

make sense. -ed, -ing, only too understood. - have been saying it for years and in discussing my first book, back in the summer of 1966, said this had to be one of the consequences of the JFK assassination. I have it more explicitly later, particularly in the first part of what I then called COUP, edited down to FRAME-UP, where it had no place. I presume you eliminated identification not to color my reaction. Stop and ask yourself how much more this trend was advanced with each of the major political assassinations. I do not visualize and Ameriform fascism like the forms in other land. Certainly not gas chambers, any extreme racism. I have been thinking of it merely as authoritarianism. We will be seeing much more of the one-man-rule part as days pass. Unlike others I believe the Congress could stop it but I also think it lacks the balls. They could take any of the many convenient cases, like his exercising a right that doesn't exist, for him to over-ride the Congressional veto and refuse to do the bidding of the Congress on pollution. They could merely cause chaos by not passing any appropriation bill and precipitating the showdown right away, before he can organize better, dull people's senses and sensitivities more, before he can muster the greater power he will have all too soon.. Like Jackson said of the Supreme Court. They can grind the country to a stop on the slogan no American dictator. But they won't. There are all those multicolored navels for all that self-contemplation and all those fuzzy liberals heads for agonizing and all that federal money spent in all the districts of those who are vote ja! minded. Bleak prospects, friend. This man also has a sick but dominating, if hidden, ego. HW 1/26/73

1/22/73

Hal---

Let me know if this appraisal  
~~is~~ of what's going on makes  
sense to you.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be the initials "E. D." followed by a long horizontal flourish.

The warning signs of loss of freedom are well known. Great Republics of the past have gone through a series of well-recognized steps leading straight to the destruction of all freedom and the establishment of a suffocating dictatorship.

1. One of the first steps has always been increased government controls—harassment through complicated reports, inspection of records, particularly of those individuals who do not agree with the party in power. The loss of real freedom is accentuated by the fact that a contribution to the party in power will eliminate most of these harassments.

2. Another warning come when officials, both military and civilian, are muzzled and prevented from giving the people information vital to their interests, information which cannot be classed as secret because it is well known to our enemies. This kind of information is withheld because it is detrimental to the political health of the administration. This warning signal has been flying for some time.

3. A warning is given when manufactured news appears. This is now a frequent occurrence in Washington.

4. One of the clearest danger signals comes when the executive, whether at the national, the state, or the city level, is successful in controlling, buying, stealing or falsifying the vote. This danger signal is flying ominously today.

5. Another meaningful signal which is always involved in the process of take-over by those hungry for power, is the successful effort of the executive to influence and control the people's representatives. Pressure, threats, arm-twisting, and blackmail are all used to make the representative conform. This was a procedure which Hitler found very useful in maintaining his dictatorship. We regret to state that this type of control is being practiced by the President of the United States today.

6. Assumption of power is always accompanied by a campaign to lull the people into a sense of security. Material well-being and prosperity are advertised as the most important objectives.

The history of Rome is essentially that of a power struggle between the people and individuals who aspired to dictatorship. Every time the people accepted material prosperity in exchange for freedom and individual character, they lost. Finally the people discovered that they had surrendered their rights, along with their integrity and their self-respect. In return they became subjects of a dictator who distributed free food and provided daily spectacles to amuse the populace. The resulting deterioration of initiative, the suppression of basic moral values,

the death of individual freedoms and a general rottenness of society, led unerringly to the fall of Rome.

7. The most important danger signal comes in the field of integrity, in the area of both public and individual morality. A free people has a right to expect, yes to demand, that the highest office in the nation shall be held by a man of unquestioned character, a man with a background of unimpeachable honesty. The danger flag in this field streams out today so that all must see it.

The time has come for an aroused American people to demand that their freedoms be respected. The time has come for a crystalization of all the moral forces of America. The moment has arrived for citizens to demand that integrity and freedom shall not—must not perish from the land.