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NEWSLETTER

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WHO IS CREATING COMUNISTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA?

Mark Dowie, editor of MOTHER JONES magazine, and I were guests on the Michel Dixon show on KCBS Radio Station of San Francisco, on May 31. The program presented a true interchange of ideas. The host was impartial, perceptive and meticulously fair, while Mark Dowie was courteous, intelligent and articulate. The absence of personal attacks enabled us to present and discuss our conflicting convictions.

Mark claimed that U.S. policies toward Fidel Castro, after the success of his Cuban Revolution, had forced him to turn to the Soviet Union and that this had been the cause of his embrace of communism. He contended that similar U.S. policies were forcing the Sandinistas of Nicaragua and other revolutionary groups in Central America to become communists. Thus, U.S. policies, while subjectively anti-communist, were objectively pro-communist. U.S. attitudes and programs were generating communists in ever-increasing numbers in the countries south of the border.

His point of view seemed to have much to commend it, and it is shared by a substantial number of the educated elite in this country. The important questions are: "Does he have a true interpretation of the existing situation? Would his advocated policies produce the results he promised?"

I pointed out that Fidel Castrol had said: "I am a Marxist-Leninists, and have been one since my student days; but I hid it so that I could bring the revolution to a successful conclusion." Castro's confession that he had been a communist before the success of the revolution destroyed the validity of the argument that the treatment he had received form the U.S.A., following the success of the revolution, had driven him to communism.

Mark was unimpressed. He said that Castro and other people make all sorts of statements depending upon the occasion and circumstances. These statements often conflict and should be treated with appropriate reservations. He insisted that the observed facts confirmed that U.S. conduct had driven the Cuban revolution on to the communist pathway.

Mark claimed that the revolutions of Central and South America are caused by the intolerable conditions of poverty and oppression that prevail in those areas.

True, False, or Incomplete

The premises which lead to these conclusions are not simply false. They are much more dangerous than that. They are incomplete and lead logically to conclusions which are false but convincing, and which are believed with great sincerity.

Partial truth is often more dangerous than outright falsehood because it is more deceptive.

The poet Tennyson said:

A lie which is half a truth is the wickedest lie of all;
For a lie which is all a lie can be met with and fought outright,
But a lie which is half a truth is a harder matter to fights.

Which of the following statements, concerning the journey of the Pilgrims on the Mayflower to the shores of the new world at Plymouth rock are true?

1. They were driven to the new world by the winds and tides of the Atlantic.
2. They were driven to the new world by the cruelty and oppression of the authorities of England.

3. They were brought to the new world by their passionate desire to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences.
4. Their journey was made possible by the construction and availability of the ship, the Mayflower.
5. Their arrival was due to the skill of the captain and the crew who navigated, steered and controlled the sails so that they brought the ship and its cargo to the chosen destination.

Each statement is true, but standing alone it is incomplete. Policies which are based on the assumption that one statement is the whole truth, and which ignore or deny the others, are likely to be erroneous and lead to catastrophe.

There is widespread resentment of the poverty and injustice that prevails throughout Central America. This resentment has existed as long as organized society has existed. It is comparable to the winds and the tides that sweep the Atlantic and which have existed from time immemorial. The winds and tides did not bring settlers to the new world until there existed a Mayflower to transport them and skilled navigators and sailors to harness the winds and tides, as well as people willing and eager to risk the dangers of the journey. The destination was chosen by the Pilgrims and reached due to the knowledge and skill of the navigators and helmsmen, not by the undirected strength of the winds and tides alone.

The revolutions of Central America are not spontaneous uprising of the masses against their oppression. They are the result of the existence of revolutionary organizations which skillfully harness the resentment and suffering of the people and use their strength and resources for guerrilla war.

Revolutionary Organizations in El Salvador

Consider the revolution in El Salvador. It is conducted by a political-military organization known as the Farabundo Mati National Liberation Front, the FMLN. The military operations are conducted by the Unified Revolutionary Directorate (DRU). If the revolution is successful, this organization will have the real power.

The political arm, the Democratic Revolutionary Front, the FDR, is based outside the country and is useful for propaganda purposes but has little real power. The DRU is composed of five independent revolutionary organizations. These are:

1. The Popular Liberation Forces (FPL)
2. The People's Revolutionary Army (ERP)
3. The Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN)
4. The Armed Forces of Liberation (FAL)
5. The Central American Workers Revolutionary Party (PRTC)

Each of these organizations was formed by an individual or a small group of individuals with passionate convictions. These convictions are held so strongly that disagreement often leads to the physical destruction of one of the contending parties. For example, the leaders of the FPL have just been engaged in policy conflicts which led to the murder and suicide of top commanders.

The ERP is led by Joaquin Villalobos. In 1975, Villalobos personally executed his principal rival, a pro-Cuban poet named Roque Dalton, after accusing him of being a spy for both the Cubans and the CIA.

Each organization was created by a leader with Marxist-Leninist convictions. Most of these leaders were converted to communism while they were students. Literature, which was produced by the communists and distributed by teachers, played an important role in their conversion.

Consequently all organizations follow the philosophy and doctrines of Marxism-Leninism.

These guide the leaders as they decide on policies to follow during the revolutionary phase and will guide them in the formulation of policies and programs if the revolution is successful. Marxism-Leninism has preordained that the regimes established by successful revolutionary forces will be dedicated to the overthrow of the United States and to the triumph of communism throughout the world. Intelligent U.S. policies must take this into account.

The Influence of Circumstances and Ideas

It is true that the conduct of individuals is influenced by the external conditions these individuals and organizations face. It is also true that their conduct is influenced by the beliefs which guide the individuals and organizations as they interpret the external conditions and devise policies in relation to them.

Any attempt to understand conduct without considering the beliefs which motivate that conduct is stupid. It will lead to a false interpretation of the present and an inaccurate prediction of the future. It is only possible to understand present actions and to predict future ones when we know the prevailing ideology which motivates present and future conduct. Policies based on assumptions which ignore the role of ideology are foredoomed to failure.

Can we affirm that Hitler's "final solution" was the result of Jewish conduct and was not the result of the insane, but sincerely believed, convictions of Adolph Hitler concerning the vile nature of the Jews? The horrors of the gas chambers and incinerators of the holocaust were the product of the deadly ideas which were taught to Hitler and accepted by him.

Was the murder-suicide of over 900 people in the jungles of Guyana, when Jim Jones and his followers in the People's Church engaged in the orgy of self-destruction and murder, caused by the visit of Congressman Ryan and his party and not by the ideas of the disordered mind of Jim Jones? The coming of Congressman Ryan may have triggered the destruction, but the potentials for it already existed. The instruments of mass suicide had been prepared. The cyanide was ready. Rehearsals for mass suicide had been held. The beliefs in the mind of Jim Jones produced their harvest of destruction.

The doctrines of Marxism-Leninism are an important element in the revolutions in Central America. They must be given adequate attention when formulating policies.

Those who believe the doctrines of Marxism-Leninism-- and this includes those who direct the guerrilla fighters -- are convinced that the U.S.A. is "imperialistic". This leads inescapably to the conclusion that the U.S.A. is the enemy of their revolution and will seek to destroy it. Any friendliness and support given by the U.S.A. must, therefore, be designed to deceive the revolution. Only when the U.S.A. is destroyed will true peace be possible. Thus, hostility to the U.S.A. is foreordained by belief in the doctrine.

If the Marxist-Leninists conquer any country in Central America, certain consequences are predictable:

1. The hopes of the people in the area for democratic freedoms will vanish. A totalitarian dictatorship will be established.
2. The people of the conquered country will be militarized.
3. A system of universal espionage will be created.
4. Food production will decrease.
5. A host of refugees will try to flee the country.
6. A new base for the distribution of communist propaganda will be created.
7. The non-communist neighbors of that country will be endangered.
8. Another step in the encirclement of the U.S.A. will have been taken.

The Options

The U.S.A. is not confronted with the choice between giving unconditional support to an existing regime with a history of corruption and contempt for human rights and giving support to Marxist-Leninist revolutionaries. It can use its influence to persuade the existing authorities to institute genuine democratic and humane reforms. These include:

1. Holding elections in which the people can choose the individuals whom they wish to govern them. For such elections to be genuinely democratic, the electors must be free to choose between a number of individuals and parties; and candidates must be able to campaign in security.
2. The establishment of a system of impartial justice so that crimes and corruption are punished even if the guilty hold high positions.
3. Support for programs to alleviate poverty, ignorance, illiteracy, and disease.

These reforms are made difficult by the depredations of the guerrillas and are impossible if the guerrillas win. Therefore, the guerrillas must be denied victory. Military assistance must be provided where this is necessary.

Programs to improve economic well-being are long-range. They must be accompanied by an aggressive truth campaign which distribute truthful information about:

1. The errors and fallacies of Marxist-Leninist doctrine.
2. The monopoly, dictatorship, brutality, and mass murder that has occurred in every country which the communists have conquered.
3. The true and undesirable objectives of the communists.

Such a campaign will:

1. Diminish the success of the communist campaign to recruit idealistic students.
2. Persuade some of the communists to discard their dangerous delusions.
3. Weaken the morale of the communist forces.
4. Preserve the opportunity to enlarge the domain of personal and national freedom.
5. Restore the reputation of the U.S.A. and thereby contribute to the security of this country.

The communist program to conquer Central America must be defeated.

TRAGEDY OR STATISTIC

The number of deaths caused by communism is awesomely large, but its very magnitude tends to make it somewhat impersonal. As Stalin is alleged to have said: "The death of one is a tragedy; the death of one million is a statistic." What then is the death of 100 million? This is the number of deaths in the Soviet Union caused by communism, according to Anton Antonov-Ovseyenko, the son of the man who led the Bolshevik attack on the Winter Palace in 1917, as related in his book, "The Time of Stalin".

Various estimates have been made of the deaths caused by the Great Cultural Revolution in China, but no known statistics are available. A team of Japanese investigators reached the conclusion that the dead were in the neighborhood of 20 million.

Unfortunately, such monstrous figures tend to paralyze the mind without stirring the emotions. We are stirred when we contemplate the suffering and death of a known person like ourselves.

A book has now been published which adds flesh and blood to the dry bones of the statistics of communist slaughter during the Great Cultural Revolution in China. It is called, "Son of the Revolution", and it is the autobiography of a young Chinese man, Liang Hen, who grew from childhood to manhood in Central China during the time of organized bestiality and insanity. It shows how decision reached by a handful of isolated people in positions of power, translate into fear, hunger, torture and death for ordinary and innocent people. Since the selection of victims is arbitrary, no one is safe.

Liang reports the story of the death of his aunt, who was listed as a suicide and whose name was never mentioned in casual conversation. He had recently met his uncle, who was a doctor, who had been trained in the U.S.A., and who lived in Shanghai. He writes:

"My uncle's habit of tiptoeing to the door to listen was an unnerving one, but it was after such an excursion that he urged me to stay with them for the duration of my visit. 'The barefoot doctors have taken over, and your uncle who studied medicine for more than forty years has almost nothing to do,' he whispered. 'Stay with an old man and keep him company.'

"It was easy to decide to stay, but more difficult to bring the conversation around to the subject of my aunt. I now wanted more than ever to know what had happened to her, but was embarrassed to ask. Then one night when his daughter had gone to work her night shift, he told me everything without being prompted. I had been confiding some of my own bitterness. Suddenly he fumbled deep under his mattress and came out with a small packet of photographs.

All of them were of his wife, a tall graceful woman with an air of Shanghai elegance. In one picture she was in a laboratory pouring something from one test tube to another. In another, she stood with her two girls. There was even one that had been saved miraculously, of her wedding to Uncle Song while they were graduate students in America at the University of Pennsylvania. She wore a white wedding gown, and he was in a dark suit with a flower pinned to the lapel.

"'We came back when China entered the Korean War,' my uncle said. 'We didn't feel right staying in a country that was fighting against our motherland, and we had learned enough in our studies to be able to make a contribution. For nearly a decade we dedicated ourselves to our work at the institutes here.'

"My uncle lowered his voice even more, so that I had to bend my head to hear him. 'then the Cultural Revolution broke. They attacked us both, but she was the major target because she had relatives in Taiwan. They said we worked for the CIA, and proved it by pointing to what they called our bourgeois lifestyle. I was criticized in posters and the Red Guards came to the house and insulted me, but she was taken away and locked in a basement. They wouldn't let me see her for months. Then they told me I could go if I would persuade her to cooperate. She had bruises all over her. She said they wanted her to name the 'other' scientists who were CIA agents, and they would let her go.'

"His voice shook, but he didn't weep. 'They had been injecting her with drugs that confused her so much that she didn't know what was true anymore. She told me at the time that she couldn't take much more. Then they called me a second time, a week later. It was to get her corpse. She was all swollen with water. I hardly knew her for my wife. like a huge pustule. They told me she had killed herself, a class enemy because she had rejected the Party's investigation. Then took her away and burned her.' My uncles face looked lifeless: 'Later a worker told me they had immersed her up to the neck in stinking slime. For three days he heard her screams, and then they stopped. I suppose she ripped her own clothing into strips to make the rope that hanged her.'

"My eyes were wet for the two of us. The photographs had made this woman alive for me, especially when I saw how much she looked like my stepfather. I tried to control myself so that would not sadden Uncle Song anymore, but I need not have done so; he had lived so long with his grief that he could now comfort others. 'Tell your uncle Lei that his sister found her rest earlier than the rest of us,' he said gently."

It is instructive to note that Mao Ze-dong, the man who instigated and encouraged such treatment for millions of ordinary Chinese, was praised and adored by many alleged Christian leaders in this and other countries. The man whose life long motto was, "Hate and destroy your class enemies," was presented as almost a re-incarnation of the meek and lowly Jesus, who said: "Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them who spitefully sue you and persecute you."

Communist conquest of this country would almost certainly lead to the extermination of large numbers of U.S. citizens considered as class enemies. If this tragic outcome leads to your death or the death of one you love, will it be a statistic or a tragedy? Will anyone be permitted to mourn?

THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH

The deadly disease, AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), which was first observed in the homosexual community, is now spreading to heterosexuals.

The magazine, SCIENCE NEWS, reports in its May 28, 1983 edition that researchers have found AIDS is being spread from males to females by sexual contact. This raises the possibility that AIDS may become a treat to the general population. (Page 341)

Here is the sequence:

AIDS originates in the promiscuous homosexual community. This community contains a proportion of bi-sexuals. Some of these bi-sexuals contract AIDS from their homosexual partners. They then transmit it to their heterosexual partners.

Homosexual promiscuity threatens the health of the community. Thus, consenting acts between adults in private

menace public health.

Laws to protect public health are permissible and desirable, but there is no substitute for moral restraint.
HOW MANY COMMUNISTS ARE NEEDED TO IMPOSE SOCIALISM IN THE U.S.A?

The number of supporters of Socialism in the U.S.A. is diminishing while the danger that Socialism will prevail in the U.S.A. is increasing. How can this be?

The decline in the appeal of Socialism is reported with sadness in the leading Socialist newspaper, IN THESE TIMES. A columnist, David Moberg, commences an article in the June 1-14 edition thus:

"In 1912 there were 79 Socialist mayors...throughout the U.S. A year later a bright young Socialist named Walter Lippmann, after a year as aide to the Socialist mayor of Schenectady, N.Y., chastised Socialist Party mayors for not being sufficiently socialist and too much like any other reformer. Ironically, shortly afterward Lippmann himself turned reformer, abandoning socialism.

"Such a string of victories and such criticism would seem luxurious to the left today in the U.S., when the number of mayors who are openly Socialist or of related politics, such as 'economic democracy,' can be counted on one hand."
 (Page 2)

In the light of this situation there would seem to be no possibility that Socialism could triumph in the U.S.A. Unfortunately, the future may not be determined by the desires of the majority of the U.S. citizens. Socialism may be imposed upon an unwilling populace.

When the Communists rule in any country, they call the system they impose "Socialism" not Communism. They believe that mature Communism will come in due course but that its coming must await the fulfillment of certain historic conditions. One of these is the universal imposition of Communist rule throughout the world. Another is the creation of the "new man" which is the primary task of Socialism. Thus, Communism is a future hypothetical state which has never yet existed, and which cannot exist anywhere at this present time.

How could Socialism be imposed on the United States? How many U.S. citizens must support Socialism for this to come to pass?

The somber truth is that a campaign to impose Socialism is presently progressing, and it could succeed even if there were not one supporter of Socialism in the U.S.A. This campaign is directed by the Soviet Union and follows the formula: "External encirclement, plus internal demoralization, plus thermonuclear blackmail, lead to progressive surrender."

Of course there are a significant number of Communists and supporters of Socialism in the U.S.A., and these are working feverishly to overthrow democratic Capitalism and to establish Communist Dictatorship. Nevertheless, the campaign could succeed without them.

The two elements necessary for the success of this program are encirclement and demoralization. Conversion to Communism or Socialism is not necessary.

The Soviet Communists who are supplying the weapons, the Cuban and Nicaraguan Communist who are transporting them, and the Salvadorean Communists who are using them and directing other in their use, are not merely seeking to wage a successful revolution in El Salvador, they are consciously seeking to impose Socialism in the U.S.A. Many of the noncommunist guerrillas may be unaware of this, but the leaders will decide what will happen if the "revolution" is successful. Their decisions will be guided by their beliefs in Marxism-Leninism.

The Communist conquest of El Salvador would be a step towards the conquest of the U.S.A.

WORLD CONQUEST VS. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the leading opponent of communism, and Konstantin Chernenko, the leading theoretician of

communism agree about what is the important priority of soviet foreign and national policies. Both affirm that the Soviet Union is willing and eager to sacrifice the well-being of the Soviet people in order to promote communist world conquest.

Chernenko states this with pride, whereas Solzhenitsyn regards it as regrettable and shameful.

Chernenko states:

"Internationalism, in the sense in which Marx, Engels and Lenin understood it and the CPSU practices it, is a principled stance that is incompatible with the pursuit of short-term advantages or with any concessions to nationalist sentiments and presupposes a readiness to make sacrifices, if need e, in the name of the sacred solidarity to one's class brothers. 'Soviet power gave the world dictatorship of the proletariat and world revolution priority over any national sacrifices, however hard they may be,' Lenin wrote. The CPSU has repeated proved its loyalty to that behest by Lenin." (World Marxist Review, December, 1982, page 11)

Solzhenitsyn states:

"Communism is a trap from which no nation has ever escaped. No personal tyranny can compare with ideological communism, since every personal tyrant attains a limit of power that satisfies him. But no single country is enough to satisfy a totalitarian regime. Communism is a type of virtually an incomprehensible regime that is not interested in the flourishing of a country, or in the health and welfare of its people. On the contrary, communism sacrifices both people and country to achieve its external goals.

"The main goal of communism is an irrational and fanatical urge to swallow the maximum amount of external territory and population, with the ideal limit being the entire planet. Under communism a country is never prepared for a long and healthy economic existence. But it is always ready to strike, to seize, and to expand militarily-- that is an indispensable mode of communist existence." (Samizdat Bulletin, No. 120, pages 9 and 10)

Who can deny that the primary objective of the Soviet Union is the conquest of the U.S.A and the world?

IF YOU DON'T VOTE FOR ME -- YOU'RE NUTS

Psychiatrist Harvey Fireside of Ithaca, New York reported to a forum on the international abuse of psychiatry that he estimates that 9,000 to 10,000 political dissidents are detained under psychiatric pretexts in the Soviet Union -- about 1,500 in special "psychiatric prisons" and the rest in hospitals. (Science News, page 350, May 28, 1983)