

R.U.R. 9 1/2

APRIL 22, 1958 - from David Rike

April 17, 1958

Dear Dave, I enjoy your RURs. Thanks for sending them to me (via Terry & Ron).

Please don't fly into a rage and think I'm going into a sarcastic sword-throwing act if I ask you a few questions. I am genuinely curious as to what goes on in the mind of a fellow-traveller participating in a Communist-manipulated "demonstration".

In the first place, did you or didn't you realize that the "protest" you described so vividly in RUR 8 was not the spontaneous, 100% Quaker-inspired affair that it purported to be, but was actually just a part of the world-wide wave of demonstrations going on right now? In some of the countries they are conducted thru "fronts". But your presence (unless you are a Quaker) should surely have been a tip-off to you -- how else explain the presence of so many non-Quakers at a Quaker "protest"?

Of course, I realize that you may well believe it actually WAS a protest against the Nuclear Tests. No doubt to the majority of those present, it was. But I, personally, am rather skeptical about scarehead alarms so consistently emanating from the Communist propaganda organs at the same time the Communists, themselves, are popping off their test bombs. If the danger was so very real -- how come they don't drop their testing program? Furthermore, when the US experts in the field, such as Teller himself, get up and assure the public that the danger has been highly exaggerated and that the tests are necessary, I suspect they know more about what they are talking than does the Washington Post and the New York Times. However, there is always a fuzzy-minded group of wishful-thinkers who would grasp at any straw from peace-marches to Flying Saucers if it held out any hope for their emotional do-gooding. But somehow, Dave, I just can't see you in that category.

Another thing I'm curious about, is whether or not you really do not know you are right in the middle of a Communist environment. True, you keep on insisting that your landlord is not, repeat - NOT - a communist. Your friends are not Communists. Your neighbors are not Communists. But then you turn around with a keen reporter's eye, and describe an environment which is unmistakably Communist. The books you list, the type of party-line propaganda you repeat, the conversations you record -- all these things clamor their Communist origin. I find it difficult to believe that you are actually so naive that you don't recognize it but I realize that it IS possible. That leaves a three-fold alternative: 1. Either you don't recognize Communist party line and propaganda when you see it, or, 2 - You recognize it, but are trying to convince yourself it isn't so (which is the reason for these vehement denials) or 3. You know damn well what you've gotten into and are practicing on us fans the deliberate deceit which you expect to use as protective coloration.

But most of all, I wonder (granted that Possibility #1 could be the case) how it is possible for an observant and intelligent person like yourself to fail to perceive how closely you are fitting into the Communist pattern? When you read books written by Communist writers; repeat slogans and catch-phrase arguments repeatedly exposed as Communist party-line patter; even participate in a typical "Demonstration" complete with goon-squad tactics -- how can you possibly fail to recognize it?

If you think I'm crazy and don't know what I'm talking about (which is the easiest way out, of course) why not look around for yourself? For instance, J. Edgar Hoover has been fighting subversive Communism for many years. He is no crackpot or alarmists. That man knows what he is talking about. Enclosed is the first installment of his book about Communist subversives. Please read it. Taken in conjunction with RUR8.... Well? If you honestly consider yourself and friends as non-communists, please read the entire book and score yourself as to where you fit into the picture.

Of course, if Possibility #3 is really the case, and you have already decided for Communism, I guess there really isn't much to say. But I enjoy your fanzines, anyway.

G.M. Carr

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