

Powell Speeches

Lewis F. Powell Jr. Papers

2-27-1969

Radical Left Movement

Lewis F. Powell Jr

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.law.wlu.edu/powellspeeches

Part of the Law and Society Commons

Recommended Citation

Lewis F. Powell Jr. Papers, box 117/folder 21

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Lewis F. Powell Jr. Papers at Washington and Lee University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Powell Speeches by an authorized administrator of Washington and Lee University School of Law Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact christensena@wlu.edu.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	S. F. Sanger
VICE-PRESIDENT	Dave Carson
Secretary	Julian O. Winn
TREASURER	John Webb

MEMBERS

NIS Manufacturing Co. Imperial Processing Co. R. G. Webb Insurance Agency Economy Auto & Home Supply Ripberger Furniture Co., Inc. Kenbridge Manufacturing & Supply Co., Inc. Railway Handle Corp. Kenbridge Hardware Co. Fidelity National Bank R. Maclin Smith Pharmacy Farmers Cooperative Fertilizer Purchasers Inc. Bagley's Garage Inc. Imperial Briquett Corp. Virginia Telephone & Telegraph Co. Barnes Manufacturing & Supply Co. Kenbridge Furniture Co. L. H. Wingfield Roofing & Metal Co. Barker's Shoe Shop **Russell's Florist** Dr. H. B. Showalter Dr. Warner Ball Dr. Dan Baugh KenLea Crafts Inc. Carson Motor Co. Lunenburg Post

Bottled Gas Corp. Blackstone Broadcasting Corp. Harris Dept. Store Oakley & Lee Dept. Store Nottoway Publishing Co., Inc. **Bill's Super Market** Peebles Dept. Store Parts Service Co. Kenbridge Milling Co. Modern Wood Products Co. E. S. Roby Smyth's Frozen Foods Virginia Electric & Power Co. E. G. Jove Jeweler G. B. Bridgforth Kenbridge Locker Plant John & Margie's Auto Treat **O.K.** Warehouse Kenbridge Drug Co. Free State Laundry & Cleaners Inc. Kenbridge-Victoria Dispatch Pinchbeck's Radio & TV Service **B&D** Restaurant **Blackwell Turner Insurance** Smith's Barber Shop The Columns Virginia Farm Bureau

Kenbridge Chamber of Commerce

CITIZENSHIP AWARD NIGHT

Thursday, February 27th, 1969

KENBRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kenbridge, Virginia

THE ANNUAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Is presented to show appreciation by the citizens of our friendly and progressive town for outstanding contributions of ideas, time and effort to make Kenbridge a better place to work and live.

The 1969 Award is presented to

JAMES S. BAGLEY, JR. Chairman

1969 CITIZENSHIP AWARD PROGRAM

KENBRIDGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

INVOCATION Rev. Doyle Moore
DINNER
WELCOME
INTRODUCTION OF HEAD TABLE President
REPORT FOR 1968 President
INTRODUCTION OF AWARD CHAIRMAN President
PURPOSE OF AWARD
PRESENTATION
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER W. Roland Walker
SPEAKER Lewis F. Powell, Jr.
ADJOURN

51/167 2/24/69

Chamber of Commerce Kenbridge, Virginia February 27, 1969 Lewis F. Powell, Jr.

RADICAL LEFTIST MOVEMENT

- I. The New Left
 - (a) Old Left Communist Party
 - (b) Conglomeration of New Left groups (Exhibit A)
 - (c) Campus confrontation tactics.
 - (1) Berkeley, Columbia, San Francisco State, Wisconsin
 - (2) Duke (Exhibit B)
 - (3) Swarthmore (actual demands)

II. Major Leftist Radical Movement

- (a) World-wide students and intellectuals tactics same in Paris, Tokyo, U.S.
- (b) Objectives
 - (1) Destruction of representative government
 - (2) Participatory democracy i.e. totalitarian (Castro, Mao Tse-tung, Ho Chi Minh.
- (c) Tactical Communist objective anti-Vietnam War
 - (1) FBI documents (Exhibit C)

III. Some Hopeful Bigns

- (a) Nixon administration wiretapping, ABM system, more realistic re Communism.
- (b) New York Times, Washington Post and even Drew Pearson (Exhibit D)
- (c) Notre Dame (Exhibit E) Nixon endorsement
- IV. <u>Conclusion</u>. (Exhibit F)

Exhibit A

What is the New Left?

What is the organizational structure of the New Left? It is difficult to identify, as it is essentially a conglomeration of organizations, groups and individuals. The principal components are, however, well-known. They include Students for Democratic Society, W.E.B. DuBois Clubs, Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Progressive Labor Party and a host of so-called peace organizations. Black Power militant groups must also be included.

Perhaps the most effective of these is the misnamed Students for Democratic Society, with chapters on most of the major college campuses. Appropriately, its daily newsletter is named <u>Fire Bomb</u>. J. Edgar Hoover says that SDS is supported by the Communist Party, and in turn SDS "supports Communist objectives and tactics."*

*U.S. News & World Report, May 20, 1968, p. 40.

Exhibit C

Excerpts from New Leftist Document Obtained by FBI

The BBI obtained a document, distributed to 327 Anti-Vietnam War groups in 1968, containing an elaborate program for sabotage of Selective Service offices across the country.

The document is primarily important because it discusses the progression from moderate liberalism to the ultimate goal of "radicalization" of enough Americans to overthrow our system. The progression is from peaceful demonstrations to unlawful demonstrations, sit-ins and the like; and then to sabotage and insurrection.

The following quotes are illustrative of the flavor of this conspiratorial document:

"The history of the movement of opposition to the war in Vietnam is the history of the radicalization of an ever-increasing number of white middle-class Americans."

"Meaningful change must come from without through grassroots organizations which challenge the legitimacy of, and ultimately the existence of, present political institutions."

"Our (SDS) strategy became clear: the disruption, dislocation and destruction of the military's access to the manpower, intelligence, and resources of our universities. Our tactics: a varied series of local confrontations with campus military and para-military operations, hopefully escalating into student strikes. . . ."

"Especially in smaller towns and villages where many draft boards are relatively old frame structures and where police patrols are spotty, simple molotov cocktails can be thrown through windows from side streets resulting in the same extensive damage witnessed in Newark and in Detroit, . . ."

"What the radical movement needs now is a discussion regarding selection of targets and the anticipated effects of various tactics. This is not to say that this level of violent obstruction can be discussed publicly by organizations as organizations. Of course, it cannot. The success of such a program, which really can obstruct Selective Service, depends on total secrecy and total decentralization. At most a bare handful of people in a city here or in a community there should be aware of the actions of others in the same city or community. If someone is arrested for firebombing a local board in Boston, he cannot be brutalized by the people into revealing operations in New York, in Chicago, or in Sacramento."

"Individuals who will be committed to this type of direct obstruction of the military will not be gloryseeking idealists. They will most likely be (if they are to be successful) highly motivated meticulously calculating and thoroughly dedicated men and women who have analyzed "the dilemma" at the beginning of 1968, and have concluded that this is what has to be done. They will be ordinary students, professors, community workers, nine-to-five office workers, teachers, etc., who lead "normal" lives and who carry on "normal" public and private relasionships

C3

but who (perhaps at intervals of 3 to 5 months) will destroy property of Selective Service or will engage in some form of harrassment of its employees.

Exhibit D-2

The universities are the first target. In a lead editorial, the Washington Post - usually tolerant of deviant conduct - recently said:

> "The (New Leftists) . . . regard the universities as the soft spot in a society they are trying to bring down. . . The rebels are out of touch with and do not understand the principles of democracy. . . The language they talk is that of anarchy. . . They are totally at war with everything this country has ever stood for."*

^{*}Washington Post, May 14, 1968. A student publication at the University of California, <u>The Berkeley Barb</u>, states the New Leftist view as follows: "The universities cannot be reformed; they must be abandoned or closed down. They should be used as bases for action against society, but never taken seriously." New York Times Magazine Section, May 18, 1968, p. 104.

New York Times, February 18, 1969

NotreDameGivesWarning

Force by Protesters Barred By JOHN LEO

Special to The New York Times

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Feb. 17 —The president of the University of Notre Dame warned today of on-the-spot expulsion for any student or faculty member who disrupts normal campus operations.

"Anyone or any group that substitutes force for rational persuasion, be it violent or nonviolent," said the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, "will be given 15 minutes of meditation to cease and desist."

At that point, he said, demonstrators would be asked for campus identity cards. Those with cards would immediately be suspended and given five minutes more to cease demonstrating before being expelled from the university. Those without cards would be presumed to be nonmembers of the university community and would be subject to arrest as trespassers.

'Stand Must Be Made'

"Without the law," said Father Hesburgh, "the university is a sitting duck for any small group from outside or inside that wishes to destroy it, to incapacitate it, to terrorize it at whim. Somewhere a stand must be made."

Father Hesburgh's statement came in an eight-page open letter to faculty and students. He said the letter reflected "a clear mandate" from the university community to draw a line between orderly demonstrations and obstructive tactics.

The letter came three months after small groups of students obstructed access to on-campus recruiters from Dow Chemical and the Central Intelligence Agency, and a week after some students forced their way into a campus building to show stag movies that had been withdrawn from a student-sponsore conference on pronography and the law.

"No one wants the forces of law on this or any other campus," Father Hesburgh wrote, "but it some necessitate it, as a last and dismal alternative to anarchy and mob tyranny, let them shoulder the blame instead of receiving the synpathy of a community they would hold at bay."

"We cannot allow," he said, "a small minority to impose their will on the majority who have spoken regarding the university's style of life; we cannot allow a few to substitute force of any kind for persuasion to accept their personal idea of what is right and proper."

"The last thing a shaken society needs is more shaking." he said. "The last thing a noisy, turbulent and disintegrating community needs is more noise, turbulence and disintegration. Understanding and analysis of social ills cannot be conducted in a boiler factory. Complicated social mechanisms, out of joint, are not adjusted with sledge hammers." "All I tried to say," Father Hesburgh added in an interview, "is that we welcome and protect orderly dissent, but we're not going to let anybody. destroy the place."

Exhibit E

Concluding Remarks

The question most frequently asked is what can responsible citizens do to reverse the trend towards anarchy. There is, of course, no dramatic or easy answer. Yet, it is discinctly possible, unless the apathetic majority soon asserts itself, that the New Leftist minority - with its fierce hatred and utter ruthlessness - will destroy the most cherished values of western civilization.

There are many pressing needs in this country and worldwide - which we cannot discuss tonight. I do not minimize any of them. I do say that none can be met - indeed there will be no opportunity for enduring social progress unless we preserve an ordered society, governed by the rule of law.

Thus, the first and overriding priority, is revitalizing the rule of law. This means the meeting of lawlessness with appropriate force to put it down - whether it be conventional crime, sit-ins on the campus or riots in the streets; it means taking a stand against civil disobedience in all of its forms; and it also means insistence upon the orderly processes of our democratic system, rather than supine toleration of marching mobs of mindless demonstrators.

The law abiding, responsible citizens of this country - and these are an overwhelming majority of our people of all races - have been sitting mutely on the sidelines while varying shades of revolutionaries are tearing apart the fabric of our free society.

The time has come for the majority to assert itself, to demand their elected officials, ministers, educators and opinion makers in the media respect and preserve the honored codes of civilized man, and abandon their excessive tolerance of the demands and conduct of the radical extremists.

The great American majority has seemed to be too intimidated or too apathetic to speak out against the New Left tyranny, and against those who justify and encourage it. If this silence and inaction continue much longer, what has happened to other civilizations in history can and will happen to ours.