

BULLY PULPIT

The enemy from within

We Americans live a pretty nice life; some would say a protected and blessed life. But that is slowly coming to an end as our country is under attack from 10 million illegal immigrants let in by a dementia-ridden president to Muslim Congressional representatives that hate America.

It is visible every day in reports from reputable news sources, of which ABC, NBC, CBS, MSNBC, CNN are not considered a part, showing large campus gatherings of Islamic “students” crusading against Jewish students and Israel.

Now, America wakes up Thursday morning to a terrible report that I happened to see on Fox News. “Wednesday’s attack that killed two employees of the Israeli embassy in Washington, D.C. is part of a long history of assaults against Israeli targets around the world.

“The victims, who were a soon-to-be-engaged couple, were identified as Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim. Their murders happened outside the Capital Jewish Museum, after which the suspected shooter yelled, “Free, free Palestine!” and security officers apprehended him.”

Super sad and very unnecessary; the killer was allegedly converted into an extremist radical who now hates our country and Jews through the online Islamic portal he studied.

President Trump commented that our country is being destroyed from within through funding from Muslim countries buying our schools, cities electing Muslim leaders and children being radicalized from many different sources. Their goal is to eliminate Christianity and Judaism.

Yahoo.com reported, “Fox News host Mark Levin unleashed a scathing rebuke of the radical fusion of Marxism and Islamists that he says are out to “destroy” America, accusing Hamas sympathizers of infiltrating multiple corners of society and fueling the antisemitic hatred that prompted the murders of two Israeli embassy staffers late Wednesday in Washington, D.C.

“They’re marching through the streets like no Nazis ever have, like no Klansmen ever have in our country, calling for the destruction of the United States of America, the overthrow of the West, burning the American flag, chasing Jewish students on college campuses, threatening elderly Jews who hold signs on the streets peacefully, attacking our synagogues...” the “Life, Liberty and Levin” host said Thursday on “Fox & Friends.”

“Levin warned that America is not merely at risk. Rather, it is already at siege from within and the institutions too paralyzed or altogether unwilling to facilitate change – Congress, the courts and even the previous presidential administration – have created an easy opening that allows what he bluntly called the “enemy” to thrive.”

The man being held on charges of first-degree murder for the slaying of the two Israeli embassy employees has been promised prosecution to the fullest extent of the law from Attorney General Pam Bondi.

Maybe if more people understood what kind of trouble they bring on themselves for their reigns of terror; maybe it would stop. On the other hand, jihadists live for their virgins in heaven so death seems to have no meaning for them – besides a reward, according to their Kuran.

Average Americans have to wake up to the ever-slippery slope we are on allowing Muslim extremists into positions of power. Our Christian heritage is on the brink of destruction – just look at what is going on in Britain. Check it out, Sharia Law is being imposed in portions of their country, and regular people have no access to portions of cities that are ruled by Muslims.

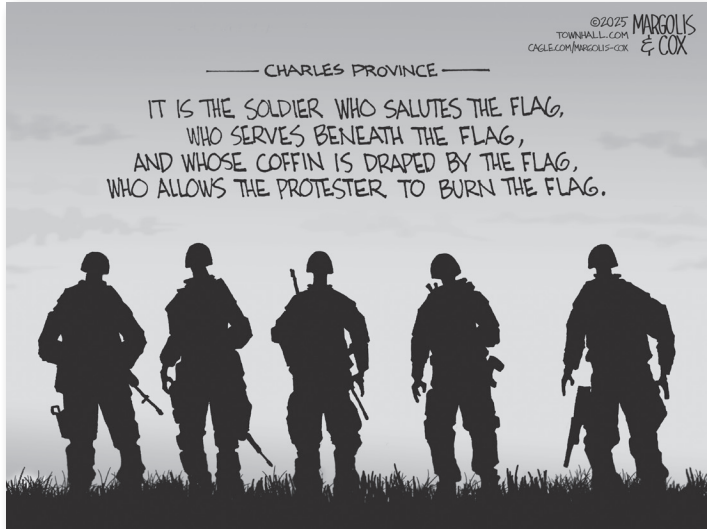
Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota are cruising at high speed toward such calamity; we need to wake up and stop it before it can’t be stopped. We missed a close bullet when Kamala wasn’t elected; we need to not look a gift-horse in the mouth and act before its too late where Muslim takeovers are beginning.

Texas has a 400-acre plot of land near Dallas that is being platted to erect a mosque surrounded by housing for Muslim individuals. Texas isn’t Michigan – it’s heartland. Wake up people.

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“If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.”

George Washington



Numerous reasons to honor our veterans

BY TOM PURCELL

More than 43 million Americans have served or are currently serving their country — and more than 1.3 million gave the ultimate sacrifice.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are approximately 15.8 million U.S. veterans living today — about 6.1 percent of the adult population. Roughly half are age 65 or older and nearly 2 million are under 35.

Our older veterans served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. The younger veterans primarily served in Iraq and Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks.

World War II veterans are dying at a rapid pace. According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, fewer than 100,000 are still living, down from 16 million who served.

Of the 5.7 million Americans who served in the Korean War, approximately 767,000 are still alive. My father, who served during the

Korean War, left us nearly three years ago at the age of 89.

As for Vietnam, around 5.6 million of the 8.7 million Americans who served in that war are still living.

To round out the numbers, more than 8.4 million veterans have served during the Gulf War era, which spans from 1990 to the present. Additionally, approximately 4.4 million served during peacetime.

Some living veterans served across multiple war periods. Nearly 63,000 served during the Vietnam War and both Gulf War eras — from August 1990 through August 2001 and again from September 2001 onward.

More impressively, nearly 37,000 living veterans served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Many Americans confuse Memorial Day with Veterans Day. While Veterans Day honors all who have served — living or dead — Memorial Day is specifically for those

who died in service.

It began after the Civil War as “Decoration Day,” a time to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers. Today, it’s a day of national mourning, and rightly so.

To date, more than 1.3 million Americans have died in military service. About 4,500 died during the American Revolution. In the Civil War, around 370,000 Union soldiers and an estimated 260,000 Confederate soldiers lost their lives.

We lost 116,516 in World War I and nearly 405,000 in World War II. The Korean War claimed 36,574 lives; the Vietnam War, 58,220.

Modern warfare has led to fewer battlefield deaths — a silver lining of improved medical care and technology.

Of the Americans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, more than 7,000 died. Nearly 50,000 were wounded and many still are suffering from their injuries.

Many of today’s veterans face challenges well beyond

the battlefield. Many struggle with PTSD, physical injuries, job placement and endless health challenges.

In any event, each veteran who gave the ultimate sacrifice represents a life cut short — young men and women who never came home, never started a family, never got to see the freedoms they died to protect.

Their families carry that loss forever. Their sacrifice is not just national — it’s heart-breakingly personal.

Yes, the purpose of Memorial Day is to honor the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

While we kick off this summer, let’s take some time to remember, thank and honor them for their service.

While we do so, let’s also pay homage to all of the many men and women who have served, or are serving, our country.

Don’t reform FEMA, rebuild it

by Peter Roff

The guy who wrote the song was wrong. It does rain in California. Often.

When it does, it often comes in torrents, leaving local leaders in a pickle. They’re not prepared for the disasters these storms leave behind in their wake and must turn to others for help.

That was the situation in January of 2023, when the board members of the Santa Maria Water Conservation District noticed above-average, torrential rainfall was filling the usually dry Twitchell Reservoir to a point beyond its capacity. The threat of flooding, of the dam holding back approximately six billion gallons of storm-water and sediment bursting, was suddenly very real.

Problematically, local officials, whose yearly budget was just \$820,000, had

neither the equipment nor personnel on hand to prevent the disaster that was obviously about to occur. They turned quickly to the firms Mitigation Solutions, LLC, and Barnett Southern Corporation (MSL/BSC) for help preventing a breach that would have left thousands homeless and caused tens of millions or more in damage to the surrounding area.

The Georgia-based construction firm, which has extensive experience in disaster recovery and prevention, moved quickly, deploying barges, pumps, and heavy equipment at the reservoir along with the personnel needed for an around-the-clock effort to prevent the situation from reaching the critical stage.

They weren’t alone in this effort, which, after some touch-and-go, was a success. MSL/BSC worked with the local water conservation board

and with state and federal partners, including the California Office of Emergency Services, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which has recently been much in the news, to mitigate the pending disaster.

According to BSC CEO Ames Barnett, “Had the

emergency work not been performed, the district would have been forced to release dangerous levels of floodwaters and sediment downstream or else risk facility failure, endangering the health and safety of the 100,000 or more residents and thousands of properties in the Santa Maria area.”

SEE **REBUILD, A4**

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- Include writer’s name, city and phone number as letters will be verified for authenticity.
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- Be received by 5 p.m. Monday to appear in that week’s edition.
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- Letters with political content will not be accepted the week preceding an election as it does not allow time for a response.

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