By Carole Hornsby Haynes, January 24, 2020

There was a time when schools and businesses closed for the birthday of one of the South's favorite sons – Confederate General Robert E. Lee, born in Virginia on January 19, 1807. This year his birthday was celebrated by only two Southern states, Alabama and Mississippi.

The Virginia State Senate voted in January, 2020 to eliminate the <u>Lee-Jackson Day holiday</u>, commemorating Confederate generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, and make Election Day a state holiday. Taking it further, they are plotting to purge Lee and other Confederate leaders from the public square, including removal from the United States Capitol.

One of the original 13 colonies and first 13 states, Virginia was the birthplace of four of the first five United States presidents and Lee's father, a Revolutionary War hero, governor of Virginia, and a member of the U.S. Congress.

Prior to the War for Southern Independence, most people were loyal first to their state and local community – states rights. It was only after the war that citizens referred to the United States in the singular.

This helps us in 21st century America to understand why Lee, who never owned a single slave – unlike his Northern counterpart General Ulysses S. Grant – and opposed secession, declined to accept command of the Union forces offered by Abraham Lincoln. He would have to take up arms against his fellow Virginians. After much agonizing, he resigned his commission in the Union army and became a Confederate commander fighting for Virginia.

American presidents of both parties, foreign dignitaries, and renowned black Americans described Lee as one of the greatest commanders in the history of war, a noble American with a serene greatness of soul, a great Christian, and an individual worthy of emulation by American youth.

Dr. Martin Luther King greatly admired and respected General Lee. From <u>1984 to 2000</u>, Virginia officially celebrated Dr. King's birthday-- a federal holiday – as "Robert E. Lee-Stonewall Jackson-Martin Luther King Day." Dr. Edwin C. Smith, black professor of history at the American University in Washington, D.C. and co-director of the Civil War Institute at the university, noted in his 1999 article at the Washington Post that he was a "great admirer of Robert E. Lee." The famous Georgia Stone Mountain carving of Jefferson Davis, Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee has been visited by thousands of people each year.

Desperately needing money after the war, Lee refused financial assistance or to use his name for personal gain.

Instead he accepted the lowly paid presidency of what is now Washington and Lee University to educate students to become self governing citizens and to lead in the healing of the nation.

After the war, Lee's fame rose almost to the level of sainthood. Thomas Connelly writes, "He became a God figure for Virginians, a saint for the white Protestant South, and a hero for the nation." (The Marble Man: Robert E. Lee and His Image in American Society, 3). Alan T. Nolan concurred that Lee rose to a divine "heroic, almost superhuman" level. (Lee Reconsidered: General Robert E. Lee and Civil War History, 4-5).

This breed of refined Southern gentlemen of high moral character has been replaced by a new breed of low life humanity such as Governor "Coonman" Ralph Northam who achieved national fame for his college annual "blackface" photo.

Leftist infanticide promoter "Coonman," along with two Virginia Democratic members of the United States House of Representatives, is leading the charge to remove Lee from Statuary Hall in the Capitol Building. Their preferred replacement is the statue of Nat Turner who led a bloody slave rebellion and then gloated about it. It seems that

Marxist Democrats are not offended by the ghastly murders at the hand of Turner, yet are deeply offended by statues of brave Southerners who fought against the Southern economic exploitation by the North and to preserve their states rights as enshrined in the Constitution.

"...in time to see the work I sometimes got in sight, death completed, viewed the mangled bodies as they lay, in silent satisfaction, and immediately started in quest of other victims – Having murdered Mrs. Waller and ten children, we started for Mr. William Williams' – having killed him and two little boys that were there; while engaged in this, Mrs. Williams fled and got some distance from the house, but she was pursued, overtaken, and compelled to get up behind one of the company, who brought her back, and after showing her the mangled body of her lifeless husband, she was told to get down and lay by his side, where she was shot dead." -- Nat Turner

The vicious attack on Lee by Virginia Democrats is clearly not about his character or even about slavery. Lee's presence is a stark reminder of the great leaders that America once had and that memory must be erased.

Across the nation there is a cultural cleansing of America with the removal and/or destruction of symbols that represent our history and heritage. Confederate symbols are the first ones being targeted. As cover for their revolutionary agenda, Marxist "social justice warriors" claim the monuments honoring the Confederate dead represent "racism," "defense of slavery," and "white supremacy." Many Americans likely don't understand the assault on our heritage and believe the leftist lie that slavery was the cause of the War Between the States. They assume that by allowing the monuments to be removed or signage added to put the Confederate monuments in historical "context", the attacks will stop once the Confederate monuments are removed.

Yet it is apparent that disposing of Confederate monuments is only the first step in the cultural cleansing. Numerous other monuments and memorials have been targeted across the nation including those of William McKinley, George Washington, Christopher Columbus, Abraham Lincoln, Father Junipero Serra (founder of many early Spanish missions in California), Andrew Jackson, Woodrow Wilson, Francis Scott Key, and Thomas Jefferson.

Until every last vestige of our Western civilization and the South is destroyed, Marxists will not stop. They have abandoned absolute ethical values and reason. They see slander, lies, false allegations, hatred, and violence as the natural recourse for survival with only the most ruthless being survivors. Prayer, hope, and the ballot box are not going to stop the coming revolution. Unless Americans are willing to physically stop the frenzied attack on our nation, we will see America fall to Marxism under a world government just as Germany did to Nazism.