

The New Wave of "Conspiracy Theorists;" Arlen Specter on "Tomorrow Show" 4/3/75

One thing that has been apparent during this long propaganda campaign for which Dick Gregory has been able to get so much network time and for which he has restricted appearances to those in his favor - aside from the real lack of knowledge of the subject all suffer - is there determined restraint from reference to any of my work, regardless of how necessary it is to the points they may be trying to make.

The failure was apparent to me first on their Nine in the Morning appearance right after Boston, when Robert suddenly became an expert on fact, along with Ralph Schoenmann. They turned everyone off.

It is particularly apparent when they deal with the reports that Oswald had been some kind of agent. They have and use what they ripped off from others and what they have had nuts, like Weberman dredging up in the Archives but they don't understand it, can't and don't put it together to make sense or a case, and are content merely to read or refer to documents that are easily rebutted. At least to those unwilling to credit the stuff.

Arlen Specter's appearance on this show, all by himself for the whole show, is a perfect example of the error of the Gregory way, which consists in one-side propaganda, never real confrontation. However, little as this gang knows, except for one as skilled as Lane there is no chance of them really coming out in confrontation with a Specter.

He, on his side, makes out a plausible case for refusing confrontations and cites those he had with Lane and Thompson - he always refused them with me - as the seemingly plausible reason.

And when an experienced, clean-shaven white lawyer appears and is as smooth as Specter and as unconcerned with fact as the Gregory gang is, he makes a better appearance to most people than the others. He makes out a plausible case for his side simply because there is no one to challenge him or the reality, to nail his lies.

The fact is that Specter was never really truthful in any of the points he made and has a clear record to the contrary, even on the repetition of the subtler version of how the Kennedys suppress the vital evidence.

There is further counterproductivity in the Gregory approach coming from the fact that a lawyer like Specter can properly and reasonably claim the right to stick to his specialty, the work he did. This has advantages for disinformation. It allows him to stick to the material he knows best and can cite more authoritatively and be so accepted; and it allows him to ignore all else. Specter was able, smoothly and without seeming to evade anything, to politely persist in concluding his points as he wanted to make them and because there was no opposition to pass off anything he dared not address, such as the definitiveness, as he succeeded in making it appear, of the Commission's alleged investigation of the rumors that Oswald was an agent.

I understand from others the nature of the Gregorian show the night before. It was a fumbling, unpersuasive, diffuse display of Schoenmann as the alleged expert in the wholesale use of the theorizing of others and an attack on Life and the Zapruder heirs for insisting on pay for the use of their film. (Because the Gregorians insist on the use of Z they miss the opportunity I had on Black Journal with Nix. Because they crap around with what they don't know they ruin much of the effect of that.) They did not go into any evidence that in any way negated what Specter was able to say. They thus set up a situation for their own effective refutation. This explains Specter's willingness to appear on this show whereas he was hysterically unwilling to appear with Rivera on ABC because others would be not in confrontation but on the same show separately/

The other side lacks any basis for credibility. The Gregory gang are giving them credibility except among the persuaded.