

Letters

ments, and that through their use of proper investigative methods they have a better understanding of how Mr. Wright operated.

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Editor's note: The series on funeral plans was meant only as an informative series about the problems some local people have encountered and not meant to place blame with one person or another. Care was taken to include statements from each side about allegations made by the other. To not give Mr. Wright a chance to make his statements would have left the series without proper balance.

Dam boondoggle

Editor:
Utah's senators oppose "immediate study of Jordanelle dam site" (Herald, Aug. 26), in spite of many accurate geologic studies which stress that this dam site is riddled with faults. Sherri Petersen, formerly with the Bureau of Reclamation, told the Bureau that her geologic studies substantiated those of Leon Hansen, in condemning the Jordanelle site. Petersen said (Herald, Aug. 27) she doesn't believe the site is safe for a dam, "but we were told not to say that."

I worked for the U.S. Army Engineer Office making geologic studies of the potential dam site along the Ouachita River in Arkansas. The federal agency for which I worked insisted on the truth concerning the geologic hazards (if any) existing at the dam site. The Army Engineers accepted my report with enthusiasm and redesigned the dam. I fail to understand the reluctance on the part of the Bureau of Reclamation to accept the truth of the geologic recommendations and to act accordingly.

Two more experts have recently claimed (Herald, Aug. 29) that the Jorda-

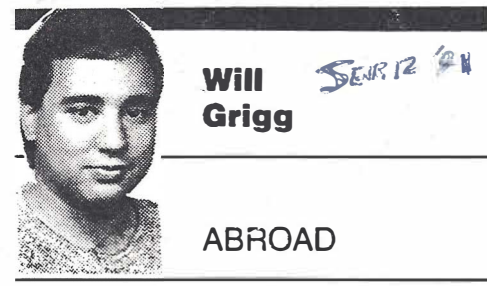
No communists? Now what?

Since the collapse of the Berlin Wall nearly two years ago, many liberals — eager to divert attention from their own record and unreasonably persuaded of their own cleverness — have asked, "What will conservatives do now that they no longer have communism to worry about?"

As Chesterton said, there is no sweeter fate than to become the forgotten foe of a long-forgotten heresy. Conservatives are busy basking in the vindication of history, but we will make time to remind liberals of their culpable foolishness with regard to history's most vicious tyranny.

If the apparent collapse of communism in Russia bodes ill for career anti-communists, what does it imply for America's quisling Left? Gus Hall, long-time leader of America's Marxist Fifth Column, is inconsolable. The attempted Stalinist coup did produce a brief windfall for Hall's recruiting efforts (membership in the American Communist Party was suddenly sexy again), but the failure of the putsch has given way to what Hall describes as "A Soviet version of McCarthyism."

Unlike the despots Hall has served so selflessly, Joe McCarthy never killed or imprisoned a single soul, and his accusations (if frequently unfounded) were falsifiable. Hall's moral sensibility was not inflamed by Stalin's show trials and bloody purges in the 1930s, or by any of the plentiful atrocities committed by Stalin's successors. He laments the over-



Will Grigg

ABROAD

due house-cleaning taking place in the Soviet ruling elite, the apparent repudiation of the philosophy and instruments of power that made communism a murderous reality.

Hall is 80 years old, and he will shortly die and go to hell. In the meantime we are left with this desperate affirmation of Hall's faith: "Socialism, or communism is not dead." Hall confidently predicts that the Soviet Communist party, like its offspring in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, will go underground, perhaps to "rule from below." This is why Russia's hope resides in what Hall (and Western liberals, for that matter) would dismiss as "McCarthyism."

After the final defeat of Nazism — which for all its tyranny and viciousness was a demonstrably lesser evil than communism — the Nuremberg Tribunal was established for the purpose of exposing the criminal conspiracy that was Germany's National Socialist Party. De-Nazification was conducted on the basis of guilt by association: one cannot freely associate with a criminal elite without

incurring liability for that elite's crimes.

It is a peculiar thing that in defeated totalitarian societies, nobody ever has any knowledge of the crimes committed by the regime.

In "Showa: An Inside History of Hirohito's Japan," Tessa Morris-Suzuki collects first-person accounts of life in WWII Japan from people who swear that they never supported the emperor and had no idea that their country was engaged in a brutal war of conquest.

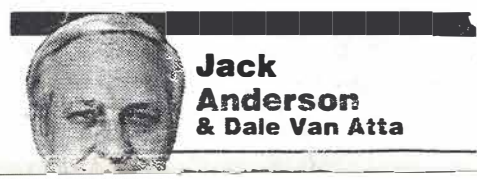
The attitude of Germany in the immediate aftermath of WWII could be summarized in the familiar catch-phrase frequently uttered by Sgt. Schultz on "Hogan's Heroes": "I see nothing! I know nothing — nothing!" The Soviet Communist Party, which is defeated in economic and ideological terms, must not be given the luxury of hiding behind what we could call the "Schultz Defense."

Totalitarians presume to control every aspect of life in the societies they pollute; accordingly, when totalitarian structures collapse they assume full responsibility for everything — and acquire the burden of proving their innocence with regard to the crimes committed by the regime.

The news that Russia is awash in "McCarthyism" is hopeful; it means that accounts are being settled at last. We may find ourselves buried beneath revelations that will make McCarthy's most unreasonable accusations appear modest.

Colleges loose with record of research funds

WASHINGTON — The prestigious Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore gets about \$400 million a year in federal research money, more than any other university in the country. But not all of that money goes for lofty purposes.



Jack Anderson & Dale Van Atta

created a new billing system to flag expenses that should not be billed to the government. "We do concede there was some amount of money either improperly allocated to federal research or not properly documented," O'Shea said. Th-