

FREE TEXAS

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Not Necessarily The Election Issue

Fall/Winter 1984

Meeks holds out for Fifth Amendment

Tax Resistor continues IRS odyssey

By Scott Bieser
FREE TEXAS Editor

Geoge Meeks, the 48-year-old auto parts dealer jailed by a federal judge for taking the Fifth Amendment in an income tax case, still remains in federal custody after a 10-month odyssey through a bizarre legalistic guantlet.

Meeks has for the past few months been transferred from one prison to another by federal marshalls after he testified before a Bexar County federal grand jury on Aug. 22, telling them federal officials were conspiring to deny him his constitutional rights by keeping him imprisoned on a civil contempt charge. Meeks told a *Justice Times* reporter that the transfers "were done totally to get me away from you people (reporters) and the grand jury."

Before his grand jury appearance Meeks had gone on a fast July 4 to protest his imprisonment by U.S. District Judge D. W. Suttle. He ended his strike after 54 days when he was allowed to present his case before the grand jury.

Immediately afterwards federal marshalls whisked him away, K.G.B. style, first to the El Reno federal reformatory and later to the Bureau of Prison's medical facility in Springfield, Mo. The feds claimed Meeks

was taken to the Missouri facility "to evaluate his medical condition" after his 8-week fast.

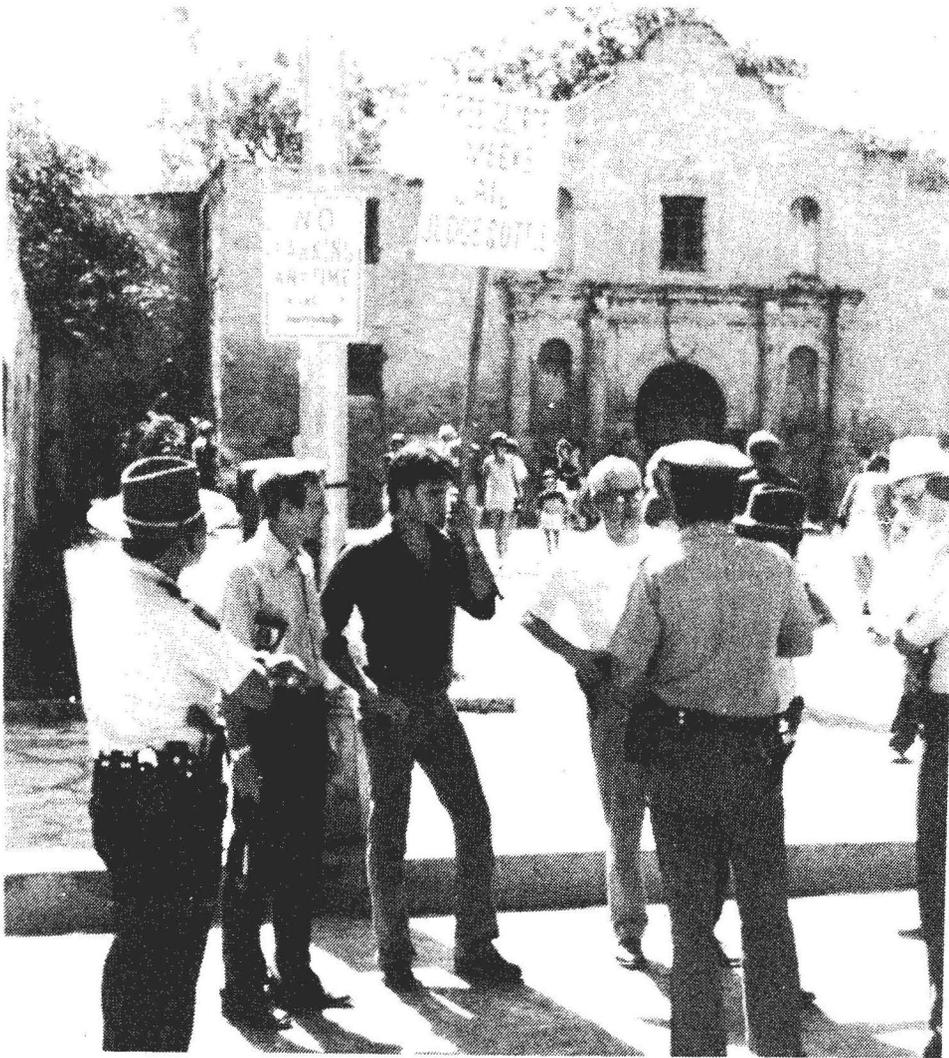
However, Meeks told the *Times* in September that during the week he was "in transit" at the El Reno reformatory on his way to Springfield his "medical condition" did not concern officials at all. "They didn't even take my temperature or blood pressure," he said.

Meeks adds that federal officials have rained a stream of petty harassments upon him to prevent him from publicizing his situation.

The latest wrinkle in the case surfaced the first week in October when C. W. Steinbrecher of San Antonio filed a writ of habeas corpus on Meeks' behalf in the district court. The writ was passed on "by random" to the same Judge Suttle who imprisoned Meeks to begin with.

After this information was published in the *San Antonio Light* the writ wound up in the hands of another District Court Judge, one William Sessions. Sessions denied Steinbrecher's writ on the grounds there was no civil contempt case history supporting the claims that Suttle's action was unconstitutional, and Steinbrecher had no authority to submit a writ in the first place.

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San Antonio LPers picket the Alamo to protest Meeks' imprisonment.

LP Presidential Candidate outlines Nuclear Arms Policy

By David Bergland
Libertarian Presidential Candidate

The American people want and deserve a new, safe route to nuclear arms reduction — an effort that

eliminates the horror of nuclear war while effectively guarding American shores and enhancing the defensive capabilities and morale of the American military.

The record of the current Republican Reagan-Bush administration and of the past Democratic Carter-Mondale administration is clear: Both have mouthed pious platitudes about nuclear disarmament. But in reality, both have put in place weapons and policies that are simply designed for fighting a nuclear war. These past policies are immoral, impractical, and — ultimately — suicidally self-destructive.

In March of 1983, President Reagan announced what he claimed was a new direction for America's nuclear strategy. The new goal was supposed to be total defense. But in reality, the Reagan administration

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Government Debts pile higher and higher and higher . . .

Imagine yourself at your desk or kitchen table or wherever you do home paperwork, going over your accounts to assess your financial situation. On the plus side you list your savings, stocks or bonds, the equity you have on your house or condo, the older car which is now paid for, your life insurance, pension fund, furniture and other household goods. On the minus side you list the mortgage payments remaining on your home, loans outstanding for the new car and the new personal computer, the neighbor's stained-glass window your kid demolished with a soccer ball.

Looking over the results, and figuring your expected salary verses expected living expenses, things seem to balance out fairly well. Oh, you could tighten up a little here and there, but all in all you are in sound financial shape.

Or are you?

Chances are, you missed an item on

the minus side — an item that will put you at least \$152,967 in the red, or twice that if your household has two income-earners.

That shocker of a debit item is your personal share of the real national debt, which this year stands at more than \$12 trillion.

Unbelievable, you say? Well, friend, these figures come direct from the National Taxpayer's Union, a Washington, D.C.-based lobbying group which fights for lower taxes and balanced federal budgets. Their periodical "Taxpayer's Liability Index" is derived largely from official Treasury Department figures, and represents a comprehensive assessment of all federal debts, spending commitments, and loan guarantees. The per-taxpayer share figures are based on an assumption of 80 million net taxpayers (those whose livelihoods are not funded by government spending).

Broken down, the per-taxpayer figures look like this: Each taxpayer "owes" \$18,625 toward the co-called "Public Debt" (which is the \$1.5 trillion figure usually quoted in the press as the total national debt), \$2,405 towards accounts payable, \$6,006 for undelivered orders, \$325 for long term contracts, \$6,916 for loan and credit guarantees, \$29,233 for insurance commitments, \$88,575 for annuity programs (these last two are essentially Social Security and federal employee pension commitments) and \$882 for international commitments and other contingencies.

How did we get in this predicament? Ultimately, because we keep electing Demorepublicrats to Congress. But more specifically, the Grace Commission, a study panel of 161 private business executives, has uncovered a host of wasteful spending practices which it claims accounts

for one-third of the average American's income taxes.

Some of these abuses include the well-publicized \$40 claw hammers for which the government paid \$425 each and the four-cent diodes which cost the Navy \$110 each. Less-publicized atrocities include federal retirement programs which pay benefits three to six times larger than the best private sector plans, nursing home construction for the Veterans Administration which cost four times more than the same job for the private sector, and the fact that the U.S. government has helped finance both sides of 20 wars in the last 30 years.

In addition, taxpayers have been saddled with a so-called old-age pension and disability insurance program which in fact is a pyramid scheme funneling money directly from the producing generation to the retired generation, with beaureaucrats skimming a sizeable portion off the top.

Tax Resistor ————— From page 1

As reported by San Antonio LP activist Theresa Doyle last issue, Meeks troubles with the IRS began last year when the agency hauled him into court to get information about his auto parts business. On Nov. 23, 1983 Meeks told the court the IRS was demanding information that did not exist. When asked why the alleged data did not exist, Meeks "took the Fifth," refusing to give testimony he said may incriminate him. Judge Suttle then declared Meeks in civil con-

tempt and ordered him imprisoned at the federal penitentiary in Bastrop County until he agrees to incriminate himself.

As for the "renegade" grand jury which decided to hear Meeks' grievances: the renegades have apparently been tamed, as Chief U.S. District Judge William Sessions announced Sept. 20 that jurors had cleared the government of criminal wrongdoing — a move pronounced "unusual" by

the *San Antonio Light*, as federal grand juries do not usually make such public reports.

Noteworthy about this case are the facts that Meeks has not been accused by the IRS of any tax crime, and that Meeks, a retired Air Force officer, has a history of protesting IRS activities and other crimes by the federal government.

Also of note is the fact that Meeks could easily free himself by giving Judge Suttle the information de-

manded by the IRS, but has chosen instead to take his courageous stand against governmental abuses while completely at the mercy of government officials.

When he embarked on his fast Meeks issued a "Declaration of Purpose" which lays out his view of his situation and the reasons he continues to battle the federal Leviathan. Meeks' declaration accompanies this story.

When it becomes necessary to use extraordinary means to oppose the actions of government it is right and proper to declare the reasons and methods for such action.

It is my sincere belief that this country is, and should rightfully be, governed by laws and not by men. The foundation of these laws is the Constitution of the United States. It is the supreme law of the land, and all governments and laws are subject and subordinate to it. The purpose of the Constitution is to limit and control the government, and to clearly delineate those powers which the sovereign people were willing to surrender to the governments and to the public servants who operate them for and in the name of the sovereign people. Neither governments nor public servants have any authority to exceed the powers granted in the Constitution, nor to interfere in any way with any other powers which the people reserved to themselves in the Ninth and Tenth Amendments, as these rights and powers come from our Creator, and not from government.

On several occasions, while serving as an officer in the United States Air Force, I have taken an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States. That oath specified defense against both foreign and domestic enemies. Over a period of

 ***** **Declaration of Purpose** *****

several years I became aware of numerous and repeated violations by the government and its employees, done with criminal disregard of the limitations which the Constitution had placed in them. I felt compelled, both as a citizen and as a result of my oath, to oppose them by whatever means I had available to me. For years I have done so by communicating with elected representatives and other public servants, by working through the electoral process, by lobbying for or against certain legislation, by direct court action in cases in which I had a direct interest, and (most objectionable to those in power) by speaking out in public and to the media concerning the criminal activity of government and its employees, and encouraging citizens to oppose these illegalities and inform themselves about what it happening to our country. I have found that most of the public servants who took the same oath as I, have either ignored the oath, or have misinterpreted it as an oath to support the government and the status quo, rather than to support the Constitution. They have confused government with the Constitution; they have con-

fused the position of public servant with that of ruler; they have confused sovereign citizen with subject or serf. The best of them have too often presumed that the all-knowing and all-wise government must protect the people from themselves, and the worst of them have assumed that it is their right to rule by whatever means are necessary.

For the past five years I have been engaged in a civil court battle with those representing the government of the United States for the express purpose of proving that the Fourth and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution mean exactly what they say, and do not allow for any exceptions claimed because they pose an inconvenience for government. (An absolute dictatorship would present the least inconvenience for government.) During this time my pleadings and sworn statements have been largely ignored by the courts. Though I have never been accused of any crime or impropriety, and this is a civil case, and not a criminal one, I have been held in jail for over ten months. I have thus been deprived of my liberty without due process (a jury trial) in violation of the Fifth Amendment. I

have further been told by the court that I will be held in jail until I see fit to give up the very rights guaranteed to me in the Constitution, and that there is no term to the sentence, but it is indefinite, perhaps for life. Spokesman for the government have openly stated to the press that they could not act in such a high-handed manner if I were a criminal, because criminals' rights must be protected. They thus feel that since this is not a criminal matter they do not have to act within the law. During this time I have been made aware of an ever-increasing criminal disregard by the government and its employees of the limits placed on government by the Constitution in an expanding list of areas and cases. The very foundation of Constitutionally limited government, or of a government of laws, is being challenged and eroded.

In view of the fact that the government has shown that it will disregard the law and the Constitution whenever it is in the interest of those in power, and is acting as an outlaw government, I cannot, in good conscience, continue to give it my obedience. It is my stated purpose to withhold obedience from this criminal government and its employees, and to enter upon a fast, partaking of no solid food, at least until my legal incarceration is ended.

Nuclear Arms From page 1

plans only to throw some obstacles in the way of a foe during a nuclear firefight. Reagan is continuing with plans for nuclear warfighting — a policy that has its roots in the JFK era but was first clearly stated by the Carter-Mondale administration.

All talk by the Reagan administration that it has turned to physical protection of the American people instead of assured destruction of the foe's society is nothing but a smoke-screen. Behind that smoke-screen of lies and hypocrisy, Mr. Reagan is continuing the Carter-Mondale nuclear build-up and continuing with plans for nuclear warfighting.

Mr. Mondale has managed to

match Mr. Reagan's hypocrisy on new taxes with Mondale's own hypocrisy on nuclear weapons. Mr. Mondale talks out of both sides of his mouth. When he's talking to YUMPIES, he's all for a nuclear freeze. When he's in the South, he's for the Midgetman missile and for Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Europe. He's also for development of a new submarine-launched missile. These are new and deadly weapons — the very opposite of a freeze.

What is needed is a new, hard-headed effort to deal with nuclear weapons. This effort should make use of the powerful, practical guidance found in Judeo-Christian ethics and

other universal rules. Such a principled approach will by its nature best protect American lives, liberty, and property.

In wars of the past, warriors on one side faced warriors on the other. But under the current policy of the bureaucrats in Washington the crude explosive power of nuclear bombs would be used to blast targets on the other side. These blasts are sure to massacre millions of innocent civilians. The survivors will envy the dead.

Fortunately, there is reason to be optimistic. A new book by physicist and military analyst Freeman Dyson points the practical and moral way

out of our nuclear nightmare. Dyson's book, *Weapons and Hope*, has much in common with the Libertarian Party platform. It is based on thorough knowledge of nuclear policy and searches constantly for the morally correct course of action.

This bold new course requires rejecting the U.S. government's current policy of "assured destruction." "Assured destruction" immorally threatens to kill millions of innocent civilians.

A world of mutual assured destruction is one in which the nuclear superpowers have so much nuclear firepower that a first strike that wipes out the other side's second strike is impossible. Furthermore, that second strike in response will be powerful enough to wipe out the society controlled by the government that strikes first. Today, we all live in a world of mutual assured destruction.

Instead of this world with its constant threats of all-consuming destruction, we want a world without nuclear superpowers and assured destruction policies.

We must return to conventional weapons as our means of defense, and we must find non-nuclear defenses that will protect our non-nuclear future from a return of the nuclear threat. We need a defense that defends.

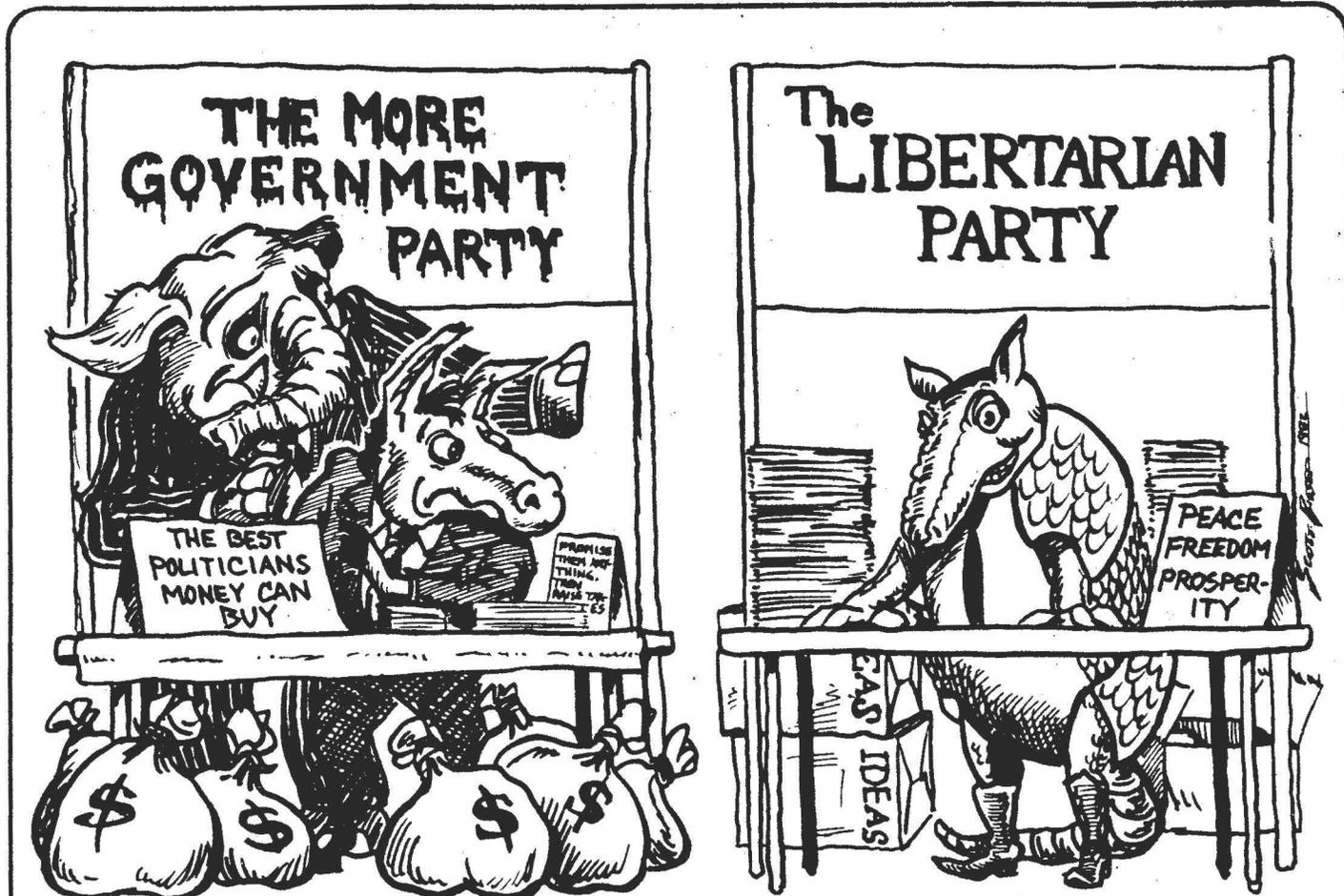
Aside from the calamitous civilian losses in a nuclear war, nuclear weapons have an adverse effect on military professionalism.

During the history of warfare, as Freeman Dyson points out, two different styles of fighting have taken turns at the helm — the style of sharp wits and quick reaction and the style of mass destruction. The first is a warfare of alertness and vigorous innovation; the second is a warfare of bureaucratic calculation.

There is no question that military people prefer the first style. It gives them a chance to test their fitness and mental agility. It can draw on the best in them. They are striving to attain military objectives while showing real virtues and valor. It is possible to fight in the style of brains and quick reaction using conventional weapons.

More importantly, new developments in conventional weaponry (smart bombs, etc.) have increased the punch that can be accurately delivered by non-nuclear devices. Military technical experts today increasingly prefer these non-nuclear weapons that can be used to carry out actual military missions to nuclear weapons that are detached from defensive military purposes.

In contrast, it is even difficult to say what real military objectives can be attained by setting off nuclear weapons. The nuclear bomb has been described as the most useless weapon ever invented. Nuclear weapons make it difficult to think anymore of



Support a REAL two-party system!

For too long the incumbent "More Government" Party has been making our lives miserable.

Whether it's infringing upon our civil liberties, raising taxes, regulating the economy on behalf of special interests, sending American troops all over the globe, creating monstrous deficits, or simply growing larger and larger, the government is out of control under the "More Government" Party. Whether they call themselves liberals or conservatives, Democrats or Republicans, the choice is clear. It's either them or us.

Fortunately the Libertarian Party provides a common sense alternative. We stand for less government, period. Sure their Party can out-tax, out-spend and even out-vote us for a while, but their ideas simply do not work. Individual liberty does work and doesn't cause the constant state of crisis caused by larger and more burdensome government.

But it takes money. That's why we ask you to join the Independence Pledge program. Contribute just \$5 per month (or more) and the Libertarian Party of Texas will have the financial strength to provide the principled alternative to "More Government" politics. Each month the Independence Pledge will send you a monthly reminder, a postage paid envelope, a special *Independence Newsletter* of LPT activities, and other items of interest. Annually, you'll receive LPT financial statements, budgets and special reports. We think it's a pretty good offer in exchange for a real political choice.

Support a real two-party system. Join the Independence Pledge.

Please clip pledge card and mail to the address below.

I want to make a monthly pledge of \$10 \$25* \$50** \$_____ for the next 12 mos. beginning with the mo. of _____
 I would like to make a lump sum contribution of \$ _____ Enclosed is my first month's pledge payment or lump sum contribution.

Name _____
 Address _____ Apt. No. _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone(w) _____ (h) _____
 Date _____ Signature _____

*Contributors of \$25-\$49 per month will be named Finance Committee Consulting Members.
 **Contributors of \$50+ per month will be named to the Finance Committee Advisory Board.
 All Independence Pledge participants will receive monthly mailings. We request that monthly pledges be a minimum of \$5/mo.

*** Please make checks payable to the "Independence Pledge" P.O. Box 56426 Houston, Texas 77256-6426. ***

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HUMOR SECTION

INVASION OF THE BIPARTISANS

PART III: CONCLUSION?

IN THE LAST TWO EPISODES (AS SEEN IN LAST SPRING'S ISSUES OF LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS) THE EARTH WAS INVAD-ED BY A MYSTERIOUS RACE OF 'BIPARTISANS' WHO WON HUMANITY'S TRUST BY PROM-ISING PEACE AND SECURITY...



GEEZ, I'VE SEEN CONVENTIONS BEFORE, BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS!

--IN EXCHANGE FOR EVER-INCREASING CONTROL OVER NEARLY EVERY ASPECT OF HUMAN SOCIETY!

CREATED BY MIKE HOLMES & SCOTT BIESEP 1984

HOWEVER, A SMALL BUT DETERMINED BAND OF LIBERTARIANS, LED BY DAVID BERGLAND AND JIM LEWIS, HAS SEEN THROUGH THE BIPARTISAN LIES AND KNOW THE OUTWORLDERS' REAL PLANS --TO REDUCE ONCE-FREE INDIVIDUALS TO SERFDOM.

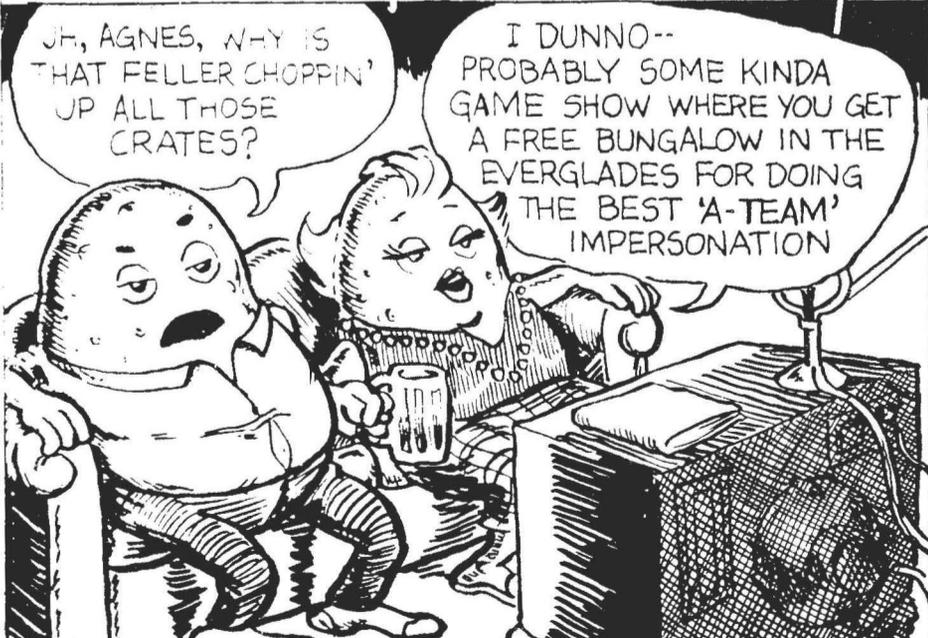
AT THE OUTSET, THE LIBERTARIANS' APPEARANCE ON THE SCENE GAVE HOPE TO MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN REGAINING CONTROL OVER THEIR OWN DESTINIES.

THE LP BANNER-CARRIERS WORKED LONG AND HARD TO EXPOSE THE TRUE NATURE OF BIPARTISAN PROGRAMS.

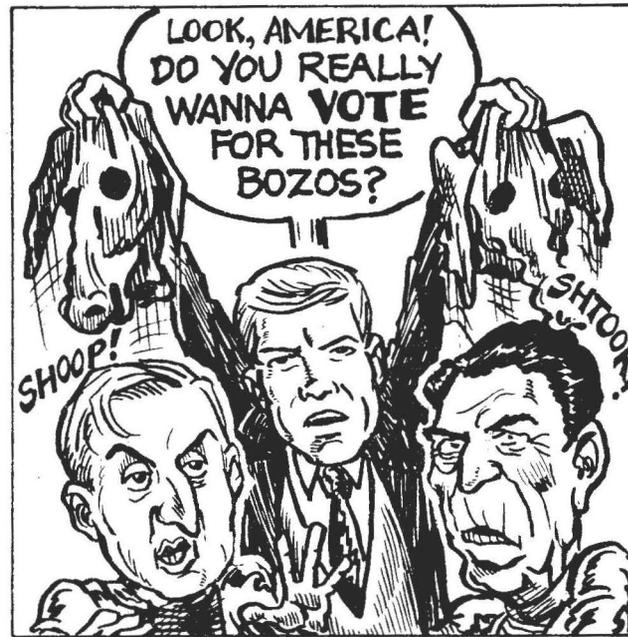
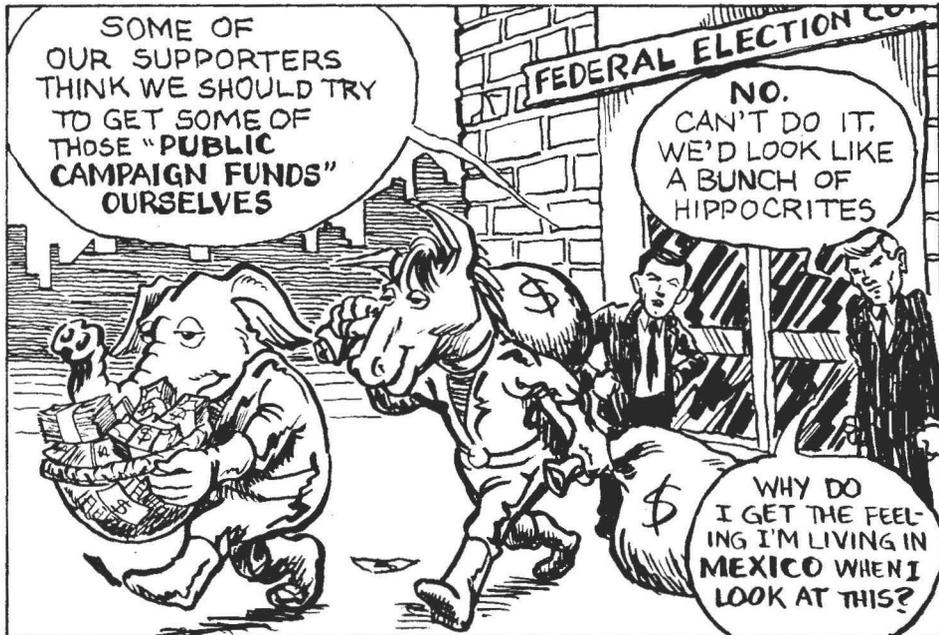


UNFORTUNATELY, THE GREAT BULK OF HUMANITY SOMEHOW REMAINED INDIFFERENT TO THE LIBERTARIANS' CALLS TO ACTION.

BUT THE BIPARTISANS TOOK NOTICE! THEY SET UP A PLETHORA OF CONFOUNDING OBSTACLES FOR THE INTREPID DEFENDERS OF LIBERTY.



CONT. NEXT PAGE



Welfare statisticians go for the gusto

Democrats plan "equal sexual opportunity"

The following article was originally submitted to us from a libertarian activist who claimed he picked it up when he was testing a new modem for his personal computer. He said he intercepted material intended for Democratic Party publications. Since then FREE TEXAS has learned that this is actually a satirical piece by Sara Baase which ran in the January, 1983 issue of Harper's magazine. But we liked it so much we're presenting it anyway.

By Arthur S. Levine, Ph.D.

In order to differentiate Democratic from Republican goals; to revitalize the Progressive Era, the hope for the nation's downtrodden which Franklin Delano Roosevelt once offered, and the dream of equality inspired by the Great Society and Martin Luther King, Jr., the Democrats have selected a new key issue. It is one which touches all our lives, rich and poor, black and white, and it would allow the Democratic Party to claim a vast new constituency, to speak once again as the party of the "little guy," the average American.

The anguish, disaffection, and loneliness surrounding our sexual lives are a growing national scandal. We have become a nation divided into "haves" and "have-nots", or more properly "gets" and "get-nots". How much longer can this sexual inequity continue without fundamentally threatening the national polity? The "invisible hand" which supposedly governs the sexual marketplace is simply no longer working, and our totally unregulated free enterprise system for meeting and mating has become as antiquated as the unchecked industrialism of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

No civilized country today assumes that those who can't fend for themselves should starve on the street; yet we callously disregard the needs of those unfortunate citizens who are starving for the food of life — love (or its nearest approximation, sex). Jimmy Carter once described justice as "love in action." We should now realize that love is "sex in action," and that our society is very far indeed from realizing the promise of universal sexual fulfillment which has always been an integral part of the American Dream.

A few grim statistics tell the story. A recent Harris poll noted that on any given Saturday night, over 75% of Americans will either not have a date, be stuck with someone they can't stand, or have to go home alone after spending too much money. The pornography business, fueled by sexual frustration and loneliness, generated \$25 billion in revenues last year, larger than the gross national products of Afghanistan, Zambia, and South Yemen combined.

But what is truly appalling about today's crisis is the persistence of wide spread sexual inequities. There are only a limited number of compatible, eligible, and attractive partners available at any one time, yet the odds against finding them have risen from one in ten in 1950 to one in 5,000 today. The disparity can also be found in the U.S. Bureau of the Census report: SEXUAL INCOME, 1980. This scarcity of sexual resources is compounded by the disparities in their distribution. Not unlike the laissez-faire economy of the late 1800s, today's sexual marketplace is plagued by "robber

ly shy person with a face like a pizza is expected to "sink or swim" when it comes to finding mates. What have we offered him in the way of training to enable him to compete in the ruthlessly competitive sexual marketplace? All too often whatever pitiful training he has received — high school films on VD, parental admonitions to "be polite" — is hopelessly outmoded by the time he seeks to "score" in our fast-paced technological society. He starts the race toward sexual happiness at a grave disadvantage. Yet under the illusion of "equal opportunity," he is allowed to approach women on his own. He may

build on current volunteer activities. (Ed: Perhaps an extension to the Special Olympics?) there is a well spring of altruism within the American heart, waiting to be released by a call to genuine service, an opportunity to meet our fellow citizens' deepest needs.

This spirit might best be aroused by reviving the draft, but a draft which offers today's young people a range of public service options. Predictable slurs, such as "Whore Corps", should not deter our nation's leaders from doing what is right.

Another approach is the National Sex Insurance concept. Unfortunately, the cost to the government of picking up the tab for restaurants, theater tickets, taxicabs, and motel rooms every time a citizen wanted sex might prove prohibitive and inflationary. Still it is cost effective in the long run, as it would reduce government spending for alcoholism and mental health treatment programs, and for our multibillion-dollar criminal justice system as well. According to some experts, one key indicator — late-night bar fights — could be slashed as much as 70 percent if guaranteed sex became a reality.

Some forward-looking companies are beginning to provide dating services and on-the-job socializing in order to spur worker productivity (e.g. IBM's "Friendly Worker" program). But promoting corporate initiatives isn't enough — the government should be the "pimp of last resort."

We must also provide the sexual underclass with meaningful training. As with the Job Corps, both classroom instruction and "hands on" experience ought to be offered in any government-subsidized program. What are the best opening lines? How does one act "sensitive"? What is a G-Spot?

In addition, our legal system needs to protect against fraud and to provide a fair "sexual wage". Prenuptial agreements are a step in the right direction, but the contracts would be better. Both parties would be entitled to a sexual response by the other person no later than the third date, else they could sue. Relief would be granted on the basis of florist receipts, ticket stubs, etc.

We should also mandate minimum garment-removal standards. On top of this bare-bones federal standard, states could add their own requirements.

The government, which has helped bring a couple together, should also help during the post-breakup period. Unloved Compensation Assistance would be available only to those who had been involuntarily dismissed from a relationship. The qualified heart-broken would have to provide documentation showing a good-faith effort to find new lovers on their own.



barons" who monopolize the sexual action.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEXUAL RESOURCES

Shares of Action

Highest Quintile, 1980

Warren Beatty	20%
Mick Jagger	15%
Hugh Hefner	10%
Germaine Greer	8%
Billy Dee Williams	5%
Rudolf Nureyev	5%
All Others	36%

We have yet to confront seriously the existence of a sexual underclass in this country, seething with deep-seated frustration and anger which takes a toll in everything from random violence to alcoholism. The underclass includes not only those whose physical or mental handicaps prevent them from forming relationships, but those who are too boring, unattractive, or shy. The number of Americans who are currently unable to find sex may be as high as 20 million — the highest figures since World War II — not counting Andy Warhol, Jerry Falwell, Richard M. Nixon, and others who have dropped out of the sex force on their own.

This underclass is a time bomb ticking away in our society. Unless we move quickly to end their frustrations, we may see their drives distorted into ugly political movements. As Wilhelm Reich pointed out in *The Mass Psychology of Fascism*, Hitler capitalized on just such sexual frustrations in working his crowds into a vicarious orgasmic frenzy. Unless more Americans have satisfying orgasms, we are thus surely headed toward totalitarianism.

As a nation we have yet made no serious attempt to deal with the problems of this underclass. A congenital-

wander forlornly from bar to bar, asking strange women, "Hey, what's your sign?" and get rejected, but society has washed its hands of him. He is permanently consigned to the sexual underclass.

In a just society, people with true romantic merit would be expected to do very well. In fact, today's unregulated marketplace allows fly-by-night operators with little more than some fast patter and a few gold chains on their hairy chests to dominate the scene. As a result, innocent, gullible, lonely women are defrauded by fast-talking con men who lure them with promises of a "serious relationship," fabulous wealth, or unusually large anatomical assets. Often, these victims find their hopes dashed, and with no recourse to civil or criminal remedies.

In short, no one is adequately served by this free market run amok. Yet our laissez-faire policy responses remain stuck in the nineteenth century. It is time to launch a bold program which deals realistically with the sexual inequities in our society — a program which can serve as the cornerstone of a new progressive coalition.

First, we need to create a "safety net" which guarantees to each American, as a MATTER OF RIGHT, a minimum amount of sexual pleasure. Guaranteed Annual Intercourse is one sane and compassionate approach which deserves serious consideration. At least once a year, even the most unattractive citizen would have to opportunity to enjoy sex with a partner. The actual mechanics of such a program need to be worked out, but some options include government vouchers which would allow people to purchase sex, or a redefined Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) which would

Libertarians run secret campaign

By Louis Huey
FREE TEXAS Correspondent

Approximately half a million Texas voters will be denied the right to vote for the candidates of their choice in the November general election.

According to a county-by-county examination of voting tabulations in 1982 just under 470,000 voters cast at least one ballot for a Libertarian candidate in that year's general election. Assuming that those same voters will want to cast at least one Libertarian vote again this year, then at least this many people have been cheated by the Texas Secretary of State and the federal courts — and assuming no change in voter preference is quite a conservative approach, inasmuch as voter dissatisfaction with the major parties is increasing, and a large number of freedom-oriented people who supported Reagan and the GOP in 1980 have since seen that the Great Communicator's actions don't match his campaign rhetoric.

But the State of Texas continues to demand unreasonably difficult conditions be met before graciously recognizing the LP's right to participate in the electoral process. The big four obstacles set up are numbers of signatures, quality of signers, shortness of time, and inclusion of unavailable data. First, petitioners must collect a number of signatures equal to one percent of the vote cast in the last gubernatorial election. Second, these signers must be already registered voters who did *not* vote in the Demopublican Party primaries.

Third, these signatures must be gathered during a 10-week period in the hot summer months. Fourth, the signatures must be accompanied by the signer's voter registration number, an 8-digit number which no one memorizes.

In 1980 the Texas LP made ballot status with considerable financial support from the national party. In 1982 we made it again with a great deal less support. This year we had no help at all from the national party. The LPT Executive Committee looked at a probable \$60,000 cost of repeating the sort of paid petitioner effort which was successful the last two times and decided to go for an all-volunteer plan with a \$10,000 price tag.

In short, the volunteer petitioner effort failed for a variety of reasons, and we just couldn't get an emergency paid petitioner plan working in time to beat the deadline. So the LPT went to federal court, suing the Secretary of State's Office and other agencies to attempt a judicial remedy as the Citizens Party succeeded in doing in 1982.

However, the District Court in Houston ruled against the LP, and the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals likewise refused to see the light after hardly looking at the briefs and evidence presented by the LP's lawyers. The same court has refused a motion for rehearing, and now it is really too late to get ballot access this year in any fashion — and LPT officers must decide whether to appeal

to the Supreme Court in hopes that they might strike down the Texas ballot access law and force the legislature to come up with more reasonable requirements.

Not being on the ballot has been a tremendous disappointment for Libertarian activists who have been working hard for many years to make the LP a major force in the political arena. but in the midst of all this are several reasons to expect brighter prospects in the future.

For one thing, Libertarians *will* definitely be on the ballot in at least 40 states, a better claim than any other third party can make. The party has won legal battles against stiff ballot access requirements in other states, and the resulting stronger national LP will certainly be an asset for the Texas party, considering the national headquarters is now located in Houston and Texans occupy several key posts in the national party leadership.

For another, a legislative committee charged with reforming the Texas election code has expressed some interest in LPT proposals for making ballot access rules easier both for third parties and for the Secretary of State's Office.

Finally, there are plenty of worthwhile projects to do even when we aren't campaigning in a general election: run for local office, promote local tax limitation or roll-back initiatives, protest atrocities such as the George Meeks case mentioned in this issue, and seek every available avenue from letter-to-the-editor writing to

one-on-one persuasion to spread the libertarian philosophy as far and wide as possible.

The message from the Libertarian Party to the public and power brokers is, we're a bit bloodied, but not beaten — and we're not going away.

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Nuclear Arms ————— From page 3

honoring military leaders for defense of their homeland. These truths make a changeover by the superpowers from nuclear to conventional weapons a military imperative.

Mr. Reagan wants every costly, dangerous weapons system. I and the Libertarians want mutual arms reduction, prudently capped by ABM defense.

While paying careful attention to the place of ABM's in the arms reduction process, we also need to make a serious proposal that takes the first step in retiring nuclear weapons themselves.

I am proposing elimination of U.S. land-based missiles, beginning immediately, accompanied by a challenge to the Soviets to join in a nuclear arms reduction race. Elimination of U.S. land-based missiles will remove them as targets, improving the security of Americans, and will constitute an unmistakable commitment to proceed toward a defensive strategy and away from deterrence based on assured destruction.

Doing away with U.S. land-based missiles is only a beginning. It is not a complete answer. Many nuclear weapons would still remain ready to go —

on both the Soviet and U.S. sides. For example, eliminating battlefield nuclear artillery shells should be on the agenda for early negotiations.

In addition, I would propose a U.S. foreign policy of no foreign bases, no entangling alliances, no foreign wars. Thus, U.S. forces would return to their traditional job of protecting our American liberties and our American homeland.

Most importantly, U.S. commitment to the NATO alliance has led directly to the current U.S. nuclear warfighting posture. The difficulties of America trying to guarantee the borders of Western Europe — on a continent an ocean away — have been the cause. To guarantee those European borders, the U.S. government has committed itself to first use of nuclear weapons.

This is why military analyst Earl C. Ravenal is correct in saying that Mr. Reagan's warfighting stance is basically nothing new; it is a product of extending American nuclear deterrence to cover Western Europe. Nonetheless, we need to escape this suicidal trap.

Instead, Europeans should protect themselves. The American people should not be automatically targeted because of developments in Europe. The United States should withdraw from NATO and announce a policy of no first use of nuclear weapons.

The only significant military risk to the American people in the world today is the possibility of a nuclear attack from the Soviet Union. Most people want to see a reversal of the nuclear arms race. What I am outlining here is a comprehensive plan to reduce superpower tensions and enhance the prospects for peace and elimination of nuclear weapons.

By implementing a policy of no foreign wars, by leaving the NATO alliance, by bringing home American troops, by entering into arms reduction negotiations with the Soviets, we can achieve a non-nuclear world. This is the only intelligent course to follow.

David Bergland is a Southern California attorney. He is the 1984 Presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party. His campaign headquarters is located at 1525 Mesa Verde Drive East, Suite 105 West, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

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MEMO FROM
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TO: FREE TEXAS readers
Nov. 2, 1984

Originally, this issue was supposed to be out in late September and was to feature Libertarian candidates for national and statewide offices. Well, since the state of Texas denied ballot status to the LP, we had to make some rather drastic changes in our story budget. Okay, we thought, we can still get this tabloid out in mid-October, with just a list of our candidates for those who wanted to write-in.

Well, that didn't work out either. Once we got this issue typeset and pasted up for the printer, the Harris County LP computer, which holds the roughly 6,700 names on our mailing list, decided to goak out. Kurtis Bottke, who puts in an incredible amount of time maintaining the LPT mailing list, said something about a problem with the power supply and \$450 to fix it. Today we just got word that the computer has been repaired and that humongous list is on its way to Austin.

So this, o patient reader, is why you're not getting FREE TEXAS until after the election. Sorry about that, chief.

Yours for liberty,

Scott Bieser, editor

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