

Done

JOHN AND SAM

1 of 7 copies

## INTRODUCTION

*(by stage manager)*

*Ladies and Gentlemen: As you know, Senator Sam Ervin has recently conducted hearings into data banks, computers, and privacy. You should also know, through scuttlebutt, if nothing else, that Senator Ervin has frequently mentioned that one of the witnesses he would most like to have is COL John W. Downie. For reasons best known to the Department of Defense, COL Downie has never testified. In spite of the fact that he missed his chance for stardom, the staff obviously had to think about what might have happened had he been called. To that end, and with the intent of casting aspersions upon no one, we offer this fantasy about what might have been.*

Scene: Table with 5 men on one side. Each has a sign with one of these names on it: Ervin, Thurmond, Kennedy, Hruska, Tunney. COL Downie sits on one end of the table, with profile to audience. The part of Kennedy and Tunney is played by the same person-- the card is reversible, Kennedy on one side and Tunney on the other.

ERVIN: (Start like Sam and then build up into Johnny Carson) <sup>and snoop probe</sup> The hearings will come to ordah.

We are fortunate in having with us today, that spy of all spies, Johhhhhnnnnnnnn Downie!!!! First of all, Mr. Downie, I would like to ask you if it is true that the Army spies on civilians?

DOWNIE: Well, your honor.....

ERVIN: What about them doshers?

DOWNIE: Well, your honor..... (Barely said,  
Sam begins quickly)

ERVIN: What about Fort Holeybird?

DOWNIE: I think, your honor.....

ERVIN: Wheah in the Constitution does it say  
that the Army can spy on civilians?

DOWNIE: Well, sir, in the Whiskey Rebellion.....

ERVIN: <sup>Now</sup> Don't give me <sup>about the Whiskey Rebellion</sup> that doubletalk. Your  
drinking problem is of no concern to this Sub-  
committee. The Army is obviously guilty of  
unconstitutional and unlawful surveillance of the  
Ku Klux Klan and other fine organizations.

DOWNIE: We prefer to use the word inappropriate.

ERVIN: Aha! You agree with me. Could I see  
the dosher you maintain on me?

DOWNIE: I'll have a truck deliver it tomorrow.

ERVIN: I hope you don't have trouble authorizing  
release of ~~the~~<sup>my</sup> dosher while you're in jail.

KENNEDY: (In exaggerated Kennedy voice) I ah  
would like to ah interject a question ah here.

COL, what lessons ah did you learn from ah  
your 2 May plan?

DOWNIE: That the first seven days in May is  
a bad time to publish a civil disturbance infor-  
mation collection plan.

HRUSKA: (Very strong and Senatorial, slow  
Southern) Let me go on record right now to say  
that spying on civilians is one of the most time-  
honored traditions in our fair land. Why some  
of my best friends are spies. I remember when  
I first met a spy. I stuck out my hand and said,

*"Who's spying on the spies, Bud?" I've always liked spies. So Ah say to ya'll that we need spies. What's good for spies is good for the coouunntry. And remember spies is the variety of life.*

STROM THURMOND: *(Same accent as above, but with more whinning and high-pitched and with more viciousness)* Well, Senator, I would like to ask the good COL Downie if it is true that the high point of these activities referred to reached a peak in very late 1968 and immediately suffered a sharp decline very early in 1969?

DOWNIE: *Yes, sir, that is true.*

THURMOND: *By my reckoning that would mean that the other party was doing the spying and we good folks have been doing the gitting out. Harumph.*

ERVIN: I understand that you and your merry band have been hard at work in the basement of the Pentagon. Exactly what were you doing?

DOWNIE: Just the usual spy things.

ERVIN: Is it true you've had heated discussions in the War Room?

DOWNIE: Oh no. There's a sign on the wall which says "No fighting

ERVIN: I understand there are several alligators in the War Room."

down there with you.

DOWNIE: ~~All of our alligators are plastic and serve~~  
~~no real intelligence function.~~ <sup>that business about</sup> <sup>is a crock</sup> Now we do have a wolf or two.

ERVIN: We have information about a special operation conducted by your group in the basement known by the code name C-Y-A. Could you tell the subcommittee about that?

DOWNIE: C-Y-A was never in any way a special operation. It is part of the normal procedure throughout the Army. C-Y-A is not an operation, it is a way of life.

SENATOR RIBICOFF: (Just entering) Excuse me

Senator Ervin for interrupting, but I just had to

come over to ask a few questions about possible

mismanagement of the coffee fund in COL Downie's office. This is a serious allegation, COL Downie,

what do you have to say?

DOWNIE: It is possible that some of our funds

may have been diverted for other uses, princi-

pally doughnuts. We also have a few isolated

cases of coffee cakes being purchased. I would

like to go on record that I have complete faith

in SFC What's His Name, and despite the fact

that he has an incredible number of multi-colored

shirts, and makes several mysterious phone calls

each day, I believe there has been no mismanagement.

ERVIN: Maybe we should get this SFC over heah..

just because we diverted a lot of doughnuts doesn't make us holier than thou.  
ERVIN: But were these diverted golden rings of use to the little doughbag in Detroit.  
DOWNIE!



THURMOND: Is it true that you are mailing out to each private citizen who writes a copy of Mr. Froehlke's statement to this subcommittee?

DOWNIE: Yes, we refer to this as our Froehlke Planning Packet. It consists of one each Froehlke Statement, a rubber balloon, ~~and~~ a stick of chewing gum autographed by Bob Jordan, and four Trading cards picturing Rennie Davis, Dave Dellinger, J. Edgar Hoover and Raquel Welch.

THURMOND: How do you justify that expense to the taxpayers?

DOWNIE: It beats my trying to answer all those sticky questions. And Better ~~Robert Welch~~ Raquel than Robert Welch

ERVIN: I'd like to trade 8 of our subcommittees J. Edgar

KENNEDY: Let me return to the 2 May Information Collection Plan. What did you hope to learn from that?

Hoover for one of Raquel.  
DOWNIE: We won't Welch on the deal, Senator

DOWNIE: *Military Intelligence was getting its stuff together.*

KENNEDY: *And did you succeed?*

DOWNIE: *We got some good stuff on a lot of guys.*

KENNEDY: *Who were they?*

DOWNIE: *I have previously supplied this information to my good friend Morton Kondracke, ace reporter, and I promised I wouldn't tell anybody else until his story appears.*

TUNNEY: *(In a direct imitation of Kennedy)*  
*Why ah did you spy on ah civilians?*

DOWNIE: Sir, as stated in Public Law Number  
whatchemacallit, and in DOD Directive some-  
thing or other, they told me to do it. (Exaggerated  
fear) And besides that, Senator (Getting excited),  
there I was surrounded by those hippies, they  
were after me; two were waiting for me in my  
car in North Parking -- I had to do something. Even the  
War Room wasn't safe. There were security  
leaks in the AOC latrine.

KENNEDY: But why did you ah spy on civilians, and was it  
utilitarian to spy on ah Unitarians?

DOWNIE: Senator, you're a good Catholic and  
you know those Unitarians need watching. Even Catholics  
holding services for peace in the Pentagon concourse  
are likely to be involved in mass arrests.

ERVIN: COL Downie, I believe you are a former  
head of the nine o deuce?

DOWNIE: *That's true.*

ERVIN: *Isn't that the super spook outfit?*

KENNEDY: *And aren't you now the ah head of  
the ah Counter Subversion Corps?*

DOWNIE: *Well, actually.....*

KENNEDY: *I guess that shows ah what kind of  
man you are.*

ERVIN: *I believe one of the departments under  
you is called the Counterintelligence Analysis  
Detachment, the CAD?*

DOWNIE: *That's right.*

KENNEDY: Isn't that the one headed by ah COL Mitchell?

DOWNIE: Yes.

ERVIN: I think we ought to git him over heah too.

KENNEDY: What did ah CAD do with all their ah microfilm?

DOWNIE: They ate it.

ERVIN: And do you also have a COL Michel in your Directorate?

DOWNIE: Yes.

ERVIN: Is this spy cover--Mitchell one place and Michel another--what's the difference between them?

DOWNIE: About 100 pounds.

ERVIN: Which one is on a board of investigation?

DOWNIE: Michel.

ERVIN: What's he investigating?

DOWNIE: Me.

ERVIN: And what about this heah LTC Williams?

Does he work for you?

DOWNIE: Yes.

ERVIN: Is he a spy too?

DOWNIE: No, sir, he just works for me.

THURMOND: What does he make of all this?

DOWNIE: *About a buck and a half an hour.*

TUNNEY: *COL Downie, could you tell us precisely what is the present Army policy?*

DOWNIE: *See no evil, hear no evil, collect no evil.*

ERVIN: *You can't fool me. I know a spy when I see one. You people are no better than commies.*

(Loud Voice)

HRUSKA: *We hate commies!!!!* (Even Louder)

KENNEDY: *We should ah report you to the ah FBI.*

(Even Louder)

DOWNIE: *I'm surrounded!!! I'm surrounded by ducks!!!* (Runs Off Stage Pulling Hair)

ENTIRE COMMITTEE: *Quack, Quack, Quack*  
(Clapping Hands).

*FINIS*