

...wagup shoes with their Bermudas.

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government of Utah should consider the impact 34,000 united voters can have at election time. It should be remembered that many of the federal retirees are veterans of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and many are retired from lengthy military careers. Our Utah Supreme Court should consider these factors when they review Judge Young's ruling. It should be rather difficult to overturn rulings rendered based upon equality and fairness.

Mr. Jack Helgesen, attorney for the federal retirees, deserves our sincere thanks. The Utah State Tax Commission can be reached by calling 1-800-662-4335. The following indicates "how-soon-we-forget." More than 170 years ago a British soldier serving at Gibraltar carved this wisdom on a sentry box: "God and the soldier all men adore, In time of trouble and no more, For when war is over and all things righted, God is neglected and the soldier slighted."

Richard Jensen
Provo

Feeling cheated

Editor:

I am probably more grateful than the average person to see our soldiers coming home from a war. Yellow ribbons are on my tree and mailbox, and I enjoy the big yellow bow in front of the Orem City Center.

As a small child, I remember the patriotism as it was during the 2nd World War — very much as it is now.

Still, I wonder. Still, I don't quite understand.

I would like to know where the cameras were to photograph the tears in my husband's eyes when he walked off his airplane, or why not even one flag was waved in his direction for putting his life on the line for his country — for following his president's orders — for getting holes blown through the wings of his airplane while rescuing downed pilots in a country called Vietnam?

Why were there no support groups for me and my four children who also didn't know the next knock on the door would be "that nock," the one that every military family lives in fear of.

Hooray! The war is over.

Yet, why do I feel cheated?



War 'congenial' to government growth

As the latest war to end all wars commenced, a valued and influential pundit transmitted his observations to his eager audience.

"We are witnessing the creation of a supernational control of the world's necessities ... the old notions of sovereignty no longer govern the facts." Great, impersonal forces have been unleashed; "They are sweeping into the scrap heap the separatist theories that nations should be self-sufficient economically and absolutely independent politically ... we have entered upon another phase of political unification, a phase greater in its consequences but similar in its methods to the formation of national states in the 19th century."

Such a collection of pious abstractions could have been extracted from the exhortations of neo-conservative hawks during the build-up to the Gulf War. But this particular collection was withdrawn from the writings of Walter Lippmann, who was the most prominent left-wing hawk during the debate over American intervention in World War I.

Among the dire consequences that would result from American indifference Lippmann listed "The defeat of the Russian Revolution" and the triumph of a German regime Lippmann considered "The keystone of reaction." For Lippmann — the young socialist who became a treasured advisor to Woodrow Wilson — the Great War was to be a campaign for "Progressivism" at home and abroad.

War is the great centralizer. For Madison, Jefferson and others of the founding



Will Grigg

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ABROAD

generation, this fact stood in testimony against promiscuous recourse to arms; for Lippmann and other 20th-century "progressives," the collectivist aspects of warfare were particularly delightful. Hence Lippmann's caustic criticism of Republicans who urged military preparedness without demonstrating a willingness to "unify and socialize the railroads and the means of communication, to regulate rigorously basic industries like steel," to federalize education, and to collectivize almost all aspects of American political and economic life.

Lippmann recognized that he was vulnerable to criticism that his policy recommendations would produce at home the type of tyranny that America was fighting abroad. Lippmann admitted that, "It is a grim collectivism which Europe has established. It is dominated by a class and operated in the main by a bureaucracy. It has scant respect for liberty, it works through fear and compulsion." Nonetheless, Lippmann maintained, "We shall have to establish much the same machinery, while we preserve the spirit and purpose of liberalism."

Rarely can we find a more forthright expression of the fundamental faith of liberalism — namely, that the spirit of liberty can be the ghost in the machine of collectivism. Like contemporary statisticians of both the left and the right, Lippmann's hope was that the successful prosecution of a war abroad would inspire the "moral equivalent of war" in post-war domestic affairs.

A review of Lippmann's WWI-era writings was provoked by the spectacle of President Bush's reception during his post-war address to Congress. His political stature vastly enhanced, Bush is seeking to preserve the unity that prevailed in government during the Gulf War. Few sights are more terrifying than that of a unified government.

The sole function of government is the imposition of will; this is why war — the imposition of a nation's collective will — is so congenial to the growth of government. When such energies are directed outward, they can serve the cause of domestic freedom. When directed inward, they could extinguish freedom.

Sixteen centuries ago Augustine asked, "Justice being taken away ... what are kingdoms but great robberies?" America's founders recognized that men cannot be trusted to exercise justice, and erected mechanisms to account for this defect. The steady attrition of statism has weakened those mechanisms, leaving us largely defenseless against those like Lippmann and Wilson (and Bush?), who are persuaded of their own abundant nobility.

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