

## **Monday Morning Moralists**

Stanley David Gedzelman

07 Jan 2021

Renault: "I am shocked, shocked to find that gambling is going on in here!"

Croupier: "Your winnings, sir."

Renault: "Oh. Thank you very much."

### ***Casablanca***

For four years, as Trump belittled and demeaned every Government Institution and the tens of thousands of competent and talented civil service professionals who prop up the nation's largely invisible infrastructure, and riled the masses to a frenzy of rancor, the near entire cadre of Republican Senators, Representatives and Appointees saluted and applauded Trump's every insult and relentless inciting. Those who stood against Trump sacrificed their political careers; those who sucked up to him sacrificed their integrity and honor.

All this culminated on Wednesday 06 January 2021 when the Capitol was breached and desecrated. Imagine the moral outrage of the Trump toadies, each of whom said, "I am shocked, shocked", that such a thing they coveted, aided, and abetted for four years could ever happen.

Soon justice will be meted out. Who will be punished? Of course, it will be the violent, manipulable, little redneck peons. Will justice diffuse up the chain of command to those who are really culpable. Never!

Learn from the cowboy movies. The chief villain, the one who owns the town and hires the gunslingers almost always squirms out of trouble unless he directly confronts the hero, but usually he is sly enough to avoid a direct confrontation. Real evil always lives on untainted.

Consider the numbers, which almost no one ever does. Vietnam first. After recovering from their Vichy treason in World War II, France reassembled their motley forces and marched back into French Indochina with America's blessing. But they lost piece by piece to independence movements and

finally left after they were slaughtered at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu in 1954. Vietnam was split, and the good old USA quietly took over the South. The situation simmered with an occasional immolation until Kennedy began increasing troops and advisors. Johnson really ratcheted things up into the Vietnam War, which Nixon continued. No need to review all the documents that proved what a farce and holocaust our leaders deliberately perpetrated. Let's just get to the numbers. American soldier deaths totaled some 57,000. And what about the toll on Vietnamese lives? Estimates vary widely but a typical number is 2 million up to the year 1975 and perhaps another 250,000 after the fall of Saigon. How does 250 compare to that? One hundredth of 1%! That was the My Lai massacre that made so many officials drenched in a decade of blood arise and proclaim, "I am shocked, shocked."

Go on to Iraq. Estimates of violent deaths range from 100,000 to 1 million, with about 500,000 excess deaths being a reasonable number. And Abu Ghraib? A grand total of 63 deaths. Again, about one hundredth of 1%. And again, all that each of our blood-drenched officials could say was, "I am shocked, shocked."

So why all the outraged fuss about the small-scale perverts when the commanders in chief who bear responsibility as mass murderers all get off scot free? Where is our sense of proportion? Then again, who cares about the numbers? Who cares about the facts? We know what's really important. It's grandiose appearances and proclamations. That's entertainment!

Speaking of entertainment, on 06 January 2021 we had some in capital form. And again, one-by-one, each of the Monday Morning Moralists smiling crocodile tears while oozing unspoken guilt they could not hide told us, "I am shocked, shocked." And all the high-minded, principled last minute, sinking-ship rat resignations of those hypocritical traitors designed to make themselves pose as noble public servants! Ugh! Oh, how I loathe the lot of them, all of whom will get away with their treason!

There is one thing for sure that no one should say about their behavior and about the fact that they will all evade the punishment that righteousness demands, and that is, "I am shocked, shocked."