



Christian Anti-Communism Crusade

P. O. BOX 890
124 E. FIRST ST
LONG BEACH, CALIF. 90801
HEmlock 7-0941

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THE "GUILT" OF PATRICIA HEARST

A number of readers have suggested that I republish the newsletter article of April 15, 1974, entitled "The Brainwashing of Patricia Hearst". I am doing so because it sheds some light on her moral and legal responsibility.

When it was announced that she had participated in a bank robbery in San Francisco, I stated that I believed she was a willing and probably eager participant, but that her willingness was the result of exhausting and terrifying experiences to which she submitted most unwillingly.

This article was written before her participation in the bank robbery was announced. In it I predicted that "she could be given some difficult and criminal task to test her and make her burn her bridges."

I am not suggesting that her captors deliberately brainwashed her. I doubt if they understood the methods by which brainwashing is accomplished. It is probable that the motive for her kidnapping was to use her to force the release of S.L.A. members, Little and Remiro, who were in prison charged with the murder of Oakland School Superintendent, Marcus Foster.

During the early days of her confinement, her treatment was doubtless brutal, exhausting and terrifying, as is the treatment given to most kidnap victims. However, her kidnapers were passionate ideologues, and they would certainly have bombarded her with arguments to justify their actions. Even under normal circumstances, the arguments would have been impressive to a girl of Patricia Hearst's age with her educational background and probable guilt complex about her family's privileged position. Reinforced by her desperate need to be relieved from her intolerable fear and pain, the arguments became overwhelming. She was utterly convinced of their truth and of the virtue of her tormentors. I can visualize her pleading with her captors to be allowed to join their ranks and professing her complete agreement with their ideas and activities. She would not have been acting but would have been sincere.

Initially her captors may have been somewhat surprised and perplexed by her attitude and there was probably considerable debate concerning what course to follow. To accept her would mean a complete change in their plans. It would also open the possibility of betrayal in the future when the opportunity presented if she were not genuinely transformed. Her sincerity would need to be tested in battle, so her participation in the bank robbery was arranged. Once she was recognized and identified as a bank robber, her return to her former status would be difficult, if not impossible.

I have often been asked if the change in personality and conviction brought about by this process of brainwashing would be permanent. I have replied that this would depend to a considerable degree on her future environment. If she continued to live in a revolutionary environment, her new convictions would be constantly reinforced by the arguments and attitudes with which she was surrounded. If she was removed from that environment, there was the possibility that the fragile structure of her

new personality and its principles would crack and finally shatter and that her former personality would re-emerge, scarred but viable.

It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of dehumanized ideologues.

The Brainwashing of Patricia Hearst?

First published in the Christian Anti-Communism newsletter of April 15, 1974

The sad story of the Symbionese Liberation Army continues to unfold. It is a story without victors, only victims. To date, victims are numerous and their number is likely to increase. These victims include: The black Superintendent of Education of Oakland, California, Marcus Foster, who was gunned down on the street; Patti Hearst and the Hearst family; the poor of San Francisco who were seduced into becoming accessories to kidnapping; and the members of the Symbionese Liberation Army itself.

The story of the kidnapping of Patricia Hearst is so well known it hardly needs repeating. The bare bones are: The Symbionese Liberation Army kidnapped Patricia and informed her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Hearst, that she would be killed unless free food was distributed to the poor of California. Patti's parents tried to meet the conditions demanded for Patti's release and organized the "people in need" program which distributed baskets of food in the San Francisco Bay area. They promised an enlarged program of food distribution once Patti was released unharmed.

Rumors were rife that Patti was about to be freed and her parents expressed cautious hope. This hope was shattered when a tape recording was received and a voice, believed to be that of Patti Hearst, stated that she had joined the Symbionese Liberation Army and had chosen to stay and fight with them. She attacked her father with some viciousness accusing him of being a liar and a representative of the enemy.

There are at least three possible explanations of her apparent change:

1. Patti cooperated with the SLA in organizing her own "kidnapping".
While some believe this, there is no evidence to support this thesis, and I consider it unlikely.
2. Patti made her statement under duress. It is easy to picture her as a prisoner with one of her armed captors ordering her to make this statement or else.....
While this is possible, I do not believe it is probable. I favor this third explanation.
3. Patti has been brainwashed.

The communists have often startled the world by their ability to take an individual of strong convictions and produce them at a later date with those convictions reversed. Frequently the individual has guilty memories of deeds that were never done and an apparently genuine affection for the captors who administered torture and torment. On examination there is no observable physical damage.

This is achieved by brainwashing. In the typical brainwashing case, an artificial mental and emotional collapse is produced by the application of these four elements.

1. Exhaustion
2. Confusion
3. Chronic physical pain
4. Emotional tension or fear

The induced breakdown is characterized by deep depression, confusion, fragmented memory, and

increased suggestibility. The brainwasher then suggests the ideas which are integrated into the fragmented memory. The depression is relieved through measures such as improving physical comfort and diminishing emotional pressure. The finished product reveals a new mind in an old body.

There are degrees of brainwashing and it is not suggested that Patti Hearst experienced the complete treatment. However, the treatment she has received is quite adequate to explain her change of doctrine and loyalty. Consider her plight:

1. She is held captive by a group which does not hesitate to kill. Her captivity has lasted two months.
2. She is afraid. She would be unnatural if this were not the case.
3. The fear creates a state of anxiety and exhaustion. She probably finds it difficult to sleep.
4. Her captors are utterly convinced of the correctness of their beliefs and the righteousness of their actions. They create an atmosphere which is highly charged emotionally. Their world is divided into two groups--us and them. They include in the "us" the active supporters of the SLA and a nebulous group known as "the people". They include in the "them" the capitalists, the government, and everybody who is opposed in any way to the SLA. Their slogan is, "Whosoever is not for us is against us." Death is the reward for opposition.
5. Patti has received a liberal education. She probably has some degree of guilt about the privileged position of her parents and the means by which the family fortune was accumulated. She is sensitive to the conditions in which many underprivileged live. Her captors play on this sense of guilt. In her closed environment, their arguments appear logical and convincing.
6. As an intelligent person, she knows her chances of survival are slim if she does not join her captors. They face a fearful risk in allowing her to go free when she can identify them in court. An argument which advances self-interest is readily acceptable so her receptivity to the advances of the SLA is enhanced.
7. Life is unbearable because of mental conflict and emotional turmoil. She longs for relief and rest. She hungers for community and the sense of belonging it brings.
8. The breaking point is reached, the dam bursts, and she surrenders gratefully. She accepts their doctrines, joins their fellowship and belongs. There is an immediate sense of relaxation and euphoria as her emotional tension is discharged. She becomes a new creature, a soldier of the SLA.

I believe something of this nature accounts for the changed attitude of Patti Hearst. While she continues in her present situation, it is probable that her new attitude will endure. If she is returned to her normal environment, it is unlikely that the change will be permanent, but it will certainly leave scars.

Within groups, such as the SLA, there are always suspicions and jealousies as well as trust and loyalty. Some members of the group probably resent their new recruit and she will continue to be in danger. She could be given some difficult and criminal task to test her and make her burn her bridges. Her predicament remains unenviable and her future bleak.

The seed of terror yields a harvest of death.

HAVE YOU INCLUDED THE CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNISM CRUSADE IN YOUR WILL?

SOME COMMUNISTS SCORN PATTY AND THE SLA

The various communist groups in the U.S.A. are not unanimous in their support for Patty Hearst and the SLA. The following editorial is taken from THE CALL, which is the newspaper published by the October League (Marxist-Leninist). The October League is a communist sect which supports the philosophies and policies of Mao and Communist China, and which is exceedingly hostile to the Communist Party--U.S.A. It was formed under the leadership of Mike Klonsky, secretary of SDS during its terminal paroxysms. At present the October League follows the policy of maintaining the anonymity of its leaders.

WHY THE PRESS PROMOTES PATTY & THE SLA

The capture of Patty Hearst last month has brought with it a new wave of sensational headlines in all of the capitalist press, including the vast journalism empire of her father. All the media has been trying to portray the little band of SLAers as the "real revolutionaries" in the U.S.

Why is the press so concerned with pushing the admittedly-miniscule SLA into such prominence? Why the preoccupation with the new personality-cult being built around Miss Hearst? Some might point to the obvious factor that newspaper owners are trying to increase daily circulation with emphasis on the personal affairs, sex and violence of the SLA while ignoring even the puny anti-imperialist content of the SLA. But there is also another reason for the fascination of the ruling circles with the SLA.

The millionaires who own the media have long been skilled at promoting hand-picked "revolutionary" heroes before the masses' field of vision. These are always the type who are most removed from the lives and experiences of the working people and--most importantly--they are always the type of "revolutionaries" who promote opportunistic and unworkable theories that only serve to negate the revolutionary science of Marxism-Leninism.

In these days of increasingly bad conditions and growing discontent and resistance, the establishment, police, FBI and

politicians love to have a few of these so-called "terrorists" (usually misled rich kids or college professors) running around in order to discredit the real working class revolutionary forces and fatten up their anti-communist police networks and budgets. This was the favorite tactic of the late J. Edgar Hoover.

The Patty Hearst publicity is also connected to all the play in the press that Angela Davis of the revisionist Communist Party received. While her trial was going on, the press was busy publicizing her along with her reformist electoral strategy in order to disarm the people from within while setting them up for fascism from without. There is a common thread running between Davis and Hearst; between the CP and the SLA. While one appears as reformist and one as terrorist, they both are in essence, anti-working class and anti-revolutionary. Both bow to the spontaneity of the masses. The CP tails behind the narrow economic demands of the trade union leadership, while the terrorists bow to the moral outrage of the petty-bourgeois intellectuals.

The job of real revolutionaries is to lead the political struggle of the people to revolution and socialism.

To do so, a genuine communist party must be built and is being built. It is under these conditions that the CP is trying to revive itself to head off the revolutionary movement of the people. And it is under these conditions too, that the

SLA is being blown up in the press, emphasizing their adventurism and isolation from the masses. These are the two models which the ruling class is handing us. It is hard sometimes to say which is the more ridiculous caricature of revolution--the newspaper heiress posing with a sub-machine gun before the symbol of the six-headed cobra or the so-called CP posturing before the red-white-and blue bunting of their so-called "People's Bicentennial." These are opposite faces of the same coin.

Inflating terrorist bands into "revolutionaries," or smearing real revolutionaries with the brand of "terrorists" are both old tricks played by decaying regimes. Such tricks are cheap cards, but with the stink of Watergate, the CIA revelations and other recent exposures, the ruling class cannot afford to be choosy.

However all of these promotion campaigns for the SLA "revolutionaries" will only backfire. Underlying the interest of the people in the Hearst affair is their desire for real revolutionary change. Now there is a genuine revolutionary movement growing up in the country with its own press and political program. As the discontent among the people with exploitation, racism and war turns them towards revolutionary thought, an alternative to terrorism and revisionism is being presented. All the SLA promotion campaigns in the world cannot divert us from our course.

Knowledge of communist doctrine and contemporary tactics is an essential ingredient of effective anti-communist action. ORGANIZE A STUDY GROUP.

DIALOGUE WITH THE YIPPIES

In these dark days, even tiny signs of progress in the right direction are welcome. We can be somewhat encouraged that the Yippies are now engaging in rational discourse. In the days of Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin, irrational absurdity was one of their established techniques.

Flirting with reason threatens the entire Yippie structure. Reason is attractive and intoxicating, and they could become addicted to it and thereby destroy their entire house of fantasy.

It is also encouraging that the Yippies are reading the Crusade newsletters. Here is recent correspondence received from one of their representatives:



See page 6 for statement of Yippie policy

In the spirit that "honesty is the best policy" we would like to correct some mistakes in your August 15, 1975 Newsletter which appeared on page 8. Although we aren't the sponsoring party of the smoke-in's (they are: Y.I.P. P.O. 392, Canal St. Sta., N.Y., N.Y.) we were a little upset by your first mistake and very upset by your second mistake. You say that your organization believes in education and the truth if this is so you will clear up these mistakes by explaining the truth in future newsletters soon.

The first mistake was a minor one it said "their lawless smoking of marijuana in front of the White House" this is incorrect we were smoking in back of the White House on the Elipse.

The second mistake was an out-and-out lie, I don't know whether it was a mistake or whether you did it to discredit Y.I.P. or what, but it should be retracted in a future newsletter and Y.I.P.'s position should be accurately stated. You indicated that Y.I.P. condoned the use of heroin, this is ridiculous the first Y.I.P. manifesto of 1969 or 1970 stated "We will take control of drug manufacture and distribution and stop the flow of ~~hard~~ ~~drugs~~". This was re-emphasized at the last National Convention of the Y.I.P. in Spokane Wash. July-Augst. 1974 when it was "officially" decided that Y.I.P.'s position be against the use of "hard liquor, downs (depressants), speed (amphetamines), smack (heroin) and needles."

The Y.I.P. is and has always advocated the use of grass, it's derivatives and psychedelics we have never been for hard drugs. Even Jerry Rubin who you seem so fond of quoting (though he is no longer a Yippie by his own admission) took a stand against smack in his book "We Are Everywhere" when he said "The choice is revolution or heroin."

Please print a retraction of the heroin article or at least state Y.I.P.'s "official" position on the use of hard liquor, heroin, speed, downs and needles.

in love and revolution
Elliot

P.S. please send any extra back issues of anything pertaining to Y.I.P. activity we keep files of these things, by the way your on our mailing list and we should be coming out with a new leaflet soon.

Also YIPPIE'S are commo-anarchist we are against Russia and China type government, we believe in Federations to transport supplies and keep medicine socialized with no central government, and collective lifestyles

If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters.

- Y.I.P. MANIFESTO

BROTHERS and SISTERS:

Most people here today were here Monday and you saw the pigs beat, push and otherwise ~~beat~~ physically abuse the people of Newark. The police are paid for to serve the ~~the~~ people, however it seems that they are constantly forcing the will of the government on the people.

The government has proved that it will not ~~tolerate~~ tolerate any major change and that it will destroy any organization that has the support of the people if the government feels threatened. They did this to the Black Panther Party, Vietnam Vets Against the War, Socialist Workers Party, and other organizations. ~~They~~ They murdered Fred Hampton, Martin Luther King, Both Kennedies, and hundreds of others including the people at Kent and Jackson state, James Rector at Peoples Parks and jailed thousands of others.

The government also brings Herion into the country (CIA) and with the help of organized crime gets it into the communities of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, freaks and Hippies, Chicano's—the list is endless. On top of this they arrest users, both the dealers are allowed to go free.

However there is hope — because of people losing jobs, inflation, people's loss of faith in government and other factors including the recent victory for the Veitcong, and recent realization by the people that the C.I.A. imports Herion (opium), spys on people in the U.S., killed various U.S. radicals, and other factors we believe that a change is on the way. There is plenty you can do. Join us to disrupt, agitate, harass, organize, and other wise help bring about the revolution. ~~Write to us~~

~~Write to us~~ Write to us and include a stamp for informati

YOUTH INTERNATIONAL PARTY
PO-43 GRAVESEND STA. /
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THE COMMUNISTS AND THE BICENTENNIAL

The communists see themselves as scientists who harness and use social forces to advance their cause. One social force they are attempting to use is the patriotism and pride of the American people as the bicentennial of the American Revolution draws near. They wish to present the American Communists as the legitimate heirs of the heroic revolutionaries of 1776.

They are having serious problems, however, choosing the precise line they should follow. Communist propaganda customarily presents the history of the U.S.A. since the revolution has a record of greed, injustice, treachery and cruelty. They concentrate upon the treatment of Indians, blacks and exploited workers and depict the U.S.A. as a capitalist, imperialist hell. A revolution with such an outcome does not appear to be a major cause for pride and rejoicing.

The communists escape from this dilemma by an attempt to locate the Revolution in the Dialectic of History. According to their interpretation, society progresses dialectically from primitive communism to slavery to feudalism to capitalism to imperialism to socialism and finally to communism. No stage on this journey can be reached until the productive forces have created the social relations appropriate for such a stage. The failures of American society since the revolution are thus not the fault of the revolutionaries but are due to the stage of development of the forces of production.

This enables them to present the revolutionaries as the vanguard of progressive change and to identify the present communists with them. They call Marx and Lenin to their aid in this program.

The WORLD MARXIST REVIEW is presenting a series of letters on the bicentennial under the caption, "From cradle of bourgeois freedoms to state-monopoly capitalism." The July, 1975 issue contains this statement:

"Two hundred years ago the shots that rang out in Lexington on April 19, 1775, began a revolutionary war which culminated in the birth of an independent state--the United States of America. Those shots, as William Z. Foster pointed out, were heard around the world. The consequences of the American Revolution went far beyond the boundaries of the American continent.

"What is the progressive significance of the American Revolution? Why do the Communists of the United States, and with them the Marxists of other countries, consider it important to express their view of the Bicentennial observances?

"Stressing the worldwide significance of the American Revolution, Marx said that in the American colonies of Great Britain 'the idea of one great Democratic Republic had first sprung up, whence the first Declaration of the Rights of Man was issued, and the first impulse given to the European revolution of the eighteenth century.' But Marx also pointed to the limitations of that revolution which had 'initiated a new era of ascendancy for the middle class' and was, therefore, unable to live up to the democratic principles advanced by its leaders and, in particular, to abolish slavery. Marx and Engels foresaw that the traditions of the revolution and the promises of bourgeois democracy would be subverted and betrayed in the course of capitalist development, and explained how and why this would happen.

"Lenin elaborated on Marx's ideas. 'In not a single one of the most advanced countries in the world,' he wrote, have the questions of bourgeois-democratic revolution 'been completely settled on bourgeois-democratic lines' (Coll. Works, Vol. 33, p. 53). Noting that the socialist revolution 'is not separated by a Chinese Wall from the bourgeois-democratic revolution,' Lenin attached

prime importance to consolidating the bourgeois-democratic gains, and to using them as a starting point for building socialist relations by the victorious proletariat." (Pages 97 and 98)

Herbert Aptheker, leading theoretician of the CPUSA, sums up the communist attitude to the bicentennial with these words:

"Here in the United States the deepest meaning to the Bicentennial of the revolution is to comprehend that revolution as a great milepost of the past 200 years of human history along the way to the achievement of colonial and national liberation, the termination of racism and all forms of elitism and emancipation of the working class. And it is the victorious working class, it is socialism, which, as a 'by-product,' brings to fruition for the 20th century the promises in the immortal manifesto of revolution, which is the birth certificate of the United States of America." (Page 108)

MORALITY AND COMMUNIST CONQUEST

The relationship between morality and communist conquest remains obscure to many. They regard deteriorating moral standards and the communist threat as separate and unrelated problems.

To those who are aware of the communist formula for the conquest of the U.S.A., the relationship between declining moral standards and increasing danger of communist conquest is clear. This formula is: "External encirclement, plus internal demoralization, leads to progressive surrender."

An anti-communist program that does not seek to halt the moral decline taking place has no hope of success. An anti-communist who promotes immorality is a contradiction in terms. It is, to quote Khrushchev, like "fried ice".

The decline in moral standards is obvious and appalling. The prestigious news magazine, U.S. News and World Report, draws attention to it in an article captioned, "What's Happening to American Morality?" published in the October 15 issue. The article refers to a "tidal wave of changing standards that is creating widespread moral bewilderment, concern and resentment."

People frustrated by the inability of American society to maintain moral standards read reports of apparent communist success in this area. They are told that puritanical moral standards prevail in Communist China, North Vietnam, Cuba and even the Soviet Union. Great play is made of communist success in abolishing prostitution and rehabilitating prostitutes. This tends to weaken their antagonism to communism.

Communism eliminates immorality by abolishing morality. Morality demands freedom to choose as life demands oxygen. Communism reduces freedom of choice and, in many areas, brings it close to the vanishing point. If you incarcerate a community of thieves, you may prevent them from stealing, but they are not morally regenerate.

Effective anti-communism demands personal and national morality. We can choose the former and work for the latter. Righteousness exalts a nation.

For a sample Christmas card, for a copy of the brochure for the Southern California Antisubversive Seminar, or for more free copies of this newsletter, write to:

CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNISM CRUSADE, Post Office Box 890, Long Beach, California 90801

Dr. Fred Schwarz, Editor