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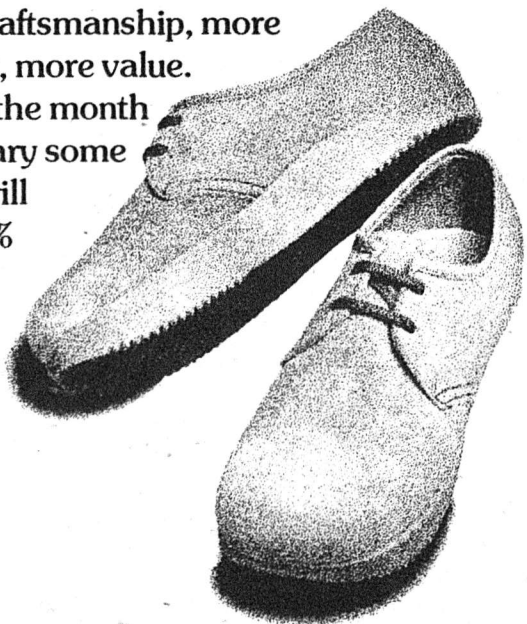
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Report on the insti

Some time ago two writers on staff at the Calgary Herald, David Climenhaga and Steve Krueger discovered examples of CIA infiltration into Canada's borders.

Mysterious shipments of machine guns through Calgary. Investigations of top BC politicians' lives (at opposition request). Spies in our oil industry.

Big news? You betcha. But these stories were largely ignored by Canada's commercial press, or worse, it was buried.

The following is what the two reporters think about the discovered lack of courage in the middle class press in

Canada, and where true journalistic freedom lies.

Reprinted from The Martlet, the student newspaper at the University of Victoria, one paper which did carry the story as the writers discovered it.

by David Climenhaga

"There's nothing in this world that's easier to be than a lazy reporter," either Woodward or Bernstein is said to have stated as the famous Watergate scandal reached its last frenzied moments. In Canada's media, I fear, it's not only easy, it's required.

If there was one thing the whole CIA business did to me it was to reduce my illusions about Canada's commercial press to tattered remnants flapping in the wind.

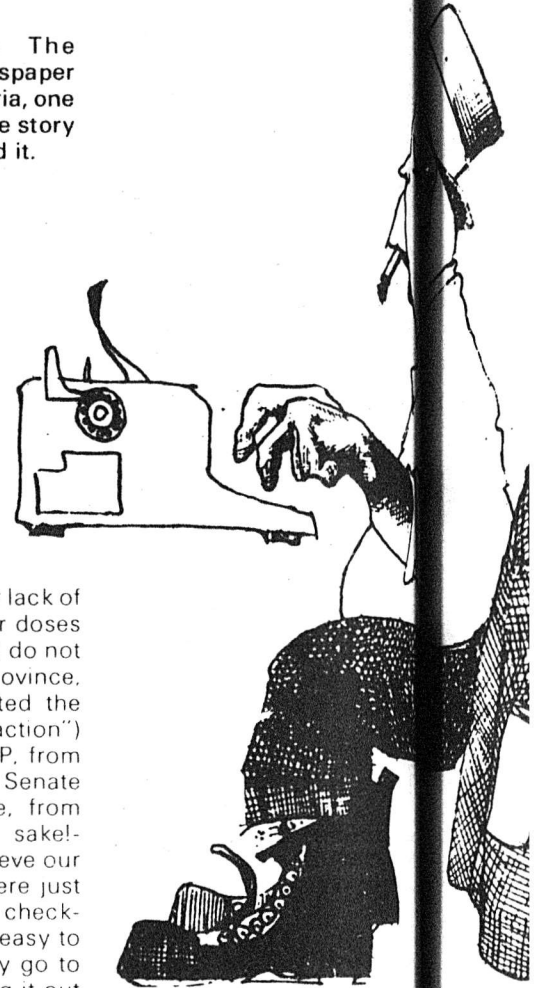
Steve and I may have made errors in judgement, in our style or in protocol during our CIA investigations. But I'm afraid the reaction of the Calgary Herald and its editors had nothing to do with that. It was, pure and simple, an attempt to kill a story that had become embarrassing to the captains of industry who sell and administer the paper. Regardless of its truth.

I wish I could believe that reaction was one peculiar to The Herald, that The Herald was an unusually bad paper. But that just ain't so - The Herald, sadly, is one of the better newspapers in Canada. Probably in North America. Other newspapers that handled

the story showed similar lack of courage and even larger doses of lack of imagination. I do not think the Vancouver Province, for example, only printed the standard denial (or "reaction") stories - from the RCMP, from Bob Williams, from the Senate Special CIA committee, from the CIA for heaven's sake! - because they didn't believe our story. I suspect they were just too lazy to even bother checking it out. After all, it's easy to regurgitate denials. Why go to all the effort of checking it out when all you get is - ?

What happened:

Steve and I stumbled into a story about CIA involvement in Alberta two years ago. Then we found a bit more about similar goings on in BC. The first story ran, approved by low-level types not too different from Steve and I. Unfortunately for the most of us, it offended some big wheels in the oil industry. They put the heat on some of their social equals, big wheels in the newspaper business, and they in turn put the heat on us. The fun began when Steve broke the rules and told another newspaper the truth. Nobody but nobody - including most journalists - wanted to hear the



ASTIN Z

truth about the business as long as so, the truth was rewritten anything the platitudes about a free press. Canada we continually mouth. expose well cleverly, too - in the end business fr were told we could w not oil cor anything about the CIA andians but wanted, as long as it met v journalists they can sta the approval of someone v do anything any such thing as a good they don't c themselves

But even breaking the rule didn't get us too far outside the Herald. The rest of newspapers who picked it bored it to death with deceptions v stories or, even better, the rule. Las Canadian Press re-writes of the facts r denial stories.

Why are Canadians bored with this abominable state magazine, ar newspaper affairs?

Simply because of wrong and r nature of the press in Canada, of cou exists, pure and simple, to which didn't bucks f or the shareholders with boredc that makes for a good flow rted by th advertising bucks.

The frightening implicat are, one by of this state of affairs is that. If there Canada it's all practical purposes, there student new no free press in Canada! Martlet, t press just because newspa and rags lit owners want to make money supported o Pretty well: with rising costs who be time capitalist (the kind the belchi people who own every sin the big daily paper in Canada bar on.

If that's viously not in their interests "journalism", threaten the basis of the Thompson w wealth and the result is the "Why newspapers. er? Agnev ess is a gan journalism is Star.

Journalists like to ag trade. It's that "on a day-to-day ba fuckoffs a there is very little control or to the l what we write." True of cou and so on ...

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