

New address: Rt.7. Frederick, Md. 21701 301/473-8186

Dear Dave,

How appropriate the quote from Thoreau! Three weeks ago, after driving to Philadelphia (where I again called Arlen Specter a repetitive, deliberate liar and dared him to sue me -and he again was silent) I thought of this and stopped at a book store and bought that Thoreau.

As I told Turner when I was out there (and I hope to be out again within the month), the last book of my series will address itself to policy involvements in the assassination. It is researched. The problem is finding the time to finish it. I call it TIGER TO RIDE: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE CUBA MISSILE CRISIS. Careful reading of my books reveal the doctrine, especially the soon-to-be-published OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS: CASE OF CONSPIRACY.

Parallax is doing the New Orleans book. Dell broke their agreement and my agent could get no major publisher interest. Parallax will be denied their regular distribution. This book was completed in early April. I have more than 300 pages of once-secret documents backing it up. Jim Garrison has written the foreword. I haven't seen it, but I understand it is apt and excellent.

Progress report: PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH: SUPPRESSED KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PICTURES, faces stronger efforts (largely successful) to suppress than anything else. It got 40 column inches as news in the New York Times and not a single mention elsewhere, not a single radio talk show on it. POST MORTEM: SUPPRESSION OF KENNEDY AUTOPSY is in ms, with more than five hundred pages of once-secret documents backing it, of which I'll publish about 200 pages. Money is a serious problem (Dell is withholding both accounting and royalties, both due first in April and again in September). MANCHESTER MACGAVRELLI: THE UNINTENDED, UNOFFICIAL WHITEWASH, a third written, more than 400 pages of documents. Then Tiger.

Hal Verb can tell you of my plans. I expect to leave about two weeks after OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS starts going to wholesalers. I do not know what is holding it up. I expect to go to New Orleans, Chicago, San Francisco, in that order, maybe stopping at Salt Lake City en route. I would love to be able to confront Liebel and/or Bell while I'm there. I've unpublished stuff on both. I've published enough on Liebel he runs when I get near, never mentions my name. He hasn't seen OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS, or he would be in a great hurry than airplanes allow.

I did sign the paper and sent it to New York with a check. Sorry I cannot make a larger contribution, but I have no financial support. The (probably inspired) withholding of royalties and refusal of the ordered book (and advance) hurt much.

Sincerely,

And may I add that neither Ramparts nor any of its staff have in any way helped, frequently have hurt.

Harold Weisberg

# Ramparts

25 September 1967

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am enclosing a copy of the statement signed, so far, by 220 writers and editors who pledge to refuse payment of the proposed 10 per cent income tax surcharge or any tax increase earmarked for the Vietnam War. At this writing, seven New York Times writers and editors have signed. We plan to run a full-page advertisement in the Times in mid-October, giving the quote from Thoreau, the pledge and the list of names. The placing of the ad will coincide with Congressional debate on the tax surcharge. By that time we hope to have 500 persons pledged to refuse payment.

If you would be interested in signing the statement, please fill in the blank and mail it in as soon as possible. And please tell your writer and editor friends about it and urge them to do the same. As Thoreau said, "If a thousand men were not to pay their tax bills this year, that would not be a violent and bloody measure, as it would be to pay them, and enable the State to commit violence and shed innocent blood." During his incarceration for refusal to pay his war tax, Thoreau was paid a visit by Emerson, who asked, "What are you doing in here?" To which Thoreau replied, "What are you doing out there?"

I feel strongly that the collective involvement of writers and editors in the nation's politics should not stop with the War Tax Protest. Many of our colleagues share this view, and are preparing this fall to organize local chapters of what can become a national writers and journalists association. An organized and articulate "intelligentsia" can be a political force in America as it is in France. And it must become a political force if the increasingly oppressive policies of the present United States government -- in Vietnam, in Southern Africa, in Latin America and here at home -- are to be permanently reversed. Not to organize, not to amplify our voices so that an ill-informed America may hear alternatives, is to accede, in effect, to the policies of the present government. For more information, please write me immediately at 377 Green Street, San Francisco, California 94133.

Yours



David Welsh  
Senior Editor

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DW:pg

"How does it become a man to behave toward this American government today? I answer that he cannot without disgrace be associated with it ... In other words, when ... a whole country is overrun and conquered by a foreign army, and subjected to military law, I think it is not too soon for honest men to rebel and revolutionize. What makes this duty the more urgent is the fact that the country so overrun is not our own, but ours is the invading army ... There are thousands who are in opinion opposed to ... the war ... who, esteeming themselves children of Washington and Franklin, sit down with their hands in their pockets; and say that they know not what to do, and do nothing ... They hesitate, and they regret, and sometimes they petition; but they do nothing in earnest and with effect. They will wait, well disposed, for others to remedy the evil, that they may no longer have it to regret ... What I have to do is to see, at any rate, that I do not lend myself to the wrong which I condemn ... If a thousand men were not to pay their tax-bills this year, that would not be a violent and bloody measure, as it would be to pay them, and enable the State to commit violence and shed innocent blood."

-- Henry David Thoreau, Civil Disobedience, 1849,  
commenting upon American involvement in the  
Mexican War.

We the undersigned writers and editors, believing that American involvement in Vietnam is morally wrong, pledge:

1. None of us voluntarily will pay the proposed 10% income tax surcharge or any war-designated tax increase.
2. Many of us will not pay that 23% of our current income tax which is being used to finance the war in Vietnam.

Lloyd Richard Ellison  
Richard M. Elman  
Joseph Felslin  
Laurence Ferlinghetti  
W. H. Ferry  
David W. Fisher  
Harold Flender  
Isabel W. Fox  
Joseph M. Fox  
Jean Todd Freeman  
Betty Friedan  
Dan Georgakas  
Edwin Gilbert  
Ralph Ginzburg  
Todd Gitlin  
Natalie Gittelson  
Mitchell Goodman  
Paul Goodman  
Sally Goodman  
Saul Gottlieb  
Jean Gould  
Dan Green  
Caroline Greenberg  
Josh Greenfeld  
Harold Greenwald  
Ronald Gross  
Jean Grossman  
Richard L. Grossman  
William H. Y. Hackett  
Richard Hammer  
Dianne Harris  
Mary Heathcote  
James Leo Herlihy  
Neil Hickey  
Warren Hinckle  
Susan Hirschmann  
Berenice Hoffman  
Len Holt  
Lamar Hoover  
John Hopper  
Richard Hudson  
Thomas Humber  
Will Inman  
Paul Jacobs  
Martin Jezer  
Louise Kapp  
Peter Kemeny  
Edwin Kennebeck  
James Kirkwood  
Richard Kostelanetz  
Norman Kotker  
Zane Kotker  
Max Kozloff  
Barbara S. Kraft  
Paul Krassner

Louise Lacey  
Keith Lampe  
Elinor Langer  
Eric Lasher  
Sidney Lens  
John Leonard  
Denise Levertov  
Janice Lloyd  
Louis E. Lomax  
Kennett Love  
Dick Lourie  
Walter Lowenfels  
Dwight Macdonald  
A. Kent MacDougall  
Martha MacGregor  
Iris Lezak MacLow  
Jackson MacLow  
Henry Magdol  
George Mandel  
Richard Marek  
Robert Markel  
Charles Lam Markmann  
Peter Matthiessen  
Milton Mayer  
Alice Mayhew  
James R. McCawley  
James McConkey  
John McDermott  
David McReynolds  
Harold Mehling  
Merle Miller  
Henry Misrock  
Howard R. Moody  
Ira Morris  
Kelly Morris  
Carl Morse  
Erika Munk  
Henry Myers  
Jack Nessel  
Jay Neugeboren  
Peter Nevraumont  
Jack Newfield  
Robert Nichols  
William Noble  
Bink Noll  
Robert M. Ockene  
Ned O'Gorman  
Grace Paley  
Adam Parry  
Frances Fox Piven  
Richard Poirier  
Ned Polsky  
Thomas Pynchon  
Jules Rabin  
Ann Reit

Evan H. Rhodes  
Adrienne Rich  
Alan Rinzler  
Frances Ross  
William S. Rukeyser  
Marshall Sahlins  
Faith Sale  
J. Kirk Sale  
Gertrude Samuels  
John P. Scanlon  
Gertrude P. Schafer  
Hal Scharlatt  
Richard Schechner  
Robert Scheer  
Andre Schiffrin  
Janet Schulman  
Richard Seaver  
David Segal  
Selma Shapiro  
Robert Sherrill  
Paul Showers  
Jules Siegel  
Alvin Simon  
Joan Simon  
John Simon  
John J. Simon  
Bennett Sims  
Susan Sontag  
Peter Sourian  
Peter Spackman  
John Speicher  
Gloria Steinem  
Dorothy Sterling  
Philip Sterling  
Samuel D. Stewart  
Neal G. Stuart  
Harvey Swados  
Dave Swaney  
Hope Taylor  
Norman Thomas  
Hunter Thompson  
Caroline Trager  
Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.  
Gerald Walker  
Greta Walker  
Arthur I. Waskow  
Sonya Weil  
David Welsh  
Ruth West  
Wallace White  
Roger Wiesenbach  
Judith Winkler  
Sol Yurick  
Howard Zinn  
Benjamin Spock

Willful refusal to pay Federal Income Taxes is a violation of Sec. 7203 of the Internal Revenue Code and is punishable by up to one year in prison and/or up to \$10,000.00 in fines.