

Smith's Journal

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Dr. Arthur Butz
Northwestern University
Evanston, Ill.

Dear Mr. Butz:

I've recently finished reading your book on "THE HOAX" and found that it shook my faith in the holocaust story, a story I have believed unquestioningly for thirty years. I'm no scholar and have little talent for research so I'll leave the authentication of your work to others. I do want to say that reading your book has been a valuable experience for me, that it has given me a real insight in to how ~~lazy~~ lazy, intellectually, I can really be.

I've tried to find out what the critical reception to your book has been. Am I crazy, or has there been no critical reception? I have run down a few items in the New York Times that were printed in 1977- 78, and there was the letter by John Bennet passed around at the Libertarian Party convention here in Los Angeles, but aside from those few items I don't find anything. From what I have heard through the grapevine, and the little I've been able to find out myself, your book appears to be effectively suppressed, a victim of some sort of "cultural censorship," not directed but achieved through some curious national consensus to refuse to look at it.

To that point, I would like to work with the book in SMITH'S. This is a small quarterly (irregular) with libertarian/anarchist sentiments. Again, ^{WORK} not with its content so much as with its suppression. I am writing the major holocaust historians, the West Coast press and media and religious figures, pertinent committees and organizations and so on, asking each of them if they know of the book, if they've read it, why not, and so on. I'm not sure at all what will come of it, but something will. I expect a certain pattern in the responses I do get and at this time I am thinking of detailing the pattern itself, laying it out as clearly as I can. By the time I get well into the project I may decide to handle it some other way.

Do you have something you have written about you experiences trying to market your book and trying to discuss it publicly that I might use- reprint- in SMITH'S? Are ~~there~~ some people you would like me to approach to see if I can get something out of them? Do you have an idea about what help you would like to ~~get~~

