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NORBORNE, MO., NOV. 18 (AP)-THE LEADER OF AN ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE MINUTEMEN SAYS IF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES WISHES TO INVESTIGATE THE GROUP "WE WILL BE GLAD TO COOPERATE."

REP. CHARLES S. JOELSON, D-N.J. CALLED FOR SUCH AN INVESTIGATION YESTERDAY, SAYING THE MINUTEMEN IS A SECRET, ARMED ORGANIZATION THAT FAVORS "FORCING GOVERNMENTAL POLICIES BY VIOLENT MEANS."

ROBERT DEPUGH (D, P),

ROBERT DEPUGH (D, P), HEAD OF THE MINUTEMEN, SAID TODAY JOELSON'S "INSINUATION THAT THE MINUTEMEN ARE A FASCIST ORGANIZATION IS PURE PROPAGANDA.

"THE ONE AND ONLY PURPOSE OF OUR ORGANIZATION IS TO HELP PRESERVE OUR TRADITIONAL FORM OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

"WE ARE GOING INTO A PERIOD OF THE ONE-PARTY SYSTEM, SUCH AS NOW EXISTS IN THE SOVIET UNION," DEPUGH SAID. "WE ARE ON THE VERGE OF A SOCIALIST DICTATORSHIP. I'M GOING TO KEEP WARNING THE PEOPLE OF THIS FACT AS LONG AS I AM ABLE. WHEN THE GOVERNMENT TRIES TO SHUT ME UP, THAT WILL SIMPLY PROVE THE TRUTH OF WHAT I HAVE BEEN SAYING."

THE MINUTEMEN, DEPUGH SAID, HAVE ALWAYS DEFENDED THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES "AGAINST THE COMMUNIST ATTEMPTS TO HAVE THAT COMMITTEE ABOLISHED.

"IF THE COMMITTEE WISHES TO INVESTIGATE THE MINUTEMEN THEN WE WILL BE GLAD TO COOPERATE. IN FACT, I HAVE ALREADY SENT CONGRESSMAN WILLIS (REP. EDWIN E. WILLIS, D-LA.), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MATERIAL ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION WHICH SHOULD HELP THEM IN THIS REGARD."

JOELSON TOLD WILLIS IN A LETTER ASKING FOR THE INVESTIGATION:

"THE TIME HAS NOW COME TO MAKE IT CRYSTAL CLEAR THAT UNDER THE GUISE OF ANTI-COMMUNISM, NO EXTREME RIGHT WING FASCIST GROUP WILL BE ALLOWED TO THREATEN THE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY OF OUR BELOVED NATION.

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"THE MINUTEMEN HAVE IN THE PAST HELD "MANEUVERS" IN REMOTE AREAS TO TRAIN THEIR MEMBERS IN GUERILLA TACTICS AGAINST ENEMY ATTACK. DEPUGH CLAIMS THE ORGANIZATION HAS MEMBERS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GROUP'S NEWSLETTER "ON TARGET" BEGINS:

"THE HOPES OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS THAT THE COMMUNIST TIDE COULD BE STOPPED WITH BALLOTS INSTEAD OF BULLETS HAS TURNED TO DUST."

IT SAID THE LANDSLIDE VICTORY OF LYNDON JOHNSON OVER BARRY GOLDWATER OFFERS PROOF OF THE BASIC PREMISE ON WHICH THE MINUTEMEN WERE ORGANIZED:

"THE TIME IS PAST," THE NEWSLETTER SAID, "WHEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MIGHT HAVE SAVED THEMSELVES BY TRADITIONAL POLITICAL PROCESSES."

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