

As in the Waco incident, this attack was followed by a barrage of government and press statements to the effect that the attacked people held unpopular views and were guilty of many crimes with which they had not been charged.

I do not support the views of these people who have been attacked. I do not really know anything about their views, and I doubt that I would have much in common with any of them. It is probable that many or all of them deserved arrest and then an opportunity to defend themselves in a proper court. It is very clear, however, that excessive force was used against them and was used in a way that was very likely to lead to tragedy.

While the average American has little to fear from such attacks, there is a growing perceived fear among an increasing segment of our population. Moreover, there is a segment of our population that is prone to violence. This segment will find self-justification in these events.

It may be that none of this can be stopped. With our national government now dominated by people who are enthusiastically endorsing the killing of unborn children (abortion) and are engaged in a redesign of our medical system that will include tacit killing of the old and infirm (euthanasia), their evaluation of human life may have fallen so low that the killing will just continue. With our government in the grip of people whose environmental policy amounts to little more than irrational pagan worship of animals, plants, and earth, how can we expect even lip service for the Ten Commandments?

Immediately after an event such as Waco, exaggeration is normal. It would be easy to misread the importance of the event. It would be even easier to be in error as to the timing of later events. We must, however, remember some essential facts:

First, as Americans, our families are no more safe from tyranny than are those of our other fellow Americans - regardless of what we may think of each other's idiosyncrasies.

Second, where military force in excessive amounts has been used against the citizens of other countries, that use has often resulted - eventually - in civil war.

Third, with rare exceptions in history, civil war usually leads to conditions worse than those which caused the war.

We must urge our current government to step back from this escalation of violence by punishing every one responsible for this tragedy in Waco including the Attorney General who ordered it.

## **FACTS AND FANCIES OF U.S. NUCLEAR DEFENSE**

by Sam Cohen

*Sam Cohen was the inventor of the neutron bomb. He has made many contributions to American defense particularly in the area of tactical nuclear weapons and in the use of nuclear technology for defensive purposes. His work has been widely recognized including a special medal that he received from the Pope in Rome in recognition of his contributions to world peace and to the moral doctrines related to the production and use of nuclear devices. Sam Cohen is widely known for his advocacy that America should heed the words of George Washington and withdraw from entangling alliances that threaten American survival. In Washington's day entangling alliances and foreign military adventures were unwise; in the nuclear age, such actions may prove suicidal.*