

Arendt, Hannah. *On Violence*. ny: Harcourt, Brace, & World, inc., 1969.

13 violence not an abstract notion in the history of ideas until modernity: “(If one turns the ‘idealistic’ concept of thought upside down, one might arrive at the ‘materialistic’ concept of labor; one will never arrive at the notion of violence.)

15 student rebellion a global phenomenon

“Behind it, however, stands the illusion of Marx’s society of free producers, the liberation of the productive forces of society, which in fact has been accomplished not by the revolution but by science and technology.” [techno critique of Marxism]

16(To be sure, nothing is more important to the integrity of the universities—which, in Senator Fulbright’s words, have betrayed a public trust when they became dependent on government-sponsored research projects—than a rigorously enforced di vorce from war-oriented research and all connected enterprises; but it would be naive to expect this to change the nbature of modern science or hinder the war effort, naive also to deny that the resulting limitation might well lead to a lowering of university ssstandards.

23 Western representative democracy (which is about to lose even its merely representative function to the huge party machines that “represent” not the party membership but its functionaries) and against the Eastern one-party bureaucracies, which rule out participation on principle.

25 The notion that there is such a thing as progress of mankind as a whole was unkn own prior to the seventeenth century, developed into a rather common opinion among the eighteenth-century hommes de lettres, and became an almost universally accepted dogma in the nineteenth.

The seventeenth century, in this respect best repressed by Pascal and Fontenelle, thought of progress in terms of an accumulation of knowledge through the centuries, whereas for the eighteenth the word implied an “education of mankind” whose end would coincide with man’s coming of age. [Marx.s classless society still bears mark of Age of Enlightenment.]

27 irrational faith of liberals in growth

29 The ceaseless, senseless demand for original scholarship in a number of fields, where only erudition is now pppossible, has led either to sheer irrelevance, the famous iknowing of more and more about less and less, or to the development of a pseudo-scholarship which actually destroys its object.

Progress can no longer sefve as the standard by which to evaluate the disastrously rapid change-processes we have let loose.

44 power: human ability to at in concert—never property of individual but to the group

strength: individual property... It is the nature of a group and its power to turn against independence, the property of individual strength.

Force: forces of nature or circumstances—energy released by physical or social movements

authority: vested in persons or institutions. Its hallmark is unquestioning recognition by those who are asked to obey, neither coercion nor persuasion is needed.

Violence: instrumental character >> implements of violence

64 Long-range weapons, seen by the polemologists as having freed man's aggressive instincts to the point where the controls safeguarding the species do not work any longer... Soldiers, one would like to continue the argument, are not killers, and killers—those with "personal aggressiveness" — are probably not even good soldiers. (Otto Klineberg.)

64 under certain circumstances, violence is the only way to enact justice

66 This violent reaction against hypocrisy, however justifiable in its own terms, loses its *raison d'être* when it tries to develop a strategy of its own with specific goals; it becomes 'irrational' the moment it is 'rationalized', that is, the ...

67 initiation into community of violence—each individual perform an irrevocable action

72 The enormous growth of productivity in the modern world was by no means due to an increase in the workers' productivity, but exclusively the development of technology, and this depended neither on the working class nor on the bourgeoisie, but on the scientists. The "intellectuals", much despised by Sorel and Pareto, suddenly ceased to be a marginal social group and emerged as a new elite, whose work, having changed the conditions of human life almost beyond recognition in a few decades, has remained essential for the functioning of society. [technicians]

85 Whatever the administrative advantages and disadvantages of centralization may be, its political result is always the same: monopolization of power causes the drying up or oozing away of all authentic power sources in the country.