

I WAS ANGRY

There'd been a war on poverty waged for 6 to 8 years by the time I got home.
A drafted medic, now working with kids, probation and parole ...

We had a million-man – and woman - army back then.
Spent a trillion bucks on a foreign war –
buried 50 to 60 thousand of us –
Another 2 million or more of them.

Yet, here was Russel – a sweet, loving, oh-so-young 17-yr old –
sent off to the state pen ...
'cause there was no way a family of four could live on 4 bucks a day back then.

I don't exaggerate! Four bucks a day, came in a monthly check in the mail on or about the 10th ...
And what did those sick Republicans say? That oh-so-hated welfare check!

Welfare ... my ass!

His choice, his momma told him – him the man of the house –
go out and rob, someone or a store, or have one of his sisters get down on her back,
spread her legs, become a whore.

So, 27 times, Russel stuck up old women, with nothing but a stick
27 times - and the judge finally said he was sick of it ...
Declared him an adult and sent him away ...
This sweet, innocent boy – off to become some thug's prey.

Didn't take a genius to realize something was wrong -
A nation, willing to waste so much on war ...
Yet unwilling to double what a family had to live on.

We threw a trillion bucks away ... buried countless numbers of dead
But were so twisted, as a society – totally sick in the head.

Yeah, I was angry back then ... and I still am.
I'm sick of sanctimonious billionaires pushing their trickle-down scam.
And if any of you think what's happening makes sense,
get out and see for yourself the human cost of greed and arrogance.

What if, instead, we had put a million to work, not carrying a gun, but helping the poor,
Not spending a trillion - killing 2 million, but making the hungry among us whole,
That war on poverty – just might have been won ...

[pause]

And I'd get to be here telling you what a great nation we've become.
MAGA my ass. I'm pissed.