

## HEALTH HAZARD? - OR - BOONDOGGLE!

At their July 12th meeting; the Imperial Co. Board of Supervisors voted 4 to 1 in favor of negotiating a "lease" of the Slab City property from the State.

The idea is to; make costly improvements (at county expense!) and turn it into a primitive campground (thus mandating a 14 DAY CAMPING LIMIT!); and charging only a ONE DOLLAR A DAY camping fee!

Fiscally unsound? Sure it is! But the four supervisors who are "pushing" this BOONDOGGLE can always find reasons why "adjustments in projections" are necessary. Right now, the thing is to make it a "done deal" BEFORE facts and figures come under public scrutiny!

High on the list of things to do; is to **destroy Salvation Mountain**; which; other than rent-free, hassle-free camping; is the only "attraction" the slabs has to offer! Picture post cards of Salvation Mountain have gone all over the U.S. and throughout the world. Said destruction is estimated to cost the taxpayers \$160,000.00. "An extreme health hazard" sez County Supervisor Sam Sharp!

This alleged; "extreme health hazard" is the same one found on public streets and highways everywhere. What is it? LEADED PAINT! We walk on or near it; every time we use a crosswalk! Yes; leaded paint is indeed a "health hazard" IF EATEN! **IS SOMEONE LIKELY TO HAVE A CHUNK OF SALVATION MOUNTAIN FOR LUNCH?**

Independent soil analysis performed by a state accredited lab; indicate the "extreme health hazard"; "toxic nightmare" **ALLEGATIONS ARE TOTALLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION!** In other words; **AN OUTRIGHT LIE!!!**

So what's the destruction of Salvation Mountain REALLY all about? It boils down to the fact that Salvation Mountain COULD constitute a "**religious monument**" by legal definition. Therefore; **they can't have it standing at the entrance of a public camp ground, OPERATED BY THE COUNTY!** Mr. Sharp; Mr. Luckey; **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE KIDDING?**

County Supervisor Brad Luckey, was quoted by the IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS as saying; "...the primitive campground -- which would eventually have a sewage dumping station, a supply of drinking water, and police and fire service -- would bring tourist dollars to Calipatria and Niland".

Mr. Luckey; did you REALLY say that? If so; you should check the facts. The slabs ALREADY HAS police and fire protection from the Sheriff's Sub-station in Niland, and the Niland Fire Dept. There is also a sewage dumping station in Niland; as well as an ample supply of drinking water!

Finally; the "tourist dollars" your scheme is supposed to "bring"; have been coming in by the hundreds of thousands for a number of years now; but your scheme will quickly end all that. Why? This BOONDOGGLE of yours will have effectively eliminated the only two reasons the snowbirds come to the slabs! What's worse; a unique work of primitive art, that took years build; will have been destroyed in the process; **PURELY TO GRATIFY THE WHIM OF A FEW POLITITIONS!**