

The Unabomber Manifesto: An Addendum

Ted Kaczynski's unique, powerful, though faulted manifesto is an understudied document. Perhaps it is because of the repetitiveness in the various theses he portends. Perhaps it is because of the personal history and violent actions of its author and perhaps it has been "blacklisted" in ways we are not aware by the various groups that Kaczynski warns us about. It is impossible to say. We do know that the text, in its entirety, is difficult to find as it was only printed by a few small publishers with limited distribution and is currently not being re-produced except by those who copy the contents and distribute it in minute quantities.

In any case, regardless of one's personal views on the author or the subject matter, one cannot dismiss the intelligence nor the prophetic nature of several claims found within the work. It was this author's intention to note a small sampling of the Manifesto and add to them as the author envisions Kaczynski might've, had he been given options to re-write parts of the work. His work is italicized while this author's addendums are written as tacked on.

Disruption of the Power Process in Modern Society

63. So certain artificial needs have been created that fall into group two, hence serve the need for the power process...Modern man must satisfy his need for the power process largely through pursuit of the artificial needs created by advertising...This need to feel empowered or validated has reached all aspects of society, not just the workplace. As we live increasingly sedentary lives because of personal conveniences and

technology, those who recognize the feeling of empowerment that emanates through strenuous physical activity will gravitate toward increasingly difficult sporting activities. They will fall into either of two categories: the endurance sport realm where athlete “freaks” will push themselves farther and longer than ever before and “high-tech circus act” activities that will include seemingly incredulous feats with the use of new technology that enables the “barn-stormer” to fly a motorcycle through the air or ride a surfboard on 50 foot waves. The masses will not be able to attempt these but will be swept up in their strange paradigm of dare, athleticism, courage and insanity. They will live vicariously through them and follow in lesser, ready-to-drink versions of these activities.

How Some People Adjust

78. ...To their credit, most of the slaves were NOT content with their servitude. We do sneer at people who ARE content with servitude.

Yet most people are completely unawares of the degree of their servitude, for it has become so covertly buried in their daily habits that it is on the verge of controlling the zeitgeist next and then the very psyche of the individual citizen. Imagine if the founders of the country, the few who fled oppression in Britain for the wide open yet dangerous unknown of the New World could see how the very nature of the American Individual is in jeopardy of extinction? Who would take arms against the perpetrators of these crimes to the Ideals upon which the country was founded? Especially

since they are not considered crimes as much as they are “demographic marketing?”

144. ...*Today this may change because modern technology is developing ways of modifying human beings. Someday very soon, the technology, through gene splicing and human genetics, will allow parents to design their children as they would the little rooms they set up for them. Yet even before that, it will be proven through purchasing decisions and other yet to be identified means that the human being as a collective in a mass society has already been modified by the corporate structure, the Rollerball Effect, we might say.*

147. *While absorbed in television, videos, etc., he can forget stress, anxiety, frustration, dissatisfaction. Many primitive peoples, when they don't have to work, are quite content to sit for hours at a time...but most modern people must constantly be occupied. This is, of course, a learned behavior. When our society required constant “work” just to sustain life, there was purpose in the work and therefore validation. Now, the inability to sit still and do “nothing” while having to “something” is a result of a learned behavior, a taught disdain for idleness, that “devil’s workshop” the puritans began.*

151. *In the future, the social systems will not be adjusted to suit the needs of human beings. Instead, human beings will be adjusted to suit the needs of the system. While this may seem a radical comment, let me say that while a resultant feeling of malaise has fallen over the society due to numerous factors, instead of unlocking the reason for the feelings, we will likely alter*

the chemically-induced moods of the humans through a mass production and distribution of anti-depression drugs.

Human Race at a Crossroads

154. *The high crime rate of our society must be due to the pressures of modern conditions put on people, to which many cannot or will not adjust.*

Thus a treatment designed to remove potential criminal tendencies is at least in part way of re-engineering people so that they suit the requirements of the system. Each “treatment” must be technologically engineered to reflect the “needs” and genetic make-up of the individual. So what we have is a return to individualism but in an absolute dialectic to the origins upon which the term was associated in the 1700’s.

165. *...The greatest danger is that industrial society may begin to reconstitute itself within the first few years after the breakdown.* That has shown itself on numerous occasions and in different forms. Even in popular culture films like Kubrick’s “2001: A Space Odyssey,” where the Hal 9000 computer takes on the conscience of a human and in the “Terminator” series where the android reifies itself through advanced technology, we are slowly being “programmed” to believe that there is no stopping the Great Gears; that they will march on us and over us and even if we can mount a major assault on the Machine, it will only discover its small weaknesses, repair them, fortify that seam and move in greater strength. One can only think that there must be some hope if we have solidarity en mass; a utopian concept indeed but if we act now, there is a chance. We need further subversion,

deeper moles planted in every crack and every rent of society. Beginning with the very young, there must be those willing to make the sacrifice, soldier the cause and plant these mines of anti-technology. You will not recognize the rebels for they will move deftly within the darkness of their own spectrum as the light is shone upon them. Sometimes the message is overt, as in guerilla art and 60's style marches. Other times it is buried within old episodes of The X-Files played backwards at 78 RPM. With the help of the U.S. Government, we shall beat them and give new meaning to the term, "Going Postal."

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SDSU, Spring, '04