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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: April 01,1996 00:18:59
To: STEPHEN LEVINE (MAKB53A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

Stephen,

One of the laws of History is "first time tragedy, second time farce." Another is "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." But the one we're concerned about here is, "don't throw good money after bad."

Nations that won't learn the lessons of History are condemned to repeat others' mistakes. They spin their wheels, no progress is made. They disavow tradition, and in the case of America, import the idea of a ruling class from Europe. The original idea of America was to build a meritocracy, an egalitarian State, democratically administered, with folks getting ahead according to their abilities and work ethic.

But as fortunes began to accumulate these new American barons turned to European ways, shunning traditional American values as homespun and beneath their glittering dignity. They began using their new wealth to organize an American ruling class modeled on the European idea of aristocracy and in doing so drew closer to those very Europeans we fought a Revolution to be rid of. As their wealth increased they hired politicians to pass laws that would benefit them, (Federal Reserve Act, Income Tax Amend.) and began getting involved with European problems.

In doing so they violated Washington's dictum to "steer clear of entangling foreign alliances," to remain forever free, forever a little friend to all the world. And in doing so they got even richer and more powerful. But their incompetence has finally matched their greed.

The ruling class is not doing a good job, Stephen, in case you haven't noticed. The whole country is going downhill fast under their "leadership." Except, of course, members of the ruling class who always manage to profit from someone else's misery and despair: Some creep in a corporation figures out how to save the company millions by closing down a factory in America the Free and re-opening it in some third-world dictatorship. As a reward for selling out the American Worker he (and increasingly she) gets a big bonus and raise, and becomes a "star" lauded in the media for helping "keep America competitive." But the only competition they win is the one about which ruling class can exploit their powerless worker most efficiently.

With a ruling class like this we don't need enemies.

Robert Frost, that great exemplar of Yankee practicality, pointed out: "How many times does something have to happen to you before something occurs to you?"

Most Americans don't have the slightest inkling, yet, that the ruling class now has far more in common with European ruling classes and third world dictatorships than they do with the American People they claim to lead. Americans have been abandoned and thrown to the wolves. Its now our turn to bite back.

Here's what the Revolution will do: It will take power from those who have been proved incapable of using it properly. Power comes from the People but when it is wced against the People, to jack up stock prices and feather the nests of the connected few, the People will awaken and ride to the sound

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 29,1996 22:05:58
To: STEPHEN LEVINE (MAKB53A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

And Revolution ASAP!

The first Revolution was the best thing that ever happened to the American People. The next Revolution will be the next best thing to happen to the American People.

Its the ONLY way to clear up our problems in one fell swoop.

Most of our problems are economic in nature due to the greed of the ruling class and the dishonesty of their politicians. The Revolution will oust the Washington/Wall Street Axis and liberate the entire economy from ALL debt.

That's what Revolutions do, they change the status quo. Since most Americans owe more than they own the Revolution will leave most of us better off.

Imagine no more national debt, so our taxes will go to productive uses. No more business and farm debt so profits will go to better equipment and higher wages. Not having to service debt will cut 40% off the price of health care because doctors and hospitals pay that much now. Families and individuals will be freed of all mortgages, car loans, college loans and credit card debts. The only people to lose out will be the 10% of the population that holds 90% of the Nation's wealth. Everyone else will come out ahead and will prosper in the future as we rebuild our entire infrastructure without raising taxes just by using the 50% of national income that now goes to pay interest.

We'll get the financial albatros from our collective neck and we won't have to alter a word of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Doesn't this sound worthwhile to you, Stephen?

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 29,1996 21:41:43
To: CAROLE HAMMAN (ZDJH65A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

No problem-o, Carole.

Bulletin ID: EZA960329214143CHHL71AZDJH65A

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 28,1996 00:01:54
To: CAROLE HAMMAN (ZDJH65A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

Carole, you have me mixed up with the boogey man, I'm afraid. I can state with absolute assurance that I never directed a song, vile or otherwise, at you in any way, shape, manner, form or degree. Period.

The only note of mine that P* ever pulled had to do with the NYPD. And that was pulled automatically because of a racial epithet I quoted. Seems some years ago 10,000 of New York's swinest held a demonstration outside of Mayor Dinkins office protesting his plan for a strong civilian review board. The cops committed crimes during this demonstration such as knocking over police barricades, blocking traffic on the Brooklyn Bridge and jumping up and down on the cars caught in the back up. In addition, many cops violated Department rules against appearing in demonstrations in uniform, but nobody was punished despite ample photographic and video evidence. (To be fair I must point out that there were no reports of officers urinating in elevators, sliding naked down hotel bannisters, discharging their weapons out windows and setting off false fire alarms in the middle of the night causing hundreds of hotel gguests to evacuate as occured in Washington DC last year at a convention to "honor" fallen comrades.) But they did chant N...N...N...at Hizzoner and were egged on by an ambitious would be politician named Rudolf Giuliani. And just tonight William Brattan, the police commissioner who just resigned after New York's crime rate dropped sharply, admitted on Larry King that he was pushed by the Mayor as much as he jumped. Seems personality

conflicts are allowed to play a bigger role in politics than actual, effective leadership as exemplified by Com. Brattan.

And insofar as not writing you any more notes, to paraphrase Ronald Reagan: "I'm paying for this board, Ms. Green!"

Bulletin ID: EZA960328000154CHHL71AZDJH65A

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 26,1996 21:36:17
To: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)
From: STEVE GOLDING (NSVD53A)

BTW, re being a lil short last night--we all have those types of days. Don't give it another thought.

Steve, Still awaiting the fullest possible accounting from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam & the USG Hill or No Hill

Bulletin ID: EZA960326213617NSVD53ACHHL71A

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 26,1996 21:36:16
To: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)
From: STEVE GOLDING (NSVD53A)

Thank you for the gist of the case. Renquist is absolutely wrong in his ruling because while ignorance of the law is no excuse in Court, ignorance of the crime is. Was this unanimous or were there dissenting?
The dissenting judges would cite the appropriate case law for an action to be brought to repeal or ammend the fortfieture laws.
Did the ACLU take on this case on behalf of the wife? Did the husband solicit and/or have a hooker in their car?
There has got to be a way legally to remedy this situation of unjust juris purdence.

Steve, Still awaiting the fullest possible accounting from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam & the USG Hill or No Hill

Bulletin ID: EZA960326213616NSVD53ACHHL71A

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT

Posted: March 26,1996 20:30:46
To: STEVE GOLDING (NSVD53A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

Steve, Sorry for being short last night about that case, you shouldn't have to go hunting when I can tell you the details: A husband in Michigan went out looking for hookers and was caught in a jurisdiction that has an "assets forfeitures" law that took away the car he was using in the crime. Problem was, it wasn't entirely his car, his wife had half interest, and needless to say she wasn't delighted with the situation. She didn't understand why she should lose her property for the crime of her husband, so she sued to get it back. The Court ruled against her and agreed with the government's novel argument that she did not take "all reasonable steps" to keep her property from being misused and thus deserved to lose her property.

I'd GUESS a "reasonable step" would be to clamp the proverbial ball and chain onto her husband's leg, but I THINK that the Court is the one being unreasonable. The Chief Justice claimed: "an owner's interest in property may be forfeited by reason of the use to which the property is put even though the owner did not know that it was to be put to such use." By this "reasoning" Herr Rehnquist could lose his own property if, for example, he drops off his car to be repaired and a mechanic uses it to make a drug buy. Rehnquist would not know it would be put to such use but that innocence no longer matters in today's legal climate.

What matters is the power of the government to arbitrarily target citizens and put them through the wringer. Rehnquist and other rich, powerful and connected individuals are not likely to be targeted by the government but this woman in Michigan is just an average American and the government just loves sharpening its claws on We the People. Its just another way to keep us in our place. Intimidation is the name of the government's game.

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 26,1996 13:54:29
To: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)
From: STEVE GOLDING (NSVD53A)

Bennis v Michigan, huh? OK, will get back to you.

Steve, Still awaiting the fullest possible accounting from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam & the USG Hill or No Hill

Bulletin ID: EZA960326135429NSVD53ACHHL71A

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 26,1996 00:25:38
To: STEPHEN LEVINE (MAKB53A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

What all People need to do is be on the lookout for a "thin end of the wedge," a foot in the door, an opening that the government can further exploit against the People as the opportunities arise:

AKA: A Precedent

What this case is is an illustration of the "Power of the Pry-bar," a legal device that once inserted into the body politic can only be used to break People and groups apart from one another with the isolated pieces eventually falling into the clutches of the wielders of this Power. By giving the go-ahead for the forces of "law 'n order" to go after innocent People to punish them for another's crime, the Court is saying that the government no longer needs to recognize one of our most basic Rights, the presumption of innocence. So now, not only does the government have the power to punish a person BEFORE due process is completed by seizing his assets, but now the government can seize the assets of citizens who are utterly and manifestly INNOCENT of a crime! (And we thought the IRS was arbitrary.)

Thus the government constantly chips away at our Liberties and gets away with it because of the public's fear of crime. Most Americans don't have a sense of history, they've bought into the "assurance" of the ruling class that "It can't happen here," that everything is just hunky-dory, smellin' like a rose, so DON'T ROCK THE BOAT! The fear blinds us to the erosion of our Liberties, and it even eats away at our logical faculties:

Why are we willing to allow such a monstrous intrusion upon our Rights to spring from such a minor, everyday occurrence? Are we so morally bankrupt and devoid of ideas that we are willing to give up so much to gain so little? Are we really so naive to believe this "law" will slow down, much less stop prostitution in Michigan or anywhere else? Don't our "lawmakers" have the slightest conception of human nature?

If they did they wouldn't write "laws" that say we need to punish innocent People for someone else's crime, especially when that crime is literally just one of millions that occur every day. There is something deeply disturbing about the pit-bull mentality of today's law enforcement community to go after each and every infraction as if such perserverance were the Holy Grail to end all crime.

They have no sense of proportion. There have been hundreds of cases in which rabid cops have witnessed some minor dope deal, one of literally millions that occur each day, and then go after the perps with a zeal that ends up killing innocents in gory wrecks. Why are they willing to risk the lives of people totally unconnected with the crime?

When a young mother and three children are snuffed out because some cop just had to chase some nickle and dime dealer at high speed, does the family swell with pride at having contributed to the war on crime? Is this kind of trade-off rational? Is it really necessary to sacrifice so much to gain so little? Yet we do because we've allowed the ruling class to exploit our fear to their advantage. They now have more power while We the People have fewer rights.

The "legal" establishment, and the Washington/Wall Street Axis, now views the American Citizen not as a Human Being

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 25,1996 22:52:40
To: CAROLE HAMMAN (ZDJH65A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

I like your reasoning, Carole.
It shows you put the government on the same level as McVeigh.

Bulletin ID: EZA960325225240CHHL71AZDJH65A

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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: PRESUMED INNOCENT
Posted: March 24,1996 22:31:30
To: STEVE GOLDING (NSVD53A)
From: RICK GOMBAS (CHHL71A)

Lets not forget, the Defense is up against a government that has a Supreme Court that says it's perfectly OK to punish an innocent person for someone else's crime.

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