

MEMO FROM THE MAYOR

SUBJECT: In Truth, the US Government Isn't All That Helpful

- **In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. (Dwight D. Eisenhower in his televised Farewell Address)**
- **Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other. (John Adams)**
- **Fight like Heaven against the Administrative Deep State (Me)**

Perhaps nothing explains more comprehensively, the alternative reality in which we currently find ourselves, what Dennis Miller sadly calls “our upside-down country”, than the recent Daily Mail.com piece of January 14, 2024. This piece laid out how the Federal Aviation Administration looks to recruit air traffic controllers from the population suffering from “severe intellectual” disabilities. Clearly, this effort simply checks the box for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. [*FAA launches recruitment campaign for workers with ‘sever intellectual’ disabilities, psychiatric problems and physical issues to hit woke DEI targets.*] When it comes to flying, nothing says failure like checking the DEI box over merit; just ask Boeing Aircraft.

Nevertheless, a reckless, clueless, and destructive federal administrative state in America is nothing new. Over several memos, readers will learn about the irradiation of the western United States in general, and Gem County in particular, due to above-ground nuclear test shots in Nevada. A big “thank you” must go to the newly-minted President of the Emmett City Council, Tona Henderson, for allowing the use of several books from her personal library as a resource for the information contained in these memos. President Henderson is every bit a subject-matter expert on this topic as any journalist who ever studied this dark stain on our nation as the residue from above-ground testing of Cold War I continues to kill our loved ones in a slow, painful death from an unnecessary program.

This examination of the data underscores how the agencies of the federal government—especially those affiliated with the defense industry—see US citizens not only as useful funders through their tax dollars, but equally useful as guinea pigs. Sometimes it’s radiation the agencies look at and, at other times, it’s biological or chemical weapons.

Those who have recently watched the movie *Oppenheimer*, know that our planet changed forever on 16 July 1945 with the detonation of the first atomic bomb (a plutonium imploded device) at the site in New Mexico known as Trinity. Members of the Communist Party who worked as scientists with Oppenheimer (Klaus Fuchs and Theodore Hall) made sure that Papa Joe Stalin received information that the device worked since the Soviet Union had already received much of the information and plans relating to the device, not only through Fuchs and Hall, but through Julius Rosenberg and David Greenglass, the younger brother of Rosenberg's wife, Ethel, and Greenglass' courier, a man named Harry Gold. All were card-carrying communists, and their activities in spying on behalf of the Soviet Union led to the McCarthyism and Red Scare of the early 1950s.

When the Soviet Union fell, a short-lived transparent Russian Republic revealed that Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy, while utilizing reprehensible tactics, perhaps driving by his acute alcoholism, was generally correct in suspecting that the US Government was riddled with communist agents who spied on behalf of the Soviet Union. Notwithstanding, McCarthy's sophistry, bullying, and exaggerations, particularly on national television during the spring and early summer of 1954 on what networks billed as the Army-McCarthy Hearings, proved to be his undoing. He died a lonely, broken man.

What seems generally unknown to those under 50 years of age, surrounds the United States between 1951 to 1962 conducting over one-hundred above-ground nuclear weapons tests in Nevada, not far from Las Vegas. Testing thereafter went underground to fulfill a campaign pledge by President John F. Kennedy. Nevertheless, an extremely reckless policy instituted by the military-industrial complex had already done its damage. Significant amounts of radioactive materials fell on Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and Idaho. Moreover, internal Atomic Energy Commission documents show that not one county in the lower-forty-eight states escaped some fallout from these tests at one time or another. The federal government, during this period, irradiated virtually every US citizen.

Considering the standard of living in the United States, one would think Americans should be among the healthiest in the Industrialized countries. Sadly, Americans are not. In fact, when it comes to first-world countries (to borrow a phrase from Cold War I) the United States isn't even in the top twenty. Indeed, Americans are far from being healthy notwithstanding it is saddled with the most expensive health-care system on earth. Should one consider as one of the causes the

fallout from eleven years of Nevada's above-ground tests finding its way into America's food chain, thus exposing not one, but several generations of Americans to radiation with its follow-on adverse health consequences? This certainly gives a different spin to visiting the "sins of the fathers" to the third and fourth generation, doesn't it?

On 5 June 1952, in the predawn hours, the Atomic Energy Commission and military tested a fourteen-kiloton device. Unfortunately, on this particular day, it rained throughout the intermountain west. Four counties in Idaho received the highest fallout from this test shot: Gem, Custer, Blaine and Lemhi. In future memos, we will examine the devastating effects this and following tests had on Gem County residents. Stay tuned.