Commentary: Joe Biden is lying to us

- By Retired Chaplain Dilio Mariotti
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Joe Biden has been lying to us. He lied in his campaign; he lied in his inauguration address, and he has been lying to us ever since. What is the lie? Simply this, and I quote: "This is not who we are!" Now, that's a whopper if ever there was one. Wake up, Mr. President, this is *exactly* who we are!

A few days ago at a white supremacist rally the leaders got the audience to pledge allegiance to the flag, using a flag that was presumably used during the Jan. 6 insurrection. It brought to my mind another interpretation of the pledge:

"I **will** pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, **when it becomes** one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Oh my! Shocking! Yet there is food for thought. Face it: despite what the Pledge of Allegiance says, we are NOT, in fact, "one Nation under God." We are narcissistic, egoistic and selfish. And God is nowhere to be found at the depths of our heart of hearts.

And "indivisible?" What a laugh! In my 80-plus years on this planet, I have never seen the country more divided. And by what? By the last-gasp efforts of those who want to fight the War of the Rebellion all over again! By those who prefer their own fantasies over hard-won scientific truth! By those whose idea of sacrifice means refusing a life-saving vaccine. By those refusing to wear a mask by claiming that **all**, not just **black** lives matter." If they really believe that, then why don't they all wear masks?

Not only has Joe Biden lied, the Pledge of Allegiance is also a lie. That's the way it is. But that's not the way it has to be. Sooner or later, all of this will come to a head. How it will end is anyone's guess.

But if we define a lie as a deceptive falsehood, then Joe Biden is not guilty. And neither is the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge, along with Biden's claim that "we are better than this," is not a lie; it's a statement of hope. That's where we need to go. Nay, that's where we **have** to go, if we really want to make America great again!

-Dr. Dilio E. Mariotti, of Strasburg, retired after 30 years as a US Army chaplain and civilian pastor. He holds several advanced degrees from American and Canadian universities. In retirement, he and his wife, Sue, have traveled extensively in the United States and Canada cruising the major waterways by boat as well as RV camping. Their children and grandchildren live in Virginia, Delaware, Utah and Washington State.