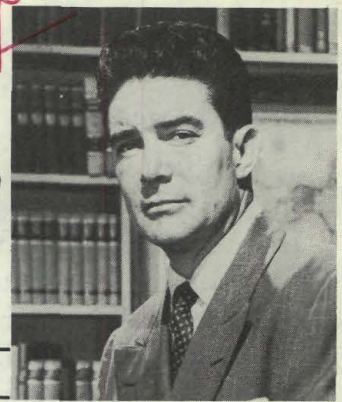


THE COMPLIMENTS OF "OUR COUNTRY" *Dnp*  
CARDINAL, VIRGINIA

# Dan Smoot Report



DAN SMOOT

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## THE STRANGE CASE OF GENERAL WALKER

In the fall of 1959, Major General Edwin A. Walker was ordered to Western Germany as commander of the 24th Infantry Division.

Immediately upon his arrival there, he took steps to set up a program that would condition the men of the 24th Division as American fighting men: to educate them in the political fundamentals which form the bedrock of their own society; to acquaint them with the atheistic and barbarous philosophy of communism-socialism; and to keep them constantly reminded that they are creatures of God dependent upon and answerable to Him, and, under Him, responsible for themselves and for their treatment of others.

On April 9, 1961, the *Overseas Weekly* editorially complained that General Walker's troop-information program was a John Birch Society project and alleged that the General, in a speech to a PTA group, had called Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Edward R. Murrow, and two or three similar persons, "pinkos."

On April 14, General Walker denied the newspaper's charges.

On April 18, President Kennedy — ignoring the General's denial and accepting *The Overseas Weekly's* charges at face value — fired General Walker from his command, cancelled a scheduled promotion, and assigned Walker to a minor role at U. S. Army headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany, pending 'investigation of the charges against him.'

On May 31, 1961, the Army disbanded General Walker's troop information program — 12 days before announcing that the investigation of the general had been completed.

On June 12, 1961, the Secretary of the Army announced that Major General Edwin A. Walker had been admonished for taking injudicious actions and for making derogatory public statements about prominent Americans.

The outburst of public indignation about the treatment of General Walker — and the determined efforts of Senator Strom Thurmond to get a congressional investigation which would bring the facts of this case to light — caused the Kennedy administration to

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search for more acceptable reasons for having fired the general.

On September 6, 1961, Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, testified before the Senate Armed Forces Committee. Under questioning by Senator Thurmond and others, Secretary McNamara conceded that General Walker is "a patriotic, highly motivated man" who has a "brilliant combat record and sincerity of purpose in fighting communism." McNamara said he considered the *Overseas Weekly* (which had initiated the charges against Walker) a "repulsive and disgraceful" publication, but that he proposed to do nothing about the distribution of such a paper to American troops, because he "did not want to violate freedom of the press."

But McNamara, sensitive about freedom of speech for the "repulsive and disgraceful" *Overseas Weekly*, said that General Walker, in speaking out against communism, was not only guilty of improper conduct but also liable under the criminal statutes of the Hatch Act.

The tenor of McNamara's testimony was that the Kennedy administration, far from being too harsh on Walker, was really being lenient in not prosecuting the General for criminal conduct.

Walker's crime was his advice to troops that they study the voting records of United States Representatives and Senators, before voting in the congressional elections of 1960; and he suggested that the troops study the voting records compiled by Americans for Constitutional Action — a compilation which gave higher ratings to "conservative" legislators than to "liberals."

On September 10, 1961, *The Dallas Times Herald*, in a lead editorial, said:

"The belated charge by the Secretary of Defense that Major (General) Edwin A. Walker was relieved of his overseas command for engaging in partisan politics has added more confusion to an already badly muddled — and bungled — affair.... Just who is interested in seeing the general punished?

"Secretary Robert S. McNamara now says that the general tried to influence the 1960 congressional elections, in violation of the Hatch Act.

"But the sequence of events is strange:

"1. The elections took place last year.

"2. A new administration — and with it Secretary McNamara — took office in January (this year).

"3. General Walker was relieved of his command... in the spring.

"4. And this charge that he violated the Hatch Act, for which he presumably was punished, is now made in September.

"Under the American system it has been that a man is accused before — not after — he is punished."

On September 26, 1961, Siegfried Naujocks, a reporter for the *Overseas Weekly*, who had been a prime mover in that newspaper's attack on General Walker, was convicted in a West German court of having slandered General Walker. The Kennedy administration took no official notice of this fact.

Although the Army allegedly made a thorough investigation of General Walker's pro-blue, troop-information program for the 24th Division, none of the investigators ever got around to interviewing the man who actually (under Walker's command) created the pro-blue program and wrote the directives which initiated it — Major Arch E. Roberts.

Major Roberts was brought back to the United States and stationed in New York City, on duty with the Army Information Section. On October 1, 1961, he was abruptly dismissed from that assignment as "unsuitable," because he had written letters defending General Walker.

On November 2, 1961, General Walker made a formal statement to the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee, which had been holding hearings about the Defense Department's muzzling of anti-communist patriots in the armed forces. In this statement, General Walker announced his intention to resign from the Army.

General Walker's family, though one of the oldest and most respected in Texas, is of modest means, financially. Walker's 72-year-old mother, Mrs. George P. Walker, and the General's older brother, George P. Walker, Jr., live on the family's 2000 acre stock farm at Center Point, Texas, a little town in the hill country of Kerr County. Following his resignation, General Walker, a 52-year-old bachelor, joined his mother and brother at the family home.

With thirty-four years of service, General Walker could have retired and drawn a lifetime pension of more than \$1000 a month. He chose to give up the pension in order to keep his freedom and his principles.

## General Walker's Statement

Here are extracts from Major General Edwin A. Walker's statement to the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee on November 2, 1961:

Upon the invitation of the Chairman of the Special Preparedness Subcommittee, I am happy to submit a statement to become part of the record of this committee.

I take leave of military duty with a heavy heart. I must find other means of serving my country in the time of her great need, in order to pursue the dedication of a lifetime.

To do this, I must be free from the power of little men who, in the name of my country, punish loyal service to it.

We are at war. We are losing that war every day. We need a substitute for defeat. If it is not within the power of this Congress to provide it— then the people of these United States are not truly represented.

Let me quote to you from the address of George Washington to the Officers of the Army, 15 March 1783:

"If men are to be precluded from offering their sentiments on a matter, which may involve the most serious and alarming consequences that can invite the consideration of mankind, reason is of no use to us; the free-

dom of speech may be taken away, and dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."

Let me quote from a soldier in Germany, a letter written January 1961, to a member of this Senate:

"For almost eighteen years I have been proud to be what history has called me, a 'citizen soldier,' but now I can no longer be a citizen, I can only be a soldier. Are we career soldiers to be relegated to substrata citizenship once again? What a fantastic idea that is!

"Has the pyramid of government grown so high into the clouds that its foundations can no longer be seen from the starry eyes of our nation's leaders? If this is true, then our task is to divert their eyes earthward and away from the stars."

I agree with General Douglas MacArthur that the application of the executive power has become so inordinate that members of the armed forces have been subjected to the most arbitrary and ruthless treatment for daring to speak the truth in accordance with conviction and conscience.

General Douglas MacArthur (in 1952):

"There can be no compromise with atheistic Communism — no half-way in the preservation of freedom and religion. It must be all or nothing.

"Without committing a single soldier to battle he has assumed direct or indirect control over a large part of the population of the world. His intrigue has found its success, not so much in his own military strength, nor, indeed, in any overt threat of intent to commit it to battle, but in the moral weakness of the free world."

In defeat, I am in good company.

Failure to know the enemy, failure to prepare completely to battle him to the ultimate in the defense of the United States, only gives him aid and comfort described in our Constitution as treason.

There can be no co-existence on the battlefield.

It has fallen to a civilian, Dr. Max Rafferty, California School Superintendent, to ask the home front what has happened to patriotism. I quote him as follows:

"We educators had better not be caught withholding from the nation's children the wonderful sharp-edged glittering sword of patriotism. In a word, this means indoctrination. An ugly word? I think not. But if it is ugly to teach children to revere the great Americans of the past, to cherish the traditions of our country, to hate Communism and its creatures, then I say let's be ugly."

Our objective is not peace, but freedom. If we are vigilant and strong and willing and worthy to defend our liberty, peace will be at home with us. If the Soviet leaders are made to understand that we will fight, there will be no need to fight.

The Communists are not fighters. They are not even accomplished intriguers. Much of their work is being done for them.

No people ever has voted in a free election to accept Communism as a way of life. From the time Lenin's rabble swooped down upon the government of Kerenski, on 7 November 1917, destroying Russia's first Republican form of government, to the present, the Communists have been destroyers of the right of the peoples to choose their own destiny.

We know what misguided powers collaborated to install Communism as the overlord of so many people over the world. We know that Communism wants the rest of them. The Kremlin knows that the smallest candle of freedom left flickering might ignite the rest of the world.

Talk about co-existence is a concession to the timid and the gullible.

During World War II, I commanded one of the finest ski, mountain, amphibious, and air-borne trained commando units. It was half-American, half-Canadian. Training and combat made soldiers of men, and men of soldiers. Supremacy and victory on the battlefield evolved from the capacity of each individual as a dedicated fighting man, and a player on the team. Night after night, and days on end, leadership kept vigil to evaluate the situation in terms of dead, wounded, replacements, and from the reports of scouts and patrols, shifting supporting fire, seeking to recover lost and wounded.

We had studied our enemy; we knew his tactics and his strengths. Supremacy was the key to victory; not equality. In Helena, Montana, stands a memorial to the honored dead

Canadian and American soldiers who comprised that First Special Service Force — volunteers for hazardous duty from two great countries. It is, at the same time, a monument to the necessity for engaging the enemy with purpose — the purpose of destroying the enemy.

In Korea, commanding the Artillery at Heartbreak Hill, and the Infantry at Gibraltar, for twenty months, I saw stalemate become a substitute for victory. The monument there became the PW cages. Thirty-three thousand American dead, and more than one-hundred-thousand Koreans lost, are the monument to the censorship of victory on the field of battle.

I worked long nights in a hut high in the mountains overlooking the beautiful Sea of Japan, helping my Korean friends to build an army in our image. The result has been an army in which soldiers at every echelon enjoy as satisfactory a relationship as I have known anywhere. That army is the product of the cooperation and coordination between a great anti-Communist patriot, President Rhee, and a great American General, James Van Fleet.

It had been my lot to be assigned to the Greek operations desk in the Pentagon during the war in Greece. Dismayed at harassment through censorship of execution, I was happy to arrange another assignment.

Over rice with Korean soldiers, I heard from an American Major on my staff the disheartening detail of his experience while serving on the mainland as an advisor to the Nationalist Chinese Army — of shortages of ammunition, and of the sudden recall of all American advisors from China. The Nationalist forces had been in combat readiness, anxious to engage a Communist enemy weakened by long, over-extended supply routes. Here, censorship of action through the control of ammunition (and the recall of advisors upon whom there was great reliance) was effective.

In 1951, as a Colonel, I explored the Pentagon for a week in preparation for assignment to Korea. I wanted to know particularly if reports in the press that the Korean war might end quickly had any substance. I had no interest in a duty assignment in Korea as part of an "occupation force." If the war was to continue, I wanted the combat assignment. I have to tell you that the general feeling in

the Pentagon was that the war might end next week, or next month, which obviously would mean no victory. I watched the return of General Douglas MacArthur to Washington that week. And I watched the enemy increase the fury of his assaults. I decided to go to Korea, knowing that censorship of victory was the prevailing mood. There was a challenge. Possibly the war could be won within the limitations imposed upon the military. I was determined to help. I led my men and fought them to their greatest capacity. Out of their sight, I wept over their predicament.

Did you ever hear of "bug-out"? I have. In Korea. It represented the complete disintegration of morale and confidence. It is the psychology of rout.

You heard it, at times, on every hand. He "bugged-out"; they "bugged-out"; it was a "bug-out." It was a shocking thing from a soldier.

With firm discipline and good leadership, these boys snapped out of it. They became what Americans have always been, top-notch soldiers.

As Senior Advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Chinese Nationalist Army on Formosa in 1955, I felt the effects of uncertain policy.

It has been said that political warfare is a sustained effort to seize territory and establish dominion over peoples through acts which, while short of war, nevertheless employ the threat of war. But it is warfare, not a series of public relations campaigns. Its primary object, which wears the mask of co-existence and mutual understanding, is to utterly destroy competing political and economic concepts and reduce the peoples living under these concepts to vassalage, or complete impotence.

Foreign aid, cultural exchanges and technical assistance may be activities related to political warfare, but they do not, of themselves, depreciate the power of an ideological enemy.

We have yet to agree among ourselves, and with our allies, to reach a simple definition — Communism is the enemy. We employ its agents in the teaching professions, allowing them to work on the fertile minds of youth seeking a champion to pit against a scapegoat.

They infest our entertainment media. They long ago have infiltrated our government so that a scheme of subversion can be traced through three decades.

Even our free press is exploited by Communist propagandists. Communist collaborators find rabid and militant defense among certain groups of our citizens, some of whom are sincerely confused and misguided. Governments which oppose the leaders of these groups and their purposes often are branded reactionary. In other nations of our hemisphere, we have seen these groups seize absolute power. In Cuba, it was with our help.

Nations that have fundamentally anti-Communist governments too often feel our wrath, directed by those who somehow have managed to rise to such positions of power in our government as to be able to claim the right to speak for us. I say this with sorrow, but I say it with conviction.

Many Communist aggressions could never have been perpetrated had we and our allies been alert and informed — and to be alert we would have had to be informed.

Men from civilian life bring spiritual qualities to the uniform from closer ties to home and community.

During the past several years, troop commanders have been working under severe handicaps. The young men who came to us from America's schools and homes and churches were uninformed about their enemy. The training and preparation they should have been getting had been sadly neglected. We found it necessary to remedy this deficiency.

Fresh from school, or with school delayed, soldiers coming to my command had not had the opportunity to read *The Naked Communist* by Cleon Skousen; nor J. Edgar Hoover's *Masters of Deceit*; nor Edward Hunter's *Brainwashing: Pavlov to Powers*; nor Friedrich Hayek's *The Road to Serfdom*; nor Weaver's *Mainsprings of Human Progress*; nor the tremendously important studies which the Committees of this Congress have made on the nature, the capabilities and designs of the Communist enemy. They literally didn't know why they were wearing the uniform of the United States. Their life, the life of the soldier next to them, your life — the life of this Capitol — depends upon their knowing.

The Constitution which you and I have taken an oath to uphold is our greatest bulwark in these days of distress. For it is a non-partisan document which protects each of us in our differences, yet binds us together in our mutual honor. Our two-party political system has not frozen our citizenry into two different molds. My task as a commander of troops has been to tell your sons this fact. Historically, our political differences always have evaporated at the water's edge when aggressors threatened. A soldier stands at the water's edge, wherever he may be stationed.

But that soldier needs badly to understand that fact before he comes to me in uniform. He needs to understand, as does every citizen, that we have long ago crossed the beaches and the water's edge and that we are in a death-struggle now, on the high seas, in the air, on the land, in outer space, and in every local community where the agents of those who hope to conquer the world seek to undermine us.

Be sure that no American is more non-partisan than the soldier facing the enemy in the struggle for survival. He does not ask his foxhole mate for his political party card. That his buddy is an American is sufficient. And it is in this very context that our greatest strength lies. Societies and nations which have been defended by mercenaries and professional armies have withered and died across the centuries; but a nation defended by its citizenry will find strength to fend off oppressors, if that citizenry is informed of its peril.

When the soldier understands his heritage and its jeopardy—that soldier sees the enemy and his designs; he then becomes an American. He shoulders his responsibility to himself, to his fellow-soldiers, and to his nation.

If it is now to be the case that commanders are restricted, or constrained by censorship, to certain limited areas of communication in their indoctrination of their soldiers, then the deficiency in training will go unremedied.

Our defense is based on the concept of a civilian military establishment with regular army support. Our armed might is civilian; it is a son, a nephew, or a husband who answers the call to serve his country. It is a civilian businessman, teacher, mechanic, union member, farmer, who retains his status in a reserve force, trains and studies regularly

so that he may effectively defend us if the need arises. That is the United States Army. It is our civilian neighbors who rally, when an enemy threatens, to protect our heritage. To presume a military coup by such an army is patently preposterous.

One of the fundamentals for any military organization is security. Originally, with fixed battle lines and little reason to worry about treason, security was achieved by the posting of sentries and the operation of patrols.

In the new four-dimensional warfare, the problem is entirely different, equally vital, and it concerns the civilian population. Congressional Committees have devoted thousands of pages to sworn testimony on the failure of security within the civilian population such as *Interlocking Subversion in Government Departments*, in 30 parts, and the thousands of pages on the *Institute of Pacific Relations*, to name only two. Unfortunately, the full significance of these are not widely known to the people who, under our Constitution, are the "ultimate repository of all national power."

The civilian and military must complement each other in safeguarding power and security.

It has been suggested that discussion and consideration of domestic civilian matters are not within the province of the military. I disagree. Soldiers come to us from civilian life and sooner or later will return to civilian life. I submit, therefore, that they should be permitted to know, without interruption, what is going on at home, and abroad, for their interest and the interest of the home they protect.

In recent years, special interest groups have prevailed upon civilian leaders to employ our military forces on non-military adventures.

In 1957, I was detailed by higher authority to engage in such an operation. As Commander of the Arkansas Military District, I was ordered to receive and command federal troops in what has come to be known as "Operation Little Rock." Federal troops were used, contrary to my personal wishes. I had hoped and prayed that the Army would not become involved in that non-military issue.

Through appropriate military channels, I repeatedly urged that responsibility be

restored to the State's National Guard, whose loyalty and dedication to their obligations, however unpleasant, neither I, nor any other U. S. Army officer, has ever had reason to question.

I submitted my resignation from the United States Army on 4 August 1959 — Headquarters, Arkansas Military District.

The letter said:

"1. I am in receipt of assignment to the Seventh Army Europe to command the 24th Infantry Division, which I have looked forward to for many years.

"2. It is fair to say that in my opinion the 5th column conspiracy and influence in the United States minimize or nullify the effectiveness of my ideals and principles, military mission and objectives, and the necessary American public spirit to support sons and soldiers. I have no further desire for military service at the time with this conspiracy and its influences on the home front.

"3. I respectfully request that this, my resignation from the United States Army, be accepted and become effective immediately."

My request was denied by order of the Secretary of the Army.

I quote to you the words of General MacArthur, referred to earlier:

"While for the purpose of administration and command the armed forces are within the executive branch of the government, they are accountable as well to the Congress, charged with the policy making responsibility, and to the people, ultimate repository of all national power. Yet so inordinate has been the application of the executive power that members of the armed services have been subjected to the most arbitrary and ruthless treatment for daring to speak the truth in accordance with conviction and conscience."

These are words that should ring through the land but do not — counsel that should have been heeded but was not.

To what voice, then, do we harken?

The people, the truly militant voice in a Republic, can and will be heard. I have faith that from their fury Constitutional power will prevail, rededicating this nation and its sons in uniform to the will and power of the people for freedom and justice under the sun.

I have now completed more than 30 years in service under your commission. I am proud of that service and the honors that I wear on behalf of the men I have served. No man

## WHO IS DAN SMOOT?

Dan Smoot was born in Missouri. Reared in Texas, he attended SMU in Dallas, taking BA and MA degrees from that university in 1938 and 1940.

In 1941, he joined the faculty at Harvard as a Teaching Fellow in English, doing graduate work for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the field of American Civilization.

In 1942, he took leave of absence from Harvard in order to join the FBI. At the close of the war, he stayed in the FBI, rather than return to Harvard.

He served as an FBI Agent in all parts of the nation, handling all kinds of assignments. But for three and a half years, he worked exclusively on communist investigations in the industrial midwest. For two years following that, he was on FBI headquarters staff in Washington, as an Administrative Assistant to J. Edgar Hoover.

After nine and a half years in the FBI, Smoot resigned to help start the Facts Forum movement in Dallas. As the radio and television commentator for Facts Forum, Smoot, for almost four years spoke to a national audience giving both sides of great controversial issues.

In July, 1955, he resigned and started his own independent program, in order to give only one side — the side that uses fundamental American principles as a yardstick for measuring all important issues.

If you believe that Dan Smoot is providing effective tools for those who want to think and talk and write on the side of freedom, you can help immensely by subscribing, and encouraging others to subscribe, to *The Dan Smoot Report*.

of my humble beginnings could be less than proud, but still humble and deeply concerned for the survival of his country.

It is the expressed decision of higher echelons that I may not provide my fellow-soldiers with the degree of information that I consider imperative to their morale and their capacity to survive. In my position, I may not question the authority of that decision, but a lifetime of training directed toward defense and survival, cries out against the wisdom of it.

My decision continues to reflect the West Point Code: "to choose the harder right, instead of the easier wrong" . . . a code I have imposed on every soldier I ever served in leadership or spirit.

It has been burden enough for a troop commander to make an American of a man, before really beginning to make a soldier of him. And make no mistake — it is not possible to make a soldier of a man who has not first become a dedicated American.

It will be my purpose now, as a civilian, to attempt to do what I have found it no longer possible to do in uniform.

War has been declared.

Every man is a soldier.

I think of the words of the Marine General to his men:

"We are surrounded.

"We must not let them get away."

\* \* \* \* \*

## CORRECTION

In this *Report* last week ("The Book Burners," November 6, 1961), there was a comical typographical error on page 357. The last sentence on that page mentions *McGuffey's Sixth Eclectic Reader* as 'Electric' Reader!

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For prices on single and multiple copies of this *Report*, see bottom of the first page. How many people do you know who should read this *Report*?

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