

GRUNCH OF GIANTS - R. Buckminster Fuller

The author, in 1927, at age 32, decided to devote his life to reforming the environment, so as to provide a more satisfactory sustainable standard of living for all humanity than ever dreamed of; all possible through the many derivatives of Sun energy, and maintained by artifacts that would emancipate us from piped, wired and metered exploitation by the few. GRUNCH (GROSS UNIVERSAL CASH HEIST) pays annual dividends of over \$ 1 trillion. Its giants consist of the corporate interlocked owners of a vast invisible empire, including "airwaves and satellites; and a vast visible empire," including "all the only eighteen-year-old and younger skyscraper cluster cities around the world... the factories and research laboratories ringing the old cities and all the Oriental industrial deployment" It "controls the financial credit system of the noncommunist world-magnitude mass-production and -distribution ventures." Pregraduation employment contracts with most promising university science students monopolizes all the special theoretical know-how to exploit its already acquired technology. It controls all the world's banks, and is technically legal.

"GRUNCH didn't invent anything. It monopolizes know-where and know-how but is devoid of know-why. It is preoccupied with absolute selfishness and its guaranteed gratifications." Every day 75,000 starve or die of sideeffects - a number equal to the dead at Hiroshima - despite a 5 % overage of world food production adequate for the world population. 3 % of GRUNCH's annual dividends would eliminate the world's poverty, and end the overpopulation threat, as excessive birth rate occurs only among the impoverished. The world's political rivals have spent \$ 6.5 trillion in the last 33 years, to be able to kill all humanity in one hour, on the assumption that the earth cannot support all. (actually, however, for prestige, self expression and monopoly profits) In 1970 we could have cared "for each Earthian at a sustainable billionaire's level of affluence while living...on less than 1 percent of our planet's daily income from...the Sun," We can do this in ten years, while phasing out fossil fuels and atomic energy.

A Morgan family friend of the author: "Never make things simple when you can make them complicated." The religious have never asserted that God deeded land to anyone, but they have often given a symbol of God's approval of land ownership seized by force. Corporations can cross national borders freely. Soon after World War II, our 500 largest corporations became supranational, taking their know-how, paid for by DOD, the Manhattan Project or space program, and turned over gratis, for "operational efficiency." World Wars and the "cold war" financed on government credit, and private corporations were given the equipment and technology. The U. S. cannot pay the interest on its trillion dollar debt (which, like all large national debts, cannot be paid, and should be cancelled). Much of our more valuable property is now foreign owned. (Full ground rent assessment would return much of the value to our federal, state and local governments, where it belongs, irrespective of the nationality of titleholders; while government operation of everything in limited supply, and the availability of patents to all, at a reasonable royalty, would end other unearned personal incomes. Full assessment, nominal site prices, surplus jobs.)

The U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Feb. 1, 1982: all the United Nations now hate the U. S. A." (They hate GRUNCH) All continental U. S. A.'s factories and grounds and 90 % of all that can produce physical wealth is about to be owned by GRUNCH. Based on its income, it is worth at least \$ 20 trillion. (Sept., 1981) It owns and controls 80 % of the Earth's open market

bankable assets, \$ 1 trillion in monetary gold bullion. Facing it is a giant of noncapitalist forces controlling two-thirds of humanity. The 200 largest manufacturing firms control 60% of U. S. industry. (and constantly boast of their innumerable diverse operations - inefficient, as conglomerates don't compete, but agree on allotting various areas for each division to monopolize. All corporations should have to divest themselves of stock in other corporations, as the only means - along with full ground rent assessment, general availability of patents, and nationalization of natural monopolies - of effecting antimonopoly laws. Du Pont had to sell its stock in G. M.)

Modern weapons are becoming so sophisticated and small that arms control will be impossible. The next generation will see arms invisible. Admiral Stansfield Turner: "Any hope of limiting total destructiveness is slipping past us." (We obviously need close popular control of government and industry, a reorientation of sharing in the benefits of nature and community development, in place of current exploitation of everything by the few) Quality has given way to attractive packaging. Eisenhower found the military-industrial complex becoming a malignant economic organism. Heads of state and industry don't see their problems realistically as being governed by GRUNCH, nor see its possibility as an unwitting agent of evolution, ending the era of nation-states, to be replaced by an economically successful integrated planetary society.

A presidential election costs \$ 50 million; senate \$ 10 million; house \$ 5 million. (Candidates obligated by monopoly campaign funds. Should be replaced by limited, equal free media time and space) Atomic war capability unusable - produces profits, and keeps Soviet Union from providing their people with consumer goods. The atomic power monopoly is worldwide. Morgan controlled utility stocks and bonds, using their sales to buy copper and steel. Raising utility and metal prices raised stock prices, enabling him to open banks. Bank money used to underwrite industry enterprises, farm machinery. A bad hog market caused farms to be foreclosed, small banks, then large banks to fail. World War profits, handled by Morgan, came to the U. S., and Morgan controlled the earth.

The "Moral Majority" - a decided minority - are guilty of the most vicious bigotry, attempting to repress all free thought. The U. S. often had no national debt until World War I, which left a debt of \$ 33 billion. As the government cannot now pay even interest, by "money accounting" it is bankrupt. Curtailing social programs is a feeble pretense at financial solvency, looking toward an early balanced budget, warranting banks in lending more money for the most profitable business, that of armaments, with an ultimate goal of \$ 6 trillion in ten years. The "Free World" media is relied upon to keep us from knowing that our government is bankrupt. With price, rent, interest and wage controls removed in 1952, we had considerable inflation, with money equities and buying power losing out. "Federal" Reserve interest rate increases do not halt inflation, but increase bank profits. If Social Security tax deductions had been invested in leading common stocks since their inception, the majority of our senior citizens would be multimillionaires. (As there is no such thing as economic interest - a return to an inanimate object - only a return to monopoly - which should not exist, current incomes should simply be used to pay for current expenses)

Our 150 nations are 150 clots in our planet's economic bloodstream. They belong in an omni-integrated world family. When President Kennedy inaugurated his "Alliance for Progress" he intended to propose that the standard of living for the U. S. and Latin America be equalized, but it would then have meant the lowering of our standard of living. It can now mean the raising of theirs. It could always have meant an adequate living, as all societies supported themselves before the domestic monopolization of the earth, colonialism and neo-colonialism. Voting control, to end all favoritism, is the key to humanity.)