UpDate: Carpenter Speaks Out...

From: **Jim Mortellaro** <[Jsmortell@aol.com](mailto:Jsmortell@aol.com)>  
Date: Sun, 13 Aug 2000 23:02:04 -0400  
Fwd Date: Mon, 14 Aug 2000 19:59:00 -0400  
Subject: UpDate: Carpenter Speaks Out...

Here are comments from John Carpenter himself as received from a friend of his, relayed to me.

I also have a copy of Carpenter's comments regarding the "revelation" by one of the abductees, of wrongdoing. I shall send this out in another mail.

Best regards to the list ....

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John Carpenter Addresses Claims And Rumors:

By John S. Carpenter

In recent months confusing stories have been circulating around the Internet about my activities as a UFO abductions researcher. Because I serve on the Board of Directors for MUFON as Director of Abduction Research, I feel that I owe the membership, abductees, and anybody else several clarifications so as to reassure them that I have not grown fangs and degenerated into some kind of unethical criminal.

A number of assumptions have evolved from the Internet rumors. (1) It is stated that I have sold all of my abduction files to a wealthy Las Vegas billionaire, (2) It is assumed that this man, Robert Bigelow, is a shady character with secret ties to the government just because he has a great deal of money as well as tight secrecy, (3) It is claimed that I sold a list of client names to Robert Bigelow as well, (4) It is stated that I have broken the confidentiality of these cases and exposed these people to harmful scrutiny, (5) It is stated that I do not know anything about psychology and am a charlatan when it comes to hypnosis not to mention claims of sexual affairs during sessions. As is true with any circulating gossip, the truth gets lost among the more interesting additions that develop naturally through distortion.

#### BACKGROUND

First of all, UFO abduction researchers share information with each other all the time. When we get together privately or at conferences, we need to compare notes about our cases (because we are scattered around the country) in order to learn more from each other towards understanding the UFO Abduction phenomenon. We have shared cases at public conferences in an effort to educate people and encourage understanding instead of ridicule. Without comparing cases with each other we could not see the

important patterns of similarity worldwide.

We have kept information confidential to protect those abductees and their families. We have simply been pioneers collecting data while begging science to take a more serious examination. Many professionals and scientists have been afraid to be involved with what has appeared to be a fringe science fraught with hoaxes and oddballs with outrageous claims. But we have needed these great minds to help us research and resolve this mystery.

One example of this sharing and compilation of private information is MUFONs Abduction Transcription Project. Around 900 transcripts of hypnosis sessions from hundreds of abductees were offered by at least 20 different abduction researchers. Audiotapes were mailed out to less than 50 volunteers across the country who transcribed these hypnosis sessions, deleting identifying names and giving every transcript a code number. These transcripts were then fed into a computer system which could then retrieve the data in various ways over numerous variables and key words. To the best of our knowledge confidentiality was maintained.

Robert Bigelow, the wealthy Las Vegas developer, has been a kind and helpful resource to the field of UFO research over the past 10 years, quietly funding many projects with many of the main researchers like Linda Moulton Howe, Stanton Friedman, Budd Hopkins, David Jacobs, Yvonne Smith, Dr. Roger Leir, and organizations like MUFON and CUFOS. Mr. Bigelow was responsible for creating and funding the popular radio show, Art Bells Dreamland because he wanted this country to get some quality education on paranormal topics.

He was instrumental in developing and funding the Roper Organizations polling of 6,000 Americans for potential abduction encounters. He helped support the famous Abduction Studies Conference at M.I.T. in 1992. He made available hundreds of thousands of dollars to MUFON, CUFOS, and FUFOR for research projects. But he also desired to attract top quality analysis through different branches of science by the best minds from each field something UFO researchers had only dreamed of but rarely seen. This is when he created and funded NIDS the National Institute for Discovery Science at the end of 1995.

Under top secrecy and the highest standards of confidentiality, Mr. Bigelow was able to attract some of the best academic and scientific minds in this country from the fields of astrophysics, medicine, psychiatry, psychology, parapsychology, biochemistry, and physics to quietly convene on a regular basis to seriously study the best data available in the areas of UFOs and abductions, ghosts, near-death encounters, psychic abilities, consciousness, and other paranormal occurrences. A number of famous people were involved, including Jacques Vallee, Ian Stevenson, and two of the Apollo astronauts who walked on the moon. They comprised what became known as the Science Advisory Board for NIDS.

#### RESPONDING TO RUMORS

To claim that I sold all of my abduction files sounds as if I loaded up a truck with these cases and shipped them off to Las Vegas for a lump sum of money. First of all, every one of my files, audiotapes, and videotapes on abductions is fully intact within the safety of my own home where they have always been. None of them have ever been logged as official MUFON cases. In fact, I have been going through many of them as I have begun to write a book on my research.

I was contacted in 1995 by Robert Bigelow regarding a project to help educate his esteemed and newly-formed Science Advisory Board and enhance their awareness regarding the abduction phenomenon. He considered my personal research and data to be of the quality from which this team of scientists and professionals could learn and benefit. I was immediately concerned with confidentiality, but we agreed that assigning code numbers for each case and deleting identifying data (as in the Abduction Transcription Project) would protect individuals. This Science Board was not interested in anything but the kinds of information and experiences abductees are reporting not who they are or where they live. And I did not send everything that was desired sometimes only a page or two from a number of cases.

Because this project would require many hours on my part, Mr. Bigelow agreed to reimburse me for my hours, costs, and other expenses. This essentially resulted in being like a part-time job for about seven months. He insisted on being generous because he knew how many hundreds of hours I had already worked with abductees at no charge in my free hours after my full-time day job. The irony is that at the end of this project in the spring of 1996 his Science Board was already busy with their own projects and reportedly never delved into any of the material that I had sent.

Ever since I began collecting information from people back in 1988, I have made it clear that this is UFO research not therapy. I would meet in other locations after my regular hospital work hours and not charge any typical fees. The psychiatric units administrator told me that whatever I did in my free time was my own business. I would meet in borrowed offices, homes, hotels, friends houses, or wherever some privacy could be maintained.

Because I paid my all of my own expenses and was volunteering so many of my hours, a number of people insisted on giving me something for my time and trouble. I allowed them to make research donations if they wanted to do so, which was rarely more than \$20 total for three to four hours of work. I wanted to make it very clear from the start that this was not a professional service nor were they considered to be psychiatric patients. Although confidentiality was always provided, it was never protected in the strictest sense because unrelated assistants, UFO investigators, artists, friends, or even family members would commonly sit in on interviews and sessions, and there was never any absolute control over what they might say or do afterwards.

These were NOT psychiatric patients, and this was NOT psychotherapy. There were never any official medical records kept in any medical office. There were no psychiatric evaluations, treatment plans, therapy goal lists, or progress notes developed. All files containing my research notes, audiotaped interviews, and alien drawings were always kept in a spare bedroom in my home where they all continue to be kept privately today. No case was ever logged or listed officially with MUFON either. Even my malpractice insurance carrier has declared that this research was not a professional activity but the furtherance of a hobby.

I have always protected my abduction cases from public scrutiny. Before any media would ever be involved, I would always check with them or get permission to discuss their details. In fact, many of my abductees would call me first to make sure that a media representative would be okay or safe for them to talk with. This project for Mr. Bigelows Science Board offered the highest secrecy and utmost confidentiality from public scrutiny.

The claim that I sold a list of names to Mr. Bigelow is not true. My ex-wife, Elizabeth, took a confidential list of names from my home computer at the time of our divorce and began circulating this list without anybody's permission. It has even been posted briefly on a website on the Internet which is an absolutely horrible breach of privacy and potentially much more harmful.

This list which did not include any addresses, states, phone numbers, or anything beyond a name was simply the necessary key to the secret, number-coded cases. Anytime you create codes you have to keep a key to those codes somewhere. And if the name Joe Williams appears on that list, does anybody know with any degree of certainty which Joe Williams in the entire United States to whom this would refer?

The "one file" that was allegedly returned from NIDS to an abductee that supposedly had nothing blacked out ---- was none other than my ex-wife and the notes on my ex-wife's experiences. Not only did she give her consent 5 years ago and know fully what I was doing without any concern, but she is the only person who already has her ORIGINAL FILE and has had for the past 3 years! Therefore, she could make copies of anything and claim anything all on her own anyway!!! This is important additional information. The rumorists are not telling people that this file belonged to my ex-wife -- the initiator of ALL of this mess!!!

Another recent Internet rumor claims that I neglected the rights of Australian researchers and abductees and was deceptive in the making of my research videotape, Encounters in Australia. When Glennys Mackay with MUFON in Australia invited me to speak at her conference in October of 1996, I let her know right away that I wanted to make a videotape of interviews with Australian abductees when I came to Brisbane. She indicated that there should not be any problem and that she would direct me to a small conference room in the hotel and even send some people to me.

With each interview I invited each participant to read and sign a written consent form which indicated that the videotape footage would be used for research and educational purposes to enhance awareness of the abduction phenomenon. This videotape was never commercially produced, never assigned an ISBN number, never widely distributed, nor advertised in any regular fashion in any publication that I am aware of. I simply offer my home-produced research videos for sale to interested participants of UFO conferences at which I have been invited to speak.

Although these rumors claim otherwise, many of you do not have to be told that I am well-trained in psychology and hypnosis. I have a B.A. degree in Psychology and a MSW in Social Work with 21 years of experience in the field of psychiatry helping thousands of clients with all kinds of emotional, mental, behavioral, and relationship problems. I was trained in clinical hypnosis at several special programs through the highly-respected Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kansas, beginning 20 years ago.

Claims of sexual affairs during sessions was initiated and perpetuated by my ex-wife only after our divorce. What is ironic about such claims is that I have had one or two helpful assistants present for 95% of all my sessions. The other irony is that the one abductee my ex-wife made claims about always had her husband present for every interview as well as the MSW professional who was assisting me.

Also, helping my ex-wife (when we were married) casually explore any of her own UFO memories in the comfort of our home does not make her a patient or my behavior unethical. I will not state anything further about my ex-wife or her actions in respect for her rights and privacy, but such information would further explain many of the rumors, distortions, and claims.

Coming from an established field of professional practice into the unestablished and rather chaotic field of UFO research has forced many of us to become pioneers who have had to create the pathways, carve out some rules, and attempt to make credible sense out of what we are doing. Mistakes are easy to make in this field because the guidelines are constantly being either created or revised. The goal has always been to comprehend what kind of intelligence is interacting with our planet so that we can help those people who are being affected to understand and cope effectively.

We have always needed the expertise of scientists and other professionals who have traditionally been too leery or skeptical to participate toward those goals. Robert Bigelow and the National Institute for Discovery Science has finally been able to bridge that gap and open new doors for advanced research, scientific evaluation, and eventual understanding.

As I have dedicated my life toward helping people, these have been the goals in UFO research which I have been trying to serve within my free time outside of my professional career. I sincerely apologize for the unnecessary confusion and negative publicity which has hurt many feelings. I am certainly not perfect. I am just trying to do a credible job in contributing to this challenging field.

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In passing and closing, there will be much more to follow in coming days from me. And I wish to make it CLEAR as a bell with ALL of you that while I believe Carpenter, I acknowledge that he may be guilty of doing a disservice to the abductees if indeed, there was any traceability to them on a personal level. And ONLY then.

I also think that (in my opinion) there is at present no reason to report to the 140 abductees if the facts are as they have been presented to me.

It is the contention of Mr. Velez that JC did wrong by not getting permission of those whose case histories were sold, and should notify them now. I do not agree with that, necessarily. Why? If the facts are as Carpenter represents them.

I have no quarrel with John Velez, but I too, will sit this one out until the facts are made clear in this case. And if they are as presented, there will be at John Carpenter's disposal, all the help I can muster up to give him.

No one should be harrassed, accused, have his or her good name dragged into the gutter by anyone. Especially by those who are self professed abductees. Words which I do not agree with but repeat here.

Because, in my opinion, we abductees have more to lose at the hands of those who have done the same to us for decades, than JC does.

We've been accused us of insanity, of seeking a moment of glory, of lying, etc. And now, one or more of our very own is doing exactly that to a researcher for reasons which have not as yet been proven.

Dirty pool. Unfair. Premature at best.

Jim Mortellaro

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