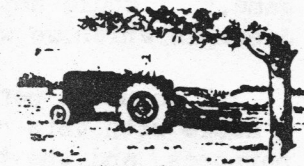


Psalm 33:12

CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE SYSTEM CIVILIAN DEPARTMENT

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NEWSLETTER NO. 23

TO THE "LONE SCOUT"

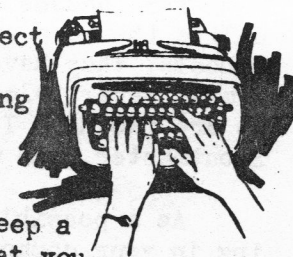
VOL. 3, NO. 2

Since you are the one who has been most on my mind of late, I am addressing this letter primarily to you. Others are most welcome to peruse what I am saying, too. I hope that at least an item or two will prove helpful to each one. The "Lone Scout," after all, is still a "Scout."



I use this figure for two or three reasons, the first being that some of you are truly "loners." You are like the boy who would like to become a Scout, but there is no Troop nearby he can join, nor any prospect one can be organized. The BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA will still admit him and open to him the privileges of scouting if he will write for the needed information and then register.

Several of you, as Area Coordinators, are in a similar situation in respect to this work. Some of you who have written me, and others that have called, indicate you have been going it very much alone, with nobody around you seeming to have any concern, or to see any sense in making preparation for a national emergency. There are those of you who feel greatly hindered by the nature of the communities in which you live; for violent opposition against patriotic work could be easily generated by certain elements. You are constrained to keep a low profile. In the end, whatever your situation, the decision concerning what you should do rests entirely with you. All we can do is suggest.



Outreach

On previous occasions I have taken up the important matter of recruitment. So far the discussion has been confined to reaching the family and close acquaintances. Nothing is more helpful than harmony and cooperation in these relationships. You can begin a Unit in your home, the same as you can a Church, or a School.



To have an effective Community-survival work, obviously, and eventually, you, of course, must reach far beyond your home and this circle of friends and acquaintances. One of the ways to seek out prospects is by associating with others in enterprises in which they are engaged, especially those whose purposes have some bearing upon survival. Before so much as mentioning the work you are in, you should, however, feel out people to gain sincere expressions in ordinary conversations of their views as they relate to the vital matters with which we are concerned. If an individual proves negative, give him no hint of your purpose. You are not trying to stir up opposition. Trouble enough will sooner or later come without our going around deliberately looking for it. Did not Jesus say something about "Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves"? You are under no obligation whatsoever to divulge the secrets of the work to the enemy. Did not Jesus also say, "Give not that which is holy unto dogs, nor cast your pearls before swine"? All you will gain for your efforts will be their attacking you to "rend you."



Scouting

Being "wise" requires searching for the most probable sources for prospects. That brings me to the second reason for using the idea of the "lone scout." One day, not long ago, I mentioned over the telephone to Brig. Gen. Jack Mohr an incident that was interesting to me, and which brought the principles found in scouting into focus, as they relate to our work. I had just read one of his Newsletters, in which he reminded us very emphatically that we are not "playing a Boy Scout



game." I could not refrain from joking, telling him that just the night before I'd had a dream in which we were all told to "join the Boy Scouts."

I am not a person who has dreams I consider significant very often. This time, however, I awoke with this one so impressed upon my mind that I began to look at the principles, the purposes, and the traditional program of scouting in relationship to our work. I was a Scoutmaster once myself, so knew a little about the subject. As I went from point to point, I became more and more amazed at the perfect harmony I saw between the Boy Scout ideals and program and those of our endeavor. No person, for instance, can be a real Boy Scout and at the same time an atheist, for: "A Scout is reverent." Neither can he be a traitor, for: "A Scout is loyal," and that includes loyalty "to his country." No boy can be a true Scout and a foul-mouthed person, for: "A Scout is clean." You can go on and on over all the worthy principles of Christian citizenship to which he must subscribe, and you will find the standards high indeed. The Scout is taught to love his home, his country, and his flag. The Mayflower Compact and the climactic affirmation and closing pledge of the Declaration of Independence are placed in the very first pages of the Boy Scout Handbook. In spite of the efforts, as in everything else, to push in certain negative elements, such as integration, still there is far more Americanism to be found in The Boy Scouts of America than in the public schools, and even some churches, today.

The lessons of scouting are practical and useful. Of course, Scouts play games; but, unlike the mere entertainment of bleacher sports and social occasions featured in the schools, they have practical lessons as their objectives. Scouting was designed for peace times; nevertheless, its goals and skills can be adapted readily to preparations for what we are facing. I know of boys who wrote back from the battlefields of Korea to a former Scoutmaster, who was a member of my Church, thanking him for all he had taught them.

As a possible source of prospects, then, you might find it helpful to look into Scouting in your community. You will find some people, including adults, who already have a respect for that principle of safety, BE PREPARED. Most helpful survival skills have been developed, and you may discover yourself in a position to give wise guidance to impressionable kids, who, young now, will very soon be called upon to fight our battles. A young school-teacher, who was converted in my Church and became my Assistant Scoutmaster, found an outlet for his new Christian zeal by talking to the boys around the campfire about Christ. What an opportunity!

If you are really a "loner," by all means "be prepared" to move in a hurry. You should have a pack (or a box) of necessities all made up and ready to throw into your car at a moment's notice. It would be wise to have also a small backpack with minimum supplies in case you are out of gasoline, or, for some other reason, cannot use your vehicle. Every member of your family should similarly be ready.

Suggestions from Coordinators

I appreciate suggestions from Coordinators. Some of you have better ideas than I. One from California offers this thought:

Here is something you might mention in the Newsletter. It would be a good idea for members to run for an office in their city on the Survival platform. That way, you can get at least local newspaper coverage, pictures in the paper, interviews and meetings put up by the Women's League of Voters, plus other social clubs. And it's all free publicity.

Another recently placed this advertisement in a Newspaper in Florida. It has brought response to us here. Such ads are very worthwhile, most worthy of being carried by individuals and Units as projects; for they constantly remind people of the seriousness of the hour, and that there is somebody who is doing something about it.

CHRISTIANS AND/OR PATRIOTS
who are unprepared for the coming economic, political, social & military crises. Write: Christian-Patriots Defense League or Citizens Emergency Defense System, Box 565, Flora, IL 62839 or call (618) 665-3937. 18A

A. Vance Comer