Bundy, Free Speech and the Toothless Nazis

A Commentary

By Nicholas von Hoffman

In 1954 Bellah was in the midst of trying to get a job at Harvard as was Sigmund Diamond, now professor at Columbia University, who writes, "Bundy told me that to talk only about myself was not good enough, that under those circumstances he would not go through with the appointment that had been agreed upon..." While agreeing with some but not all the facts as alleged by Bellah and Diamond, Bundy puts a wholly different construction on his act: "The unfairness of these accusations...reflects the mixture of animosity and self-pity, the mixture of fear of being accused and the sense of powerlessness that can recapture so many ex-Communists still when they review their Communist and post-Communist experiences..."

Mere interesting than the degree of Bundy's culpability is that all of this was about ex-Communists. Diamond joined the party in 1941 and resigned toward the end of his two brief years. Thus we're not even talking about dissenters but the cases of two who had once..."