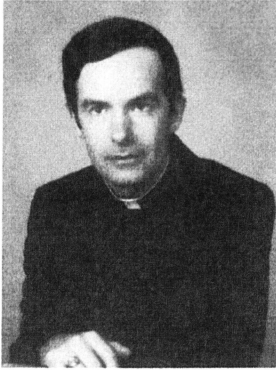


Chaplain's Corner, Hughes Camp Chaplain Richard W Rudd



Rudd continued from September:

It is not the intention of liberals to limit the effects of their editing and revision of facts to historical events. Facts associated with current events are being manipulated to promote the liberal

agenda. For example, as King Saul, who had fallen from grace, asked the witch of Endor to raise the spirit of Samuel to help him (I Sam. 28), so liberals are conjuring up the dead spirit of slavery to assist them in their quest to nullify the Second Amendment. Organized in AD2001 in Sacramento, a group bearing the misnomer Truthout is erroneously claiming that the sole purpose of the Second Amendment was to secure the existence of slavery. They falsely assert that the term "States" refers to the southern states, not the nation, and that "the people" refers to defenders of slavery, not the total populace of the nation. According to their thesis, since slavery no longer exists, there is no need for the Second Amendment. They conveniently ignore the original purpose of the amendment, which is to enable all citizens to defend themselves against all enemies, foreign and domestic. These liberals and their radical program to negate the Constitution, build an all-powerful central government, and destroy the rights of the states and our federal system could very well be considered a domestic enemy.

In her book *White Trash*, Nancy Isenberg reviews the 400-year-old history of American social classes. Early colonial America, much of which was concentrated in New England, adopted its own version of the British class system, preying on the weak, powerless, stigmatized, needy, and expendable. Immigrants to America, including children, especially those from Germany, Ireland, and Italy, labored in Northern factories, sweat shops, and mines while dwelling in slums. They were treated no better than slaves. Calculations determined that it was more profitable to benefit from their labor in this way than

to legally own them. Many were forced to purchase life's necessities from company stores that overcharged and kept them in perpetual debt and servitude. Today, illegal immigrants, especially Latino, are allowed into the US for the purpose of exploiting their status as the means for abusively overworking and underpaying them. Corporations and banks use credit and advertising to keep as many as possible in bondage through debt to prevent economic independence. In effect, the lender owns a part of the debtor as one owns shares in a corporation. "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender." (Prov. 22:7) The international corporations of today are the successors of the plantations of yesterday. International trade agreements and government bureaucracy create slave-labor conditions in many parts of the world. It is estimated that there are 45.8 million people living in slavery today: 1.1 million in North Korea, 1.2 million in Uzbekistan, 18.4 million in India, 2.1 million in Pakistan, 257,000 in Cambodia, 873,000 in the Republic of the Congo, 455,000 in Sudan, 404,000 in Iraq, 368,000 in Afghanistan, 30,000 in Qatar, and 58,000 in the US just to name a few listed in the Global Slavery Index. Most Islamic nations overtly practice slavery. The history of Arab black slave trade is greater and longer than the totality of the trans-Atlantic slave trade we are so often reminded of now. Yet, where is all the self-righteous and sanctimonious indignation against all of this by bleeding-heart liberals who, like the hypocritical Pharisees of old (Lk. 18:10), beat their chests and continue to castigate the South 151 years later? As Solomon observed, "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; and there is nothing new under the sun." (Eccles. 1:9)

Richard W Rudd

Hughes Camp Chaplain