

MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE[®]

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XI

WHO ARE WE?

AND WHY ARE WE NOT WHO WE WERE?

PREFACE

THIS LAST CHAPTER IN OUR “WHO ARE WE?” SERIES FITTINGLY COINCIDES WITH THE FAR REACHING CHANGE INDICATED FOR OUR COUNTRY BY DONALD TRUMP’S DEFEAT OF HILLARY CLINTON LAST NOVEMBER, AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY’S ASCENDANCY TO NEW OR GREATER POWER IN THE THREE BRANCHES OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND IN STATE GOVERNORSHIPS AND LEGISLATURES THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

WE BEGAN OUR RESEARCH INTO THE NATION’S INAUGURAL ADDRESSES AS AN INTERESTING ACADEMIC SEARCH. IT HAS BEEN THAT AND MORE, FOR BY THE TIME WE WERE FINISHED IT HAD BECOME AN UNSETTLING AND DISAPPOINTING EXERCISE. ITS SPEECHES COVER THE CENTURY FROM WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT (1909) THROUGH G. W. BUSH’S SECOND TERM (2005), BUT THEY CANNOT BE READ WITHOUT CONTEXT, WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING THE BACKGROUND OF OUR NATION’S GROWTH AND GOVERNMENT FROM ITS FOUNDING IN 1789 THROUGH THE 19TH CENTURY TO THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, AND ITS TRANSITION TO WORLD POWER STATUS BY ITS DECISIVE ROLE IN “THE GREAT WAR” OF 1914-1918.

IN A WAY, THESE ADDRESSES RESEMBLE THE “BUNKUM” OF THE

19TH CENTURY PATENT MEDICINE HAWKERS OFFERING PRODUCTS THAT WILL CURE PAIN AT A BARGAIN PRICE. THEY PERMIT THE SPEAKER TO MAKE UNREALISTICALLY BROAD PROMISES OF BENEFITS TO COME AND PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED. IN THIS EVENT, MARKED BY HISTORY, CELEBRATED WITH GRAVITY AND PROJECTING POLITICAL POWER, FACTS GIVE GROUND TO IMAGINATION.

TODAY, EVEN AS OUR MAINSTREAM MEDIA (MSM) AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY INCREASE THEIR POLITICAL REACH, THE CONSEQUENCES OF POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT FAILURE IS A GROWING RISK. WE HAVE MORE POPULATION, MORE ARMAMENTS, MORE DEBT, MORE MEDIA AND FINANCIAL CONSOLIDATION, MORE ATTACKS UPON OUR CULTURE, MORE THREATS FROM ABROAD, MORE HOLLOWING OUT OF OUR ARMED FORCES AND MORE ENVIRONMENTAL, RESOURCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CULTURAL DEGRADATION — IN OTHER WORDS, MORE OF MORE.

AS THE STAKES FOR OUR NATIONAL SECURITY HAVE BEEN STEADILY ELEVATED BY OTHERS, WE MIGHT THINK THAT WE WOULD HAVE “RAISED OUR GAME” BY DEVISING A MORE SKILLED AND RESPONSIVE WAY OF ACTION. SADLY, THIS IS NOT SO, AS ALL THREE BRANCHES OF OUR MILITARY HAVE HAD THEIR TROOP AND WEAPON NUMBERS CUT TO LEVELS THAT ARE BELOW WHAT WAS

IN THIS ISSUE, WE CONCLUDE OUR PRESENT SERIES, “WHO ARE WE? . . .” AS TWO IMPORTANT CYCLES, POLITICAL AND HISTORICAL, ARE POISED TO CHANGE. WE HAVE OFFERED SOME BACKGROUND AND INSIGHT FOR THOSE WHO PONDER OUR TITLE QUESTION, BUT ONLY A FULL AND OPEN ENGAGEMENT BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR GOVERNMENT CAN PROVIDE AN ANSWER.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE, WE POSE ANOTHER QUESTION THAT NOW PLAGUES OUR AMERICAN LIFE — “WHO CARES? AND WHY DON’T WE ?” IT IS, IN ITS WAY, A SEQUEL TO “WHO ARE WE . . .” BUT IS MORE CONCERNED WITH CULTURAL, RATHER THAN POLITICAL, DIVISIONS AND THREATS.

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CONSIDERED MINIMALLY SAFE NOT LONG AGO. WHAT HAS REMAINED IMPERVIOUS TO CUTTING IS THE PORK BARREL PRACTICES OF SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO MAINTAIN PRODUCTION OF WEAPONS/SYSTEMS THAT EVEN THE DEPT. OF DEFENSE (DOD) WISHES TO TERMINATE.

ONE OUTSTANDING EXCEPTION HAS BEEN OUR TECHNOLOGY SECTOR WHICH IS CAPABLE OF DEVELOPING EXTRAORDINARY DESIGN AND PRODUCTION PROGRAMS. EVEN IT, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO COSTLY HUMAN/POLITICAL ERROR AT THE MANY BUREAUCRATIC POINTS OF CONTACT IN OUR DESIGN, PROCUREMENT, TESTING AND PRODUCTION PROCESS.

WE ARE NOW AT A MOMENT OF SUCH UNUSUAL CHALLENGE AND RISK TO OUR SYSTEM AND ITS INSTITUTIONS THAT IT CAN STAND COMPARISON TO FDR'S ELECTION IN 1932. THEN OUR NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT FACED BOTH THE WIDESPREAD FAILURES IN OUR BANKING, INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL SECTORS THAT MARKED THE GREAT DEPRESSION (GD) AND THE EMERGENT FORCES OF FASCISM AND SOCIALISM THAT SOUGHT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE VOID LEFT BY WW I'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC DESTRUCTION AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE EUROPEAN MONARCHIES. FDR'S HANDLING OF THESE CHALLENGES OCCASIONED DEEP DIVISION AND HARSH CRITICISM IN THE CONGRESS AND AMONG VOTERS WHICH CONTINUED UNTIL PEARL HARBOR, BUT THE MIXED RESULTS OF HIS POLICIES AND ACTIONS PROVIDED HIM WITH SUFFICIENT CREDIBILITY TO SEEK A THIRD TERM IN 1940 AND A FOURTH IN 1944.

“...A LENGTHY REFORMATION AND REDIRECTION OF OUR GOVERNMENT.”

TODAY, AS TRUMP TAKES OFFICE, THERE ARE MANY CHANGES AND ALSO STRIKING SIMILARITIES. THESE CHALLENGES ARE WHAT THEY ARE, BUT THEIR IMPORTANCE IS NOT IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES. WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT IN AGGREGATE THEY MAY WELL PROVIDE DJT WITH A POLITICAL EQUIVALENT OF FDR'S TERMS IN WHICH THE GOP, OR THAT PART OF IT THAT ELECTED TRUMP, COULD PUT IN PLACE AND PRACTICE A LENGTHY REFORMATION AND REDIRECTION OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

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ONE OF THE AREAS OF STATISTICAL STUDY THAT INFORMS OUR POLITICAL EXPERIENCE IS THAT

OF DEMOGRAPHY. IT EXPLORES POPULATIONS AND THEIR DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS SUCH AS INCOME, EDUCATION, AGE, ETHNICITY, POLITICAL PREFERENCES AND GEOGRAPHICAL MOVEMENTS. DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY PRIOR TO WW II, WHEN MOST INFORMATION WAS GATHERED AND RECORDED BY PEN AND PAPER, WAS A SLOW STUDY THE RESULTS OF WHICH WERE OFTEN OUT OF DATE BY THE TIME OF THEIR PUBLICATION. BUT, WITH THE USE OF COMPUTERS AND INSTANT TRANSMISSION, IT BECAME AN EXCITING “SCIENCE” THAT COULD ACCESS A BROAD RANGE OF INFORMATION AND BREAK IT DOWN INTO ALMOST LIMITLESS SUB-DIVISIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS.

DEMOGRAPHY IS NOW THE GUIDING FORCE BEHIND POLITICAL CAMPAIGN RESEARCH, AND ALSO IN THE OFF-YEARS BETWEEN CAMPAIGNS WHEN THE TRACKING AND ANALYSIS OF WHAT DIFFERENT POPULATION ELEMENTS BUY, THINK, EARN, OWE, FEAR OR HOPE FOR REMAINS A CONSTANT EFFORT. MANY COMMENTATORS ON THE PAST ELECTION ASCRIBE TRUMP'S VICTORY IN NO SMALL MEASURE TO SUPERIOR DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION IN KEY STATES SUCH AS WI, MI AND PA. DEMOGRAPHY IS NO LONGER A STUDY OF WHAT IS FIXED IN TIME, BUT NOW HAS JOINED THE PACE OF OUR ELECTRONIC AGE.

THROUGHOUT THE NONSENSE AND NAME CALLING OF THE CAMPAIGN AND DURING THE VIOLENT PROTESTS AGAINST ITS RESULT ONE DEMOGRAPHIC NOTE GREW IN SIGNIFICANCE. NOT SURPRISINGLY, IT CAME FROM THAT ARGUMENT WHICH OVER THE PAST 50 YEARS HAS BROUGHT AS MUCH CHANGE, IF NOT MORE, TO OUR COUNTRY THAN ANY OTHER, AND, IF NOT SENSIBLY ADDRESSED, WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE. WE REFER TO IMMIGRATION AND ITS MANY CONSEQUENCES.

“TRUMP BROUGHT IMMIGRATION IN FROM THE COLD.”

TRUMP'S EARLY CALL ON THIS TOPIC WAS BY ITSELF AN INDICATION OF CHANGE. FOR YEARS, IN CAMPAIGNS AND STATE OF THE UNION SPEECHES, IMMIGRATION WAS GIVEN OBLIGATORY, BUT BRIEF, MENTION AND, REGARDLESS OF THE WORDS, BOTH CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE KNEW THERE WOULD BE NO ACTION TO ENFORCE THE LAW, OR EVEN REIN IN THE GROWING NUMBERS OF ILLEGAL ARRIVALS ENTERING THE COUNTRY ACROSS OUR SOUTHERN BORDER AND AT OUR AIR AND SEA PORTS, WHERE SECURITY IS COMPROMISED BY LAX POLICY AND NEW ARRIVALS LACKING DOCUMENTATION CAN CLAIM REFUGEE OR ASYLUM STATUS. TRUMP BROUGHT IMMIGRATION IN FROM THE COLD. HE TOOK IT OUT OF THE “CIRCULAR” FILE AND MARKED

IT “ACTIVE”.

THIS WAS, OF COURSE, VIEWED AS AN ALARMING ACT OF AGGRESSION BY CLINTON’S FOLLOWERS AND BY OTHERS BOTH IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT WHO WERE SO ACCUSTOMED TO THE STATUS QUO OF INACTION THAT IT WAS BEYOND THEIR ABILITY TO THINK CHANGE POSSIBLE. AND IT WAS HERE WHERE WE FELT THERE WAS AN UNSTATED DEMOGRAPHIC IMPERATIVE. WHY SHOULD A SIMPLE CHANGE OF POLICY STATEMENT IN FAVOR OF ENFORCING OUR EXTANT FEDERAL LAW CREATE PUBLIC VIOLENCE ? AND HOW MANY AMERICANS FEEL THAT A LOST ELECTION IS CAUSE FOR SUCH A FORM OF PROTEST ?

SOME RECENT HISTORY IS A KEY. PRIOR TO 1965 OUR IMMIGRATION LAW WAS APPLIED FOR ECONOMIC PURPOSE TO REGULATE THE NATION’S LABOR SUPPLY. IT WORKED WELL IN THIS AND OTHER AREAS AND WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (INS).

IN THE RUSH TO REMAKE THE COUNTRY UNDER LYNDON JOHNSON’S GREAT SOCIETY LEGISLATION, SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY OF MA WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN PASSING THE HART-ALLEN ACT (THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT OF 1965) WHICH EFFECTIVELY TRANSFERRED CONTROL OF THE NUMBERS OF NEW ARRIVALS FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO IMMIGRANTS.

ADDITIONALLY, THE NEW PROCESS OF MOSTLY UNCONTAINED IMMIGRATION WAS TOUTED BY THE WELL ENTRENCHED LIBERAL LEFT AS A “HUMAN RIGHT” OF ALL PEOPLES WHICH WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE AND PRIORITIZE. AS AMERICA’S WEALTH AND GENEROSITY WERE SEEN AS LIMITLESS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, IT WAS NOT SURPRISING THAT GOVERNMENTS OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES LEAPED AT THE NEW OPPORTUNITY UNDER OUR LAW TO SEND AS MANY OF THEIR PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE TO TAKE UP LEGAL RESIDENCE HERE. THE PREDICTABLE (EXCEPT BY CONGRESS) EFFECT OF THIS TRANSFORMATION WAS COMPOUNDED BY THE SIMPSON-MAZZOLI IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986 WITH THE RESULT THAT THE BASIC MOTIVATION AND STRUCTURE OF OUR IMMIGRATION LAW WAS CHANGED; AND, AS THERE WEREN’T ENOUGH VOTES IN CONGRESS TO CHANGE THE EXISTING ENFORCEMENT LAW, POLITICS DETERMINED THAT IT WOULD STAY ON THE BOOKS, BUT NOT BE OBSERVED. THIS WAS AN EXERCISE OF POLITICAL CYNICISM, OR CYNICAL POLITICS, THAT HAS LASTED FOR OVER A GENERATION NOW WITH THE FULL PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION OF OUR PRESIDENTS AND CONGRESS.

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THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU HAS ESTIMATED THAT THE NATION’S POPULATION IN 2015 WAS 316.4 MILLION¹. BREAKING THIS DOWN BY AGE GROUPS, WE FIND THAT THE COMBINED POPULATION OF MEN AND WOMEN UNDER THE AGE OF 50 AMOUNTS TO 209.1 MILLION².

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT ? AND HOW DOES IT RELATE TO THE RECENT ELECTION ? IT MEANS THAT TODAY THERE ARE OVER 209 MILLION AMERICANS WHO FOR AT LEAST ONE GENERATION, AND PROBABLY CLOSER TO FIFTY YEARS, HAVE EXPERIENCED ONLY THE CORRUPTION AND CYNICISM OF ELECTED POLITICIANS UNWILLING TO ENFORCE THE LAWS THEY, THEMSELVES, HAVE PASSED. THE

EXPLANATION IS PLAIN — THERE IS MONEY, BIG MONEY, IN IMMIGRATION.

THERE IS MONEY FOR OUR CORPORATE, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATION AND LABOR SECTORS. AND THEN THERE IS “CHARITY” — A HOST OF PRIVATE GROUPS, (KNOWN AS NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, OR NGOS), THAT ARE PAID BY OUR DEPT. OF STATE (DOS) TO LOCATE, IDENTIFY, TRANSPORT, FEED, CLOTHE, HOUSE AND ARRANGE TO EDUCATE IMMIGRANTS IN THE COMMUNITIES DESIGNATED BY IT. THESE ARE NOT LONG TERM ASSIGNMENTS OF ASSISTANCE TO NEW ARRIVALS; RATHER THE NGOS APPEAR IN THE COMMUNITY, DELIVER THE MIGRANTS, RECEIVE PAYMENT AND PROVIDE SOME MINIMAL INTERACTION WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS — USUALLY WITHIN A PERIOD OF SIXTY DAYS OR LESS.

THIS IS A VERY BRIEF AND SIMPLISTIC DESCRIPTION OF WHAT OUR SUPPOSED IMMIGRATION CONTROL/ENFORCEMENT HAS BECOME — A TOTALLY DYSFUNCTIONAL NATIONAL DISASTER ! BUT, AND THIS IS THE POINT, SOME 200 MILLION PLUS AMERICANS HAVE KNOWN NOTHING ELSE IN THEIR LIFETIMES ! THEY HAVE NO IDEA OF HOW IMMIGRATION IN AMERICA WAS SUCCESSFULLY CONTROLLED AND MANAGED FOR THE GREATER PART OF OUR HISTORY. UNDERSTANDING THIS IS KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THE EXTREME EMOTIONAL, AND SOMETIMES, VIOLENT REACTIONS OF DISAPPOINTED VOTERS. WITH TRUMP’S VICTORY THEY WERE SUDDENLY FACED WITH THE TERROR OF THE UNKNOWN. IF YOU WONDER WHY SO MANY EXPRESSED SHOCK, AS THEY DID, IT IS BECAUSE THEY ACTUALLY WERE IN A DISORIENTED STATE OF SHOCK.

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“...SET A COURSE THAT INCREMENTALLY, BUT FIRMLY, MOVED TO THE POLITICAL LEFT.”

IMMIGRATION IS ONLY ONE DISORIENTING ASPECT OF THE 2016 ELECTION RESULT. ON A LARGER SCALE, BOTH HERE AND GLOBALLY, POLITICAL ELITES BACKED BY SPECIAL INTERESTS TIGHTENED THEIR GRIP ON AMERICA’S SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STRUCTURES. THESE ELITES CAME FROM BOTH OF OUR POLITICAL DIRECTIONS AND PARTIES AND HAD COUNTERPARTS AROUND THE WORLD THAT CONTROLLED GREAT WEALTH. THEY PUSHED HARD FOR THE NEW GLOBALISM THAT OFTEN PROMOTED TRADE IN ITS LARGER MESSAGE AND POLITICS IN THE DETAILS. AND LEST WE NEED REMINDING OF THE LATTER, THIS EFFORT ALSO BORE A NAME, THE NEW WORLD ORDER (NWO). WITH CREDENTIALS SUCH AS THESE, IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT THE PARTICIPATING BODIES — I.E. GOVERNMENTS, TRADE GROUPS, BUREAUCRACIES, LABOR UNIONS, ECONOMIC/INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS, ETC. — SET A COURSE THAT INCREMENTALLY, BUT FIRMLY, MOVED TO THE POLITICAL LEFT.

HERE AGAIN, TRUMP’S ELECTION IS A FEARFUL DEVELOPMENT FOR MANY IN AMERICA WHO, IN THE ALMOST TWO GENERATIONS SINCE KENNEDY BECAME PRESIDENT, HAVE EXPERIENCED A STEADY MOVE LEFTWARD BY MANY OF OUR GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS. MOST NOTABLE BECAUSE OF ITS CONSOLIDATION

AND RESULTING VAST POWER IS OUR MSM. NO MATTER WHAT TRUMP SAYS, OR PERHAPS WHAT HE DOES, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO DISPEL ITS FEAR OF A FUTURE IN WHICH ITS POWER IS DIMINISHED.

GOING FORWARD WILL BE THE MOST DIFFICULT PROCESS TO INTEGRATE, FOR THE LEFT LOST NOT ONLY THE COMFORT OF ITS DAILY EXISTENCE, BUT ALSO ITS EXPECTATION OF THE FUTURE. OUR AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM HAS FOR YEARS TREATED BOTH WINNERS AND LOSERS FAIRLY IN ITS GRANTING AND RECLAIMING BENEFITS, BUT GIVEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT TRUMP'S ELECTION MAY BE THE FIRST STEP IN A LONG TERM SHIFT TO THE RIGHT, THE PROGRESSIVE'S PAIN MAY BECOME MORE ACUTE.

INAUGURATION DAY IS JANUARY 20

INAUGURATION DAY IS A BIT OF AN ODDITY IN AMERICAN POLITICS. IT COMES AROUND ONCE EVERY FOUR YEARS AND PROVIDES THE OCCASION FOR THE NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT TO TAKE THE INAUGURAL OATH AND FORMALLY BEGIN HIS PRESIDENCY. AND BEGINNING WITH G. WASHINGTON, EVERY INAUGURAL OATH HAS BEEN FOLLOWED BY THE PRESIDENT ADDRESSING THE NATION.

GOING BACK A CENTURY TO THE TURN OF THE 20TH STARTING WITH PRESIDENT WM. HOWARD TAFT IN 1909, WE REVIEWED THESE SPEECHES TO SEE WHAT RELEVANCE THEY MAY HAVE TO OUR OWN TIME AND PLACE IN THE WORLD, AND CAME AWAY WITH TWO VERY STRONG IMPRESSIONS.

THE FIRST HAS TO DO WITH THEIR CONTENT WHICH IS REMARKABLY SIMILAR — IN THEIR WORDS AND THOUGHTS — AS IF THE AUTHORS WERE TOLD THEIR WORDS HAD TO FIT SPECIFIED FORMS. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE INAUGURAL SPEECH FAILS AS A LITERARY ART FORM BECAUSE OF ITS NUMBING REPETITION.

THIS REPETITION, HOWEVER, IS A STRONG WEAPON IN HISTORY'S HANDS. IT ALLOWS US IN LOOKING BACK OVER A CENTURY TO SEE HOW MANY OF OUR CURRENT CONCERNS WERE ALSO THOSE OF PRIOR PRESIDENTS. THESE ARE IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO LIST BELOW TO PROVIDE A "THEN AND NOW" PERSPECTIVE OF OUR INAUGURAL ADDRESSES AND HOW OUR PRESIDENTS CHOSE TO PRESENT THEMSELVES TO THE PEOPLE³.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT 3/4/1909

“. . . EXPENDITURES FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR WILL EXCEED RECEIPTS BY \$100 MILLION. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT SUCH A DEFICIT SHALL NOT CONTINUE.”

“OF COURSE, THE MERE ADOPTION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL LAW IS ONLY ONE STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. IT MUST BE FAIRLY AND JUSTLY ENFORCED AS WELL.”

“ENCOUNTERING THE RACE FEELING AGAINST THEM (AFRICAN AMERICANS) . . . THEY MAY WELL HAVE OUR PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND AID IN THE STRUGGLE THEY ARE MAKING.”

WOODROW WILSON FIRST TERM 3/4/1913

“THE SUCCESS OF A PARTY (I.E. POLITICAL) MEANS LITTLE EXCEPT WHEN THE NATION IS USING THAT PARTY FOR A LARGE AND DEFINITE PURPOSE.”

“OUR LIFE CONTAINS EVERY GREAT THING, . . . IN RICH ABUNDANCE. BUT THE EVIL HAS COME WITH THE GOOD . . . WITH RICHES HAS COME INEXCUSABLE WASTE.”

“THE GREAT GOVERNMENT WE LOVED HAS TOO OFTEN BEEN MADE USE OF FOR PRIVATE AND SELFISH PURPOSES . . .”

“BUT WE WERE HEEDLESS AND IN A HURRY TO BE GREAT”

“OUR WORK IS A WORK OF RESTORATION.”

“. . . BUT WE HAVE NOT STUDIED COST OR ECONOMY AS WE SHOULD EITHER AS ORGANIZERS OF INDUSTRY, AS STATESMEN OR AS INDIVIDUALS.”

“THE FIRST DUTY OF LAW IS TO KEEP SOUND THE SOCIETY IT SERVES.”

“WE KNOW OUR TASK TO BE NO MERE TASK OF POLITICS BUT A TASK THAT WILL SEARCH US THROUGH AND THROUGH, WHETHER WE BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND OUR TIME AND THE NEED OF OUR PEOPLE . . .”

SECOND TERM 3/5/1917

“WE DESIRE NEITHER CONQUEST NOR ADVANTAGE. WE WISH NOTHING THAT CAN BE HAD ONLY AT THE COST OF ANOTHER PEOPLE.”

“WE ARE PROVINCIALS NO LONGER. THE TRAGIC EVENTS... THROUGH WHICH WE HAVE JUST PASSED (THE GREAT WAR) HAVE MADE US CITIZENS OF THE WORLD. THERE CAN BE NO TURNING BACK.”

“THE THING I SHALL COUNT UPON . . . IS THE UNITY OF AMERICA.”

WARREN G. HARDING 3/4/1921

“[I MUST UTTER MY BELIEF IN THE DIVINE INSPIRATION OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS.”

“(AMERICA) CAN ENTER INTO NO POLITICAL COMMITMENTS NOR ASSUME ANY ECONOMIC OBLIGATIONS WHICH WILL SUBJECT OUR DECISIONS TO ANY OTHER THAN OUR OWN AUTHORITY.”

“. . . A WORLD SUPER GOVERNMENT IS CONTRARY TO EVERYTHING WE CHERISH AND CAN HAVE NO SANCTION BY OUR REPUBLIC.”

“WE HAVE COME TO A NEW REALIZATION OF OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD AND A NEW APPRAISAL OF OUR NATION BY THE WORLD.”

“AMERICA IS READY TO . . . PROMOTE THAT BROTHERHOOD OF MANKIND WHICH MUST BE GOD'S HIGHEST CONCEPTION OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIP.”

“WE NEED A RIGID AND YET SANE ECONOMY COMBINED WITH FISCAL JUSTICE, AND IT MUST BE ATTENDED BY INDIVIDUAL

PRUDENCE AND THRIFT.”

“I SPEAK FOR . . . THE OMISSION OF UNNECESSARY INTERFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT WITH BUSINESS, FOR AN END TO GOVERNMENT’S EXPERIMENT IN BUSINESS, AND FOR MORE EFFICIENT BUSINESS IN GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION.”

CALVIN COOLIDGE 3/4/1925

“IT IS NECESSARY TO KEEP THE FORMER EXPERIENCES OF OUR COUNTRY BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD CONTINUALLY BEFORE US, IF WE ARE TO HAVE ANY SCIENCE OF GOVERNMENT.”

“AS THEY ALWAYS DO WHEN THEY HAVE A FAIR CHANCE, THE PEOPLE DEMONSTRATED THAT THEY ARE SOUND AND ARE DETERMINED TO HAVE A SOUND GOVERNMENT.”

“(RE: U.S. TAXPAYERS) THEY ARE OPPOSED TO WASTE . . . I FAVOR THE POLICY OF ECONOMY, NOT BECAUSE I WISH TO SAVE MONEY, BUT BECAUSE I WISH TO SAVE PEOPLE. THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THIS COUNTRY WHO TOIL ARE THE ONES WHO BEAR THE COST OF GOVERNMENT . . . ECONOMY IS IDEALISM IN ITS MOST PRACTICAL FORM.”

“THE VERY STABILITY OF OUR SOCIETY RESTS UPON PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION . . . THE RESULT OF ECONOMIC DISSIPATION TO A NATION IS ALWAYS MORAL DECAY.”

“. . . THE MANY SEPARATE STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF OUR NATIONAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS AND . . . THE MATCHLESS WISDOM THAT IS ENSHRINED IN OUR CONSTITUTION, ALL THESE NEED CONSTANT EFFORT AND TIRELESS VIGILANCE FOR THEIR PROTECTION AND SUPPORT.”

“UNDER THE HELPFUL INFLUENCES OF RESTRICTIVE IMMIGRATION AND A PROTECTIVE TARIFF, EMPLOYMENT IS PLENTIFUL, THE RATE OF PAY IS HIGH . . .”

“(RE: CONGRESS) . . . THERE IS NO MORE INDEPENDENT AND EFFECTIVE LEGISLATIVE BODY IN THE WORLD.”

HERBERT C. HOOVER 3/4/1929

“THE MOST MALIGN OF ALL THESE DANGERS TODAY IS DISREGARD AND DISOBEDIENCE OF LAW. CRIME IS INCREASING. CONFIDENCE IN RIGID AND SPEEDY JUSTICE IS DECREASING.”

“RIGID AND EXPEDITIOUS JUSTICE IS THE FIRST SAFEGUARD OF FREEDOM, THE BASIS OF ALL ORDERED LIBERTY.”

“THE DUTY OF CITIZENS TO SUPPORT THE LAWS OF THE LAND IS COEQUAL WITH THE DUTY OF THEIR GOVERNMENT TO ENFORCE THE LAWS WHICH EXIST. . . . THE WORST EVIL OF DISREGARD FOR SOME LAW IS THAT IT DESTROYS RESPECT FOR ALL LAW.”

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FIRST TERM 3/4/1933

“. . . MY FIRM BELIEF THAT THE ONLY THING WE HAVE TO FEAR

IS FEAR ITSELF.”

“ONLY A FOOLISH OPTIMIST CAN DENY THE DARK REALITIES OF THE MOMENT.”

“(RE: THE FINANCIAL SECTOR) FACED BY FAILURE OF CREDIT THEY HAVE PROPOSED ONLY THE LENDING OF MORE MONEY... THEY KNOW ONLY THE RULES OF A GENERATION OF SELF-SEEKERS. THEY HAVE NO VISION, AND WHEN THERE IS NO VISION, THE PEOPLE PERISH.”

“OUR GREATEST PRIMARY TASK IS TO PUT PEOPLE TO WORK.”

“. . . THERE MUST BE AN END TO SPECULATION WITH OTHER PEOPLE’S MONEY, AND THERE MUST BE PROVISION FOR AN ADEQUATE BUT SOUND CURRENCY.”

“... WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO PUTTING OUR OWN NATIONAL HOUSE IN ORDER AND MAKING INCOME BALANCE OUTGO.”

SECOND TERM 3/20/1937

“OLD TRUTHS HAVE BEEN RELEARNED; UNTRUTHS HAVE BEEN UNLEARNED . . . WE MUST FIND PRACTICAL CONTROLS OVER BLIND ECONOMIC FORCES AND BLINDLY SELFISH MEN.”

“... IN THE LONG RUN ECONOMIC MORALITY PAYS.”

“DULLED CONSCIENCE, IRRESPONSIBILITY AND RUTHLESS SELF-INTEREST ALREADY REAPPEAR.”

“GOVERNMENT IS COMPETENT WHEN ALL WHO COMPOSE IT WORK AS TRUSTEES FOR THE WHOLE PEOPLE.”

THIRD TERM 1/20/1941

“THE LIFE OF A NATION IS THE FULLNESS OF THE MEASURE OF ITS WILL TO LIVE.”

“THE DEMOCRATIC ASPIRATION IS NO MERE RECENT PHASE IN HUMAN HISTORY. IT IS HUMAN HISTORY.”

FOURTH TERM 01/20/1945

“WE MAY MAKE MISTAKES — BUT THEY MUST NEVER BE MISTAKES WHICH RESULT FROM FAINTNESS OF HEART OR ABANDONMENT OR MORAL PRINCIPLE.”

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER FIRST TERM 1/20/1953

“SCIENCE SEEMS TO CONFER UPON US, AS ITS FINAL GIFT, THE POWER TO ERASE LIFE FROM THIS PLANET.”

“FOR HISTORY DOES NOT LONG ENTRUST THE CARE OF FREEDOM TO THE WEAK OR THE TIMID.”

JOHN F. KENNEDY 01/20/1961

“IF A FREE SOCIETY CANNOT HELP THE MANY WHO ARE POOR, IT CANNOT SAVE THE FEW WHO ARE RICH.”

“ . . . BEFORE THE DARK POWERS OF DESTRUCTION UNLEASHED BY SCIENCE ENGULF ALL HUMANITY IN PLANNED OR ACCIDENTAL SELF-DESTRUCTION.”

LYNDON B. JOHNSON 01/20/1965

“JUSTICE (IS) THE PROMISE THAT ALL WHO MADE THE JOURNEY WOULD SHARE IN THE FRUITS OF THE LAND.”

“WE ARE ALL FELLOW PASSENGERS ON A DOT OF EARTH.”

“WE ASPIRE TO NOTHING THAT BELONGS TO OTHERS.”

RICHARD M. NIXON FIRST TERM 01/20/1969

“WE HAVE LEARNED AT LAST TO MANAGE A MODERN ECONOMY TO ASSURE ITS CONTINUED GROWTH.”

“WE HAVE GIVEN FREEDOM NEW REACH AND WE HAVE BEGUN TO MAKE ITS PROMISE REAL FOR BLACK AS WELL AS FOR WHITE.”

“I KNOW AMERICA’S YOUTH. I BELIEVE IN THEM.”

“WE ARE TORN BY DIVISION, WANTING UNITY. WE SEE AROUND US EMPTY LIVES, WANTING FULFILLMENT.”

“WE CANNOT LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER UNTIL WE STOP SHOUTING AT ONE ANOTHER.”

“TO GO FORWARD AT ALL IS TO GO FORWARD TOGETHER. THIS MEANS BLACK AND WHITE TOGETHER, AS ONE NATION, NOT TWO.”

SECOND TERM 01/20/1973

“THE TIME HAS PASSED WHEN AMERICA WILL MAKE EVERY OTHER NATION’S CONFLICT OUR OWN, OR MAKE EVERY OTHER NATION’S FUTURE OUR RESPONSIBILITY . . . “

“IN TRUSTING TOO MUCH IN GOVERNMENT, WE HAVE ASKED OF IT MORE THAN IT CAN DELIVER. THIS LEADS ONLY TO INFLATED EXPECTATIONS, TO REDUCED INDIVIDUAL EFFORT. . . “

JAMES E. CARTER 01/20/1977

“WE HAVE LEARNED THAT “MORE” IS NOT NECESSARILY “BETTER” . . .”

RONALD W. REAGAN FIRST TERM 01/20/1981

“(RE: HISTORIC INFLATION) IT THREATENS TO SHATTER THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF OUR PEOPLE.”

“YOU AND I . . . CAN, BY BORROWING, LIVE BEYOND OUR

MEANS, BUT ONLY FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME. WHY, THEN SHOULD WE THINK THAT COLLECTIVELY, AS A NATION, WE ARE NOT BOUND BY THAT SAME LIMITATION?”

“WE ARE A NATION THAT HAS A GOVERNMENT — NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND. IT IS TIME TO CHECK AND REVERSE THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT WHICH SHOWS SIGNS OF HAVING GROWN BEYOND THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED.”

“IT IS MY INTENTION TO CURB THE SIZE AND INFLUENCE OF THE FEDERAL ESTABLISHMENT . . . ALL OF US NEED TO BE REMINDED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DID NOT CREATE THE STATES; THE STATES CREATED THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.”

SECOND TERM 01/21/1985

“ . . . GOVERNMENT, THE PEOPLE SAID, WAS NOT OUR MASTER; IT IS OUR SERVANT. . .”

“WE MUST SIMPLIFY OUR TAX SYSTEM, MAKE IT MORE FAIR . . .”

“BUT AN ALMOST UNBROKEN FIFTY YEARS OF DEFICIT SPENDING HAS FINALLY BROUGHT US TO A TIME OF RECKONING.”

“ . . . ALL OF US GOING FORWARD WITH A PROGRAM AIMED AT REACHING A BALANCED BUDGET. WE CAN THEN BEGIN REDUCING THE NATIONAL DEBT.”

“LET US MAKE IT UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO SPEND MORE THAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TAKES IN.”

“ . . . WE LIVE IN A WORLD THAT IS LIT BY LIGHTNING.”

GEORGE H. W. BUSH 01/20/1989

“ARE WE ENTHRALLED WITH MATERIAL THINGS, LESS APPRECIATIVE OF THE NOBILITY OF WORK AND SACRIFICE?”

“WE WILL MAKE THE HARD CHOICES, LOOKING AT WHAT WE HAVE AND PERHAPS ALLOCATING IT DIFFERENTLY . . .”

“WE NEED A NEW ENGAGEMENT, TOO, BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND THE CONGRESS.”

“THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AWAIT ACTION. THEY DIDN’T SEND US HERE TO BICKER.”

“DRUGS . . . BUT TAKE MY WORD FOR IT: THIS SCOURGE WILL STOP.”

WILLIAM J. CLINTON FIRST TERM 1/20/1993

“IT IS TIME TO BREAK THE BAD HABIT OF EXPECTING SOMETHING FOR NOTHING, FROM OUR GOVERNMENT OR FROM EACH OTHER.”

LET US GIVE THE CAPITAL BACK TO THE PEOPLE TO WHOM IT

BELONGS.”

SECOND TERM 1/20/1997

“GOVERNMENT IS NOT THE PROBLEM, AND GOVERNMENT IS NOT THE SOLUTION . . . AS TIMES CHANGE, SO GOVERNMENT MUST CHANGE. WE NEED A NEW GOVERNMENT. . . . THAT IS SMALLER, LIVES WITHIN ITS MEANS, AND DOES MORE WITH LESS.”

“THE WORLD IS NO LONGER DIVIDED INTO TWO HOSTILE CAMPS.”

“. . . EDUCATION WILL BE EVERY CITIZEN’S MOST PRIZED POSSESSION . . . AND THE DOORS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WILL BE OPEN TO ALL.”

“OUR STREETS WILL ECHO AGAIN WITH THE LAUGHTER OF OUR CHILDREN, BECAUSE NO ONE WILL TRY TO SHOOT THEM OR SELL THEM DRUGS ANYMORE.”

“. . . THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS SPEAK LOUDER THAN THE DIN OF NARROW INTERESTS . . . ”

GEORGE W. BUSH FIRST TERM 1/20/2001

“IF WE PERMIT OUR ECONOMY TO DRIFT AND DECLINE, THE VULNERABLE WILL SUFFER MOST.”

SECOND TERM 01/20/2005

“ALL WHO LIVE IN TYRANNY AND HOPELESSNESS CAN KNOW: THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT IGNORE YOUR OPPRESSION OR EXCUSE YOUR OPPRESSORS. WHEN YOU STAND FOR YOUR LIBERTY, WE WILL STAND WITH YOU.”

“SELF-GOVERNMENT RELIES, IN THE END, ON GOVERNING OF THE SELF.”

“AMERICANS MOVE FORWARD IN EVERY GENERATION BY REAFFIRMING . . . IDEALS OF JUSTICE AND CONDUCT THAT ARE THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER.”

“LIBERTY FOR ALL DOES NOT MEAN INDEPENDENCE FROM ONE ANOTHER.”

“AMERICA, IN THIS YOUNG CENTURY, PROCLAIMS LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE WORLD AND TO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF . . . WE ARE READY FOR THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF FREEDOM.”

WHO ARE WE?

“WE COULD DISCERN NO MEANINGFUL ATTEMPT IN THE DIRECTION OF ORIGINALITY.”

READING ALMOST FOUR HUNDRED PAGES AND A CENTURY OF INAUGURAL ADDRESSES ASKS QUESTIONS OF OURSELVES THAT IT HAS BEEN OUR HABIT TO AVOID AND WHICH OUR 21ST CENTURY AMERICA MUST ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE.

FIRST, AS AN ART FORM, POLITICAL OR OTHERWISE, THESE ADDRESSES COMBINE TO FORM A BODY OF WRITING THAT IS EXCEPTIONALLY REPETITIVE IN BOTH THE SUBJECTS COVERED AND THE LANGUAGE EMPLOYED. THE READER, RATHER THAN COMING AWAY WITH THE VARIED THINKING OF INDIVIDUAL PRESIDENTS, WILL MORE THAN LIKELY GET AN IMPRESSION THAT OUR PRESIDENTS AND/OR THEIR SPEECH WRITERS FELT THAT THEIR EFFORTS SHOULD BE FORMULAIC AND NOT DEVIATE FROM THE TEMPLATE FOR THE OCCASION ESTABLISHED BY THEIR PREDECESSORS. WE COULD DISCERN NO MEANINGFUL ATTEMPT IN THE DIRECTION OF ORIGINALITY.

THERE WERE ENDLESS INVOCATIONS OF GOD FOR HIS APPROVAL/ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS CLAIMS TO “JUSTICE”, “PEACE”, “DUTY”, “LIBERTY”, “GROWTH” “FREEDOM”, “PROGRESS”, ETC. FOR AMERICA AND THE WORLD. THERE WAS ALSO A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF EXAGGERATION AS TO WHAT INCOMING ADMINISTRATIONS WOULD DELIVER. FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF OUR POLITICAL ART AND FROM OUR PRESIDENTS ELECT COMMUNICATING THEIR GOALS, DIRECTIONS AND METHODS, WHY DO THEY ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE LIMITED BY THE MODEL OF WHAT WENT BEFORE ?

SO MUCH FOR STYLE, BUT THESE SPEECHES ALSO REVEAL A FAILURE OF SUBSTANCE — AND THAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENTS CLAIM AND WHAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ABLE TO DELIVER OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. THEIR STUNNING REVELATION IS THAT AFTER A CENTURY OF TARGETED TIME, EFFORT, LEGISLATION AND FUNDING RESOLUTIONS MANY OF OUR CURRENT, PRESSING SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES ARE THE SAME AS THOSE THAT FACED TAFT, WILSON AND THEIR SUCCESSORS.

NOWHERE IS THIS MORE EVIDENT THAN IN OUR EXPANDING NATIONAL DRUG CULTURE OF THE LAST HALF CENTURY COMMENCING WITH RICHARD NIXON (“THE WAR ON DRUGS”) AND FOLLOWED BY NANCY REAGAN (“JUST SAY NO”), GEORGE H.W. BUSH (“THIS SCOURGE WILL STOP.”) AND PRESIDENTS CLINTON, G.W. BUSH AND OBAMA. THE PROBLEM PERSISTS AND, PERHAPS IN AN ACT OF DESPERATION, LAST NOVEMBER THE NATION’S SURGEON GENERAL CHANGED THE NAME OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY NATIONAL THREAT FROM “DRUGS” TO “ADDICTION, AS IF A NEW NAME COULD PRODUCE NEW RESULTS..

WHATEVER THE NAME, OUR REPUBLIC AND OUR SOCIETY ARE THREATENED MORE THAN EVER BY BOTH GROWING NUMBERS OF DRUG USERS AND THE EVER MORE POWERFUL DRUGS AVAILABLE. FAR FROM HAVING MADE PROGRESS SINCE PRES. NIXON’S CALL FOR ACTION, WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ELIMINATE, OR EVEN CONTAIN, DRUG USE. AND YET, AS WE HAVE NOTED, THE INAUGURATION SPEECHES OF THIS PERIOD HAVE EITHER PROMISED DELIVERANCE, AS ABOVE, OR MADE NO MENTION OF THE PROBLEM.

WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT ATTENTION, IF ANY, DONALD TRUMP

WILL PAY TO OUR DRUG PROBLEM. THE TRUTH IS THAT IT IS VERY BAD AND RAPIDLY GETTING MUCH WORSE. NEITHER OUR SPEECHES NOR OUR EFFORTS AT CURTAILMENT HAVE PROVEN SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE THIS ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN THE POLITICAL AND OTHER PRIORITIES IT REQUIRES, BUT LOOKING BACK OVER OUR INAUGURATIONS SINCE PRES. NIXON FIRST CITED DRUGS AS A NATIONAL PROBLEM IN NEED OF ATTENTION, IT IS CLEAR THAT UNDER BOTH PARTIES GOVERNMENT'S PROMISE HAS NOT BEEN PERFORMED.

“THE 2016 ELECTION WAS FOR THE LEFT NOT ONLY A DEFEAT; IT WAS A REVERSAL”

“DRUGS IN 21ST CENTURY AMERICA COULD BE THE ULTIMATE TROJAN “HORSE”.

THE DRUG PROBLEM IS HUGE AND DIFFICULT, BOTH NATIONAL AND GLOBAL IN ITS SCALE AND STRUCTURE. IT OFFERS POLITICIANS MANY AVENUES OF EVASION AND ESCAPE. IT BRINGS INTO OUR AREA OF CONSCIENCE THORNY ELEMENTS SUCH AS OUR PRISON SYSTEM, JUSTICE AND THE RACIAL COMPLICATIONS THAT PLAGUE BOTH, AND IT POSES DIPLOMATIC PROBLEMS IN THIS HEMISPHERE AND BEYOND. STILL, IF WE DO NOTHING MORE THAN WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, WE WILL BE DESTROYED FROM WITHIN. TODAY HEROIN, WHICH IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS “HORSE” IN STREET LANGUAGE, IS OUR MOST WIDELY USED DRUG, AND IS AVAILABLE IN VARYING STRENGTHS OFTEN PROVIDED BY THE ADDITION OF OTHER ACTIVE INGREDIENTS. DRUGS IN 21ST CENTURY AMERICA COULD BE THE ULTIMATE TROJAN “HORSE”.

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THE PACE OF HISTORY IS UNEVEN AT BEST. ITS TRANSFORMATIONS CAN BE DELIVERED SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT WARNING, AS BY REVOLUTION, TECHNOLOGY, ASSASSINATION, NATURAL CATASTROPHE; OR MORE GRADUALLY IN THE PLANNED CYCLES OF CULTURE, RELIGION, POLITICS, AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION AND EVEN WARFARE. AMONG THESE ARE MEASURED AND MANAGEABLE TRANSFERS OF POLITICAL POWER THAT HAVE BEEN TESTED AND FOUND WORKABLE OVER THE PAST TWO HUNDRED YEARS IN THE ELECTORAL GOVERNMENTS OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION (WCIV). FOR THE MOST PART, THESE POWER SHIFTS HAVE BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY A FEW “MORNING AFTER” COMMENTS (EITHER GRACIOUS OR NOT), ACCEPTANCE AND THE ANTICIPATION THAT A NEW ELECTION WILL TAKE PLACE IN A FEW YEARS.

IN THE AFTERMATH OF OUR RECENT ELECTION SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT HAS TAKEN HOLD OF THOSE ON THE LEFT WHO BACKED MRS. CLINTON. THERE HAVE BEEN CALLS FOR VIOLENCE IN THE STREETS, CORRECTIVE CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION, ABOLITION OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE AND INCREASING ATTACKS, BEYOND EVEN THE SCALE OF THE PRIMARIES, UPON TRUMP'S CHARACTER, AN AREA IN WHICH BOTH CANDIDATES PROVED DISAPPOINTING.

THE BEHAVIOR OF THE LIBERAL LEFT IS ABOUT MORE THAN A LOSS OF AN ELECTION. IT BROUGHT TO A DECISIVE END MANY YEARS OF DOMINANCE OF OUR POLITICAL THOUGHT AND GOVERNMENT BY LEFTIST CULTURE AND ITS OFFSHOOTS — GLOBALISM, MULTICULTURALISM (MC) AND POLITICAL CORRECTNESS (PC). THE TONE OF THIS ELECTORAL LOSS WAS SO STRONG THAT IT CHALLENGES MANY OF THE LEFT'S SUPPORTING ATTITUDES. THE 2016 ELECTION WAS FOR THE LEFT NOT ONLY A DEFEAT; IT WAS A REVERSAL.

THE RESULT IS THAT THE LEFT NOW FACES THE FUTURE WITHOUT MUCH OF THE ADVANTAGE IT HAS ACCUMULATED OVER THE PAST HALF CENTURY; AND, BEING STRIPPED OF MANY WAYS AND MEANS OF HOLDING AND EXERCISING POWER, THE ALMOST PERMANENT STATE OF EXPECTATION OF FURTHER SUCCESS, WHICH IT HAD COME TO ENJOY AND INCREASINGLY VIEW AS PERMANENT, IS GONE. THIS IS BOTH A SERIOUS PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL BLOW.

HISTORY'S VIEW IS ONLY THAT ANOTHER REGULARLY SCHEDULED AND MANAGED ELECTION INVOLVING A CHANGE OF PARTY HAS OCCURRED. ANOTHER IS DUE IN 2020, AND WHAT HAPPENS, IN THE YEARS BETWEEN IS NOT NOW KNOWN. EACH PARTY IS EXPECTED TO DO ITS BEST TO PURSUE ITS AGENDA AND TO BE REELECTED. THAT HAS BEEN THE WAY OF AMERICAN POLITICS FOR MOST OF OUR NEARLY SIXTY ELECTIONS. BUT THE ANGST OF THE LEFT IS NOW EXTREME AND MAY CONTINUE TO BE EXPRESSED IN THE MSM AND THE STREETS, AS WELL AS IN THE CONGRESS AND OTHER AREAS OF GOVERNMENT WHERE IT IS ENTRENCHED.

FINALLY, WHETHER HISTORY'S OR NOT, THE VIEW OF 2016 AS JUST ANOTHER ELECTION LOCATED SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE FUTURE IS INCOMPLETE. UNIQUE IN ITS LANGUAGE AND PERSONALITIES, IT ATTRACTED ATTENTION AROUND THE WORLD AND SUGGESTED THAT AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM HAS ITS DARK SIDE.

IN THE COURSE OF TWO YEARS OF CAMPAIGNING (FROM NOMINATION TO ELECTION) THE PUBLIC BECAME INTERESTED, BORED AND OFFENDED AT DIFFERENT STAGES BY WHAT OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM OFFERED, BUT THROUGHOUT THE ENDLESS HYPE OF THE MSM, THE POLITICAL PARTIES AND THEIR COMMENTATORS, MOST CRITICISM WAS DIRECTED AT THE METHODS EMPLOYED, RATHER THAN THE PROCESS. WE WERE AT THE CENTER OF THE WORLD'S ATTENTION, IF NOT ITS ADMIRATION.

BEING SO CAUGHT UP IN OUR OWN PROCESS, WE MAY WELL MISS THAT HISTORY MAY BE DELIVERING A LARGER MESSAGE AND PICTURE THROUGH ITS WIDE ANGLE LENS VIEW OF HUMAN ACTIVITY IN WHICH OUR CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL SHIFT TO THE POPULIST RIGHT IS PART OF A LARGER MOVEMENT THAT HAS FORMED AND GROWN IN EUROPE DURING THE PAST DECADE AND NOW APPROACHES A KEY MOMENT IN THIS SPRING'S NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY AND ELSEWHERE. SOME EARLY PRELIMINARY ROUNDS HAVE YIELDED SURPRISING RESULTS. HISTORY, IN ADDITION TO ITS WIDE ANGLE LENS, HAS A SLOW MOTION CLOCK. THE COMBINATION IS TOUGH TO BEAT !

SHORT TERM, LONG TERM

MOST POLITICIANS SEEKING THE PRESIDENCY LAY OUT AN UNREALISTICALLY LONG LIST OF CURATIVE ACTIONS THAT THEY WILL TAKE IN THEIR “FIRST HUNDRED DAYS”, AND TRUMP IS NOT AN EXCEPTION. THE AWFUL TRUTH, USUALLY REVEALED BY THE END OF WEEK ONE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, IS THAT GOVERNMENT, EVEN WHEN THE SAME PARTY CONTROLS THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES, DELIVERS RESULTS MORE SLOWLY THAN A CANDIDATE’S PROMISES.

AND, EVEN AS WE HAVE SEEN FROM A CENTURY OF INAUGURAL ADDRESSES, THIS DISCREPANCY CAN LAST WELL BEYOND THE “FIRST HUNDRED DAYS” AND OFTEN THROUGH THE FULL 1,460 DAYS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TERM. IN SUCH A CASE, THE REASON FOR NOT MEETING THE ANNOUNCED GOAL IS NOT SIMPLY POLITICAL ARGUMENT OR CONFLICT, BUT RATHER THE NEED FOR EVERY PROPOSED PIECE OF LEGISLATION TO CHALLENGE AND SURVIVE OTHERS FOR PRIORITY (POLITICAL, FINANCIAL AND ELECTORAL) AT THE SPONSOR, COMMITTEE, CHAMBER AND THEN JOINT HOUSE/ SENATE LEVELS. IT IS A SURPRISING ELEMENT IN OUR PROCESS HOW OFTEN POPULAR CAMPAIGN PROMISES CAN BE PUSHED ASIDE AND LEFT IN LIMBO BY THE COMPETITION FOR ATTENTION IN CONGRESS.

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STILL, TRUMP WILL HAVE HIS “FIRST HUNDRED DAYS” AND, BEYOND THEM, ANOTHER 1,360 IN WHICH TO TAKE THE ACTIONS AND SET THE PRIORITIES THAT HE THINKS ARE NECESSARY AND DOABLE TO “MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN”. WITH HIS PHONE AND PEN AND THE AWESOME POWER OF THE OVAL OFFICE, WHERE WILL HE GO ? WHAT WILL HE DO ? THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST WILL DEFINE THE BROAD POLICY DIRECTIONS IN WHICH HE HOPES TO MOVE THE NATION; AND THE SECOND WILL BE REVEALED IN THE LEGISLATION THAT FLOWS FROM HIS WHITE HOUSE TO THE CONGRESS.

WHAT WE LIST BELOW ARE THE ISSUES THAT ANY PRESIDENT, REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, SHOULD VIEW AS URGENT AND, IF THEY ARE NOT ALREADY UNDER ACTIVE CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION, SHOULD BE ADVANCED BY THE POLITICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND MEDIA METHODS AVAILABLE TO THE PRESIDENT. THESE ISSUES ARE ALL POLITICALLY DIVISIVE — NATIONALLY IN CONGRESS AND EVEN IN BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES, BUT IT IS THEIR IMPORTANCE, NOT THEIR POPULARITY THAT RECOMMENDS THEM:

1) IMMIGRATION — A POLITICALLY DIFFICULT ISSUE TO RESOLVE BECAUSE OUR PRESENT UNCONTROLLED IMMIGRATION IS A TOP-TIER SOCIAL ISSUE FOR THE LIBERAL LEFT AND THE SAME LEVEL ECONOMIC ISSUE FOR OUR MOSTLY RIGHT CORPORATE SECTOR. IN ADDITION IT IMPACTS MANY OTHER AREAS OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE IN WAYS THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION.

“SELECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT... IS A COMMON, EARLY STEP IN DIMINISHMENT OF DEMOCRACY AND/OR THE DECLINE OF GREAT POWERS.”

FOR THIRTY YEARS OPEN BORDERS ADVOCATES IN CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE HAVE DISREGARDED EXISTING IMMIGRATION LAW AND HAVE REFUSED TO ENFORCE IT. THIS IS A CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE CONSTITUTION WHICH, ONCE ALLOWED, CAN SPREAD TO OTHER AREAS OF OUR LAW AND LIFE. SELECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT DENIES EVEN THE HOPE OF GOOD GOVERNMENT AND IS A COMMON, EARLY STEP IN DIMINISHMENT OF DEMOCRACY AND/OR THE DECLINE OF GREAT POWERS.

IN ADDITION TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM POSED BY OUR RECENT IMMIGRATION HISTORY, IT CHALLENGES OUR EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SYSTEMS, EXACERBATES OUR POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, PRESSURES THOSE AT THE BOTTOM OF OUR SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURE AND PASSES THE BILL FOR ALL OF THESE TO THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER.

CULTURALLY, TOO, UNRESTRICTED IMMIGRATION IS A THREAT TO OUR WCIV HISTORY AND TRADITIONS. SINCE ITS REVERSAL OF OUR IMMIGRATION PRACTICE AND INTENT IN 1965, OUR POLICY HAS SHIFTED AWAY FROM ADMITTING OUR EUROPEAN ANTECEDENTS TO FAVOR LARGELY THIRD WORLD POPULATIONS MARKED BY DEEP POVERTY AND LACK OF EDUCATION WITH THE RESULT THAT TODAY LESS THAN 5% OF OUR ADMISSIONS COME FROM EUROPE⁴. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE SENDING NATIONS OF OUR NEW IMMIGRATION PATTERN ARE MOSTLY IMPOVERISHED, UNEDUCATED AND CULTURALLY OPPOSITE, IF NOT ANTAGONISTIC, TO MANY OF OUR CORE WESTERN BELIEFS, VALUES AND WAYS OF LIFE.

THESE NEW ARRIVALS OFFER A MIX OF NATIONALITIES FROM AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA. THEY ARE PREDOMINANTLY WHAT POLITICIANS CALL “PEOPLE OF COLOR” AND ARE BROWN-EYED AND BLACK-HAIRED TO DISTINGUISH THEM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM OUR NORTHERN EUROPEAN WCIV ORIGINS. THEY ARE ALSO WHAT THE LIBERAL LEFT CLAIMS AMERICA NEEDS TO BE MC AND PC, TO REDEEM ITS PAST SINS AND TO SURVIVE THE GLOBAL POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ANTAGONISMS THAT MANY OBSERVERS, BOTH ON THE RIGHT AND LEFT, FORESEE IN OUR CENTURY.

2) ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURAL RESOURCES — THESE THREE AREAS HAVE TO DO WITH HOW WE, AND OTHERS, TREAT OUR PLANET AND ITS PHYSICAL RESOURCES THAT WE EXTRACT TO SUPPORT OUR LIVES AND OUR LIFESTYLES. THEY ARE ALL CONNECTED AND ARE REAL. BECAUSE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY NATURAL ABUNDANCE OF OUR COUNTRY WE HAVE A LESSER UNDERSTANDING OF ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSE AND EFFECT THAN OTHER POPULATIONS IN MORE SEVERE CLIMATES (I.E., ARCTIC OR TROPICAL) WHERE EVEN THE MOST MINOR ASPECTS OF DAILY LIFE ARE DETERMINED BY ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITS AND BENEFITS.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL TRUMP ADOPTED A SIMPLISTIC ATTITUDE AND REFERRED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AS “A HOAX”, A VIEW THAT HAS BEEN VIGOROUSLY PUSHED BY THE KEY MOVERS IN THE OIL AND GAS (O & G) INDUSTRY. IT MAY CONTINUE TO “PLAY WELL” IN O & G BOARDROOMS, BUT MORE WILL BE EXPECTED AND DEMANDED OF PRESIDENT TRUMP WHEN HE ASSUMES LEADERSHIP

OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST ECONOMY AND THE POLITICAL FORCE BEHIND IT. RECENT PRESIDENTS AND HOPEFULS HAVE "DODGED AND WEAVED" TO AVOID ANY MEANINGFUL CONNECTION BETWEEN OUR HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED ECONOMY/LIFESTYLE AND THE INCREASING FREQUENCY AND SEVERITY OF NATURAL DISRUPTIONS SUCH AS DROUGHT, FLOODING, FIRES, VIOLENT STORMS, ELEVATED TEMPERATURES, EARTHQUAKES, ETC.

ARE THEY ALL THE RESULT OF OR INFLUENCED BY HUMAN ACTIVITY OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER ? PERHAPS, PERHAPS NOT; BUT THEIR INCREASED EFFECTS ARE CAUSED BY SOMETHING ON OUR PLANET WHERE WE HAVE TO LIVE. THIS IS A GLOBAL ISSUE THAT REQUIRES A GLOBAL RESPONSE. DENIAL, OR ANYTHING LESS THAN LEADERSHIP, IN THE OVAL OFFICE SIMPLE WILL NOT "FLY"; AND, IF WE MANAGE THIS RESPONSIBLY, WE MAY BE ABLE TO RESTORE SOME OF THE RECOGNIZED WORLD LEADERSHIP THAT WE HAVE LOST OVER THE LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

AT THE LEAST, PRES. TRUMP SHOULD LAUNCH A THOROUGH INQUIRY BY OUR GOVERNMENT INTO THE OPPOSING OPINIONS HERE AND ABROAD THAT HAVE BEEN OFFERED, AND TRY TO ESTABLISH SOME COMMON SCIENTIFIC GROUND FOR COOPERATION. THIS SHOULD NOT SERVE AS A POLITICAL OR COMMERCIAL FORUM, BUT SHOULD AIM AT IDENTIFYING AREAS OF REAL OR SUSPECTED SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT AROUND WHICH A NATIONAL POSITION CAN BE FORMED.

"... IF WE DO NOT DEAL WITH IT, IT WILL DEAL WITH US."

3) POPULATION — PRESENT STATUS: UNCONTROLLED, GEOMETRIC GROWTH IN A WORLD OF FINITE RESOURCES. OUR POLITICAL SENSITIVITY TO THE DEMANDS OF THESE CONFLICTING CIRCUMSTANCES AND THEIR MULTIPLE THREATS IS NON-EXISTENT, AND OUR CONTINUING DENIAL IS ACTIVELY SUPPORTED BY OUR MOST POWERFUL CONSTITUENCIES — RELIGION, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE MSM, EDUCATION AND, OF COURSE, THE POLITICAL CLASS. AS PRESIDENT, TRUMP SHOULD BEGIN TO INFORM HIMSELF ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNCONTROLLED, GEOMETRIC POPULATION GROWTH FOR THE U.S. AND THE PLANET, FOR, IF WE DO NOT DEAL WITH IT, IT WILL DEAL WITH US.

4) THE NATIONAL DEBT HAS BEEN ALLOWED BY PAST CONGRESSES AND PRESIDENTS TO STEADILY INCREASE TO THE POINT WHERE IT CREATES A STATE OF POLITICAL DENIAL. IT WILL NOT GO AWAY BY ITSELF; NOR WILL IT BE AUTOMATICALLY REDUCED BY NEW REVENUES ANTICIPATED FROM INCREASED CORPORATE PROFITS.

OUR DEBT HAS REACHED A DESTRUCTIVE LEVEL AND IS VISIBLE TO OTHERS WHO HAVE CORRECTLY, SO FAR, CONCLUDED THAT WE HAVE NEITHER THE WILL NOR THE WAY TO REDUCE IT. AND, AGAIN IN FULL VIEW, IT LIMITS WHAT WE CAN SPEND ON EVER MORE COSTLY DEFENSE SYSTEMS AND OUR ARMED SERVICES AT A TIME WHEN OUR POSTWAR STATUS IS BEING CHALLENGED IN ASIA, THE NEAR EAST, AFRICA AND EASTERN EUROPE.

REPAIRING OUR DEBT PROBLEM AND ITS IMAGE WILL REQUIRE INSTIGATION OF A CONGRESSIONAL RESTRAINT PROCESS WHEREBY

FIXED AMOUNTS AND/OR SOURCES OF FUNDS CAN BE DIRECTED TO DEBT REDUCTION WITHOUT BEING DIVERTED BY CONGRESS TO ITS MIXTURE OF MANDATORY AND VOLUNTARY EXPENSES.

5) JOBS — THIS WAS THE MOST TALKED ABOUT TOPIC OF THE CAMPAIGN AND WE MUST ASSURE THE PUBLIC THAT WELL CONSIDERED PLANS ARE IN PLACE AND READY TO GO.

THE ISSUES ABOVE ARE ALL COMPLICATED. THERE ARE NO EASY SOLUTIONS, BUT WITH CONDITIONS AS THEY ARE IN THE WORLD TODAY THEY ALL SHOW SIGNS OF NEEDING OUR INVOLVEMENT AND, HOPEFULLY, LEADERSHIP.

BECAUSE OF THEIR SCOPE AND NATURE, BRINGING THEM INTO PUBLIC FOCUS AND ACCEPTANCE WILL REQUIRE A MEASURE OF UNITY THAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED ONLY UNDER RARE CIRCUMSTANCES IN OUR HISTORY. NOW IS SUCH A TIME AND, IF THE PRESIDENT IS TO SUCCEED IN HIS WISH TO "MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN", HE WILL HAVE TO CALL UPON OUR NATION'S RESERVES OF UNITY AND CHARACTER. TO BE SUCCESSFUL, THIS CAN'T BE A TWEETS AND SLOGANS EFFORT. RATHER, HE MUST LAY OUT IN FULL VIEW WHAT OUR NEEDS ARE AND HOW, OVER TIME, THEY CAN BE MET.

AND AGAIN, WHO ARE WE ?

IN THESE CHAPTERS WE HAVE TRIED TO OFFER SOME GUIDANCE AS TO HOW TODAY'S AMERICANS VIEW THEMSELVES AND THE PROBLEMS THEY FACE. ALTHOUGH THE LATTER, AS WE CAN SEE FROM A CENTURY OF INAUGURAL ADDRESSES, RECUR WITH DISTURBING PERSISTENCE, OUR EFFORTS TOWARDS THEIR SOLUTION FAIL TO KEEP UP WITH THOSE OF OUR GOVERNMENT AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS FOR SPACE AGE EXPLORATION AND ADVANCED WEAPONRY. WHY ?

NATURE IN ITS LARGER, AND EVEN LESSER, FUNCTIONS IS PRIMARILY CYCLICAL. WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDAL, SEASONAL AND ANIMAL/VEGETABLE LIFE CYCLE PATTERNS ARE ALL CYCLICAL AND HAVE CONTROLLED LIFE ON EARTH UNTIL THE ADVENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION (IR) AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 19TH CENTURY.

HISTORY'S ABIDING FONDNESS FOR CYCLES IS ALSO APPARENT, BUT ITS DEPENDENCE ON THESE LACKS NATURE'S TOTALITY. IT HAS ITS OWN CYCLES, BUT ITS CLOCK RUNS AT A DIFFERENT PACE THAN NATURE'S, AND THEY ARE LOCATED IN DIFFERENT TIME ZONES.

AND MANKIND, WHERE ARE WE ? WE ARE PART OF BOTH NATURE AND HISTORY, PERHAPS THE ILLEGITIMATE SON, UNABLE TO ACCEPT OUR LINEAGE. MAN'S EARLY RELIGIOUS INSTINCTS (I.E. TO ASCRIBE DIVINE INTENT TO NATURAL FORCES HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND) GO FAR BACK IN HIS ANCESTRY DURING WHICH TIME THEY WERE CONSIDERED JOINED PARTS OF LIFE ON EARTH.

TODAY THAT IS NO LONGER TRUE. THE GREAT PRE-CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATIONS OF EGYPT, ROME AND GREECE BUILT TEMPLES AND PYRAMIDS WHICH WERE FOLLOWED BY THE CATHEDRALS AND MOSQUES OF THE DESERT RELIGIONS. COMPARE THESE PRACTICES WITH THOSE OF OUR NATIVE AMERICANS WHOSE MANY TRIBES HAD DIFFERENT NAMES FOR THEIR GODS, BUT FOR WHOM THE ULTIMATE RELIGIOUS VALUE, THE GREAT SPIRIT, WAS ONE WITH NATURE. THIS CONCEPT ESTABLISHED A REVERENCE FOR SUCH LIFE-SUSTAINING ELEMENTS AS LAND, WATER AND VEGETATION THAT

IS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO WHAT IS PRACTICED BY TODAY'S MASS DESERT RELIGIONS WHICH HAVE FELT THE INCREASING PRESSURE OF TECHNOLOGY, POPULATION, REAL ESTATE AND WEALTH.

“... THE EXPECTATION OF IMPROVING LIFE MOVED HUMAN EXISTENCE TO NEW LEVELS OF THOUGHT AND ACTION.”

FOR MOST OF OUR HUMAN EXISTENCE IT WAS BOUND TO NATURE, SUPERSTITION AND SURVIVING THE CONSTANT THREATS OF DISEASE, STARVATION AND PREDATORS WITH NO SENSE OF “PROGRESS”. BUT ABOUT 10,000 YEARS AGO MULTIPLE CHANGES IN MAN'S PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ENVIRONMENT COMMENCED. ARMED WITH ADVANCES IN WEAPONS, HAND-WRITING, AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSTRUCTION, PROGRESS IN THE FORM OF THE EXPECTATION OF IMPROVING LIFE MOVED HUMAN EXISTENCE TO NEW LEVELS OF THOUGHT AND ACTION.

THIS WAS A KEY MOMENT WHEN HUMAN KNOWLEDGE BEGAN TO SEPARATE ITSELF FROM MANY OF ITS PRIOR CONFINES. AS ONE KIND OF KNOWLEDGE FUELS ANOTHER, IT BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN ORDER AS SEEN IN HISTORY'S PATH THROUGH GREECE, ROME, THE RENAISSANCE, THE AGE OF EXPLORATION, THE 18TH CENTURY AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT AND THE 19TH CENTURY AGE OF INDUSTRY. ALL HAVE CHANGED BOTH HOW WE VIEW AND LIVE OUR LIVES. HUMANITY'S ENORMOUS “PROGRESS”, HOWEVER, WIDENED ITS SEPARATION FROM NATURE'S AND HISTORY'S CYCLES. TECHNOLOGY CHANGES EVERYTHING.

CYCLES HAVE THE BENEFIT OF BEING PREDICTABLE; THEY HAVE THEIR OWN SYMMETRY AND LIMITS WHICH CAN BE ALTERED TO MODIFY THE CYCLE WITHOUT DESTROYING IT. IN A PHYSICAL SYSTEM SUCH AS THAT OF OUR PLANET, GRAVITY DETERMINES THAT WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN AND THEREBY LIMITS THE LIFE AND REACH OF OBJECTS PROPELLED UPWARD UNLESS THEY ARE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO EXIT OUR SYSTEM.

IN OUR SOCIETY THERE ARE OTHER FORMS OF GRAVITY — ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL WHICH ACT UPON HOW PEOPLE AND PARTIES GATHER AND EXERCISE THE POWER THAT ENABLES HUMAN CHANGE AND PROGRESS. HUMAN CIVILIZATION HAS NEVER BEEN A STRAIGHT LINE HISTORY, AS THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DIVERSIONS, DEAD-ENDS, DISASTERS, DELAYS AND SELF-INFLICTED DESTRUCTION THROUGH OR AROUND WHICH IT HAS HAD TO FIND ITS WAY.

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THE RESPONSE OF THE PROGRESSIVE/DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO ITS RECENT DEFEAT IS AN EXAGGERATED ONE. IT SEES ONLY THE BREAK IN A LONG RUN OF PROGRESSIVE CONTROL, WHEREAS IN REALITY IT IS THE CONTINUING EXPRESSION OF POLITICAL CYCLICALITY THAT HAS SERVED OUR COUNTRY FOR TWO CENTURIES.

THERE IS ONE NOTABLE DIFFERENCE TODAY. IN EARLIER TIMES, THE PRESIDENTIAL LIMIT OF TWO TERMS WAS ONE OF CUSTOM, NOT OF CONSTITUTIONAL RESTRICTION, BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE CONCEPTS OF SERVICE AND POWER IN CONGRESS WERE NOT

AS FULLY CONTROLLED BY LOBBYISTS AND THE MSM AS THEY ARE NOW. THE EFFECT OF THIS UNFORTUNATE EXTERNAL INFLUENCE IS EVIDENT, NOT ONLY IN MEMBERS' VOTING RECORDS, BUT ALSO IN THEIR MULTIPLE RE-ELECTIONS WHICH HAVE MADE POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL TENURES THAT REACH, AND EVEN SURPASS, THIRTY YEARS.

WE HAVE HAD SOME BITTER AND CLOSE ELECTIONS OVER THE PAST FIFTY YEARS, ALTHOUGH NONE SO GIVEN TO PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS, AS THE PRESENT ONE. HOPEFULLY, AS TIME PASSES, IT CAN BE RECOGNIZED AS THE END OF ANOTHER ACT IN THE THANKFULLY LONG-PLAYING DRAMA OF OUR POLITICAL THEATRE.

IDENTITY POLITICS — FATEFUL AND FATAL CHOICES

HILLARY CLINTON AND, PRESUMABLY, THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNC) MADE A FATEFUL CHOICE TO BASE THEIR CAMPAIGN ON IDENTITY POLITICS BY EMPHASIZING SOME VERY DIFFERENT CONSTITUENCIES — WOMEN, GAYS, AFRICAN-AMERICANS, HISPANICS, YOUTH, IMMIGRANTS, ETC. WITH A GROUPING THIS BROAD, THE MESSAGE THAT WAS MEANT TO HAVE AN UMBRELLA EFFECT AND TO COVER ALL HAD TO BE GENERAL, IN ITS TONE. “ALL UNDER ONE TENT” CAMPAIGNS CAN, HOWEVER, PROVE POLITICALLY UNWIELDY IF THEY LACK A MAJOR, UNIFIED AND URGENT MESSAGE.

CLINTON'S FOCUS ON IDENTITY GROUPS WAS DIVISIVE IN BOTH ITS CONSTRUCTION AND ITS IMPACT ON VOTERS, FOR THE CAMPAIGN HAD TO BLEND SUCH DISTINCT AND EMOTIONAL ISSUES AS RACE, GENDER, ETHNICITY, AGE AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS. WITH A COUNTRY AS DIVIDED AS OURS IS AT ITS TOP MORE DIVISION AT THE BASE IS NOT NEEDED.

THERE IS ANOTHER FACTOR THAT SEEMS RELEVANT TO THE DEMOCRATIC LOSS. AMERICANS THROUGHOUT THEIR HISTORY, AND EVEN IN PERIODS OF NATIONAL UNITY, ARE USED TO SEEING THEIR COUNTRY DIVIDE ALONG THE LINES OF THEIR TWO-PARTY SYSTEM. THAT IS PART OF THE PROCESS AND OVER THE YEARS UNTIL RECENTLY IT HAS WORKED FAIRLY WELL WITH BOTH PARTIES FINDING WAYS TO FUNCTION IN THE ROLES OF “WINNER” OR “LOSER” AS DETERMINED BY ELECTIONS.

PART OF THE UNUSUAL BITTERNESS OF 2016 WAS DUE, NOT ONLY TO THE HIGHLY PERSONAL ISSUES THAT WERE RAISED, BUT ALSO BECAUSE THE CLINTON CAMPAIGN'S EMBRACE OF IDENTITY POLITICS WAS SURE TO DIVIDE THE COUNTRY ALONG MORE THAN THE USUAL POLITICAL LINES. THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN OBVIOUS, FOR IF THE GOVERNMENT IS SO DIVIDED THAT IT CAN'T PERFORM ITS REQUIRED LEGISLATIVE FUNCTION, HOW CAN IT BE EXPECTED TO BRING UNITY OR RESOLUTION TO SUCH ISSUES AS GENDER, ETHNICITY, INCOME EQUALITY, RACIAL JUSTICE, IMMIGRATION, EDUCATION, ETC. ?

IDENTITY POLITICS IS A TWO-EDGED SWORD — HEAVY AND SHARP. IF GRASPED, IT CUTS BOTH WAYS — BEFORE AND AFTER ELECTION. IN THE COURSE OF THE CAMPAIGN, IF WE LISTENED, WE HEARD THE LOADED LANGUAGE OF THE LEFT. AS AN EXAMPLE, WHEN TRUMP FOLLOWERS STATED “WE WANT OUR COUNTRY

BACK”, THE CLINTON CAMPAIGN AND THE PROGRESSIVE PRESS PORTRAYED THEIR WISH AS A CODE FOR WHITE SUPREMACY.

CAMPAIGN COMMENTS TEND TO COME IN CAPSULE FORM SO THAT THEY CAN MORE EASILY BE PASSED ON AND ACHIEVE MASS NOTICE WHETHER IN OUR SOCIAL OR MSM. WITH THIS IN MIND, WHAT, THEN, DID “WE WANT OUR COUNTRY BACK” MEAN TO MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ?

SURELY, THEY WANTED THEIR COUNTRY BACK IN THE FORM OF LAWS BEING ENFORCED, REPRESENTATIVE AND TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT BEING PRACTICED, AN END TO DIVISIVE POLITICAL STALEMATE THAT RENDERS OUR GOVERNMENTAL PROCESS DYSFUNCTIONAL AND THE ABUSE OF SPECIAL MECHANISMS SUCH AS EXECUTIVE ORDERS THAT SKIRT OR DEFY OUR HISTORICAL LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.

AND THEY WANT THE RETURN OF THEIR TRADITIONAL WCIV CULTURE INCLUDING AN EFFECTIVE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM WHICH RE-ESTABLISHES BORDERS AND THEIR PRECEDENCE OVER THE “HUMAN RIGHTS” OF PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO WISH TO COME HERE AND BE SUPPORTED BY THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER.

FINALLY, THEY WANT THEIR CONSTITUTION BACK SO THAT ITS EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY OF WORD AND SPIRIT CANNOT BE USED AGAINST ITS OWN INTENT, SO THAT IT CAN BE RECLAIMED FROM THE POLITICAL ELITES AND GLOBALISTS OF THE NWO WHO INTERPRET IT FOR THEIR, NOT OUR, BENEFIT.

COUNTRY, CULTURE, CONSTITUTION: WHY ARE THESE EVEN AT RISK ? BECAUSE OVER THE PAST HALF-CENTURY OUR POLITICAL COURSE AND APPARATUS HAS GRADUALLY MOVED TO THE LEFT AND, IN DOING SO, HAS ALTERED OUR POLITICAL LANDSCAPE AND THE WAYS AVAILABLE TO US TO VIEW IT.

THIS HAS BEEN A LONG, COMPLICATED AND UNEVEN PROCESS, BUT IT CAN BE ABBREVIATED, AS FOLLOWS: THE WELCOMING POLITICAL LANGUAGE OF OUR CONSTITUTION WAS TRANSFORMED BY LIBERALS INTO THEIR BASE AND SUPPORT FOR MC WHICH WAS ENDLESSLY CHARACTERIZED AS A “CELEBRATION OF DIFFERENCES”. THE LATTER WAS REALLY CODE FOR THE DIVISIVENESS WHICH WAS MC’S GOAL FROM ITS BEGINNING, AS IN “DIVIDE AND CONQUER”⁵.

THE LEFT, OF COURSE, DENIES ANY SUCH INTENT, BUT MC IS WHAT IT IS. IF A NATIONAL CULTURE IS REPEATEDLY SLICED AND DICED INTO EVER SMALLER AND MORE NUMEROUS PIECES, IT DISAPPEARS; AND WHAT REMAINS IS A GROUP OF SMALL, WEAK, SELF-CENTERED ENTITIES DEPENDENT UPON THE ELITES WHO CONVINCED THEM THAT THE SUM OF THEIR VARIOUS FOREIGN PARTS COULD BE GREATER THAN OUR NATIONAL WHOLE.

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LANGUAGE PLAYS A POWERFUL PART IN POLITICS BECAUSE IT DELIVERS THE MESSAGE. PLEASE READ THESE QUOTATIONS WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE UNDERLINED WORDS:

1776 — “THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.” THIS IS THE SUBTITLE TO OUR DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IN WHICH THE FIRST LETTER OF “UNITED” IS NOT CAPITALIZED.

1789 — “WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES . . . ” THESE

ARE THE FIRST SEVEN WORDS OF OUR CONSTITUTION.

1917 — “THE THING I SHALL COUNT UPON . . . IS THE UNITY OF AMERICA.” — WOODROW WILSON

“I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION INDIVISIBLE . . . ” THIS LAST USED TO BE RECITED DAILY BY MILLIONS OF AMERICAN SCHOOL CHILDREN.

IN ALL THESE STATEMENTS THE IDEA OF AMERICAN UNITY IS EVER PRESENT — SO MUCH SO, IN FACT, THAT WE TAKE IT FOR GRANTED, OVERLOOK IT OR JUST READ PAST IT. THIS IS EASY TO DO; WORDS BECOME FAMILIARIZED AND IN OUR MASS COMMUNICATION ERA OF HIGH VOLUME, SPEED AND PRODUCTION, IT IS EASY TO LOSE TRACK OF THEIR SPECIFIC MEANINGS OR MISSIONS AND SETTLE FOR THEIR GROUP USES — UNTIL, OF COURSE, SOMETHING SO THREATENING TAKES PLACE THAT IT RETURNS US TO OUR SENSES.

SUCH A MOMENT ARRIVED LAST NOVEMBER 3 WHEN DEMOCRATIC VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AND UNITED STATES SENATOR, TIM KAINE, DELIVERED A CAMPAIGN SPEECH IN PHOENIX, AZ COMPLETELY IN SPANISH ! NOT CONTENT WITH THE PERSONAL AND POLITICAL DIVISIONS EMPHASIZED BY THIS CAMPAIGN, SEN. KAINE FOUND A WAY TO EXPLORE AND EXPLOIT OUR CULTURAL DIFFERENCES.

AS CHOICES GO, CLINTON’S EMBRACE OF IDENTITY POLITICS WAS CERTAINLY FATEFUL, BUT SENATOR KAINE’S CHOICE TO “PLAY THE CULTURE CARD” COULD, HAD THE DEMOCRATS WON, HAVE BEEN THE FIRST STEP IN A PROGRAM OF OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED AND DIRECTED DIVISIVE ATTACKS UPON OUR TRADITIONAL CULTURE.

FOR INSTANCE, IF KAINE WERE TO BECOME PRESIDENT AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, EITHER BY BALLOT OR BY FATE, WOULD HE TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH TO RECOGNIZE THE LATINO PRESENCE ?

PROGRESSIVES WILL REJECT THESE CONCERNS BY CLAIMING THAT KAINE ONLY TOOK THE ACTION HE DID TO BE INCLUSIVE, WHICH IS A WORD THAT CAN HAVE DIFFERENT MEANINGS FOR DIFFERENT USERS. FOR SEN. KAINE, SEEKING ELECTION, IT MAY BE PURELY POLITICAL; FOR THE MC EFFORT TO DIVIDE AND DESTROY AMERICA’S WCIV FROM WITHIN IT IS A HIGHLY USEFUL TOOL AND, PERHAPS, A DEADLY WEAPON.

AND, GENERALLY SPEAKING, IN UNSETTLED TIMES IT IS NOT A GOOD IDEA TO GIVE POLITICAL SPEECHES IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF PROBLEMATIC MINORITIES. IN THE PAST, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OF BOTH PARTIES HAVE INSERTED IN THEIR CAMPAIGN APPEARANCES THE OBLIGATORY, ALL-PURPOSE PHRASE, COMMENT OR GREETING IN SPANISH TO APPEAL TO HISPANIC VOTERS — USUALLY A TACTIC RECOGNIZED AS CLUMSY BY BOTH THE SPEAKER AND THE AUDIENCE, BUT PERHAPS STILL USEFUL IN PURSUIT OF SOLIDARITY.

U.S. SENATOR KAINE’S CHOICE TO GO ALL-SPANISH TOOK POLITICAL PANDERING TO A NEW LEVEL WHICH COULD INCLUDE THE USE OF OTHER LANGUAGES FOR OTHER GROUPS AND PROVIDE A WORKING DEFINITION OF “POLITICAL BABBLE”. IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE THE FORM OUR POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS WOULD TAKE IF CONDUCTED IN SEVERAL LANGUAGES. WE SHOULD ALSO TRY TO REMEMBER THAT OUR CAMPAIGN SPEECHES ARE PART OF THE PROCESS BY WHICH WE ELECT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED

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IDENTITY POLITICS RUNS COUNTER TO THE TRADITION OF OUR TWO-PARTY SYSTEM UNDER WHICH POLITICAL POWER HAS BEEN EXCHANGED FOR A LITTLE OVER TWO HUNDRED YEARS. THE TWO PARTIES, PRESENTLY REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS, ARE LIKE HOUSES BUILT ON A SHARED PIECE OF LONG HELD FAMILY LAND WITH A DIVIDING LINE RUNNING BETWEEN THEM. FOR GENERATIONS NO FENCE OR WALL HAD EVER MARKED THIS BOUNDARY, AND THE ONLY INDICATION OF ITS EXISTENCE WAS A LINE OF ROSE BUSHES THAT PRODUCED BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS AND ENOUGH VERY SHARP THORNS TO DISCOURAGE TRAFFIC AND ACCOMMODATE DIFFERENCES. TO INJECT IDENTITY POLITICS INTO THIS SETTING WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO ADDING IDEOLOGICAL BARBED WIRE AND RAZOR RIM.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY FINDS ITSELF IN THE SAME POSITION NOW AS THE GOP WAS IN 2012 AFTER ROMNEY'S DEFEAT WITH ONE IMPORTANT EXCEPTION — THEN CONGRESS WAS DIVIDED WHEREAS NOW BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE WILL HAVE REPUBLICAN MAJORITIES AVAILABLE TO PRES. TRUMP IF HE CAN PUT THEM TO USE.

IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHERE THE DEMOCRATS TURN TO RECLAIM LOST VOTES AND CONFIDENCE. THEIR OLD INDUSTRIAL LABOR, BLUE COLLAR BASE NOT ONLY SHUNNED THE MESSAGE AND DIDN'T "TAKE THE BAIT" THIS TIME, BUT ALSO MANY MOVED "EN MASSE" TO TRUMPLAND WHERE THE MESSAGE ABOUT AMERICA WAS MORE TO THEIR LIKING. AFTER THE CLINTON FAILURE, BERNIE SANDERS IS LEFT STANDING PRETTY MUCH ALONE AND TOO OLD TO BE A CANDIDATE IN 2020, AND IN THE HOUSE, NANCY PELOSI TURNED BACK THE CHALLENGE FROM A MUCH YOUNGER MAN. THERE WILL BE SOME VERY DETERMINED INFIGHTING WITHIN THE DEMOCRATIC POWER STRUCTURE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS WITH NO WAY NOW TO PREDICT WHO WILL WIN, BUT THE KEY TO A PROGRESSIVE RETURN TO POLITICAL POWER AND RELEVANCE IS NOT WHO WILL RUN, BUT WHAT ITS CANDIDATES WILL SAY, AS MANY OF THE OLD ARGUMENTS MAY NO LONGER WORK OR FIT THE NEW FORM OF AMERICAN POLITICS.

TRUMP'S WIN MAY BE A ONE-OFF OR THE SOUND OF HISTORY'S HINGE MOVING SLOWLY, REVERSING A TIRED CYCLE. WE CANNOT KNOW WHICH YET, BUT WE DO KNOW THAT THE RECENT ELECTION WAS ONE WITH AN UNUSUALLY HIGH EMOTIONAL COMPONENT THAT THE "EXPERTS" FAILED TO NOTE.

AS WE APPROACH HIS INAUGURATION, TRUMP'S CABINET CHOICES BOTH MAKE STATEMENTS AND RAISE QUESTIONS. FIRST, SELECTING A GROUP OF FIFTEEN INDIVIDUALS IN A BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME TO SIT AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF OUR GOVERNMENT'S DECISION MAKING IS NOT AN EXACT SCIENCE. INCOMING PRESIDENTS HAVE ABOUT TWO MONTHS TO CONSIDER AND THEN MAKE CHOICES THAT ARE EXPECTED TO QUICKLY FIT THEIR NEW ASSIGNMENTS AND, HOPEFULLY, GUIDE THE COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

IN HIS CHOICES, TRUMP HAS SHOWN A VERY STRONG PREFERENCE FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THE MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS. UNDER THE LATTER, A SUB-CATEGORY WOULD INCLUDE SUBSTANTIAL PERSONAL WEALTH. WHAT IS MOST EVIDENT THROUGHOUT HIS SELECTIONS IS THAT THEIR BACKGROUNDS ARE ONES TO WHICH HE AND HIS CAREER CAN PERSONALLY RELATE. FOR INSTANCE, THE MILITARY/COMMERCIAL CAREER IS HIGHLY AUTHORITARIAN, AS HAS BEEN TRUMP'S OWN COURSE, AND TENDS TO FAVOR LINEAR ORGANIZATION.

IT MAY TURN OUT THAT ALL OF TRUMP'S CABINET CHOICES WILL BE IDEAL, OR AT LEAST HIGHLY COMPETENT, AND WILL PROVIDE THEIR CHIEF WITH UNARGUABLY SOUND ADVICE. WHAT RAISES CONCERN IS THAT TRUMP HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH VERY FAR BEYOND THE LINES OF HIS OWN PERSONAL PREFERENCES AND LIMITATIONS WHICH ARE OF A MUCH SMALLER SCALE THAN OUR NATION'S NEEDS.

THIS WILL BEAR WATCHING. THE PATH AHEAD FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WILL BE A BUMPY ONE THAT WILL REQUIRE AS MUCH COLLECTIVE WISDOM AS WE CAN SUMMON.

IN THIS CONCERN, THE SELECTION OF EXXONMOBIL CEO REX TILLERSON STANDS OUT. TRUMP PRESENTS HIM AS A "WORLD CLASS PLAYER WHO HAS MADE GREAT DEALS" WHICH CONSTITUTES HIGH PRAISE IN TRUMP'S WORLD, BUT MAKING OIL DEALS TO PRODUCE PROFITS FOR EXXON IS NOT THE SAME AS REPRESENTING THE U.S. ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES TO FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE AROUND THE WORLD.

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT MR. TILLERSON'S CANDIDACY WAS "FLOATED" AND RESULTS FROM SKILLED EFFORTS BY EXXONMOBIL AND/OR OTHER O & G PARTIES OF INTEREST TO HAVE ONE OF THEIR OWN IN A PLACE OF GREAT POWER AND READY ACCESS TO THE WHITE HOUSE, BOTH OF WHICH COULD PROVE USEFUL IN DEALING WITH THE INDUSTRY'S GROWING EXPOSURE TO CHANGE IMPOSED BY OUR EMERGING UNDERSTANDING OF ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSES AND EFFECTS. TILLERSON WILL HAVE HIS HANDS FULL AND HIS TALENTS ENGAGED AT DOS. OUR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES CALL FOR A DIFFERENT MINDSET, VALUE SYSTEM AND VIEW OF THE FUTURE.

EPILOGUE

AS WE END THIS SERIES WE HOPE THAT THE QUESTIONS WE HAVE ASKED AND THE ANSWERS WE HAVE PROVIDED WILL REAWAKEN THE READER'S KNOWLEDGE AND PRIDE IN BEING PART OF AMERICA'S POLITICAL PROCESS; AND WILL PUT THAT KNOWLEDGE TO USE, WHENEVER AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE, TO RESTORE THE OPEN, FUNCTIONAL AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT THAT THE FOUNDERS FOUGHT SO FIERCELY TO ESTABLISH.

TWO OF OUR SYSTEM'S MOST IMPORTANT SUPPORT ELEMENTS — OUR POLITICAL PARTIES AND OUR MSM — HAVE BEEN SO TRANSFORMED BY MONEY AND POWER THAT THEY NO LONGER SERVE AS A MEANS TO AN END, BUT ACT AS ENDS THEMSELVES. STILL, THEY ARE WHAT THEY ARE — CRITICAL PARTS OF A COMPLICATED SYSTEM IN NEED OF REPAIR.

THESE PARTS SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE UNIQUE

PROCESS THAT THE FOUNDERS DEvised AND LEFT TO US. WE HAVE ABUSED IT; IT IS AILING NOW AND NEEDS OUR HELP. THERE IS NO MORE IMPORTANT OR URGENT TASK THAT WILL FACE BOTH INCUMBENTS AND THOSE NEWLY ELECTED OR APPOINTED TO GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION. REFORMING OUR PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND THEN RESTORING ITS FORMER IDEALISM IS PART OF WHAT IS MEANT BY "DRAINING THE SWAMP" IT IS ALSO PART OF WHAT MANY AMERICANS MEAN WHEN THEY SAY "WE WANT OUR COUNTRY BACK".

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"IN THE END IS THE BEGINNING AND THE BEGINNING IS THE END."⁶

IN THE CHANGING MOTION AND DIRECTION OF OUR POLITICAL AND HISTORICAL CYCLES WE ARE AT A MOMENT WHEN EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY, RESOURCES AND ANTAGONISMS MAY BE RELEASED. IN ITS DIVIDED STATE AMERICA'S ABILITY TO MANAGE THE COMING TRANSITION WILL BE CHALLENGED BY INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FORCES. FOR GUIDANCE WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO ASK "WHO ARE WE ? AND WHY ARE WE NOT WHO WE WERE ?"



ECD 12/22/16

EDITOR'S BIO

MR. AULT IS RETIRED FROM BUSINESS, A GRADUATE OF YALE UNIVERSITY, AND THE AUTHOR OF: A RETAIL FOOD STUDY (LA ROCHE & Co. NYC, NY 1957) WHICH DESCRIBED THE EMERGENCE AND GROWING DOMINANCE OF THE SUPERMARKET IN AMERICAN FOOD RETAILING; EMINENT DISDAIN: THE TRIUMPH OF CYNICISM OVER INTEGRITY IN 21ST CENTURY AMERICA. ; AND WHO LOST AMERICA? CAN AMERICA'S DEMOCRATIC IDENTITY AND GOVERNMENT SURVIVE OUR ETHICAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FAILURES?

END NOTES

¹FACTFINDER.CENSUS.GOV

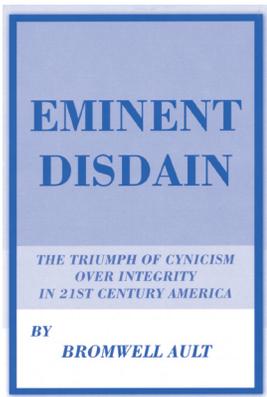
²IBID — THIS REPRESENTS THE TOTAL OF 10 FIVE-YEAR SUBDIVISIONS THAT RANGED IN SIZE FROM 19.6 TO 22.8 MILLION.

³ALL QUOTATIONS ARE FROM THE LAKESIDE CLASSIC'S INAUGURAL ADDRESSES OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM W.H. TAFT TO G. W. BUSH. R.R. DONNELLEY & SONS INC. CHICAGO, IL 2005

⁴CENTER FOR IMMIGRATION STUDIES

⁵POPULAR VARIANT OF "DIVIDE AND RULE" CITED BY MACCIAVELLI.

⁶VARIANT OF T.S. ELIOT'S THE FOUR QUARTETS, LITTLE GIDDING.



THE AUTHOR'S MOST RECENT BOOK, WHO LOST AMERICA?, DEALS WITH TOPICS COVERED IN MOC ISSUES 19 THROUGH 27. BOTH IT AND HIS FIRST VOLUME, EMINENT DISDAIN, ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE PUBLISHER AUTHORHOUSE, AT 888-280-7715 OR AT AUTHORHOUSE.COM.

