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TO: Mr. Morton C. Blackwell Assistant to the President

The White House

FROM: Rev. Ray Bringham

DATE: May 10, 1982

Regarding the Prayer Summit to be held May 31 - June 4 on Prayer Mountain near Louisville, Kentucky.

Our request is that Mr. Morton C. Blackwell if at all possible attend at least part of this Prayer Summit representing the Administration. If not possible, we request that he send someone in his place.

Robert Mueller, Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations has informed us that the United Nations is considering having one minute of silent prayer at the beginning of the Arms talk in New York City on June 6, 1982. Mr. Mueller has been in touch with William Buffum, United States official at the United Nations, and and he agreed that it would be an excellent idea. They expect the Secretary General to call for this minute of silent prayer. We suggest that President Reagan call for the nation to stop all activity at the beginning of the opening of the talks and have a minute of silent prayer, praying for the President's talk and for the success of disarmament.

Rev. Ray Bringham can be reached after May 16th at:

Evangel Tabernacle
Drawer B
Louisville, Kentucky 40219
Phone: 502-964-3304

On the church 6/8/82 and leftism

The unholy alliance between the left and certain religious leaders does not augur a happy future for the church or the commonwealth. Consider the scenario of church leaders sitting in judgment of public policies about which they have little or no understanding; or worse, in judgment of our whole political or economic system.

The analysis of the problems of El Salvador by leaders of most mainline churches has proven that they are out of touch with reality. By her repeated blunders, the church has become the laughing stock of the various parties interested in the question of El Salvador.

The opposition by elements within the religious community to the current reassessment of national priorities, rooted in the funding privileges church agencies have enjoyed as an integral part of the leftist welfare establishment, shows incredible shortsightedness.

When religious leaders indulge in inept thinking once in a while, people are tolerant; religion is a need, not a luxury, and they are the experts.

When the practice of spouting nonsense about political or economic questions becomes commonplace, people respond by turning a deaf ear. At first, they stop paying attention to the church's political statements. Eventually, they decide to take their business elsewhere, where they are given spiritual rather than political principles.

The National Council of Churches is a typical example of an ecclesiastical body run amok in an orgy of political leftism, a bureaucracy out of touch with its constituency, showing advanced symptoms of organizational feeblemindedness. The same signs are apparent in the pronouncements of many governing bodies of mainline churches. The process is starting to

take place — to put it mildly — in the Roman Catholic Church. If it does not exercise extreme caution, we will see an eyen greater flight of Catholics towards evangelical churches.

An example of this phenomenon might be taking place at the present time in the preparation of a document for distribution to American Catholics, which will probably prove to be very embarrassing to the church. A committee of five bishops has been established to draft an official church statement concerning Christianity and Capitalism. The bishops in question are

"The analysis of the problems of El Salvador by leaders of most mainline churches has proven that they are out of touch with reality."

Weakland (Milwaukee, Wisc.), Daley (Harrisburg, Pa,), Speltz (St. Cloud, Minn.), Weigand (Salt Lake City, Utah) and Rosazza (Hartford, Conn.).

Goodwill notwithstanding, one wonders whether a fair or accurate statement will be produced. Of late, episcopal pronouncements have almost invariably been left-leaning. One of the members of the committee supported the ordination of homosexuals to the Catholic priesthood and refused to sign an anti-communist statement issued by a group of fellow bishops.

Another member of the committee has openly supported pro-homosexual legislation in his state. The church staffers assigned to do the groundwork for the bishops concerning social and political questions are always leftists. The deck is stacked against traditional thinking. Can we expect that our eco-

nomic system will have a fair hearing under these conditions?

One could easily grant that there are problems in the capitalist world, for nothing human is perfect. One would hope, however, that the bishops will consider that capitalism has been able to satisfy the material needs of the largest number of people in human history and that under capitalism people have enjoyed the blessing of freedom to a degree that no other economic system has been able to guarantee.

In the face of theories and utopian idealism, one hopes that they will remember that India today can feed itself because it has applied capitalist incentives to its agriculture and that American capitalism has created jobs for a higher proportion of its population than any socialist country. The wealth created by capitalism—they should keep in mind—has enabled the church to help those in need through the generosity of believers who have been able to share with the church the riches generated by capitalist productivity

The physical plant of the American Church (schools, universities, hospitals, chanceries, churches, bishop's residences, etc.) are not the product of divine intervention but a by-product of our economic system. Far more important than a critique of the economic system that made the construction of these buildings is an analysis of the internal church debacle possible that keeps them empty of well-trained personnel.

The intellectual drift of the church elite is against the free enterprise system and in favor of liberation theology. At a time when socialism and other forms of state intervention are being discredited as impractical and unproductive, church leaders have begun to discover them. It is sad to see them one full generation behind their own times.

No one should want or expect the church to sanctify a political or economic system. She should busy herself leading men to heaven. Whenever church leaders decide to speak on secular affairs, however, the least we can expect is for them to do it with a knowledge of the facts and in a manner consonant with their mandate and the interests of society.

Father Enrique T. Rueda is director of the Catholic Center at the Free Congress Research and Education Foundation in Washington, D.C.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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Anti-CND plot thickens

ON FEBRUARY 24th this year, both the Morning Star and Daily Mail reported yet another right-wing attempt this time by a group of Tory MPs - to smear CND as part of an international KGB conspiracy.

Needless to say, no shred of evidence was produced then or later to back up this pathetic allegation.

It seems to Sanity, however, that the time has Sanity, come for the Tory conspiracy-theorists to pay a bit more attention to what goes on in their own backyard - as President Reagan might say.

For evidence is gradually emerging that the peace movements are about to face a concerted attack from the gight.

from the right.

In our October/November 1981 edition, Nicholas Perry gave an account of a remarkable pro-civil defence conference held at the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall. This was sponsored by the innotorious creasingly and 'Protect Survive Monthly" magazine, and featured among others, one Edward Leigh, who advised the fraternal delegates "to fight CND in the

But links between Leigh and the magazine are now known to run deeper than mere sharing of a confer-

ence platform.

The December edition of PSM lists the following members of its editorial advisory board: Professor John Erickson, Eric Alley, Major C. J. Davidson, Professor James Turnbull, and the chairman of the National Council for Civil Defence - Edward Leigh.

Erickson is the author of such defence-orientated works as "The Soviet High Command" (1962), "The Armed Services and Society" (1970), and "Soviet Military Power" (1979). Even before he took up his chair at Edinburgh University in 1969, Erickson was a Ministry of Defence "Fellow in Higher Defence Studies."

Eric Alley is chairman of the Association of Civil Defence and Emergency Planning Officers - and so may be said to have a professional interest in the continuation of CD

Major Davidson, MBE, calls himself an "International Defence Consultant," and Professor Turnbull goes one better as a "Biochemical Warfare Consultant". Consultant."

That leaves Edward Leigh and his NCCD - a non-professional and rather elusive organisation ostensibly housed at "2 St. Mary Axe" in the heart of the

BY A SANITY REPORTER

House - just happens to be the headquarters of the British & Commonwealth Shipping Company Ltd., headed by the wealthy magnate Sir Nicholas

When I finally managed to speak to the caretaker of these prestigious premises, Mr Albert Gibbs, I asked how it was possible for a hole-in-the-corner group of amateurs like the NCCD to afford office-space in such an expensive location.

Could it be, in fact, that they did not pay any rent? "No comment," was the

stunned reply.

In an appeal for NCCD members, published in Protect and Survive Monthly last December, Edward Leigh referred to alleged KGB funding of "so-called" European peace movements. He went on: "But now a group of us from all four parties and from no party are coming together to form a coalition - a coalition of peace through security."

He seems to have been as

good as his word. Last February, delegates to a peace conference at Imperial College, London, were sur-prised to receive a wellprinted bogus agenda implying such dedicated peace compaigners as Fenner Brockway and Philip NoelBaker to be stooges of the Soviet Union.

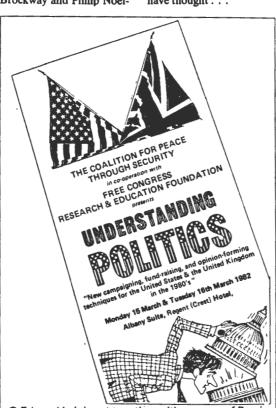
According to the Daily Telegraph of February 15, this expensive handout had been cooked-up by "The Coalition for Peace Through Security," which was described as a com-paigning body "formed three months ago." One of three months ago." One of the group's members, Councillor Tony Kerpel, claimed that the group "now had enough support to be able to set up an office in Whitehall."

Kerpel is Tory Opposi-tion leader on Camden

By a strange coincidence, Leigh's advert for the NCCD in PSM magazine includes a list of NCCD officials - and who should happen to be Press Officer for Leigh's organisation? why, none other than Tony Kerpel, B.Sc., M.B.E.

So, here we have a nice little inter-locking circle, comprising a pro-civil defence journal with in-dustrial and American links; a non-professional pressure group with office facilities apparently subsi-dised — if not actually donated — by a leading British company, and now a Whitehall-based group openly bent on attacking the peace movement.

Perhaps there is more to this talk of conspiracies than one previously might have thought . . .



● Edward Leigh got together with a group of President Reagan's political advisers to stage a conference during the March. The conference was endorsed by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who sent a 'good luck' message.

PHIL EVANS . . .-...IN SANITY SOME USEFUL THINGS YOU CAN DO IN THE EVENT OF IMMINENT NUCLEAR WAR. SMASH YOUR WAY INTO THE NEAREST OFF-LICENCE AND DRINK A BOTTLE OF GIN. QUICKLY READ THE TELL YOUR ENEMIES WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF THEM. ENTIRE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE . BUT STAND ON THE GARAGE ROOF AND SHAKE YOUR FISTS AT I THE SKY. WISH THAT YOUD BEEN I

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 8, 1982

Mr. Joseph E. McMahon President, McMahon and Associates 1828 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. McMahon:

Mr. Meese asked me to respond to your recent letter about briefings of American religious leaders on the Administration's policies regarding the Soviets and our defense policies.

On the 18th of May this year, over forty national leaders of religious organizations in this country attended a briefing at the Pentagon concerning national defense. Special care was given to outline clearly the policy of this administration regarding the strategic threat of the Soviet Union and the nuclear defenses of the United States.

I agree with you that the religious leaders of the United States have a key impact on public perceptions of our defense posture. Other meetings, similar to the one on the 18th of May, will be scheduled, and I will see that more religious leaders are invited.

Thank you so much for your comments and for giving us the names of religious leaders who have a clear awareness of Soviet military designs. If you have any more information relating to religious leaders and our national defense, I would like very much to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell Special Assistant to the President

for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Looks like as usual this letter bummed around the White House too long to be effective.

The Moscow conference is over.

Received 2:13 on 5/17

From: Doug Martin

To: Morton Blackwell

Subj: Phone call with Mr. German at DOD, Secretary of Defense's

Office for Community Relations. 695-6108.

1. Mr. German was the coordinator for the Military briefing for Religious Leaders on the 18th of May.

Mr. German indicated there were approximately 42 leaders there from the major religious faiths of the country, including Catholics and Jewish organizations.

Some of the speakers at the meeting that morning were:

The Secretary of Defense General Mathis Dr. Ronald Lehman General Gorman General Kelley

Another briefing will be conducted in the spring of 1983 according to present schedule.

respectfully,

Doug

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8 8 pm

1828 L Street, Northwest Suite 1000 Washington, D.C. 20036 202 965-4170

April 28, 1982

Ms. Marilee Melvin
Secretary
Office of the Counsellor
to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Marilee:

Attached is the letter which my assistant, Gail Storey, mentioned to you, and which I wanted Mr. Meese to have.

More importantly, I want to convey my gratitude and excitement for the outstanding talk which he gave. Clearly, it was the highlight of the symposium --- and with Mr. Meese's obvious and ready command of facts, his willingness to maintain diologue on the issues, and his sincerity and sensitivity to the heart of the problem, the objectives that we had hoped for could not have been better achieved.

Sorry for the confusion over the attached letter. The fellow to whom I gave the first copy came in to the room at the same time as Mr. Meese and set up his tape recorder behind Mr. Meese. He was wearing a "WHS" badge, and I assumed that he was from your office.

Dr. Enquist tells me that he will soon have a rough copy of Mr. Meese's address, and one of us will get that to you pronto.

With thanks again to Mr. Meese, and to you for all of your help for having made this possible, I am

Sincerely,

Joseph E. McMahon

President

McMahon and Associates

Duplicate

1828 L Street, Northwest Suite 1000

Washington, D.C. 20036 202 965-4170

April 23, 1982

see also later for from to

8 APR 1982

The Honorable Edwin Meese, III Counsellor to the President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Meese:

As you know, the Russian Orthodox Church is having a so-called Peace Conference in Moscow, May 10-14, 1982, to which some U.S. church leaders have accepted invitations extended to them, including Dr. Billy Graham.

Some church leaders turned down invitations to attend and many others did not receive them. One of those leaders who did turn down an invitation is Jim Crumley, Presiding Bishop of the Lutheran Church in America. While I have not spoken directly with Crumley on this issue, it is clear that he is now being heavily critized by numerous church leaders for his decision.

Some of us who support the Administration's policies regarding the Russians and armaments have felt that it could be a valuable counter to set up a half a dozen or so small group briefings for major church leaders on the Administration's peace/nuclear reduction efforts with any one of a variety of Administration leaders such as yourself, Secretary Haiq, Judge Clark, the Vice President, or even with the President.

These meetings could probably best be timed to take place during the conference gathering, providing simultaneously a forum for the Administration's plan and to provide support for those clergy leaders who have chosen not to go to Moscow.

In Crumley's case (I am told by those who know him well) those church leaders whom he would feel most comfortably with and who share somewhat similar negative views on the Moscow gathering are Bishop Allin of the Episcopal Church, President Bohlmann of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and Archbishop Iakovos of the Greek Orthodox Church. (I've attached a list of their names and addresses.)

If this concept makes any sense or if I can be of any further help in bring this about, or in finding out any anwers to questions that you might have, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Joseph E. McMahon
President

The Right Reverend John M. Allin Presiding Bishop 212/867-8400 Episcopal Church Center 2.8 million members 815 2nd Avenue New York, New York 10017 Dr. Ralph A. Bohlmann 314/231-6969 President Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod 2.7 million members 500 North Broadway St. Louis, Missouri 63102 His Eminence Archbishop Takovos The Greek Orthodox Church 212/744-4390 8 East 79th Street 1.9 million members New York, New York 10021 James R. Crumley, Jr. 212/696-6700 Presiding Bishop The Lutheran Church in America

231 Madison Avenue

New York, New York 10016

2.9 million members