



AMERICA WILL NEVER BE

DESTROYED FROM THE OUTSIDE. IF WE FALTER AND LOSE OUR FREEDOMS, IT WILL BE BECAUSE WE DESTROYED OURSELVES.
 ABRAHAM LINCOLN

In Lincoln's Echo: An Ole Seagull's lament for America's path



BY GARY J. GROMAN
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As the Ole Seagull sat in his hospital room watching what was going on in Israel and the antisemitism

reactions of some in America as Israel seeks to protect itself from a recurrence of the brutal terrorist attacks by Hamas, he wept. To him, it is yet another example of the fulfillment of Abraham Lincoln's warning when he said, "America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

If that were the only example, that would be bad enough, but it's not. When

he considers it in conjunction with the way America withdrew from Afghanistan and its failure to control our borders from illegal immigration, Lincoln's warning is ever present in his mind.

America's withdrawal from Afghanistan has raised concerns about the country's ability to uphold its commitments and protect its allies. An Ole Seagull has to wonder if Russia would have attacked Ukraine or Hamas Israel, but for the sad way

we withdrew from Afghanistan. In his heart, he feels that those actions and many to come, testing America's resolve, will result from the pathetic way we exited.

Too, the ongoing issue of illegal immigration and lack of border control undermines the integrity of America's immigration policies and raises questions about the country's security and ability to enforce its laws. A porous border is a national security concern, allowing for the

unmonitored flow of people and goods, potentially putting Americans at risk. Can anyone with half an ounce of brains not believe that those wanting to destroy America are not taking advantage of the situation and infiltrating into the country and every aspect of American life?

The rise of antisemitism and open support of Hamas's actions against Israel is something that an Ole Seagull would have bet he would never see in America. That

he sees it now alarms him about what America's future portends. Have we and are we permitting the enemy to develop within us that will destroy our country, be it by terrorism or other means?

Are we, as Lincoln warned, "destroying ourselves?" To an Ole Seagull, what is going on in the world, in our Congress, and at our borders speaks for itself. He weeps for the America that was and, he fears, will never be again.



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