

Whom Do You Trust? by Don John, 3 December 2007

Do you trust Democrats, elite college professors, and the mainstream media on immigration?
National defense?
International relations?
Economics?
Guantanamo?
Global warming?
National sovereignty?
The Patriot Act?
Social Security?
Free speech on the radio?
Waterboarding?
A constitutional right to abortion?

If you're a conservative, you probably don't trust them on *any* of those issues. How about history: for instance, the 1968 Tet Offensive, or America's abandonment of Vietnam in 1974-75? Don't trust 'em there either, eh?

Well then *why on earth* would you trust Democrats, elite college professors, the mainstream media (and a bunch of checkered-pants country club RINOs) to tell you the true story of Senator Joseph McCarthy?

Liberals hated him passionately, and remain heavily invested in besmirching his name even now, a full 50 years after his death.

Their master narrative goes something like this. McCarthy was a paranoid hyper-patriot who imagined that Soviet spies were everywhere—even hiding under your bed. He played on the public's irrational fear of our erstwhile (World War II) allies. He faked and forged and misinterpreted evidence, brought wholly unsubstantiated charges against innocent people, and although he never proved his accusations, still ruined many of their lives. Assisted by henchmen like the homosexual Roy Cohn, McCarthy created a terrible climate of fear throughout the country, wherein people were terrified to express any liberal opinions, and even ratted on friends just to save themselves. Arthur Miller's play *The Crucible*, set in the witch trials of 1690s Salem, Massachusetts, was intended as an allegory of the whole sorry affair. Finally, a few other brave men like Edward R. Murrow and Joseph Welch stepped forward, stood up to Senator McCarthy, and brought the nation to its senses. What a tale of courage!

None of it is true. Some of it is purposely conflated with the proceedings of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), and the public relations worries of Hollywood studio moguls—none of which ever had *anything* to do with Joseph McCarthy. The rest is nothing but half-truths, moral inversions, and plain old spin.

Here are the salient facts of Joseph McCarthy's life. He was born in 1908 on a farm in Grand Chute, Wisconsin (near Appleton). He worked his way through to a law degree at Marquette University from 1930 to 1935, and was admitted to the bar in 1935. Originally a Democrat, he was elected Judge of Wisconsin's 10th Circuit Court in 1938. Although his status as a judge exempted him from military service, McCarthy volunteered for the Marine Corps in 1942, and served until April 1945. He fought in the South Pacific, flew more than 30 combat missions, and won the Distinguished Flying Cross.

He was elected to the U.S. Senate as a Republican in 1946, and again in 1952. From 1950 to 1954, he aggressively investigated and exposed numerous traitors (mostly Communists) with government connections. Wrongly accused (by cynical media and leftist politicians) of corruption, fabrication, and persecution, he was censured by the Senate in 1954 by a 67-22 vote, and his power came to an end. In 1957 he died of acute hepatitis (not alcoholism, a lie the liberals love), and was buried in Appleton.

Just because the young women of 1690s Salem weren't really witches, it doesn't follow that there weren't any American Communists in the 1940s and 1950s who were loyal to the USSR and ready to sell out the USA. There were plenty of them: not innocent idealists, but actual Soviet agents who had infiltrated the our government and military, and were reporting sensitive information to Moscow on a regular basis.

In 1995, when the VENONA transcripts were declassified, they revealed that at least 349 people in the U.S., many of them identified by McCarthy, had engaged in clandestine activities with Soviet intelligence agencies. Among them were Mary Jane Keeney, Philip Keeney, Lauchlin Currie (who had been a special assistant to FDR), Virginus Frank Coe, William Ludwig Ullman, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Harold Glasser, Allan Rosenberg, Cedric Belfrage, and four staff members of the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee.

Some of the individuals who were involved in McCarthy's eventual demise were not spies. McCarthy never said they were. But though the things he did say about them were factual, the Senator was demonized, pilloried, and hounded out of Washington for telling the truth.

Captain Irving Peress, an Army dentist, took the Fifth Amendment twenty times under sustained questioning about his alleged recruiting military personnel to join the Communist Party. He also refused to answer questions on Defense Department forms concerning membership in "subversive organizations," and the Army Surgeon General had recommended his dismissal early in 1953. McCarthy was alarmed that Peress had not been discharged after that recommendation, but for some mysterious reason had been promoted to the rank of Major.

Brigadier General Ralph W. Zwicker, Irving Peress's commanding officer at Camp Kilmer NJ, was not accused of anything at all. But when Senator McCarthy asked him about Peress, Zwicker was evasive, hostile, and uncooperative. When Zwicker, in response to a hypothetical question, said that he would not remove from the military a general who originated the order for the honorable discharge of a Communist major, knowing that he was a Communist, McCarthy told Zwicker that he was not fit to wear the uniform of a general. A lot of people were really upset about the Senator's saying such a thing. Fifty-three years later, one still may well ask: Why?

Young Fred Fisher was indeed a member of the National Lawyers' Guild (NLG), a known Communist front. McCarthy would not have been wrong to reveal this. However, it was already a matter of public record: the *New York Times* had run a story about Fisher's NLG ties on April 16, 1954.

Way back then, facts didn't matter to liberals who were all upset that someone wanted to defend America. Some things never change.

The Real McCarthy Record

A longtime smear campaign has clouded the truth.

by James J. Drummey, 2 Sept 1996 (first published 11 May 1987)

N.B.: Mr. Drummey's article includes the true context of Joseph Welch's "Have you no sense of decency, sir" nonsense that leftists love to preen about. And, by the way, the National Lawyers Guild is STILL an anti-American organization today. The convicted terrorist-enabler [Lynne Stewart](#) was a prominent member.
—Don John

Senator Joe McCarthy, Anti-Communist

"Neo-McCarthyism" versus a Communist Chinese World Order

by Andrew G. Bostom, 14 Dec 2018

Joseph McCarthy: Reexamining the Life & Legacy of America's Most Hated Senator

Arthur Herman interviewed by Brian Lamb, 6 Feb 2000

A short, Communist history of 'McCarthyism'

by Diana West, 8 Oct 2018

VENONA Transcripts (KGB spies 1943-80)

Books about McCarthy

McCarthy and His Enemies, by William Buckley and Brent Bozell (1953)

Joseph McCarthy: Reexamining the Life and Legacy of America's Most Hated Senator, by Arthur Herman (1999)

Treason: Liberal Treachery from the Cold War to the War on Terrorism, by Ann Coulter (2003)

Blacklisted by History: the Untold Story of Senator McCarthy, by M. Stanton Evans (2007)

Here are the 22 senators who voted against the condemnation of Joseph McCarthy. All were distinguished public servants, but the two most famous names are particularly worth noting.

Frank Barrett (Wyoming), Styles Bridges (New Hampshire), Ernest Brown (Nevada), John Marshall Butler (Maryland), Guy Cordon (Oregon), [Everett Dirksen](#) (Illinois), Henry Dworshak (Idaho), [Barry Goldwater](#) (Arizona), Bourke Hickenlooper (Iowa), Roman Hruska (Nebraska), William Jenner (Indiana), William Knowland (California), Thomas Kuchel (California), William Langer (North Dakota), George Malone (Nevada), Edward Martin (Pennsylvania), Eugene Millikin (Colorado), Karl Mundt (South Dakota), William Purtell (Connecticut), Andrew Schoepel (Kansas), Herman Welker (Idaho), and Milton Young (North Dakota). Malone, Jenner, and Welker attended McCarthy's funeral.

