## Failure of the White House Staff

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As we watch television and listen to the news, we often hear acronyms for government agencies (examples: CIA, FBI, DOJ, DOD and USAGM) or documents such as the UCMJ (uniform code of military justice), BCD (bad conduct discharge), etc.

Many of us have probably heard about the *Federal Register*, the government's official "newspaper" that covers the daily work of the US Government. Along with t he "newspaper", posters, leaflets, brochures, books, and manuals are also printed and distributed throughout the government and to the public.

Most of us probably don't even know that one of the books/manuals that are printed is the "United States Government Manual" (USGM). That's right; there is a manual that tells us how the government is suppose to be the "official handbook" of our government (<u>https://www.usgovernmentmanual.gov/</u>).

According to the manual "*The White House Office serves the President in the performance of the many detailed activities incident to his immediate office.*" According to <u>whitehousehistory.org</u> more than 5,900 people are employed as White House Staff (WHS).

There is a false assumption that the WHS is supposed to be loyal to the President and therefore "protect" him. The reality is that much of the WHS are assigned their positions by other government agencies. While the President can request reassignment of much of the WHS staff, he can "hire and fire" only a small number (around 45) of WHS members. These include the members of his Cabinet (24) and the heads of the 15 departments of the Executive Office of the President (EOP).

Every member of the WHS takes essentially the same oath as the president, congressional members, and members of the military – "*to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States*." While there are no required "loyalty oaths" of WHS members, it would be foolish to assume that the President would not want or demand loyalty from his cabinet and EOP. A lack of, or loss of loyalty, is probably the major reason why we see a turnover of major WHS members.

While it is understandable that you would want to surround yourself with "loyalists," each cabinet and EOP member must understand that his/her loyalty lies first with the nation

and its people. To do otherwise is a violation of their oath and a display of lack or morality and honor.

As you and I were growing up, we read or watched television programs involving Robin Hood and the Knights of the Round Table. At the same time, many of us also read the non-fiction book that we call the Holy Bible. The fictional stories, along with many of the stories and early television series we read or watched, and the Bible, taught us many of life's lessons. However our nation has lost its morality when we started to lose sight of the lessons we learned and failed to teach our children.

Let's take a journey back into the time of lore and recount a time of knights, chivalry, honor, and loyalty. The lore's heroes are known for their acts of extreme loyalty, even at the risk of their lives. They followed a "Code of Chivalry" that in modern times appears to be lost.

Throughout time there have been many such codes. In the 13th century, chivalry had become a mixture of military rules, religious duties, courtly love, and virtues of "faith, hope, charity, justice, strength, moderation and loyalty! Over time the codes changed to represent the principles of chivalry as different groups, or Orders chose which parts to ignore and which to honor.

As various Orders diminished, many of their principles were incorporated into the guidelines, mottos, and oaths of other groups, soon to become known as societies, social clubs, or more commonly referred to as Fraternities and Sororities.

The essence of the "Code of Chivalry" encompasses the will and desire to live one's life that it is worthy of respect and honor by the virtues of. . .

- Fair play
- Nobility
- Valor
- Honor
- Courtesy
- Loyalty

Loyalty however was not to an individual but to the principles of the church and state. Most members of the Cabinet and EOP do not represent these virtues, and would never become a "knight of the Round Table." Over the centuries many codes have been written. Some of these can be found at <u>https://carterclasschs.weebly.com/uploads/1/0/7/0/10706793/the\_code\_of\_chivalry.pdf</u>. When studied, they all come down to respect, honor and the virtues listed above.

We should not lose sight of these codes as they are based on the **Bible** and specifically the *Ten Commandments*.

Every day, our nation struggles for survival in Satin's murky waters.

## If we and our nation are to survive, we need bring GOD back into our daily lives and that of our country.