

ROBERT M. HUTCHINS

Chairman

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions/Fund for the Republic, Inc.

Dear Friend,

I would be surprised if you were to tell me you were concerned about Indochina or ecology or violence in our streets 12 years ago. At the time, the United States had only a few "advisors" in Vietnam. And Watts was a name only Los Angelenos knew. And few people had heard of ecology, let alone understood what it meant.

Chances are that like most people you were concerned with the headlines of the day. Castro had assumed power in Cuba. Krushchev paid an unprecedented visit to the U.S. And science fiction was becoming science fact as Man entered the new age of lunar exploration. Who would have dreamed that in just one short decade so many crucial issues would flare up to threaten our society and our very existence?

Some people of foresight did, actually. Back in 1959, a small group of civic leaders were deeply concerned about the revolutionary changes taking place around us and about how we were going to cope with the growing number of threats confronting us. Their concern was not with the front-page issues, but the issues that would be making the front pages in the decade ahead unless something was done about them.

These men and women were the directors of the Fund for the Republic, Inc. Out of their concern grew the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions.

Its purpose? To identify the basic issues. To clarify them. To study them. And thus to see what might be done to erase the threats to our society before it is too late.

To that end the Center has brought together scholars and experts from all parts of the world and from all the disciplines to tackle the major issues head-on. The result has been described as "an early warning system to menaces that undermine our futures."

... Early in its work, for example, the Center began raising questions about technology, then generally considered a panacea for modern man; today the dangerous social implications of rapid technical change are the subject of agonized public debate.

... In 1962, long before ecology became a celebrated cause, Aldous Huxley and others participating in

Center conferences warned that we were paying a tragic price for progress by blindly upsetting the balance of nature without heed to the consequences. Today, those early views on the matter are common currency.

- ... The Center was one of the earliest critics of America's growing involvement in a small Asiatic country called Vietnam. Today, those early views have overwhelming popular support.
- ... At a time when America's reliance on massive weapons systems went widely unchallenged, participants in Center dialogues warned of the fearful consequences. Today, those early views are on the agenda of the SALT talks between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.
- ... Almost 10 years ago, the Center held discussions based on the proposition that politics should be primarily concerned with the quality of American life -- an idea that now finds its way into the rhetoric of many political leaders, including the President of the United States.
- ... The Center took the lead in focusing attention on the impact of automation. Its publication of "Cybernation: The Silent Conquest" stirred such discussion that the President appointed a special commission to examine the problem, now recognized as among the paramount challenges confronting our society.

The issues the Center takes on are many. They range from the biological revolution -- to U.S. foreign policy -- to feeding an overpopulated planet. The men and women who come to the Center's conferences bring to them their own special knowledge of the issues so that we all might gain new understanding of where we are headed and what can be done to avert disaster.

To the Center's special conferences on crime and law in America for instance, come some of the nation's most experienced, knowledgeable people in the field of criminal justice (judges, lawyers, prison system directors, corrections officers, members of the Department of Justice, a former U.S. Attorney General). Here they join forces in trying to uncover how we may curb the spread of crime in this country without threatening the individual liberties of our citizens and creating a police-state in the name of "law and order."

To other conferences come leading figures in the fields of science, social science, politics, philosophy, religion, business, labor, education, international relations, government, economics. People like Margaret Mead, Arnold Toynbee, Erich Fromm, Walter Lippmann, J. Kenneth Galbraith, Jacqueline Grennan Wexler, Ramsey Clark, Norman Cousins, Lady Kennet, James Farmer, Clark Kerr, Stringfellow Barr, Marya Mannes, Senator J. William Fulbright, Justice William O. Douglas, Rosemary Park, Pierre Mendes-France, Ivan Illich, Lord Ritchie-Calder, Nathan Rotenstreich, Paul G. Hoffman, Paul Ehrlich, John Lindsay, U Thant, Cesar Chavez, Judge Constance Baker Motley.

These are just a few of the world-renowned men and women who have taken part in the important Center activities, joining Center President Harry S. Ashmore, Pulitzer Prize-winning author ... Rexford G. Tugwell, formerly "brain-truster" in the Roosevelt administrations, Under Secretary of Agriculture and Governor of Puerto Rico ... Harvey Wheeler, political scientist and co-author of Fall-Safe ... authoress Elisabeth Mann Borgese ... philosopher and physicist John Wilkinson ... John Cogley, former religion editor of The New York Times and executive editor of Commonweal.

What comes from these conferences? The objective is understanding of the issues. Which leads to ideas about them. Which often leads to corrective action. We act on the proposition that in a democracy we can solve the problems facing us with reason, intelligence and rational discussion.

Many Americans agree with us, and support our effort. Since 1967, over 100,000 men and women have joined the Center. They join not only to help but to be helped -- not only to become a part of one of the most important, unique intellectual forces for peace, progress and understanding in the world -- but also to benefit from the Center's outstanding publication program. From it, readers gain an enrichment of ideas and clear thinking that sometimes "cuts through the confusion of modern living like an arrow of light" and helps them understand what lies at the heart of today's real issues.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Fund for the Republic and the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, I invite you, too, to join us.

Associate Membership in the Center is regularly \$15 a year. To introduce you as a new member to the Center, Associate Membership has been reduced to \$10. Your full membership benefits will include receiving The Center Magazine regularly. Praised as one of the most thought-provoking, enlightening publications around

today, The Center Magazine brings you crisp, cogent articles by the men and women who help shape our futures. A revealing discussion on the cold war by General James Gavin, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., political scientist Hans Morgenthau, historian Herbert Feis, a former ambassador to the Soviet Union, and Center Associate Fred Warner Neal ... A noted city planner on the urban revolution and the rare opportunities it offers us ... Elisabeth Mann Borgese on the reality of world communities in the future. These recent articles that have appeared in The Center Magazine are just a sampling of the type of stimulating reading in store for you.

In addition to the bi-monthly Center Magazine, you also receive The Center Report on alternate months. This is your contact with the many world-shaping activities at the Center. You get to know the distinguished Center Fellows and visitors through word-and-picture close-ups. You gain new insights into pressing issues from their perceptive commentaries. You read previews of Center books and audio tapes, as well as reviews of books of interest from other publishers. And you are kept abreast of the Center's many projects in the works and its future plans.

When you become a Center Member, you also receive a substantial discount on all Center books and audio tapes. The books, which spring from the important Center programs, include such recent titles as:

Ecocide and Thoughts Toward Survival, edited by Clifton Fadiman and Jean White. It presents expert views on not only the environmental crisis, but on the solutions so urgently needed to prevent environmental self-destruction.

Model for a New Constitution, by Rexford Guy Tugwell includes the full text of Mr. Tugwell's proposed new U.S. Constitution that received nationwide attention on television and in the press, as well as salient commentaries on constitutional issues that demand attention at this time.

Facem in Maribus, on the recent Center conference in Malta to help clarify the challenge of the ocean's exploitation.

Vietnam -- Matters for the Agenda, the layman's guide to understanding the Vietnam peace talks.

Democracy, Liberalism and Revolution ... The Troubled Conscience: American Social Issues ... Toward a New Public Policy ... and many others.

The Center audio tapes are recordings of its historic dialogues, including commentaries of Martin Luther King, Jr., Adlai Stevenson, Erich Fromm, Walter Lippmann, Aldous Huxley and hundreds of others. Tapes are available on both cassettes and reels.

In addition, as a new Center Member, you also will receive a free book bonus, The Establishment and All That. This is an exceptional anthology of articles selected from The Center Magazine and includes the writings of Harry S. Ashmore, Michael Harrington, Stringfellow Barr, Arnold Toynbee and others. It is available in bookstores for \$2.95. You receive a copy free when you become a Center Member.

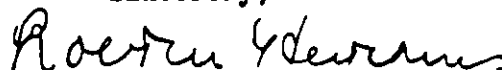
Before you make a decision about joining the Center, however, I will arrange to have a complimentary copy of The Center Magazine sent to you so you can see for yourself what stimulating reading this unique publication offers you. You will receive your sample issue when you fill out and mail the enclosed reply card. We will then also reserve a Center Associate Membership in your name at the reduced fee of \$10.

You will receive your magazine along with a Membership Form. If you wish to become a Center Member after reading The Center Magazine, you simply return this form with your remittance. Otherwise, return it marked "cancel," in which case your membership reservation will be voided. Your sample is yours to keep whether you join or not.

You have been selected to receive this invitation because we believe you are one of the many people who are concerned and anxious about the world that is being shaped around us today ... and that you believe democracy in action through independent, open exchange of ideas can change the world for the better. So may I suggest you mail the enclosed reply card today for your complimentary issue of The Center Magazine. You have absolutely no obligation when you do -- and I am sure you will find it penetrating reading.

I hope that you will be pleased with The Center Magazine you receive and that you will want to continue to receive the Center publications and lend your support to its work by becoming a member of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Hutchins
Chairman

RMH:jrc
Enclosures