# The genealogy of Charles Manson: a cure for 'sixties' nostalgia

by Daniel B. Platt

### Der Fall Charles Manson, Mörder aus der Retorte (Test-Tube Murders, the Case of Charles Manson)

by Carol Greene Dr. Böttiger Verlags-GmbH, Wiesbaden-Nordenstadt, Germany, 1993 236 pages, paperbound, DM 16.80

On April 16, the *Pasadena Star-News*, of Pasadena, California, prominently featured two articles based on an AP wire, entitled "LSD goes back to school," and "LSD, 50 years old, enjoys a new youth movement." The articles celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first LSD "trip," taken by accident by chemist Albert Hoffmann in Switzerland. Local experts are quoted, affirming that LSD use among junior high school students is on the upswing. A police sergeant states, "It's cheap. A little bit of nostalgia [is] involved there too, going back to the '60s stuff."

No one who lived through the "'60s stuff" can read Carol Greene's book without shuddering. Greene examines every familiar detail of the so-called counterculture—which seemed so benign as it was being mass-marketed to American youth via the media and the education system—and inexorably builds a case that this seemingly spontaneous phenomenon was not only the exhaustively planned subversion of cultural and moral values, but in fact a vast behaviormodification experiment designed to awaken a propensity for violent criminal acts in a targeted sector of the population. She methodically analyzes such diverse tendencies as the communal drug and sex movement (the hippies); the behavioral psychologists who studied and directed their "life-style"; the military, CIA, and Harvard University researchers who developed and promoted LSD and other "psychedelic" drugs; the "New Age" gurus who fashioned the ideological framework out of such ingredients as science fiction, Nietzschean philosophy, "Old Religions" (paganism, Satanism) and "New Religions" (Gaia); Freudian psychology; and the "grey eminence" who had the whole project pretty well mapped out from early on, Aldous Huxley. This is more or less the same confluence of actors and ideas that was so lavishly praised in Marilyn Ferguson's book *The Aquarian Conspiracy*. Greene then demonstrates how every one of these factors specifically converges on the case of Charles Manson and his communal "family," which serves as a kind of crucial experiment, a prototype for the desired end-product.

The grisly deeds of the Manson family have been recounted in lurid detail before, and Greene does not dwell on them more than is necessary. However, as her story unfolds, the reader encounters characters far more frightening than Manson himself. One of these is Dr. Wayne O. Evans, who during the 1960s was director of the Military Stress Laboratory of the U.S. Army Institute of Environmental Medicine in Natick, Massachusetts. He participated in something called the Study Group for the Effects of Psychotropic Drugs on Normal Humans, which held a conference in Puerto Rico in 1967, described by Evans in a document, "Psychotropic Drugs in the Year 2000":

"In considering the present volume, it is our hope that the reader will not believe this to be an exercise in science fiction. It is well known that the world of 15 years hence presently exists in the research laboratory of today.

". . . The American culture has been described by Herman Kahn as moving toward a 'sensate society.' By this term, he means that a greaten emphasis is being placed on sensory experience and less upon rational or work-oriented philosophies. Such a philosophic view, coupled with the means to separate sexual behavior from reproduction or disease, will undoubtedly enhance sexual freedom.

"We also can anticipate an outcry and vigorous attacks against the marketing of aphrodisiacs from certain groups. To combine the presumed evils inherent in the words 'drug' and 'sex' in one product would be just too provocative to overlook. However, the fascinating field-day offered to advertising companies by chemical aphrodisiacs should overcome the indignation of the few.

"The choice of such chemicals as to the result of their use lies in the hands of those people who shape our evolution as 'role models.' What middle-aged people, such as you and I, think or want to believe has little importance in these

58 Reviews EIR May 7, 1993

developments. As we consider the effects of these advances in pharmacology we must ask:

- "(a) to whom do the youth listen?
- "(b) what are their social and personal values?
- "(c) in what kind of world will young people live?

"It seems to me to be obvious that the youth of today are no longer afraid of either drugs or sex. Again, the philosophers and spokesmen for the avante-garde advocate the personal sensory experience as the raison d'être of the coming generation. Finally we are moving into an age in which meaningful work will be possible only for a minority: In such an age, chemical aphrodisiacs may be accepted as a commonplace means to occupy one's time. It will be interesting to see if the public morality of the next 30 years will change as much as it has in the last 30.

"If we accept the position that human mood, motivation, and emotion are reflections of a neurochemical state of the brain, then drugs can provide a simple, rapid expedient means to produce any desired neurochemical state that we wish.

"The sooner that we cease to confuse scientific and moral statements about drug use, the sooner we can rationally consider the types of neurochemical states that we wish to provide for people. The old argument about the 'morality of naturalness' in the production of moods, motivations or emotions seems somewhat of a lost cause in our present, almost totally artificial environment. We may expect, that in the year 2000, to make judgements based on the 'morality of naturalness' will be even less meaningful than today. Therefore, I submit to you, that if we wished, we could probably have an effective set of aphrodisiacs within five years."

#### Rats and 'behavioral sinks'

Another study group member, Dr. William Turner, described studies done by American psychologist John Calhoun, in which Norway rats, under conditions of overcrowding, formed what were termed "behavioral sinks." Here a pattern of extreme behavior changes emerged, such as cannibalism and rape, reminiscent of human psychopathology. This behavior emerged among 5% of the rat population. He indicated that similar effects might be expected of humans under crowded urban conditions.

Strikingly similar views were held by Dr. David E. Smith, and his colleague Roger Smith (no relation), both of whom were associated with the famous Haight-Ashbury Clinic in San Francisco. They shared an interest in the concept of "behavioral sinks"; believed that rats, in response to overcrowding, were naturally inclined to violence, criminality, and mass murder; and believed that the percentage of rats who would engage in such behavior could be increased by the influence of drugs. Dr. David Smith repeated the Calhoun experiments himself, and added a new dimension by injecting the rats with amphetamines. Author Greene

presents and defends the thesis that for both Smiths, Haight-Ashbury represented an opportunity to test these theories on humans. David Smith referred to Haight-Ashbury as the national center for habitual drug abuse, and the first slum for teen-agers in America. Both Smiths were personally acquainted with Manson, and Roger Smith was Manson's parole officer when Manson first came to Haight-Ashbury, direct from prison.

If someone wanted to transform a human subject into a "killer rat," Manson was a promising candidate. The product of a broken home, he had spent the better part of his life in prisons. He was a thoroughly alienated individual, but a clever one, with an interest in certain kinds of ideas. In prison he had made himself well acquainted with psychiatry, hypnosis, and the occult. He was apparently in pursuit of a system of belief that was compatible with his criminal bent, and was synthesizing a variety of techniques with which to manipulate others. All this came to fruition as he assembled his communal "family." Manson was also fascinated by Robert Heinlein's "New Age" science fiction novel Stranger in a Strange Land, and used it as a sort of paradigm for his "family," going so far as to name his illegitimate son after the book's protagonist.

#### Manson's anti-Christian roots

As part of her search for Manson's "roots," Greene traces the genesis of science fiction, examining in particular the cases of Aldous Huxley and H.G. Wells. Huxley, in addition to being a renowned enthusiast for "mind-expanding" drugs, was a confirmed malthusian and an anti-Christian in the tradition of Friedrich Nietzsche. He wrote to Harvard's Dr. Timothy Leary that for the kind of "evolution" that they were both trying to promote, the Bible was the only resistance. Huxley also had an interest in "killer rats." In a work entitled "Do What You Will," Huxley refers approvingly to a theory of his friend, the psychologist Dr. William Sheldon:

"There exists, as Sheldon makes clear, a certain percentage of people—he calls them somatotonics—who are constitutionally aggressive, who love risk and adventure for their own sake; who lust for power and dominance; who are psychologically callous and have no squeamishness about killing, who are insensitive to pain and tirelessly energetic. How can these people be prevented from wrecking the world: Christianity tried to keep them down by means of a 'cerebrotonic' system of ethical restraints. But there has been a revolt against cerebrotonic religion and ethics during the last 25 years and the somatotonics are in the saddle, not only physically but intellectually and philosophically."

Greene quotes H.G. Wells in a similar vein:

"The men of the New Republic will not be squeamish either in facing or inflicting death. . . . They will have ideals that will make killing worthwhile. . . . They will hold that a certain portion of the population exists only on sufferance out of pity and patience, and on the understanding, that they

EIR May 7, 1993 Reviews 59

# **Books Received**

At the Highest Levels: The Inside Story of the End of the Cold War, by Michael Beschloss and Strobe Talbott, Little, Brown and Co., Boston, 1993, 498 pages, hardbound, \$24.95

Nobel Prize Women in Science: Their Lives, Struggles, and Momentous Discoveries, by Sharon McGrayne Bertsch, Birch Lane Press, New York, 1992, 368 pages, hardbound, \$24

Temples of Chance: How America, Inc. Bought Out Murder, Inc. to Win Control of the Casino Business, by David Johnston, Doubleday, New York, 1993, 312 pages, hardbound, \$22.50

The Catholic Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, by Michael Novak, Free Press, New York, 1993, 344 pages, hardbound, \$24.95

Mehmed the Conqueror and His Time, by Franz Babinger, trans. by William Hickman, Princeton University Press, New Brunswick, N.J., 549 pages, paperbound, \$19.95

Encyclopedia of Arms Control and Disarmament, edited by Richard Dean Burns, Charles Scribner's and Sons, New York, 1993, 3 volumes, hardbound, \$250

Preparing for the 21st Century, by Paul Kennedy, Random House, New York, 1993, 428 pages, hardbound, \$25

Martyrs' Day: Chronicle of a Small War, by Michael Kelly, Random House, New York, 1993, 354 pages, hardbound, \$23

**FDR: Into the Storm, 1937-1940,** by Kenneth S. Davis, Random House, New York, 1993, 691 pages, hardbound, \$35

**Power, Privilege and the Post: The Katharine Graham Story,** by Carol Felsenthal, G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1993, 511 pages, hardbound, \$29.95

Visions of Reality: What Fundamentalist Schools Teach, by Albert Menendez, Prometheus Books, Buffalo, N.Y., 1993, 152 pages, paperbound, \$14.95

An Invented Life: Reflections on Leadership and Change, by Warren Bennis, Addison-Wesley, Reading, Mass., 1993, 235 pages, hardbound, \$22.95

do not propagate; and I do not foresee any reason to suppose that they will hesitate to kill when that sufferance is abused."

She then asks: Couldn't Charles Manson have made the same declaration? Greene hastens to add that the difference is, that the men of the "New Republic" kill for clear ideas and goals, while people like Manson follow seemingly arbitrary impulses. The real issue is the motivation of the scientists who were experimenting on people like Manson.

Greene elaborates in some depth on the intertwining histories of the following ideas: malthusianism: eugenics: "sexual freedom"; drugs that are "consciousness expanding"; and Satanism. In the process, she makes two very interesting observations; First, the Freudians and the Frankfurt School promised that by stripping away bourgeois morality and unleashing the sexual revolution, they could dramatically reduce tendencies toward criminality and xenophobic prejudice; what they have delivered is quite the opposite. Second, the dissemination of satanic ideologies and satanically influenced manners of thinking is more dangerous than the organized, cultish form, a warning which one hopes will be heeded by some fundamentalist groups that develop a voyeuristic fascination with satanic ritual acts, and fail to act against the pervasive influence of satanic concepts in the culture around them.

The author includes an extensive survey of what is known about the CIA drug research and dissemination projects, "Artichoke," "Bluebird," and the more famous "MK-Ultra." She quotes former CIA director Richard Helms, saying in response to a question about what he thinks of LSD, "Dynamite." She quotes Harvard researcher and later darling of the hippie movement, Timothy Leary, giving full credit for all his accomplishments to the CIA. As an indication of just how fully witting Leary was and is, the following may be recounted: In the early 1980s, as this reviewer was organizing for the LaRouche movement in the Los Angeles International Airport, he was approached by Dr. Leary, who said in all seriousness: "Do you have a copy of *Dope, Inc.*? I loaned my copy to a British oligarch who was staying at my house, and he never returned it."

In the wealth of investigative leads amassed in this book, there are a few rather provocative loose ends which the author might have pursued further. One is the issue of the degradation of language. Greene mentions a certain Count Alfred Korzybski, a Polish semanticist who published his key work in 1948, who attracted the interest of leading Scientologists and was lauded by Marilyn Ferguson in *The Aquarian Conspiracy*. The point Korzybski apparently wished to make is that European languages have been imprinted with Judeo-Christian culture, and that to overcome this pernicious influence, it were necessary to transform language from the ground up (Manson was fond of using the word "grok," coined by Heinlein in *Stranger in a Strange Land*). However, this issue immediately brings to mind the broader issue of the present-day "political correctness"

60 Reviews EIR May 7, 1993

movement, and its "language police." Greene might also wish to consider the activities of another British spook-cum-science fiction novelist, Anthony Burgess, who was practicing a form of deconstructionism decades ago with his treatment of language in A Clockwork Orange.

## **Indictment of the New Age Nazis**

But it was not Carol Greene's intention to write an exposé. She has written a bill of indictment. The establishment scientists and social engineers of MK-Ultra a.k.a. the Aquarian Conspiracy a.k.a. the counterculture, stand accused of using sex, drugs, and synthetic belief systems to unleash Charles Manson and his "family" as irrational, sadistic and unrepentant killers. Prosecutor Greene has established opportunity and intent, but that leaves unresolved the question of motive. It is that question she addresses in the final and most jarring chapter.

It is Greene's contention that the actions of one or more key individuals were believed to trigger that 5% of the population that the rat scientists had found capable of murderous psychopathology. Thus the actions of Manson have unleashed a wave of "copy-cat" serial killings and related behavior in the subsequent years, among a population that has received the same kind of preparation that Manson had, i.e., sex, drugs, and the New Age. During this time the FBI has assembled a massive databank of all those individuals who have perpetrated or shown a propensity for sociopathic

violence. Greene describes this as a "Who's Who" of the potential fascist scene in America. She believes that if the establishment continues to insist on its present economic course, they may find it necessary to deploy some form of fascism, without the "democratic face."

She says in closing:

"This book was written because we believe that in the United States, as in Germny during the Third Reich, the majority of the population is against such a development. This majority must now wake up and act. What came to pass under the Nazi regime was believed by most of those who helped bring them to power, in a desperate economic and social situation, to be simply not possible. And yet it was possible, and it is today again possible."

Over the last decade and a half, associates of Lyndon LaRouche have documented the philosophical, financial, and political genesis of the drug-rock-sex counterculture, especially in the book *Dope, Inc.*, now in its third edition. Even as far back as 1973, with the appearance of the synthetic terrorist gang, the Symbionese Liberation Army, LaRouche and his friends targeted the all-important "programming" and social engineering by psychiatrists associated with the Tavistock Institute in London and the *Praxis* group, most recently exposed by *EIR* in its Feb. 12 issue. Greene's book is a timely addition to these exposés at the very moment when the MK-Ultra-spawned Cult Awareness Network has moved the coverup to a new level of perversity.

# Books of the American System

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**EIR** May 7, 1993 Reviews 61