

JUST CAUSE



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Citizens Against UFO Secrecy

January 25, 1998

This will be my last statement for CAUS, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy. Effective January 18, 1998, I have resigned as editor of its newsletter Just Cause.

In 1984, after CAUS was essentially a defunct organization, Larry Fawcett and myself thought it would be a good idea to have a vehicle to publish updates following the publication of "Clear Intent," now called "The UFO Cover Up." We had asked Peter Gersten, who had previously taken out papers incorporating an earlier version of CAUS with himself as director, if it was alright to revive CAUS and its newsletter, Just Cause, since no one was doing anything with the organization. CAUS had become a recognizable name after several national news stories a few years before, and Fawcett and myself were working on the kind of research that CAUS had represented.

Gersten gave permission and we began a new version of Just Cause in September 1984, with Fawcett as publisher and Greenwood as editor. On occasion we would publish along with Just Cause a CAUS Washington Report by Larry Bryant, giving his views on government UFO matters. It was essentially an independent publication by a previous editor of Just Cause. There was no editorial cross-over influence between the two publications. CWR stopped around 1992 after about a dozen issues.

From 1984 to date, a period of more than 13 years, all CAUS policy decisions and opinions were basically my construction since Director Gersten had left the organization to do other things. Several years ago Larry Fawcett retired to Florida, leaving me with the entire operation, i.e. the newsletter and a group of supporter/subscribers/members around the world.

In early January 1998, I was informed by Project 1947 head, Jan Aldrich, that a site on the Internet contained a rambling open letter on UFOs for a group called CSETI, run by Steven Greer. The statement concluded with a list of contact organizations for the letter. CAUS was one listed with my address but with a phone number that I did not recognize. I never saw this letter, did not endorse its contents or CSETI, and did not authorize any use of the CAUS name and address. The phone number, I discovered later, belonged to Robert Bletchman of Connecticut, public relations head of the Mutual UFO Network. That a MUFON official is listing himself as a CAUS contact is beyond me since he was neither a CAUS representative or on my mailing list. Why is MUFON interfering in my business anyway?

I asked Aldrich to act as intermediary on the net for me as I am not

on-line. I insisted that the operator of the web site with the CSETI letter, Steven Bassett of Washington, D.C., remove CAUS from the list of contacts for the letter immediately.

On January 18th, I was advised by Aldrich of an E-mail message from Peter Gersten to him announcing that Gersten was reasserting his control of CAUS retroactive to January 1 to "make CAUS an effective and viable activist organization dedicated to ending all secrecy about extraterrestrial contact ..." He added that, "I hope to pick up where Barry left off," and that he (Gersten) be consulted prior to making any statements on behalf of CAUS.

I was thunderstruck that after 13 years of setting policy for CAUS to protect its reputation as a careful, credible outlet for research on the federal government's interest in aerial phenomena (apparently something few of its other "officials" cared about as they never showed up!), my position was being summarily usurped in the flash of a keystroke. I had left off nothing, and suddenly any CAUS statements had to be cleared through Gersten, someone who hadn't overseen the operation or issued any policy directives for over a decade!

After having asked Steven Bassett, through Aldrich, to remove the CAUS info from the CSETI letter, I discovered that the new director Gersten had consulted with Bassett and had accepted him as a CAUS consultant, again without my knowledge, thoroughly undermining my position through a blindsided strike.

It became quickly clear that staying with CAUS was untenable, ... unacceptable. The "new" CAUS officials, who were popping up like prairie dog heads in the desert, were beginning to forge unpleasant connections, CSETI/Greer for one. On Gersten's on-line chat room, one of his recent workshops is titled, "Healing Your Inner Alien." This is precisely the kind of thing that I had spent much of my publishing time against: the dumbing-down of UFO research, getting off onto silly tangents. Pardon me for offending any personal beliefs but this is not science, it is not even common sense, not even close.

With the advent of a collection of new CAUS loose cannons, I asked Jan Aldrich to E-mail my immediate resignation to Gersten. For me, the rapid escalation of double-dealing and duplicity was over. Upon acknowledging my resignation, Gersten immediately announced the debut of Just Cause as his own on-line publication, wasting no time completing the assault.

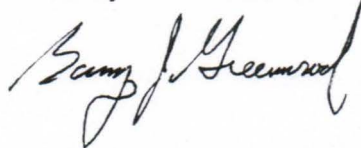
One point needs to be made clear. Peter Gersten was the director of CAUS when we took over the newsletter in 1984. He did not resign the position, he abandoned it, though, legally, he still held the title. In essence, Fawcett and I were forced to be the de facto directors in that no one else was issuing reports or statements in that capacity. I was in no position to change Gersten's status without tearing down the organization and titles and renaming everything. At the time there was no need. He has the right to take that title again. I don't have to accept the "coup d'etat" method in which it was done, or the new alliances which I feel will ultimately destroy CAUS' credibility.

Since this is my last CAUS publication, from here on anything attributed to CAUS is not my responsibility. I have no connection to it.

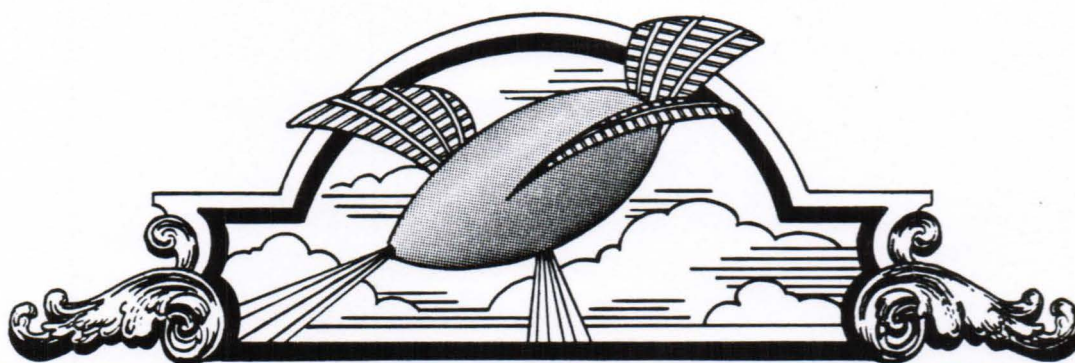
I will replace Just Cause with a new publication called "UFO Historical Review." If any of my existing subscribers want to continue with CAUS, I will refund their remaining issues and they can find CAUS on-line somewhere. If any want to stay, do nothing. The next mailing will contain UHR, which will be similar in format to Just Cause. Available from: Box 176; Stoneham, Ma. 02180. Quarterly at \$15 per year, \$20 foreign. Payable on renewal to me, not UHR, for the present. I want to thank Larry Fawcett and Robert Todd for their contributions during the CAUS era, and

more recently Jan Aldrich and Edward Stewart of Project 1947 for alerting me to the back room maneuvers.

Barry J. Greenwood



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