

SIGN ON...

THERE'S A BIG FLAP ON RIGHT NOW ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT MONITORING OUR PHONE CALLS. NOW, THAT DOESN'T SOO THEE ME, BECAUSE I HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE. I THINK IN GENERAL TERMS, IT COULD BE VIOLATING OUR RIGHTS TO PRIVACY, BUT AS I READ AND HEAR ABOUT TERRORIST PLOTS THAT HAVE BEEN STOPPED WHEN AN UNDER COVER AGENT SELLS PHONY EXPLOSIVES TO A TERRORIST GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL, OR IN SOME OTHER WAY FOILS A PLOT TO DESTROY A BUILDING OR SOMETHING - HOW MANY OF THOSE INSTANCES WERE DISCOVERED BY TAPPING A SUSPECT'S PHONE? IF WE GO ON ABOUT OUR LIVES, NAIVELY THINKING ALL IS WELL WHEN IT ISN'T, MAYBE IT'S A GOOD THING THAT SOMEONE IS OUT THERE WATCHING, OR LISTENING, IN THIS CASE THE QUESTION MIGHT BE, WHERE DO WE DRAW THE LINE? IF SOMEONE IS CHEATING ON THEIR SPOUSE OR GIVING OR GETTING INSIDE TRADER INFORMATION, OR ANY ONE OF A NUMBER OF OTHER POSSIBILITIES, SHOULDN'T THEY BE CAUGHT? OF COURSE, IT COULD TURN INTO BLACK MAIL OR SOME OTHER FORM OF EXTORTION. // WHISTLE-BLOWING IS ANOTHER THING THAT IS IN THE NEWS. THOSE HIGH MUCKY-MUCKS WHO ARE MAKING EXTRA MONEY OR GETTING PERKS FROM ILLEGAL OR QUESTIONABLE ACTIONS IN GOVERNMENT OR BUSINESS, SHOULD BE BROUGHT DOWN. ~~LATER~~ INSTEAD, IT SEEMS, ^{THE WHISTLE BLOWERS} ~~THEY~~ ARE FIRED OR OTHERWISE PUNISHED BY THE SYSTEM OR THOSE WHO ARE BEING EXPOSED. IT'S TOO BAD WE CAN'T CLEAN HOUSE UP THERE AND GET FOLKS IN THERE WHO ARE LOOKING TO BRING GOVERNMENT DOWN TO GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE AGAIN. // AS I READ ABOUT THE STEPHENS GUY FROM FORTUNA WHO HAD BEEN PART OF THE BEAR SPRAY ATTACK, BUT WAS RE-ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF MARIJUANA GROWING, HAVING FIREARMS, A HAND GRENADE, ALMOST \$20,000 IN CASH, PACKAGED AND DRIED MARIJUANA - A HUGE OPERATION THAT HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR QUITE A WHILE, OBVIOUSLY, INVOLVING SEVERAL PIECES OF PROPERTY. I EXPECT

TED TO ~~HEAR~~ READ ABOUT WHAT HE WOULD BE CHARGED WITH.
INSTEAD - I READ THAT BECAUSE IT WAS JUST A FEW DAYS
AFTER HIS RELEASE ON THE PREVIOUS CHARGES, THAT THE PRO-
BATION OFFICER WAS CONSIDERING NOT CHARGING HIM ON
THE NEW ~~CHARGES.~~ VIOLATIONS ALMOST BLEW MY COFFEE OUT MY
NOSE! WHAT DIFFERENCE DID IT MAKE HOW LONG ~~HE~~ IT
HAD BEEN BETWEEN SENTENCINGS? THIS OBVIOUSLY
HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME. IT'S ILLEGAL, NO MAT-
TER WHAT WENT ON BEFORE. I CERTAINLY HOPE HE GETS WHAT'S
COMING TO HIM. // ANOTHER ARTICLE IN THE NEWS PAPER WAS
CONCERNING A LEGAL ACTION AGAINST MAINLY A COP FROM
ARIZONA. IF WHAT WAS PRINTED IS TRUE, ~~WHICH~~ AND I KNOW FACTS
CAN BE STRETCHED OR BENT IN MANY WAYS TO BENEFIT
THE ACCUSOR OR THE ACCUSED, IT SOUNDS LIKE THE OFFICER
NEEDS SOME TRAINING IN CONTROLLING HIS TEMPER AND VIOLENT
WAYS. I'VE SEEN WHAT LOOKS LIKE A QUIET SITUATION TURN
INTO A WRESTLING MATCH, BUT IF WHAT THE ACCUSOR SAID
WAS TRUE, WHY DIDN'T THE OTHER OFFICERS STEP IN? // THERE
~~WERE~~ WERE SOME COMMENTS ON TV ABOUT PUTTING ITEMS ON
THE SIDEWALK MARKED FREE OR FOR SALE CHEAP. I'VE
DONE THAT A NUMBER OF TIMES AND ALWAYS GOT RID OF THE
ARTICLES, THEY WERE ALL WORKABLE OR USABLE. EVERY ONE GAINS!
ONE TIME, I HAD A CHAIR IN THE BACK OF MY TRUCK THAT MY
NEPHEW HAD THROWN UP IN. IN THE MORNING IT WAS GONE. SAVED
ME A TRIP TO THE DUMP!

SIGN OFF...