

(Don't know when or what date given)

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IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO GET AWAY FROM THE GREAT SOCIETY IN WASHINGTON FOR A FEW DAYS TO RETURN TO THE GOOD SOCIETY OF KANSAS.

A NEW MOOD HAS SETTLED OVER WASHINGTON SINCE THE 90TH CONGRESS CONVENED IN JANUARY. IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO BE OPTOMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE COURSE OF THIS CONGRESS, BUT THIS MUCH IS CERTAIN:

THE GREAT SOCIETY MASTER-PLANNERS CAN NO LONGER COUNT ON THE "RUBBER STAMP" APPROVAL THAT THE 89TH CONGRESS GAVE THEIR PET PROJECTS.

HOWEVER, THERE ARE OTHER DISTURBING TRENDS WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN ARRESTED. IN NOVEMBER, THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CHECK THE 89TH CONGRESS' HEADLONG RUSH TOWARD STATE CENTRALISM -- BUT THE EXCESSES OF THE EXECUTIVE -- AND THE JUDICIAL -- BRANCH OF OUR GOVERNMENT UNFORTUNATELY REMAIN UNCHECKED.

DURING THE PAST THREE DECADES AN ENORMOUS RESERVOIR OF POWER AND POLITICAL RESOURCES HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THUS, ALTHOUGH A CONSERVATIVELY-INCLINED CONGRESS CAN SLOW DOWN THE EXECUTIVE'S THRUST FOR EVER-INCREASING CONTROL OF OUR DAILY LIVES, AN ADMINISTRATION THAT IS SO INCLINED CAN TAKE OTHER, DEVIOUS MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH ITS PURPOSE.

AND THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION, YOU MAY REST ASSURED, IS SO INCLINED. THE VOTERS MAY HAVE CHECKED IT ON ITS COURSE LAST NOVEMBER, BUT THIS ADMINISTRATION IS BENT AND DETERMINED TO FORCE THE GREAT SOCIETY DOWN OUR THROATS, WHETHER WE WANT IT OR NOT.

HOW CAN THIS BE, YOU ASK?

SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER THE OLD JOKE ABOUT THE BOLSHEVIK WHO TELLS THE

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FARMER THAT COMES THE REVOLUTION, EVERYBODY'LL HAVE STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM.

"BUT," ANSWERED THE FARMER, "I DON'T LIKE STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM."

"COMRADE," ANSWERED THE BOLSHIEVIK, "COMES THE REVOLUTION, YOU'LL HAVE STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM -- AND YOU'LL LIKE STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM."

IN THE SAME WAY, THE GREAT SOCIETY'S PROMOTERS ARE GOING TO CARRY OUT THEIR PROGRAMS IN THE PEOPLE'S INTEREST -- EVEN IF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES DON'T AGREE THAT IT'S IN THEIR BEST INTERESTS.

AND WHAT'S MORE, THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE THE PEOPLE LIKE IT.

IMPOSSIBLE IN A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT LIKE OURS? IF YOU THINK SO, YOU'RE MISTAKEN. FOR THE GREATEST THING THE MASTER PLANNERS IN WASHINGTON HAVE GOING FOR THEM TODAY IS AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA AND INFORMATION PROGRAM THE SIZE OF WHICH MIGHT WELL BE ENVIED BY OUR TOTALITARIAN ADVERSARIES ACROSS THE WATERS.

THERE'S A WORD FOR IT" PROPAGANDA. NOT PROPAGANDA DIRECTED BY THE UNITED STATES TO OTHER NATIONS IN THE WORLD, MIND YOU -- BUT PROPAGANDA TURNED OUT BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, DIRECTED AT OUR OWN PEOPLE.

THE WORD IS PROPAGANDA -- AND THE RESULT IS WHAT'S COME TO BE CALLED THE "CREDIBILITY GAP".

CAN WE BELIEVE OUR OWN GOVERNMENT? WELL, SIT UP FOR A MOMENT OR TWO AND HEAR SOME FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT HOW MUCH MONEY OUR GOVERNMENT'S SPENDING TO -- AS THE WASHINGTON BUREAUCRATS PHRASE IT, "EDUCATE AND INFORM" THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

RECENTLY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS CONDUCTED A SURVEY-IN-DEPTH TO DETERMINE THE FULL EXTENT OF GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA EFFORTS AIMED AT THE PEOPLE BACK HOME.

THE RESULTS OF THAT SURVEY ARE SOMEWHAT SHOCKING TO THOSE OF US NAIVE ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO DEVOTE ITS FULL ATTENTION TO DOING A GOOD JOB INSTEAD OF SIPHONING OFF MONEY AND RESOURCES TO TELLING US HOW

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GOOD A JOB IT'S DONE.

FOR EXAMPLE, LET'S START RIGHT AT THE TOP -- WHERE THE "CREDIBILITY GAP" BEGINS AND IS AT ITS WIDEST: THE WHITE HOUSE. HOW MUCH WOULD YOU GUESS IS BEING SPENT ANNUALLY TO PAY THE SALARIES OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS STAFF ALONE?

WOULD YOU BELIEVE -- \$170,000? THAT'S THE FIGURE TURNED UP BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. AND THAT, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IS SMALL PROPAGANDA POTATOES BY THE STANDARDS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OPERATING UNDER THE WHITE HOUSE.

HERE'S WHAT THE AP -- AFTER DILIGENT DIGGING, AND DON'T THINK THAT THESE EXECUTIVE AGENCY "INFORMATION" BUREAUS AREN'T MASTERS OF THE COVER-UP WHEN IT COMES TO THEIR OWN ACTIVITIES -- HERE'S WHAT THE AP SAID:

"MUCH OF THE EXPENDITURE, WHICH HAS RISEN STEADILY THROUGH SUCCESSIVE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS, IS DEVOTED TO CONVINCING AMERICANS (WITH THEIR OWN MONEY) THAT WHAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES IS FOR THEIR OWN WELFARE."

NEARLY 7000 FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ARE OCCUPIED PART OR FULL TIME IN CARRYING ON THE MASSIVE GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA NETWORK'S ACTIVITIES, SAYS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

"GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WILL COME UP READILY WITH SUCH ABSTRUSE INFORMATION AS HOW MANY CASES OF MAINE SARDINES THERE ARE ON STORE SHELVES IN A GIVEN DATE", SAYS THE REPORT, OR HOW MUCH IS SPENT ON THE POOR OF A GIVEN COUNTY.

HOWEVER, DECLARES THE AP, "IT'S A DIFFERENT MATTER WHEN THEY ARE ASKED TO CITE HOW MANY EMPLOYEES ARE ENGAGED IN THEIR PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAMS AND HOW MUCH IT COSTS."

WHY? BECAUSE THESE PROGRAMS, OR THE VAST MAJORITY OF THEM, AT LEAST, HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED ON THE "BACK-DOOR" LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLE WE'VE BECOME SO FAMILIAR WITH IN OUR FISCAL AFFAIRS.

"BACKDOOR SPENDING" BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS MADE OUR ANNUAL BUDGET

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MEANINGLESS IN TERMS OF INFORMATION AS TO WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS ACTUALLY PUTTING INTO A GIVEN PROGRAM.

NOW, WE'RE BEING TREATED TO "BACKDOOR PROPAGANDIZING" AS WELL -- AND ONCE AGAIN, AT OUR OWN EXPENSE. FOR IN 1913, CONGRESS ENACTED A LAW WHICH SAID:

"NO MONEY APPROPRIATED BY ANY ACT SHALL BE USED FOR COMPENSATION OF ANY PUBLICITY EXPERT UNLESS SPECIFICALLY APPROPRIATED FOR THAT PURPOSE."

CLEAR ENOUGH? IT WOULD BE BACK HERE IN KANSAS -- BUT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FROM WHENCE THE PEARLS OF BUREAUCRATIC WISDOM FLOW TO "EDUCATE AND INFORM" US WHY, IT'S NOT CLEAR AT ALL.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT CONGRESS NEGLECTED TO GIVE A PRECISE DEFINITION AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES "PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES". AND IF YOU GIVE A BUREAUCRAT A LOOP-HOLE, HE'LL TAKE A GAP -- A "CREDIBILITY GAP" -- AS THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PAST 54 YEARS PROVES.

AND NOW FOR SOME PRIME EXAMPLES OF HOW OUR MILLIONS ARE BEING SPENT -- AND AS THE AP REPORTS, IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO COME UP WITH AN OVERALL ESTIMATE AS TO HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT ON THIS ACTIVITY IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE BEST GUESS IS APPROXIMATELY \$100 MILLION PER YEAR.

ONE DAY LAST JULY, THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ISSUED A RELEASE -- MAILING OUT 1100 COPIES OF A HANDOUT TELLING OF THE INCREASING NUMBER OF WOMEN BEING EMPLOYED OUTSIDE THE HOME. THE HEADLINE OF THIS RELEASE WAS "WOMEN LABOR FORCE SHOWS INCREASE".

THE ASTUTE AND SHARP-EYED RECIPIENT OF THIS RELEASE MIGHT HAVE NOTED THAT THE RELEASE WAS IDENTICAL IN CONTENT TO ONE MAILED OUT ^{by} THE DEPARTMENT ONLY TWO DAYS BEFORE. BUT THE FIRST RELEASE WAS HEADLINED "WOMEN IN LABOR".

A PRETTY FUNNY MISTAKE ALL RIGHT -- UNLESS YOU STOP TO GUESS HOW MUCH MONEY IT COST THE TAXPAYERS.

AND THERE ARE OTHER ENLIGHTENING EXAMPLES OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT "EDUCATION AND INFORMATION" PROGRAMS WHICH, AS THE AP DESCRIBES THEM, SURPASSETH HUMAN

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UNDERSTANDING.

A PRESS HANDOUT FROM THE ALLIED FORCES OF SOUTHERN EUROPE, SAYS THE AP, EXTOLLED THE "INTERNATIONAL CUISINE" AND "TRULY COSMOPOLITAN FLAVOR OF THE FLAMINGO CLUB AT NATO HEADQUARTERS".

THIS HANDOUT GAVE RECIPES FOR SEVEN EXOTIC DISHES, INCLUDING TURKISH GRAPE LEAF DOLMAS, EACH ILLUSTRATED WITH A GLOSSY PRINT. THE ENTIRE PACKAGE ARRIVED ON EDITORS' DESKS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES BEARING NO LESS THAN 88 CENTS IN U. S. POSTAGE.

THIS IS IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL SECURITY? WE FIND THAT, AS THE MAN ON TELEVISION SAYS, HARD TO BELIEVE. YET THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE US BELIEVE IT -- AND IF WE DON'T, ITS ANSWER MOST ASSUREDLY WILL BE TO POUR EVEN MORE MONEY INTO THE PROPAGANDA MACHINE.

NOW, WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN IN TERMS OF THE KIND OF GOVERNMENT WE TRULY WANT -- THE KIND WE NEED TO PRESERVE OUR STANDARD OF LIVING, OUR SECURITY AGAINST FOREIGN ENEMIES, AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, OUR FREE INSTITUTIONS?

IT MEANS THAT IF WE AREN'T ON OUR TOES -- IF WE DON'T MOVE TO PLACE FURTHER CHECKS ON A POWER-SEEKING EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT -- THEN THE DAY MAY COME WHEN AMERICANS WILL FIND THEIR FACULTIES FOR UNDERSTANDING WHAT'S GOING ON IN GOVERNMENT SNOWED UNER AN AVALANCHE OF GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA.

IN SHORT, IT'S THE GREAT SOCIETY'S INTENTION TO FILL IN THE "CREDIBILITY GAP: NOT WITH THE TRUTH, BUT WITH ITS OWN GOVERNMENT PRESS HANDOUTS.

I, FOR ONE, CONSIDER THE WIDENING OF THE "CREDIBILITY GAP" AND THE REMENDOUS EXPANSION IN GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA FACILITIES TO BE AMONG THE MOST SERIOUS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS WE HAVE IN WASHINGTON TODAY.

UNDERSTAND, I AM CONCERNED -- DEEPLY CONCERNED -- OVER THE ADMINISTRATION'S CONTINUING GUERILLA WAR AGAINST OUR FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM, UNDER VARIOUS GUISES AND SLOGANS.

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AND I AM CONCERNED -- DEEPLY CONCERNED -- OVER THE ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE TO TAKE THE SOUND, SENSIBLE STEPS NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE OUR ECONOMY AND MAKE OUR CONSUMERS' DOLLARS GO FARTHER.

BUT UNDERLYING ALL THIS IS THE WEAKENING OF THE FOUNDATION OF OUR SYSTEM ITSELF BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRALIZED FEDERAL APPARATUS WHICH -- LIKE A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME -- IS AIMED AT THOUGHT CONTROL OF OUR PEOPLE.

NOW, LET ME BE FRANK. IN THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SURVEY, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH TOO IS EXPENDING MONEY ON BEHALF OF PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION PROGRAMS, SO-CALLED. AND I DON'T APPROVE OF THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY, CARRIED TO EXTREMES, ANY MORE THAN I DO THE PROGRAMS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS AN IMPORTANT, IF NOT CRUCIAL DIFFERENCE IN THESE ACITIVITIES. FOR ONE THING, LET ME POINT OUT THAT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ARE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO THEIR CONSTITUENCY, AND UNDER THE DAY-TO-DAY SCRUTINY OF THE PEOPLE THEY SERVE.

I DON'T IMAGINE -- IN FACT, I KNOW -- THAT A SENATOR OR CONGRESSMAN NOT DOING HIS JOB OR TENDING TO HIS BUSINESS COULD HIDE THIS FACT FROM HIS CONSTITUENTS UNDER A FLURRY OF HANDOUTS.

BUT THE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT THAT IS NOT DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE -- A VERITABLE FOURTH BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT -- ARE THE BUREAUCRATIC AGENCIES AND BUREAUS HIDING UNDER THE MASSIVE UMBRELLA OF THE EVER-EXPANDING EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

YOU CAN'T CALL AN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT APPOINTEE'S HAND ON A HANDOUT -- IN FACT, NINE CASES OUT OF TEN, YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE HIS HAND OR HOLD HIM PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE, AS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FOUND OUT WHEN IT SOUGHT TO PIN DOWN THE SOURCE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION PROGRAMS.

WHAT CAN BE DONE"

FOR ONE THING -- AND MOST IMPORTANT -- THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO DEVELOP AN INCREASINGLY SKEPTICAL VIEW OF WHAT COMES OUT

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OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON.

THE FACT THAT THIS PROCESS IS ALREADY UNDERWAY HAS LED TO THE REALIZATION IN WASHINGTON THAT WE HAVE A "CREDIBILITY GAP", AS I HAVE PREVIOUSLY POINTED OUT.

AND PERHAPS WHAT MIGHT HELP THE SITUATION ON AN IMMEDIATE LEVEL IS A CONGRESSIONAL LOOK-SEE INTO THE MATTER OF GOVERNMENT PUBLIC INFORMATION. A FEW YEARS AGO A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CONDUCTED A SURVEY IN THIS FIELD. THIS EFFORT OUGHT TO BE UPDATED, AND THE PUBLIC FULLY INFORMED AS TO THE EXTENT OF THE FEDERAL "EDUCATION AND INFORMATION" NETWORK".

I, FOR ONE, AM CONVINCED, HOWEVER, THE THE ULTIMATE ANSWER MUST LIE IN A WHOLESALE RECONDITIONING OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT ITSELF -- FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.

IN OTHER WORDS, WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON RESPONSIBLE ENOUGH AND CLEAN ENOUGH SO THAT ITS ACTIVITIES CAN SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. WE NEED A MAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE -- AND PEOPLE IN OUR EXECUTIVE AGENCIES -- WHO, BY SEEKING TO CLOSE THE "CREDIBILITY GAP" WITH THE TRUTH, CAN RESTORE OUR PEOPLE'S FAITH IN OUR GOVERNMENT.

THE MISSION OF THE 90TH CONGRESS THEREFORE IS TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A RETURN OF SOUND, RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT TO WASHINGTON IN 1968.

[WHAT HAPPENED LAST NOVEMBER IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP IN THE ROAD BACK. LET'S WORK TO KEEP THE SPOTLIGHT OF TRUTH ON THAT ROAD -- NOT TO MENTION ON THE DARK PASSAGES WHERE THE GREAT SOCIETY PLANNERS HIDE THEIR DEFICITS AND THEIR MISTAKES.

IF WE DO THIS, THEN IN 1968 THE PRINCIPLES AND IDEALS OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY -- THOSE PRINCIPLES WHICH MAKE FOR THE GOOD SOCIETY HERE AND IN THE OTHER 49 STATES OF THE UNION -- WILL BE RETURNED TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL, WHERE THEY BELONG.