

Freedom's View

A Commentary on Government from Atop the Capitol

Vol. 1 "All the other alternative facts you need to know" No. 13



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PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS INITIATE MEDIA SURVEILLANCE

House Committee Investigates News Media

January 21, 2017

WASHINGTON, DC ~ Nobody ever expects the Spanish Inquisition . . . or the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), either.



HUAC was created in 1938 to investigate private citizens and organizations suspected of being disloyal to and subversive of "the form of government guaranteed by our Constitution." Along with Richard M. "Your-President-Is-Not-A-Crook" Nixon, it was forcibly culled from the national herd in 1975. Before its demise, it had earned a reputation for conducting witch hunts, particularly in the Joseph McCarthy era. Like the Terminator, it is back.

Its latest incarnation is the Select Committee on Un-American Media (SCUM). It is composed of nine congressional blundering, addlebrained, gumshoes (BAGs).

Each SCUM BAG will be initially assigned to monitor nine liberal media outlets identified by President Trump in a recent Tweet. "They trade in 'Fake News' all the time. Disgraceful. Evil. Enemies of the American People. Editors should be put in the public stocks."

Initially targeted for the SCUM BAGs' attention are: ABC, CBS, CNN, MSNBC, NBC, PBS, the L. A. Times, the N.Y. Times, and the Washington Post. When editors of these media outlets were initially contacted by phone, their responses were inevitably drowned out by laughter, the sounds of champagne corks popping, and music with a driving beat.

Email responses explained the party atmosphere. In the words of one editor: "The President has just increased our circulation by 20 percent! We're looking forward to four years of not having to worry about our dwindling finances. So the first round of toasts were to POTUS¹. I don't remember much after that. None of us have partied this hardy since Woodward and Bernstein delivered up Nixon. But I do remember the entire Editorial Page Staff chanting: 'Bring on the lousy SCUM BAGs!'"

¹ Prevaricator of the United States

Fox News Stock Surges in Response to SCUM BAGs

January 21, 2017

WASHINGTON, DC ~ *Armed Freedom* When news of the SCUM BAGs investigating the so-called "liberal media," I figured that there might be a story at Fox News. So I asked a Ernest Gruening to investigate. Prior to his political career as Governor and Senator from Alaska, Ernie worked his way up from reporter for *The Boston American* to Managing Editor of *The Nation*. The man knows his way around.

"You were right, Freedom. Rupert Murdoch, the CEO over at *Fox News*, told me that, after *The Weekly World News*' print editions finally folded in 2007, he hired many of their reporters and put them to work there. They brought their vivid imaginations into the mainstream. I figure this may be contributing to the President's fascination with *Fox News*."

"Ernie," I replied, "I'm a little bit confused by this. *The Weekly World News*?" Wasn't that an over-the-top grocery store tabloid? Why'd Murdoch brag about hiring *their* reporters? You're not trying to give me some 'fake news' of your own, are you, Ernie?"

ASTOUNDING REVELATIONS ABOUT FOX NEWS!

"It's getting harder to tell fake from real news in this town, Freedom. But since Murdoch is my source, I think it could be either.

"But you know how the *WWN* made their stories. Their 72-point headlines blared things like: 'New Roswell Drama: Gay Aliens Found in UFO Wreck! They Died in a Last Loving Embrace!' I see you smirking, Freedom, but for certain I'm not making *that* one up. And look at this old edition about Hilary Clinton!



"If the people who concocted this sort of "news" are working over at *Fox*, that would help explain why Trump was certain there were terrorists killing people in Bowling Green, Sweden, and God knows where else."

"Oh c'mon, Ernie! Even if they wrote stuff like that, *not even Fox* would broadcast it! Of course, if you told me that one of those Jurassic predators roaming around our swampy mall had eaten certain reporters, then we'd have a story."

Ernie looked down at his shoes, trying unsuccessfully to put a cork in his mirth. "Ummm, then I think we *do* have a story, Freedom. Look at this old edition!"



"Awright, smartass! You got me good! But, Ernie, *Fox* knows better than to broadcast *WWN* tripe!"

"You wish! About half-a-dozen years back, they ran a story saying that the L.A. Police Department was going to buy 10,000 jet packs that would set the taxpayers back a billion bucks. The story was reported as fact by Murdoch's *Fox & Friends* morning news show. True fact, Freedom!

"Look: Trump is broadcasting his swill through *Fox* and they're *both of them* pandering to a bunch of 'Fake News' *Weekly World News* junkies who are in withdrawal. *Fox News'* stock prices went sky high the day after Trump said the liberal media was the enemy of the American people. He's a prime source of the content their viewers crave. And The Donald just eats up whatever bizarre statements and innuendo *Fox* puts out there as news. They're in cahoots to destroy truthful news!"

"Well, as weird and awful as that sounds, Ernie, I guess I'll have to run with it. You haven't lost your newsman's touch. Is that your thirty?"

"Not quite. I did some more snooping and came up with something that further explains the rise of *Fox News* and its contributions to spreading 'fair and balanced' Fake News.

"It turns out that "*Fox News*" is an acronym! It's meaning really turns on the lights for me, Freedom.

It stands for:

***F*omenting *O*utrageous *X*enophobia.
*N*urturing *E*veryone's *W*orst *S*ins!"**

"Don't tell me one of *Fox's* former *WWN* hacks told you that!"

"Sworn to secrecy, Freedom, but trust me on this: it wasn't Murdoch."

"Well, then we'll have to tell our readers, Ernie. Great piece of work! Maybe it'll further rouse our readers to action. They'll need to be, 'cause those SCUM BAGs are going to be around for a long time, I fear."

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"We make 'em come around."

² "Thirty" (usually written as -30- signaled editors they had reached the end of their reporter's copy.