

3rd Bn 18th Artillery and 553 Association Newsletter

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[Uncontrollable slaughter](#)
[Drug Cartels to Mexican Police: 'Join Us or Die'](#)

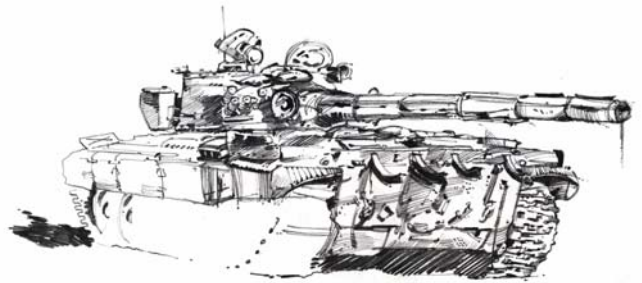


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Hello membership!

Another summer has come and down here in Florida it means the traffic dies down a bit and you don't have to wait as long to get into a restaurant. The beaches are not as crowded and the pace of day to day living slows down a little but not as much as it did twenty years ago. Even the weather has change its pattern from what it was, it use to rain every afternoon around two o'clock and you could set your watch by it but now, it's a waiting game. When the rains do come it's a deluge that floods roads, yards and parking lots. Then the hurricanes start. Sometimes, one will appear so fast it doesn't get a name and we refer to it as the no name storm, it sit just off the coast for days, not moving, giving us a lot of wind and rain but little in the way of real damage. Now we get warnings, lots of warnings that we may be hit, the stores become bloated with people buying

stuff to stock up, I call it panic time. I use to be the same way, brought plywood by the ton, tape and dried food, can water and food maybe spent three to four hundred dollars to be ready... not counting the labor of cutting plywood and fitting it to the windows. Storing it for next season never worked for me it always got used for projects around the house even if I did save some I still had to replace what I used and at 100 bucks a sheet(if you get the good 3/4 inch stuff) it added up fast. Not anymore..... I was forced to buy wind damage insurance by my mortgage company and if I didn't buy it they would add it anyway. It's very costly down here. My house was built in the early fifty's out of cypress wood, they use that a lot because termites and other bugs hate it. In those fifty eight years it has stood here, not one hurricane hit, no wind damage, no flood damage, nothing. It doesn't take a brain to figure out I am paying for the lack of funds to cover insurance cost the fools didn't have ready. My point ? I don't do anything to protect my house now, if it gets damage they can fix it if I got to move out while it gets repaired, they can pay the cost, if water blows in under my garage door and it will in high wind, Hey....replace the door. I am paying for it. (Editor)

Reunion news

Only a few months left and they will go fast so get your plans in order we would like to see a good turn out.

Check in: 9/17 – 9/18 10am – 4pm
Dinner: 9/19 - 35.00 per person,
breakfast 12.00 per person made
payable in advance to our President
Gary Olsen

103 E Main St..
Watonga, OK 73772
918 605 2428 Cell

He needs to know your needs 30 days in advance so he can place your orders.

Place how many meals and total cost please.

Dinners_____at 35.00 per person.

Total_____

Breakfast_____at 12.00 per person.

Total_____

Registry fee.....at 10.00 per person.

Total_____

The Radisson Hotel at Opryland features 303 standard guest rooms including 2 suites. In-room amenities include complimentary High-Speed Internet, data ports, voice mail, on-demand movies, coffee makers, hair dryers and ironing boards. When it's time to relax, guests at the Radisson Hotel at Opryland can unwind in their indoor pool, sauna, and Jacuzzi. The Radisson Hotel at Opryland also offers free shuttle service to/from Gaylord Hotel Opryland, General Jackson Showboat, Opry Mill Malls, Grand Ole Opry and Gaylord Springs Golf Links. The Radisson Hotel at Opryland features casual dining at Applebee's a full-service family restaurant known for its "Eating good in the neighborhood" theme. Delicious menu items served in a classy musical atmosphere are featured at Applebee's Neighborhood Bar & Grill, open for breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Radisson Hotel at Opryland. Located right across the street from Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center off Briley Parkway - 155 North/or South at exit 12. Just 1.5 miles from the Grand Ole Opry, General Jackson Showboat, Gaylord Springs Golf links, and Opry Mills Mall.

The Radisson Hotel at Opryland makes an ideal base for visiting the Opryland area. With a prime Nashville location in the heart of Gaylord Opryland near great entertainment, the Radisson Hotel at Opryland offers the kind of warm hospitality, inviting atmosphere and topnotch services sure to please business and leisure travelers alike.

Tom Rogers

When we originally started up the 3/18 Arty Assn. I lived in Pacifica, CA (just south of San Francisco, on the coast) I thought it was going to be great to see and hear from some of the guys from the old days. I jumped in feet first. I went to our local Jr. College and took classes on web page creation, HTML and all the rest of it.

I put together the first web site for our growing Association. For a while I sent out the Newsletter. I drove down to San Diego to meet with Hal and show him stuff on how to use the computer etc. and get photos. I drove to Phoenix to try to teach a guy named John (can't remember his last name) how to maintain the web site, he was to be my asst. web master. That was a total waste of time. Many of the photos on the original web site were my own and some that I received from other sources. I have relayed this story of the 88th Inf. several times to several people that seemed interested in learning it's source. So here goes, one more time (as best as I can remember)

In a place long ago and far, far away No really, some time in November 1965 we (A btry 3/18 Arty) were at Ahn Khe.

88 of us came down on orders. We were designated a provisional Inf. Company. and sent to a Tea plantation to pull perimeter defense at the little air strip. At the time I did not know all this, as a Spec 4 I just was not in the command loop. I was just get up and go. I did not know the name of the plantation until 40 years later, didn't care then and don't really care now. (I think it's name was Kateca.) Any way 1st Sgt. Schell wrote on a piece of card board "88th Infantry C.P." and nailed it to a post and pounded it into the ground in front of his and Capt. Laslie's tent. ***We were never "officially" designated 88th Inf. it was just the 1st Sgt's way of trying to lighten up the situation.*** I personally thought it was funny. And so we all called ourselves "Sgt. Schell's 88th Infantry" and all these years later we still refer to ourselves as "the 88th Inf." You will not find it on any official records or in the military archives. It was just a humorous sign put up by our 1st Sgt.

I would like to see this put to bed once and for all. Maybe you could see to it that it gets put into the Newsletter. please share the story about the 88th Inf. With anyone you want to. None of the 88 that went to the tea plantation went to The Ia Drang Valley. But the some of the guys in the commo section that were left in the rear were taken and put on different details, two were sent to Plei Me special forces camp and worked with graves registration, cleaning the bodies of the 7th Cav. troopers before being sent to Camp Holloway. Some were at Camp Holloway loading choppers with medical supplies, water and ammo and one of our guys rode the choppers out to LZ-X-ray to assist in unloading.

Missing in action

In Memory of Jim Willenburg

ON TIME – ON TARGET

My name is Jim Rowe and I would like to say a few words in memory of Jim Willenburg. I first met Jim in July of 1964. I had just returned from Germany with the 3/18th which rotated at about 60% strength. In order to be combat ready we had to go to 100% strength and pass the Combat Readiness Tests. In order to do that we received about 142 green replacements who had not gone through their Advanced Individual Training in Artillery. We had to take these troops through their eight weeks of AIT and pass the Combat Readiness Tests in short order.

The Regulations stipulated that individuals going through their AIT could not be required to work beyond their eight hours per day of AIT instruction. That brought up the problem of how and when we could train people to fill specific jobs. The solution was to ask the new people to volunteer to take classes in the evening related to special jobs such as Fire Direction, Survey and Communications. Jim volunteered for and was selected to be trained in Fire Direction. As a Fire Direction Officer I was involved in this training. That is where I first met Jim Willenburg. I found Jim to be a highly motivated troop that consistently gave more than expected of him. He was outstanding in every way.

The 88 guys at the tea plantation had it easy compared to some of the others. As for the CIB I don't understand why Charlie feels that we (the 88) are eligible. I was never shot at or fired my weapon with hostile intent. But it was a novel idea. Even though I was in an artillery unit I carried an Infantry MOS. I was a field communications crewman. (MOS 310) Humped a radio, ran comms wire and was an RTO in the recon section. I spent a lot of time out in the field in three man teams bringing fire down on Charlie (VC not Martin). I spent time on mountain tops acting as radio relay between the field and the rear. From 1958 to 1962 I was an Interior Communications Electrician in the Navy. (on the USS Shangri-La CVA-38 and Essex class aircraft carrier) Joined the Army in Dec. 1962 went to basic and AIT at Ft. Ord. Went to Jump School and Ranger School at FT. Benning, GA. (washed out of Ranger School) 2nd tour in Nam was 1969-70 with the 101st Airborne Div. Co.L 75th Ranger Bn. and there I earned my CIB. I got wounded and when I got out of the hospital I got back into electronics and spent the last 10 years in the Signal Corps. Retired as an SFC in 1980. Got a job with the San Francisco Municipal Railroad as an Electronics Technician, retired there in 1995 and moved to AZ. in 2003 where I am now, retired, fat and happy. That for a small part is my life story. . . . TOM

Thanks Tom for your story I found it very interesting and I'm sure many members will as well. Hope it will inspire others to tell their stories to Garry Baxter
Newsletter editor

I completed my military obligation in July of 1965 and returned to Kansas where I was from. When I left Fort Lewis I had no idea the unit was going to Vietnam. When I found out I felt bad. I went through all of this training with these guys and didn't get to go test my training. I had lost contact with those I served with until 2002 when I discovered the 3/18 Artillery Association on the internet. I was very excited to renew friendships. I put an email notice on the unit web site one evening asking that anyone that I served with contact me and at 0700 the next morning the phone rang. The fellow said, "Is this Lt. Rowe" and I answered it was a long time ago. He said this is Jim Willenburg do you remember me. I didn't at first but as we talked it came back to me. I told Jim how I felt bad about not going with the unit to Nam and he said that I might not have been there physically but I was there spiritually. He said many times when things got hot someone would say, "Remember how Rowe taught us to do it". That made me feel good. That was what Jim Willenburg was all about. He seemed to always be working to make the situation right, to make people feel better. After talking to many of the people who served with Jim in Vietnam I was satisfied that he was one of the finest Fire Direction Computer men there was. He made sure the unit lived up to their motto, **"ON TIME – ON TARGET."**

We all know Charlie and how he was and is always attacking people. Right after the Fort Sill reunion Charlie lashed out at several people and I was on the list. I was outraged and talked to Jim about it. Jim told me to ignore him because if you respond it would be like throwing fuel on

the fire. I followed Jim's advice and he was right. Of all the threats, accusations, and terrible attacks Charlie made on Jim, I never heard him lash back. In fact he said he felt sorry for him. That is an example of a real man.

STEPHEN WILLIAM HOWELLS, 76, born in Brooklyn, New York to Owen Newton Howells and Helen Colette Matthews Howells, passed away in Houston, Texas on April 18, 2008 after a 4 year courageous battle. Stephen received his College Entrance Diploma from the University State of New York, Cathedral College of the Immaculate Conception Preparatory Seminary, Class of 1949 and received his BA Sciences Degree, St. Bonaventure University, Class of 1954. Following his education, Stephen served in the US Army during the Korean War. He was formerly employed with Colgate Palmolive, Europe, ACME Shears, National Sales Manager, USA before working for WW Grainger where he ultimately retired. Stephen loved Mexico, a second home for he and Rosemarie, they spent much time in Puerto Vallarta and enjoyed the company of many treasured friends over the last 25 years. Survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Rosemarie Herbst Howells; children, Heidi Bjelke, Dennis Howells, Marsha Kirychuk, Kenneth Howells and Andrew Howells. Also surviving are several grandchildren. A celebration of Stephen's life will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 25, 2008 at Waltrip Funeral Directors. For those desiring, memorial contributions may be directed to the Multiple Myeloma Foundation.

Rebecca's teenage advice for teenage girls

Everyone says you should do it. But, you have that gut feeling you shouldn't? Normally when you have that feeling something isn't right. For instance, losing your virginity. Your friends "done" it. Why not try? You need to wait until you know you're ready. Sometimes people think they are when they are far from it. Sex is very dangerous actually. So many things go bad with it. You always hear about teen pregnancy and diseases. Yeah if you ask me, it is pretty scary. There's nothing wrong with having sex but, if you're not ready for it there can be. Personally when I first had sex I wasn't ready. I was 13. I got pressured into it by someone older. I was terrified. I thought he actually "loved" me. But, he was only using me for the sex. I really didn't think so at first, I thought it was love then I realized I was being used when it was too late. If I could I would take it back in a heart beat. But, things are different now. It doesn't bother me anymore because I found someone way better. I thought when I gave him my virginity that he would want to be with me. But, he was cheating on me with other people and it was a mess. Sex is different in many ways. If you're lucky you cherish it with someone who really loves you instead of making the same mistake I did. Hopefully, if you're ever in that situation you will think about consequences that are possible. Honestly sex is something that can wait. Don't be rushed for it.

Editor's note, Rebecca is one of my nieces

War on Terrorism

The tears of many shed,
As the heart of our country bled.
Too many already dead,
Envy is a thing that many of us dread.

Everything gone, in the blink of an eye
"Look there!" people shouted, pointing to
the sky
Smoke turned blue to black acting as dye
Many people turned to run, acting mighty
shy.

All it took was two
A fire rekindled, blazing anew
An uncomfortable feeling settled upon us,
such as that of a pristine shoe.
Then off to Iraq, our soldiers they flew.

None could've predicted, the long war
ahead.
Sleepless nights, lying in your bed.
Innocent people, home, still waiting to
wed.
Hoping, praying, your loved one will not
deal with any lead.

One day the war will end.
One day the hurt hearts once ripped, will
mend.
The backbone of our country will once
again have room to bend.
But first we must finish what we sought
to defend.

Riley B

Editor's note, Riley is one of my grand daughters and so far the only one who inherited my Artistic soul, her work and mine can be found at these sites

<http://baxart.deviantart.com/>

<http://cheeto-rlb17.deviantart.com/>

I didn't say we were Vermeer's

This newsletter is open to anyone who wants to have a say including kids and teens, send it to me at Baxart@aol.com

Do not be in a hurry; depend upon it, the right Man will come at last; you will in the course of the next two or three years, meet with somebody more generally unexceptional than anyone you have yet known, who will love you as warmly as ever He did, and who will so completely attach you, that you will feel you never really loved before.

(Jane Austen (1775-1817), British novelist. Letter

The Silent Sea

Shades of green and aqua blue
The sea painted a thousand hues
Beneath thundering ocean wave
Out of the reach of mariners graves
A living testimony swims in majesty
once the rulers of the sea
A whale song rings from beneath the
ocean
A song of praise and true devotion
To the God of creation and of the sea
A sea being robbed by cruel thieves
The whale song drifts silently away
The hands of man have silenced their
praise
As God looks down in his majesty
As tears trickle down on the silent sea.

Debi Fields

He Sails The Seven Seas

Strong winds blow into your wide
outstretched arms,
Harnessing them for all they are worth.
And just as a windmill fuels our small farms,
The wind keeps you going, bringing good
mirth.
Ocean water beats on you from all sides.
Foaming at the mouth, none as strong as her.
Steering your rudder, as well as the tides,
Cold eyes frighten you, and yet you must
care.
Despite her ever present influence,
You sail on, through rocks, waves, fog,
storms and more.
Patching up holes, even those in past tense.
The time will come for you to walk on shore.
And so, you must continue your voyage,
Enjoy the breeze, whilst leaving your
frottage.

Riley

I Am My Own Author

Creepy crawlies,
Bumps in the night.
Slimy things,
And things that bite.

Outer space,
And racing ships.
Alien abductions,
Embedded microchips.

Super powers.
Just some 'plain ol' guy.'
ZIP! POW! BOOM!
Then it's time to die.

Things brought to life;
Chemically induced.
"It's alive!"
Panic's produced.

Giant pink blobs,
Man eating bugs,
Sickening sounds,

And gargantuan grubs.

Tiny fairies,
And lean, slender elves.
Ugly bridge trolls,
Who care for only themselves.

Science fiction and fantasy,
Silly stories that appeal to me,
Ideas flow from head to paper,
Fiction is what I strive to be.

Riley

Take All For What It Is

Sleepless night, as your thoughts
bombard you,
Remnants of a past that was.
Difficult to comprehend,
For those who've never lived.

Figments of your vivid memory,
Your imagination brings it to life.
Retching creatures, without a care
Grabbing, clawing, gouging out your soul.

Wishing, hoping, to leave this place,
This place of fermentation.
Reprimanding the Commander in Chief,
No longer are there laws.

Lying, sleeping, the torture continues,
Safe with in our beds.
Across the sea is where nightmares are
born;
'Home is where the heart is.'

Through rise and fall, life goes on,
Immunities are developed.
So roll the dice, and take your turn,
Take nothing for granted.

Riley

Politics of fear

Or, how a lot of people make a living at tax payer's expense, brain washing for money is a way of life for governments and you got to read between the lines or you will be taken in, as in the case of global warming. During the Interglacial Period, the Polar Icecaps melt normally, and Glaciers melt and recede. Fresh water is released until eventually, the temperature of the Earth reduces from a natural combination of orbital wobble change and higher water levels, and the next phase of the ICE AGE occurs: THE GREAT FREEZE. That freeze over is anywhere from 250 to 10,000 years away. In the meanwhile, Polar Cap melt and Glacial decline is a normal process of the Interglacial Period. Were we to base the analysis and evaluation of environmental climate change solely on the meltdowns occurring naturally, we'd be entirely incorrect in our conclusions. We have to actually compare the normal rate of change expected for such a period of glacial decline with today's melts. Which is difficult, since the prior ICE AGE and its Interglacial Period predated modern science, and judging it from geological formations is, at best, difficult if not impossible. Furthermore, we are in a cycle of current and salt content shift, a natural process in the Ocean, that causes heating and cooling in the Ocean, which is not affected by our industrial or automobile emissions, as verified by noted weather and environmental scientist, Dr. William Gray, a pioneer in the science of seasonal hurricane forecasts (news...> "Al Gore gets the Cold Shoulder"), who insists Gore and others are brainwashing and intentionally scaring people: "We're brainwashing our

children," said Dr Gray, 78, a long-time professor at Colorado State University. "They're going to the Gore movie [An Inconvenient Truth] and being fed all this. It's ridiculous!" states Dr. Gray. Of course if you are already brainwash nothing will change your mind not even the coming ice age.

Our Money: War dollars wasted

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER
EDITORIAL BOARD

Who knew Iraq had so much in common with the Bermuda Triangle. Things just keep disappearing there. Like \$36 million in armor and communications gear. Like \$12 billion in shrink-wrapped cash. Like \$10 billion in aid. Like any notion of accountability. Three top federal investigators warned a House committee that of their review of \$57 billion spent on Iraq contracts, about \$10 billion was squandered on overpriced, questionable or just straight-up undocumented expenditures, with \$2.7 billion of that to Halliburton. In its report, the Government Accountability Office outlined the Department of Defense's "poorly defined or changing requirements, the use of poor business arrangements, the absence of senior leadership and guidance, and an insufficient number of trained contracting ... personnel to manage, assess and oversee contractor performance."

"There is no accountability. Organizations charged with overseeing contracts are not held accountable. Contractors are not held accountable. The individuals held responsible are not being held accountable," said David Walker, comptroller general of the U.S. The potential for future financial losses looms

large at a time when President Bush wants more money (\$100 billion) and more troops, which might make asking for answers on spending in Iraq seem like partisan issue. It is not.

We're *all* being robbed here and there is nothing unreasonable with demanding responsible spending. For that matter we should demand responsible war, We can all sit and argue about the war, whether it was right to invade or whether it was not, but that is all irrelevant now, we're there. The question remains though, "*Is what we're doing constitutional*"? The answer appears to be no. First and foremost, the Constitution requires that for the country to be at war, the Congress must declare war, that hasn't happened. On this basis alone we should pull out of Iraq unless the Congress wants to make an official declaration, the problem is both Democrats and Republicans like the idea that the President can invade any country at will. The Democrats do not oppose this, they simply yak a lot for political purposes, no real changes will be made. If that isn't obvious enough, just look at all their resolutions that are meaningless and futile, they have no will to change the war policy. The 100 billion that Bush is seeking for this year is an amount of money beyond belief. Most on the right would agree it must be spent, most on the left believe it should be spent on social and domestic problems. The thing is, wouldn't you, the taxpayer, like to have your share of the 100 billion dollars? It may not be much but I'd like it back. Another problem with the 100 billion dollars is that once again, it is through emergency spending bills: Since the invasion of Iraq in 2003, the

administration has funded the war primarily through emergency spending bills. Many lawmakers want that practice stopped and have demanded that Bush incorporate the war requests into the regular budget for the sake of transparency, with some referring to the emergency bills as a "shadow" budget. Of course it's a shadow budget, what else would it be? The Congress wants to approve it, Bush wants to get it, they're both happy but we the people are screwed over once again. The same goes for the absurd military budget. I am not a pacifist by any means, and I believe a strong national defense system should be in place, but 622 billion dollars? Take off 300 billion, plus take out the 250 total for the Iraqi war, and that's 550 billion dollars that you and I could place back in our pockets. The government doesn't see it like that, though, the question there is "social spending or foreign spending", but both are currently unconstitutional so the answer is neither. The fault here lies within the people of the United States. Rather than demanding a government that doesn't take money, we just quibble over what it should be spent on with little worry about taxes. The "tax cuts" of the Bush administration were paltry and while good, no where near good enough.

Americans need to get out of the socialist Keynesian model of economics which we have seen has failed time after time again, and get back to a classic liberal state of capitalism where war is fought only in national defense, inflation doesn't happen because of the government, and everyone is free.

And just to kick in your thinking juice, think about this.

[The Non Pledge of Allegiance](#)

Posted on May 9, 2008 by Lance

To take a subject from a discussion I was reading, I want to bring up the Pledge of Allegiance:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The pledge I recited my whole life growing up needs to be dissected a little. First, I believe there is a problem with pledging yourself to the flag (or government) of a country. It is no different than swearing an oath to a king or any form of government—you are saying the government is supreme over the individual by taking this pledge of allegiance.

"One Nation Under God" is not that big of a deal to me. The saying really means little, though atheists everywhere seem to object to it like they are having religion "shoved down their throats".

Indivisible. This is the one part of the pledge that should be burned, cast out, and forgotten about. Our country was founded to be able to have states secede and to allow for self-government. The Confederates seceded in 1861 based on the idea of self government. The American Revolution happened in 1776 based on self government. If the current

government is doing something wrong, then there should be absolutely nothing to stop a state from saying “Enough is enough” and leaving the current government. John Locke’s principles of natural law and political theory say that it is man’s responsibility to leave or overthrow such government and form a new one—we can see this idea manifest itself in Jefferson’s Declaration of Independence:

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, **it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government**, and to provide new Guards for their future security. (Emphasis mine)

So, enough with dissecting the pledge. It is more than obvious that it is an antithesis to everything the American Revolution stood for—no pledging your life to a government, the right of secession (with Great Britain in 1776), and individualism. Now it is time to address the man who wrote the pledge: Edward Bellamy.

Edward Bellamy was, according to Wikipedia’s entry, “...an American author and socialist, most famous for his utopian novel, [Looking Backward](#), set in the year 2000.” I encourage everyone to take a look at the novel Bellamy [wrote](#). It really is what socialists have envisioned for over a hundred years but has never happened. Every time the good patriotic free market believing conservative says the pledge of allegiance, I hope he knows he is citing an oath of slavery written by a socialist.

Bellamy was an avid nationalist, bent on making everyone want to work in the “best interest of the state”. Indeed, a very National Socialism type of society. But it gets worse. Bellamy’s original idea of how to salute the flag was one that we all know and love in our movies with Nazis as bad guys.



During the 1930s and into World War II, school systems everywhere quickly changed the salute done to putting your hand over your heart. I am, of course, exaggerating a little on the relationship between the Nazi salute and the old American way. The Swastika was never an “evil” symbol until the Nazis used it—the same applies to the salute. But, it **was** the same kind of salute or so for 40 years. The socialist Edward Bellamy wanted Americans to be in love with their country above their family and their religion. The oath of allegiance was never required except when the North forced Southern states to take an oath of allegiance to regain their rights after the War Between the States. The 1963

Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary defines allegiance as

"the obligation of a feudal vassal to his liege lord, the fidelity of a subject owed to his sovereign or government."

The Pledge of Allegiance is nothing more than a tool to try to make kids understand that their life must be dedicated to the State. The more I have looked into the Pledge, the more I have respect for those "unpatriotic" people who refused to say it throughout the 20th century and into today. Those "unpatriotic" people are the true patriots, adhering to our allegianceless spirit of '76 and not the 1892-forward Federal Tyrannical Oath of Subservience.

The Economic Costs of the Iraq War

Wartime appropriations do not, for example, include the cost of disability payments to veterans wounded in the war, payments that will continue throughout their life spans. Nor do they cover the costs of medical treatment for those seriously injured in the war, or even such basic war-related costs as the replacement of equipment and munitions expended in the conflict or the need to transport soldiers back to their home bases when they rotate out of country. The war has also substantially increased the military's overall recruiting costs, reflected in bigger bonuses and additional recruiters. What's more, by combining the war with aggressive tax cutting, the administration has ensured that the operation is paid for entirely by borrowing money on which interest will need to be paid. The shocking truth, according to Bilmes and Stiglitz, is that if one applies

the Congressional Budget Office's basic assumptions about the duration of the conflict ("a small but continuous presence"), it will cost nearly a staggering \$1.27 *trillion* dollars before all is said and done.

The number is so high as to defy human comprehension. All the numbers ending in "-illion" sound the same. But a trillion is what you get if you spend a million dollars a day ... for a million days. That's 2,737 years -- a cool mil a day, every day, in other words, until the Year of Our Lord 4743. Or, working backward, from the time when Homer wrote the *Iliad* up to now.

The \$270 billion in rounding error is worth another 750 years at the million-a-day rate. That takes us up to the year 5493 -- or back to when Moses fled Egypt.

Anyway you slice it, it's a lot of money. More than enough to fund any sort of "too expensive" pie-in-the-sky liberal domestic scheme. Universal preschool, for example, clocks in at about \$35 billion annually -- cheap enough to get 37 years' worth. But Bush never said invading Iraq would educate our children or fight domestic poverty, so let's not even get into that, for now.

What the President did promise was the following: that regime change would curb nuclear proliferation, weaken al-Qaeda, and create a shining beacon of democracy. What happened? We eliminated a nuclear program that didn't exist, encouraged Iran and North Korea to speed theirs along, offered terrorists a gigantic recruiting opportunity and training ground, and turned Iraq into a

venue for chaos and civil war plagued by death squads. Now, despite the cost in money and lives we are in it up to our necks and Just in case you don't understand that we are in a war for our lives. We are fighting a large group of fanatics, backed by terrorist regimes, who would see our way of life and indeed our very lives destroyed. These people would rule the world, make Islam the only religion and subjugate all women. This is **not** an outcome that we can abide. We must fight and continue to fight until *they* can no longer fight. If it comes to it, we need to be able to make the difficult decisions and take a solid stand that could further anger other people and/or other countries. If we don't show that we are serious, if we negotiate, appease, plead with those who would kill us, we are as good as dead. A good start would be to stop all Muslims from entering the country.

Depressing isn't it? Lets move on to something lighter.

Airships

The dream of a navigable, or dirigible, balloon can be traced to the late eighteenth century. Not until the middle years of the nineteenth century were the first serious attempts made to realize that dream, however. A French experimenter, Henri Giffard, is usually credited with flying the first primitive airship in 1852.

Airships are traditionally divided into three classes: rigid, semi-rigid and non-rigid. Non-rigid airships, or pressure airships, depend on the internal pressure of the gas in the envelope to maintain their shape. The blimps so familiar to

viewers of major sporting events are pressure airships. Semi-rigid airships are pressure airships with a rigid keel structure.

Beginning in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, French constructors were active and successful in the design and operation of very large semi-rigid military airships. During the period 1900-1906, small, usually single-person, blimps of the sort popularized by the Brazilian Alberto Santos-Dumont were used to entertain mass audiences in Europe and America. It was the emergence of the German Zeppelin during the years 1900-1913 that marked the genuine coming of age of the rigid airship, however.

Vehicles of commerce and weapons of war, Zeppelin airships offered the first practical means of transporting very heavy loads over very long distances through the air. As such, they served as transitional vehicles, performing a variety of duties from bombing enemy cities to providing transoceanic passenger service in an era when those tasks were beyond the capability of heavier-than-air craft. The era of the great rigid airship came to an end before World War II, when airplanes were able to carry substantial payloads over transoceanic distances at far higher speeds. Ultimately, basic technological limitations led to the demise of the rigid airship. The catastrophic destruction of the airship *Hindenburg* by fire in May 1937 marked the effective end of the rigid airship, although the dream of reviving the era of the "ships in the sky" continues to capture the imagination of enthusiasts.

Blimps continued in service with the U.S. Navy through World War II and into the era of the Cold War before being dropped from the inventory. Pressure airships continue to thrill spectators and to serve the needs of the media and advertisers. Proponents of the rigid airship continue to search for an economic niche that would justify a return of the large rigid airship.

U.S. soldier fulfills his mission of getting Iraqi girl new legs

May 9, 5:24 PM ET

BAGHDAD — Staff Sgt. Luis Falcon, 38, was patrolling the streets of Baqouba, north of Baghdad, when he saw Shahad Abbas. The 11-year-old girl was in a large decrepit wheelchair, and the stumps of her legs where her calves should have been were crusted with dried blood. Falcon couldn't just walk on, so he stopped to talk. He came back the next day and the day after that, then every day for six months, bringing her toys, gauze for her legs, a new wheelchair. Anything she asked for he would bring. In a war that Falcon no longer really understood, Shahad became his mission. So when she asked for legs, that became his mission, too. On Friday his dream and hers came true, just three weeks before he's scheduled to leave Iraq. Shahad was fitted with prosthetic limbs in a U.S. military-funded clinic in Baghdad that normally provides artificial limbs for wounded members of the Iraqi security forces. "We created a bond, and I didn't need a translator to interpret the bond we had," Falcon said. With no little girls of his own, he thought of Shahad as his daughter and carried a picture of her smiling in the shoulder pocket of his uniform.

Iraq has one of the largest populations of amputees in the world, though a precise count isn't available. There are the tens of thousands of people who lost their limbs in the 1980s, during the eight-year war with Iran. Thousands more were injured in the first Gulf War. And then there's the current conflict, which has cost many people their legs and arms in bomb blasts. Shahad lost her legs as she was walking to school when a roadside bomb exploded nearby. Two pieces of shrapnel are still lodged in her back to remind her of that day. Her little brother, Ali, was killed.

One day, Falcon, a New Yorker from 1st battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, asked her what she wanted. He expected her to ask for a toy. "I'll get you anything you want," he recalled saying. "I want legs so I can walk to school," she told him. One day she planned to be a doctor. School was important to her. It was a daunting request. The family was too poor to pay for expensive prostheses. The travel alone to an equipped clinic would be too expensive. Her father is unemployed and ill. So Falcon, who admits he wasn't sure about the Iraq war, wasn't sure he was making a difference, decided he'd get Shahad her legs. He went to his commander, to his chaplain, to anyone who would listen. The quest was frustrating and took months of pleas. He threatened to walk away from the Army if he couldn't give Shahad legs. "Sometimes I couldn't figure out what made sense about being here. ... Are we making a difference are we not?" he said. "But I looked at her, right there, and it all made

sense." In one plea for Shahad's legs, he wrote: "Since I have been in Iraq , seeing her has given me every reason I need to justify our presence here. If nothing made sense, Shahad did." Jeffrey Gardner , the public health officer in the American Provincial Reconstruction Team in Diyala, the province where Baqouba is the capital, saw the plea and knew he could help. He made calls to the Iraqi army's surgeon general, Army Brig. Gen. Samir Abdullah Hassan . Eventually, he was able to win permission for Shahad to be treated at the clinic, which was founded in 2005 by Chris Cummings , a prosthetist from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Cummings said the clinic has fitted 500 people with artificial limbs since its founding. Some, he said, were civilians, like Shahad. He recalled a pair of sisters in their 20s who worried that without limbs they'd never marry. On Friday, Shahad arrived at the clinic to get her legs. She wore a pretty blue denim dress and dangling earrings, and her mother and uncle wheeled her into the clinic. Iraqi technicians used a special machine to create a 3-D image of the top half of her leg. They measured where the calf and foot would have been had they not been blown off. Falcon mussed her hair, and her mother, Wahida Jabbar Mohammed , stood nearby. "Don't be scared," her mother said. "I'm not scared," Shahad answered. "I want to walk." By Friday afternoon she was taking her first steps. At first she was tentative and a little scared. Falcon called out, " Sasha , come give me a hug." With a sloppy grin on her face, she took several shaky steps into his arms. "She was looking at my legs, and I was looking at her legs," he said. "Thank God." Falcon doesn't see his mission as completed. He pulled the picture of him and Shahad

from his pocket and looked at it with concern. In three weeks, he'll be gone. Who will check on her? Who will bring her medical supplies and call in favors to help her? "I don't care how long it takes," he said. "I'll come back and find her."

By Leila Fadel, McClatchy Newspapers Fri
thanks to J. S. [Jim} Brigham Jr. LTC
USAR Ret
President 7th US Cavalry Association

The way it was

So many letter writers have based their arguments on how this land is made up of immigrants. Ernie Lujan for one, suggests we should tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren't being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry. Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today's American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any longer. Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented .

Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground. They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home. They had waved good bye to their birth place to give their children a new life and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture. Nothing was

handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them to trade for a future of prosperity. Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out.

My father fought along side men whose parents had come straight over from Germany , Italy , France and Japan . None of these 1st generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan . They were defending the United States of America as one people. When we liberated France , no one in those villages were looking for the French-American or the German American or the Irish American. The people of France saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country.

Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up another country's flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here. These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one red, white and blue bowl. And here we are in 2008 with a new kind of immigrant who wants the same rights and privileges Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement card guarantee of being faithful to their mother country. I'm sorry, that's not what being an American is all about.

I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900's deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life I think they would be appalled that they are being used as an example by those waving foreign country flags. And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty , it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill I wouldn't start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

(signed) Rosemary LaBonte

In this day and age I think its important that we look closely at our government, that we worry as much about it as we do our enemies , can we trust a congress that has voted its self a pay check 6 times higher, if not more then what we could make, free medical and a life time retirement check, plus a host of other benefits ? Just who are they working for? Thinking about running for president, you can't afford it. That means only the rich have a chance to get the job, the rest of us have little or no chance at all, maybe you think that only men or women who have that kind of money should get the job, if you do shame on you, lots of good men and women are in every walk of life , not rich but most certainly good leaders, I think the silent majority has been silent far to long, let to many things slide by without much of a protest, let ourselves be tax far to much and I don't even want to think of the depth our government owes and to who.

Editor

**The Original Thirteenth Article of
Amendment
To The Constitution For The United
States**

"If any citizen of the United States shall accept, claim, receive, or retain any title of nobility or honour, or shall without the consent of Congress, accept and retain any present, pension, office, or emolument of any kind whatever, from any emperor, king, prince, or foreign power, such person shall cease to be a citizen of the United States, and shall be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under them, or either of them." On March 12, 1819 the State of Virginia, with the enactment and publication of the laws of Virginia, became the 13th and **FINAL** state required to [ratify](#) the above article of amendment to the Constitution For The United States, thus making it the Law Of The Land. With the enactment of Act No. 280, March 12, 1819, which was [Voted, En Bloc](#), and publication of the Revised Code, the State of Virginia notified the Department of State, the Congress, the Library of Congress, and the President of their action by issuing to each a copy of the Laws of Virginia. This Article of Amendment is intimately connected to questions of war and national defense. It is designed to combat internal subversion and discord sowed by people who are adhering to powers foreign to the Congress of the United States without stepping across the bold Constitutional line of treason. The authors of the TONA wrote it after some additional experience with how the British Empire, as well as other European nations, actually conduct their affairs. It is a corrective and

supplemental measure to go along with Constitutional treason. This Article of Amendment added an enforceable strict penalty, i.e., inability to hold office and loss of citizenship, for violations of the already existing constitutional prohibition in [Article 1, Section 9, Clause 8](#) on [titles of nobility](#) and other conflicts of citizenship interest, such as accepting [emoluments](#) of any kind for services or favors rendered or to be rendered, and is particularly applicable today in the 21st Century as government is increasingly **FOR SALE** to the highest bidder, as foreign and multinational corporations and individuals compete to line the pockets of politicians and political parties to accommodate and purchase protection or privilege, i.e. [honors](#), for their special interests. In terms familiar to the common man, this might quite properly be called the use of [bribes](#) and [graft](#) by individuals and [powers foreign](#), i.e. external, to the Congress of the United States to subvert the constitutional process and suborn our political system and the interests of WE THE PEOPLE.

After appearing in numerous official publications until 1876, this Article "disappeared" from our Constitution, to be replaced by another made nearly 50 years later. You may well ask how such a thing could have happened. So did we. The disappearance of the original 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has been under investigation by independent modern researchers during the past 25 years. We've learned a lot. We now know that the original 13th Amendment was, and still is, the Law Of The Land. The law is still there, waiting only to be publicly recognized and enforced once again to

protect the Sovereignty and Interests of WE THE PEOPLE, and to force the elected representatives of the people to adhere strictly to their solemn and binding Oath of Office, i.e., "I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God." , and to the limitations of government imposed by the Constitution.

This site is brought to you directly by the primary researchers themselves, functioning as the [TONA Research Committee](#). We are dedicated to continuing this research, and to placing all the facts and news on this important subject before the public.

2003 -- A bill, House Concurrent Resolution 10, is now before the New Hampshire legislature, reaffirming New Hampshire's December 9, 1812 ratification of the TONA... See [New Hampshire House Concurrent Resolution 10](#)

We the People of the United States, menaced for the past 100 years by collectivist trends, must seek Revival of Our Strength by re-Educating Ourselves in the Spiritual Foundations, Principles and Ideals which are the bedrock of our Republic, the Principle and Conviction of the Sacredness of every Human Life, and in the understanding of Our Responsibilities in the care and

maintenance of those Foundations. To that end is this Edition presented.

"Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, a troublesome servant and a fearful master. Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action." ----

George Washington, speech of January 7, 1790 in the Boston Independent Chronicle, January 14, 1790

"The establishment of our institutions," wrote President Monroe, "forms the most important epoch that history hath recorded. They extend unexampled felicity to the whole body of our fellow-citizens, and are the admiration of other nations. To preserve and hand them down in their utmost purity to the remotest ages will require the existence and practice of virtues and talents equal to those which were displayed in acquiring them. It is ardently hoped and confidently believed that these will not be wanting." In this era of world-wide social and political change, it behooves us, as never before, to know the fundamentals of our Constitution which, in times of stress as well as in peace, has provided the American people with a more enduring and practical government, and a greater degree of prosperity than any other people have ever had. It is well to remember the words of James Madison as we search for Truth in Self-Government and in Our Understanding of this Great Document of Liberty, Freedom, Justice and Prosperity.

"A popular government without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy, or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever

govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives." -- James Madison letter to W. T. Barry, August 4, 1822

"In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion," wrote Washington in his Farewell Address, **"it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened."**

Therefore, the purpose of this presentation is to make accessible to every citizen and his posterity such knowledge of the Constitution For The United States as will serve him well, in peace or war. But the means of acquiring the information essential to stalwart citizenship has never before been available to the mass of people in as practical and simple form as this presentation on the internet. "Almost every provision in that instrument [The Constitution]," said a great jurist, "has a history that must be understood before the brief and sententious language employed can be comprehended in the relations its authors intended." The simple plan of this presentation is to explain the Constitution by a note to every line or clause that has a story or drama from history back of it, or that has contributed during the 219 years of our life under this document to the welfare of mankind. This method leaves the text of the Constitution and the Amendments in unbroken connection, so that the whole design is plainly seen as the explanation appears immediately under the part to be explained. In addition to showing the historic sources of particular provisions of the Constitution examples are also given

to the application of the clauses in great matters which have arisen during our nation's life. These decisions of the courts are brought down to the present day. They illustrate very clearly that the man in power has undergone no change and that without the prohibitions of the Constitution and the means of giving them immediate effect he would become as dangerous as he ever was to the safety of the government and to the rights and liberties of the people.

One who reads and studies closely the full explanation in the text will discover that each clause or word in the Constitution was carefully designed to protect the individual -- his life, his liberty and his property. By a few, the erroneous belief has been spread that the Constitution is a barrier in the way of American progress. Actually the Constitution is a coat of mail which man himself has fashioned for his own protection, and which he has changed from time to time that the protection might be the more complete -- protection against the abuse of power by his servants in the legislature or Congress, whom he may dismiss at election time or by impeachment, and against whose invasion of his rights he can appeal to the courts; against his executive officers, whom he may dismiss by impeachment or ballot; against his judges, whom he may remove for lack of "good behavior." His government is not his master, as the king or dictator has always been, but his servant."

"In questions of power then," wrote Jefferson, "let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." The Founders of the

Republic feared parties of the people as much as they did a royal government. "Whenever there is an interest and power to do wrong," wrote Madison to Jefferson in 1788, "wrong will generally be done, and not less readily by a powerful and interested party than by a powerful and interested prince."

The notes which are to follow will disclose the truth of that statement. See Also ["Undermining the Constitution - A History of Lawless Government"](#)

There is no more interesting fact to be learned about our Constitution than that of its influence upon the nations of the world. While Americans know in a general way that under their Constitution thirteen scattered agricultural communities have developed into a nation of fifty states of the most varied resources, with the highest social and educational advantages, they are not aware that our Constitution has been copied in whole or in part throughout the earth. "The Republic of the United States," states Lord Bryce, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Washington from Great Britain from 1907 to 1913, author of "The American Commonwealth" (1888) and professor of civil (Roman) law in the University of Oxford from 1870 to 1893, writing ("Studies in History and Jurisprudence", Vol. 1, p.168) of what he called a "rigid" constitution -- one like ours, which can be changed only by a method different from that whereby other laws are enacted or repealed -- "has not only presented the most remarkable instance of this type in the modern world, but has by its success become a pattern which other republics have imitated. . . . The constitutions of all the forty-five [now

50] States of the Union are rigid, being not alterable by the legislatures of those States respectively. This is also true of the Constitution of the Dominion of Canada, which is alterable only by the Imperial Parliament. **Mexico and the five republics of Central America, together with the nine republics of South America, have all adapted constitutions which their legislatures have not received power to change."**

The Commonwealth of Australia adopted a constitution (1900) following ours more closely even than that of Canada (1867) did; and in 1909, after the Boer War, the Union of South Africa adopted a similar constitution, but owing to the diversity of the races and interests which were united, it does not follow the American model so closely as do those of Canada and Australia. France, Belgium, and Switzerland have put in their constitutions many provisions first employed in ours; but to the extent that other countries have failed to follow the Constitution of the United States their governmental structures are weak, as the study of the notes will reveal.

It is to be seen, further, that the underlying principles of our Constitution were not formulated in a day. When our forefathers declared their independence some of the colonists had lived under written charters from the English Crown for one hundred sixty-nine years, or three-fourths as long as the 219 years we have lived under the present Constitution. During that long term many of the Colonies were practically self-governed. The English historian Lecky ("England in the Eighteenth Century") says that all of them enjoyed greater privileges in this

respect than did the English people themselves. It will be seen from a study of the notes that many leading principles of the Constitution were adoptions or adoptions of what the colonists had worked out in experience while they were subjects of the English government; and that after the Declaration of Independence the States framed constitutions of their own from which many important provisions were borrowed by the Constitutional Convention and made a part of our fundamental law. Many other provisions of our Constitution merely state principles of English law as the colonists thought that they should be applied in the new day. Thus, in 1780, seven years before the Constitution was drafted, Massachusetts put in its Constitution what became the classic statement of the American theory of the division of governmental powers:

"In the government of this commonwealth the legislative department shall never exercise the executive and judicial powers, or either of them; the executive shall never exercise the legislative and judicial powers, or either of them; the judicial shall never exercise the legislative and executive powers, or either of them -- to the end that it may be a government of *laws* and not of men."

Nearly a year before the Constitutional Convention sat James Madison began working out what was called "the Virginia plan" of a form of government. Charles Pinckney of South Carolina took with him to the Convention a carefully drafted plan. Alexander Hamilton of New York had drawn such an elaborate scheme of

government "that," says Taylor ("Origin and Growth of the American Constitution"), "it might have gone into effect the next day if it had been adopted." Other plans and suggestions almost without number were presented to the Convention. Taylor says that the three plans mentioned were the real basis of the Convention's work, that they were restatements of principles contained in a document published in Philadelphia by Pelatiah Webster in 1783.

In addition to this careful preparation after more than a century of self-government, there were in the Convention men of extraordinary natural ability and wide experience, like Washington, Franklin, Hamilton and Madison. There were men who had studied law at the Inner Temple in London, who had been educated in the University of Edinburgh, who had been graduated from American colleges, who had been governors of States, chief justices of supreme courts, and men who had achieved distinction at the bar and in business life. Edmund Burke stated in the House of Commons in March 1776, that more books of law were going to America than of any other kind. Of the fifty-five members of the Constitutional Convention, thirty-one were lawyers. Blackstone's Commentaries were taught by Chancellor Wythe in William and Mary College before the Declaration of Independence. John Marshall, Thomas Jefferson, and James Monroe were among his pupils.

When our Constitution was written Harvard College (1636) had been sending out educated young men for just a century and a half, William and Mary

College (1693) had been graduating learned youths for almost a century, Yale College (1701) had been contributing to the education of the people for more than three quarters of a century, and Princeton (1746) had been teaching for half a century. The people were well prepared for their great endeavor.

The task of the Constitutional Convention was not to construct a government from the foundation up. There had already been firmly set by experience thirteen base-stones in the form of State republican governments. Upon these, and for the benefit of their population as a whole, the National structure was placed. This supergovernment was to deal with foreign nations, and also to administer at home all matters of National (as distinguished from State or local) character. The National government was to be supreme in its domain, and the State governments were to be sovereign in all affairs not National or foreign. As will be seen, this duality, while conducing to a happy balancing of governmental powers, has at the same time been the strongest force in political and material advancement. For the Nation has learned from the States, as they have learned from one another and from the Nation. Many changes have been brought about by the action of States which might never have resulted were action by the whole people called for in the first place. Of the numerous illustrations which might be given of the effect of State action upon National opinion perhaps the best is found in the laws (local option or prohibitory) restricting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. Without precedent action and demonstration by the States the Eighteenth Amendment would not

been adopted. This observation may be repeated as womanhood suffrage, the trial of which in many States led to the Nineteenth Amendment. In many ways the competition of the States has been vitalizing and progressive. It is a question whether a vast republic not having such political subdivisions could long stand.

It is not generally mentioned that our present fundamental law is the second written form of government of the United States. The first was called the [Articles of Confederation](#). The Articles went into effect as a government of "the United States of America" in 1781.. In 1777, less than a year after the Declaration of Independence, the Articles which had been drafted were adopted by the Convention chosen by the Continental Congress ¹ to frame them. But owing mostly to disputes regarding western lands (the royal grants to the Colonies reaching westward indefinitely), the last State did not give its ratification until 1781. The Articles were so inadequate that within four years plans originated at Mount Vernon to remodel them. Washington and a company of statesmen recommended the calling of a convention the next year (1786) at Annapolis. Only five States sent representatives and, therefore, the Convention adjourned to the next year at Philadelphia. All the States except Rhode Island were then present by representatives. Washington, a delegate from Virginia, was chosen to preside. "Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair," he said; "the event is in the hand of God." The Convention, which was called to remodel the Articles of Confederation, cast them aside and drafted an entirely new instrument.

Pains have been taken in the notes to state everything simply and clearly, and as fully as the restricted space would permit. As stated at the outset, this explanation of the Constitution has been prepared under the conviction that the American never has had within reach the means of acquiring that knowledge which, as a citizen, he should first of all possess.

To save our Republic, all Americans must unite!!

"The last hope of human liberty in this world rests on us. . . . If we move in mass, be it ever so circuitously, we shall attain our object; **but if we break into squads, every one pursuing the path he thinks most direct**, we become an easy conquest to those who can now barely hold us in check.

I repeat again, that we ought not to schematize on either men or measures. Principles alone can justify that. **If we find our government in all its branches rushing headlong, like our predecessors, into the arms of monarchy, if we find them violating our dearest rights, the trial by jury, the freedom of the press, the freedom of opinion, civil or religious, or opening on our peace of mind or personal safety the sluices of terrorism, if we see them raising standing armies**, when the absence of all other danger points to these as the sole objects on which they are to be employed, **then indeed let us withdraw and call the nation to its tents**. But while our functionaries are wise, and honest, and vigilant, let us move compactly under their guidance, and we have nothing to fear. Things may here and there go a little wrong. **It is not in their power to prevent it. But all will be**

right in the end, though not perhaps by the shortest means." -- Thomas Jefferson to Colonel Wm. Duane, 1811

For two centuries of unexampled social, civil, and material advancement, in which it has been the controlling force, the Constitution has applied itself, adapted itself, developed itself, amended itself, and, through the stress and shock of civil and foreign wars the like of which no other constitution ever felt, it has maintained its equilibrium. The American citizen has reason to believe that his fundamental law contains inherently what the Scriptures call "the power of an endless life."

As the Nation enters the new Millennium the only danger seen is that which has always plagued nations, **dishonest power hungry influence peddling politicians and bureaucrats** whose influence is bought by the **special interests**, dishonest men who have, with impunity, forgotten they have taken a **Sacred Oath to Defend the Constitution and the Nation against ALL enemies, Foreign and Domestic**.

Against this danger, as ever, the Ultimate Defense of the Nation and the Constitution, as a Freedom Loving People and Sovereign Citizens, is entirely dependent on the resolve, the dedication and the faith of

We the People of the United States

Constitution for the United States of America ^A

Adopted July 2, 1788

In effect March 4, 1789

The Preamble

WE THE PEOPLE of the United States, ¹

¹ It is important to notice that this is a government of the people, not of the States. Under the [Articles of Confederation](#), in effect as our first form of "national" government, agreed to by the Continental Congress on November 15, 1777 and in force after ratification by Maryland on March 1, 1782 until the ratification of the Constitution for the United States in 1788 and George Washington's inauguration as the nation's first President under the Constitution on April 30, 1789, the States as political entities, and not the people, entered into **"a firm league of friendship"**, each State retaining **"its sovereignty, freedom and independence."** The new Constitution for the United States brought in a new Nation, the United States of America, deriving its **"just powers from the consent of the governed."**

"The people, the highest authority known to our system," said President Monroe, **"from whom all our institutions spring and whom they depend, formed it."**

"Its language, 'We the People,' is the institution of one great consolidated National government of the people of all the States, instead of a government by compact with the States for its agents," exclaimed Patrick Henry in the Virginia ratifying assembly while leading opposition to its adoption, **"The people gave the [Constitutional] Convention no power to use their name."** Some States restricted the authority of their delegates

to revising the Articles of Confederation. It was claimed that the casting aside of the Articles of Confederation (which could be altered or amended only by the concurrence of every State) for a constitution to become effective when adopted by nine of the thirteen States was revolutionary. It was, in fact, a coup d'Etat. Revision only was uppermost in the minds of many. On February 21, 1787, the Congress existing under the Articles called a convention **"for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation and reporting to Congress and the several legislatures such alterations and provisions therein as shall, when agreed to in Congress and confirmed by the States, render the federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of government and the preservation of the Union."** But it was the belief of the Constitutional Convention that as the new instrument was to go to the people for ratification or rejection, the objections stated by Henry and others were really unimportant.

in Order to form a more perfect Union,²

² Meaning **"a more perfect union"** than had been achieved by the Articles of Confederation.

"In the efficacy and permanency of your Union," wrote Washington in his Farewell Address, **"a government for the whole is indispensable. . . . Sensible of this momentous truth you have improved upon your first essay [the Articles of Confederation] by the**

adoption of a Constitution of government better calculated than your former for an intimate Union and for the efficacious management of your common concerns."

The Union, made **"more perfect"** by the Constitution was nevertheless in later times said to be dissoluble at the pleasure of any State that might wish to secede. In his Farewell Address (1796) Washington had called upon the people **"indignantly"** to frown **"upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts."** To put the question beyond controversy it required a four year Civil War, after the secession of the southern States, beginning with that of South Carolina in December, 1860, following the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency in the preceding month.

In a great debate in the Senate between Daniel Webster of Massachusetts and John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, the former contended that the National Government through its Supreme Court, is the ultimate expounder of its own powers, while the latter stood for what was known as States' Rights and argued for the right of the individual State, under its reserved sovereignty ¹⁶³, to determine such questions for itself, as South Carolina had done (1833) by an ordinance declaring null a tariff law of Congress. Secession, he said, was the States remedy of last resort. Of Calhoun's theory, and of the historic facts with which it presumed to deal, President Lincoln said, in a message (July 4, 1861)

to a special session of Congress called to prepare for the Civil War:

"The States have their status in the Union, and they have no other legal status. If they break from this, they can only do so against law and by revolution. The Union [of the original thirteen independent states under the [Articles of Confederation](#)], and not they themselves procured their independence and their liberty. By conquest or purchase the Union gave each of them whatever of independence and liberty it has. The Union is older than any of the States, [other than the original thirteen independent states under the Articles of Confederation] and in fact, it created them as States."

This is in opposition to the decision of the Supreme Court in *Gordon v. United States* (1864), 117 U S. 697 (703). ¹⁶³

The citizen was not, under the theory of States' Rights, in contact with the National Government. He owed allegiance to his State, and the State, in turn, dealt with the Nation. After the Civil War the [Fourteenth Amendment](#) set that theory aside by declaring: **"All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."** Every citizen now owes allegiance to the Nation as well as to the State.

It is interesting to note with what singular clearness James Wilson of Pennsylvania, a scholar from Edinburgh, laid down in the Constitutional Convention the doctrine which was, eighty years later, removed

from debate by the Fourteenth Amendment [171](#), the question under discussion being whether the State or the people should be represented in the Senate:

"A Citizen of America is a citizen of the general government, and is a Citizen of the particular State in which he may reside. . . . In Forming the general government we must forego our local habits and attachments, lay aside our State connections, and act for the general good of the whole. The general government is not an assemblage of the States, but of individuals."

Profiting by the experience of our country, the United States of Brazil, which was established in 1890, after the overthrow of the monarchy, carefully provided, in a constitution closely copying the fundamentals of ours, for a **"perpetual and indissoluble Union between former provinces into the United States of Brazil."** And in 1900, when the various provinces of Australia were united as the Commonwealth of Australia, the Constitution, also closely following ours and adopting our terms, **"State", "House of Representatives"** and **"Senate"**, provided for an **"indissoluble Federal Commonwealth"**

establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, [3](#)

[3](#) Since the Ethical and Moral Purpose of our Constitution is to "establish Justice"

to insure domestic Tranquility, guidance from moral principles such as equality before the law, the absolute right to petition for redress of grievance without resort to violence against human dignity and liberty, are constituents of "Justice", and necessary to interpret it.

The governmental "judge" made doctrines of Sovereign Immunity and Judicial Supremacy inculcated over the last years of judicial incrementalism are untenable to the Constitution **as written**.

Sovereign Immunity changes the basic relationship between government and its people from one seeking moral justice under the law to one in which people have no enforceable rights and government has no enforceable limits. That concept of moral justice; of striving to *establish Justice* and *domestic Tranquility* is what distinguishes barbarian from civilized society. The Founders designed the Constitution to transform the barbarian rule we rejected as Colonies, into a civilization befitting the dignity of a free people.

The Constitution, by both its general design and its terms **as written**, limits government to the powers delegated. Immunity from accountability to these limited powers it injures in violation of the law is a power not delegated. The [Tenth Amendment](#) forbids it. Our Constitution is a closed legal and logical system that declares itself and the laws made pursuant to it, to be the supreme law of the land, and that is the only law that it allows. There is no room in it for "inherent sovereign immunity".

With regard to Judicial Supremacy no clearer reason for the rejection of Judicial Supremacy can be given than the words of Thomas Jefferson in 1819:

*"If this opinion [of judicial supremacy] be sound, then indeed is our Constitution a complete **felo de se** [act of suicide]. For intending to establish three departments, coordinate and independent, that they might check and balance one another, it has given, according to this opinion, to one of them alone the right to prescribe rules for the government of the others, and to that one, too, which is unelected by and independent of the nation ... **The Constitution on this hypothesis is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary, which they may twist and shape into any form they please.**"*

In 1820, he further clarified his rejection of the doctrine of judicial supremacy when he wrote:

*"To consider the judges as the ultimate arbiters of all constitutional questions is a very dangerous doctrine indeed, and one which would place us under the despotism of an oligarchy. Our judges are as honest as other men, and not more so. They have, with others, the same passions for party, for power, and the privilege of their corps ... And their power the more dangerous as they are in office for life, and not responsible, as the other functionaries are, to the elective control. **The constitution has erected no such single tribunal.**"*

With respect to Supremacy, "The Supreme Law of the Land" is "The Constitution **as it is written**" and the laws made **pursuant** thereto. **Its**

interpretations are not the supreme law of the land. They are mere interpretations that may or may not be correct, or may even be dishonest and treacherous to it.

The **final arbiter** therefore of the meanings of that Supreme Law can only be **We The People** through utilization of the amendatory processes contained therein, and through the absolute [First Amendment Right of Petition for a Redress of Grievances](#).

Under the Articles of Confederation the expenses of the common defense were to be "**defrayed out of a common treasury**" supplied "**by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the several states.**" The Nation itself had no power of self-defense in the raising of money and in some other important respects. It turned out in practice that some of the States signally failed in emergencies to make their contributions to the "**common treasury.**" Indeed, only New York and Pennsylvania paid their full proportion of the costs of the Revolution. One State, which had suffered none from the ravages of war, contributed nothing. But (to illustrate the difference between a league of States and a Nation) when the United States entered World War 1 in 1917 the Congress promptly exerted its power under the Constitution and raised by the issue of Liberty Bonds, by income taxes, and by other means all the money that it needed for "**the common defense.**" The States as such were not concerned except in providing militia, a subject to be noticed later. So it had been in the War of

1812, in the Mexican War, in the Civil War, and in the War with Spain. The Articles of Confederation were wholly deficient in this most important of all respects, in the power of "common defense."

promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America. ⁴

⁴ Comment has been made that God is not mentioned in our Constitution. In the Declaration of Independence "**firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence**" is expressed, and in the Articles of Confederation it is mentioned that "**it has pleased the Great Governor of the world to incline the hearts of the legislatures we respectively represent in Congress to approve and to authorize us to ratify the said Articles of Confederation and perpetual union.**"

The Commonwealth of Australia put in the preamble of the Constitution which it submitted to the English Parliament for approval (1900) that "**Whereas, the people of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania, humbly relying on the blessings of Almighty God, have agreed to unite,**" etc.

A very interesting discussion of the proposition that "**this is a religious people**" is contained in a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States (1892) holding that the Alien Contract

Labor Law of 1885 (prohibiting the bringing in of "**foreigners and aliens under contract or agreement to perform labor in the United States**"), while applying to an alien brought in to perform "**labor or service of any kind**", did not relate in purpose -- although it did in language -- to a minister of the Gospel who had been employed to come from England to accept service in a New York church. In applying the rule of statutory interpretation, that the intent of the legislature must be followed, the court said that "**no purpose of action against religion could be imputed to any legislation**" when the language did not clearly state it, for the reason that from the commission given by Ferdinand and Isabella to Columbus down through all the charters of the colonies, as well as in the Declaration of Independence and in the constitutions of all the States, there is to be found a "**profound reverence for religion and an assumption that its influence in all human affairs is essential to the well-being of the United States.**" ^{c3}

Footnote [\[A\]](#): It is important to note that the words "**Constitution for the United States**", "**The Preamble**" and the dates of adoption and effectivity do not appear on the Original Document. That document begins with the words "**We The People**" in much emboldened characters to emphasize that it is the People that are establishing this [Constitution](#), followed by text in lesser case characters, "**of the United States**", to further denote the **Body of the Whole in Common Law**. The aforementioned heading has been added to textual presentations as a

document title for cataloging and reference purposes. It has no other purpose and neither carries nor implies any authority.

I have very deliberately titled this work "**The Constitution for the United States**" to re-iterate the wording of clause four of the "**Preamble**", i.e., "**promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this CONSTITUTION for the United States of America**" and to emphasize that this is a charter that "**We the People**" have given to the united States, and not that the States or the National Government has given to "**We the People**". It is "**We the People**", the Sovereign Citizens, who must, through our efforts and responsibilities, secure this Charter of Liberty, Freedom and for Responsible Government for All Future Generations.

The authority of government lies entirely and irrevocably within the Body of The Whole, "**We The People**".

Breaking News:

CNN reports that gas stations will start showing PORN movies on the Screens of the pumps so that you can see someone else get screwed at the same time you do.: !!

Immigrant History

c. 13,000 B.C.E. The first immigrants arrive on the North American continent and gradually migrate in groups throughout North and South America. Neither the timing

of the first migrations nor their origins are known.

c. 400 C.E. The Anasazi culture emerges in the Four Corners region of present-day Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado. The Anasazi, thought to be the ancestors of the Pueblo, Zuni, and Hopi Indians, were known for their basketry and pottery as well as their elaborate mansions built into high cliff walls.

c. 700 People of the moundbuilding Mississippian culture build the city of Cahokia near present-day East St. Louis, Illinois, about five square miles wide, and containing about a hundred mounds situated around central plazas.

1000 Norse explorer Leif Eriksson sets out from Greenland and apparently sails to Vinland, in present-day Newfoundland, Canada.

1492 Navigator Christopher Columbus arrives in the Caribbean while searching for a route to Asia on an expedition for the kingdom of Spain. He returns to Hispaniola (the island which today is home to Haiti and the Dominican Republic) with settlers the following year.

1565 Spanish explorers and settlers establish Saint Augustine, Florida, the oldest permanent European settlement in the United States.

1607 The Jamestown settlers from England arrive in Virginia and establish a colony.

1618–1725 From five to seven thousand Huguenots flee the

persecution in France and sail to America to settle in the British colonies.

1619 A Dutch warship brings twenty African slaves to Jamestown, Virginia, the first Africans to arrive in the British colonies.

1620 The Pilgrims and other British colonists aboard the *Mayflower* land in Plymouth Harbor to found a new British colony.

1624 The first wave of Dutch immigrants to New Netherlands arrives in what is now New York. Most settle at Fort Orange, where the city of Albany now stands.

1630–40 In the Great Migration from England to New England, about twenty thousand men, women, and children, many of them Puritans, migrate.

1718 The vast territory of Louisiana becomes a province of France; the European population of the colony numbers about four hundred.

1769 Two Spanish expeditions—one by land and one by sea—leave Mexico to colonize Alta California, the present-day state of California.

1790 Congress passes an act providing that “free white persons” who have lived in the United States for at least two years can be naturalized (become citizens) in any U.S. court. Along with non-white males, this also excludes indentured servants, slaves, children, and most women, all of whom are considered dependents.

1803 The United States buys Louisiana Territory from France in the Louisiana Purchase. The purchase more than

doubles the size of the United States, adding to it what are now the states of Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, and North and South Dakota, as well as a large part of Wyoming, most of Colorado, and parts of New Mexico and Texas.

1804 Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set out on their overland trip across the continent to the Pacific Ocean, forging a path never before explored by European Americans.

1808 Congress prohibits the importation of slaves into the United States, but the slave trade continues until the end of the American Civil War in 1865.

1815–45 About one million Irish Catholics immigrate to the United States.

1825 A group of Norwegians immigrate to the United States, eventually settling in Illinois, where they begin the Fox River settlement. This serves as the base camp for future Norwegian immigrants to the United States.

1830s Many tribes from the Northeast and Southeast are forcibly moved to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma and Kansas). Southern tribes to be removed include the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Seminole, and others. In the North, the Delaware, Miami, Ottawa, Peoria, Potawatomi, Sauk and Fox, Seneca,

and Wyandot tribes are removed. The government is not prepared to provide supplies for so many Indians along the trails and in new homes, causing great suffering and death for the Native Americans.

1830s The mass migration of Germans to the United States begins.

1836 The Mexican province of Texas declares its independence from Mexico. Texas will become a state in 1845.

1836–60 The Jewish population of the United States grows from fewer than 15,000 to about 160,000. Most of the Jewish immigrants during this period are from Germany.

1841 The first wagon trains cross the continent on the Oregon Trail.

1845 The potato crop in Ireland is hit with a mysterious disease, beginning the Irish potato famine. By the winter of 1847, tens of thousands of people are dying of starvation or related diseases. An estimated one to one and a half million Irish Catholics leave Ireland for the United States over the next few years.

1848 After the Mexican-American War, the United States acquires the Mexican provinces of New Mexico, Arizona, California, and parts of Nevada, Colorado, and Utah. Between 80,000 and 100,000 Mexicans suddenly find themselves living in the United States. Those who choose to stay in their homes automatically become citizens of the United States.

1848 Gold is discovered in the foothills of northern California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. In the next few years,

hundreds of thousands of people from all over the United States and around the world migrate to California hoping to strike it rich.

1848–1914 An estimated 400,000 Czechs immigrate to the United States from Austria-Hungary.

1850s Anti-immigrant associations, such as the American Party (also known as the Know-Nothing Party), the Order of United Americans, and the Order of the Star-Spangled Banner, are on the rise. Their primary targets are Catholics, primarily Irish Americans and German Americans.

1851–1929 More than 1.2 million Swedish immigrants enter the United States.

1855 Castle Island, operated by the State of New York, becomes the first central immigrant-processing center in the United States.

1862 Congress passes the Homestead Act to encourage people to settle west of the Mississippi River. Under this act, a person can gain ownership of 160 acres simply by living on the land and cultivating it for five years.

1864–69 Thousands of Chinese laborers work on the first transcontinental railroad in the United States, cutting a path through treacherous mountains.

1866–1914 More than 600,000 Norwegians immigrate to the United States.

1867–1914 About 1.8 million Hungarians immigrate to the United States.

1868 The Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution provides citizenship rights to African Americans.

1869 The first transcontinental railroad in the United States is completed.

1870 The Fifteenth Amendment gives African American citizens the right to vote.

1870 Polish serfs are given their freedom and begin to emigrate. Up to two million Poles will immigrate to the United States between 1870 and 1914.

1870–1920 About 340,000 Finns immigrate to the United States.

1880–1920 About 35 million people, mainly from southern and eastern Europe, arrive on U.S. shores.

1880–1920 About 4 million people leave Italy for the United States, making Italians the single largest European national group of this era of mass migration to move to America.

1880–1924 About 95,000 Arabs immigrate to the United States, most from the area known as Greater Syria—present day Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, and Israel.

1881–1914 About 2 million Eastern European Jews arrive in the United States.

1882 The Chinese Exclusion Act prohibits the naturalization of Chinese immigrants for ten years and prohibits Chinese laborers from entering the country. For the Chinese already in the country, it denies hope of gaining citizenship and for many Chinese men it meant that their wives or families would not be able to join them. The act, the first major restriction on immigration in the United States, is extended twice and becomes permanent in 1902.

1885–1924 About 200,000 Japanese people immigrate to Hawaii.

1890 The Superintendent of the United States Census issues a statement that the American frontier has closed—that is, it has become populated and is therefore no longer a frontier.

1891 The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is created as the department that administers federal laws relating to admitting, excluding, or deporting aliens and to naturalizing the foreign-born who are in the United States legally. It remains in operation until 2003.

1892 The federal government takes over the process of screening incoming immigrants at the Port of New York and creates an immigration reception center at Ellis Island, one mile southwest of Manhattan. Before it closes in 1954, more than 16 million immigrants will pass through Ellis Island.

1900 In this one year, one-tenth of Denmark's total population immigrates to the United States.

1907 The Dillingham Commission, set up by Congress to investigate immigration, produces a forty-two-volume report. The commission claims that its studies show that people from southern and eastern Europe have a higher potential for criminal activity, are more likely to end up poor and sick, and are less intelligent than

other Americans. The report warns that the waves of immigration threaten the "American" way of life.

1907 As anti-Asian immigrant sentiment rises in the United States, Congress works out the "Gentlemen's Agreement" with Japan, in which the United States agrees not to ban all Japanese immigration as long as Japan promises not to issue passports to Japanese laborers for travel to the continental United States.

1910 To enforce the Chinese Exclusion Act, an immigration station is built at Angel Island in the San Francisco Bay. Any Chinese people arriving in San Francisco go through an initial inspection upon arrival; many are then sent to Angel Island for further processing and thousands are held there for long periods of time.

1910–1920 Between 500,000 and 1,000,000 African Americans migrate from the southern United States to the cities of the North.

1913 California passes the Alien Land Laws, which prohibit Chinese and Japanese people from owning land in the state.

1917 Congress creates the "Asiatic barred zone," which excludes immigration from most of Asia, including China, India, and Japan, regardless of literacy.

1920s–30s More than 40,000 Russians come to the United States in the first few years after the Russian Revolution of 1917. Many Russians go into exile in other European cities. In the 1930s, those in exile in Europe begin fleeing the rising Nazi movement. More than a million people who had been born in Russia but were

living elsewhere in Europe immigrate to the United States in the 1930s.

1921 Congress passes the Emergency Quota Act, which stipulates that each nation has an annual quota (proportion) of immigrants it may send to the United States, which is equal to 3 percent of that country's total population in the United States in 1910. Because the majority of the U.S. population was from northwestern Europe in 1910, this method favors northwestern Europeans over other immigrants.

1924 Congress passes the National Origins Act, which restricts the number of immigrants even beyond the Emergency Quota Act of 1921. Under the new act, immigration is decreased to a total equaling 2 percent of the population in 1890. Under this act, each country may only send 2 percent of its 1890 population in the United States per year. The new act skews the permitted immigration even further in favor of Western Europe, with the United Kingdom, Germany, and Ireland receiving more than two-thirds of the annual maximum quota. This legislation ends the era of mass migrations to the United States.

1924 The Oriental Exclusion Act prohibits most Asian immigration, including the wives and children of U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry.

1924 Congress creates the Border Patrol, a uniformed law enforcement agency of the Immigration Bureau in charge of fighting smuggling and illegal immigration.

1925 One out of every four Greek men between the ages of fifteen and forty-five have immigrated to the United

States.

1934 The Tydings-McDuffie Act sets the date and some of the terms of independence for the Philippines on July 4, 1946. Since the United States had acquired the Philippines from Spain in 1898, Filipinos had entered the United States as nationals (people who live in a country legally, are loyal to the country and protected by it, but are not citizens). The act takes away status of Filipinos as U.S. nationals, reclassifying them as aliens, and restricts Filipino immigration by establishing an annual immigration quota of 50.

1942 The United States, heavily involved in World War II, needs laborers at home and turns to Mexico. The U.S. and Mexican governments reach an agreement called the Mexican Farm Labor Supply Program, or the *bracero* program. The program permits Mexicans to enter the country to work under contract as farm and railroad laborers. The program continues for twentytwo years and brings 4.8 million Mexicans to work on U.S. farms and in businesses.

1942 During World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Executive Order 9066, which dictates the removal and internment of Japanese Americans. More than 112,000 Japanese Americans living along the Pacific coast are taken from their homes and placed in ten internment camps for the duration of the war.

1943 Congress repeals the Chinese exclusion acts. Immigration from China

resumes. Most of the new immigrants are females, the wives of Chinese men who have been in the United States for decades.

1945 As World War II ends, more than 40,000 refugees from Europe flee to the United States. Because the quota system does not provide for them, they are admitted under presidential directive.

1945 The War Brides Act allows foreign-born spouses and adopted children of personnel of the U.S. armed forces to enter the United States. The act brings in many Japanese, Chinese, and Korean women, among other groups. **1948** The first U.S. refugee policy, the Displaced Persons Act, enables nearly 410,000 European refugees to enter the United States after World War II.

1950 The Internal Security Act forces all communists to register with the government and denies admission to any foreigner who is a communist or who might engage in subversive activities.

1952 Congress overrides President Harry S Truman's veto of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which upholds the quota system set in 1921–24 but removes race as a bar to immigration and naturalization and removes discrimination between sexes. The act gives preference to immigrants with special skills needed in the United States, provides for more rigorous screening of immigrants in order to eliminate people considered to

be subversive (particularly communists and homosexuals), and allows broader grounds for the deportation of criminal aliens.

1954 As jobs in the United States become harder to find, Mexican workers are viewed as unwanted competition

by many. Under Operation Wetback, a special government force locates undocumented workers and forces them to return to Mexico. In one year alone, about one million people of Mexican descent are deported.

1959 The Cuban Revolution initiates a mass migration from Cuba to the United States—more than one million Cubans will immigrate after this year.

1960–80 The Filipino population in the United States more than quadruples, from 176,130 to 781,894.

1960s Between 4 and 5 million African Americans have migrated from the South to the North since the turn of

the century. **1965** In a new spirit of immigration reform, Congress repeals the national-origins quotas and gives each Eastern Hemisphere nation an annual quota of 20,000, excluding immediate family members of U.S. citizens.

The Eastern Hemisphere receives 170,000 places for immigrants and the Western Hemisphere 120,000. (In

1978, Congress creates a worldwide immigration system by combining the two hemispheres.)

1966–80 About 14,000 Dominicans per year enter the United States, most seeking employment they cannot find at

home.

1972–81 Sailboats carrying Haitians begin to arrive on the shores of Florida. More than 55,000 Haitian “boat people”—and perhaps more than 100,000—arrive in this wave.

1975 Saigon, the South Vietnamese capital, falls to the communist North on April 30; at least 65,000 South Vietnamese immediately flee the country.

1975–81 About 123,600 Laotian refugees enter the United States.

1979 In the aftermath of the Vietnam War, the Orderly Departure Program (ODP) is established to provide a safe alternative for Vietnamese people who are fleeing the country in large numbers, often risking their lives in

overcrowded old boats. Under the ODP, refugees are allowed to leave Vietnam directly for resettlement in one of two dozen countries, including the United States.

There are about 165,000 admissions to the United States under the ODP by 1989, and new arrivals continue into the 1990s.

1980 More than 125,000 Cubans flee to the United States during the Mariel Boat Lift. **1980–86** Tens of thousands of Cambodian refugees enter the United States annually.

1981–2000 The United States accepts 531,310 Vietnamese refugees.

1986 The Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) provides amnesty (pardon to a group of people) to more

than 3 million undocumented immigrants who had entered the United States before 1982, allowing them to become legal residents. The measure outlaws the knowing employment of undocumented immigrants and makes it more difficult for undocumented immigrants to receive public assistance.

1988 Congress passes the Amerasian Homecoming Act, which brings thousands of children—most are the offspring of American servicemen and Asian mothers—to the United States.

1991–93 Some 43,000 Haitians try to reach the United States by boat. Many of their boats are intercepted by U.S. officials and those emigrants are taken to Guantánamo Bay, a U.S. naval base in Cuba.

1994 In an effort to stop undocumented workers from illegally crossing the border, the government adopts Operation Gatekeeper, an extensive border patrol system at Imperial Beach at the border between Mexico and southern California. The number of border agents is increased and new hi-tech equipment is put to use, costing billions of dollars over the next few years. Illegal immigration moves further inland where the climate is more severe, proving to be deadly in some cases.

1994 The United States enters a Wet Feet–Dry Feet agreement with Cuba under which, if fleeing Cubans trying to reach the United States are caught at sea, U.S. authorities will send them back

to Cuba. If the Cubans make it to U.S. shores, they will be admitted to the country.

1996 Congress passes the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA). The IIRIRA creates a huge increase in funding for border patrol personnel and equipment. This act creates harsher penalties for illegal immigration, restricts welfare benefits to recent immigrants, and makes the deportation process easier for U.S. administrators. The IIRIRA also tries to make it harder for foreign terrorists to enter the United States.

1996 The bombing of the Oklahoma Federal Building at the hands of a terrorist (a U.S. citizen) in 1995 raises new fears about terrorism. The Anti-terrorism Act is passed, making deportation automatic if an immigrant commits a deportable felony (a grave crime), even if the immigrant has been in the United States since early childhood. By 2003, 500,000 people had been deported under the terms of this act.

1997 The Border Patrol initiates Operation Rio Grande, strengthening the Texas-Mexico border with more agents to deter people from crossing.

1998 California passes Proposition 227, a referendum that bans bilingual classroom education and English as a second language (ESL) program, replacing them with a one-year intensive English immersion program.

2000 The Immigration and Naturalization Service estimates the number of undocumented immigrants in the country at about 7 million, up from the estimate of 5.8 million in 1996. About 70 percent of the undocumented immigrants are from Mexico.

2001 Congress passes the USA PATRIOT Act ("Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism").

The bill calls for increased border patrol and tightened provisions for screening and restricting immigrants.

It grants sweeping new powers to federal police agencies and permits indefinite detention of

immigrants and aliens in the country for minor immigration status violations.

2001 Within weeks of the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., approximately 1,200

immigrants are arrested by federal government agents as part of an anti-terrorist campaign.

Most are from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Pakistan. Many are held

without charges and without access to attorneys or

their families. Many are deported. None are charged with terrorism.

2002 The Homeland Security Department requires the annual

registration of temporary male immigrants from twenty-four

predominantly Arab or Muslim countries as well as North Korea. People from the following countries are required to register: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The following year, five more countries are added to the list: Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, and Kuwait. Of the 83,519 people who register with immigration officials in 2002, 13,799 are put in deportation proceedings. Others complain of terrifying or humiliating interrogations and harsh conditions. Immigrant and civil liberties groups protest the policy.

Words to know

A

Alien: a person living in the United States who is not a U.S. citizen.

Amnesty: a blanket pardoning of a group of people.

Anabaptist: a category of radical Protestants, including the Mennonites and the Amish, the German Brethren, or

Dunkards, and the Society of Friends, or the Quakers,

who believe in nonviolence and in simple worship based on readings of the Bible.

Anabaptists believe that knowledge of God must come from within oneself and that the rituals and politics of existing churches are a hindrance to true faith and worship.

They also believe that an individual should decide to be baptized as

an adult, when he or she fully

understands

what it means, rather than in infancy.

Anarchist: a person who believes that governments are unnecessary and should be eliminated, and that the social world should be organized through the cooperative efforts of the people within it.

Anthropologist: a scientist who studies human beings in terms of their relations with one another, race and ethnicity, populations, migrations, and culture.

Antimiscegenation laws: laws prohibiting marriage between races, usually between whites and any other race.

Anti-Semitism: hostility to, or discrimination against, Jewish people as a group.

Arctic: the northernmost region of North America, with its shores on the Arctic Ocean. It includes parts of Alaska, Canada, and much of Greenland.

Arctic Circle: A line of latitude at 66° 33' North that delineates the northernmost point at which the sun is visible on the northern winter solstice and the southernmost point at which the midnight sun can be seen on the northern summer solstice. In the Arctic regions, the winters are continuously dark and the summers are continuously light.

Aristocracy: government by the elite or a small class of the privileged.

Artifact: a product made by humans of an earlier period.

Artisan: craftsman; someone who is skilled at a trade or craft.

Assimilation: the way that someone who comes from a foreign land or culture learns to blend into and eventually

becomes absorbed into the ways of the predominant, or mainstream, society in which he or she now lives.

Asylum: a status granted by a government or authority in which one is protected from persecution and not subject to arrest.

B

Band: a social and economic group of nomadic hunting people.

Barrio: a Spanish-speaking section of a U.S. city or town.

Bilingual: able to speak two languages fluently.

Bilingual education: in the United States, a system of education in which students who speak languages other than English are instructed at least partly in their native language.

Bird of passage: an immigrant who comes to the United States with the intention of returning home as soon as he or she had makes some money.

Boat people: people who flee their country in small boats not meant for this use, and often at great risk.

Bourgeoisie: the middle class.

Braceros: "guest" Mexican laborers who entered into contracts for temporary work in the United States, under a government program in place between 1942 and 1964.

C

Calvinism: the belief system of theologian John Calvin, which asserted that the human world was basically corrupt and only the Bible—not the church—could reveal the true religion.

Celtic: (pronounced KEL-tick) relating to an ancient race of

European people—the Celts whose descendants live today in the Scottish Highlands, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany, a part of France. *Celtic* also refers to the language spoken by these people.

Chain migration: a process of immigration in which someone migrates to a new home and then begins to bring family and friends from the old country to the new home. They in turn bring over more friends and family, who all settle near each other, creating a neighborhood or village of people who were in some way connected in the country or area of origin.

Chiefdom: a society in which a person's rank and prestige is assigned by how closely he or she is related to the chief.

Citizen: someone who lives in and participates in a political community or country, who has fulfilled the requirements for citizenship as set out by the government. Citizens can expect certain rights and privileges from their government, such as voting or military defense, and at the same time the government has a right to expect its citizens to obey its laws. **Civil disobedience:** an act of protest against a questionable law through nonviolent acts of breaking that law.

Clachans: small, close-knit communities in rural Ireland.

Colony: a group of people living as a political community in a land away from their home country but ruled by the home country.

Commonwealth: a political unit, such as a state or a nation.

Communism: an economic theory that does not include the

concept of private property. Instead, the public (usually represented by the government) owns the goods and the means to produce them in common.

Confederacy: a joining together of different groups of people for a common purpose.

Constitution: the document that sets out the laws and principals of a nation or state, defining the powers of the various government bodies and the rights of its citizens.

Continental United States: also called the mainland United

States; the 48 states on the continent, excluding Hawaii and Alaska.

Coueurs de bois: the French term for "travelers in the woods," or fur trappers and traders.

Coyote: a person who smuggles immigrants across the borders into the United States for money.

Culture: a way of life shared by a group of people who have things such as art, religion, and customs in common with each other.

Czar: (also spelled tsar) the emperor or ruler of Russia.

D

Defect: to illegally renounce one's citizenship and request residency in another country.

Deportation: the act of sending an alien out of the country.

Discrimination: unfair treatment based on racism or other prejudices.

Displacement: involuntary removal from one's home or nation **Dynasty:** a series of leaders that are from the same family line and rule over a long period of time.

E

Ecosystem: a natural community of plants, animals, and microorganisms

living in relation to each other in a particular habitat.

Emigration: leaving one's country to go to another country with the intention of living there. "Emigrant" is used to describe departing *from* one's country—for example, "she emigrated from Ireland."

Enclave: a distinct cultural or nationality unit within a foreign territory.

Encomienda system: a system in which the Spanish nobles, in return for taking part in a war, were granted a large section of land and the right to rule as lord over the infidels on that land.

Ethnic: relating to a group of people who are not from the majority culture in the country in which they live, and who keep their own culture, language, and institutions.

Ethnic cleansing: the killing of an ethnic minority group by the majority group.

Ethnic communities: sections of cities or towns in which people from a common racial, national, tribal, religious, or language group live together and practice their the customs of their homeland or cultural background.

Evacuate: to remove people from their homes during a military alert or other emergency.

Exiles: people who have been sent away from their homeland.

Expedition: a group of people making a journey together for a common purpose.

Extended family: A family with several generations all living together or acting as a unit. An *extended family* usually

includes grandparents, their sons or daughters, and their children, and the term is used to differentiate the extended family from the nuclear family, which is only a married couple and their children.

Extermination: killing an entire group or population.

F

Feudal estate: a system in which a local lord who had received his land from the king ruled over the people in his area.

First-generation immigrant: those who were born in another country and then immigrated to the United States.

Forced migration: being moved from one's home to a new country or area against one's will.

Frontier: the area at the most remote border of a settled territory.

G

Gael: a Gaelic-speaking person from the Scottish Highlands, Ireland, or the Isle of Man.

Gaelic: the language spoken in the Celtic Scottish Highlands; Ireland; and on the Isle of Man.

Genocide: the systematic killing or destruction of a racial, ethnic, or cultural group of people.

Ghetto: an area within a city where members of a minority group live; frequently places where groups are isolated from the community due to discrimination or ethnic prejudice.

Grassroots: arising from common people, rather than politicians, corporations, or others in power.

Great Depression: 1929–41; a period, following a stock market crash in 1929, of depressed world economies and high unemployment.

Green card: documentation that allows an alien to live permanently and work in the United States.

H

Hellenic: relating to ancient Greek and Roman civilizations.

Hereditary: passed on from generation to generation along family lines.

Huguenots: French Calvinists.

I

Immigration: to travel to a country of which one is not a native with the intention of settling there as a permanent resident.

Indentured servants: servants in colonial times who agreed to work for a colonist for a set period of time in exchange for payment of their passage from Europe to the New World. At the end of the service term (usually seven years), the employer usually gave the indentured servant a small piece of land or goods to help set up a new life in the colony.

Indigenous: native to an area.

Industrialization: the historic change from a farm-based economy to an economic system based on the manufacturing of goods and distribution of services on an organized and mass-produced basis.

Infidel: non-Christian.

Internment camps: places in which people are confined in wartime.

Islam: the religion of the Muslims, who believe in Allah as the one supreme god and Mohammad as the prophet, or the interpreter the will of

Allah; the religion is based on the Muslim holy book, the Koran.

Issei: foreign-born Japanese.

J

Joint stock company: a group that organizes an enterprise, such as trading in a certain overseas market, and then sells shares of this enterprise to investors.

L

Labor unions: organizations that bring workers together to advance their interests in terms of getting better wages and working conditions.

Laissez faire: (French for “let it be”); a belief that the government should not interfere in the economy more than absolutely necessary.

M

Mafia: an organized crime network in the United States that is organized in families and is thought to have important ties to the organized crime families in Sicily, Italy.

Manifest destiny: a belief that the United States had a special destiny, and therefore the right, to stretch out across the continent.

Mass migration: times in history when thousands—or even millions—of people from one country in the Old World have immigrated to the New World within a short period of time.

Mesoamericans: people from the cultural area that lies in present-day Mexico and most of Central America where civilizations such as the Mayans and the Aztecs lived before European contact.

Mestizo: a person of mixed Spanish and Indian descent.

Middle East: the part of the world that encompasses Southwest Asia and North Africa, extending from Turkey to North Africa and east to Iran.

Middle passage: the journey by slave ship from Africa to the Americas, the middle leg in the European traders' triangular system—the first leg was the trip from Europe to Africa, and the last was the trip from the Americas to Europe.

Migrant workers: workers who are not citizens of the United States but come to the country—legally or illegally—to fulfill temporary labor needs on farms and in construction, factories, and services.

Migration: to move from one place to another, not necessarily across national borders.

Mission: an organized effort by a religious group to spread its beliefs in other parts of the world. The word *mission* refers either to the project itself, or to the buildings built in a new area in order to spread the religious beliefs.

Moor: an African person of Arab and Berber descent, generally a member of the religion of Islam. **Mulatto:** a person of mixed European and African descent.

Multiculturalism: a view of the social world that embraces, or takes into account, the diversity of people and their cultures within the society.

N

Nationalist movement: struggle for independence from the rule of another country.

Nativism: a set of beliefs that centers around favoring the interests of people who are native-born to a country (though generally not concerning Native Americans) as opposed to its immigrants.

Naturalization: the process of becoming a citizen.

Navigation: setting the course for ship travel.

New England: the northern colonies (later states) of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire.

New World: the western hemisphere, including North and South America.

Nomads: people who travel and relocate often, usually in search of food and other resources or a better climate.

Non-quota immigrants: the spouses, children, and parents of U.S. citizens who wish to immigrate to the United States—non-quota immigrants are not counted by the United States as part of the sending nation's yearly quota, or their allotted proportion of U.S. immigrants.

Northwest Passage: a mythical water route through the American continent that the early Europeans hoped would lead to the Pacific Ocean and new trading with Asia.

Nostalgia: remembering one's home with longing; homesickness.

O

Old World: the regions of the world that were known to Europeans before they discovered the Americas, including all of the eastern hemisphere—Europe, Asia, and Africa—except Australia.

Oral traditions: history, mythology, folklore and other foundations of a culture that have been passed by spoken

word, often in the form of stories, from generation to generation within a culture group

Orthodox Jews: those who strictly adhere to the Jewish traditions and rituals.

Overlanders: people traveling west by land rather than sea.

P

Pardoned: an Italian (or Greek) immigrant who was established in the United States and acted as a professional labor broker for more recent immigrants. The pardoned was usually paid by both the employer and the employee.

Palisade: a defensive fence or wall made of stakes.

Papal States: political units ruled by the pope, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church.

Parish: local church community.

Patroonship: a system developed by the Dutch West Indies Company to promote emigration in which the company

granted large parcels of land to any person of wealth who would commit to bring over a certain number of colonizers and house them on his land (usually fifty settlers within four years). In turn, the patroons owned the land and had great authority over their tenants.

Peasant: a person who tills the soil for a living, as a renter, a small landowner, or a laborer.

Persecution: abusive and oppressive treatment.

Pidgin language: a simple speech created to make trade possible between two groups that speak different languages.

Pilgrim: a member of the group of British Protestant colonists who sailed on the

Mayflower and founded the colony of Plymouth in 1626.

Pogroms: state-sponsored massacres of innocent and helpless people.

Populist: oriented toward common people, or democratic.

Pre-Columbian: the time in American history before Spanish explorer Christopher Columbus arrived in 1492 and Europeans began colonizing the American continents.

Presbytery: a group of ministers and lay people that lead a Protestant church, as opposed to the bishops who head the Episcopalian churches, or the congregations, or members of the local church, who lead the Puritan churches.

Presidio: a military post or fort.

Primogeniture: a system of inheritance under which all of the wealth from one family is passed to the oldest son upon the father's death, ensuring that the estates of the wealthy did not get divided into small pieces.

Proletariat: the laboring class.

Propaganda: information spread to persuade or further a cause.

Protectorate: a dependent state under the authority of a stronger state.

Protestant church: a Christian church that denies the pope's authority and accepts the Bible as the only source of revealed truth.

Q

Quaker: a member of the Religious Society of Friends, a Christian group dedicated to social reform that rejects the

rituals and preachers of formal churches, and instead holds open meetings at which all are free to speak.

Quarantine: enforced isolation of the sick or potentially sick from the public to prevent the spread of an infectious disease.

Quota: an assigned proportion.

R

Racism: a system of belief based on an assumption that important characteristics, such as intelligence, morality, or sophistication, of the different races are passed along from generation to generation and are determined by the ethnic group or race. This allows some people to assert that one race is superior to another.

Refugee: a person who has left the country in which he or she last lived and is unable to return to that country for fear of being persecuted due to his or her race or ethnic background, religion, group membership, or political beliefs.

Registered alien: a documented alien, meaning (in the United States) someone who has obtained from the government a permanent resident card, commonly known as a green card, which shows the holder's status as a lawful permanent resident, though not a citizen, of the country, with a right to live and work there.

Religious settlers and refugees: people who immigrate, often as a group, because they do not conform to the religion practiced by the majority in their home country and either face persecution or are

not allowed to practice their religion in the way they choose. Some religious settlers create communities that are governed by the principles of their religion.

Removal policy: the government's systematic relocation of American Indians from the eastern United States to west of the Mississippi.

Repatriation: the act, usually by a government, of returning someone to their home country.

Republic: a country ruled by the people, rather than a king.

Reservation: land set aside by the government for the use of a particular Native American group or groups.

Ritual: a formal act that is performed in a ceremony or other religious observation, and usually done the same way each time.

S

Sabbath: the day of rest and worship; the Jewish Sabbath starts on Friday evening and ends Saturday evening.

Second-generation: born in the United States, but having parents who immigrated from another country.

Serfdom: a system of servitude in which a peasant is bound to the soil he tills and is subject to the authority of his lord.

Sharecropper: a tenant farmer who is usually provided with the land, seed, and equipment to farm, but owes the landlord a significant portion of his or her crops in return.

Shtetl: small towns and villages with a predominantly Jewish population.

Socialist: believing in a society in which no one owns private property, but rather, the government or public owns all goods and the means of distributing them among the people.

Sovereign: self-governing and free from outside rule.

Soviet: a government council in a communist country.

Steamship: a large vessel propelled by one or more steam powered propellers or paddles.

Steerage: an area below the ship's deck. For a period of time in the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century, steerage compartments of ships were overcrowded with immigrants, and conditions in steerage were notoriously bad.

Subsistence farm: a small farm that provides the goods for the survival of its tenants without producing extra crops for commercial use.

Syllabary: a system of writing that uses characters, or letters, to represent whole syllables or sounds.

Synagogue: a Jewish congregation, or the house of worship that the congregation meets in.

T

Talmud: a book of ancient writings of rabbis on Jewish law and tradition.

Temperance movement: the drive to stop people from drinking alcohol.

Theologian: one who studies religion.

Topography: the surface features of a region, such as its mountains, plateaus, or basins.

Torah: the first five books of the Bible—Genesis, Exodus,

Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy; to an Orthodox

Jew *Torah* means the entire body of Jewish law.

Trade embargo: prohibition of the trade of certain goods with a country

Transatlantic: crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

Transcontinental railroad: a railroad that spans the continent.

Treaty: an agreement between two parties or two nations, signed by both, usually defining the benefits to both parties that will result from one side giving up title to a territory of land.

U

Undocumented alien: someone from another nation who is in the United States without a visa.

V

Vaquero: cowboy.

Viceroyalty: a state in which a viceroy governs as the representative of the king.

Visa: the official endorsement on a passport showing that a person may legally enter the country.

W

West Indies: islands in the Caribbean Sea on which explorer Christopher Columbus first landed in 1492, including Hispaniola—now Haiti and the Dominican Republic—Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Windward Islands, Leeward Islands, and the islands in the south Caribbean Sea north of Venezuela, usually including Trinidad and Tobago.

White-collar immigrant: a person from another country who has professional skills (doctors, computer specialists, academics, nurses).

Workhouses: institutions in which people in desperate poverty went to reside, and in which they worked for food and other aid.

Z

Zionism: the international movement seeking the return of the Jewish people to their ancient homelands in Palestine and the creation of a Jewish state there.

Melting pot and mosaic

Every resident of the United States, with the possible exception of Native Americans, descends from an immigrant. (An immigrant is someone who travels to a country of which he or she is not a native with the intention of settling there as a permanent resident.) The United States celebrates that it is a nation of immigrants; it is part of the country's identity and is incorporated into the stories that Americans tell about themselves. In fact, immigration is the basis of the legendary American dream, the belief that people from any background and any nationality can find in the United States the opportunity to work at a secure job, live in a nice home, get an education, and raise their standard of living through their own efforts. In order to maintain the sense that citizens of the United States are uniquely American in character even while millions of people keep pouring into its borders from every corner of the world, some distinctively American ideas have developed about the process of

assimilation—the way that someone who comes from a foreign land becomes absorbed into American culture and learns to blend into the ways of its main society. For years the United States has been described as a melting pot, in which people of all nationalities who immigrated blended together like a stew—a single dish made out of many different ingredients. This is the message of the U.S. motto, seen on every dollar bill: “E pluribus unum”: From many, one. Like most stories that people tell about themselves, there is truth to the melting pot metaphor, but it does not tell the whole story. Not everyone blends in. The United States has a long-standing tradition of ethnic communities, sections of cities or towns in which people from a common racial, national, tribal, religious, or language group live together and practice their own customs. For example, many cities have a Chinatown or a little Italy and other ethnic sections within them. Certain cities draw particular immigrants; for example, Cuban immigrants have a large population in Miami's Little Havana, while many Vietnamese immigrants have gathered in Little Saigon in Westminster, California. Not every ethnic community is in a city: the Pennsylvania Dutch (Germans, actually) established distinctive cultures in rural Pennsylvania, as have the Cajuns (a group of exiled French Canadians) in rural Louisiana. These ethnic communities, or enclaves, are made up of people who choose to keep their traditions and language. Sometimes they even have the same neighbors they had in their country of origin. For newly arrived immigrants, ethnic neighborhoods often provide a safe place in the new surroundings. In the past few decades,

Americans have embraced the wealth of ethnic and cultural differences that make up the nation. American educators and media (television, newspapers, and radio) have begun to speak of the United States as a mosaic of peoples, different and distinct—not blended, but joined together to make a whole. This view of society is called “multiculturalism.”

Editor’s note: Now after reading all of this and hopefully learning some things or even disagreeing with all or parts of it as is your right you get to go out and vote and your choices are a guy with Muslim ties, a woman caught in a few lies, a older guy who once did fly. That should make your day. See you all at the reunion this Sept. Mr. Baxter Newsletter editor.

A German’s Experience with Fanaticism

On a more serious note....

This is a man whose family was German aristocracy prior to World War II and owned a number of large industries and estates. When asked how many German people were true Nazis, the answer he gave can guide our attitude toward fanaticism.

'Very few people were true Nazis' he said, 'but many enjoyed the return of German pride, and many more were too busy to care. I was one of those who just thought the Nazis were a bunch of fools. So, the majority just sat back and let it all happen. Then, before we knew it, they owned us, and we had lost control, and the end of the world had come. My family lost everything. I ended up in a concentration camp and the Allies destroyed my factories.'

We are told again and again by 'experts' and 'talking heads' that Islam is the religion of peace, and that the vast majority of Muslims just want to live in peace.

Although this unqualified assertion may be true, it is entirely irrelevant. It is meaningless fluff, meant to make us feel better, and meant to somehow diminish the specter of fanatics rampaging across the globe in the name of Islam. The fact is that the fanatics rule Islam at this moment in history.

It is the fanatics who march. It is the fanatics who wage any one of 50 shooting wars worldwide. It is the fanatics who systematically slaughter Christian or tribal groups throughout Africa and are gradually taking over the entire continent in an Islamic wave. It is the fanatics who bomb, behead, murder, or honor kill. It is the fanatics who take over mosque after mosque. It is the fanatics who zealously spread the stoning and hanging of rape victims and homosexuals. The hard quantifiable fact is that the peaceful majority, 'the silent majority,' is cowed and extraneous.

Communist Russia was comprised of Russians who just wanted to live in peace, yet the Russian Communists (Karl Marx and assoc.) were responsible for the murder of about 20 million people. The peaceful majority were irrelevant.

China's huge population was peaceful as well, but Chinese Communists managed to kill a staggering 70 million people.

The average Japanese individual prior to

World War II was not a warmongering sadist. Yet, Japan murdered and slaughtered its way across South East Asia in an orgy of killing that included the systematic murder of 12 million Chinese civilians; most killed by sword, shovel, and bayonet.

And, who can forget Rwanda ,which collapsed into butchery. Could it not be said that the majority of Rwandans were 'peace loving?'

History lessons are often incredibly simple and blunt, yet for all our powers of reason we often miss the most basic and uncomplicated of points Peace-loving Muslims have been made irrelevant by their silence.

Peace-loving Muslims will become our enemy if they don't speak up, because like my friend from Germany, they will awaken one day and find that the fanatics own them, and the end of their world will have begun.

Peace-loving Germans, Japanese, Chinese, Russians, Rwandans, Serbs, Afghanis, Iraqis, Palestinians, Somalis, Nigerians, Algerians, and many others have died because the peaceful majority did not speak up until it was too late.

As for us who watch it all unfold; we must pay attention to the only group that counts; the fanatics who threaten our way of life.

Lastly, at the risk of offending, anyone who doubts that the issue is serious and just deletes this email without sending it on, is contributing to the passiveness that allows the problems to expand. So,

extend yourself a bit and send this on. Let us hope that thousands, world wide, read this – think about it – and send it on.

N. C. Sekharan, M.D. F.A.C.O.G.

On the Border

I thought this might be a good place to launch a little more information on what is going on in and around the southern border of our country.

Rather than fight amongst ourselves we somehow need to spread the word about a serious and looming, perhaps even inevitable threat to our national security. My brother, an ex marine capt and retired media exec is currently filming a documentary about the border issues. It should be a 3 part documentary when done and the name of it will be "Southern Exposure". I have been on the border with him filming at night using thermal imaging while observing and video taping minute men operations. In one night we observed over 200 illegals coming into the country. At one point it was almost like a conga line.... The Border Patrol only managed to catch 15 of those we saw that night and over 150 just vanished into the desert even with choppers using xenon searchlights were flying almost on the deck looking for them. To add to that earlier this year the minute men assisted in the capture of around 14 syrians coming across the border over by Yuma area. Similar to the NVA using bicycles to haul material down the ho chi minh trail these people are using them to haul bales of drugs across our southern border, when they get to the drop point they just leave the bicycles. I saw a huge pile of these bikes the minute men had picked

up in the desert, I mean hundreds of these bikes. Of course this isn't to mention the dead bodies or the dying they find out there. The most humane thing we can do is not promote the crossings but stop them through taking away the incentives to cross and securing the damn border.

Jordan

Uncontrollable slaughter

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"Uncontrollable slaughter"

Milenio (mexico City) 5/3/08

(Note: "Uncontrollable slaughter" is the title of an op/column by Alejandro Gertz Manero. What follows are all but the last two sentences - deemed irrelevant.)

For years we have been warning about the security crisis now in one of its most decisive moments due to the brutal confrontation and the pitiless slaughter between hired killers of drug traffic, who

are basically tied to "narco-retailing", who dispute each street, each neighborhood, each city of the country with blood and by gunfire, while other ordinary crimes multiply constantly and silently. This phenomenon, as we've pointed out on innumerable occasions, is due to the transformation of narco-traffic in Mexico, which has changed from being a producing country for marihuana and heroin, and of cocaine transit, to the conversion of its territory into an immense consuming market in which we more than 105 million inhabitants are already hostages of the brutal mechanisms of that "savage capitalism" of organized and unorganized crime, which at this time can already produce synthetic drugs in any neighborhood yard by using a cooking pot and diverse commercial ingredients at minimum cost. This criminal event has multiplied more than a thousand percent in the last three years and for it to grow uncontrollably a fundamental component is needed, which is the complicity of and covering up by a goodly number of members of agencies which are supposed to combat crime, at the same time that these bureaucratic entities are involved in internal debates and lack of results while in the midst of constant corruption scandals. The Mexican army has been able to document the reality of this evidence with precision by showing on repeated occasions the link between police, agents of various agencies and government entities with organized crime. This has been shown by their massive detention of the entire force of municipal and city police officers in various cities of the country, where there are more than 350 thousand police officers as against a small number of federal agencies who also face various

problems of the same sort. And that is the context in which the massacres are taking place (and) which the media reports daily. This phenomenon persists despite the presence of the army, which goes from one part of the country to another to contain the more evident cases of violence and brutality but which can't, neither by its numbers nor due to its functional structure, carry out the daily functions which are the job of the police and law enforcement agencies.

Diario de Yucatan (Merida, Yucatan)
5/3/08

The bodies of seven men were found dumped in a garbage dump near a highway at the southernmost area of the state of Zacatecas, near Jalisco. All had been tied, showed signs of torture and had been executed with a coup de grace.

El Debate (culiacan, Sinaloa) , Excelsior (Mexico City) 5/3/04

After the five dead and 13 arrests of Wednesday the "narco-war" intensified in the area of Culiacan, Sinaloa last night (Friday) and the result was more deaths: six police officers and two other men were executed within a lapse of 30 minutes in different parts of the area. The first incident took place when an armed group of some sixty individuals in 16 vehicles stormed one or more safe houses presumably owned by the Carrillo Fuentes group. An unknown number of subjects fled from there but one was found dead inside one of the houses, still wearing his

black bullet proof vest. Strangely, no "ministerial police" went there because their chief supposedly ordered them to stay put in their facility.

Minutes later, two police officers traveling a few miles outside town were killed when their patrol unit was hit and and thugs opened fire with "goat's horns" (read: AK47). At just about the same time, in downtown Culiacan, four other police officers fell victim to a car-to-car AK47 gunfire assault. Lastly, another subject was found dead in front of the Banorte Stadium.

El Financiero (Mexico City) 5/3/08

In Guamuchil, Sinaloa (just north of Culiacan) Siebel Rivera Navarrete went to the funeral services for a man who was killed in one of Culiacan's shootouts last Wednesday. As he arrived at the funeral home Rivera himself fell victim to a hail of bullets and was killed. 29 shell casings from an AK47 were located at the scene by police agents.

Statistics from "SEDENA" (Mex. Dep't. of Defense) for this year to date:

- 390 tons of marihuana seized
- 40,000 marihuana plantings and 36,000 poppy plantings destroyed
- 1,676 persons arrested due to drug trafficking
- 3,900 firearms, 52 aircraft, 4 vessels seized
- 9 million 600 thousand pesos & "more than" eight million U.S. dollars seized
- 221 clandestine airstrips & 438 drug drying facilities destroyed

- 1,400 kgs. of marihuana seed, 350 kgs. of poppy, "more than" 18 kgs. of opium gum, 70 kgs. of heroin seized

El Imparcial (Hermosillo, Sonora)
5/3/08

A director of the "SSP" (Mex. federal Dep't. of Public Security) Joint Staff, Aristeo Gomez Martinez, was shot and killed while on a street in Colonia Romero de Terreros, Coyoacan, a section of Mexico City. This is the second execution of a ranking member of that agency within the last 24 hours.

El Universal (Mexico City) 5/3/08

When a group of members of the state of Guerrero's Regional Cattlemen's Association had just reached the entry area of the Maria Isabel Hotel in Iguala, Guerrero, an armed group opened fire on them killing five and wounding nine others.

El Universo (Guayaquil, Ecuador)
5/3/08

Yet another group of Ecuadoreans, this time 47 of them, were found by Ecuadorean officials at an island on the Jambuli Archipelago waiting to begin their sea journey in the hope of reaching the United States.

El Herald (Tegucigalpa, Honduras)
5/3/08

A scandal concerning the traffic of Cubans to Honduras based on illegal practices by Honduran officials has brought about the resignation of the head of the Honduran Immigration Agency as well as that of the "General Secretary of the Chancery."

And after a group of 31 "mara" gang members in custody were moved to a different prison within Honduras they were attacked by other "common criminal" inmates at the new prison and at least 18 of the "maras" were killed "with knives and pistols."

Prensa Libre (Guatemala City, Guatemala) 5/3/08

The head of Guatemala's immigration dep't., Ana Maria Villegas de Fortin, was dismissed from her post effective this coming Monday. The Presidency and the Ministry of Government agreed that she is responsible for the illegal entry of 300 aliens into Guatemala by means of courtesy visas. Immigration inspectors allege that they had to give Villegas part of the \$3,000 dollars they were charging some of those aliens. (Our report of 5/1/08 relates)

- end of report -

This situation is becoming ever more serious.

Drug Cartels to Mexican Police: 'Join Us or Die'

Sunday , May 18, 2008

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico —

Drug cartels are sending a brutal message to police and soldiers in cities across Mexico: Join us or die.

The threat appears in recruiting banners hung across roadsides and in publicly posted death lists. Cops get warnings over their two-way radios. At least four high-ranking police officials were gunned down this month, including Mexico's acting federal police chief.

Mexico has battled for years to clean up its security forces and win them the public's respect. But Mexicans generally assume police and even soldiers are corrupt until proven otherwise, and the honest ones lack resources, training and the assurance that their colleagues are watching their backs. Here, the taboo on cop-killing familiar to Americans seems hardly to apply.

Police who take on the cartels feel isolated and vulnerable when they become targets, as did 22 commanders in the border city of Ciudad Juarez when drug traffickers named them on a handwritten death list left at a monument to fallen police this year. It was addressed to "those who still don't believe" in the power of the cartels.

Of the 22, seven have been killed and three wounded in assassination attempts. Of the others, all but one have quit, and

city officials said he didn't want to be interviewed.

"These are attacks directed at the top commanders of the city police, and it is not just happening in Ciudad Juarez," Mayor Jose Reyes Ferriz said at the funeral of the latest victim, police director Juan Antonio Roman Garcia. "It is happening in Nuevo Laredo, in Tijuana, in this entire region," he said. "They are attacking top commanders to destabilize the police force."

The killings are in response to a crackdown launched by President Felipe Calderon, who has sent thousands of soldiers and federal police across the nation to confront the cartels. Drug lords have hit back by sending killers to attack police with hand grenades and assault rifles.

Police are increasingly giving up. Last week, U.S. officials revealed that three Mexican police commanders have crossed into the United States to request asylum, saying they are unprotected and fear for their lives.

"It's almost like a military fight," said Jayson Ahern, the deputy commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. "I don't think that generally the American public has any sense of the level of violence that occurs on the border."

On May 8, Edgar Millan Gomez, who had taken over as acting federal police chief, just 10 weeks previously, was shot by a lone gunman outside his Mexico City apartment. Police blamed the Sinaloa cartel and said a police officer was among the suspects arrested.

The U.S. Embassy in the capital flew its flag at half-staff. "Mexico has lost another hero," Ambassador Tony Garza said in a statement. "Mexico has lost too many heroes in the fight against criminals and drug cartels."

Mexican government institutions didn't lower their flags, but held elaborate funerals.

In Ciudad Juarez, police have been given assault rifles -- they used to just carry pistols -- but also are instructed not to patrol streets alone. More than 100 of the city's 1,700-member force have resigned or retired since January.

Soldiers are also in the cartels' sights. The Zetas, an infamous group of soldiers who became drug hit men, strung banners above highways with slogans such as "The Zetas want you -- we offer good salaries to soldiers," and taunts about low army pay.

The conflict has become a battle for loyalty on several levels.

"Juarez Needs You! Join up and become part of the city police," say enormous city billboards. The jobs offer salaries about three times higher than those offered by the foreign-owned "maquiladora" factories that are the city's biggest industrial employer.

But police and soldiers keep deserting to the cartels, giving traffickers inside knowledge about tactics and surveillance.

And because of their history of corruption and abuse, police and soldiers run into suspicion as they patrol the border slums where traffickers throw children's parties, hand out cell phones and employ taxi drivers and youths as lookouts.

A Mexican army captain leading about a dozen soldiers raiding a Ciudad Juarez slum gazed over a maze of alleys, shacks and, in the distance, El Paso, Texas, gleaming in the sun. He said the drug lords' spies are everywhere, tipping off their bosses to approaching troops.

Many residents complain of heavy-handed army tactics.

"These guys don't care about anything," Lalo Lucero, 44, a former migrant worker in New Mexico, said as he watched soldiers detain a neighborhood youth. "They came into my house without a warrant, searched through everything and told me to sit on a couch and not say anything."

The army's public relations office did not reply to requests for comment. But authorities have tried to improve the troops' image by blanketing Ciudad Juarez with pictures of a soldier manning a machine gun and the slogan "We Are Here to Help You."