

Lyndon and Hubert and their friends continue the confidence game that passes for government in the Great Society.

Lyndon was photographed practically in the embrace of H.L.T. Taswell, the South African Ambassador to the U.S. Then the Washington Post displayed the picture, along with several photos of the Taswell family, in a delightful full page spread on the life of the South African Ambassador in Washington.

Meanwhile Hubert was down in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, accepting an honorary degree from Louisiana State University. (Senator Russell Long remarked last year during the debate on the civil rights act that, certainly, LSU is integrated--any Negro can get in; all he has to do is get a federal court order. In his acceptance speech, Hubert said he had noticed that the "South is throbbing with a new spirit of leadership."

The KKK has taken over Bogalusa, La.; CORE is being shot up in Jonesboro, La.; there've been 23 unsolved bombings that we know of in Alabama in the past few years, along with a dozen or so unrequited murders--the latest three having occurred in the past six weeks or so; Mississippi has been unspeakable as long as anyone can remember and shows little sign of changing; and that pretty much goes for the rest of the South. Just where is that throb, Hubert?

Lyndon's Director of the Office of Education, Francis Keppel, told the Alabama Board of Education that their statements of compliance with the civil rights act were so good because, as he said, "As you know, virtually all of the public school districts in Alabama are still operating on a segregated basis." (Does he suppose this is not equally true for Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia?) Keppel's solution to this problem? He wants a stronger statement from Alabama. Never mind what Alabama does about discrimination. Just be sure they put a pretty face on it by reciting the phrases of the Great Society.

Just last month Kenneth McFarland, educational consultant to General Motors, gave a speech before the Alabama Teachers Convention. He was cheered to the rafters as he called the ministers who went to Selma "Holy Joe's and self-appointed saints" and wrapped the U.S. Supreme Court, the labor unions and communism up in one big bag he labeled the enemy.

While their educational consultant was spouting the poison of racism (and receiving the universal approval of Alabama's white teachers), the General Motors stockholders (prominent among them the Dupont family of Delaware) were gleefully counting the

17% or more profits they earn from their South African operations, and anticipating an increase in the golden flow as a result of their new \$29 million engine plant which was just opened at Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

And the Alabama legislature was in session, redesigning its voting registration law to conform, on the face, with the requirements of the new federal voting rights bill, so as to avoid the application of the new law in Alabama. Said one legislator: "We want to get the law into such shape that they won't be able to bother us."

And the four banks in Selma were acting as collectors in a drive to raise money for the "Citizens Defense Fund of Selma". The fund, according to an advertisement in the Selma Times-Journal, feels that the whites of Selma are "fighting for everything that stands for decency and western civilization." The four banks collecting money for the fund, presently have on deposit something over \$500,000 of federal money put there by order of Lyndon's Secretary of the Treasury.

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The Great Society did more to comfort its friends in South Africa than just putting Lyndon's picture in the paper, associated with the South African Ambassador. Kimberly-Clark Corporation reached an agreement with the Government of South Africa under which Kimberly-Clark will install a multi-million dollar plant near Johannesburg. The new plant will represent a considerable addition to Kimberly's already substantial manufacturing operations in South Africa.

Kimberly-Clark is an interesting firm. It's contributions to America's greatness include some 60% of the women's sanitary devices used in the U.S., under the brand names of Kotex and Fibs. It makes the Great Society smell a bit better with its Quest deodorant; it wipes the Great Society's nose with Kleenex; and it makes Delsey toilet paper.

John R. Kimberly, Chairman of the Kimberly-Clark Corp., is also Chairman of the Spruce Falls Power and Paper Co., in which the New York Times owns 42% of the stock and in which Kimberly-Clark owns the rest. Thus the New York Times' prosperity (the Times declared the other day it had received more than \$1 million from Spruce Power & Paper at the end of the last dividend period) is in part dependent upon the continued prosperity of Kimberly-Clark, and that is in part dependent upon the maintenance of things as they are in South Africa.

John Kimberly is a director of Corning Glass Works, which owns 31% of the stock in Owens-Corning Fiberglas, whose operations in South Africa we recently discussed. Kimberly sits on the board of First National City Bank of N.Y. (3rd largest U.S. Bank). The bank's chairman, James S. Rockefeller, sits on the Kimberly-Clark board. Kimberly, along with three of his fellow Kimberly-Clark directors, is a trustee of Lawrence College.

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Too, Kimberly is a director of the Episcopal Church Foundation and of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Rockefeller's (he's a second cousin of David Rockefeller of Chase Manhattan) First National City Bank has a subsidiary called the International Banking Corp., of which Rockefeller is Chairman. This subsidiary operates the First National City Bank of N.Y. (South Africa, Ltd), one of the principal banking firms in the Republic of South Africa.

In addition to his director's seat on Kimberly-Clark, Rockefeller is a director of Anaconda Co. (North and South American copper), National Cash Register Co., and Pan American World Airways. The last two companies have substantial operations in South Africa.

Another director of Kimberly-Clark is Louis Quarles. He is Secretary of the Allen-Bradley Co., long known as a generous contributor to the causes of the lunatic right wing. Most of the stock in the Allen-Bradley Co. is owned by the Allen-Bradley Foundation, which is exempt from federal income tax. Quarles is a director of the foundation. Quarles is also a director of the Miller Brewing Co., a large block of whose stock is owned by a tax exempt foundation called de Rance, Inc., of Milwaukee. Thus the very considerable dividends paid out each year on Allen-Bradley and Miller Brewing stock go into the tax exempt foundations and are available for various uses without any federal tax being paid on them.

It becomes increasingly clear that the Republic of South Africa is something of an economic colony of the United States. When Lyndon is called upon to take action against South Africa's open and avowed racism, he is actually being called upon to act against the wishes and the interests of a substantial proportion of America's corporate elite.

And Lyndon's not about to do that.

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In the issue of April 12, the Nation carries a story of enormous import. The story, written by Fred J. Cook, details the operations of the Government of Iran in its foreign aid and oil dealings with, respectively, the U.S. Government and the big U.S. oil companies. Most of the story concerns the mechanics of how the Shah of Iran gets U.S. Foreign Aid money intended for the Iranian people, into the hands of members of his family.

According to Cook, the Shah has set up the Pahlavi Foundation, with an account in a Swiss bank. It seems the Shah, over the past few years, has been siphoning off foreign aid money sent to Iran by the U.S. and depositing the money in the Foundation account. He has, it is said, also deposited several million in oil royalties which the U.S. and British companies have paid into the Iranian Treasury.

All this, of course, is not very sensational. We've become accustomed to foreign potentates whom our government supports stealing from their people.

But, according to Cook's story, some of the checks written on the Swiss account by the Shah, were payable to very prominent Americans. Cook's story says that a \$2 million dollar check was made payable to David Rockefeller; another to Allen Dulles (former director of the CIA, which engineered the coup that put the Shah in power) in the amount of \$1 million; American diplomatic officials and the officials of several oil companies with operations in Iran were listed for amounts ranging from \$1 million down.

Cook's story is one of the ugliest we've seen about the Great Society in a long time. It suggests that multi-millionaire Americans are receiving kick-backs of some kind from a foreign government which gets the money from the American taxpayers. When one considers what it costs a great many Americans to pay their taxes, and when one considers the pitiful poverty in which all but a handful live in Iran, the spectacle of wealthy and powerful Americans participating in any way in the theft of American money intended for the relief of Iranian poverty is a kind of final straw. One can well feel that whatever ill-fate befalls such a society and the people in it who permit it to exist, is no more than the society and the people deserve.

On April 5th, Senators McClellan and Mundt mentioned the Cook story on the floor of the Senate. They said they had seen a preview copy of the article and they were very indignant that anyone would make such statements about honorable men like Rockefeller and the rest who were involved. They said they had written a letter to the Swiss bank involved and asked if the story were true. They put a letter into the Congressional Record which they said came from the manager of the Swiss bank. The letter said that the bank had never had such an account as the Pahlavi Foundation, and that the documents, copies of which had been sent by the Senators, must be forgeries.

The two Senators said that the material they had seen in the "Nation" article was clearly libelous, and that if the magazine published it, they felt sure libel suits could be brought by the individuals whose names were mentioned.

In spite of this denial and warning by the Senators and the Swiss bank, the "Nation" went ahead and published the story. We can only assume that the "Nation" was certain enough of the accuracy of its details that it was not concerned about a libel suit.

Ordinarily the New York Times would have had some kind of mention about such a sensational development. However we have seen nowhere any mention of the story, or of the fact that the two Senators discussed it on April 5th.

One supposes that, if no libel action is entered by Rockefeller and the others, the story must be true as Cook wrote it.

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It is true, it could explain a lot about how some public officials accumulate large fortunes on not-so-large salaries.

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A great deal of pious talking is done in this country about how terrible the Nazis were for exterminating 6 million people in a planned program of genocide. We usually think of the Nazi officials as the real villains--Hitler, Goebels, Himmler, Eichmann, etc. Seldom do we see or hear anything about the businessmen who were partners of the murderous politicians. When we began looking into what had happened to some of those businessmen the other day, we found some rather startling facts.

The thing that got us interested was an article which appeared in the April 8 New York Times. It told about a company called the Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik, the largest chemical company in West Germany, which had celebrated its 100th birthday on April 6.

We looked up the company and discovered that its chairman, Carl Wurster, is a former director of the I.G. Farben, the huge chemical Trust which operated in Germany during the Nazi period. In those days, Wurster was not only the Chairman of Badische (which was a member of the I.G. Farben Trust), but he was also in charge of the I.G. Farben division which included the slave labor synthetic rubber plant at the Auschwitz concentration camp.

The I.G. Farben owned 42.5% of a retail and wholesale distributor called DEGESCH. Wurster was on the administrative council of DEGESCH. It was I.G. Farben researchers who developed the Zyklon B gas which was used to slaughter Jews in the concentration camp at Auschwitz. DEGESCH was the firm which sold the gas to the camp at Auschwitz. In 1942 DEGESCH delivered 7,478.6 kilograms of the gas to Auschwitz. In 1943, the slaughter had been stepped up and DEGESCH delivered 12,174.09 kilograms of the gas that year. The net profit made from selling the gas to the concentration camp rose from 45,375.78 Reichsmarks in 1941 to 127,985 Reichsmarks in 1943.

As we said, Wurster was the top official of the I.G. Division which included the synthetic rubber plant built by I.G. at Auschwitz. They built it there so they could use the slave labor. Nikolai Nyiszli and Ervin Schulhof were prisoners in the Auschwitz camp, and they worked in the rubber plant. They managed to survive and they testified at the war crimes trials (at which Wurster was acquitted) about the conditions in the plant:

"Far from enjoying any protection because of their employment in Buna (the plant) the inmates were worked to death. Even during the construction stage the I.G. foremen adapted the SS 'work tempo'--for instance the unloading of cement at a trot. One day in 1944 a large group of arriving inmates were greeted with a speech in which they were told

that they were now in the concentration camp of the I.G. Farben-Industrie. They had come not in order to live there, but to 'perish in concrete.' This welcoming speech referred to an I.G. Farben practice of throwing the corpses of inmates into ditches which had been dug for cables. These corpses were then covered as concrete was poured over them."

Such were the conditions which Carl Wurster, present Chairman of Badische, permitted to exist in the plant over which he had authority.

Today, Wurster's firm, the Badische Anilin and Soda Fabrik, owns several American subsidiaries, among them Computron, Inc., of Worcester, Massachusetts (so reports the New York Times). Furthermore, Wurster's company is in partnership with the Dow Chemical Corporation in a chemical plant in Freeport, Texas called the Dow Badische Chemical Co.

Dow Chemical is the 52nd largest U.S. Corporation and it appears to be controlled by the Dow family of Midland, Michigan.

Thus the man who cooperated thoroughly with the Nazis, not only in the manufacture of armaments for war, but in the manufacture and delivery of the gas which was used to kill millions, is wealthier and more powerful under U.S. tutelage than he ever was under the Nazis.

We've not only permitted him to remain in possession of the wealth he acquired through calculated genocide, we've taken him into industrial partnership in the Great Society.

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April 15, 1965
Jack Minnis