

There is another, even more insidious purpose in your procedure. On one hand, you have made no specific charges against me, but merely thrown out the broadest and vaguest possible general accusation. On the other hand, you have gone into court armed with twenty-one affidavits concerning nine separate series of events. In order not to be fired by injunction, I have to present a very detailed defense in that court. You then can read my defense before you have made any specific charges! This is a wonderfully inventive addition to Catch-22 and through the Looking Glass. First the sentence, then the defense, and finally the charges.

I have delayed writing this letter until I had a chance to study the allegations made in those twenty-one affidavits and to prepare my defense. What I have discovered is that nowhere in these affidavits am I even alleged to have engaged in any unlawful act, nor am I alleged to have made any unlawful speech. The entire case is nothing more than a tissue of insinuations and innuendos built upon phrases quoted out of context and juxtaposed to acts, most of which I am not even alleged to have been present at. I have written a detailed defense which exposes this travesty, and you will be able to get a copy from your lawyers.

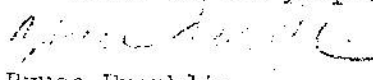
Undoubtedly you will study my defense to see precisely what charges you can bring. I think you may have to find some new ones, and it seems that you may have already reached that conclusion. That is probably the best explanation for Dean Hastorf's recent fishing expedition, in which he tries to get some evidence from Ian Watt that I have been irresponsible in the performance of my academic duties, a charge that I answered in last Friday's Daily. Almost every day you and your lackeys try to open up a new front in your counter-insurgency campaign. The trivial depths to which you are willing to descend in attempting to whip up the witch-hunting hysteria are shown in Ian Watt's letter to the Palo Alto Times, February 16, editorially entitled "Free U listing wholly improper," and Glenn Campbell's recent speech to the local Republican ladies.

Before you demand that I inform you whether I want a hearing before the Advisory Board, a question to which I responded on January 21, I demand that you inform me what precisely are the charges you are making against me--other than being a revolutionary wholly dedicated to destroying the political, economic, and cultural power of your entire class and replacing it with

To: Richard Lyman

From: Bruce Franklin

All power to the people!

  
Bruce Franklin  
Central Committee, VENCEREMOS

I have just read this morning's Daily, which reports that your legal advisor, James Sims, has said that "anything Professor Franklin does today that could be reasonably interpreted as a request for a hearing we will construe as such." Let me then make one point of my letter of reply very clear: I am ~~not~~ requesting a hearing before the Advisory Board because you as yet have not told me what I am charged with. I reserve the right to request such a hearing after you present me with precise charges, not before.

Death to all fascist pigs!

  
Bruce Franklin