

Post 7.3.74 **Where Is the Conservative Outrage?**

Joseph Kraft's column of June 27 asked "Where is the Conservative Outrage?" about implied attacks on the CIA and the Joint Chiefs of Staff which Mr. Kraft asserts to be part of President Nixon's Watergate defense.

In reply, it should be first noted that most conservatives have long ceased to regard the Central Intelligence Agency as anything other than an instrument of establishment liberalism, infected with many of its mistaken political conclusions and biases. There is much evidence to support this judgment, ranging from the personal attitudes of key CIA policy-makers to the outrageous subsidies provided by the CIA to the left-wing U.S. National Student Association.

As for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, considerable feeling exists among conservatives that leaders of our military organizations have been insufficiently outspoken regarding their concerns for America's declining strategic strength under the Nixon administration. Pummeled for years by journalists who, like Mr. Kraft, have been fearful that frank expression by top military officials might undermine the concept of civilian supremacy, leaders of the Joint Chiefs have perhaps been too silent in defining to the nation their deeply-held views of our national security requirements. For years, principled conservatives in the Congress, in the academy, and in the press have articulated their own profound misgivings about the decline in America's strength over which Richard Nixon has presided. But concerns of this sort receive little attention in The Washington Post.

Similarly, few press accounts ac-

knowledge the principal reasons for conservative disaffection from the Nixon administration: the President's almost total abandonment of historic turnabout in the nation's domestic policies, which he pledged during the 1972 campaign to lead. The central issue of our era is accountability; our public institutions, policies, and resources are no longer accountable to the source of their financing, their power, and their root legitimacy: the people.

The nation is run by special interests, like The Washington Post, which have an anti-majoritarian stake in thwarting the legitimate, electorally-confirmed will of the people.

It is in its pandering and groveling to such establishment forces which seek to play God with the lives of the people that the Nixon administration stands condemned: despite his rhetoric, when the chips are down, this President's men have done more to advance quotas, abortionism, busing, bureaucracy, and the decline of Western values than Lyndon Johnson in his prime. The facts and figures are there—in the records of HEW, HUD, OEO, DOL, ACTION, and the other Executive Branch departments—for all who take the trouble to find them.

When will principled liberals step forward to condemn the leftist elitism which Richard Nixon's appointees have subsidized?

Or is it "a true weakness for our country" that principled liberals hardly exist?

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