

Yankee Steve's Column
for the Week of May 12, 2011

The Real Enemy

The urge to save humanity is almost always a false front for the urge to rule.
H. L. Mencken [1880-1956]

There was inside the walls of castles in medieval England what was appropriately called the keep. It was a castle within a castle. It had its own moat, drawbridge, and elite squadron of protectors. Surrender the keep and all would be lost because the keep housed the king and the money need for defense.

So I ask, what is America's keep? What is the one thing that we must not lose, which makes us America? My question is important because if you can narrow down what America or Americanism is to any one thing in particular, you will be able to determine who the real enemy is. The real enemy will be the person, thing, or organization that forces entrance into the keep.

The real enemy of America is not al-Qaeda or the Mullahs of Iran. Nor is the real enemy the most ridiculous leader of our time Fidel Castro who can be found just 90 miles off Key West, Florida. Castro will go down in history as a buffoon who for his own purposes cosseted the laws of the Cuban people in order to enslave them. Lord Acton stated that, "Socialism is slavery."

So I ask again, what is it that makes America, America?

Certainly it is not our laws. Some of our laws make no sense at all, like the one allowing 18-year-olds to vote. If that law were not on the books, America would not have elected teen idol Barack Obama. Wasn't the Electoral College established to prevent just such a thing from happening? Our failsafe must have failed in 2008. Maybe by 2012 the youth who bought into "hope" and "change" will have matured.

Some laws have been preposterous. Once upon a time we had laws that allowed for slavery. Think of it, people owned other people. More recently we passed a law (thanks to U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens) which authorizes local governments to throw you off your property just so these same municipalities can collect more revenue from new residents. Consequently it is not our laws that have made America what it is - the most replicated and envied nation in history.

America Is . . .

There is a phrase in the *Declaration of Independence* that tells us what America is. Where it speaks of certain rights such as "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" the *Declaration*

declares with great authority “. . . that to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

There you have it - America in 20 words. Take that away, and we are no longer the America of the founding fathers. Therefore, and this is a big therefore, anyone or anything who subverts America from its course is the bona fide enemy. Working from the inside, he or she has found a way into the keep.

And who would do that? Who would distract the government with things not having to do with liberty? The left would that is who. Without checks and balances, they would hire government employees to prune the roses in your backyard!

And who is on the left? Who believes in big government? I'll name them if you are too diffident.

The enemies of America are in our midst. They have made their way into the U.S. keep and they should to be feared above all others because it appears that they are on our side, when they are not.

Who are they?

The 100 members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, the Democrats who look to Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid for leadership, the liberal wing of the Supreme Court, the inner circle of President Obama's administration, the Department of Education, Al Gore and his green gang, George Soros, Moveon.org, Public Broadcasting and the liberal media, union bosses, the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, NARAL Pro-Choice America, the homosexual lobby, the open borders crowd, the animal rights fanatics, Marxist professors teaching in our schools, and last but not least, pinkos who we see in the movies and on television.

Behold the enemy, each and every one a Benedict Arnold! And this is only a partial list.

They would, if they could, divert the course of government in the same way that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reroutes rivers and streams sometimes to the regret of the region's inhabitants.

Here are the people who talk a great deal about life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness but do not protect the same. Are you surprised to discover that in those states where liberals hold sway that their citizens have less freedoms than in other states?

On the left you will find those who have the marvelous capacity to redefine life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. “Life” does not mean unobstructed life or life for the unborn. “Liberty” does not mean the freedom to criticize the profane and the irreligious. And the “pursuit of happiness” is on their terms.

I am not afraid of al-Qaeda. Within a short while it will be reduced to a few camel jockeys; however I tremble when I think of those who use our legal language and mean something completely different and who would busy the government with trivia that have no effect on life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This is the most dangerous enemy, the one who has gained the confidence of the king. And in the case of the United States, the voter is king!

Hearken back to 42 B.C. and to philosopher Cicero,

A nation can survive its fools, and even the ambitious. But it cannot survive treason from within. An enemy at the gates is less formidable, for he is known and he carries his banners openly. But the traitor moves among those within the gate freely, his sly whispers rustling through all the alleys, heard in the very halls of government itself. For the traitor appears not traitor, he speaks in the accents familiar to his victims, and he wears their face and their garments, and he appeals to the baseness that lies deep in the hearts of all men. He rots the soul of a nation, he works secretly and unknown in the night to undermine the pillars of a city, he infects the body politic so that it can no longer resist. A murderer is less to be feared.

Ever yours,

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