

NAACCCP Update

Here is an update on the subject of Communists and ex-Communists in the "new" NAACP (see my "NAACCCP," *TAS*, August 1993). Benjamin Chavis's choice for director of communications of the national NAACP is no less than Don Rojas, who was press chief under Maurice Bishop, the Communist dictator of Grenada, and lived several years in Cuba. Rojas then moved on to become editor of the *New York Amsterdam News*, published by the notoriously Jew-baiting Wilbert Tatum.

"We are bringing new energy, talent, and life to the NAACP," Chavis says.

—Stephen Schwartz
San Francisco, California

He's My Brother

Two of my brothers were subjects of Daniel Wattenberg's piece in your June 1993 publication ("Clinton's Echo Chamber"), with brother Bill being the main target. He can ably respond for himself on the political matters, if he chooses. I will respond on the reference to our mentally retarded 47-year-old brother Jack.

Jack has made a number of visits to Washington over the years. His brother Bill arranged those trips and escorted him proudly, with great love and attention. Only the *Spectator* has seen fit to try to tarnish what has always been a fun experience for Jack, Bill, our family, and those who met Jack in Washington.

I would also point out that our family members, including Bill, myself, his legal guardian and brother Tom, and others of the original eleven total children, frequently "speak retarded," adopting or warmly "impersonating" Jack's speech limitation. It's a language not taught in foreign language schools, but it helps us communicate and we will continue to use it. We would be happy to so educate Mr. Wattenberg.

In a society which unfortunately can still shun the handicapped, it is especially troubling that sincere brotherly love and attention can be cruelly attacked. Can't Mr. Wattenberg find more accurate things to write?

—Peter D. Archey
Reading, Pennsylvania

Daniel Wattenberg replies:

I never questioned Bill Archey's love for his brother Jack. Rather, I tried to explain how, despite his manifest lack of brotherly love for supply-siders and other species of conservatives ("wackos," he calls them), he had risen to influential positions in the conservative Reagan administration and the once pro-market U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

I certainly did not mean to tarnish Jack's visits to Washington. I wasn't even aware of them. If Bill Archey and the Chamber would just get to their battle stations and beat back the Clinton tax hike, then I am sure that Jack and other members of the Archey family could afford to visit more often.

Bill's efforts to "speak retarded" to communicate with Jack sound commendable. But in the anecdote I related in my article, he adopted his brother's manner of speech to communicate to colleagues in the Reagan Commerce Department his disgust over Reagan's cuts in social spending.

I did, by the way, seek an interview with Bill Archey, and he chose not to respond—in any language.

Raining on Parade

Terry Eastland's catalogue of paeans to Mrs. Clinton ("Counting the Days," *TAS*, July 1993) omitted the full-issue puff piece done by Dotson Rader in *Parade* magazine last April. On May 10, gossip columnist Liz Smith reported:

The huge-circulation newspaper supplement is now buried under thousands of readers' letters. A random sampling of the first 1,000 left *Parade* staffers stunned. The mails run about 88 percent against the current First Lady, with a vituperation level that surprises and shocks even the most cynical. Can this be the beginning of an "Annus Horribilis" for Mrs. Clinton?

With any luck. —Blair Hunter
Bradenton, Florida

Bogus Charlie

Grover G. Norquist has done conservative Democrats a favor; he has exposed Charlie Stenholm ("Bogus Charlie Stenholm," *TAS*, August 1993). . . .

Conservative and moderate Democratic voters do not need people like Charlie Stenholm leading and abandoning the true conservative and moderate Democrats in Congress. They need the leadership of someone who is willing to break with the straight party line if principles and constituents demand it. The Democrats need a leader like Rep. Gary Condit of California, who voted against Clinton's higher taxes—at the risk of incurring the wrath of the liberal leadership and losing his subcommittee chairmanship. . . .

—Valerie Shank
Austin, Texas

Wit's End

P. J. O'Rourke's "Liberty Manifesto" (*TAS*, July 1993) was truly an inspiring piece of wit-drenched truth. Even though the target is as large as the broad side of a barn, Mr. O'Rourke uses laser-like focus when he blasts away at the Occupying Couple and their entourage.

I'd gladly not join the millions of "uncommitted inactivists" in their "non-march on Washington" to remind people to just leave well enough alone.

Since I don't actually have to show up for this non-march, that saves me the guilt of making up some lame excuse why I can't make it. Instead, I can proudly boast that I chose to get on with my life rather than attend a march on Washington.

As I eagerly await the next issue of *TAS*, I am not actively painting any protest signs. Nor am I engaging in any leaflet distribution at my local mini-mall. Instead, I am going to bed early tonight . . . I have to work tomorrow.

—David Blumenthal
Lincoln Park, New Jersey

In his recent speech to the Cato Institute, P. J. O'Rourke comes perilously close to surrendering his credentials as a Republican party reptile. His "less is more" theme in regard to the size of government runs counter to the "more is more" philosophy of our last Republican president and his secretary of housing and urban development. (Jack, please call home!)

In fact, one might even vilify P.J. so far as to call him a latent Libertarian! His "two rules of government" certainly
(continued on page 84)

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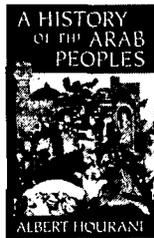
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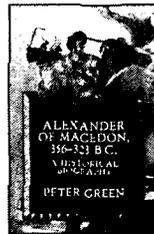
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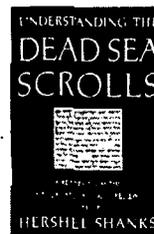
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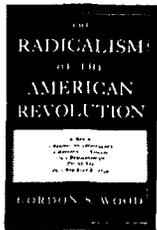
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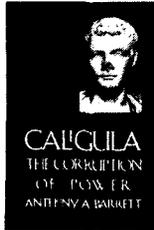
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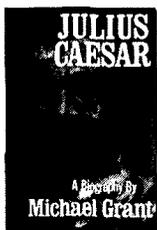
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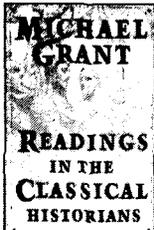
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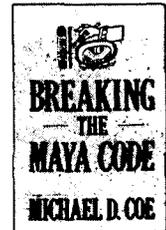
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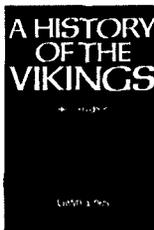
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Dead Wrong

by R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr.

Everything Bill Clinton believes about the economy is wrong. He believes that by raising taxes he will cut the deficit. That will lower interest rates. This will spur economic activity. But of course, and the cow will jump over the moon.

Actually, in recent years no evidence has been found to support this belief—though animal-rights advocates might have data on that saltant cow. What is more, our president believes that by raising marginal tax rates he can ensure a specific level of increased government revenue—again his belief is bereft of evidence. In fact, the evidence is to the contrary. Finally, he believes he can lower the federal deficit while increasing federal spending. That belief suggests that our Boy President suffers schizophrenia.

Allow me to go a step further: everything Bill Clinton believes about government is wrong. He believes that government can create prosperity. The evidence is that government depletes prosperity. He believes that government can select promising enterprises in the private sector and make them even more successful. The evidence is that governments engaged in this futile endeavor are inevitably lobbied into sustaining economic duds while impeding promising enterprises.

Adapted from RET's weekly Washington Times column syndicated by Creators Syndicate.

And more: he believes that government can coerce all Americans into abiding national planning. For the last thirty years growing numbers of "minorities" have been successfully exempting themselves from government planning. Ironically, advocates of big government such as the Clintons have wrecked big government by expanding its list of special interests: blacks, women, gays, Hispanics, the disabled, and on into anarchy.

Now, even if interest rates were to decline attendant to a declining deficit, whence will come the money for economic growth? According to Clinton, his tax collectors are going to sop up vast amounts of investment capital in one of the Republic's largest peacetime

tax increases. Yet he assures us that soaking the rich alone achieves \$187 billion in revenues to be placed against the federal deficit. Alas, recent experience shouts *fortissimo* that, when government raises taxes, it fails to get the revenues it anticipates. As the *Wall Street Journal* reported in July, after the Bush tax increase, tax receipts from the rich fell for the first time since the mid-1980s. In fact, the wealthy paid \$6.5 billion less in taxes in 1991, and the middle class paid \$3.3 billion more. According to IRS reports, those making \$200,000 or more paid 6.1 percent less in federal income tax, while tax receipts from everyone else increased 1 percent. The rich are not as ignorant of economics as our politicians. When marginal taxes become excessive, the rich either shelter their income from the taxpayer or simply work less.

This is not a recent phenomenon. Throughout the 1980s, in fact, the percentage of tax receipts collected from the upper one percent rose considerably, due to declining marginal rates. With Clinton's huge tax increase now being negotiated in Washington, then, there will come no great increase in revenue from the rich. The increase will come from the rest of us or not at all. My guess is that the increase will come not at all, and that the deficit will grow. That is what happened when Mr. Bush raised taxes and when the Washington wizards of tax

