

**FERDIE J. DEERING**

**MAY 16 1974**

# **Reds Winning on Propaganda Front**

**R**EAR Admiral James B. Stockdale of the U. S. Navy was a prisoner in Vietnam for more than seven years. This bitter experience intensified his patriotism and developed his concern for the future of America. In a recent address at Chicago, he said:

"Our enemy in Vietnam hoped to win his war with propaganda. It was his main weapon. Our captors told us they never expected to defeat us on the battlefield, but they did believe they could defeat us on the propaganda front."

The war on the battlefield has ended, but the propaganda campaign is being waged all across America. Our precious rights of freedom of speech and freedom of the press are being used effectively by our enemies within to weaken our country.

Americans have unexcelled access to an almost overwhelming supply of information, the sheer volume of it discouraging attempts to sort out the truth from what is untrue. Nevertheless, this must be done. Through our many channels of communication, those who would destroy America are continually seeking to confuse,

divide, and, ultimately, to conquer us.

The Watergate mania is being used as a weapon toward this end, but it is only one of many. Just punishment for whatever crimes may have been committed in this ill-conceived and badly bungled incident would not satisfy liberal newspaper and magazine writers, nor would it appease television commentators who have "tried the case" and arrived at their own verdicts while ostensibly reporting the news.

Neither would a just settlement please the militant, subversive element that is trying to destroy the faith of Americans in all traditional or established institutions and customs. They have broken the moral codes, obtained leniency for all sorts of law violators, and infiltrated respectable institutions to promote their un-American ideologies. They don't intend to stop.

Propagandists and those they are able to use may present opinions as news or propaganda as fair editorial comment. One national newspaper has announced that its writers are authorized to put their opinions into their news reports. Authors of books

and magazine articles are rewriting history to suit political purposes, and many propaganda lines find their way into movie and television features.

Communists have never made a secret of their efforts to use propaganda methods against democracy, free enterprise, and capitalism. They may sometimes appear clumsy, causing us to regard them as inept. Meanwhile, they have skillfully placed people who speak their message in schools, churches, universities, government, newspapers, magazines, television, radio and other influential places. From these platforms, they are able to instill doubt and disbelief in American principles in the minds of the young.

Diligent use of our free channels of communication to spread anti-American propaganda imposes upon readers and listeners a special burden to determine whether information presented to them is news or opinion, fact or fiction, truth or falsehood.

Those sources of information which are found to be unreliable may not be censored or suppressed, but they can be disregarded.

5633 N. Barnes  
Oklahoma City, Okla. 73112  
May 17, 1974

Ferdie J. Deering  
3232 Whipperwill Rd.  
Oklahoma City, Okla. 73120  
Dear Sir:

Your article on the editorial page of The Daily Oklahoman (5-16-74) calling attention to the way in which Communist propaganda is dispensed from every element of our communication media should be must reading and a subject for study for students and adults alike. The grass-root American is satisfied, apathetic and complacent because he has been most thoroughly brainwashed by the detente hogwash and by the choruses of newspapermen and TV commentators who assure us that the Communists are mellowing. Even Billy Graham has apparently joined the long list of false church leaders in our country who are cooperating with our red enemies.

Mr. Gaylord's frequent editorials to protest the treasonous policy of our government leaders for unilateral disarmament are most appropriate and cannot be repeated too often.

The menace represented by the presence in high positions of our government in Washington of subversives has been a subject for study and concern by a number of courageous patriots among which were Martin Dies, Joseph McCarthy, Scott McLeod, James Forrestal and Otto Stephd.

It is hoped that we may see more of your columns on the editorial pages of the Daily Oklahoman.

Sincerely  
Edwin R. Stuenkel

**ERRETT R. NEWBY**  
*Suite 800 Citizens Bank Tower*  
*2200 Classen Boulevard*  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73106

May 16, 1974

Mr. Ferdie J. Deering  
Editorial Department  
Oklahoman and Times  
P. O. Box 25125  
Oklahoma City, Okla. 73125

Dear Ferdie:

I read with pleasure and admiration your Editorial in this morning's Daily Oklahoman. May I congratulate you on the subject of your comments, on its logical construction and its well worded statements.

I think it presents a problem of which all Americans should be keenly aware.

With best wishes and personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Errett R. Newby", with a stylized flourish at the end.

ERN:lr