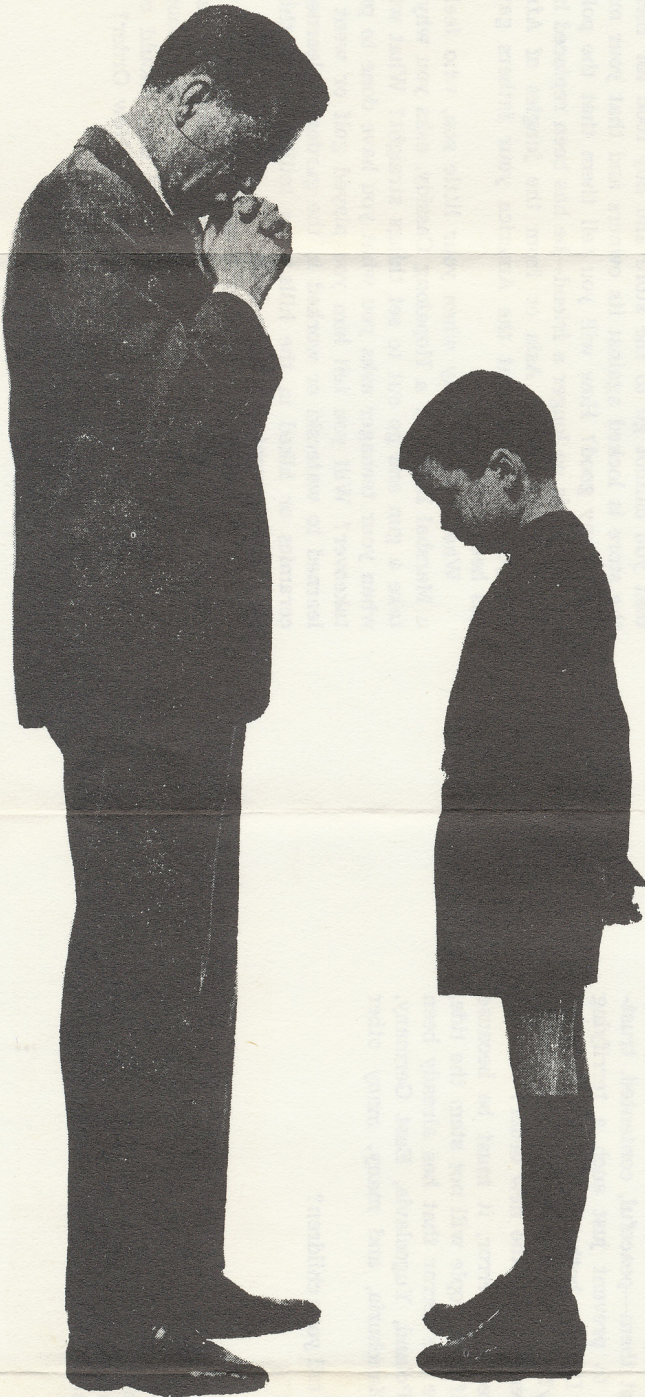


IT CAN HAPPEN HERE



“My dear son

I am so sorry you are going to have to live under Communism.

It seemed to come so quickly.

I didn't think their lies could win.

I guess we were so busy with other things.

Not enough of us spoke up for freedom when we had the chance.”



TROUBLEMAKER

He is the silent one. He never speaks up on issues. He never sounds off in the letter column of his local newspaper. He never writes his Congressman. He is quiet as a clam. How can the United States stay free . . . if all of us, like this one, withhold our opinions, our ideas, our criticisms? The silent troublemaker fails to understand this. He never dares to question an oppressive law. In his wish to offend nobody, he offends all. Freedom begins at home.

you do when the order comes to gather your children and ship them into State camps where they can become robots of the State?

Communist writings openly predict that they will seize control centers, and that the great mass of population will lie prostrate. Records show that the lawless of a nation will take this opportunity to swoop down on the helpless, motivated in part by the same drive that causes looting after floods have driven people from their homes. Can you be sure that this will not happen—especially after you read of the riots on Memorial Day in Griffith Park? There certainly was no motivation to justify attacks upon citizens and police, and the destruction of private property. How would these same people react if all law were suddenly eliminated?

Or, suppose you lived through the blood baths, and 15 years from now, your youngsters ask about the America that was. Will you tell them of the freedoms you had, the freedom to go where you wished, to do what you wished, to say what you wished? Will you tell them of the fun you had and the happiness you had? What will you say when they ask how these things happened to slip away?

Will you admit that you dismissed all efforts to halt the drift towards communism as "McCarthyism," that you helped smear everyone who tried to point out the danger?

It may seem a flight of fancy to ponder what could happen to America, but remember—the Pentagon, charged with protecting you and yours from all dangers, foreign and domestic, has already made a study as to the best time to surrender! Ponder that!

If you are a father or mother, look at your children. If they are asleep, walk in and look at them—peaceful, contented, trusting. Are you doing anything to prevent just such a terrifying picture as we have painted? Do you bother to inform yourself on the drift towards tyranny? Or do you plan to collaborate with the enemy, to "make friends" with the new order?

If America is to be spared this terror, it must be because her people have forbidden it. If the people will not stem the tide, then each American must face the terror that has already been visited upon Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, East Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Manchuria, and many, many other lands.

And, Mister, what will you tell your children?

Reprinted from The Ledger, Montrose, California
Reprints of this four-page center spread, as a single sheet printed on both sides and folded to fit a No. 10 business envelope, are available in any quantity at 50 copies for \$1.00, postpaid. Order from
AMERICAN OPINION, Belmont, Massachusetts 02178

Editorial Opinion

MOSTLY POLITICAL

By Don Carpenter

What Will You Tell Your Children?

Oftentimes, for the sake of argument, one must stipulate to certain points as facts. Let's hope that our friends who see no danger in the communist program will agree for the time being, that there is such a danger and that the danger may suddenly overcome America, just as it did Czechoslovakia. What will you tell your children?

Let's say, for the sake of argument, that the Reds assume control, they are in control of communications, they are in control of public utilities, they have slaughtered or imprisoned the police, they have clobbered resistance, and America lies prone, awaiting the blood purges that must certainly follow, enduring the terrifying period of vacuum before the calked heel of Godless communist tyranny comes smashing down.

What will you tell those youngsters clustered at your knee? How will you tell them that their nation, strong, dynamic, compassionate a few years ago, is now gone? How will you tell them that you cannot go to the store and buy food for them because the store is locked against its owners and that your money is no longer any good? How will you tell them that the policeman on the corner is no longer a friend—he has been replaced by a tyrant from the steppes of Asia or from the jungles of Africa? How will you tell them that the America your fathers gave to you, has been lost?

What will you say when your little son, who feels you are a Marshal Dillon or a Hopalong Cassidy, asks you why you don't take a gun and go out to set things straight? What will you say when your teenager asks you what you have done to prevent this takeover? Will you tell him you played golf or went fishing or learned to waterski or worked in the garden or learned to make ceramics or hiked in the hills or a million other things, while your nation went down the drain?

What will you say when these children, whose lives have already been blueprinted for them, ask what they should do? How will you advise them when they ask if they should resist? What will you say if they ask you if they should continue to adore God, despite the ultimatum of the New Order? What will