

THE STRANGE TALE OF THE SECRET ARMY ORGANIZATION (USA)

San Diego is a strange town, where the niceties of Western civilization cannot hide the power of the buck and the hint of brute force. It is the city built with the largesse of twenty-five years of imperial sway: a stronghold, a haven of anticommunism, a base for racketeers. Richard Nixon considered it his lucky city. He wanted the Republican Convention to be held there, and though the city fathers and the people of San Diego were not terribly enthusiastic, the plans went forward until May 1972, when the President abruptly changed his mind.

Included in these plans, it turns out, was a tumultuous, massive, bloody riot—on such a scale as to justify the most extraordinary preventive measures, including burglary, bugging, sabotage, and perhaps even kidnapping. Watergate, we learn from the likes of John W. Dean, was simply part of a strategy to maintain domestic tranquility in the face of a serious left-wing threat.

Presumably, this Red Menace existed in San Diego as well as Miami. But San Diego has never been a radical stronghold, and while local activists did undertake extensive preparations for anti-war demonstrations during the GOP convention, the Committee to Re-elect the President seems to have had a far higher opinion of their organizing successes than they themselves dared to entertain.

Unless, of course, CREEP and its local San Diego allies were hell-bent on making certain that bedlam did in fact occur. That is precisely what a defecting *agent provocateur* named Lewis Tackwood suggested almost two years ago. Tackwood told an incredible story back in October and November 1971, one which suggested the Republicans were doing their utmost to turn San Diego into a bloodbath during the convention, with the aim of annihilating the left, smearing the Democrats, and coasting comfortably into four more years of conservative rule. His allegations were regarded as the ravings of a madman until testimony in the Senate caucus room appeared to corroborate some of his wildest stories. He told of preparations to seal off and then bomb 100,000 demonstrators attending a rock concert on Fiesta Island in Mission Bay, San Diego. All sorts of mayhem was supposed to occur. Bombs were to be smuggled into Convention Center in hollow furniture, which was al-

Richard Popkin taught philosophy at the University of California, San Diego and now teaches at Washington University, St. Louis. He is a world-renowned expert on skepticism and author of The History of Skepticism and The Second Oswald.

ready being built in Los Angeles. At least one major Republican official would perish in the melee. The Democratic Party would be tied in to the events, discredited, possibly outlawed. The Republican candidate would then win an easy victory with the overwhelming support of an outraged citizenry. Today, Tackwood sticks by his original story (to be published in September by Avon as *The Glasshouse Tapes*), though he now adds that the plan also called for blowing up the podium as President Nixon was making his acceptance speech!

[CIVIL WAR IN SAN DIEGO]

Incredible as the Tackwood scenario seemed back in 1971, it sounded less outlandish to San Diego radicals than to those on the outside. For two years, they had quite literally been engaged in protracted warfare with right-wingers determined to drive them out of the area. As early as 1970, activists associated with the San Diego *Street Journal*, an underground newspaper, were living in an armed fortress which they guarded around the clock against the attacks of night riders who would shoot into their houses, firebomb their cars and threaten their lives. (Curiously, this terror campaign intensified as the paper exposed more and more illegal activities of San Diego kingpin C. Arnholt Smith.) On one occasion, for example, sentries spotted two men crouched behind a car with a high-powered rifle trained on the house. It was late at night, but they were prepared for such emergencies. At a signal, they switched on floodlamps which bathed the house in light and they announced over a loudspeaker system that they would open fire if the men did not withdraw. The gunmen waited a moment, then dismantled their rifle, and drove off into the night.

By late 1971, the vigilantes had stepped up their attacks and had chosen their principal targets. One of these was a certain Peter Bohmer, a radical who at the time was teaching economics at San Diego State College. He began receiving threatening phone calls, and on November 13, 1971, a car parked in front of his house was firebombed. Then on December 27, 1971, a group calling itself the Secret Army Organization put out a Special Bulletin on Peter Bohmer. After listing his anti-war activities, and his background, the letter said: "For any of our readers who may care to look up this Red Scum, and say hello, here is some information

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by Richard Popkin

WANTED

for TREASON



NIXON

DESCRIPTION

FULL NAME: Richard Milhous Nixon. DATE OF BIRTH: January 9, 1913 at Yorba Linda, California. FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Used car salesman, law clerk, second rate congressman, and mediocre Vice President. PRESENT OCCUPATION: Professional liar and double crosser (part time employment as United States President). WEIGHT: 170 pounds. EYES: brown. HAIR: black. HEIGHT: 5'11". RACE: white. NATIONALITY: Claims American citizenship but actions prove this unlikely. LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. (Rumored to have a California hideout.)

CRIMINAL RECORD

RICHARD NIXON (alias 'Cry-Baby Nixon', alias 'Tricky Dicky') is an expert in disguises and has successfully passed himself off as an anti-communist in the past. He may again try using this disguise if pressed for votes in 1972. Saying one thing, then doing the opposite is Nixon's MOA. While he campaigned in 1968 on a platform of curtailing socialism he has in fact done more to establish a socialistic dictatorship than either of the last two Democrat administrations. His economic policies have continued to enrich Big Industrialists while rising prices and higher taxes have all but reduced the average worker to a state of financial slavery. This criminal has even made vicious attacks on small children (forced busing to achieve "racial balance") and has caused the destruction of local school systems. WARNING: Nixon suffers from an EMPEROR COMPLEX and becomes extremely dangerous when criticized.

CAUTION

Trickery and deceit are Nixon's trade-marks. At the present time Nixon and his chief henchman HENRY (CZAR) KISSINGER are engaged in forming an alliance with another gang of criminals, the Red Chinese. The RED CHINA GANG have slaughtered an estimated fifty million of their own people since coming to power. This Godless horde of barbarians killed thousands of Americans in the Korean War (shooting captured soldiers and starving and torturing prisoners of war). The RED CHINA GANG have been supplying the NORTH VIETNAMESE BANDITS with weapons and bullets to kill American soldiers in another no-win war in Vietnam. The very fact that Nixon is dealing with these ARCH ENEMIES OF FREEDOM is enough to convict him of treason. DO NOT LET THIS CRIMINAL STEAL YOUR FREEDOM. DEMAND HIS ARREST BY PROPER AUTHORITIES AND HIS TRIAL FOR THE CRIME OF HIGH TREASON.



Secret Army Organization



WANTED

FOR

TREASON

THIS MAN is wanted for treasonous activities against the United States:

1. Betraying the Constitution (which he swore to uphold). He is turning the sovereignty of the U.S. over to the communist controlled United Nations. He is betraying our friends Cuba, Katanga, Portugal, and befriending our enemies Russia, Yugoslavia, Poland.

2. He has been WRONG on numerous occasions affecting the security of the U.S. United Nations, Berlin wall, Missile removal, Cuba, etc. (Test Ban Treaty, etc.)

3. He has been lax in enforcing Communist Registration laws.

4. He has given support and encouragement to the Communist inspired racial riots.

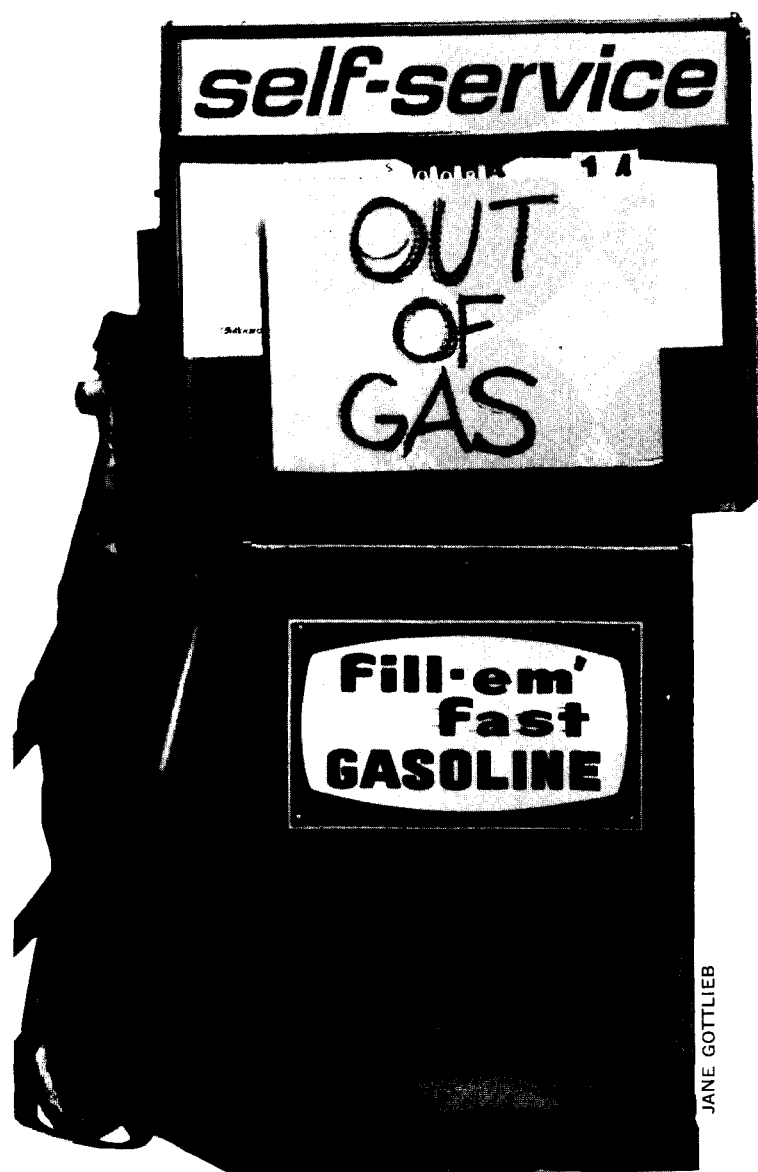
5. He has illegally invaded a sovereign State with federal troops.

6. He has consistently appointed Anti-Christians to Federal office. Upholds the Supreme Court in its Anti-Christian rulings. Aliens and known Communists abound in Federal offices.

7. He has been caught in fantastic LIES to the American people including personal ones like his previous marriage and divorce.

Warren Commission Exhibit 996

“Godfrey testified that he had paid the printer for the posters, picked them up, and was reimbursed by the FBI, and that the FBI understood the nature of his expenditures and saw all of his SAO publications.”



Notes on the Energy Crisis

Suddenly, "energy crisis" has become a household term. Like the food crisis and inflation, it has come on us like gangbusters, and it will no doubt stay with us for some time to come.

People are looking for culprits, and while there are indeed culprits—and they should be found, we ought not let that investigation cloud our understanding of the more fundamental currents which have recently surfaced as an energy crisis. These will continue to affect our lives long after the current gasoline shortage has abated.

James Ridgeway is author of The Last Play: The Struggle to Monopolize the World's Energy Resources published by Dutton.

by James Ridgeway

The energy crisis, as popularized by the major international oil corporations, works on two levels. First, as natural resources become more scarce they become more expensive to extract, process and market. The pressure has been building since the end of the second world war, and we now are becoming more aware of it. Assuming that the structure of the petroleum and mining industries remains the same, the result is that fuel and energy prices will rise steadily. As this happens, the poorer segments of the population will find it increasingly difficult to afford energy.

Second, mineral resources are finite. If current rates of growth continue, they will be reduced substantially, perhaps exhausted by the end of this century, or more probably by the middle of the next. Natural gas, then oil, will become scarce. Even the supply of coal, which is considered to be abundant, may be exhausted rapidly if it is widely used as a base for synthetic gas.

This situation is made confusing and rational solutions difficult by the existence of the energy industry, that conglomeration of large petroleum companies which for the last half century has pretty much controlled the political and economic decisions affecting energy policies. Traditionally the business has been dominated by seven companies, the so-called "seven sisters," namely, Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, Texaco, California Standard, Gulf, Mobil, Shell and British Petroleum. They control two thirds of the world's oil, dominate the refining, transportation and marketing of petroleum and natural gas products. In the U.S. they produce a sizeable amount of our coal and uranium, and they are engaged in chemicals, petrochemicals, fabrication of nuclear fuel as well as in some instances the manufacture of nuclear power plants. Perhaps most importantly, the large petroleum companies are the only source of information the government has for the extent of our mineral fuels resources. They dominate the technology for developing alternative fuels made from synthetics.

As a practical matter these large corporations constitute a private government of energy. Any understanding of the "crisis" which they are so enthusiastically publicizing must begin with a brief history of oil operations in recent years.

[THE MATTEI AFFAIR]

The recent origins of the energy crisis go back at least 20 years. One place to start is 1953 with the CIA-engineered coup that overthrew Mohammad Mossadegh and returned the Shah to power in Iran. Mossadegh had nationalized the Iranian oil industry, up until then controlled by the British. After the Shah was brought back, Eisenhower sent Herbert Hoover, Jr., as his emissary. Hoover arranged for the oil industry to be controlled through a consortium of companies, including British, French, Dutch, and for the first time in Iran's history, American concerns. But the new oil consortium foolishly blocked membership by other countries, most importantly Italy. This so infuriated Enrico Mattei, head of the Italian state enterprise, ENI, that he determined to break the Anglo-American oil cartel.

Mattei got his chance right after the Suez crisis in 1956. With feelings running high against the British and French, he helped the Iranian parliament write a new petroleum law