

On Second Thought---



EDITORIAL PAGE

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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"Without or with friend or foe, we print your daily world as it goes"—Byron.

RILEY ALLEN, publisher

Grady Pannell, managing editor George Challis, advertising director
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All Gov'ts Suppress Information

A natural law of political science seems to be this: Given the opportunity, government will restrict or even muzzle the press.

It happened so often when the press was in its very infancy, that the founding fathers of this country wrote safeguards into the Constitution. Nevertheless, it is a continuing battle in our own country to keep government from standing between the people and the knowledge of the people's business.

In Cuba the free press is rapidly vanishing. No dictatorship can stand the spotlight of publicity. The obvious faults of dictatorship must be glossed over and whatever good points there are must be emphasized. Thus the same things are happening to the newspapers in Cuba under Castro that happened to the newspapers in Argentina under Peron.

And in the Union of South Africa a severe crisis exists over the racial issue. In such a situation government can't stand to allow free discussion. So it is clamping down on the press of a supposedly free country.

Here in the United States we have the freest press in the world due to our constitutional guarantee. Yet so pronounced is the tendency of persons in government to conceal information that the American Newspaper Publishers Assn. at its last meeting reported that the federal government uses more than 150 statutes as authority to withhold information on subjects ranging from the national security to peanuts.

A controversial Air Force manual was cited as an example of "how deep rooted government's attitude is against the people's right to know." The manual contains these words:

"Another rather silly remark often heard concerning security is that Americans have a right to know what is going on. Most people realize the foolishness of such a suggestion. Keep in mind that public news media present only as much information as the government wants to release."

This "Natural Law" that seems to apply to all government is easy enough to

understand. The person in position of authority doesn't want criticism. He doesn't want his mistakes to be known. He may even want to do something deliberately that he knows would not meet with public approval, and certainly he doesn't want this made known.

Some congressional committees have been pretty free and easy with their expense accounts on foreign travel lately. When reporters started digging into the records, someone promptly ordered the records locked up. Only through the intervention of Speaker Sam Rayburn, who realized that locking up the records was worse than what they might reveal, was the material made available again.

This "natural law" we speak of operates on low levels as well as high. It used to be that school boards, P.U.D. commissions, boards of county commissioners and others would transact controversial pieces of public business behind closed doors so that as few as possible would find out about it. This resulted in the passing of a law, in some states sponsored by the press, forbidding any public body from taking an official action except at a meeting for which advanced notice has been given through the press. This does not mean that some bodies would still not prefer to do some of its business behind closed doors: they simply are forbidden to do so.

Such "Natural Laws" as these can't be repealed. This tendency will always exist in government. The problem is to keep it at a minimum. The press is at the forefront in the battle in this regard in every country where it is permitted any freedom.

The press' vigilance sometimes is misinterpreted as furtherance of some kind of selfish interest. But the press is simply the medium by which information is conveyed to the public. It isn't the press' "right to know" that is at stake; it is the people's right to know. And the people can't know and won't know unless the press keeps ever at the task of breaking down barriers which just naturally are erected between the people and the government.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Tight Secrecy Lid Clamped On Special CIA Hearings

WASHINGTON—When Senator Fulbright of Arkansas heard the testimony of Central Intelligence chief Allen Dulles behind closed doors he went to unusual lengths to ensure secrecy.

Not only were no censored copies of Dulles' testimony issued after the hearing but stenographers who took down Dulles' words were carefully screened in advance. They were all required to return their stenographic notes. Every conceivable step was taken to prevent a leak, and the final testimony was stamped with a warning that any senator who talked about it was subject to punishment under the espionage laws.

While the secrecy may have been justified in regard to the U-2 incident, the same kind of ultra-secrecy has so protected Central Intelligence in the past that it has been guilty of various bonehead plays, plus an undetermined waste of the taxpayers' money.

It can be revealed, despite the recent Senate secrecy, and without disclosing any classified information, that the senators gave Dulles the kid-glove treatment, probed very superficially into his operations.

Agent Against Franco

Up in New York, a congressional committee might well look into an amazing untold story of how Central Intelligence spent approximately \$1,000,000 of the taxpayers' money to operate an underground inside Spain in opposition to Dictator Franco.

The story involves the strange disappearance of Prof. Jesus De Galindez, the Columbia University professor who vanished while entering a New York subway March 12, 1956, and has never been heard of since. It can now be revealed beyond any doubt that Prof. De Galindez was in the employ of Central Intelligence and was sending large sums of money to Spain.

Officially, he was the representative of the Basque delegation to the United States, a group in bitter opposition to Generalissimo Franco. In that official capacity, he registered with the Justice Department as a foreign agent and listed amounts of money he claimed to collect each month. This was merely a cover.

Supposedly he collected the money from Basque exiles and immigrants in Latin America. Actually he got the money from Central Intelligence.

Dulles Phoned Personally
The monthly installments ranged from \$4,845 in March 1950 to \$26,039 in January, 1956, just before De Galindez disappeared or was disposed of. During five years from 1950 through 1955, this mysterious college professor, an exile from Spain, received either \$1,016,000, according to justice department files, or \$762,527, according to a New York City official audit.

Immediately after De Galindez disappeared, Allen Dulles personally phoned New York City officials with an urgent request that a CIA agent be permitted to go through De Galindez's papers. This was done. And the last incriminating CIA check, sent to De Galindez in February for \$7,240, was taken out of his file.

The mystery still remains as to why Central Intelligence was financing this Spanish Basque exile who was working against Franco at a time when we were subsidizing Franco to the tune of several million dollars a year of foreign aid and military assistance. Thus the taxpayers were paying both to support Franco and to undermine Franco. It's something the Senate might well investigate—but won't.

Gamal Abdel Nasser, the lord of the Nile, has confided his views of America's shortcomings in a letter to the self-styled American Fuehrer, Lin-

REMEMBER WHEN

... 25 years ago, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs planned a joint memorial service for members who had died during the past year.

Serving on the IOOF committee were A. H. Harvey, Walter Shafer, Henry McDougald, Bert Eberhard, Ed Bork, Galin Durkee, Melvin Bork, Frank Look and W. M. Pearson.

... 15 years ago, Phyllis DeLong was named president for a six-month term of Girl Scout troop 1. Other officers named were as follow:

May Lynn Abel, secretary; Judy Beeson, treasurer; Ruth Gragg, reporter; Thelma Marquis, librarian; and patrol leaders Mary Simons, Margery Hall, Jackie Bellis and Leona Tetrick.

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John Rockwell, who has been striving to found a Nazi party in the nation's capital.

The Egyptian dictator praised Rockwell for his anti-Jewish campaign, then lashed into America's "subversive" and "inconsistent" policies.

Since Nasser recently complained to Senate Foreign Relations Chairman William Fulbright about his press coverage in America, this column will publish his views as written to Rockwell.

Nasser began by thanking Rockwell for a pamphlet "containing information about the sort of resistance you are conducting against destructive Zionist activity."

"I hope," Nasser continued, "your efforts will help the delivering of humanity from Zionist aggression. It seems a matter of regret that despite all this collaboration and almost all attempts at peace, a body of politicians and statesmen still pursue a line of propaganda and fabrication, subject to almost every whim or caprice. In this sense they forward the work of destruction."

"I have a finally established belief that national awareness throughout the world in addition to devotion for the cause of liberty and peace will expose such sinister policies and avoid the world a third disaster. A day will come when war-mongers and sham politicians will be called to account for their crimes."

"It is unfortunate that the states adopt a policy of subservience in face of these forces which serve no end or purpose or good. It is a further point of disappointment that your government is inconsistent in the sense that while it declares one thing, it seems to enact another, especially in this part of the world which seems to be sensitive enough to anything that may come from America in the hope that the American standpoint may be reoriented to a nobler policy and fairer policy contributing something to the interest of these resurgent nationalities."

U.S. Says Russ Hedging Over Disarmament

GENEVA (UPI)—U.S. diplomatic sources said today the Russians appear to be stalling on disarmament until the United Nations General Assembly opens in the fall.

The Russians apparently hope, the sources said, to get more propaganda mileage out of Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's new disarmament plan and perhaps gain support for it from some of the uncommitted nations of the world.

French, British and Canadian delegations at the 10-nation disarmament conference do not go along with this entirely. They tend toward the view that the Soviets may now be ready to begin negotiation of the practical problems of disarmament.

OBITS

ROVINGSTON, Va. (UPI)—Robert Whitehead, 62, a former Virginia legislator and a leader of Democrats opposing the statewide organization of Sen. Harry F. Byrd, died Wednesday at his home apparently of a heart attack.

DANBURY, Conn. (UPI)—Marshall Crosby Rogers, 72, a retired editorial writer who had worked on newspapers in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island for about half a century, died Wednesday in Danbury Hospital.

BOSTON (UPI)—The Rev. Henry P. Wennerberg, 73, professor of theology at Boston College, died Wednesday in St. Elizabeth's Hospital after a brief illness.

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QUOTES IN THE NEWS

(Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.)
By United Press International

LONDON — Negro entertainer Sammy Davis Jr., weeping over a racist demonstration by about 30 British fascists against his plans to marry Swedish actress May Britt:
"This could never happen in the U.S. — (except) maybe in the South, like Mississippi."

MCGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, N.J. — M.Sgt. Chester Miltenberger, of the Fort Dix, N.J., Army Medical Corps, stating that radiation was slight at the site of an explosion and fire that damaged a B-57 bomber:
"They're walking all over the place up there."

LONDON — A royal source, expressing doubt the Duke of Windsor, who abdicated in 1936 to marry "the woman I love," would return to live in England:
"Quite beyond the question of royal precedence he seems to feel she may be shunned socially — and it is quite possible this might be so."

Wildlife, Fish Projects Up For Boost

WASHINGTON (UPI)— Secretary of Interior Fred A. Seaton said today state fish and wildlife restoration projects will receive an apportionment of \$12,899,000 in federal aid July 1. The balance of federal aid fish and wildlife restoration program funds for the year ending June 30, 1961, will be apportioned in the fall, Seaton said.

The early apportionment will help states plan their federal aid activities more advantageously, Seaton said. It will be of special importance to states operating on a revolving fund basis. Under the federal aid fish and wildlife restoration programs, states expend their own funds on approved projects and are then reimbursed up to 75 per cent of the cost. On July 1, 1959, 14 states had exhausted their federal aid money available for obligation for fish restoration programs and 16 states were without federal aid funds for obligation on

wildlife restoration activities. Several other states had less than \$5,000 in federal aid funds available for obligation.

Seaton said the partial apportionment will make it possible for states to claim reimbursement immediately after July 1, 1960, for expenditures made in connection with projects approved for the year ending July 1, 1961.



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Was Rocky Seeking Advice Or Consent?

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller is obviously a man in a quandry. So when he went to the White House for breakfast Wednesday it probably was to seek advice.

He wants to be President, of course, but he is thwarted by the towering figure of Vice President Nixon. He started out to run against Nixon but gave up shortly. Then he seemed to regret his decision and announced that he was available to be drafted. Meanwhile he has been pressured from various quarters to take the second place on the ticket and run for vice president. This doesn't appeal to him. A man who considers himself presidential timber doesn't like the idea of

being a mere vice president.

If he went to talk politics with Ike, it was probably to see what Ike's reaction would be if he started out anew to campaign for the nomination. Or it could be that the President has called him in to see if he can persuade him to join with Nixon as the vice presidential candidate.

Republicans can hope that the governor will agree to team up with Nixon not only because such a combination will have great voter appeal, but because a Nixon administration, if he wins, would be a strong one indeed with Nelson Rockefeller in the position now occupied by Nixon.