

9 SEPT 93

BRIAN LAMB & Co:

LAST NIGHT YOU SAID THAT THE RETROSPECTIVE ON 1968 WAS STEVEN SCULLY'S IDEA AND YOU THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE HE WAS TOO YOUNG TO REMEMBER IT FOR HIMSELF. I HOPE YOU ARE WRONG. IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT THE CHILDREN OF THE '70'S HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF THAT TIME. SO I HOPE TO GOD YOU ARE WRONG.

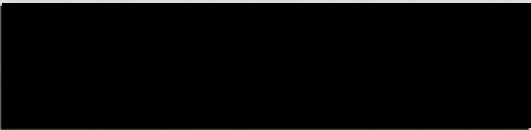
I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD IN 1968. BUT I REMEMBER WATCHING THE CBS EVENING NEWS SINCE THE AGE OF THREE. I REMEMBER SEEING DAN RATHER AND OTHER REPORTERS IN THE JUNGLES AND RICE PADDIES OF VIET NAM. I REMEMBER WATCHING SOLDIERS SLOG THROUGH THE MUD. I REMEMBER THE ARC OF TRACER BULLETS IN THE SKY. I REMEMBER THE HELICOPTERS, GUNSHIPS, FILLING THE AIR. AND I REMEMBER TET JUST AS CLEARLY AS I REMEMBER THE FALL OF SAIGON AND THE SHINY, FLAG-DRAPED, ALUMINUM COFFINS BEING UNLOADED FROM JETS BY HONOR GUARDS AND THE RETURN OF OUR POW'S TO AN HONORABLE WELCOME THAT HAD BEEN DENIED THEIR BRETHREN. AND I REMEMBER THE BODY COUNTS.

I ALSO REMEMBER THE ASSASSINATIONS OF BOBBY AND DR. KING. IT SEEMED AS IF OUR WORLD WAS SPIRALING DOWN IN CHAOS. RIOTS ALL BLUR

IN MY MEMORY INTO ONE CONGLOMERATION CENTERED AROUND THE DEATHS OF THESE MEN. AND WHAT I REMEMBER MOST WASN'T A FEELING OF REVOLT OR REBELLION, IT WAS THE QUESTION I ASKED THAT GOT NO ANSWER, "GRANDPA, WHY ARE THOSE POLICEMEN BEATING THOSE KIDS?"

TO BE BROUGHT UP IN A SOCIETY THAT PROCLAIMS ITS LOVE OF FREE SPEECH AND THE RIGHT TO PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY; TO BE BROUGHT UP IN A SOCIETY THAT TELLS YOU THE POLICEMAN IS YOUR FRIEND; TO BE BROUGHT UP IN A SOCIETY THAT TELLS YOU THE GOVERNMENT IS YOUR FRIEND AND IS THERE TO HELP YOU; AND THEN TO FIND OUT THAT IT WAS ALL TALK WAS SO TRAUMATIC TO ME THAT I NOW SPEND A GOOD PART OF MY TIME AND MONEY KEEPING UP WITH WHAT MY REPRESENTATIVES DO AND VOICING MY OPINIONS TO THEM.

IF I REMEMBER ALL THIS AND MORE, WHY DOESN'T STEVE SCULLY AND OTHERS OF MY GENERATION REMEMBER IT TOO?



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