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SECURITY CLEARANCES AND A GUY ON THE EDGE

By Steve Bakke  August 21, 2018



Here's what provoked me:

What an interesting world we live in. I wake up each day and can't wait to get to the newspapers to learn of what crazy things have happened, and log onto Twitter to read the latest Presidential tweets. It's frustrating and fun. Trump is driving us all to distraction and having fun doing it, I think. He's found a new adversary who I consider very similar to the President in several ways: he's reckless, has trouble providing accurate details, and shoots from the hip. I think they are both enjoying this modern "shootout at the OK corral." But Trump has more ammo.

Here's my response:

Security Clearances and a Guy on the Edge



They say something like this has never happened before – the President revoking the security clearance of the former CIA Director. The President shouldn't have opened up this controversy. However, there are many things about John Brennan and his career that are "on the edge":

- By Brennan's own admission, he was surprised he was hired by the CIA in 1980 after admitting he voted for Communist Party presidential candidate Gus Hall in 1976. He thought he was "screwed," but was hired none-the-less.
- In 2014 the Inspector General discovered that CIA Director Brennan lied in Congressional testimony by denying spying on Senate staffers. In fact, the CIA had hacked into Senate Intelligence Committee computers. Prominent Democrats called for serious consequences – e.g. Senators Feinstein, Udall, and Wyden. Brennan merely apologized.
- Brennan also perjured himself with misrepresentations in Congressional testimony about civilian casualties caused by Obama era "drone" strikes.
- He was often thought to be the source of self-serving leaks. The extent of this is unproven.
- Finally, he charged President Trump with treason, a capital offense, for conducting a badly blown news conference with Putin.

Brennan and Trump must have had the same tutor for a course on "shooting from the hip."