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Sprachniveau: Fortgeschritten; Oberstufe (Ende 10. Klasse bis 13. Klasse)

Sprache: Amerikanisches Englisch



Militiamen marched around Richmond, Virginia, where right-wing and right-leaning protesters assembled in January 2020 for a Second Amendment rally. | Photo: Getty Images

Inhalt: Die Kurzreportage beschäftigt sich mit dem Phänomen der amerikanischen Milizen bzw. Gruppen bewaffneter Weißer, die im Norden Idahos wieder erstarben. Die gegenwärtige Situation wird durch Reaktionen einiger Bewohner, der Stadtverwaltungen und der Wirtschaft vor Ort veranschaulicht.

Pre-listening

1. Compare the cover photo with the picture below.



A gathering of minutemen in 1774. Minutemen were a colonial militia who fought against the British in the American Revolutionary War (or the American War of Independence). This war started in 1775 and was fought by the thirteen American colonies against the Kingdom of Great Britain. | Photo: MPI Getty Images.

Listening

You can find the podcast for this listening comprehension exercise here:

www.npr.org/transcripts/924461164.

You will hear the text twice. Read the questions before you start listening. Write the answer in the blank space. You don't have to write full sentences. Keywords will do.

Vocabulary and background information:

- **Second Amendment:** The right to private gun ownership: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." (part of the US Constitution since 1791)
- **open carry:** the practice of carrying a gun in public so that everyone can see it (in contrast to concealed carry)
- **vigilantes:** an unofficial group of people who come together to control crime, especially when they are unhappy with how the government and the police prevent crime.
- **fatigues:** special clothing worn by soldiers, often with a camouflage design
- **Aryan Nations:** an American network of neo-Nazi, white supremacist groups
- **compound:** a fortified location, often surrounded by fences or walls, where a group of people form a community and often share the same political, philosophical, or religious views

10. What problem does Shawn Keenan have with the location where the militiamen gather?

11. How did Keenan's court case help to put an end to the Aryan Nations in Coeur d'Alene?

12. How does the Coeur d'Alene city administration justify its neutral attitude to the presence of the militiamen?

13. What are some businesses worried about?

14. What do some employers have trouble with?

15. Why was it easier to oppose hatred in the 1990s? Give one reason.

Post-listening

16. Think • Pair • Share

Look back at the title of this radio report: "Are Paramilitary Extremists Being Normalized? Look To Idaho For Answers." Read the questions below and think about them for a moment to find some of those answers. Then, speak with a partner and list four to five factors altogether before you share them with the class.

- What factors help paramilitary extremist groups to become more normal in Idaho?
- If you think of the US in general, are there any additional factors that come to mind?