

Guess what, gang?

With this issue of FIRST DRAFT, I'm entering my third year of publishing a weekly fanzine. Hey, wow! Foop to Apa L!

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☐☐ Impeach Earl Warren, it says over there to the right of this line -- for casting the deciding vote that allowed pornographer Ginzburg's conviction, for marketing EROS and sundry other juicy items, to stand. Now the courts are going to have to take the intent of the publisher into account, as discerned, so the Warren decision claims, from the tone of the item's advertising. This is Warren Court Instant Law Wrecking with a vengeance. I hadn't worried particularly about the points the Court stretched on its segregation decisions, for the cause was so transparently just. I have been a bit worried about the anti-anti-communist decisions, or some of them. But this one is strictly putrid from start to finish. I commend to your attention the various dissenting opinions. John Boardman?

IMPEACH EARL WARREN!.....

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LETTER COLUMN

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DAN GOODMAN:

On FDR #103:

When did I ever renounce guilt-by-association tactics? In this particular case, there's pretty strong circumstantial evidence on my side. "A trout in the milk is clear evidence that the milk has been watered."

Someone once tried to tell me that the Communist Party does not own the WORKER. It's an independant corporation; and if I saw a connection ~~betwe~~ between it and the CP -- that was guilt by association. ((I trust you didn't accept such nonsense!)) On the other hand, using guilt by association one could "prove" that the Cult is a Fascist organization. (Is it Fitch or Boardman who transmits orders from Argentina to the OA?)

I carry a notebook at all times when I'm wearing clothes. At first reading, your interpolation has a double meaning. At second reading, it has a triple meaning. I've read it about five times by now... One of us has an exceedingly dirty mind.

By analogy, I would have to explain at least once why I always capitalize "Hell." Part of the trouble with that is that I can't always remember which ideas are original with me and which I've picked up elsewhere.

TIME's special vocabulary is an integral part of its slanting. For example: everyone knows what "Vietnik" means. Therefore, one does not have to think about the concept behind it. I believe that anyone who discusses politics should think about it; perhaps this violates the basic tenets of Nixon Republicanism... ((There are those, to be sure, who will say, "he's a Vietnik; so we don't have to listen to him." But there are others who will say, "he's a Vietnik, but let's see if he's any more convincing than any of the others." Either way, the attitude's going to be the same; but with the term "Vietnik" available one doesn't have to go thru a long rigamarole each time to define what you mean -- and certainly both right and left wingers are perfectly aware of what the term in question means... -- dgv))

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((DAN GOODMAN continues...)) Since "so-called" is a stylistic sin more common on the Right than on the Left, I assumed that you had picked it up from ~~a ~~XXXXX~~ ~~XXXXX~~~~ NATIONAL REVIEW. In this particular instance, you and Boardman are both wrong. (Wrong in the sense of your statements being contradicted by hard data.) The Viet Cong and the National Liberation Front are distinct (if not separate) entities. Their exact relationship is a matter of debate.

McReynolds is in agreement with the goals of the American Revolution. However, he is against violations of civil and property rights of conservatives that occurred during and just after the Revolution. ((Agreed; it was one of our less proud persecutions.))

Thayer's point was that Tito's closing of the frontier was the factor in ending the civil war in Greece. He mentions other factors: U.S. aid, the replacement of an excellent guerrilla leader by an incompetent one. But he says that the closing of the Yugoslav frontier was the decisive factor. You obviously disagree with him. I don't know if I agree with him; but he knows rather more about guerrilla warfare than either of us does. ((Don't tell me I can't pick flaws in "expert" logic -- if we hadn't aided Greece the closing of the frontier later wd have been academic, since Greece wd by then have been communist...))

We should aid Finland against Communism. India; I can think of others. Now: should we aid Spain against a hypothetical Communist-led revolt? ((Of course.)) (Remember -- Hitler and Mussolini were Franco's allies.) South Africa? ((Of course not.)) Is any noncommunist government, no matter how evil, to be protected against a Communist uprising? ((Tshombe and Katanga?)) Should we have protected Nazi Germany against communism?

If the only objective of our foreign policy is to screw Russia and China, the best course is to announce our conversion to marxism-leninism. Turn the details of internal change over to Everett Dirksen, and trust him to proceed with all deliberate speed. Meanwhile, we could: give Castro the credit for our conversion, and give him a better deal on sugar than he's getting from the Russians; propose a treaty of eternal friendship and military aid with Outer Mongolia; make a deal with Albania, perhaps. ((Why not just support China against Russia?)) ((Seriously.))

Sponsoring guerrilla warfare in Tibet is out, for tactical reasons. Albania seems a better prospect.

Of course Pound isn't a traitor. It's almost impossible for someone to be convicted of treason in a fair trial, the way the Constitution reads on this point. I was baiting you, of course.

This is second drafted, this letter. The first one has disappeared on my desk. In searching for it, I found bits of an abandoned novel (worse-written than I'd remembered); the French youth hostel guide; and green stamps. Somewheres on that desk are: projected constitutions for a daily apa, and other for a couple more impractical sorts of apas; a letter to Earl Evers; and Campbell knows what else. (I just turned up a NYCon II program booklet. One of these days, I'll start collecting proof I was there. It would be easier if I'd actually been in fandom at the time, and especially if I'd actually attended...)

□□□□ And this is Dave Van Arnam, signing off for now, with another big fat ostentatious Hoping You Are The Sane...

-- dgv