Free Chester Doles

ON MARCH 7th, 2003, a SWAT team of some 70 federal agents, armed to the teeth, including members of the so-called Joint Terrorism Task Force, descended on the mountaintop home of Chester Doles, Jr. and his family in the mountains near Dahlonega, Georgia, and arrested him on completely bogus firearms charges.

Chester Doles, Jr. is a family man, a father of 11 children, a professional carpenter, a university student of political science—and he had the audacity to believe that White people in Georgia ought to have some rights. He even organized a protest against illegal immigration!

Ten years ago Mr. Doles went to jail in Maryland over an assault. It was a misdemeanor offense — not a felony. But because Mr. Doles' sentence was for 24 months, the Jewish Chertoff gang in the Justice Department is claiming that an obscure provision in the law which prevents felons from owning firearms also prevents anyone sentenced — even for a misdemeanor — to 12 months or more from owning any gun.

It doesn't matter to Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff and the Bush "Justice Department" that the guns didn't belong to Chester Doles. It doesn't matter to Michael Chertoff and the Bush "Justice Department" that not only did Mr. Doles, his wife and their eleven children live in the home, but that numbers of extended family members were often present, all of whom were perfectly within their rights to own and carry firearms there. It doesn't matter to Michael Chertoff and the Bush "Justice Department" that every single one of the seven weapons they claimed they found were the same kind of weapons — handguns, shotguns, and rifles — that can be found in almost every household in the north Georgia mountains and in the homes of most sportsmen across the nation. It doesn't matter to Michael Chertoff and the Bush "Justice Department" that Mrs. Doles and the other family members there have a right to defend themselves and their property just as anyone else does.

It also apparently doesn't matter that Mr. Doles, when his jail term was up, was specifically informed by the Lumpkin County, Georgia parole office that his right to own firearms had been reinstated.

The FBI claimed publicly through their spokesman Joe Parris that this wasn't a political arrest: "He's a felon in possession of a firearm who happens to have an affiliation. The FBI is not going to draw any conclusions from that."

Here are some questions that I'd like to ask Mr. Parris: Is it customary to have the "Joint Terrorism Task Force" and some 70 KGB-style agents storm a peaceful couple's home for a simple case of possession of ordinary guns? Is it normal for the FBI to pay an informant to befriend the Doles family and visit their home regularly for two years in a case based on a tiny technicality in the law like this? Is it normal to have a team of highly-paid agents follow the family around literally for years, obtaining records of every place they travel and everything they buy in a case like this? Even the first words out of Parris's mouth — "he's a felon in possession of a firearm" — are lies, since Chester Doles has never been convicted of a felony. Clearly, this is a case of follow-

ing a political dissident around until they found some pretext for silencing him.

So one may legitimately ask the FBI: Why are all these resources being devoted to a highly questionable and extremely minor case like this? Why is the Bureau taking the chance of embarrassment for claiming that a non-felon is a felon? Why take such risks just because a north Georgia family has the kinds of guns that most north Georgia families have? Again, clearly this is a case of targeting a man because of his political beliefs, following him, and sending paid spies to entrap and/or falsely testify against him. It calls out to high heaven for free speech advocates like the ACLU and others, if they really are sincere, to hit hard at this blatant Stalinist attack on freedom of speech and freedom of conscience. Everyone who reads this should contact the ACLU and other free speech groups and let them know about this travesty of justice.

Jewish Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff, the man behind an ever-increasing number of KGB-style political arrests like this one, and the person behind the so-called Joint Terrorism Task Force which engages in open terrorism itself, has a very strange definition of "possession" of a firearm. The Chertoff definition of "possession" is not the ordinary definition of that word. It's an Alice-in-Wonderland definition in which you can "possess" a firearm without owning it — in fact, without even touching it or seeing it. Apparently you can "possess" a firearm by just talking about it. You can, it seems, "possess" a firearm by just being on the same property where it is located. Does this mean that I "possess" an arsenal of firearms when I walk into the local police station because large numbers of firearms are there? Does this mean that I "possess" one million dollars when I walk into the lobby of the Bank of America or that I "possess" Faith Hill if I go to one of her concerts? Absurd. If fifty people go to a home where a gun is under the mattress in the bedroom, do all fifty of them "possess" the gun?

This utterly bogus case against Chester Doles cries out to high heaven for the involvement of the NRA and other Second Amendment groups, because the precedents that the gun-grabbers could establish here are ominous indeed. Every reader who is a member or supporter of gun rights groups should contact his organization and get them onto this case immediately.

Chester Doles, Jr. needs our help right now. His legal defense is going to be expensive. He's facing a possible ten years or more in prison. He is an innocent victim of government terror. The next victim may be the peace activist next door. The next victim may be the man who defends his family from a killer with a firearm. The next victim may be you. Support Chester Doles by sending as much as you can spare to:

Doles Defense Fund, P.O. Box 1532, Dahlonega, GA 30533 For further information and regular updates on the plight of this innocent political prisoner, visit freechesterdoles.com.

Please help Mr. Doles in his hour of need. His wife needs him. His eleven children, the youngest only four months old, need him. And his community needs him.

Write and help today.

