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QUOTE FOR THE DAY:

“Extremes to the right and to the left of any political dispute are always wrong.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

IN DEFENSE OF LOOTING:

What is that all about? Unbelievably, it's the title of a book by Vicky Osterweil. The book makes the case for looting because it, “attacks Some of the core beliefs and structures of (and Get ready for a tongue twister) cisheteropatriachial racist society.”

Osterweil, “rejects the legitimacy of ownership rights and property.” And, “reveals all these things for what they are: not natural facts, but social constructs benefitting a few at the expense of the many, upheld by ideology, economy and state violence.” Wow!! Gotta get

my copy tomorrow. This is right out of the Marxist play- book. Speak about giving license to the looters, Osterweil is right up there with that community organizer from L.A. who I mentioned several issues back, who contended that there is no crime committed in the destruction of property as long as no one is hurt or killed. So that's the manifesto of those on the extreme left. Now enters those on the extreme right.

It's been only a little more than a week, but the armed militants are showing up in greater numbers in many cities, especially Kenosha and Portland, ostensibly to protect stores and other properties from being looted and vandalized. Go figure how a city like Kenosha permits "open carry" of weapons. The place looks like a fire- fight in Afghanistan. Why the "open carry" permission hasn't been put in abeyance is a total mystery. Only three shot so far- more to come.

And, if the world hasn't been watching, these major conflict cities today have little to do with George Floyd or BLM. Face it, the movement has been hijacked and is suffering undeserved

reputational damage in the process. Of 175 arrests that were made recently in Portland, 102 of them were people from out of the area.

The Boogaloo people, if you recall, those right wing extremists who hope for a massive conflict between white supremacists and blacks, are overjoyed to see the direction in which these conflicts have moved. Antifa members, “Proud Boys” and other right wing groups can’t wait to get it on with the left wing, tear it down, “domestic terrorists.”

America, we have a problem and it’s not going away anytime soon.

DCFACES:

This is the brain child of Muriel Bowser, Mayor of D.C. You probably saw mention of this on television. The “ DCFACES Working Group Report” coverage on TV focused on the report’s advocacy for changing, removing, or contextualizing statues, and memorials meaning that something has to be done about the Washington Monument, the Jefferson Memorial and the Columbus Fountain. That’s

about all you got to see on television. I encourage you to look up this report on line. If you can't pull it up I will send you a copy.

It is voluminous. Schools, parks, museums, buildings, statues and memorials – they all have to go and/or be changed in name. No more Woodrow Wilson or Thomas Jefferson high schools. The list of names, said to be hurtful to the black and indigenous people, seems to be without end.

Bowser's report doesn't even get into street names (at least in the sections I reviewed) so you know what's going to happen with Lee Highway and hundreds of other streets. Nor did I see what is proposed for Washington D.C. itself – perhaps just rename it D.C.

The impracticality of all this is just mind boggling, and how is this going to improve the quality of anyone's life. What it will do is anger a lot of folks who hereto fore have been sympathetic to BLM goals. In addition to peaceful protests against police brutality, the BLM movement should be trying to galvanize public opinion towards supporting massive

investment in America's poorer communities- education, health, housing and recreation, the U.S. Marshall plan I have advocated in six of sixty-one issues. Look what Michael Bloomberg did just yesterday - \$100 Million dollar gift to the medical schools of four predominately black colleges - a wonderful gift, but a fraction of the trillions needed, which BLM should be focused on.

COLLEGE UPDATE:

Shocking news last week with the publication of Covid 19 (CV) positive students at 1,500 colleges and universities - more than 20,000 cases identified since May. UNC, Chapel Hill near the top of the leader board with 835 cases. Just yesterday SUNY, Oneonta closed down its 6,000 student campus as it suffers from a 400 case outbreak directly related to student partying and failure to follow other pandemic protocols.

One interesting approach being taken for early detection (Syracuse is prominently mentioned) is checking waste- water in residential buildings for signs of CV. If CV is

found, everyone in the dormitory gets checked. If no CV found, no need to test individuals. Waste -water tests are done every day.

Another threat, only recently recognized – Legionaire’s Disease. As students return to schools and colleges administrators have been shocked to find the bacteria that causes Legionaire’s disease. With all those buildings unoccupied for months, water pipes have sat with stagnant water which is where the bacteria breeds. Therefore, all showers, sinks, etc must be fully purged of stagnant water to eliminate the problem.

Dr Fauci has long predicted that we will be in for a new nationwide CV outbreak. With a good number of colleges that have students on campus, many are planning to send students home around Thanksgiving and not bring them back until January. I would speculate that we are at risk for a major secondary outbreak around mid December when these many thousands of students will have returned home, only to infect siblings, parents and friends.

To round out all this cheery news on the college front, we're all aware that there will be only limited offerings of college football. That means everyone is sad, right? Well, not exactly. The networks pay a ton of money for the rights to broadcast college games, but in a pandemic they just don't know if the ad dollars are going to be there. The networks have a force majeure clause that does not obligate them for games that are not played. No question but that sometimes the networks are better off if the games are not played at all.

YIKES!!, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT:

We've all heard about the devastation of an atomic bomb – Hiroshima, 140,000 killed and many thousands more in the years thereafter. We've all heard of the Hydrogen bomb, advertised as more powerful than the atomic bomb. I just assumed, ok, bigger, what? Maybe 10X, 20X- whatever. Here's the deal: the hydrogen bomb has no theoretical size limit – the more fuel the bigger the explosion. If it were 10X as powerful as the atomic bomb, in a city similar to Hiroshima, you could expect 1,400,000 deaths. So, what did the good old

USA accomplish in 1952, we developed a hydrogen bomb equivalent to 700X the power of what was dropped on Hiroshima. Just released last month - in 1961 the Russians developed a bomb with 3,333 times the destructive power of the atom bomb - bye bye world.

NOT GOOD, BUT LUCKY FOR 3 YEAR OLDS:

Mom and dad are relaxing on the beach in southern Greece while their three year old daughter blissfully floats on her unicorn flotation device in six inches of water. Before the parents could react, the wind kicks up and with an outgoing tide she is swept out to sea. Thousands of miles away, another three year old is with her parents in Taiwan at a major kite flying contest. She became entangled in a streamer and was suddenly yanked thirty feet into the air for 30 seconds. Miraculously, both girls survived in good shape. Memories for a lifetime and, hopefully, an aversion to water and flying that will be outgrown.

**Your faithful scribe,
PB**

