



"If y'all can't swallow it, feel free to debate it."

Panting Raid

Government Breathlessly Plots to Push Colleges in Line

By Art Buchwald

UNITED STATES foreign policy is going through its most difficult phase. Not only are we having trouble convincing our Western allies and our South American friends that we are doing the right thing, but we're having a heck of a time persuading our own university students and professors.

The President has ordered truth squads sent out to American college campuses, and it is only the first of many plans in the works to get the students and professors back on our side.

The Under Secretary of State in charge of University Relations recently made his report to the Cabinet. I managed to get hold of a transcript.

He said: "Gentlemen, I am happy to report that West Point and the Colorado School of Mines are supporting our action in the Dominican Republic."

"What about the Universi-

ty of Wisconsin?" someone asked.

"They're still holding out, as is the University of Michigan."

"What are we going to do about it?"

"The Air Force is planning to drop 80,000 leaflets on their campuses this morning. Radio Free America has gone on a 24-hour schedule and the psychological warfare people are now on the scene stirring up rumors about a left-wing takeover of the schools."

"THAT'S ALL well and good," someone said, "but it seems to me we should bomb the schools with more than leaflets just to show them we mean business."

"We've thought about it, but don't forget we have our own truth squad people there, and besides we have to think of public reaction from Harvard, Yale, and Princeton."

"Couldn't we have the U.S. Marines occupy the cam-

pus under the guise of protecting American lives and property?"

"That's been discussed, but if the other universities revolt, we'll run out of Marines in no time."

"Suppose we broke off diplomatic relations with Wisconsin and Michigan?"

"The CIA is against it. If we recalled our people, they would have to pull out and it would interfere with their plans."

"What plans?"

"They're planning to put in military juntas at Wisconsin and Michigan, made up of cadet colonies from the ROTC."

"Say, that's a good idea," someone said.

"If it works. If it doesn't work, we're going to have to deny we had anything to do with it."

"Don't you think the overthrowing of student governments is a dangerous business?" one of the Doves said.

"Not if we have proof that they're left-wing controlled. I'd rather have an ROTC junta than a rabble of leftists running the school."

"WILL WE NOTIFY the American Association of University Professors of our plans?"

"We don't have time. Once the juntas are in, we'll ask the professors to come in and help us. But if we ask them first, they'll debate the question to kingdom come."

"How can we persuade the schools that supporting our policies is to their best interests?"

"By giving each university a billion dollars if they go along with us."

"And if they don't?"

"Then we escalate. We will start by bombing the football stadiums and the highways leading to the schools."

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