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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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DECEPTION

*From the Bulletin of The John Birch Society for March, 1970, we reprint the foreword
by Robert Welch*

One way they look, another way they steer.

Edward Young.

Thus do the helmsmen of our ship of state constantly deceive the American people. And it certainly is not difficult. For, as Montaigne says of the whole human race, "we seek and offer ourselves to be gulled."

There are three reasons for practically everything our government does today. First is the ostensible reason. This is set forth in every preamble, for all the simpleminded to accept. Second is the primary major immediate purpose to be accomplished by some particular series of governmental activities. And third is a corollary reason, an underlying common denominator which shows up in connection with a hundred diverse plans.

But such generalizations do not mean anything unless they are made clear and convincing by specific illustrations. So let's take a look at a few of all these "wars" we are engaged in today, to see how they fit into the indicated program. There is:

- (A) The war on racial injustices;
- (B) The war on poverty;
- (C) The war on crime;
- (D) The war on inflation;
- (E) The war against population explosion;
- (F) The newly instituted war on pollution;
- (G) And that long established, practically permanent, apparently eternal war in Vietnam.

Now every one of these "wars" has a noble sounding objective, and at least a pretense to some humanitarian reason for the American people to support it. The Communist influences, that wrote the script and run the show in every case, always require some small fire of idealism at the core of all the smoke of confusion and propaganda which they develop out of any project. But, let us repeat, these Communist influences always have a major and immediate real purpose behind each separate scheme. And — which is the whole point to this foreword — they also have a corollary purpose that is common to them all. So let's now run down the list with these three thoughts in mind. We shall not stop to try to prove anything, but simply point out what should quickly become obvious to those who are sufficiently informed.

A. There has been tremendous and painstakingly plotted agitation about "civil rights" for the past twenty years. (1) The theoretical objective of all this agitation has been to correct racial injustices in America. (2) The primary real

objective has been to create bitterness, dissension, riots, and all possible activities which promote the semblance of a planned revolution. But (3), a third objective has been to supply the excuse and the means for advancing what we can here call the Communist Project X. And that project is: *To increase the power, the size, and the reach of the federal or central government.*

B. Next on our list is the so-called war on poverty. (1) The theoretical aim of this "war" is to eliminate all the material and spiritual disadvantages of the poor. (2) The primary real purpose has been to create and magnify a feeling of class consciousness in this country which we never had before; to foment bitterness between the "have-nots" and the "haves," which had always been considered ridiculous in this land of flux, freedom, and opportunity; and to develop out of all this agitation a flood of rapidly and greatly increasing pronouncements and activities, blatantly advocating and supporting revolution. (3) But the third and corollary purpose has been to supply the excuse and the means for pushing Project X: That is, *to increase the power, the size, and the reach of the central government.*

C. Then there is the "war on crime." (1) The theoretical reason for this war is to restore "law and order." (2) There are many observers who believe that the major immediate purpose is quite to the contrary. They think that the Communist-run Establishment actually seeks, by coddling criminals, by the tremendous publicity given to crime of every variety, by the visible distortion of all law and legal procedures in favor of the criminal, by hamstringing our local police forces, and by many other means, to have crime become much more widespread and more commonplace. And that one important part of this objective is to have the prevalence of crime become a conscious, gnawing, and constant fear in the mind of the general public. We do not pause here to argue about that interpretation with anybody who disagrees. For our real present point is simply that, (3) this much-ballyhooed "war on crime" gives strong support in many ways to Project X. It supplies a whole stream of excuses for *increasing the power, the size, and the reach of the central government.*

D. And of course we have the "war on inflation." (1) Its theoretical purpose is to slow down or even prevent the disintegration of the value of our currency. But in this case the show and the pretense are pretty thin. (2) For the real major immediate purpose is exactly the opposite. The very steps taken, supposedly to prevent inflation, are patently designed to speed it up. The surtax on income is an excellent example.

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IN AUSTRALIA —

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(Editorial Head Office)

THE SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT

Personnel — Chairman: Dr. B. W. Monahan, 4 Torres Street, Red Hill, Canberra, Australia 2603. Deputy Chairman: British Isles: Dr. Basil L. Steele, Penrhyn Lodge, Gloucester Gate, London, N.W.1. Telephone: 01-387 3893. Liaison Officer for Canada: Monsieur Louis Even, Maison Saint-Michel, Rougemont, P.Q., Secretary: H. A. Scoular, Box 3266, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W. 2001.

FROM WEEK TO WEEK

An AAP-Reuters report, published in *The Canberra Times*, April 18, 1970, quotes Mr. Brezhnev as saying at the official celebrations marking the centenary of the birth of Lenin: "It will take no small efforts to win a final and full victory. But we are confident this victory will come". This is merely a re-affirmation of Communism's militant intent which is steadfastly pursued under the banner of "peaceful coexistence". The continuing Soviet arms build-up (to which 'arms limitation' for the West is complementary) is the hard evidence of this intent.

The idea of 'victory' quite necessarily implies the idea of opponents; but the tragedy of the present situation is that while the Communists proclaim themselves the enemies of the values embodied in Western Christian civilisation, the 'leaders' of the West have lost sight of what they are supposed to defend so that, having been disarmed, they are interested only in negotiating the terms of 'peace'. For, essentially, that is what the Common Market 'negotiations' are all about. World Peace is to mean simply that no *nation* can act independently of the World Government.

This is the essential background of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT). In an article in the *Daily Express* (April 14, 1970) Chapman Pincher points out: "The two giant powers could make a deal of vital significance to this nation's security and the Government might not know about it in time to escape the consequences". But in fact it is all too probable that Mr. Wilson has foreseen these consequences, and that they suit his book—that the accelerated disarmament of Britain for spurious 'economic' reasons, indeed, was part of the foreseeing. The *Express* editorial accompanying Mr. Pincher's article suggests repairing the damage by building immediately another Polaris submarine, and planning immediately to build three more. But if Britain has enemies, and is already disarmed—as she is—it is nonsense to suppose that those enemies will tamely permit such an 'aggressive' act.

It is something worse than childish to suppose that the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. are going to bomb each other out of existence to preserve the peace of Europe; their objective is an accord to preserve the peace of a Communist World

Government, whatever its ultimate title may be. The 'cease-fire' agreement is the Treaty of Rome, pending more definitive arrangements under, presumably, the U.N.

To many, no doubt, this seems a reasonable solution to the world's troubles. But it is essential to realise that the industrialised nations are *too prosperous* for the purposes of World Government; their wealth must be siphoned off (peacefully, if possible) to aid the 'under-developed' countries. Even this might seem reasonable, until it is viewed against the back-ground of wars, massacres, riots and permissiveness with its mounting crimes and terrors which have led to the present situation. There is no prospect whatever of gathering figs from thorns. The Stalinist purges were a trailer for what is intended when *national* resistance to international Stalinism has been finally rendered impossible—largely through treasonable activities.

It is something like thirty years since Douglas called the then-existing situation "unprecedentedly grave"; it is now disastrous. And the only slight hope we see lies in the carefully documented exposure and denunciation, in the House of Commons, of the traitors who have contributed to the disaster. There is ample evidence in the bibliographies of a number of books which have been recommended from time to time or repeatedly in these columns. But, again as Douglas pointed out, if there is no conspiracy, our situation is hopeless.

Desultory Schemes*

Towards the close of *Zanoni*, the novel which Bulwer Lytton, its author, thought some might read 'with more attention than is given to ordinary romance', there appears this passage:—"In all men who have devoted themselves to any study, or any art, with sufficient pains to attain a certain degree of excellence, there must be a fund of energy immeasurably above that of the ordinary herd. Usually, this energy is concentrated on the objects of their professional ambition, and leaves them, therefore, apathetic to the other pursuits of men. But where those objects are denied, where the stream has not its legitimate vent, the energy, irritated and aroused, possesses the whole being, and if not wasted on desultory schemes, or if not purified by conscience and principle, becomes a dangerous and destructive element in the social system, through which it wanders in riot and disorder. Hence, in all wise monarchies—nay, in all well constituted states, the peculiar care with which channels are opened for every art and every science; hence, the honour paid to their cultivators, by subtle and thoughtful statesmen, who, perhaps, for themselves, see nothing in a picture but coloured canvas—nothing in a problem but an ingenious puzzle. No state is ever more in danger than when the talent, that should be consecrated to peace, has no occupation but political intrigue or personal advancement. Talent unhonoured is talent at war with men."

This is one statement, less exceptionable than some others, of the 'revenge complex', the dethronement of which from many minds was possibly the first positive accomplishment of Social Credit ideas. Almost until the opening of the present phase of the world war, it might reasonably be said of

*Originally published in these pages May 8, 1943.

England that the vast store of pent energy denied legitimate outlet by the overriding conditions established through the agency of Finance had not yet become an active destructive element. It did not 'wander in riot and disorder'. The closest approach to riot and disorder was postponed for the advent of the vast bureaucracies of the war years which gave rein under the cloak of national emergency to the revolutionary tendencies generated in the scholarship-winning minorities of Universal Education. Intelligence became the tool of personal advancement through the Education Acts of the last century, and intrigue a method of necessity if not of choice.

What internal troubles the Social Credit movement has had to contend with—and measured beside the immense volume and ingenuity of external obstruction they are astonishingly few—have arisen in almost equal proportions from the waste of energy on 'desultory schemes' and the incompleteness of separation or detachment from the revenge complex among the movement's 'pink' adherents. We have nothing against personal advancement *per se*. Advancement, not retrogression, is at least an intelligible individual policy. We strongly recommend Social Credit methods as appropriate means of securing this policy for any and for all individuals. We do not offer the Social Credit *movement* as an appropriate field for personal advancement, chiefly for the reason that one does not use an incoming tide to float out to sea, and personal advancement, as at present understood, is a state of being at sea. Everything has its appropriate use, and what machinery exists to assist Social Crediters to gain the objective which unites them politically is not properly utilisable for any other purpose.

Nevertheless, the 'fund of energy immeasurably above that of the ordinary herd' which for long years has had quite insufficient outlet satisfactory to its possessors is about to find release. There are abundant signs of it. The vast trouble which is being taken at the present moment by the organisers of 'desultory schemes' to drain off any surplus there may be from Social Credit is but one instance. And it becomes increasingly necessary to fix in the mind of all the main characteristics of a non-'desultory scheme'.

Put very briefly, the Party System is *par excellence* a 'desultory scheme'. Its essential failing is unmasked in Major Douglas's contribution in this issue.† There must be a contest. Why? Not because in all contests there is victor and vanquished. That is what we are desired to believe. The essence of the Party System is a contest in which A fights B for the benefit of C. That is really all there is in it. The crude answer is (unfortunately) 'Let's all get together', and this answer is being propagandised with greater and greater vigour as the real nature of the Party System becomes apparent to electors. For the simple reason that a majority is always ruled by a minority this crude solution does not work: inevitably A and B hand over to C instead of putting C underfoot. And so it is necessary to find means whereby individual consciousness (Christ-consciousness) may become supreme over group consciousness (Jehovah-consciousness). That is clearly an individual matter. It is being done. Not without cause is panic at the doors of *The Times*—"the 3d. edition of the *Daily Worker*"—and the Great City institutions.

—T. J.

†This reference is to Chapter V of *Programme for the Third World War*—Ed. T.S.C.

Deception

(continued from page 1)

When this surtax was first proposed some two years ago we pointed out immediately that it would be bound to add to the inflationary pressures. Because even in these wildly improvident times, this amount of money left in the hands of individual citizens would still be spent with a certain amount of frugality and restraint, and concern for a rainy day. While the same amount, turned over to a wildly profligate government, that spent with reckless abandon every cent it could get its hands on and more besides, would inevitably increase the demand for goods and services and thus fit into the mechanics of inflation. We predicted that the inflationary curve would necessarily sharpen its climb as a result of the surtax, and of course this prediction proved correct.

We further contended then, and repeat the assertion now, that this was one of the very results intended by the leading advocates of the surtax in the first place. And that there have been plenty of other steps taken by the Establishment that served the same subtly deceptive purpose. But again our real concern here is with (3), the corollary purpose, or Project X. For certainly nobody can deny that *all* of these steps and pretenses concerned with inflation have provided the means, and the excuses, to *increase the power, size, and reach of the central government*.

E. Now we have the "war against the population explosion." (1) The theoretical purpose of this war is to create a sense of responsibility about the number of children in a family. You can quickly tell how phony is this pretense by the constant drive on the part of the government to relieve parents of all responsibility for the welfare of their children, and by the fact that this same government is enthusiastically subsidizing the production of illegitimate children in vast numbers.

(2) The primary immediate real purpose of this drive is to condition the minds of the American people for an expectation of food shortages. The combination of famine and ration cards has been repeatedly used by newly established Communist regimes as a tremendously effective weapon for consolidating their power, and for breaking all will to resist, in one country after another. A father who sees no other way to obtain food for his starving children than by giving in to the Communist tyranny, going to work where he is told, and being issued a ration card for his subservience, will knuckle under and accept what he can no longer resist. Since 1917 this formula has been used by the Communists in Russia itself, in the Ukraine, in Poland, in China, and in dozens of other countries — with the food to make the ration cards mean anything, or the money to buy that food, usually supplied by the United States Government. It would be absurd to think that our government is not planning to use the same formula on the people of the United States when the proper time comes in the Communist schedule of subjugation.

(3) But let's not lose sight of the main point in this particular discussion, which is Project X. In the first place, there is *no population explosion*, except of the kind that was explained by Malthus nearly two hundred years ago, and subject to the same limitations. And a corollary purpose of all the conversation about one is to support Project X; namely, *a rapid increase in the power, size, and reach of the central*

government. Except that in this case the designs of the Establishment, for the ultimate power of that government, are revealed as much more brutal, more far-reaching, and more omnipotent than have been foreshadowed in connection with any other aspect of human life.

When we first began to point out, many years ago, that the mechanics for the fluoridation of drinking water could be used for the application to a whole urban population of chemical contraceptives to control the increase of population, we were ridiculed as indulging in fantastic fears. Now you will find that dozens of supposedly omniscient and would-be omnipotent scientists are seriously recommending that the fluoridation equipment be used for exactly that purpose. The desire to become gods, on the part of conspiratorial and half-baked little pro-Communist technicians, is constantly seeking the means of fulfilment. And that means, of course, consists entirely of a sufficient increase in the power, the size, and the reach of a central government.

F. Added to these other idealistic sounding movements has been the recently instituted and inordinately publicized "war on pollution." (1) Its theoretical purpose, of course, is to purify the air we breathe, and the conditions under which we live. (2) Its immediate major purpose is to create distrust and bitterness, on the part of the public, towards the whole American industrial system. And again, (3) its corollary purpose of lasting impact is to have the federal government step into yet one more area where it has never been before and does not belong. There are very few causes of pollution in the United States that cannot be eliminated by state laws, or city ordinances, or — preferably — by voluntary arrangements worked out with industry by local chambers of commerce. Where there are situations that really call for federal regulations or control, the entrance of the federal government into this area of authority should be permitted very gingerly as a last resort. But the whole bugbear of pollution is now to be used with all the propaganda of the Establishment to magnify it and publicize it, as a means and excuse for further increasing the power, the size, and the reach of our central government.

G. Seventh and last in our list is the war in Vietnam. (1) Its theoretical purpose has been to save South Vietnam from the Communists. If this had been true, then of course Washington would have let our military forces in Southeast Asia go ahead and win the war long before now. Practically every one of our top military commanders has gone on record that the war could have been won easily and quickly, with the forces we had committed, if our government had allowed them to do so.

(2) It is a very difficult and disturbing thing to have to say, but the plain and inescapable facts prove the government's claim to be completely false. The major immediate purpose of the war in Vietnam has been to help the Communists, here and abroad, with materials, with prestige, with demoralization of their enemies, and in every feasible way. But we have covered all of these points too fully in the past, with too much documentation, to need to go further into that sad story here.

(3) For the real point, once again, is that corollary purpose, Project X. Our involvement in Vietnam has supplied, and was intended to supply, almost infinite means and excuses for a gigantic increase in the power, size, and reach

of our central government. Wars always do this, which is one reason why the Communists contrive to bring on so many of them — and to control both sides of each war as fully as they can.

There are other wars and so-called wars, of course, under way or in prospect. And you can be sure that the real aims of every one of them clearly fall within this one comprehensive plan. There is at work an unceasing underlying purpose to move us subtly and gradually, but with accelerating speed, towards total government. Under such a consummation the central government, through a vast bureaucracy serving as the framework of a police state, will take from all of the people all that they produce. It will then give back whatever it determines to those who will cease all resistance, accept the new conditions, and bow in terrified obeisance to the all-powerful and all-extensive regime. And that, my friends, is Communism.

As a basic rule, almost all of the evils of government are due to the quantity of government. Let the size and reach of government become great enough, and there is seldom any question about its power or its tyrannical purposes. And that conclusion from experience suggests a policy which all good citizens might wisely follow. It is simply and automatically to oppose every piece of legislation, every official step, and every administrative measure — no matter what their ostensible aims may be — if they increase the size, the quantity, or the reach of government. It was because of the soundness of this principle that the permanent objective of The John Birch Society was expressed from the very beginning, over eleven years ago, in a program of only eight words: *Less government, more responsibility, and a better world.*

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