

Dick and Pat at their seaside home: dishonorable thieves, innocent leaders

Good Morning, housewives and shut-ins. It's time for another stroll down Memory Lane to visit with Dick and Pat in their little summer white house overlooking the blue Pacific where they dwell in humble luxury.

As you know, Dick modestly retired from the public spotlight in order to devote his declining years to puttering about earning \$5 million by explaining to a grateful nation why he didn't do it.

As we join them today, Pat is excitedly reading Dick an item from the newspaper.

Pat: Listen to this, dear! Judge Sirica has cut the sentences of Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Mitchell in half and they'll soon be eligible for parole.

arthur hoppe

innocent bystander

Dick: That's wonderful, Pat. I have always said they were three of the finest public convicts I have ever known.

Pat: I think you said "public servants".

Dick: Yes, that, too. But I have always stoutly maintained their innocence and quietly supported in my heart their defiant struggle for justice.

Quiet support

Pat: No one's supported them more quietly than you, dear.

Dick: I am therefore gratified that hard-hearted Judge Sirica at last has seen the error of his ways and is correcting his grave miscarriage of justice. Did he say he was sorry?

Pat: No, they did.

Dick: They were sorry for being innocent?

Pat: No, for being guilty as charged. As Bob Halde-man told the Judge, "In effect, I abdicated my moral judgment and turned it over to someone else."

Dick: Good heavens! Did he say who?

Pat: Not yet.

No honor

Dick: He will when he comes up before the parole board. You can bet on it. All three of them will. There's

no honor among thieves. These snivelling rats will say anything to get out. What can that bleeding-heart Judge Sirica be thinking of—freeing confessed criminals to prey once again on society?

Pat: But, dear, you said . . .

Dick: No wonder our streets aren't safe when this revolving-door system of criminal justice turns these hardened ex-convicts loose to commit the same old crimes over and over. We should lock them up and throw away the key.

Pat: But they said they were very, very sorry and they promised never ever to do anything wrong again.

Old haunts

Dick: That's what they all say. But I know criminals. As soon as they're out, they'll go back to their old haunts. They'll hang around Mexican laundries, hire plumbers and dupe any innocent president who passes by.


Pat: Maybe so, dear. But I'll bet they feel a lot better for having said they were sorry. (*hesitantly*) I don't suppose you ever consider . . .

Dick: Never! This whole episode shows there's a world of difference between them and me.

Pat: What's that dear?

Dick: A pardon means never having to say you're sorry.

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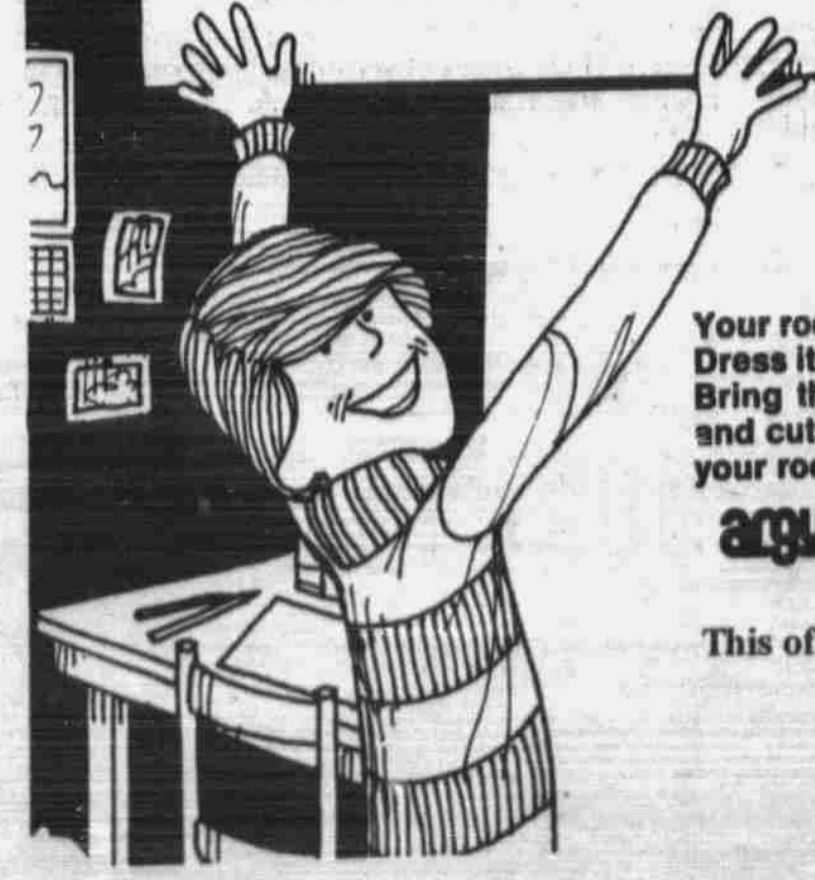
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