

Editor
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7/5/88

Dear Editor,

Robert W. Barberich proclaims "love and charity for the needy and underprivileged needy in this world." Of course! That is why he condemned as communistic sending crutches and wheelchairs to Nicaragua's children who lost their legs in the war financed by his tax money and mine. That is why he didn't want the powdered milk and medicines collected by our own Vietnam veterans to reach them - love and charity.

Unlike Nicaragua, which has a mixed economy (I assume he knows what this means, but maybe I'm assuming too much), Ethiopia is a communist state. And the world bestowed honors on those who raised support for the starving Ethiopians. Remember the major, international media event staged by entertainers?

I lack Mr. Barberich's concept of love and charity so I contributed long before that spectacular event.

So, he can now call me, as he calls our local peace center, whose literature he read so well he doesn't even know its name, "communist."

Of it he says its "writers all bitterly ring with condemnation of our capitalist system and lovingly praise the greatness of communism."

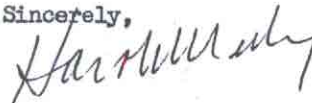
Why does he not submit some samples of this literature to the papers so they can reprint it and let the people see just how, as he puts it, capitalism was condemned and communism praised. If it exists anywhere except in the murk of his mind.

He says I called him stupid. I did not. Not that his letters do not warrant it. But ignorant would be closer.

He is one of those uninformed but dedicated ideologues who confuse epithets and political slogans and catchphrases with reality.

He is, of course, entitled to believe that the world is flat or that apples are oranges or, as he apparently does, that peace is communistic. But that doesn't make any of it so.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg

7-5-88

Communism moribund 'flat-out doesn't work

I am glad to learn from Harold Weisberg's letter of June 29, that the "peace" convoy of trucks and supplies our "peace people" at Frederick (and elsewhere) tried to deliver to communist Nicaragua really amounted to nothing but broken down and worn out junk, and that I was badly mistaken in my estimate of its value. I guess our Peace Center here really is, only "a nickel and dime" leftist organization after all.

My opposition to the Frederick Peace Center in no way implies that I lack love and charity for the needy and underprivileged in this world. I lack neither! But I have no appreciation, nor affection, for an economic system that in itself is a lie. And socialistic communism is that lie!

The statements I have read by the Frederick Peace Center writers all bitterly ring with the condemnation of our capitalistic system, and lovingly praise the greatness of communism. And I repeat: This is sheer stupidity!

Communism flat-out doesn't work. It inevitably results in absolute dictatorship, and in most cases even starts off that way. In spite of Mr. Weisberg's contention to the contrary, the Chinese are reverting to capitalism, and the Russians are trying it for the first time in their history.

Communism is dead, or dying, and is being replaced with the only economic system in this world that provides the means for individual ownership, and freedom through parliamentary government by people who thus govern themselves. And this system is capitalism, where you work for what you get and own it when you get it.

Where has communism benefited the people living under its rule? No where!

Where has capitalism benefited the people living under its system? Wherever it exists!

Even a person as stupid as Mr. Weisberg claims me to be can easily make the comparisons between the nations of this world under each of these systems. It doesn't really require much intelligence to conclude that one is good and the other isn't.

Which system do you advocate, Mr. Weisberg?

ROBERT W. BERBERICH,
Frederick