

CLEANING UP OUR NATION'S CAPITAL!®

by Dan Pemble, Kissimmee, Florida – September 2, 2025

Given the perpetuation of negativity stirred up by the media as related to Trump's efforts to clean up the "trash" in Washington DC, let's talk a bit about trash! There are actually 3 types of trash that manifests itself in creating a "blight" on the city: 1/ The low-life criminal element roaming the streets, 2/ Scraps of paper, plastic bottles, fast-food wrappers and other debris as carelessly tossed about by citizens who could care less about the beauty of the city, and 3/ Random encampments created & occupied by homeless people.

It's unfathomable to me that ANYONE would actually object to any and all assistance that is offered to clean up the above-noted sources of trash – in this case by uniformed National Guard personnel!

Some individuals in Washington DC have proclaimed that no outside assistance is required because the 2025 crime rates have decreased over the previous years. Well, taking a look at the number of major crimes in DC, as published by the Council on Criminal Justice for the January-June/2025 period, maybe the numbers are down but are still unacceptably high! Here are the categories and numbers of related crimes:

HOMICIDES: 12

AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS: 66

GUN ASSAULTS: 41

SEXUAL ASSAULTS: 7

ROBBERY: 131

CAR JACKING: 36

LARCENY: 1459

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT: 353

So, the total major crimes for the 6-month period are: 2105 which equals about 350 per month! It's hard to believe that this number could be considered as acceptable to the point where no outside assistance is welcomed to further reduce these numbers!

I'm not sure just what authority the on-site National Guard troops have as related to crime prevention but as a minimum they will be supporting local police and their mere presence may indeed be intimidating to would-be criminals, thus resulting in a reduction in crimes.

I think the mockery the media has made about the National Guard picking up trash is totally out of line! If the city of Washington DC is/was doing such a wonderful job of picking up trash, then why is it there? Those who have never been in the military apparently know nothing about military traditions. In fact almost all those in the enlisted military ranks who have been on active duty have at one time been assigned to a “work detail” responsible for “policing- up-an- area” of their home base or remote encampment (i.e. picking up trash)! In other words they don’t sit around doing nothing during otherwise lapse periods and this is part of the basic military discipline regimen! Certainly their efforts in DC are significant in first assisting in reducing crime and then cleaning up the rest of the trash towards beautifying the city!



**THANK GOD FOR OUR MILITARY IN
ALL THAT THEY DO!**