

Was Calvera Smarter Than Congress?



"If God did not want them sheared, He would not have made them Sheep."

In the classic Western Movie, The Magnificent Seven, this is what the outlaw bandit leader, Calvera (Eli Wallach), tells the leader of the Seven, Chris Adams (Yul Brynner).

Calvera is referring to his practice of robbing the villagers of the fruits of their labor and leaving them just enough to survive on till his next visit.

In fact Calvera later states: "Generosity - That was my first mistake!" Meaning, he left the Villagers a little too much, or they would not have had the resources to hire "The Seven".

Sound familiar? Consider the following:

We taxpayers are considered as little more than sheep by our Governments: Local, State and especially Federal. They view us as a steady source of tax money to be "sheared" on a routine basis. And, just like Calvera did with the people of the Village, Government plans to leave us with just enough to survive on until the next "shearing".

I don't think we can count on Government to make the same "mistake" as Calvera. The only mistake our leaders are likely to make is to "Kill the goose that lays the golden eggs".

Please forgive the mixed metaphors.

Bob Bandy

Credits: The Magnificent Seven. 1960. Executive Producer - Walter Mirisch. Produced and Directed by John Sturges. Music by Elmer Bernstein.