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EDWARD A. YUZIUK - EDITOR & PUBLISHER
 CAROLYN R. YUZIUK - ASSOCIATE EDITOR
 MISS PATSY BRIGGS - OFFICE MANAGER
 FLOYD GEOUGE - PRODUCTION

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**SENATOR
 SAM ERVIN
 SAYS**



WASHINGTON -- In recent months, with each new discovery about Federal data banks and their collection, storage, and use of information about citizens, public concern has grown about the serious questions of individual privacy and constitutional rights.

The Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, of which I am Chairman, has received countless letters from interested persons all over the country urging that the Subcommittee schedule hearings to consider the impact of these data programs upon individual rights.

In early September, the Subcommittee scheduled a new series of hearings on this subject for early October, but it soon became apparent that the pressures for action by Congress on end-of-the-term legislation required postponement of these hearings. At the present time, it is anticipated that these data bank hearings will be held in late February.

The purpose of the hearings is fourfold: First, to learn what Government data banks have been developed; second, how far they are already computerized or automated; third, what constitutional rights, if any, are affected by them; and fourth, what overall legislative controls, if any, are required.

Recordkeeping is as old as recorded history, and there is nothing new in the fact that governments and societies engage in surveillance, blacklisting, and subtle reprisal for unpopular political or social views. Men have always had to contend with the memories of other men. In this country, however, we are blessed with a Constitution which undertakes to secure to all citizens certain rights of privacy, and this applies to the arbitrary use of recordkeeping and information power of government against the individual.

In spite of these guarantees, the advance of technology has been quietly, but steadily, endowing officials with the power which accompanies computers and data banks and scientific techniques of managing information. The computer has now given the Government the power to take note of anything, whether it be right or wrong, relevant to any purpose or not, and to retain it forever. It is unfortunate, but true, that this revolution is coming about under outdated laws and executive orders governing the recordkeeping and the concepts of privacy which are relevant to another era.

Consider these facts: The Civil Service Commission maintains a "security file" of more than two million cards in electrically powered rotary cabinets. Its larger "security investigation index" contains more than 10 million cards relating to personnel investigations made by the Commission and other agencies. The Department of the Army and other military departments have stored vast amounts of personal data on individuals which is said to be relevant to possible civil disturbances and subversion. The Secret Service has created its computerized data bank to protect high Government officials from harm and to protect federal buildings from possible damage. The Bureau of Customs has installed its control data processing intelligence network which contains records about suspects entering the United States.

No one would deny that the Government of such a populous and complex society should not avail itself of the efficiency offered by computers and scientific data management techniques. Governmental agencies must, as Congress has charged them, acquire, store, and process economically the information it obtains from citizens for administrative purposes to deal with a mobile society and the misdeeds of individuals who resort to violence and who violate the law.

All of this is to simply say that we must update our laws to keep in balance the need for information and the use to which it is put. This is the area of concern as the Subcommittee seeks to examine data bank surveillance.

**Apollo II To
 Be Shown**

Public school students from Yancey County have been invited to see the Apollo return space vehicle when it is exhibited in Raleigh December 31 through January 4. The display will be on Halifax Street just north of the Capitol and will be open from 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. daily.

State School Superintendent Craig Phillips has encouraged all school administrative units to consider scheduling school-sponsored trips to Raleigh even though the exhibit comes during a holiday period. "As far as we know," he said, "this will be the only chance for North Carolinians to have this learning opportunity brought to our own soil. Science-oriented students and teachers, in particular, should find the display especially educational."

Complete with space burns, moon rock samples, and used astronaut suits, the Apollo space craft is being taken to all 50 state capitals. North Carolina is the 38th stop on the year-long NASA tour.

Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin were the Apollo II crew members in the historic July 1969 lunar mission that first placed a man on the moon.

Gets Option

Brad Ragan, Inc. has acquired an option expiring February 5, 1971 to purchase for \$2 million worth of cash and notes the group of companies owned by T. H. Underdahl operating as Nelson Tire Service, Inc. This was announced jointly today by Bradley E. Ragan, president of Brad Ragan, Inc. and T. H. Underdahl, principal stockholder and president of the privately owned Nelson group.

Nelson Tire Service, Inc., founded in the early 1900's, now operates throughout the midwest tire replacement and retreading centers which service heavy, off-the-road vehicles used in the construction and mining industries. It also operates retail tire and appliance stores.

According to Mr. Ragan, the combination would give Brad Ragan, Inc. a broader geographical base, should afford more operating economies, and would enhance the company's financial structure significantly. Also, the company's management and personnel organization would be further strengthened.



straight talk

By Tom Anderson
THE PEACE OF CHRIST

How ironic, how unBiblical, how unChristian that peace-loving men of good will now look to such unGodly instruments of the Devil as the United Nations for peace and brotherhood. Peace and brotherhood reside not in world government, treaties, power pacts, or ecumaniacal church movements, but within ourselves.

The Bible believes in law and order, in war, and in capital punishment (Gen. 9:6; Exodus 21:12; Numbers 35:16-18, 30, 31; Matthew 22:6, 7; Romans 13:4; Hebrews 12:20).

Pacifists bring not peace, but war. They offer only supine acquiescence to evil. Christ was not a pacifist. He was constantly surrounded by soldiers, yet He never once admonished a soldier to take off his uniform or to refuse to fight for his country. Most of our present-day "pacifists" are phonies, Pharisees.

"Peace be with you" does not mean thou shalt not be obliterated by atomic holocaust. "Peace be with you" means not the peace of the dungeon or the slave state, not the peace of the firing squad or the graveyard, not the peace of every successful dictatorship. It means the *peace within you*.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace in men with whom He is well pleased (literal translation). (cf. Heb. 11:6)

Our overwhelming problem is not the atom but man—the individual man.

Prior to his second coming, the only way we'll ever have permanent world "peace" is to surrender to the Comrats: the peace of the prison, the peace after the firing squad has fired, the peace of the mass grave—that's peace, Communist style.

The only true peace the world will ever know is the peace of Christianity. Christianity, not food—Christianity, not the United Nations—is the hope of the world, and the only hope.

George Bernard Shaw, English critic and writer, said: "After reviewing the world of human events for 60 years, I am prepared to say that I see no way out of the world's misery except the way Christ would take were he to undertake the work of a modern statesman."

The peace Christ often talked about was not the peace preached by our pacifists and hippies. In Matthew 10:34 Christ said: "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth; I come not to send peace; but a sword." Christ's "sword" was for cleaving sharply between right and wrong, between God and Satan. Christ's "peace" was not between men and nations. Christ was speaking of one's individual peace, the peace of mind and heart to be achieved through oneness with Him. In John 14:27 he said: "Peace I leave with you, my peace, I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." The Prince of Peace knew no peace during his short time on earth. He was reviled by the crowds, betrayed and disavowed by His Disciples, spat upon, beaten, scourged and crucified by the mob.

At the Christmas season, to most of us, Jesus ranks right behind Santa Claus.

Christmas is supposed to be not for Santa Claus, but for Christ. Christmas is not Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer, and his sleigh, but Christ and His cross.

There never was a time when Christianity was acceptable to the world. Today, as in the past, Christians are a small minority. Most people not only are not Christians, most people don't even know what it means to be a Christian. Most Americans, it seems to me, think of "Christian" as meaning a non-Jew, who goes to church, or maybe just a non-Jew, period. In America today, even many Protestant clergymen are not Christians. For, according to several recent polls, most of them do not believe in Christ's divinity, His virgin birth, His miracles, His resurrection and His promise of eternal life. They think he was a "good guy." Actually, he was either the divine son of God, or else He was history's greatest faker and biggest liar. There can be no in-between. If He was what He said He was, then He still is. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Rom. 6:23)—American Way Features

**GREETINGS
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