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115 BIG FARMERS ACCUSED OF \$2.8 MILLIONS FRAUD

Nowhere in PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS which has newspapers in Brawley, El Centro, and Calexico, did you see an article with the headline, "115 BIG FARMERS ACCUSED OF \$2,800,000 FRAUD".

But buried on page 10 of the BRAWLEY NEWS of Sept. 26, 1966, (and similarly buried in the El Centro and Calexico newspapers) is an article with the headline, " WITHHELD PAYMENTS FOR COTTON RELEASED" which is so twisted, so distorted, and with details left out, that the result is that all the residents are so brainwashed that they do not realize that the big ranchers have been caught in about a \$3 millions fraud against the U.S. Government.

It is therefore very important for you citizens of Imperial County to learn more about this gigantic fraud so that you will come to realize that these big ranches cheat and swindle everybody and everything. You will then appreciate that these big ranchers do not have Italian names and that their extortions and exploitation methods make the COSA NOSTRA which was publicized on television and in the newspapers, look like one child stealing candy from another child.

Now for a quick summary of other extortions practiced against you by this power structure consisting of the large ranches. First you must realize that 70% of the ranchowners are absentee. They are all in violation of the U.S. Reclamation Law which states that in order to get irrigation water for farming, the farmer must live in Imperial County. Therefore, the absentee ranchers are responsible for about \$2 millions of this fraud while local farmers are responsible for \$800,000.

There are profits of \$20 millions yearly made in farming here. Local farmers get \$5 millions. You the residents of Imperial County are prevented from farming and so lose \$15 millions yearly which the absentee ranchers take out of the Valley. You businessmen who all know how bad business is here should realize that if the \$15 millions yearly profit stayed in the County, you would be having boom times.

Now these big ranchers control the County Government here and particularly the Assessor's office so that they get fake low assessments on their farms and are able to escape \$8 millions yearly in County property taxes. You the residents have to pay \$8 millions extra to make up for the big ranches.

The big landowners control the Imperial Irrigation District so that they get irrigation water at $\frac{1}{4}$ the correct price which causes a loss of \$14 millions yearly. You the residents of Imperial County pay electricity bills which are 3 times the correct price and in this manner \$14 millions yearly is extorted from you to

make up the tremendous losses in the sale of irrigation water to the ranches.

There are several other rackets inflicted on you by the big farms but there is not sufficient space to tell them. But this brief summary shows you how you have about \$37 millions extorted from you by this farmers power structure.

Now as to the fraud against the Federal Government. As you know the U.S. Government gives charity handouts to farmers on about 60 products. Beet sugar is one of them. A farmer must fill out a claim to get these handouts. These 115 ranchers filled out fraudulent claims. It so happens that the same ones who have the beet allotments also have the cotton allotments. (The little farmers can not get the beet and cotton allotments with the big charity handouts and in this way the big ranchers are able to squeeze out the little farmers). It averages out that each of these farmers tried to swindle the U.S. Government out of \$25,000.

Now how is the brainwashing done so that you should not know about it. The big farmers got to Congressman John Tunney so that he would go to the UnderSecretary of Agriculture of the U.S. John Schnittker and tell him a tale of woe that there is "tight money" now and that the farmers should not be forced to pay back the money for this beet fraud. As it was time to pay the farmers their charity handouts for growing cotton, Mr. Schnittker was persuaded(?) not to get the beet money repayment out of the cotton payments. So Congressman John Tunney is in on this plot. Then Congressman Tunney put out a press release in the local papers to brainwash you so that you should not realize this is a fraud by the big farmers. (The big farmers have plenty of money to contribute to Congressman's Tunney's election campaigns so they make him jump through a hoop like a trained dog to earn the campaign contributions).

Then the Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Committee of Imperial County (this name is another fake to fool you--it should be called the Big Farmers Charity Committee for it is through this Federal Agency that the charity handouts are given) located at 300 South Imperial Ave. El Centro put out a distorted press release which omitted facts and would make the reader think about cotton payments while the beet fraud was not given the correct label.

PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS cooperated in not tarnishing the image of the big ranchers. Instead of putting it on the front page with the headline "115 BIG FARMERS ACCUSED OF \$2.8 MILLIONS FRAUD", it buried it on the 10th page. Many people just read the first 2 or 3 pages of a newspaper and never get to the 10th page. In addition, the headline of the article was "WITHHELD PAYMENTS FOR COTTON RELEASED" so that the average person thinking this was purely for farmers to read, would not read it. PINKLEY WOULD NOT EVEN PUT IN THE ARTICLE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY \$2.8 MILLIONS. Of course Pinkley would not give the name and address of the big rancher and the amount of money he tried to swindle. So you average citizens can see that if you are a big rancher, you can attempt frauds and if caught, you do not have to pay the money back. You are not tried on criminal charges of fraud. Congressman John Tunney puts in the "FIX" for the rancher. (See Brawley News of Sept. 26, 1966, page 10 to see for yourself what "managed news" to brainwash you is. Go to Brawley Library).

But read what happened to average citizens who made fraudulent claims to another official agency. Their names and addresses were put in the newspapers. They were tried in Court on criminal charges of fraud. They have to pay back the money they got by fraud. They have to pay fines. If they can not pay the fine, they stay in jail at the rate of one day in jail for each \$5 of fine.

The Brawley News of Nov. 30, 1966 on the 2nd page had this headline "5 WORKERS ARRAIGNED IN UNEMPLOYMENT FRAUD". H.B. got \$68. W.L. got \$79. R.M. got \$88. A.R. got \$60. H.T. got \$79. The total was \$574 gotten by all five. They were not excused because money is "tight". SO IF YOU WANT TO SWINDLE, BECOME A BIG RANCHER.