

BROADSIDE BR 451

THE INVESTIGATOR: A POLITICAL SATIRE IN DOCUMENTARY FORM

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WRITTEN BY REUBEN SHIP AND FEATURING JOHN DRAINIE BROADSIDE RECORDS BR 451

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BROADSIDE BR 451

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# THE INVESTIGATOR

A POLITICAL SATIRE IN DOCUMENTARY FORM

Written By Reuben Ship and Featuring John Drainie

The popularity of The Investigator in the United States is a gratifying sign that the American people are no more complacent about witch-hunting than their ancestors were three hundred years ago in Salem, Massachusetts. Until now, fear has temporarily immobilized them, as it did their forbears in New England. But one of the best antidotes to the paralyzing poison of fear is laughter. I hope the reader of The Investigator will agree that its barbs of ridicule are not misdirected.

In the present version The Investigator is not, strictly speaking, a radio play, although the story is told almost entirely in dialogue. Nor has any attempt been made to turn the radio play into a novel. The published version can best be described, I think, as a narrative told in sound. It should be read with one's ears, so to speak. as well as one's eyes.

This is Mike Garson. I've got to talk to you. "  
"Mike, my plane leaves in thirty minutes."

"I'm in the lobby."

"Mike, we went all over it this afternoon."

"Just give me five minutes."

"It's no use, Mike. I'm going through with it. I thought I made that pretty clear."

"I met with the Committee after I left you."

"Oh."

"They asked me to see you again."

"It won't do any good. Good-bye, Mike."

"Wait, don't hang up." "Look, we can't talk over the phone. Let me come up."

"I'm leaving for the airport."

"I'll drive out there with you."

"Mike, what's the use? I told . . ."

"Oh, all right. Meet me out front."

"You've got to call off the hearings."

"It's too late now,"

"Even if I wanted to. You saw the spread it got in the papers."

"You can dream up an excuse! You're an expert at it. A postponement -- illness -- anything!"

"Save your breath, Mike."

"You realize what'll happen if you get yourself out on a limb?"

"I've been out there before -- way out."

"This time the committee won't go along with you."

"I run the committee."

"It doesn't run me."

"Do you run the party too? One more error and they'll let you have it."

"You're a smart politician, Mike, but you've guessed wrong before."

"I'm not guessing. I'm warning you I'm speaking for the party now. You're going too far!"

"I've heard that before."

"This time it isn't just some crackpot college pinko,"  
"or some lousy departmental assistant."

This man is too big!"

"No one is too big!"

is no one so high or so low

"There

as to make him immune to investigation where there is the slightest trace of evidence that his actions or beliefs are detrimental to the interests of this country!"

"That kind of talk is all right for the press, but . . ."

"I'm not just talking, Mike,

I'm going ahead with this. The committee can't stop me. The party can't stop me. Nothing can stop me."

\* \* \*

"Fasten your safety belts, please. Fasten your safety belts."

"Your attention, please. This is Captain Jarvis, chief pilot speaking."

We have developed some trouble in one of our starboard motors, but there is no cause for alarm. I repeat, there is no cause for alarm."

"However, we are bucking severe headwinds and having difficulty maintaining altitude. I have decided to turn back rather than continue with one motor not functioning. We regret the delay but arrangements are being made for you to board another plane upon landing. Thank you."

"Oh, miss."

"Yes, sir?"

"How long will it take us to get back?"

"About four hours, sir."

"That means we'll be delayed almost eight."

I must send a wire."

"You'll have time to do that at the terminal, sir."

"That'll be too late. I'll write out my message, and you ask the pilot to radio it back to the terminal and ask them to send it."

"I'm afraid that's impossible."

"You ask the pilot."

"I'm sorry, sir. It's against all regulations. No personal messages . . ."

"Do you know who I am?"

"Yes, sir,"

exceptions can be made."

"but no

"What is your name?"

"I'm Miss Davidson."

"Miss Davidson, this message concerns an investigation I am conducting. It is of the utmost urgency."

"I don't doubt that, sir, but . . ."  
"You acknowledge the importance of my message and yet you refuse to convey my request to the pilot?"  
"It won't do any good, sir."  
"You realize that only one interpretation can be put upon your refusal, Miss Davidson?"  
"I'm very sorry, sir, but . . ."  
"It seems to me that you are deliberately obstructing an official investigation that is of vital concern to every loyal citizen of this country."  
"No, sir, I'm not,"  
"But the regulations . . ."  
"I'm aware that there are regulations, Miss Davidson. I'm also aware that you won't be the first individual who has hidden behind so-called regulations and used them as a device to further interests directly opposed to those of the majority of loyal citizens of our country. Your uncooperative attitude can only cast the gravest doubts on your own loyalty, Miss Davidson."  
"I'll speak to the pilot, if you wish, but . . ."  
"We're on fire!"  
"Good day, sir. My name is Martin. Inspector Martin of the Immigration Service."  
"Immigration?" "I don't understand. Where am I?"  
"It's quite all right. You're safe now. Will you follow me, sir?"  
"Where are we" "I don't seem to remember."  
"You'll be all right in a moment. You've had a nasty shock."  
"The plane!" "Did we crash?"  
"Yes, you crashed,"  
"Oh! I'm alive! I'm alive!"  
"I've got to send a wire!"  
"There's no need for that now, sir."  
"This is very important. Where's a phone I can use?"  
"There's no phone, sir."  
"There must be a phone around here somewhere. What is this dump anyway? I can't see anything. It's so foggy."  
"The fog will lift soon."  
Where are the other passengers?  
How many survivors were there?"  
"There were no survivors, sir."  
"You mean I'm the only one?"  
"There were no survivors."  
"What are you talking about?"  
"Are you crazy? I'm here . . . I'm alive, aren't I?"  
"Come on now, I want a straight answer. No double talk. You know who I am?"  
"Yes, sir," "I know all about you."  
"Well, let's have it then."  
It would be a lot easier for you if you figure it out for yourself."  
"What is your name?"  
"Inspector Martin of the Immigration Service."  
"All right, Martin," "You say you know all about me. Then you must be aware of the importance of the work I'm engaged in. In view of this, your refusal to cooperate fully, coming as it does from a government officer, can only cast grave doubts on your motives. I can assure you this incident will be investigated thoroughly. Now you'll make things a lot easier on yourself if you answer my questions in a straightforward manner. Any attempt at evasion on your part can only lead me to infer that you have something to conceal.  
Now then -- I've been in a plane crash. I ask you where I am -- how I got here -- where the other passengers are -- and you tell me there were no survivors.  
"Oh -- I see,"  
"Yes."  
"But I had so much to do yet."  
"Why me? Why? All my plans . . ."  
"I know how you feel, sir. Everybody feels like that at first," "But you'll snap out of it."  
"After all," "you're one of the lucky ones. You're Up Here. Of course, you've only got a temporary visa, but I'm sure you won't have any trouble in getting a permanent visa at the Main Gate."  
"The Main Gate?"  
"Yes. Just follow me, sir."  
I'm taking you to the Head Gatekeeper."  
"Well, it's about time, Martin."  
"Sorry I'm late, sir. I was delayed at the border."

"You're always delayed at the border, Martin. Why don't you tell these immigrants where they are right off, instead of beating around the bush?"  
"I've found it's better to break it gently,"  
"Regulations don't forbid it, and . . ."  
"I know all about regulations,"  
"I've been Gatekeeper for a long time. It's gross inefficiency. You young fellows think just because you've got civil service jobs you can get away with anything. When I started in the Immigration Service, we had to keep on our toes, believe me. I don't know why I stay on this job. No efficiency . . . no cooperation. I ought to hand in my resignation!"  
"But I won't. I won't give some people the satisfaction."  
"Sir . . . I have an applicant here,"  
"Oh yes, yes, yes,"  
"Here's the file, sir,"  
"Applicant for permanent entry 578293B021,"  
"Where is he?" "Oh, there you are!" "Welcome, welcome."  
"My name is . . ."  
"Yes, yes. I know who you are -- it's all down here in the record. Now if you'll just sign this . . . right here . . ."  
"What is this document?" "Application for permanent entry. Sign right here."  
"There you are."  
"Fine, fine," "Martin will show you to your quarters."  
"This way, sir,"  
"Just a minute. Why are we going this way? Isn't that the Main Gate over there?"  
"Oh, you can't go through that yet,"  
"Why not? I signed that document."  
"But that's just an application. Before you can go through the Main Gate we've got to investigate you."  
"Investigate me?"  
"You'll be investigated thoroughly by the Permanent Investigating Committee on Permanent Entry. I am the Chairman."  
"And what happens if I do not get a clean bill of health from this committee of yours?"  
"In that case it means" -- "deportation!"  
"Deportation? To where?"  
"Why,"  
"Down There!"  
"I want to state at this time," most emphatically, "that I refuse to submit to any investigation by any committee whose members for all I know may be completely unqualified to pass judgment on me."  
"My good sir, Are you questioning the integrity of my committee?"  
"I make no allegations. I am making a statement on policy. But you've got to be investigated."  
"I raise no objections to an investigation. In fact I welcome an investigation. My record is clean. I am perfectly willing to subject that record to the scrutiny of any competent body. Before I do so, however, I must be satisfied as to the competence of that body. If you will submit to me a list of the names of persons eligible to sit on this tribunal together with a list of alternate nominees, I will inform you of my approval or disapproval in each individual case, and we can then determine the composition of the committee."  
"But, my dear sir, You can't select the committee that is going to investigate you. That's unheard of Up Here!"  
"Well, it's not unheard of where I come from!"  
"You're a newcomer. You can't just barge in here and expect to change things overnight."  
"I am aware of that, sir,"  
"I assure you that I have no wish to disrupt the work of your committee."  
I am merely making this request in order to provide a safeguard which will guarantee fair play and justice.  
Nor am I attempting in any way to put any pressure of any kind on either you or the members of your committee. However, may I point out that your refusal to even consider it might be construed wrongly, and might lead to speculation that certain members of your committee fear that their impartiality might be challenged.  
"May we enter?"  
"Why, certainly, certainly,"  
"Forgive the intrusion. My companions and I come unannounced, but we are here on a matter of grave import."  
"Come right in."

"My name is Oates. Titus Oates. Doctor of Philosophy. This is a rare privilege. I've read about your career with great interest. Doctor Oates."

In a certain sense we pursued the same line of endeavour ... as did my companions. May I present

Torquemada, Inquisitor-General of the Spanish Inquisition?"

"I am honoured, sir,"

I'm very happy to make your acquaintance, Mr. Torquemada."

"And this," "is another distinguished member of our — ah — profession, so to speak — Mr. Cotton Mather, formerly of Salem, Massachusetts."

"I bid you welcome, sir,"

"Cotton Mather!"

"Well!"

This is a privilege."

"And this gentleman "is the distinguished jurist, Baron George Jeffreys."

"How do you do, Judge?"

"Your servant, sir."

"I see his Lordship's name is not as familiar to you as is mine and that of Torquemada and Mather. His Lordship's fame would have been instantly known to you had I presented him to you as 'The Hanging Judge' ... formerly of the Bloody Assizes."

"Oh, the Hanging Judge!"

"This is a pleasure. I should have remembered the name, Judge."

"No need for apology," "So few people do,"

"The devil take you, Oates,"

"I've had enough of your jibes. The fame of the Bloody Assizes will live long after your confounded Popish Plot will have been forgotten. Miserable little sneak! Informer!"

"You dare call me that! Butcher!"

"My friends,"

"I beg of you."

We shall be

giving our new friend a false impression."

"Up here we live in peace and brotherly love,"

"Don't apologize,"

You should hear what some of my pals used to call me! Well, I'm really flattered by this visit, gentlemen.

Of course, I'm not really in yet. I understand I've got to be investigated first. I'd like to ask your advice. I raised a point with the Gatekeeper in connection with ...

"The committee has already met in executive session and your proposal has been rejected."

"You seem to know a great deal about it."

"That is hardly surprising, sir. We are on the committee."

"You are?"

"We have served on it for a considerable length of time,"

I assume there won't be any obstacles to my entry?"

"None whatever, sir," "Your permanent entry will be granted."

"You constitute a majority of the committee?"

"Yes," "However, we merely serve in an advisory capacity."

"The Gatekeeper makes all final decisions,"

"We, of course," "play no small part in influencing those decisions,"

"The Gatekeeper has never, to my knowledge, used his veto,"

"And you gentlemen see eye to eye on most matters?"

"On all matters,"

"Invariably,"

"I don't want to embarrass you, gentlemen, but it does seem peculiar to find Titus Oates, an enemy of Popery, in complete agreement with Torquemada, the founder of the Inquisition."

"Your point is well taken," "But Up Here one's perspective changes. We rise above our differences."

"Say rather," "that we have submerged our differences and made common cause in the face of a treacherous and powerful enemy."

"And that enemy is ... ?"

"Down There!"

"Hmmm. I see," "A foreign power!"

"It is our high purpose to

awaken the apathetic multitudes to the imminent danger of an attack from within by this foreign power, which has never renounced its goal of complete domination."

"We believe,"

"that purpose

can best be accomplished by exposing the extent to which agents of this foreign power have infiltrated into our midst, spreading their noxious doctrine, and enlisting the aid of unsuspecting dupes in a monstrous conspiracy."

"But how have these subversive elements managed to enter?"

Who is responsible?"

"The Gatekeeper,"

"The Gatekeeper!"

"In my considered opinion," "speaking as one trained in jurisprudence, the evidence is overwhelming."

"Then why has he been permitted to remain in his present high position of trust?"

"For some time now we have been considering ways and means of exposing the Gatekeeper and forcing his resignation. We have hesitated to do so until a man could be found to take his place. Your arrival at this time is most opportune."

"Gentleman, surely you don't mean ... ?"

There is no doubt you are the man."

"I am honoured by your faith in me,"

"But I am, after all, a newcomer. Surely one of you would be better qualified."

You are familiar with the local political situation. You have studied the available evidence."

One factor outweighs all other considerations. In you we have a man who can bring to the committee's work the latest inquisitorial techniques."

Compared to you, sir, we are mere untutored novices, and we bow to your superior knowledge and experience."

"Gentlemen, I cannot find the words to express my feelings of humble gratitude at the signal honour you are conferring upon me."

"Then you accept?"

"In that case

We propose ..."

"Just a minute, Judge,"

"It

seems to me this undertaking of ours is not without certain dangers."

"We can expect to rouse some disapproval and even active opposition, but nothing so serious that we cannot cope with it."

"I wasn't thinking of the lower levels of the administration, Mr. Mather, I was referring to ..."

"You are concerned about the Chief?"

"Frankly, yes."

"You need have no fear on that score. The Chief never interferes"

"Rest assured, sir,"

"we will have a

free hand provided of course we do not overstep legal boundaries."

"In all humility I dedicate myself to the task of bringing to light the facts of this monstrous conspiracy that threatens our way of life Up Here, I shall pursue this objective, relentlessly, disregarding all attempts at intimidation by persons in high places who may be implicated by these facts; and I shall not cease until I have fixed the blame for a thousand years of treason!"

"The committee will come to order,"

"Let the record show that a full quorum of the committee is present. We have before us an application for permanent entry — 578293B021. Is the applicant present?"

"I am ready,"

"There are a number of rules ..."

"Mr. Chairman,"

"... governing the conduct ..."

"Mr. Chairman."

"... of these hearings..."

"Mr. Chairman."

"... It is our purpose ..."

"Mr. Chairman."

"... on this committee ..."

"Mr. Chairman,"

"On a point of order ..."

"Sir," "I was about to inform you of the rules."

"Sir — I believe my point of order takes precedence."

"As I understand it,"

"a point of order is usually raised in connection with procedure. Since I have not yet informed you of the rules I fail to see how a point of order is ..."

"Mr. Chairman,"

"my point of order is not raised in connection with rules of procedure. It goes much deeper than that."

... the competency of this committee to conduct an investigation. "  
"Sir, you have raised ..."  
"Please do not interrupt,"  
"But the committee has already considered your proposal ..."  
"Mr. Chairman, I must insist that I be allowed to finish my point of order without interruption from the chair."  
"Oh, very well,"

To-day I am prepared to bring more specific charges concerning the fitness of a certain member of this committee to sit in judgment upon me or any applicant."

"This is a very serious charge,"

"Mr. Chairman,"

"may I suggest you ask me against whom these charges are being preferred?"

"Ah — yes, yes," "I was about to do so. Against whom are you preferring these charges?"

"I bring these charges which, if proven — and I have no doubt that they will be fully substantiated — in which event the member of the committee who has been found to be derelict in his duty should be removed from this committee. I think you will agree to that, Mr. Chairman?"

"Certainly. Any member who has been proven to be unfit to serve on this committee will not be allowed to continue to sit upon it. But will you please state against whom you are bringing these charges?"

"Against the chairman of this committee — the Gatekeeper!"

"You charge me with unfitness?"

"Why, that is — that is — that

is preposterous!"

"Mr. Chairman,"

"Mr. Chair-

man ..."

"It's ridiculous!"

"Mr. Chairman ..."

"It's completely out of order"

"Mr. Chairman ..."

"The applicant will be seated ..."

"Mr. Chairman ..."

"... and the hearing in his case will proceed"

"Mr. Chairman ..."

"You are out of order,"

"Mr. Chairman ..."

"You are out of order!"

"Mr. Chairman,"

"I cannot accept that ruling. You stated just now, did you not, that any member of the committee who is proven to be unfit will be removed?"

"Yes, I did. However ..."

"Your statement carried the clear implication that charges of such a nature, in order to be proven or disproven, must first be fully heard."

"Yes, in the sense that ..."

"And yet when you learn that these charges are directed against yourself, you refuse arbitrarily to even hear these charges. Now I ask you, sir ... was your first statement a true statement of the position of this committee with respect to the airing of charges of unfitness in connection with any member and his consequent removal from this committee in the event such charges were found to be true; and if it is true, then is your second statement to the effect that I am out of order in preferring charges against you consistent with the first statement alluded to or did you mean in your earlier statement to exclude yourself from the category of members against whom charges can be preferred? And if that was the meaning of the statement upon what precedent do you base such a flagrantly improper ruling?"

"Well, I — I — I don't follow your question."

"Now, come,"

"You know that's a perfectly simple question. Is your statement true — the statement that proven charges of unfitness would result in removal of the member concerned?"

"The first statement?"

"Or were you lying?"

"How dare you accuse me of lying!"

"Then it was true?"

"It most certainly was,"

"Then how do you reconcile it with your present position?"

"I merely stated ..."

"You must realize that it cannot be reconciled unless, of course, you were deliberately creating a false impression."

"I deny that! I was stating the truth."

"I am glad to hear you so positive about it. If, as you say, you were telling the truth then you do not, in fact, you

cannot refuse to consider charges against any member of this committee including yourself."

"Well, that would seem to be ..."

"I am not asking you what it seems to be. I am asking you to state the position of the chair. Are you refusing now to allow me to air these charges?"

"No, no ... of course not ... that would not be consistent ... I concede that. But I am objecting on grounds of proper procedure. I am the chairman of this committee. You now propose to investigate me. Clearly as long as I am in the chair it would be most improper ..."

"I agree completely."

"Mr. Chairman,"

"Yes, Doctor Oates?"

"May I suggest that the matter would be expedited and the interests of propriety best served if you were to relinquish the chair temporarily while these charges are placed before the committee? Would this be satisfactory to the applicant?"

"I have no objection whatsoever,"

"Well ... it's completely without precedent,"

"However, if it will expedite

matters ... Doctor Oates, will you take the chair?"

"I shall consider it a privilege."

"It's most unusual,"

"You may proceed with your charges,"

"I wish to call as my first witness — Inspector Martin of the Immigration Service."

"Is Inspector Martin present?" asked Oates.

"I am, sir."

"You may proceed with your examination of the witness."

"Inspector Martin,"

"I have just a few questions. I'm sure you can answer them quite easily. Were you the officer who conducted me to the Gatekeeper's office yesterday?"

"I was."

"Were you present throughout the interview?"

"I was."

"Isn't it a fact that the Gatekeeper stated at that time that there was gross inefficiency in the Immigration Service?"

"Well, — "what he meant —"

"I am not asking you what he meant. Confine yourself to facts. Is it a fact that he said there was gross inefficiency?"

"Well, yes he did, but ..."

"Those were his exact words? Gross inefficiency."

"He did use those words but ..."

"In reference to the Immigration Service of which he is the head?"

"Yes, but if I may say so ..."

"There is no need for statements. Confine yourself to answering my questions. Now then. Did he also make a statement at that time to the effect that the way things were going in the Immigration Service you can get away with anything nowadays?"

"I think he said something like that."

"You think? Isn't it a fact that those were his exact words ... 'you can get away with anything'?"

"Well, he may have ..."

"Come now, you're hedging, Martin. Did he say it or didn't he? Yes or no?"

"Yes, he used those words,"

"Did he also make a statement to the effect

that he feels unable to cope with the disorganized state of the Immigration Service, and that he felt he should hand in his resignation? Is that true?"

"Well, that's true to an extent."

"To what extent? He complained about the disorganization in the Service?"

"Yes."

"And he made a statement about handing in his resignation?"

"Yes — he did."

"Then your answer to my previous question which was ... 'that's true to an extent' — was not a completely truthful answer?"

"Well, if you want to put it that way ..."

"I am putting it that way. Your answer to my question as to what extent the statement I attributed to the Gatekeeper is true — should have been that it is entirely true."

"Well, I suppose it should have been."

"Then you were lying!"

"No sir. I was not lying."

"Not deliberately, Inspector,"

"Let us say you were confused."

"Yes, I suppose I was,"

"On reconsidering the question then — and take all the time you want before you answer — you would say that it is entirely and completely true that the Gatekeeper made all the statements attributed to him."

"Please answer the question."

"Yes, yes, yes,"  
"It is entirely true."

\* \* \*

"Sir, you have heard the testimony of the previous witness?"

"Yes."

"Was his testimony true?"

"Well, I want to be fair to Inspector Martin ..."

"I think up till now we have all been so."

"I would say that his testimony is true in so far as the actual words I used. However, the intent ..."

"I think the committee can draw its own conclusions as to the intent."

"That may be, sir. But the point is ..."

"The point is that you actually used those words."

"Well, yes, I must say I did. However ..."

"Very well then. If, as you admit, your department is grossly inefficient ..."

"But I do not admit ..."

"... is it not possible that certain subversive individuals,"

"have managed to infiltrate Up Here by taking advantage of this laxness and gaining permanent entry?"

"That is absolutely impossible. I deny it!"

"You deny they have gained entry by taking advantage of your laxness? How then did these subversives gain entry?"

"Well they got in ..."

"I deny that any subversive elements gained entry at all. I never said they did."

"But if certain undesirable elements have infiltrated here you admit the responsibility would be yours and yours alone?"

"Yes, it would. But I again deny that such a thing is possible. Every applicant must undergo the usual routine investigation."

"Routine!"

"Don't you think the applications of heretics, dissenters, rebels — many of them with prison records — should have been given more than routine consideration?"

"Sir, I ..."

"Don't you think you should have exercised the most careful vigilance in cases of this kind?"

"Sir ..."

"That you should have subjected such individuals to the most intensive scrutiny?"

"All our investigations follow the standard pattern. That is what I meant by routine."

"In other words, you admit that cases of individuals most likely to be subversive Up Here were investigated with no more thoroughness than you would use in the case, say of an applicant whose record was without a blemish."

"I did not consider it necessary."

"What was your motive in coddling known subversives?"

"There was no evidence that any of them were subversive. Do you deny the possibility that a more complete investigation would have brought forth facts which would have possibly exposed their affiliations with a foreign power? Do you deny that possibility?"

"How can I answer —"

"Do you deny that possibility?"

"I cannot answer such a question. No one can."

"Then you do not deny such a possibility."

"Obviously I cannot deny it. I neither deny it nor admit it."

"Can you deny it?"

"No matter how many times you ask me that question my answer must be that ..."

"Mr. Chairman, the witness is not being responsive. I ask that the chair direct him to answer the question."

"I must protest, Mr. Chairman,"

"The nature of the question ..."

"In the opinion of the chair the question is a proper one. Witness is directed to answer."

"Can you deny such a possibility?"

"I neither deny nor admit it,"

"But you do not deny it?"

"No, I do not deny it,"

"Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. In view of the admission of gross inefficiency by the Gatekeeper — in view of the fact that he cannot deny there is a possibility that subversive persons likely to be agents of a foreign power, by taking advantage of the Gatekeeper's laxness, if indeed it is mere laxness and not a deliberate and treasonable coddling

of such persons ... have succeeded in infiltrating Up Here for the purpose of undermining our way of life ... in view of these facts this committee has no alternative but to re-open for complete and thorough investigation a number of cases, specifically I have in mind such known subversives as ..."

"I protest!" "This is a deliberate attempt to discredit the Immigration Service. I insist that we proceed with the regular business of the committee immediately."

"May I remind the Gatekeeper that he has temporarily relinquished the chair?"

"Mr. Chairman I appeal to you. How much longer are the members of this committee going to tolerate these disruptive tactics?"

"The chair agrees that this committee has no alternative but to re-open a number of cases in order to determine the truth of the allegations which have been made. It therefore rules ..."

"I will not be a party to any such undertaking! I will resign first!"

"If the Gatekeeper feels that this is the only honourable course open to him ..."

"That is exactly how I feel. I am resigning ... do you hear? I resign ... I resign!"

SIDE B

"The committee will come to order,"

"Let the record show that a full quorum is present. This is the first open session of this committee under my chairmanship and I wish to announce that hearings on new applications will be suspended temporarily in order to enable the committee to re-open for investigation a number of cases in which permanent entry has been granted and where the committee has reason to believe there is evidence of disloyalty, actual or potential, Mr. Oates, who is our first witness?"

"Socrates."

"Please state your full name for the record."

"I am called Socrates."

"Mr. Socrates, what is your occupation?"

"Philosopher."

"Mr. Socrates, this committee has heard certain testimony in closed session concerning your activities. An accusation has been made against you to this effect: that Socrates is an evildoer, and a curious person, who searches into things under the earth and in heaven and he makes the worst appear the better cause. Do you care to deny that statement?"

"While I have the life and strength I shall never cease from the practice and teaching of philosophy exhorting anyone I meet after my manner and convincing him saying ..."

"Witness is not being responsive to the question,"

"Mr. Chairman I request that he be ordered to answer yes or no."

"Witness will answer the question. Is this accusation true and if so, are you still engaged in these subversive activities."

"I do nothing but go about persuading you, young and old alike not to take thought for your persons and your properties but first and chiefly to care about the greatest improvement of the soul. I tell you that virtue is not given by money but that from virtue come money and every other good of man, public as well as private. This is my teaching and if this is the doctrine which corrupts the youth, my influence is ruinous indeed. But if anyone says that this is not my teaching he is speaking an untruth."

"Come on, now, Socrates, don't hand me that. You know that's not an answer to my question."

"Unless you're responsive to the question that can be answered yes or no — the committee can draw only one inference."

"Acquit me or not, but whatever you do, know that I shall never alter my ways, not even if I have to die many times."

"Mr. Socrates, your failure to clear yourself of the charge of subversion although given a fair opportunity to do so, can leave no doubt in the minds of the members of this committee that granting you permanent entry was a serious mistake. Any questions, Mr. Oates?"

"No questions."

"Mr. Torquemada?"

"No questions."

"Judge Jeffreys?"

"No questions."

"Mr. Mather?"

"No questions."

"Mr. Socrates, it is the ruling of this committee that pursuant to Section 28a Article 4b Paragraph 2 of the Internal Security Regulations you be handed over to an officer of the Immigration Service for the purpose of deportation from Up Here to Down There!"

\* \* \* \* \*

"Is the next witness ready, Mr. Oates?"

"He is."

"Please state your full name."

"My name is Karl Marx,"

"Mr. Marx, I hand you a pamphlet written by one Karl Marx. Now you wrote this pamphlet, didn't you, Marx?"

"Oh no."

"You deny that you wrote this pamphlet?"

"I did not write it."

"Now come, Marx. You know that won't get you anywhere here. We know you wrote this. There's no use denying it."

"No, no, I didn't write ... I am not a writer."

"You say you're not a writer — but you are Karl Marx?"

"Yes, but I am Karl Marx, the watchmaker."

"Just a moment."

"Mr. Marx, there seems to be some confusion as to whether or not the committee has subpoenaed the right Karl Marx. The witness is excused for the time being. Do not leave the hearing room. Mr. Oates, do you have another witness?"

"We do."

"All right."

"Please state your full name."

"Thomas Jefferson."

"Your occupation?"

"President."

"Did you engage in any other occupation, Mr. Jefferson?"

"I was a gentleman farmer."

"I am not referring to that. Is it not a fact that you were an active revolutionary?"

"Mr. Chairman ..."

"That in fact you were one of the leaders of a movement which had as its aim the overthrow of established government by force and violence?"

"Mr. Chairman. When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another ..."

"Come on now, Tom, you know you're stalling. Just answer the question. You don't have to make a speech."

"Mr. Chairman, perhaps if you made the question more specific?"

"We all want to be fair to Mr. Jefferson."

"Your point is well taken, Mr. Oates ... Mr. Jefferson, I hand you a statement purported to have been made by you in a letter to a Mr. William Stevens Smith. Will you read it please?"

"What country before ever existed a century and a half without rebellion? The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure."

"Did you or did you not make that statement? If you did do you still subscribe to those views?"

"If there be any among us who wish to dissolve this Union let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it."

"Who are you trying to kid, Tom?"

"I've asked you a simple question. Why don't you cooperate with this committee? Are you opposed to the work of this committee? Don't you think this committee has a right to expose subversives like this Socrates? Now where do you stand, Tom?"

"It behoves every man who values liberty of conscience for himself, to resist invasions of it in the case of others; or their case may, by change of circumstances, become his own. It behoves him, too, in his own case, to give no example of concession, betraying the common right of independent opinion, by answering questions of faith, which the laws have left between God and himself."

"I think it's a waste of time to question this witness any further,"

"unless the committee has some questions?"

"No questions ... no questions,"

"Mr. Jefferson, it is the ruling of this committee that pursuant to Section 28a Article 4b Paragraph 2 of the Internal Security regulations that you be handed over to an officer of the Immigration Service for the purpose of deportation from Up Here to Down There."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Who is the next witness, Mr. Oates?"

"Karl Marx."

"Is it the right Karl Marx this time?"

"We believe it is,"

"Your name is Karl Marx?"

"Yah,"

"I hand you this pamphlet and ask you if you are the author."

"Oh no!"

"You deny it?"

"I am not a writer."

"But you are Karl Marx?"

"Yah. But I am Karl Marx the piano tuner."

"There's obviously a misunderstanding here. Witness is excused temporarily."

"Thank you."

"Mr. Oates,"

"let's try to have this cleared up before our next session. Do you have another witness?"

"Yes, we do."

"Then we'll proceed."

"Please state your full name."

"John Milton."

"Occupation?"

"Poet."

"Have you ever engaged in any other activity, Mr. Milton?"

"For a short time I was Latin secretary to the Lord General Cromwell."

"I don't think that's quite accurate, Mr. Milton. Would it not be more accurate to say that you were one of the chief propagandists for a man who led a bloody revolution and later became a ruthless dictator? Is that not a fact, Mr. Milton? That was your chief activity. Not poetry. Poetry was a sideline, wasn't it? You wrote political pamphlets, didn't you?"

"I did not prompt the age to quit their clogs

By the known rules of ancient liberty

When straight a barbarous noise environs me

Of owls and cuckoos, asses, apes and dogs."

"Strike that from the record! You won't get anywhere, Milton, by insulting the members of this committee. Now you're giving you an opportunity to clear yourself."

"Why don't you play ball with us, John? Why are you trying to protect this two-bit General? A man who was a disgrace to his uniform. Now, if you wrote these pamphlets on Cromwell's order, we can understand that. We understand you had some personal difficulties with Mrs. Milton. You probably needed the money. We don't wish to pry into your personal affairs, John. This isn't one of those Star Chambers like they used to have in your time. Just tell us where you stand in your own words."

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely, according to conscience above all liberties. And though all the winds of doctrine were let loose to play upon the earth, so Truth be in the field we do injuriously by licensing and prohibiting, to misdoubt her strength. Let her and falsehood grapple. Whoever knew Truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter? Her confuting is the best and surest suppressing. For who knows not that Truth is strong next to the Almighty? She needs no policies, nor stratagems, nor licensing, to make her victorious; those are the shifts and defences that error uses against her power; give her but room, and do not bind her when she sleeps."

"Well, there's no doubt where you stand, Jack."

"He's saying the same thing this Jefferson fellow said,"

"All of these fellows says the same thing."

"Naturally they say the same things,"

"They're part of the same conspiracy ... John Milton it is the ruling of this Committee that pursuant to Section 28a Article 4b Paragraph 2 of the Internal Security regulations that you be handed over to an officer of the Immigration Service for the purpose of deportation from Up Here to Down There."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Who is the next witness, Mr. Oates?"

"Karl Marx."

"Well, let's hope we've got the right one this time."

"Your name is Karl Marx?"

"Yah,"

"I hand you this pamphlet and ask you if that is your name on the title page."

"Yah, that is my name ... Karl Marx."

"Then you are the Karl Marx."

"You are the man who wrote this!"

"Oh no, no,"

"You have just admitted that your name is on this pamphlet," "Do you now deny that statement?"

"Oh, no; that is my name there ... Karl Marx. But I am not a writer. I am Karl Marx ... the pastry chef."

"Pastry chef? Now just a minute. This is going too far! One of you Karl Marxes is lying!"

"Oh no ... no ... no,"

"Just a moment,"

"There is some doubt in the minds of the members of the committee," "as to whether we have the real Karl Marx here. The committee wishes to be fair. We don't want innocent people to suffer. However security is the paramount issue. It is therefore the ruling of this committee that ALL persons by the name of Karl Marx be deported from Up Here to Down There pursuant to Section 28a, Article 4b, Paragraph 2 of the Internal Security Regulations."

WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE: Let the farmer leave his husbandry, the mechanic his tools and pour forth your gallant population animated by the pure spirit of liberty. Be firm and collected. Be determined. Be United. Never trifle with your rights. Stride to strike corruption at its roots to encourage a system calculated to promote peace and happiness, to secure as our inheritance the tranquil advantages of civil and religious freedom, general content and easy independence.

FRANCOIS MARIE AROUET DE VOLTAIRE: Liberty of thought is the life of the soul.

JOHN STUART MILL: If all mankind minus one were of one opinion and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind. We can never be sure that the opinion we are endeavouring to stifle is false opinion; and if we were sure, stifling it would still be evil.

\* \* \* \* \*

MARTIN LUTHER: It is neither safe nor prudent to do aught against conscience. Here stand I ... I cannot do otherwise.

\* \* \* \* \*

Baruch Spinoza.  
Thomas Paine.  
Giuseppe Garibaldi.  
Victor Hugo.  
Abraham Lincoln.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Good morning, Ludwig,"

"Good morning, Wagner."

"And how are you this morning, Johann Sebastian?"

"Quite well, thank you."

"Have you heard what happened yesterday at the investiture?"

"Please, Johann, no politics,"

"Our little club is devoted solely to music. Shall we try the new quartette?"

"But Chopin is not here yet,"

"Yes — ah — I know. I'm afraid he will not be coming here any more."

"Why not?"

"I have taken the liberty to ask him to resign."

"How could you do such a thing, Richard? We have played with Frederic for ages."

"Yes, yes. I hated doing it. He is a fine musician, a great talent. But we must be realistic. There have been certain rumours about Frederic. I don't believe them of course ... but in his youth he had certain political tendencies. And even some of the titles of his compositions ... like the Revolutionary Etude! Well, I thought it would be safer not to be associated ... you know ... just until this blows over. Now, the Quartette."

"How can we play the quartette? There are only three of us."

"I have invited someone to take Chopin's place. A fine

pianist ... a great musician."

"Who? Liszt?"

"No, no"

He was a friend of

Chopin."

"Schubert?"

"Oh no! He was a friend of Liszt."

"Then whom did you invite?"

"Otto Schmink!"

"Otto Schmink?"

"I have never heard of him,"

"That is exactly why I have chosen him. No one has ever heard of him!"

\* \* \* \* \*

"Pardon me, sir. That door is locked," the guard said, "But this is my laboratory. It has never been locked before."

"Sorry sir, orders."

"But I am engaged in important research."

"My orders are that you are to be refused admittance."

"Why?"

"You are a security risk ... I'm sorry, Mr. Galileo."

"But my research project ..."

"That has been taken over by someone else."

"Taken over? By whom?"

"Professor Schmink!"

\* \* \* \* \*

"O blithe newcomer! I have heard  
I hear thee and rejoice  
O Cuckoo! Shall I call thee bird,  
Or but a wandering voice?"

"May I express our gratitude to you, Mr. Wordsworth,"

"for gracing our Poet's Circle to-night ... And now, we are privileged to hear some new poems by the author, Percy Bysshe Shelley, one of our most distinguished and ..."

"Psst, psst."

"No, no!"

"Your pardon," "One moment."

"Yes, what is it, Coleridge?"

"Haven't they told you about Shelley?"

"No! Dear me!"

I didn't know ... .. yes, yes, of course. I see the necessity."

"Ladies and gentlemen. I regret to announce that Mr. Shelley will not be with us to-night ... ah ... in fact, Mr. Shelley has been dropped from membership in the Poet's Circle. May I also say at this time that any opinions expressed by Mr. Shelley in the course of his association with our Circle did not reflect the views of the other members." "Now then, to continue ... in Mr. Shelley's place we shall hear a newcomer to our circle ... the distinguished and inspired poet, Mr. Otto Schmink!"

\* \* \* \* \*

Galileo.  
Percy Bysshe Shelley.  
Frederic Chopin.  
Ludwig Van Beethoven.  
Johann Sebastian Bach.  
Richard Wagner.

Otto Schmink.

"Is that you, Oates?"

"Yes."

"Well, come in, come in."

"I must talk to you,"

"I've been going over the list of to-morrow's witnesses,"

"Small potatoes. Can't we jazz the hearing up with a few names? I don't want them to think we're scraping the bottom of the barrel."

"What's the matter with you, Oates,"

"There is someone you must see."

"Who?"

"I ... ah ... I'd rather not mention any names."

"Mystery witness, eh? All

right bring him in."

"No, you must go to him."

"What? Are you kidding?"

"I assure you, the matter is most urgent."

"All right, I'll take your word for it. This guy better be important."

"Believe me, he is ... Come, I will take you to him ... just outside the Main Gate."



\* \* \* \* \*

"You're late, Oates. You know I don't like to be kept waiting, you stupid oaf!"  
"Now just a minute,"  
"just a minute here. Mr. Oates is a member of my staff and I will not have a member of my staff spoken to in that fashion. I don't care who you are"  
"You don't"  
"Oh - I see,"

"Oates, we must watch what we say. How do we know this conversation isn't being recorded?"

"You have my word of honour," "as one gentleman to another."

"What do you want?"  
"You must stop these investigations."  
"Are you giving me orders? Apparently you have some hold over Oates, but you're not running my committee. If you think you can put pressure on me ..."

"Stop this orgy of deportation! Stop sending those crackpot reformers Down There!"

"I will make no deals."  
"But you don't know what's been going on! Jefferson and Milton are calling for a Congress; Martin Luther and John Stuart Mill are making speeches about the Rights of the Damned; Cromwell and William Lyon Mackenzie have recruited a Lost Souls Militia; that madman, Socrates, keeps asking me if I know what virtue is. Me!"  
"And that lunatic, Karl Marx ..."

"Which Karl Marx?"  
"How should I know? There are hundreds of them - all over the place! Remember those pamphlets you handed them at their hearings? They took them with them when they got deported. They printed thousands of copies. You know what their slogan is? 'Workers of the Underworld, Unite - you have nowhere to go but Up!' Now they've gone and organized a union! And they have the gall to want me to negotiate with them. Before I do that I'll see them in ... ah-h."

"I can't cope with it! Stop the investigations. You're bungling it. There are ways of doing these things ..."

"Are you criticizing my methods?"  
"Yes! At first they didn't take you seriously - good! Then they began to be frightened - good! They kept their opinions to themselves - good! They stopped joining clubs - good! They informed on their friends - good! But you went on and on and on. Now they're beginning to ask themselves - am I next? They're beginning to grumble. The opposition is Where will it lead to?"

"No where. After my next hearings they won't dare open their mouths!"

When I started I said that I wouldn't rest until I had fixed the responsibility for thousands of years of reason.

Certain personal investigations I've made, have led me to the inescapable conclusion that

Oates, you will issue the subpoena immediately!"

"For whom?"  
"Who do you think? The Chief!"  
"I am the chairman of this committee! I will decide who is to be investigated!"

"But you should have consulted the members of the committee," "before proceeding to ..."

"The subpoena has already been issued."  
"You must quash it!"

"There is no point in further discussion,"  
"There is still time,"

"The subpoena will not be quashed!"  
"This is madness!"

"You cannot investigate the Chief!"  
"You've gone too far!"  
"There is no one so high as to be immune from investigation, where there is the slightest ..."  
"But the Chief is the supreme power!"  
"There is no greater Power!"

"This committee is a greater Power! I am a greater Power!"

"But He is the Chief!"  
"No! I am the Chief!"  
"I am the Chief; I am the Chief; I am the ..."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Good morning, sir."  
"Good morning, Martin,"  
"Lovely morning, isn't it?"  
"Beautiful. Glad to see you back on the job, sir."

"Thank you, Martin. It's good to be back. Well, it's all over and done with,"  
"Now we've got to look ahead. We're going to have our work cut out for us. All these people to be relocated. Oh dear, when I think of the paper work alone ..."

Martin, I have an interesting assignment for you. I think you're going to enjoy it."

"A relocation?"  
"No ... a deportation."  
"I see."

"Here is the file ... and let us hope this is the last deportation we'll ever have."

\* \* \* \* \*

"This way - come along now,"

"I am the Chief ... the Chief ... answer the questions ... point of order ..."

"I am the Chief ... treason ... that's a simple question ... just answer yes or no ... I am the Chief."

"Just follow me," "take it easy, that's right ... this way now, come along ... just a little farther ..."  
"I am the Chief."

"Up here - deported - point of order - Down There - article 2b Section 48 - I am the Chief - point of order ..."

"Come along - just a little way - we're almost there."  
"Ah,"

"I was expecting you Inspector Martin and your charge

"Pursuant to Section 28a Article 4b Paragraph 2, of the Internal Security regulations," "I now hand over to you rejected applicant No. 578293R021. That is all."

"Not quite, Inspector."  
"I must inform you that I refuse entry to the applicant!"

"You refuse? But you can't refuse!"  
"I can and I do refuse. I have certain rights, too, you know."  
"You must give me my due, as the saying goes."

"I am the Chief ... the Chief ..."  
"But you've never refused before."  
"That is true. In the past I have invariably prepared a warm welcome for rejected applicants - a very warm welcome."  
"But I will not have him set foot on my territory. That is final."

"I'm the Chief - point of order ..."  
"But I can't go back with him. What am I going to do?"  
"... answer the question ... yes or no ..."

May I suggest you look up Article 35c Paragraph 4a?"

"Article 35c Paragraph 4a?"  
"That's right."  
"Here it is."

"In the event that rejected applicant is refused entry Down There, after deportation, the Inspector in charge is required to return said applicant to his place of origin at the point where applicant first crossed the border."

"Exactly."  
"It's incredible, Doctor."  
Those are the facts, Mr. Garson."  
He was the only survivor?"

"No doubt about it,"  
"Are you a close friend, Mr. Garson?"  
"Yes, I am."

"I think you ought to know, Mr. Garson, that the crash seems to have affected his mind."  
"Well, after all, the shock ..."  
"It's a little more complicated than that, I'm afraid. He keeps babbling about being the Chief ... and something about 'no one being too high' and phrases like 'up here' and 'down there' - completely irrational."

"But he isn't violent?"  
"Oh no - quite docile."  
"This condition is temporary?"  
"It's hard to say"  
"Well at least his life was spared."  
"Mr. Garson, the plane crashed on top of a mountain, thousands of feet high. Yet he was found wandering about at the foot of the mountain."

"What of it?"  
"The authorities say it's absolutely impossible for any human being to get down that mountain in the dark by himself."

"It was an act of God, Doctor ... an act of God!"