

William Norman Grigg
60 Bluemound Court #11
Appleton, WI 54915
(414) 993-0783

Elder Russell M. Nelson
c/o LDS Church Office Building
47 East South Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT. 84150

May 10, 1997

Dear Elder Nelson:

I was recently made aware that you have been named by the Secretary of State to an advisory panel dealing with religious rights. It would seem that congratulations are in order, if only for the success of your imposture as a champion of religious freedom. However, given that our political establishment has no discernible interest in vindicating the rights of those who suffer religious persecution -- at least when effective action on their behalf would injure the establishment's economic and political ambitions -- your appointment was perfectly predictable. Your pliancy to the flattery of powerful men and utter lack of moral discernment (witness your prostration before the utterly wretched Armand Hammer) make you perfectly harmless to tyrants.

Your thirteen years of networking with Red China's thugocracy, your chumminess with Li Lanqing and other tormentors of Christ's children, your readiness to parrot communist lies about religious freedom and recite potted propaganda about the regime's "Three-Self" policy, your willingness to dissimulate and, yes, even to lie about these matters when necessary -- all of this makes you uniquely qualified for service on a Polemkin "human rights" commission.

Furthermore, your involvement in the Church's Orwellian "Strengthening the Members Committee" -- which carries out almost exactly the same function performed by the KGB's old Fifth Chief Directorate -- probably equips you to deal with communist officials: who, above all things, simply *must* control their subjects.

Additionally, your occasional ventures into authoritarian self-pity, such as your Spring 1989 General Conference address lamenting the influence of "alternate voices," display a keen understanding of the mind-set of tyrants who demand not only immediate, unqualified obedience in action, but utter conformity to the party line in both spoken and written expressions.

8 Pages Total

909-592-6251

"JBS and LDS"

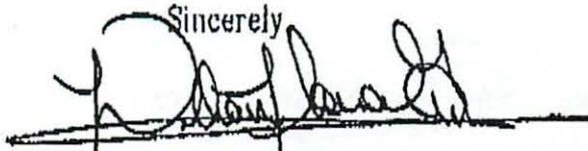
Dayel - 11/7
Sorry for the delay!
These letters are arranged
in chronological order,
so start in the beginning.
You'll have some 3rd
some. I'll be meeting with
JR + Mark Hester on Tues
11/11 at about 10 AM. I'll be
in Kern Co. all day.
As always, Dan M

By the way -- do you really believe, as you stated in that utterly execrable talk, that Mormon dissidents who read "un-correlated" history, think un-programmed thoughts, and express unsanctioned opinions, are "fulfilling ancient prophecy" by "tak[ing] counsel together against the Lord, and against His anointed..."? Is there no floor to the depths of your self-pity? Is there no ceiling to your exalted self-image and deluded sense of grandeur? If you were any part of an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ you would recognize that He, and He alone, is entitled to be called "The Lord's Anointed"; if you had even a nodding acquaintance with Him you would recognize that applying the prophecy of our Lord's betrayal and crucifixion to your own petty concerns was nothing less than a rank and repellent blasphemy. Did you acquire the paranoid cast of mind displayed in that speech from your communist Chinese friends? Was it perhaps a latent trait that came out of dormancy through prolonged exposure to their mind-set?

A prophet who cannot understand prophecy is no prophet; a seer who cannot perceive the evil of the likes of Li Lanqing and Armand Hammer is morally sightless; and the Church has long since surrendered its claim to be guided by revelation, rather than correlation. An "Apostle" who socializes with the tormentors of Christians finds a nice fit in the description offered in 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.

No doubt you enjoy your status and the perquisites of your corporate calling. Might you trouble yourself to repent of your valuable service to Christ's enemies?

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Norman Grigg", written over a horizontal line.

William Norman Grigg

cc: President Gordon B. Hinckley
President Thomas S. Monson
President James E. Faust
President Boyd K. Packer

Peggy Fletcher Slack, *Salt Lake Tribune*

6/26/97

Tom Parsley
P.O. Box 487
New Freedom, PA
17349

Dear Tom:

I was just informed that Will Grigg has denied stating that Vance had ever threatened his job. My hope is that Mr. Grigg's denial pertains to some particular verbiage, and not the claim itself.

Tom, up to the this point we have resisted committing the following assertions to paper. I, like you and the others present at the May 3rd meeting, hold Will Grigg in high esteem. You will recall that our hope was that if Will would commit his claims to paper we would have a "silver bullet" to remove the very corrupt Vance Smith from the helm of the John Birch Society. We spoke very plainly with him and presented him with evidence that Vance and Dilworth were destructive and demoralizing influences on the field staff. We stated our sincere conclusion that if the present management team remains in control of the JBS, and continues to operate outside the bounds of principle as they have since Vance became CEO, that the battle for freedom will be lost. We hoped that Will would demonstrate the moral courage to do what was right for the good of the organization. Now, more than a month and a half later, we know that our hopes for a "silver bullet" were misplaced.

I am not at all pleased to be the one writing this letter. In fact, I know that I am betraying Will's trust in doing so. However, my overriding concern is with the integrity and future success of the JBS. My secondary concern is in preventing, to the degree that I am able, the further malignment of the honorable men who have become the subjects of smears and distortions on the part of some in senior management. This is why this letter has become necessary.

On May 3rd, 1997, I attended a meeting at the home of Kevin Bearly, the purpose of which was to discuss the severe problems in the leadership of the John Birch Society. At that meeting were:

Kevin Bearly- Coordinator, 8 1/2 years on staff,
Dr. David Morris- Coordinator (and former Major), 20 years on staff,
Tom Parsley- Major Coordinator, 22 years on staff,
Jeff Fraser- Coordinator, 3 weeks on staff,
Mark Horton- Major Coordinator (forced to resign 1 year ago), 5 years on staff
William Norman Grigg- Senior Editor of The New American,
and
William Jasper- Senior Editor of The New American.

Each man brought his own experiences and had his own reasons for attending. At the meeting we discussed some of the problems that we each had experienced. Each complaint voiced was distinguished by extremely unethical conduct on the part of Vance Smith and/or his underling, Richard Dilworth, the Director of Field Activities.

It was the testimony of Will Grigg that was most disturbing to all of us. Will stated that he had had a confrontation with one of the higher-ups in his church, which led to a discussion with Vance Smith. During his discussion with Vance, Will asserted, he told Vance that he was having real trouble with the things his church superior (I believe he referred to him as his "steak") had said. According to Will, Vance became very frustrated and, after much discussion, made it clear to him that if he left the Mormon church his "usefulness to the Society might be compromised."

A few men in the room, including myself, immediately sought clarification. We wanted the "silver bullet." I asked Will if he was sure that his job had been threatened. Will explained that the words he had just repeated were not exact but that it was clear to him, however it was phrased, that Vance was threatening him not to leave the Mormon church or his job would be the price.

That is all that I recall Will having said at the meeting. However, following the meeting, in Mr. Bearly's van, while en route to Ontario International Airport, Will and I had another conversation.

I was attempting to get Will to commit his claims to paper or to get Vance to repeat them on tape. I suggested that since Vance had reportedly removed most of his critics from the Executive Committee and Council, it would take something of this (his claim's) magnitude to provoke a hearing where all claims could be thoroughly evaluated. Will thought out loud about it. He weighed the ethical and moral conflicts with which he was confronted. He likened his unwanted position to that of Brutus in Julius Caesar; a man who betrays his friend, the leader, in a conspiracy. When we departed Will stated only that he would need to think intensely about the request being made of him and offered no assurances.

On May 28th, I was told that Dr. Morris (Coordinator) had arrived at a scheduled meeting with Vance Smith accompanied by Orange County Section Leader, Arnie Marquardt who held a tape recorder in plain view. Dr. Morris had refused to meet with Vance without the witness and recorder as a direct result of the habit that Vance had developed of lying and manipulating, particularly with regard to those close to Kevin Bearly.

Later that evening I received a call informing me that Will Grigg had been pressured for information by Tom Gow, apparently as a result of the incident with Dr. Morris (I don't know what the connection was). Will reportedly told everything

he knew about the meeting on May 3rd including the names of the attendees (except mine- an oversight).

The following day, May 29th, I attended a scheduled meeting with Dennis Dalton (the recently appointed Major Coordinator) and Richard Dilworth. It became clear that all they wanted from me was some evidence that Kevin Bearly had been critical of management. Instead, I told each of them what I thought of their unethical behavior (Dalton had proven to me his penchant for manipulation and deceit, and I had already seen volumes of evidence demonstrating Dilworth's harrassment campaign on Mr. Bearly). I was fired before leaving the meeting.

That evening I called Will Grigg to find out if he had decided to write his claims on paper. I told him that Kevin Bearly had been interrogated, harrassed and berated for over five hours at the hands of Dennis Dalton primarily, and Richard Dilworth on May 27th. I told him about Dr. Morris' confrontation with Vance, and then about my own interrogation and termination in hopes of strengthening his resolve. He offered no assurances but sounded tormented by all that had happened.

I asked Will directly whether he believed Vance Smith needed to be replaced as CEO. His response was "I don't know." He elaborated on his difficulty in reconciling the reports he gets on Vance with the Vance he knows. He quickly added that he has equal difficulty reconciling the reports he gets on Kevin Bearly from Vance with the Kevin he knows.

I cannot recall whether the conversation I will describe next took place during the phone call just mentioned or whether it was one subsequent to it. However, it contained the most damning of all the allegations against Vance Smith.

Will told me that he had another meeting with Vance Smith. This time Tom Gow and Gary Benoit were both present. Will immediately asked me if I knew J.R. Smead. I said no. He asked if I had ever had any contact with him or spoken to him at all. I said no, but that the name sounded familiar to me. Then I asked him if Smead was Mark Horton's employer. He said yes. He then stated that Vance had played the voice mail message I had left on the day I was fired, which was critical of Vance, Dilworth, and Dalton, and was convinced that the words or phrases I used in one particular segment of the message were actually "J.R. Smead talking."

Will then began to describe his meeting in greater detail. He said that Vance had stated, in front of Tom Gow and Gary Benoit, that the LDS (Mormon church) provided an organizational model for the Birch Society. When I asked him how Tom and Gary reacted, Will replied "They didn't even blink."

Our conversation then broadened to encompass the entire topic of Mormon Doctrine (of which I admit complete ignorance). In this context he explained that Vance had told him on more than one occassion that he believed he was annointed by God to be at the head of the JBS and that he had expressed his belief that he was

fulfilling (Mormon) prophesy in his stewardship of the organization.

Will continued at length about the Mormon church, its method of keeping people "in line" and even that it used smear campaigns to discredit those whom its leaders had excommunicated. He added that some of these practices may have been imported to the JBS, evidenced by the claims of the coordinators he met with at Mr. Bearly's house on May 3rd.

By far the most disturbing of these revelations however, came next. Will told me that he had been "called in" by his "steak" to discuss an article(s) he had written in TNA. While I am not clear on the details, some key points could not be forgotten. He said that his steak criticized his work on the basis that it was "anti-government" and that he must temper his writing in the future. Will argued on behalf of the truth but was met with the demand for obedience to the church. When Will protested, the steak stated "If the church tells you to wear the mark of the beast on your forehead, you'll do it!"

Will said that he was so upset by this meeting that he discussed it with Vance. In this meeting, Vance too expressed concern but was very defensive of the church. What was most troublesome to Will was the way in which Vance ended debate on the matter. Will said that Vance ended with the statement, "I sustain the brethren." This meant that Vance supported the leadership of the church.

Will told me that he was called in again by yet another church official for the same, or a similar reason, but the only part of that conversation I recall was that his church superior gave up trying to argue on an intellectual level. Will paraphrased his words in a way close to this: "I'm no intellectual match for you, but there are two kinds of thinking, intellectual thinking and gospel thinking." The man then explained that obedience to his church was imperative. Will explained to me parenthetically that obedience to the Mormon church is the path to salvation according to its doctrine.

According to Kevin Bearly, who also claims to have discussed this particular meeting with Will, Will wrote a letter subsequent to that meeting directed at the church which, he believed may result in his excommunication.

The questions which I was compelled to ask of myself, and of a few others who had attended the meeting on May 3rd, were these:

- If the senior editor of the JBS magazine is taken to task over the "anti-government" character of his articles, might Vance have been called in to answer for the "anti-government" character of the JBS?
- Why not?
- If he had been called in to answer for this, what might be the result?
- Is it possible that the fairly recent campaign to distinguish the JBS as "anti corruption of government, not anti-government," whether a good idea or not, is the result of LDS imposed pressure on Vance Smith?

- If this is the case, and I can think of no reason it wouldn't be, what will become of the JBS if this process continues?

The answer to the last question is that the JBS will be neutralized for all intents and purposes.

If most members knew that one of our best writers was being pressured in *any* direction by superiors in their church of *any* denomination, I think they would be alarmed. And rightly so. It would be an entirely different matter if the Executive Committee of the JBS took a writer to task for the content of his work, but the man's church? Thankfully, Mr. Grigg appears not to have tempered his writing and seems, at least professionally, to have been unaffected by the pressure from his church.

There is something else worth noting here. Will Grigg also asserted that one of the "Council of Twelve" (I think this is the term he used to describe the highest leadership of the LDS) gave a speech at Brigham Young University recently wherein he stated "enemies of the new world order are enemies of God, because the new world order is of God (or something to that effect)." I was told (I think Will told me this, but I cannot be sure) that this pro new world order stance on the part of the LDS may be attributable to the fact that there is at least one CFR member on the Council of Twelve.

During and after the May 3rd meeting, Will spoke with great sincerity. It was obvious that he was not there to unleash a vendetta or add fuel to the raging fire. He was troubled. He was torn between his friendship for Vance and his desire to know the truth. He told me on more than one occasion that he just didn't know what the right thing to do was.

Vance later "helped" him with that decision. On May 30th, Vance told Will to submit either his letter of resignation or a statement of loyalty to senior management. This is typical of the "rule by intimidation" management we have discussed elsewhere. Performance has been replaced as the most important condition of continued employment. The condition which is now demanded of any who dare to raise questions about the leadership- or in Will's case, who dare to hear the concerns of others, is loyalty to a man, not to the JBS, its principles, its mission, or its volunteers, but to Vance Smith himself.

I have recently come into possession of a letter Will wrote, dated June 19th, in which he describes the letter he wrote in response to Vance's demand (which he supplied to Kevin Bearly) as "dramatically unrepresentative of present circumstances." This letter is now being circulated to convince volunteers and donors that Tom Parsley is a liar and that we have fabricated statements and attributed them to Will. However, Will's perception of present circumstances are immaterial given his earlier statements, and insofar as his previous letter indicated that Vance essentially held his paycheck over his head and used a management text

to support his contention that loyalty is owed to the signer of the paychecks, Will's apparent retreat is now of questionable credibility.

I do not know of any other corporation that uses interrogations and harrassment as an integral part of their management regimen in order to secure written loyalty oaths from its subordinates. Nor do I know of any organization which consistently launches smear campaigns to discredit its former employees the way present management has done in the past and is now doing. Kevin Bearly, Mark Horton, and Tom Parsley are now the subject of a variety of vicious lies assailing their character and competence in retribution for their insistence on bearing the painful truth about Vance Smith to others. I can only imagine what nonsense they will attempt to smear me with when this letter finds its way to Appleton.

I have herein provided as much detail as I can recall regarding the conversations I have had with Will and the statements he has made in my presence. I assert before God as my witness that everything I have written is true to the best of my knowledge, and will happily supply phone bills to demonstrate that my conversations, of whatever substance, did, in fact, occur. If Mr. Grigg chooses to deny the substance of any claim made here, he will have to do so at the sacrifice of his own integrity.

My hope is that God will give men of integrity the will to resist corruption and insist upon the restoration of sound leadership to the John Birch Society.

Sincerely,



Jeff Fraser
(909) 734-9234

5 August 1996

G. Vance Smith, Council Member
The John Birch Society
PO Box 8040
Appleton, WI 54913

Aloha,

Margey and I arrived in Hawaii in 1984. That was the time when Chuck Armour came to the Islands - to play golf and to enjoy the sights. Several years later it was Hans Philipps who came to see what was going on.

In October 1994, Major Coordinator Mark Horton and his equally-dedicated wife Carol came, not to play golf or to enjoy the sights or to see what was going on, but to reinforce the vision of Robert Welch. In the process, this extremely knowledgeable and capable Bircher showed us how to recruit; really how to recruit with his own unique, but very teachable, style. As a result of that trip and since, Hawaii has shown great gains in furthering the presence of The John Birch Society. Mr. Horton has returned once since, in January 1996, during which time he showed us how to capitalize on our gains.

From the time he first set foot in Hawaii to the day he "resigned" from the Staff, Mark Horton has been in constant contact with yours truly by phone, fax, and mail. Most of that contact was to encourage us on to bigger and better results - all given in an extremely professional manner worthy of the organization that he represented and the Christian gentleman that he is. (He also provided us with a weekly list of prospects who had contacted Appleton. There has been no contact initiated by our newly- assigned Coordinator since, nor have we received a single lead. But that's another story for another time.)

Quite frankly, I do not understand why such an effective, diligent member of the JBS Staff, who has done more for this state in two years (in two visits) than anyone else in the ten prior years, was asked to leave. The subject does raise a number of questions regarding Headquarters. One is: Has the leadership in Appleton gone daft? Another would be: Why would the Council allow such a valuable staff member to be dismissed? Another: Is the Council unaware of what is going on with the troops in the trenches (ie: the membership in the field), or is the Ivory Tower larger than anyone ever suspected?

Margey and I have been Life Members since 1964, and we have always thought of the Council as that stabilizing influence on The Society to carry forward Mr. Welch's legacy regardless of who is President, CEO, or whatever. We deserve some answers.

In the interim, we have cancelled our membership in the CSC/Century Club (retaining the money here for the local TRIM Committee instead). We have also directed our attorney to eliminate The Society as the sole beneficiary of our Trust. And since we are on the subject of finances, Appleton fence-mending can include a Financial Statement in an upcoming issue of the monthly JBS Bulletin - I don't recall having seen one in years, if ever.

The Society can also initiate plans to regain the moral high ground that once was its hallmark for years. While it is true that *The John Birch Resolutions* are available to anyone, the subject is sorely lacking from the monthly Bulletin(s).

In the meantime, rest assured that the Hawaii JBS Membership will continue to move forward to bring about LESS (big) GOVERNMENT, MORE (individual) RESPONSIBILITY, AND - WITH GOD'S HELP - A BETTER WORLD.

Please advise.

Thank you.

Onward and Upward,



Deyll Christen
Section Leader
PO Box 398
Makawao, HI 96768

James R. Sutherlin
P.O. Box 28750
San Jose, CA 95159

May 29, 1997

Richard Dilworth
Director of Field Activities
P.O. Box 8040
Appleton, WI 54913-8040

Dear Mr. Dilworth,

This letter is in response to a memo you recently sent (dated May 9, 1997) to all field coordinators, regarding the policy on speakers; your memo came as a result of a series of speeches that had been sponsored by JBS chapters in Northern California.

Personally, I understand your concern about associating the JBS with unsavory people, organizations, or causes. Any clear thinking Birch member would have the same concerns. At the same time, as members, we are constantly striving to inform, educate and motivate individuals towards our way of thinking. In January of this year, some of us in the San Jose area were influenced to join as one of eight cities in Northern California to have speakers once a month. This program had been, we were told, through a successful first year.

In February, we had Barbara Coe speaking on the immigration problem, with over 60 in attendance. In March, we had Jody Waters speaking to 50 people on Smog Check II and the gasoline additive MTBE. In April we had Scott Lively (author of *The Pink Swastika*) speak to around 50 people. In May we had Rodney Stich (author of *Unfriendly Skies*) speaking to a crowd of, again, over 50 people. These were all dinner speeches and, while they didn't make much of a profit, they did come out in the black.

Our motive, however, was new member recruitment and putting out a positive image of the JBS to the thousands of Americans in our area being brought to an awareness that something is wrong. A local radio station in San Francisco, KSFO, is doing a tremendous job in the area of stirring people up, and we wanted to capitalize on this by getting people out to a speech of topical interest and then giving the Birch message at the end. We have gotten several new members, sold \$300-400 in books and literature, and generated a positive "Let's do it again next month!" attitude among the 50/50 (member/non-member) audience. In fact, the enthusiasm was so high that we planned radio commercials for the remaining speakers this year.

This has been a great motivator for older members as well. Several former members I haven't seen in over 10 years or so showed up for one or two of the speeches.

While there has been chapter support, in the form of helping to mail out flyers for each speech, only 3 or 4 people have been doing the work setting up these speeches. Contrast this with the last major JBS sponsored speaker in our area, Michael Rodriguez. 10 to 15 people busted their behinds to put that thing together, and unfortunately only about 200 showed up. We lost close to \$4,000. Now *that* was demoralizing.

While I am certainly not trying to imply that we have all the answers, I would like to ask if there isn't some way the Speakers Bureau could authorize in advance a group of 10 or so speakers so we or others could continue these local talks. Another idea, as Robert Welch once suggested, is to use ad hoc committees to put on talks. I also think you folks back at headquarters might get as much information as you can about some speaker before deciding that they are an "enemy". Barbara Coe and Jody Waters are members of the JBS, and Scott Lively's book is carried through American Opinion Book Services. While I don't necessarily agree with everything Joyce Riley has said, she does raise a lot of legitimate concerns pertaining to Gulf War Syndrome, as do several other people and organizations, putting out their message. One of my greatest concerns is that as an organization, if the John Birch Society doesn't reach out more to our competitors, we may somehow be left in a back eddy as this river rushes forward, washing the Insiders down the drain. This would truly be sad, since we were the rain that started the river.

Thank you for your time and effort in the fight.

Sincerely,

James Sutherlin
Life Member of the John Birch Society
Owner of the San Jose American
Opinion bookstore (17 years)

cc: G. Vance Smith
John McManus
Dave Morris

John T. Burns, D.C.

7925 Old Auburn Road
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
(916) 723-3947

May 17, 1997

Mr. Richard Dilworth
Director of Field Activities
John Birch Society

Re: Your Memo of 5/8/97; "Speakers Policy"

Dear Mr. Dilworth:

I am writing to express my concern over the cancellation of our very successful speakers tour here in the central valley of California. I understand your concern regarding the problems with having "loose cannons" addressing JBS groups. We all want to promote the solid information and programs of the John Birch Society, and not encourage people to go off on tangents as you said in your memo.

However, I feel that the speakers that we have had so far have enhanced our efforts here in the Sacramento area. Even Joyce Riley, the most controversial speaker, didn't cause any harm here. We try to make it clear that the speakers represent their own point of view and not necessarily that of the Society. When speakers have expressed opinions that are incorrect or different from those held by the JBS, it has generally been pointed out by our excellent and informed members, particularly during the Q & A session after the talk. Many of our speakers have learned a lot just by addressing our group, and many have learned to respect the John Birch Society.

In addition, we always begin our meetings, after the prayer and pledge, with a review of the JBS Bulletin, and we end with a short talk encouraging our members to work on the action agendas given in the bulletin for that month. Again, if there has been anything put forth by a speaker that is in disagreement with JBS positions, it is clearly pointed out at this time. I truly feel that the JBS has not suffered at all from the speakers thus far, indeed the opposite is the case, we have benefited greatly from this speaking tour.

When we first began this tour with the other chapters in the valley, we started a brand new JBS chapter here in Sacramento (in addition to the existing chapters). While we started small, we have grown consistently, and now regularly have about thirty people attending, about two-thirds of whom have become members. We have reached a point of "critical mass", and are starting to generate a lot of excitement, and we are now drawing many high caliber guests to our meetings. Our members are so pleased with the quality of the presentations we have had, that they are really going the extra mile to bring in new people.

In addition, we have been able to raise the money to pay off our very large TRIM debt to Appleton, (about \$4,500.00). This would have never happened without the speakers program that we have had this last year. Now that we are debt free, it has been our expectation that we will be able to put some money away to support and expand our TRIM effort in this election cycle.

Regarding the use of local people for our meetings, we will do our best to do so for the next couple of months, and of course we will check with our Coordinator first. However, this severely limits us. The multiple chapters working together have a much better ability to attract a quality speaker than an individual chapter working by itself.

It is my hope that this matter can be reconsidered and some compromise worked out. There are many good speakers out there, who, although they may not be 100% in line with us, are still valuable allies, and can work together with us in the freedom fight. Instead of siphoning off JBS talent and resources, it is my opinion that bringing these people in as speakers will enhance our efforts and help us to grow like we desperately need to. Our experience here in Sacramento has shown this to be the case, as we have had more momentum in the last year than we have had for many years.

We thank you for your efforts on behalf of our nation and the John Birch Society. We look forward to your response to our concerns and we are hopeful for a successful resolution of this situation.

Sincerely,

John T. Burns, D.C.

CC: Mr. Vance Smith, CEO
Mr. John F. McManus, President
Dr. David Morris, Coordinator



Full Service Computer Consultants

2813 Stonemill Court
Modesto, CA 95355
(209) 571-9185

June 5, 1997

Richard Dilworth
The John Birch Society
P.O. Box 8040
Appleton, WI 54913

Dear Mr. Dilworth:

This letter is in response to your memo of 5/6/97, which was directed to "all field coordinators". As I understand it, the intent of this memo is to keep local chapters or local groups of JBS members from bringing in outside speakers for meetings. As the organizer and chairman of "the tour" referred to in your memo, I feel a responsibility to respond. Please give my comments your full attention.

I wholeheartedly support your premise that we must be extremely vigilant to maintain our credibility and that we must not associate with speakers who are inimical to our positions or who would discredit our organization. You are also correct in your assertion, "that our enemies are using every trick in the book to associate The John Birch Society with unsavory and 'anti-government' persons [sic] organizations and causes".

While I agree with your premiss, I am, as yet, still evaluating (and therefore undecided about) your conclusion. However, I do find some compelling evidence for rejection of your conclusion based on the methods that you have employed. I have found that it is often possible to ascertain the validity of a policy or proposal by evaluating the means and methods of those who promote the policy. As all good Birchers know, the "ends" do not--and cannot be used to--justify unacceptable "means". Unacceptable means are often the first clue of a problem with the stated objective--or a problem with the motives of those proposing the policy.

In this circumstance, your methods are reprehensible! I believe that tactics such as those you have employed totally discredit any justification that you may give for your policy.

Let me provide you with some background:

For over a decade, I had a desire to see a business and professional chapter of the JBS in our city. The population of Modesto and the immediate surrounding area was over 350,000 and it seemed to me that a B&P chapter could be supported. I was not alone in this desire. Five local JBS business owners met to try to organize just such a chapter.

To: *Richard Dilworth*
From: *Michael R. Winther*

June 5, 1997
Page: 2

We found that building a large and successful B&P chapter was extremely difficult. During the first 2 years, we never had more than 8 people in attendance at any meeting. Despite these small numbers we managed to make some significant contributions to the cause. We purchased a one-year contract on a large lighted billboard on the busiest freeway in the area. This billboard boldly displayed the Society's "No new world order" message with the Society's toll free *number* for more information. Our cost: \$6,000.00. We purchased numerous bus bench advertisements with the same message. Our cost: approximately \$1,000.00. We ran several of the JBS produced newspaper ads (Nelson Mandella and others) in our local newspaper (circulation 85,000+). Our cost approximately \$4,000. In addition, we have raised money for purchase of TRIM bulletins in targeted areas, purchased gift subscriptions to the New American, and participated in numerous other projects.

If a handful of us could do all of this, what could we accomplish if we could reach dozens of additional business & professional people in our community? I then began to ponder ways that we could increase the reach of our message and attendance at our meetings. For a while, we tried video tapes. They were very educational, but had absolutely no draw for those guests that we were inviting. Stated simply, our use of video tapes was just preaching to the choir. With the advent of home VCRs, few business & professional people will go out of their way, especially during the business day, to see a videotape.

Videotapes are excellent tools, but they are not the only tool. Many local members have lamented that recruitment seemed to be down since the Society no longer made speakers available to areas like ours.

It was my wife who first suggested that we pursue having a real, live, speaker every month. We recognized that Modesto, alone, did not have the "economies of scale" necessary to bring in speakers like Ed Griffin and Ezola Foster. So we developed a tour that seemed to make our objective economically feasible. By spreading speaker transportation and lodging costs over multiple cities, we became economically feasible. By the Spring of 1997, we had 8 cities participating in our tour.

In just 18 months, the use of this "live-and-in-person-speaker" strategy increased our average attendance (in Modesto) from 6 people to 30 people. On some occasions, we had over 45 in attendance at our luncheon. The vast majority of these guests were non-members. At each meeting we have a literature table and sales ranged from \$40 to \$200 per meeting. We were educating people and developing credibility for the society.

At our Modesto luncheons, we have a video rental table set-up every month. Our guests can check-out any number of Society videos which can be kept for a month and returned at our next meeting. It is important to note that JBS videos have received more exposure through this mechanism than was ever achieved when we had videos as the main attraction at our luncheons.

To: Richard Dilworth
From: Michael R. Winther

June 5, 1997
Page: 3

These accomplishments came at tremendous personal cost to myself and several dozen other dedicated birchers in central California. I personally devote over 20 hours into this effort each and every month. Many of us have also invested huge sums of money to help this effort grow to what it is today. Many of us believe that the resources invested into this slow, but steadily, growing effort would pay benefits for years to come. Like the factory that purchases an *expensive* piece of industrial equipment, we invested heavily at the outset in hopes of reaping higher productivity in future years.

Like a conspiracy controlled stock market bust, it appears that our investment has been wiped-out, unnecessarily, by forces beyond our control. Here are some of the most glaring and disturbing aspects of your shutdown of our local JBS efforts.

1) No line of communication.

If this problem is so severe as to warrant the complete termination of our sizeable local efforts, then it should certainly be important enough to warrant clear communication of, and discussion about, the problem. Where was the communication with those of us in the trenches about your concerns?

In your memo you allude to a problem with one of our speakers. The specific "problem" mentioned in your memo refers to Joyce Riley (who was one of our speakers). I appreciate the analysis of Joyce Riley done by Robert Lee. Unfortunately, Mr. Lee's analysis of Joyce Riley was not available to us until long after her presentations. In fact, I was not aware of any concerns about her information until after our tour was terminated.

2) I live in a glass house... and you do too.

Despite the Society's best efforts at quality control, I know that there have been numerous instances where Society sponsored and promoted speakers have surprised everyone with comments that were not factual or were antithetical to our message. Obviously, these "black eyes" should be avoided at all cost. After one of these disasters, I would assume that organization leadership gives considerable thought and discussion to avoiding such incidences in the future--however, I doubt that any of the solutions to these problems have involved complete termination of that type of activity. Does a problem at youth camp cause all camps to be terminated? Does a mistake in an article cause us to shut down the magazine? Does a media event with a public figure who disavows the most significant part of our message cause us to cease all media events? In short, do we throw the baby out with the bath water?

To: Richard Dilworth
From: Michael R. Winther

June 5, 1997
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- 3) You made absolutely no attempt to fix the "problem".
(Nor any attempt to preserve some remnant of your member's hard work.)

No effort was made to contact me (and to the best of my knowledge none of the other people involved in the other cities were contacted) to discuss any concerns whatsoever. I *had* absolutely no idea that there were any problems until receiving, indirectly, your memo forcing us to cancel our speakers tours. One minute I am thinking how pleased the Society must be with our efforts and progress and the very next minute we have been chewed-up and spit out! Wouldn't good business practice (not to mention human decency) lead you or someone in Appleton to contact me to see if we could fix the "problem"? Didn't you think that I would be concerned about the accuracy of the information that we distribute? Can an effective organization really be run by chopping-off every imperfect activity without any effort to fix or improve it? I dare say that no successful organization would treat paid employees this way--why would you impose this treatment on your volunteers. The organization that treats its volunteers in such a manner will cease to exist. It is with the purpose of preventing such an unthinkable outcome that I am writing this letter.

I am not the enemy...

...nor are the dozens of other good Birchers who made this 8 city tour possible. I was raised in a JBS home--I take great pride in being a second generation Bircher--my father was first exposed to the JBS when he and my grandfather went to one of Robert Welch's speeches. My father has been both a chapter leader and a section leader. As I was growing up, coordinators--and occasionally speakers--stayed in our home when they traveled to our area. Through this I was privileged to have met and discussed the issues of the day with most of the great patriots who have been part of the JBS. When I was old enough, I joined the Society (1972). I attended the Society's youth camps every year. In high school, we organized a youth chapter of the JBS of which I was a chapter leader. One year, we raised enough money and arranged sufficient transportation to take 18 kids to the camp in Durango Colorado--about 1,200 miles from the town where we lived.

I obtained my political science degree and later worked professionally in electoral politics. I now run both a nonprofit organization and a family business. Through all of this, I have consistently worked to promote responsible, limited, Constitutional government and I have never ceased to promote the JBS.

My intent is not to bore you with my biography, but I want you to understand that my love of the organization runs deep and that it pains me greatly to write a critical letter to the Society. But I cannot overstate my dissatisfaction at the totally inappropriate way that some *dedicated* members (volunteers) have been treated.

To: *Richard Dilworth*
From: *Michael R. Winther*

June 5, 1997
Page: 5

Do not underestimate the damage of this policy. If you think I sound displeased, you should talk to some of our local participants--they are furious. Despite my best efforts to downplay the significance of this matter to our members and despite all attempts to frame this decision from the perspective of an organization that always tries to err on the side of accuracy of information, I am finding it extremely difficult to preserve organization loyalty.

The obvious and undeniable effect of this policy--an effect that you had to have known--is to shut down several local chapters and most notably our Modesto Business and Professional chapter. Your lack of concern for the hard working and dedicated members who give everything they have for the cause is exceeded only by your lack of concern for the public relations damage that you were about to inflict on the JBS itself.

These questions need answers!

Why was there no damage control on this matter? Why didn't you, or someone in Appleton, ever try to communicate with us here in California? If there were quality control problems with our speakers, why was there no effort made to help us develop a system for improving the quality? Why was there absolutely no attempt to couch the anti-speaker policy in some positive strokes for the sincere people involved?

There are only two possible conclusions: total incompetence or a willful attempt to damage the organization. In either event, we must not let this attitude continue or we will surely seal our fate--and what's left of our liberty will vanish faster than a speakers tour.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Winther

CC: Vance Smith
Jack McManus
Dave Morris

George Sechrist
5280 W. Coal Mine
Littleton, Co. 80123
ofc (303)979-1288
fax (303)979-1377
res (303)932-8922

Wednesday, June 11, 1997

To Distinguished Members of the Council of the John Birch Society:

I could write a book about my 10 years as a field coordinator for the JBS; six years in Southern California and nearly four years covering all of Colorado, parts of Wyoming and New Mexico.

It was never just a job for my family and me. It was an all out effort, day, night and weekends. I didn't consider other career goals or develop any outside interests while on staff. My love for the JBS was an all consuming passion.

I did not want to be average. I set ambitious goals for my territories and with God's blessings, usually fell among the top producers nationwide for various categories. It was critically important for me to know I was exceeding what was expected of me, doing everything possible to make a difference in the fight for our long term freedoms.

Resigning from my position as Coordinator during the fall of 1993 was probably the hardest decision I ever made.

We were seeing exciting successes on many fronts for Colorado with very strong and ambitious goals for growth and influence in the future.

I resigned after I conclusively determined that the JBS was headed by an amoral man with self-serving goals.

I noticed that Vance Smith frequently destroyed successes and achievements with a brilliant though subtle undermining technique. I know of several lies and numerous false innuendos from my own experiences with Vance.

I was amazed and demoralized to see successful projects, fundraising campaigns, and subscription drives turned into reasons for criticism. Even common sense methods of covering my territory, which had earlier been approved, were picked apart and used against me.

One specific example was the *New American* subscription drive of October, November and December of 1992. Because I had been under harassment and false criticism emanating from Vance, I decided to put my all into the TNA drive.

My personal goal was to sell the most subscriptions in the country. The goal set for each Coordinator was 200 subscriptions during Oct & Nov of 1992. I went all out during that 2 month period, covering my territory and getting in to see nearly every possible business contact as well as promoting the drive through all the chapters and members. It can be documented that the subscriptions came from a wide range of sources; with individuals and small businesses making up the bulk of them. I hit 400 annual subs by the end of November, doubling the goal we were asked to hit. The subscription drive was then extended to the end of the year, through December 1992. Although I had doubled the goal set, I worked to sell another 100 annual subs in the additional month. I worked during a badly needed week of vacation, closing my last subscription sale at a prospect's home on New Year's eve. I was personally thrilled that I hit the 500 mark, during the drive. (I learned indirectly that it was the best result nationwide) I never took those vacation days off nor was reimbursed for them. I voluntarily sacrificed the time with my family for the satisfaction of hitting that top mark.

Over the next several months that I learned Vance was subtly discrediting my hard earned success by telling others that I handled the drive all wrong because I didn't work through the chapters enough. (Even though I received a large number of subs through the chapters).

Although this one example isn't a criminal offense, it sure stunned me and helped me to realize the kind of demoralizing leadership we were asked to be loyal to. Also, it wasn't an isolated incident. I could cite other similar examples. Ironically, successes and hard work seemed to incite Vance to a subtle campaign of undermining and quiet distortion of the truth.

Over the years, I've seen an evil pattern where these techniques have been used to drive good men into the ground, totally demoralizing them and destroying them. No employer in private enterprise could treat their employees as Vance does and continue to keep them. It's only because of the crucial cause we are fighting that good men stick it out.

In my case, Vance worked with Richard Dilworth, who I trusted and felt was a friend, to build a file of falsehoods which they could use against me. They began to imply that I was on thin ice and needed to be more loyal. It really amazed me that they had time to concoct the twisted charges. Richard confronted me with. To cite an example; prior to our 1993 Durango, Co youth camp, I was accused of allowing drinking and partying to occur at our 1992 camp. (I know this used to occur under previous camp directors in Durango.) It did not occur during the three years I was director. In fact, all of the staff at the 1992 camp, which included 5 twenty year camp veterans, gave high evaluations of the whole camp, saying it was one of the best camps they had been involved in. There was absolutely no alcohol in the camp. One secondary speaker showed up mid-week having had a couple of drinks with his dinner in Durango after driving from Denver. Another evening, two volunteer speakers went in to Durango after campfire and may have had a beer or two. It must be stressed

that every Counselor was in his or her respective cabin with all of their charges. The lights out rule was strictly enforced. The two gentlemen who went to Durango had fulfilled all of their responsibilities before leaving the campground on their own. That's it! No party. Just a very serious and fun Birch Camp with a great group of young folks. It was applauded by all involved as a success in every area; recruiting, financially, and educationally. I even wrote Richard Dilworth a letter to refute his and Vance's destructive attack.

As a contrast, I opened an Insurance Agency a year and a half ago and I've already received three awards and a number of smaller incentive bonuses. In addition, they pay me commissions on my sales! My current company isn't afraid to publicize the successes occurring in its agencies.

That a Society founded upon principle, character and TRUTH can not hold a ruthless self-promoter like Vance accountable for his destructive reign is really beyond me. It appears that no one is really watching the store, and that the only perspective accepted or even asked for is Vance's. Those close to Vance are not willing to tell the truth. I was not called by any member of the Council after resigning after nearly 10 years of service. Richard Dilworth's letter accepting my resignation put his own spin on my reasons. I would easily have continued until this day as a coordinator were it not for Vance and his henchmen. I had no other career goals than to participate mightily in preserving our heritage of freedom. But, seeing 20 year veterans fired by Vance in their 50's made me realize I had to rethink my responsibilities to my family and their future.

Paranetically, it is interesting that no one analyzed the fruit of Vance Smith's many years as coordinator in Colorado prior to promoting him into the top position in the JBS. I personally discovered non dues paying chapters and members under Vance's control who were kept on the books for years rather than be dropped because the numbers would look bad. A good coordinator is always trying to eliminate "dead wood" to save the Society precious dollars, rather than playing numbers games to try to create an impression of more than there really is. A good coordinator would go out to replace inactive, non dues paying members with new committed members. I learned that Vance would not personally follow up on leads as he demands of the field staff today. His onerous reporting and tracking requirements are simply an outgrowth of a lack of trust of his men in the field. He imputes his own practice of padding numbers to them. Has any one checked the public records in Colorado to see how much real estate Vance had time to manage while serving on paid staff? I know he's vehement about demanding current staff have no outside activities.

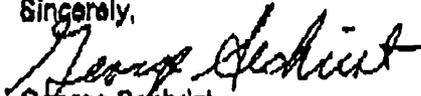
There have been a few members in Colorado who have been close to Vance, but overall, the membership who knew him over the years had negative impressions of his leadership abilities and character. Of course, his position isn't a personality contest, but most Council Members probably do a lot more research into hiring their own business employees than they did when they turned over all the power in the JBS to Vance. Even Vance himself said, at a

staff meeting at the Wyoming-JBS youth camp, in the summer of 1992, that he was just temporarily in the CEO position until someone more qualified could be appointed. The Council turned over the JBS, which Robert Welch built, to a self-serving man, who, cleverly, just happened to be in the right place at the right time.

I have been reluctant to express my views in writing because the JBS is still very important to me and I know it would precipitate a campaign to discredit me and revoke my membership. But, I won't be the first and I'll be in good company. I am completely in tune with the beliefs and principles of the JBS. Will telling the truth about an individual be grounds for a reprisal?

May God grant the Council wisdom in their awesome responsibility, and may He allow the John Birch Society to reach its full potential. Also, may God continue to restrain His judgment on these United States.

Sincerely,


George Sechrist

June 19, 1996

Mr. Charles E. Carlson
12836 N. 60th Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Dear Chuck,

In response to our recent phone conversation, I am sorry to learn you have come to learn about the real Vance Smith the hard way. I recall some years ago Cliff Goehring had the same concerns and now have learned Russ Owen is off the executive committee as well. I have considered your correspondence with regard to your recent dismissal from the Council and your concerns about Vances' lack of leadership ability and self promotion.

Chuck, the only issues in your letter I wish to address are about Vances' style of management and about the JBS Field Staff's lack of regard for him. I have briefly reviewed some of my old files to recall some of many incidents. My time is limited and can't spend a lot of time bringing up all the specific examples. You know, at my age and weight, I must focus on my current goals of getting financially healthy, etc.

I disagree with you that Vance was a mediocre Coordinator, though I learned later most of our longtime members in Colorado felt he was, and did not think highly of him. I considered him to be an above average Coordinator while he worked for me. However, (Looking back, I wonder why, over the some 14 years he was a coordinator that Robert Welch, Tom Hill, or any others did not see the leadership qualities, some now seem to attribute to him today.) He was an average Major Coordinator, and has been, way over his head, in any subsequent positions, as Director of Field Activities and obviously incompetent as CEO. For the most part, Tom Gow did the real work, leading the way for JBS at the Appleton Level. Some of us often wondered about what Vance did in Appleton besides write accusatory letters, rack up frequent flier miles, while wasting time and money traveling every other week or so.

He perceived himself as some sort of management Guru. When I urged him to use a Matrix Management System similar to Intel's, he failed to comprehend what I meant. He is not performance oriented. He promoted efficiency and not effectiveness. (I recall explaining to him the

distinction). It was particularly difficult for me to sit and listen to his syrupy, Junior High level lectures on organizational Fund Raising and project issues. I disagreed with him on many items. However, he has a style that is very disarming until you catch on. He would sit before you while discussing a topic, put his little smile on his face, agree with you, then proceed to forget what he said or later use the discussion against you to undermine you.

While Vance was Director of Field Activities, Charlie Everett and I did everything we could to persuade him to improve recruiting. I told him I would offer to relieve pressure on our Coordinators with Fundraising if he would help them emphasize getting new members. No Response. Charlie and I even took portions of two Senior Staff Management sessions to 'SWOT' recruiting for him in order to illustrate what it took to recruit. No Response. Charlie and I were subsequently demoted. Vance seemed to go after Field Staff who did not kow-tow to him. For example, he went after George Sechrist with a vengeance over a period of time. As you may remember George was a top performer as a Coordinator here. However, George would always be candid in his conversations with Vance and stood up to him. There were many lengthy and baseless letters I had to deal with from Vance about George, always trying to distort George's performance and activities.

I recall finding out much too late that he actually discredited me for going out of my way to cover for him while I was Director of Development. He did not want to cover a Businessman's Seminar in Salt Lake City while he was still acting as Major Coordinator for that area. Since the same speaker would be in Phoenix the next night, where I planned to be for followup, I told Vance that I would be willing to go to the Salt Lake City meeting, cover that seminar and do the immediate followup the next day, then fly down to Phoenix that evening. I felt I was doing him a favor, but discovered later he had used this against me, somehow making a wierd point that I didn't or wouldn't spend enough time in Salt Lake City for adequate follow-up. I don't understand his point. I wasn't supposed to be in Salt Lake City in the first place, he was.

Vance went so far as to travel to California and call on Coordinators to undermine me while I was acting as Major Coordinator there. He was obviously looking for some thing to use against me. This was revealed to me. They reported to Vance they appreciated my efforts which were helpful to improve their performance. Would you believe that this apparently can be an acceptable style of leadership and management?!

While working together I disagreed with him on many points. I believe

he could not accept my disagreeing with him at least partly due to his lack of self confidence in his new position. This was illustrated to me when we had a special meeting at the Denver Airport where he demanded assurance I would respect him in his new position as CEO. I said, I could not-- especially after what he had been doing behind my back. I told him I respected the position, but not him personally-- he would have to earn my respect.

Vance stated he let me go because of poor performance - which was totally false. He had just given me a raise in salary and in his six month performance report he rated everything 'good'. ~~I have kept all reports and~~ know my results better than others. While reviewing my records I have just received a plaque commemorating me. It says "The John Birch Society Outstanding Coordinator-Major Coordinator - Regional Director-1965 - 1992 -Donald H. Kennedy". Incidentally and ironically it came a few years too late but I appreciate it.

Chuck, you will likely be disappointed in the concern other Council Members show with regard to your views and position on Vance. You may be aware that not one Council Member, with the exception of Cliff Goerhing, ever asked me about my side or challenged anything Vance may have said about me. Vance even used some prominent council members to slam me although none ventured the slightest effort or courtesy to ask me for my side of the issue. I learned much too late that Vance had been working to lay the ground work for whatever it was he was doing. For example: I have an incredible letter of December, 1991 from Vance in which he fabricated and distorted many issues. When I confronted him and dealt with those issues I thought the matter resolved. But it became apparent that he used these points to convince some unsuspecting executive committee members I was not doing my job. Therefore I would not hold out a lot of hope there will be much response to your efforts to deal with and expose Vance. You can be certain you have received very similar treatment from him as I received before and since his letter to you of April 9, 1996.

After Vance became Director of Field Activities he went to great lengths to get Alan Bubolz to demote me by undermining me at every opportunity. Interestingly, sometime after that I confronted Vance about his role in causing my problems. He admitted he had a lot to do with it and begged me to forgive him. He was then frustrated with Alan and said I could now call him an SOB for what he did if only I would help him deal with Alan. I stayed out of everything however, I did observe first hand later in Chicago, what he did to deal with Alan. He had Alan deposed and

manuvered himself, Tom Gow and Jack McManus to be appointed the new leadership.

Continuing with the Field Staff; my recollection is most of them did not care for Vance and were demoralized by his style, his lack of ability to lead and to motivate. In spite of this, these dedicated individuals accept the abuse and roll with the punches because of thier total commitment to the JBS. My guess is many of them who have been on staff since at least the Reagan and Bush Administrations know the majority of JBS accomplishments were not of Vance's doing. I recall several who have said in more recent years that the only thing going for the Society since 1992 has been President Clinton and The New American.

Chuck, there are many more points and much material in my records, however I don't have the energy or time to dig out and line up here in letter form. I hope this will be sufficient, helpful and useful in getting someone else to observe Vance Smith in new light. You have my permission to share this letter with whomever you think it may be helpful. Please bear in mind you and I now have the potential of coming under additional attack from some quarters for expressing our candid views.

Sincerely,



Donald Kennedy
8105 W. Floyd Ave
12-307
Lakewood, CO 80227

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

Post Office Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54913
(414) 749-3780

June 25, 1997

Dear Dave:

It's hard to imagine that you've left the staff over what's been transpiring during the past few weeks.

In all sincerity, let me suggest to you that you've been given a ration of baloney. Maybe the enclosed letter will help you to see it.

I know you'd be most welcome to come back and resume your old post. And I'd be one happy man if I heard that you've decided to do exactly that.

Call me if you'd like. I look forward to seeing you "down the road." (I'll be at the northern California camp July 6 - July 11.)

Most sincerely,

Jack
John F. McManus
President

JFM/mm

copy

JANET R. NASH
5100 TWINBROOK ROAD
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22032
703-978-4331
fax 703-978-4313

July 9, 1997

Mr. John McManus
P.O. Box 8040
Appleton, WI 54913

Dear Jack:

I received and read your twelve page letter, which was based on our meeting in my home with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Parsley. Several things in your letter disturb me very much.

First, you have distorted much of what was said.

Second, it was you who insisted that the conversation should be confidential and not quoted. How do you then justify writing a twelve page letter citing supposed statements from the meeting as the basis for the letter?

Third, I received a letter from Mr. Joe Maurer stating "My name was brought up at a recent meeting that you had with Mr. Jack McManus and Mrs. and Mrs. Tom Parsley. As I heard it, Mr. Parsley claimed that Mr. Vance Smith, C.E.O. of the John Birch Society, took me and my wife to New York for a week of opera." There was no mention about Mr. Joe Maurer and nothing was said about the Opera Story and the New York trip.

Fourth, you wanted to be certain that the conversation was not being recorded. Now that I see how you have misquoted and distorted what was said, I understand why you did not want to be recorded.

Jack, your surprise and very obvious dismay at seeing Mr. and Mrs. Parsley at my home was very troubling. You were so upset that it appeared as though you were going to walk out. Even though you had been invited for lunch, you ate very little. If all that you had to say was the truth, there was no call for dismay or alarm on your part.

After deceiving me about Kevin Bearly's stroke and Dr. Morris' resignation, your twelve page letter has done little to build confidence in the management of the J.B.S.

Sincerely yours,

Janet R. Nash
Janet R. Nash

cc: Mr. Joe Maurer
Mr. Tom Parsley
Distinguished Council Members

Sept. 5, 1997

Mr. Dennis Dalton
The John Birch Society
P.O. Box 20247
Oakland, Calif 94620

Dear Dennis:

This letter is in response to your letter to Mike Winther of 8-15-97, of which, you sent a copy to me.

You made the understatement of the year, when you said the situation surrounding the tour should have been handled better. However, your inability to explain why none of us ever heard of the JBS's longstanding policy regarding speakers, does not address the facts that were given to you at our meeting; The JBS Area Co-ordinator, Don VanTyul, helped found our group. In fact, he was responsible for us becoming a Chapter, when many of us wanted to be detached from the JBS, for the very reason of the actions taken regarding the tour. Then we had help from Major Co-ordinator Dave Morris, and later on when he was our Area Co-ordinator. P.J. O'Malley was at one of our early meetings to help us with fund raising. Then we had a special meeting with Larry Waters, who instructed us on forming a Business and Professional Chapter with a speaker each month. As Jack has said, Why weren't we told ?? Your tactic of reversal, by putting the blame on us, instead of on the JBS, makes good reading to be put in your file, but in reality, IT STINKS !!!

Your request to analyze the results of our programs is a waste of time. It's like shooting the horse, and then asking to check his speed. Instead of trying to find out how many new members resulted from the programs, why not count how many people were exposed to the problems we face, and the solutions to them ? The members that I have asked, told me that there were several factors that led them to join, not just one program, or one anything.

Dennis Dalton

9-5-97

Page Two

Your assumption that the members are being distracted from the JBS agenda, and taking time away from it, is not correct. Who knows how the time gained by the shut down of the tour will be spent ? After all, didn't the shut down effect morale ? They could easily spend the time on other than JBS projects, in protest for the shabby treatment handed them by the Society. If you are really worried "when effective members devote time and energy to non-agenda items", I suggest you feed them salt. This is referring to the saying "YOU CAN LEAD A HORSE TO WATER BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE HIM DRINK" and the response "TRUE, BUT YOU CAN FEED HIM SALT".

Your statement, "The Perneti's reactions suggest huge amounts of frustration" is on target with regard to this Perneti. (my son was taught to speak for himself) My frustration is with the idiots, acting like dictators, who ordered us to cease and desist, when all that was needed was to explain the problem, and ask us to use a disclaimer, like you mentioned in your offer. I have, for my twenty years as a member, given generous (my wife says excessive) amounts of my TIME, EFFORTS, and MONEY, so, if I quit today, the JBS is still ahead of the game. I deeply resent being treated like a sheep, to follow blindly, the wishes of the JBS. I do what I do because I believe it is the right thing to do, not because I follow a dictator.

Although not mentioned in your letter, your remarks at the meeting assuming that the \$50,000. receipts from the tour, was being taken by us, from the JBS. Do you really think that a person, who pays money for lunch and a speaker, and who might buy a video and a book, would stay at home and just send the money to the JBS ??

I am the Leader of the "regular" chapter in Modesto. The idea of splitting my chapter into three will not work. I have only nine or ten active members, and that is far too few to build three chapters from.

Dennis Dalton
9-5-97

Page Three

Your proposals for getting speakers to address current agenda items and to have a copy of his prepared remarks submitted to you for approval two weeks prior to the speech simply won't work. There are not enough speakers available for us to be so selective. If you do not approve the remarks, we could not replace him in such a short time. Also, how do you expect to control the Questions and Answer period ?

If the JBS appreciates "the valiant effort" we "have expended in producing the tour", as you said, they sure have a funny way of showing it. As for dampening our spirits, the damage has been done, and I can't help but wonder if it was planned that way.

You acknowledged that we are volunteers, and since we are volunteers, we should not be treated as paid employees, who, like you, follow orders or get fired. As volunteers, we need to be sold on the agenda in a way that will make us want to pick up our swords and join the battle, following our leaders anywhere. When our leaders dictate to us, rather than sell us, it is natural for us to resist. Shouldn't our leaders realize the difference between paid employees and volunteers ? My statement to you remains; who-ever ordered our tour to shut down, in the way it was done, is not fit to be in a leadership position. That person should resign from his position due to incompetence and for the good of the John Birch Society.

Best regards,


Jim Pernetto, Sr.

cc: Mike Winther
Dave Morris
Frank Cousineau
Rich Dilworth
John Katz
G. Vance Smith
J.F. McManus
Jim Pernetto, Jr.

OCT. -15' 97 (WED) 09:44

P. 002

Janet R. Nash
5100 Twinbrook Road
Fairfax, VA 22032

(703) 978-4331
(703) 978-4313 fax

October 10, 1997

Executive Committee and Council
Members of the John Birch Society

Dear Clifford Goehring:

I wrote to you earlier this year to convey to you my concerns about Vance Smith mishandling many long term legal staff members of the John Birch Society.

It appears to me that Vance Smith's demands for a cult-like loyalty to the CEO, over and above a loyalty to the acclaimed purpose and objective of the John Birch Society, have proceeded unabated with the recent summary dismissal of Mr. Rich Weathers. No one who has worked so long and faithfully for the John Birch Society should be treated that way.

I have worked with Mr. Weathers for some time and had planned to establish a trust fund for the Society. However, with the continued cult like behavior of the CEO and the failure of the Council and Executive Committee to do anything about it, I no longer consider the John Birch Society to be my best option. My charitable remainder trust fund of \$750,000.00 will go to neither the John Birch Society nor the Robert Welch University.

Those most capable people already working for the John Birch Society may tolerate unseemly oppression to keep their jobs but it will be most difficult for the society to hold its esteem and attract unto itself new talent to lead its future.

It is my sincere hope that the council members and executive committee will finally wake up to the reality of a problem in the John Birch Society. This country still needs the type of organization visualized and founded by Robert Welch.

Sincerely yours

Janet R. Nash
Janet R. Nash
(Mrs. Richard H. Nash)

Janet R. Nash
5100 Twinbrook Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22032
(703) 978-4331
fax (703) 978-4313

October 27, 1997

Mr. Wayne E. Richert
5517 21st Avenue W. Suite H
Bradenton, FL 34209

Dear Mr. Richert:

This is in response to your telephone call to me in response to my letter about the dismissal of Rich Weathers.

The problem that bothers me most is that there is a big problem in Appleton and the JBS Council either does not have a clue or they are covering it up. Either reason is equally bad. The purpose and mission of the JBS is far more important than the cult that appears to be taking it over.

You stated in your call to me that Tom Parsley was not fired but that he quit. Someone has lied to you. Please find enclosed a copy of the termination letter that was sent to Mr. Parsley by Richard Dilworth.

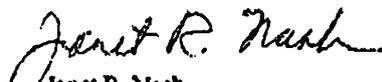
Furthermore, you stated that Mr. Parsley had received severance pay. This is also false information. Please call Mr. Parsley at (717) 235-0888 and get the facts from him.

Mr. Parsley worked faithfully many years for the JBS and for our country. He was one of the top producers and certainly one of the most dedicated members. The same applies to Mr. Rich Weathers. It is unworthy of the JBS leadership to be spreading such disinformation about these two fine men.

Additionally, the fact that Kevin Bearly was browbeaten and hounded into a stroke by JBS leadership is bad enough; but to deny it, and show no care or sympathy for him, demands the scorn of every subscribing member and supporter. I am obtaining proof about his stroke from my JBS friend in California.

The JBS Council still has a job to do before it is too late to be useful.

Sincerely,


Janet R. Nash
a 38 year supporter of the JBS