



Al Gore, Country Boy

The Democrat National Convention featured the usual attempts to impress the American people with the “Star Power” of the Democrat Party. One speech in particular, given by Al Gore’s Harvard roommate and movie star friend, Tommy Lee Jones, was notable for some curious content. Now many of you may know that

**Al Gore’s secret past
— so shocking to
refined tastes —
probably had to come
out. But who thought
one of his best friends
would expose it?**

Tommy Lee Jones is a native Texan and purportedly owns a working cattle ranch. What probably came as a big surprise to most conservatives, and as an absolute shock to the liberal DNC delegates, was that their presidential nominee was once a gun-toting country hillbilly.

Jones’ remarks included some rem-

BY DENNIS HOLLINGSWORTH

iniscing about their college break trips to the Gore home in Carthage, Tennessee. (Actually, Gore's family comes from Possum Hollow, Tennessee, but, just like the man from Hot Springs, Arkansas, was transformed into The Man from Hope, — well, it's just *déjà vu* all over again, isn't it?) Jones talked about he and Gore chasing down loose cows, (oh puhlease,) and, shockingly, Al Gore "challenging me [Jones] to shooting contests"! With Gore usually winning!

'COON DOGS AT NIGHT

Jones went on to say that he and Al would "chase behind 'coon dogs at night" — Mr. Earth in the Balance hunting poor, defenseless raccoons? I hope the Jr. Ecologist utilized his quarry responsibly. Since one usually doesn't eat raccoon, the thing to do is to make a fur hat of the critter. What does PETA, the animal rights Nazi group that was vandalizing fur shops along the streets surrounding the convention the day before this speech, think of all this?

Now, I believe one can change his opinion about such things over a span of decades. Al has proven that with his flip-flops on the life and tobacco issues. Also, one notes this was the wild and wooly sixties, and liberals were indulging in all kinds of crazy things — but guns and hunting? I'm shocked. Yet Gore hasn't repented of his animal hunting and gun-toting. And this speech, at his most important coming-out party, seems to have been intended to highlight both.

Most importantly, how does Gore square his using guns as a youth with

Dennis Hollingsworth is the Republican nominee for California's 66th Assembly District, and unrepentantly exercises his Second Amendment rights on a regular basis. He even admits to chasing a few errant cows on his family's dairy farm himself (in his youth, of course).



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his extreme anti-gun views today? Was this a youthful indiscretion? I think not, or Jones wouldn't have mentioned it at such a carefully-scripted venue. No, this is just typical liberal double-think.

Liberal elitism and double-think is most glaringly apparent in their views against the Second Amendment. "It's quite all right for me to have my guns, but you common folk can't be trusted with such a heavy responsibility." — Come to think of it, that sums up the liberal attitude on just about everything: guns, taxes, free speech, private property, raising your own children (it takes a government, er, village), SUVs, tobacco. You name it.

All of this begs the question: Just who is Al Gore? Is he a Harvard-educated liberal wonk, or is he a down-home country boy who "all you boys really can trust not to take your guns away"? Gore has, by all accounts, spent a lifetime putting one foot in middle Tennessee and the other in the Fairfax Hotel, (his actual boyhood home in Washington, D.C.) and finds it hard to play being both Bubba and the Politician like his mentor, Bill Clinton.

WANNABE REDNECKS

Al Gore's likely defense will be that he has no problem with guns for hunting, and so on. What liberals hate to admit is that hunting is a side benefit we all enjoy as part of the fundamental right we have to self-defense. "The right of the people to keep and bear arms" — that's the liberty the Second Amendment says shall not be infringed. This particular precious liberty guarantees each of us our own self-sufficiency — the kind of thing that rubs liberals the wrong way. And it's a right of every individual. It's a basic right even for internally conflicted wannabe redneck liberals from Possum Hollow, Tennessee, trying to become president.

CPA



The Goldfinger Principle

by David C. Stolinsky, MD

IN THE film *Goldfinger*, the villain is about to slice James Bond in half with a laser. Bond asks, "Do you expect me to talk?" Goldfinger replies, "No, Mr. Bond, I expect you to die." Bond is still in a precarious situation, but at least he now knows what Goldfinger has in mind. Most of us do not have the misfortune to face being cut in two, but we also do not have the luck of being informed exactly what our opponent intends.

Will our angry boss be placated by more work, or will he be satisfied only by getting rid of us? Will a rapist be content if we submit, or will he kill us afterward? Will a nation be satiated by territorial concessions, or is it bent on destroying its neighbor? Without psychic powers we cannot know, so how should we formulate an informed guess?

The first thing to decide is whether those involved are friends trying to improve things, or enemies trying to make them worse. Many people insist that women

be allowed in combat, even ground combat. Have these people been friends of the armed services? Have they favored appropriations for modern weapons, better training, and adequate pay? Usually the answer is no. We are entitled to ask, "You favored weakening the armed services in the past; is this your motive now?" Similarly, President Clinton says we have nothing to fear while China gains control of the Panama Canal and buys satellite, missile, and nuclear technology from us. We have a right to ask, "Have you valued national security in the past?" To paraphrase Stephen Hunter, it is difficult to argue national security with those who scarcely believe in the concept of nation, much less security.

RECORD IS REVEALING

ON THE other hand, few have criticized our military policies as harshly as has Colonel David Hackworth. But he is one of our most highly decorated veterans. This does not guarantee that his comments are correct, but

Dr. Stolinsky is a physician retired from medical school teaching. He writes on social and political topics from Los Angeles.