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Vaughn@cfiwest.org
Subject: Re: The Fiction of Michael Horn & Co.

Hello all,

I've seen the quotes from Dr. Michael Malin and Robert Post repeated several times in this correspondence, and I have to say they don't appear to be ringing endorsements. They also appear to be selected portions of longer statements, in addition to being many years old. In search of the entire interview, or more recent statements, I came across this in the June 24th, 1987 edition of The San Francisco Examiner:

In an interview with The Examiner, Post recalled that several years ago, Wendelle Stevens visited him at JPL and requested an expert opinion on the pictures. Post acknowledges he was fascinated by the images, but was unable to perform a scientific analysis for two reasons: First, he isn't a photo analyst but rather the operator of a photo processing lab ("like you take your film to K-Mart", he said); and second, the pictures weren't originals but rather copies of originals - perhaps even copies of copies of copies. Such multiple copying tends to obscure delicate details, making it hard to detect evidence of fraud - e.g., threads supporting hubcaps.

In addition, when Post examined some images with a magnifying glass, he realized "a lot of the pictures weren't really photographs at all - they were lithographs," or high-resolution ink prints made from photos - and, hence, were worthless for purposes of analysis. Furthermore, the photos were "a lot fuzzier than the stuff on the lithographs, and I thought that was a little strange."

I have to say I'm underwhelmed by the evidence so far.
Michael

At 09:31 _i 26/8/2004, Kramer wrote:
You ALWAYS TELL... "THE RANDI RETRACTION STORY"?
Really? Then you always LIE. Thusly, YOU ARE A LIAR. By all evidence, you are also a sociopath. Your behavior indicates this most clearly.
You are also an EXPLOITED LIAR, as the "very regular media iinterviews" you are afforded prove NOTHING other than the intelligence of publishers and tv producers who know their audience well enough to understand that having one more LYING BOZO making absurd, unsubstantiated claims on tv will increase sales and ratings just enough for them to keep their jobs. They don't care if you LIE or not, and that's why none of them contact Randi in an effort to check facts, as any REAL journalist would. You and your "scientists" are little more than a side-show act, and people will always pay to watch silly people saying silly things.

Kramer,
You must have skimmed over the scientists' names whom Michael Horn quoted

from, regarding opinions on Meier's photos that they had inspected. But you've probably heard of Dr. Michael Malin.

<<Dr. Michael Malin: Principal investigator for the Mars Orbiter Camera on NASA's Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft at Malin Space Science Systems (MSSS), San Diego, CA. Analyzed Meier's photographs in 1981: "I find the photographs themselves credible, they're good photographs. They appear to represent a real phenomenon. The story that some farmer in Switzerland is on a first name basis with dozens of aliens who come to visit him ... I find that incredible. But I find the photographs more credible. They're reasonable evidence of something. What that something is I don't know." Malin also said, "If the photographs are hoaxes then I am intrigued by the quality of the hoax. How did he do it? I'm always interested in seeing a master at work." >>

And Robert Post shouldn't be marginalized:

<<Robert Post: JPL photo laboratory for 22 years, was the head of that lab in 1979, and oversaw the developing and printing of every photograph that came out of JPL at the time: "From a photography standpoint, you couldn't see anything that was fake about the Meier photos. That's what struck me. They looked like legitimate photographs. I thought, 'God, if this is real, this is going to be really something.'" >>

The inner quotes come from Gary Kinder, author of *Light Years*, who interviewed them.

This is not to say that despite the above opinions at the time, these scientists would not now disavow the Meier case if they had come to believe enough of the disinformation that's been around. However, I very much doubt that they'd like to be called "silly scientists" putting on a "side-show act."

I've looked at some of Meier's different photo series and, though no expert in photography, have analyzed them especially with respect to depth-of-field considerations. This consideration alone shows that Meier had photographed large UFO-like objects in the distance, not models. So you might want to browse: <http://www.tjresearch.info/moretree.htm> and <http://www.tjresearch.info/hasenbol.htm>
Jim Deardorff

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