

# **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Civil War**

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# Chapter 1

It all started with the election of twenty sixteen. Because of our two-party system the people of the United States had a choice of two people for President for whom they could vote. Of course, you could vote for anybody you wanted whether it was your favorite actor or your neighbor but if you voted for anyone other than the two main front runners then your vote would be wasted. Everyone knew that but still, some still voted for others just because in good conscious they just could not vote for one of the two.

And like many such elections, a large section of the population did not really like either candidate but they ended up voting for the one the disliked the least. And this time I guess the underdog won. The winner got basically all the votes from the rural areas and the loser got all the votes from the populated areas.

Our forefathers were visionaries and had seen this coming. They knew as city populations grew, the rural votes would count less and less. This would hardly be fair because the large cities would end up running the country. So they included the Electoral College in the Constitution. All that did was help make sure that every citizen's voice would be heard no matter where they lived. And in this election that was proven to be pivotal to the outcome. In this case, the rural folks got the President they decided on and the other side did not like it one little bit.

Immediately after the election people went almost berserk. They claimed the new President was not 'their' President. Plans were immediately made for his impeachment. The media jumped on the losers' bandwagon and only ran negative stories about our new President.

And when he got sworn in he started to do things and say things. And for a time even those who voted for him wondered if they had made the correct decision. Then the new President really started to try and get everything done that he said he would on the campaign trail. This was basically unheard of before in almost any elected official.

But he had a huge disadvantage. Because almost everyone in both parties in Washington hated him so they fought him every inch of the way when he tried to do what the voters wanted. Some of his agenda got done which pleased those who voted for him but many of the things he wanted to do were blocked by both parties. Many things were blocked even though everyone knew it was what the bulk of the population wanted it done.

This went on for a couple of years and then the opposing party finally got up the nerve to impeach the new President. They made up charges and found haters who would say whatever they could get away with to try and make the President look bad. So they had their impeachment hearings that were just a sick joke on the American people. Then even though the President had broken no laws the opposing party found enough votes to impeach him.

Unfortunately for the opposing party when the impeachment moved to the Senate it died there so the President remained America's President. All the impeachment did was help tear America farther apart. Then it was an election year and the President ran for re-election against a rather bizarre socialist nominee from the opposing party.

Things in the nation heated up greatly during the election cycle. Tempers ran high and violence flared almost daily. The media did whatever it could to promote the socialist nominee and berate the sitting President who they always called the "impeached President" whenever he was mentioned. Besides the media all the huge internet

social sites and large internet companies did everything they could, whether legal or not, to get the socialist nominee elected. And they managed to pull it off. Mainly because they also actively tried to destroy the nation's economy which they knew if it crumbled the election would be theirs. So the destruction of America was their election plan and they made it work.

So the once-great United States now had both a Socialist President and a crumbled economy spiraling into a deep recession. The new President's party also won plenty of seats in Congress to have a large majority. Also many or most state governments found themselves now controlled by the same political party. This one party had almost complete control over both the national government and most state and local governments.

With all this power they immediately started to act. While for well over a decade the national Congress had passed very few laws now that changed dramatically. Almost countless new bills were promptly passed in both Houses and signed into law immediately by the new President. America was changing rapidly because of these new laws. And many people did not like the many changes.

Protests started but were quickly squashed. So the bulk of the population that was totally against this new government and their policies sat back and thought about how they could affect change in their country. They wanted to change their country back to the values it had when they were growing up.

So discussions were up on social media along with countless forums. It was all out in the open and nothing illegal was discussed. Many people of opposite views saw and read about these discussions. But like many things, such as proposed boycotts of stores and such those on the "other side" saw what was being discussed and just dismissed it. A few people might try to do this or that but

nothing would really take place enough for anyone to notice.

Violence was the first response because these people were so upset with what our country had become in such a short time. But luckily cooler heads prevailed and they took a completely non-violent tact instead. What they thought of would be as non-violent as a sit-down. Well, it was more of a sit-out instead. You see this group was mostly composed of the workers in the country. So they just decided they would not go to work.

But these people were not stupid and they had first thought through both their possible actions and the possible results of those actions. So before they did their decided on sit-down, they first prepared. They withdrew their hard-earned money from the banks who now charged savers for holding their money for them instead of paying them interest. Most closed out their IRA accounts and their 401k accounts.

Those that could, now retired and when possible took a lump-sum retirement package. All took some, or in some cases most, of their money and bought supplies. Food was on their list but was far from being the only thing. The supplies bought were different for every household. Some bought extra feed for the livestock; some bought extra fuel for heating or for running their equipment. All bought some extra food and most bought extra ammunition because even though they had decided to be non-violent those in charge of our nation had certainly never made that commitment so the extra ammunition would be used for defense if required.

Seeds were stockpiled both for garden planting and for farming. Everything anyone thought they could not live without, they stockpiled. When the allotted time was up for those who had committed to these actions they finally went through with that major decision. On the date they had decided on arrived they quit working.

Farmers sat on their crops and never sold any, instead just stored everything as it was harvested. Ranchers never shipped any livestock and instead just kept it all on their lands. Dairy farmers used what milk they could for themselves and their neighbors and the remaining was used by local hog farmers to feed their hogs.

Truck driver's parked their big rigs and just settled down at home. Thousands of people called in sick while many other thousands had planned ahead and when possible had received a leave-of-absence from their jobs. Trains stopped running, planes stopped flying, taxis stopped hauling people around, schools closed down, some stores were forced to close immediately due to not enough workforce while other stores had to close later due to the end of shipping, manufacturing plants closed down, refineries went through extensive shutdown procedures, coal-fired electric generating plants were fine for varying lengths of time until they ran out coal on-hand with no new shipments arriving, barge traffic on the large rivers stopped, commercial fishing boats sat idle in the harbors, tour buses returned their passengers to their point-of-origin. The whole nation just shut down.

## Chapter 2

There were exceptions of course. The stock markets were open but only for a very short time because the markets fell to such an extent that they had to close down early each day. After a week they just closed down completely. There were runs on all the banks but that only lasted a day or two because the cash trucks had quit hauling in the new cash every day. So the banks had no choice except to close.

Governors called up their Nation Guard but very few showed up and the rest all stayed home. The Governors called the President and he declared a state of emergency. Calls went out to all military bases but those calls went almost totally unanswered.

Police in the large cities were in trouble. There were huge riots that were so big the police were simply overwhelmed. So they did the only thing they could do and drastically changed tactics. They picked certain essential buildings that had to be protected at all costs. These were most often hospitals. And they also took up the guerrilla war tactics of hit and run. They would send out two or three-man teams to harass the rioters with tear gas, pepper balls, and rubber bullets/bean bag rounds. They would dash in, shoot, and flee the scene only to then later hit the other side or the front or back.

The police stationed around and inside of the priority buildings had no tear gas or other non-lethal weapons. Instead, each was armed with a long arm and a handgun with plenty of extra ammunition. The rioters might still be able to take the protected buildings but they would pay a terrible price for doing so.

It was quite a different story in most of the small towns of America's rural areas. Almost all had weekend flea markets or farmers markets where people could buy or trade different goods and also just get together for a pleasing time. Often there would be impromptu bands or individuals playing instruments and singing with commonly the crowd joining in with singing or clapping. Churches had many pot-luck dinners on the weekends or even during the week because few people had jobs to go to anymore.

If anyone had enough fuel to be able to drive through all the rural areas they would see many neighbors helping other neighbors with projects of all kinds. Many of these projects would be for the benefit of all in the area. Things like fences being repaired or new fences installed to hold and allow grazing for the now over-sized herds of livestock. Or old long-retired grain bins being restored to the hold the harvested grains that would not now be sold. Hand grain mills passed along from neighbor to neighbor to grind their own flour or cornmeal. Often with sacks or buckets of grain passed along with the mill. Neighbors helping with butchering livestock and smoking the resulting meat to be passed out to those in need by the local churches along with freshly ground flour. Impromptu fishing contests at local lakes with the fish providing a large fish fry for the community.

The shutdown of America started slow but gradually picked up steam until most services ended and most businesses were closed down.

While the situations were way different between the rural areas and the cities, everyone wanted America to get back up and start functioning again. Televised town hall meetings were a common sight on many of the still operating television stations. The theme of these town hall meetings was all the same, how to get our country functioning again. Many played the blame game at first but that was quickly seen to be counter-productive. After that,

the meetings contained much back and forth until a possible solution was held up for all to see.

There would be an emergency election. This election would try to end the national problem and would entail a complete change of all those elected officials in our nation's capital. All members of Congress would resign along with the sitting President and Vice-President. All would then be replaced with new people. There would be no campaign ads on any media. Only released statements from those running for office and later debates between front runners. Each candidate would get one televised campaign rally to clearly state their positions and ideas. No polls, no TV ads, no radio ads, and no road signs were allowed in this election.

The media was warned about being partisan for or against any candidates. Any show of partisanship by TV or radio stations and their FCC license would be revoked. No one knew what would happen. Candidates could still campaign as much as they wanted. Many were invited to town halls across the nation. Many went door-to-door and talked or handed out flyers.

The voting would all be in person on just one day and identification would be required to show citizenship and local residency. Identification would be government-issued picture identification and in addition one other form of identification such as an electric bill, water bill, landline phone bill, or even a garbage bill or almost anything that showed the person's name and current address.

On Election Day, the voter turnout was substantial though far from record numbers. No cases were found of more voter ballots than registered voters in any district, something which had been rather common in previous elections. Two weeks after the emergency election the newly elected officials were all sworn into office.

The new President urged all Americans to go back to work. He also ordered all military bases to report in to

receive new orders. All stateside military would be used to provide humanitarian aid to the large cities.

Apparently, Americans decided to trust the new government on at least a temporary basis. People went back to work as quickly as things could be ramped up again. The more that were able to start working soon meant the opportunity for others to return to work. It started very slowly but gradually ramped up faster and faster.

Congress was about the same. They started very slowly and then gradually were working faster and faster. The federal government was being trimmed way down. Some necessary programs were shunted to the states but most things including several major departments of our government were just phased out. Some could be ended with a stroke of a pen but some had to be gradually made smaller and smaller until they could safely cease to exist as a federal entity.

As in the beginning of the shutdown, the startup was slow and while it did pick up speed once it started, the ramp-up proved to be much slower moving than the shutdown had been. But at first very gradually then faster and faster America got back on its feet again.

The population was much smaller now. The military, once they went into action was used to deport countless illegals across our land as soon as they had the borders sealed. At first, every illegal encountered anywhere was immediately arrested and then deported as soon as transportation could be economically arranged. Those waiting for deportation were placed on forced work crews. Once things got more settled down many military squads were used to seek out illegals and then deport them as soon as feasible after they were captured.

Countless illegals self-deported so the family groups could stay together. When the military found illegals, there was no time or resources spent trying to unite family

groups. All were arrested and deported as they were found. All those forcefully deported lost any and all possessions.

All deportations were done using as few American resources as possible. No matter what country the illegal said they were from made no difference because all were ejected from this country across our southern border where most had come across in the first place. Self-deportees were allowed to leave with their possessions either across our border or on flights and ships. The Mexican government immediately complained about the foreigners we were putting into their land. Our President reminded Mexico that they had willingly allowed anyone to cross their land to reach ours and now they could allow them to cross back again.

With our border sealed tight but only after much blood was spilled, we started releasing all illegals from our prisons and turning them over to the Mexican police forces at our border. What happened to these prisoners after released into the hands of those authorities was Mexico's business.

Our nation made a huge u-turn from what we had become back to what we had once been. During the long-troubled times, many Americans had lost their lives. Unfortunately, most of these were innocents; the very old, the very young, and the infirm. These were always the first lost during any troubled times anywhere in the world and it was no different in America. It was very sad but did leave mostly only the strong left alive to rebuild.

America had been hurt but had not died. Now it was coming back strong and returning to the convictions and values that had originally made The United States the envy of the rest of the world. And it would be so again.

**The End**

