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TRANSCRIPT OF BROADCAST

By
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Mr. Cyrus Eaton--the 74-year-old Cleveland financier industrialist who thinks that conditions in the United States are worse than they ever were at the height of the Gestapo operations of Adolf Hitler in Germany--now says he wants to appear before the House of Un-American Activities Committee to tell his views on relations between the United States and Soviet Russia and how we are being unfair to the poor Russians. And he said so today in an interview in Cleveland, Ohio, amid some considerable verbal pyrotechnics about his experiences yesterday at a closed meeting with the Un-American Activities Committee members and counsel, which, he requested by the way, and which I reported to you exclusively last night.

Mr. Eaton's position today seems to be that he was badly treated in the meeting yesterday by committee chairman Francis Walter of Pennsylvania, and called the meeting Walter's "latest sortie conducted with characteristic intellectual dishonesty." He said he took the opportunity yesterday to, and these are further quotes, "tell them in plain terms what I thought of their intemperate antics. I let them know unmistakably that the May 19th television performance by committee counsel Richard Arens struck me and countless other Americans as replete with misrepresentation, exaggeration, and demagoguery of the lowest and most inflammatory order. I should like nothing better than to have the chance to tell the committee face to face, and let the world know, how despicable are the un-American tactics of Messrs. Walter and Arens in attempting to intimidate, bully, and push citizens around."

This is becoming somewhat bewildering because what started all of this was, if you remember, that Mr. Eaton, who fancies himself as others before him over the ages have fancied themselves, as the ordained preservator of international peace and particularly endowed with knowledge and understanding to help save the world from possible destruction by an atomic war. A speech which he gave, an appearance he made, in a nationwide interview with Mr. Mike Wallace under the sponsorship of the ultra left-wing Fund for the Republic, which, if you remember, has long been under criticism for its softness toward Communism, particularly toward anti, anti-Communism.

The Fund for the Republic has been financing these broadcasts, and Mr. Cyrus Eaton was one of the very first stars. On that occasion, Mr. Eaton had some very rough things to say about the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Un-American Activities Committee, the security operations and activities of the government in general, and the army of government snoopers who frighten scientists and creep up on people. He identified these snoopers yesterday in the stormy closed-door session as inspectors for the Interstate Commerce Commission who annoy railroads by inspecting railroad cars, rolling stock, roadbeds and tracks, and switches too, I guess. Other snoopers were the Food and Drug Administration, which is charged with protecting the public against dangerous drugs and unfit food, other snoopers of the Securities Exchange Commission, which is supposed to operate to protect the public against improper issuance of securities, and there are other snoopers too. Among the ones which Mr. Eaton could have mentioned, but did not specifically mention, are those of the Internal Revenue Service, who in the past have conducted some extensive investigations into Mr. Eaton's own tax affairs.

So Mr. Eaton had his half hour of free speech on TV, coast to coast, and expressed his views in no uncertain terms. Whereupon Mr. Richard Arens--the director and chief counsel of the Un-American Activities Committee--got a half hour of time on the same network for himself to reply to Mr. Eaton, and this seems to be what Mr. Eaton is objecting to. Let me point out that in his statement, today, Mr. Eaton mentions that the May 19th Arens' television performance "struck me and countless other Americans as replete with misrepresentation, exaggeration, and demagoguery of the lowest and most inflammatory order."

The interesting part about this statement is that in that May 19th television talk Mr. Arens barely mentioned Mr. Cyrus Eaton, except so far as was necessary to explain that he was answering Mr. Eaton, and that this was the reason for his own broadcast. Rather, he spent his time in a general discussion of the Communist conspiracy, in statistics and facts about the conspiracy, what it has done, how it is operated, and how it is a threat to the security of the nation.

That's the only possible conclusion--that this information which Mr. Arens presented is what Mr. Eaton considers to be "misrepresentation, exaggeration, and demagoguery of the lowest and most inflammatory order." He thinks that Mr. Arens should not have said these things and that, in turn, brings us to the interesting situation that Mr. Cyrus Eaton feels that

he was completely entitled to set forth his own thoughts on Communism in Russia and whether it is or is not a threat to the world and the nation, but that Mr. Arens does not have the right to set forth his views and that when he does so, those views and appraisals are "misrepresentation, exaggeration, and demagoguery of the lowest and most inflammatory order."

This is particularly interesting in light of the fact, when you get down to it, Mr. Arens is a long-time trained expert in the facts about Communism and subversive activity, but, on the other hand, there is no evidence at hand that suggests Mr. Cyrus Eaton is particularly schooled in them at all.

Chairman Walter said today that so far as he's concerned the question of whether Mr. Eaton will, or will not, appear before the committee to testify in open sessions is a subject for the full committee to decide, and he will be guided accordingly. One member of the committee who was present at the session yesterday, unhappily, Representative Gordon Shearer of Ohio, said that he is in favor of Mr. Eaton's appearance before the committee, perhaps the more so, after hearing Mr. Eaton yesterday.