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What You Need to Know About Military Assistance to Civil Disturbances

By Samuel Culper, *Intelligence Editor*



330th Military Police train with L.A. Metro, via California National Guard

notes that:

During domestic civil disturbance operations, federal military forces will confront members of the civil populace participating in group acts of violence antagonistic to authority. These acts can fall anywhere along a broad spectrum of violence that encompasses individual acts of terrorism, riots, and insurrection.

Part of our jobs in using intelligence to support SHTF community security is identifying potential scenarios and describing how they could impact our security. It's not enough to just be aware that Military Assistance to Civil Disturbances (MACDIS) is an available course of action. We need to run this scenario through the Intelligence Cycle so that we can identify early warning indicators and be able to forecast realistic expectations of the future. We can be best prepared when we can achieve early warning of what to expect.

Military Assistance to Civil Disturbances is about restoration of order. Given this broad mission, potential activities include:

Dispersing unlawful assemblies, where we can expect less-lethal weapons like tear gas, rubber bullets, and skirmish lines. As quickly as possible during an emergency where MACDIS could be authorized, we need to start mapping out which areas are affected by the disturbance and drawing conclusions about the use of force.

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Emboldenings

By Francis W. Porretto



Yes, it's another Fran Porretto neologism. You won't find it in the dictionary – at least, not in any dictionary I'm aware of. But the rules of construction should make its meaning clear.

Boldness – confidence compounded with brassiness – arises from action that repeatedly meets with success, without undue negative consequences. A businessman becomes bold by making one successful innovation after another, without suffering a financial loss. A Lothario becomes bold by seducing one woman after another, without being thrashed by one of her male relatives. A thief becomes bold by pulling off a string of robberies, without getting caught, indicted, tried, convicted, and sent to prison.

A bureaucracy becomes bold by repeatedly exercising powers and authorities it was never granted, without any of its personnel being hanged from lampposts.

One of the fatal errors the American people have made this century past was to permit Congress to delegate its lawmaking power to unelected bureaucrats. This was done under quasi-Constitutional cover, via enabling legislation; laws that:

- Established a justification for government action;
- Created a bureaucracy with subsidiary authority for rule-making;
- Proposed a fiction of “legislative oversight” of the bureaucracy’s rules and actions.

The essential impossibility of a Congress of a few hundred, many with narrow regional or constituent interests at stake, properly overseeing (and by implication constraining) a bureaucracy of many thousands of persons should have been obvious from the start. Indeed, I would argue at this point that serious oversight of the resulting bureaucracies was nowhere in Congress’s intentions even when it began to delegate its authority. Whatever the case then, no one can plausibly claim that such oversight and constraint are in force today. Rather, Congress waits for the federal courts to exercise whatever limits the bureaucracies must observe – and in several cases, agencies have proceeded to ignore adverse court rulings in their subsequent behavior.

It started early in the Twentieth Century, when Progressivism, powered by a widely held, well meant, but inherently wrongheaded meliorist sentiment, was first getting its wheels onto the track. It was greatly aided by the economic distortions the country endured during the two World Wars. Today it constitutes the indispensable method of the federal government for getting what it wants.

Think about it! The bureaucracies aren't arms of Congress; they're parts of the executive branch, that portion of the federal government that enforces federal law. Apart from the bureaucracies, Washington's enforcement power lies in the armed forces, which, except in case of invasion, operate only outside the United States. Without the bureaucracies, the executive branch would need to depend on the enforcement arms of the state governments to work its will – an aspect of the Constitutional design the Founders fully intended.

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Seven Shocking Things That You Almost Certainly Didn't Know

By Paul Rosenberg



“You need to tell people about all the interesting things in your subscription letter,” one of my oldest friends told me. “We do,” I said. “We list them on the site and we even have a free report to get them started.”

“Not enough,” she replied curtly. “Do more.”

So, today I'll take my friend's advice and explain seven things that simply aren't taught, that simply are true, and that make a huge difference in how we view the world. I won't be able to go into detail like I do in the monthly letters of course, but I think I can give you the crux of them fairly well. Here we go:

#1: The “Dark Ages” were a liberation.

Forget Monty Python and the Holy Grail (and let's be honest, probably half of us got our “Dark Ages” images from it); actual life after Rome was a tremendous release. The great tyranny collapsed and dissolved, agricultural production rose, average lifestyles improved, new technologies came into use, fine crafts continued and often improved, and even literature thrived. (Yes it did, and we have proof!)

Opportunities swung open to non-elite people (the 99% that history books ignore), and there was almost no one forbidding anything. If you wanted to take an empty field, work it, and build a small castle, you could probably do it... and a shocking number of people did!

Wars were not only tiny, but they were generally limited to the aristocracy. Unless you wanted to be involved with war, you were probably left quite alone. (Compare that to 20th century Europe!) We devoted two full issues to this, including lots of original-source historical material. It's true.

#2: Christian Europe, alone among major civilizations, killed the ancient evil of slavery.

What you were taught in school was misleading, and what you weren't taught was nearly criminal. The statement above is true, and in the subscription letter, we covered it carefully. There is no doubt about it, European Christians killed the massive slavery they inherited from Rome, and they killed it for moral reasons. That these people are given no credit for their triumph is a horrific wrong.

#3: The most profitable business on Earth, by far, is government.

We've crunched the numbers from several eras, and the verdict is clear: No other business model comes close; nothing rakes in money like a government. The numbers were so large, however, that we needed a method of proof – some way to double-check them. And we found one, by comparing them to the tributes that warlords were able to extract from frightened governments. In the end, the statement stands confirmed: Government is, by far, the biggest and most profitable business on the planet, and always has been.

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Emboldenings (Continued from page 1)

The federal government's original mission was to supervise the U.S.'s external relations. The seventeen enumerated powers of Congress nearly all point explicitly in that direction. Even the few exceptions, such as the power "to coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and to fix the Standard of Weights and Measures," looked mainly toward the conduct of America's foreign dealings.

Despite the creation of a Department of the Interior and a Department of Justice, there was no contemplated role for the federal government in the lives and activities of private Americans when the nation was founded. Even the collection of federal taxes was in part delegated – subcontracted, if you will — to state-level authorities.

Quite a throw from today, eh, Gentle Reader?

When the first significant bureaucracies emerged during the Wilson Administration, the country was at war. The fury of a nation in arms was directed outward, toward "the Hun." The absence of scrutiny that resulted allowed Washington to get away with many crimes against the Constitution, including some so shameful that even today most Americans, regardless of their political leanings, would regard them as beyond the pale; look up the life and doings of General Hugh Johnson for a sampling. Yet the citizenry, obsessed with "the war effort," hardly protested at the intrusions into their lives and affairs.

Once the seeds of bureaucratic rule were planted, the task of those who sought unbounded power was to keep them well fed and watered. That required occasions for action. The Twenties offered few...but the Great Depression and the resumption of world conflict in 1939 offered multitudes, as the legacies of the New Deal should demonstrate. With every supposed necessity to which they were applied, the bureaucracies grew in extra-Constitutional power. The justifications offered by the courts became ever thinner; Wickard v. Filburn is the most commonly cited example.

Today the bureaucracies are untouchable, save perhaps by high explosives. Most bureaucrats are permitted to carry firearms; many do so daily, including in states where private citizens are forbidden to do so despite the clear wording of the Second Amendment. Their offices are among the most closely protected of all government buildings. The most intrusive of them labor to keep both the addresses of their offices and the names of their employees secret. Seldom does a bureaucrat face even a mild penalty for anything he might do ex officio.

And all because we were too consumed by the "world wars" – wars in which, except for the Pacific campaign against Japan after Pearl Harbor, America had no national interest at stake – to pay attention to what was being done to us.

The successes of a century have greatly emboldened the bureaucracies. At this point, they seldom even bother to cite their "enabling legislation" as justification for their actions. Consider the recent action against Gibson Guitars, which was in no way an enforcement of American law. Consider the EPA's attempts to seize control of numerous private properties as "wetlands" or the "habitats of endangered species." Consider the Bureau of Land Management's highly publicized seizures and attempted seizures of land in the West – one of which went so far as to mandate a redrawing of state borders.

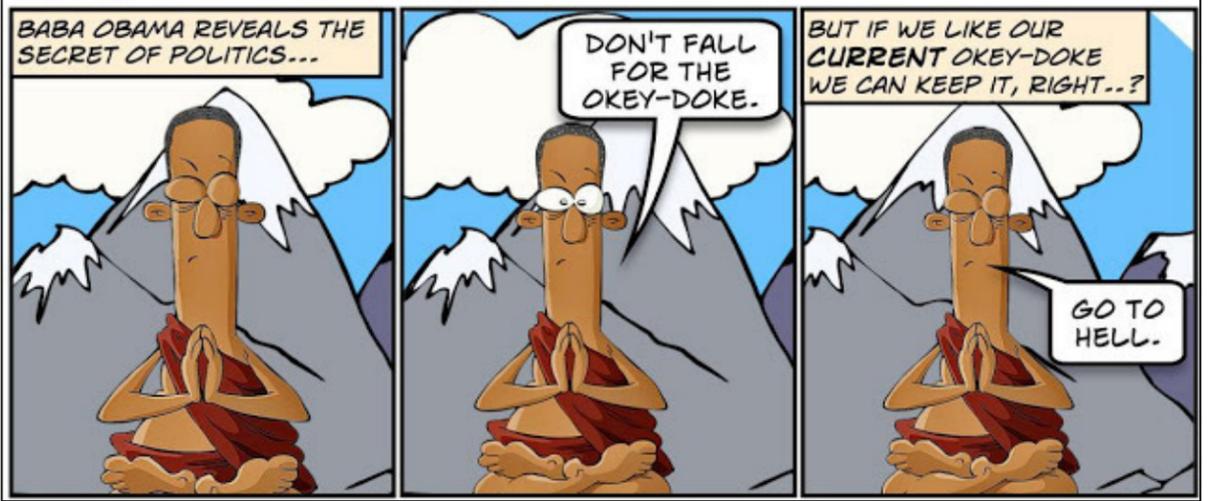
Time was, Americans would have risen in a body, rifles in hand, to oppose such arrogance. After a century of citizen passivity, Americans of today are so accustomed to being ruled by unelected bureaucrats that the bureaucrats are convinced that they can get away with anything – and given the relative mildness of the reactions to their recent overreaches, more likely than not they're correct.

It's possible that John Ross had the only workable idea. But every idea requires implementation: someone to "bell the cat." And We the Sheeple seem incapable of more than talk.

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HopeNChangeCartoons.com / ©2016 by Stilton Jarlsberg

**Seven Shocking Things That You Almost Certainly Didn't Know** (Continued from page 1)**#4: There were a massive number of non-conformist communities in 19th century America.**

This was a major part of the American tradition, and it is all but forgotten. It was such a big thing, in fact, that Ralph Waldo Emerson commented, "[There is] not a reading man but [who] has a draft of a new community in his waistcoat pocket."

These utopian groups were the nurseries where many Americans of that era learned to think and act independently. I counted 117 groups (many with multiple communities) before I simply ran out of time. The famous abolitionist, Sojourner Truth, for example, learned how to act independently – to take risks and to defy authority – in one of the craziest of these groups. Many of the best people of the era had similar experiences. This chapter of American history should not have been scrubbed from the books.

#5: Genius is mainly a trick, and it doesn't require massive brainpower.

Have you ever seen the equipment Galileo used to prove the basic operation of gravity? It looks like a high school shop project; there's nothing "genius" about it. And in fact, genius by itself has led to very few real breakthroughs. Just thinking faster than the next person doesn't matter terribly much if the other guy spends a little extra time.

The crucial thing about genius then is not mental speed (that's what IQ tests major upon); it's that actual geniuses learn something crucial: They can be right when everyone else is wrong.

The kid who is hated for being smart can't escape this fact, and so he or she (if not too damaged by the experience) becomes familiar with thinking independently... and that's what produces the magic.

#6: The first city was a peaceful anarchy.

We have a tremendous amount of evidence from this city, now called Catalhoyuk. As many as 10,000 people lived there between 7400 BC and 6000 BC, with no master and no overseer. There was no courthouse, no tax collector, no central administration of any kind.

Furthermore, these people, almost 5,000 years before the pyramids of Egypt, were peaceful, cooperative, individualistic, and highly artistic. They were clean, well dressed, well fed, and productive. Many were long-distance traders, and they may have used obsidian as a currency. They were anything but ignorant prehistoric brutes. The artifacts tell the tale.

#7: We can step into a golden age any time we want to.

Scarcity has been dying for centuries now. The price of commodities like wheat and copper have flat-lined when measured in wages. And with the technologies we have coming online now, this process is only speeding up.

Our problem is that we've authorized an incredible amount of replacement scarcity, and that's what keeps us working double shifts to no great benefit. But as soon as we decide that it's not really our duty to enthrone people we despise... once we stop "needing" every new piece of iCrap... when we stop living to impress our neighbors and start cultivating our actual lives... we'll find that we're already rich and we're already producing enough for everyone to have plenty. We've been conditioned to believe this is impossible, but the math says otherwise.

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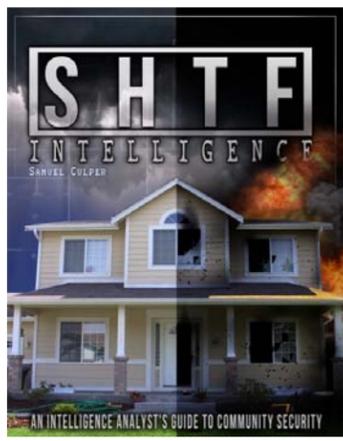
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SHTF Intelligence: An Intelligence Analyst's Guide to Community Security

SHTF Intelligence is filled with the *how-to's* of building and running an intelligence section for community security. The ability to gather and utilize critical intelligence information and provide early warning is what separates you from your peers and adversaries. If you don't have threat intelligence before SHTF, and no way to get it during SHTF, then you're going to be in serious trouble. You're going to be stressed and probably scared because you won't know what's going on.

I know what that feels like first-hand because the Taliban once breached our perimeter on my second tour in Afghanistan. They were able to cut a hole through the fence one night and get in because someone was asleep on tower duty and all our eyes and ears were focused outside the wire to prevent an attack inside it. *It doesn't feel good.*

I imagine many Americans are going to have similar feelings during any number of possible SHTF events, but they're going to be a lot less prepared than we were.

If you're spending hundreds or thousands of dollars on 'stuff' but not spending any *time* on some basic intelligence work, then you don't know what threats exist. If you don't know the threat, then you can't defend against it. Don't put yourself or your family in the situation of not knowing what threats exist in your area. Do a little leg work now so that you know what events to prepare for. Order your copy at: readfomag.com/product/community-intelligence-program-print-version/.

- Samuel Culper

What You Need to Know About Military Assistance to Civil Disturbances

(Continued from page 1)

Beyond that, we need to identify how the presence and escalation of force will affect our community; will homes in the area be placed on lock down, preventing you from bugging out, or could you experience mobs or rioters being pushed from a nearby area into your community?

Patrolling disturbed areas is another activity we'd expect during MACDIS, hence the importance of mapping out known locations where there are ongoing disruptions. We should have generated intelligence requirements by now and should begin satisfying those requirements: strength, disposition, weapons, equipment, and vehicles (to name a few) in use by the military force. The more we know about what's out there, both in terms of troops and rioters, the more prepared we can be.

Preventing the commission of unlawful acts is standard practice in responses to civil disturbances. Keep in mind that law enforcement and military forces may not be concerned about protecting commercial or private property. As an intelligence guy, that's one thing I'm interested in: what are the boundaries of their operations? What's their standard operating procedure, or what orders have they been given that define what they can or can't do?

Providing a quick reaction force (QRF) might be necessary where a disturbance has an element of mobility. For instance, if rioters avoid areas where troops are present, a QRF may be required to have a very quick response to a moving target. Another common use of QRF is when current forces are overwhelmed and need some support. When we battle tracked the Ferguson riots, we located where additional tactical teams were staged. Knowing that information could have been very useful if we lived in Ferguson, MO.

Distributing essential goods and providing aid to the populace is a common practice we've seen, especially overseas. These aid distribution locations are places we need to have on our map, so that we can maintain an accurate security picture. These are places that might incur high traffic and potentially violence, so we may need to avoid these areas if we're going to butt out.

Maintaining essential services can include guarding critical infrastructure or otherwise ensuring that essential services help keep the peace. One of the worst ways to compound a civil disturbance is the disruption of essential services, like water and electricity, thus creating more unrest.

Establishing traffic control points (TCPs) and cordons is a frequent practice to control the flow of traffic in an area. We saw numerous TCPs when battle tracking the Ferguson riots, and we were able to map them. Identifying and mapping these TCP locations is a must, and keep in mind that TCPs may not always be static. We employed 10-15 minute snap TCPs in Iraq to moderate effect when trying to screen the populace for contraband and weapons.

Certainly the topic of martial law is more profound in this community, and unfortunately Military Assistance to Civil Disturbances is often confused with martial law. There's a large difference. For starters, martial law has only been implemented twice in the nation's history. Once on a national level during the Civil War and again on a regional level during World War 2. Military assistance to civil disturbances has occurred numerous times.

Only the President or Congress can declare martial law, whereas federal military assistance is requested at the state level, and the Attorney General advises the President on the appropriate use of force. While military forces will participate, a Senior Civilian Representative for the Attorney General (SCRAG) remains in control of MACDIS operations and a military representative directs the use of military force to achieve goals outlined by the SCRAG. All state and local law enforcement agencies remain under the control of state civilians. Identifying who these officials are and which military units will participate in MACDIS operations could help us determine potential courses of action for the operations. And the more we know about what's likely to happen (versus what's unlikely to happen), the better prepared we can be.



Gardening Tips

Having trouble rooting rosemary? Try going green, glass that is. Find a green glass bottle and fill with water. When rosemary begins to show roots in a few weeks, transfer cuttings to a pot of soil.

When your bearded iris has lost its zing and stops producing flowers give it a new home. Gently dig out the rhizomes, saving the biggest with the healthiest leaves. Using a sharp knife separate the clumps, trim the roots and cut back leaves to approx. 6". Allow rhizomes to rest overnight before planting about 18" apart, barely covering the roots with soil.

Plants suffering from fungus and mildew like their cup of tea. Add your leftover tea and tea bag to your watering can. Chamomile tea is particularly effective against fungus. You can put tea into a misting bottle and use as a foliar spray on fragile seedlings to help prevent damping off. Leftover dried black or green tea leaves can be spread around acid loving plants like azaleas, gardenias and blueberries.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 11-12—Team Security & Vetting Course, Waynesville, NC. 9 am - 3 pm. This course prepares students with the skills needed to adequately validate and verify personnel in teams and organizations. For information and registration go to readfomag.com/event/team-security-vetting-course-waynesville-nc/.

June 11-12—Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Blairsville, GA. 9 am-5 pm. Discover your "clan" and hang out with locals and visitors enjoying traditional games. Highland music, dancing, games and food with a Scottish flair. Children can compete in their own Highland games. For the "wee ones" there's face painting, train rides. Includes a Kilted golf classic, Ceilidh party, Kilted Mile Run, Clan Tug of War, Bonniest Knees Contest. \$10/day adults, 12 and under free.

June 14—Cherokee NC ARES Formal Meeting, Murphy, NC, 7 pm. Our regularly scheduled second Tuesday meeting at the Robert Penland Senior Center, 69 Alpine Street (behind the courthouse) in Murphy.

June 14—DAV Monthly Meeting, Blairsville, GA, 7 pm - 8 pm. The Disabled American Veterans meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the Veterans Center. Held at the Veterans Building, 78 Old Blue Ridge Hwy. Blairsville. For more information please contact Mike Ruback 954-249-2707.

June 18—Community Quilt & Fiber Arts Exhibit, Blue Ridge, GA. 10 am-6 pm. The age-old artistic craft of quilting will be on display at The Art Center. Don't miss one of the most unforgettable exhibits of the year with traditional and non-traditional quilts, art quilts, and an array of fiber arts. The Art Center, 420 West Main Street, downtown Blue Ridge.

June 18—Cherokee NC ARES Social Brunch, Murphy, NC, 10 am. This is an opportunity for a social gathering and it will not involve any formal presentations or training. All those interested in amateur radio or just a good meal and fellowship are invited to attend. XYLS welcome! Meeting at Main Street USA located on Hiwassee Street in Murphy.

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