



Freedom Report

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness...." – The Declaration of Independence

"The course of history shows that as a government grows, liberty decreases." – Thomas Jefferson

"A government that robs Peter to pay Paul, can always count on the support of Paul." – George Bernard Shaw

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Combatting the "Defeat-America-First" Crowd

There was a time when the Left was correctly labeled the "blame-America-first" crowd. Today, it is far worse than that. The hard Left has become the "defeat-America-first" crowd.... Al Qaeda cannot defeat a united and focused America. Period. But the Left can sap our resolve and weaken our spirit – and is diligently working to do so.

On the fifth anniversary of the fateful attacks of September 11, 2001, President George W. Bush spoke to the nation. That on this anniversary the President would speak about the attacks and the war to defeat terrorism should surprise no one. It was both fitting and appropriate. However, if there was a surprise in all of this, it was the response of the Left. The



George Landrith, President of Frontiers of Freedom

Left did not allow the day to be one where America was united in both its remembrance of the tragic events of that day five years earlier and in its resolve to vigilantly defend itself and defeat terrorism. Instead, the Left used the occasion to promote their "down-with-America" agenda and to continue their drumbeat of retreat and defeat.

There was a time when the Left was correctly labeled the "blame-America-first" crowd. Today, it is far worse than that. The hard Left has become the "defeat-America-first" crowd. For the last three years, liberals have done everything humanly possible to undermine and sap our national resolve to win in Iraq. It is now clear, they seek America's defeat and withdrawal in the

most humiliating fashion possible so that they can maximize their political fortunes. While retreat and defeat would harm America, many on the Left believe that a humiliating defeat would greatly enhance their power and political prestige. Thus, they are almost giddy at the thought that their retreat and defeat agenda is gaining traction as the midterm elections approach.

During the Vietnam War, America's military won virtually every battle. However, in the streets of America and on the pages of America's newspapers, the Left lost the war despite our soldiers' successes. The Left slowly, but steadily, undermined our resolve and sapped our



moral strength. After we pulled out of Vietnam, the Left cut off all support to the allies we left behind. Shortly thereafter, the communists overran Vietnam and the effort was lost. The Left's retreat and defeat mantra caused this defeat and gave victory to a brutal totalitarian communist regime. They are at it again – this time in Iraq.

Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) said America is the "problem" in Iraq, not the "solution" just days before the historic elections in which millions of Iraqis freely voted for the first time in more than a generation. To Senator Kennedy, the terrorists are not the problem – we are. In the days, that followed, Aljazeera television replayed Kennedy's criticisms nonstop. Now they had a U.S. Senator saying exactly what Al Qaeda and Hamas had been saying.

Senator Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) compared U.S. Servicemen to Nazis and the detention facility at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay (Gitmo) to Soviet-era Gulags. After a week of telling America he said exactly what he meant to say, he backed off his outrageous accusations. But the damage was done. Again, America's enemies had their propaganda – from the mouth of a sitting U.S. Senator. To this day, terrorists justify their murderous terror and recruit new bombers and killers using the words of Senators Kennedy and Durbin.

Senator Harry Reid (D-Nev.) told a group of elementary school students that the President was a "liar" and a "loser." This wasn't a private conversation accidentally overheard. It was a photo-op with the media present. Imagine, leading Republicans in 1944, calling Franklin D.

Roosevelt a "liar" and a "loser" after the D-Day invasion when the allies suffered over 10,000 casualties on just one day. It is simply unimaginable. Yet, the Left is doing this on a daily basis and gets angry when their motives are questioned.

Representative John Murtha (D-Pa.) has repeatedly said that the U.S. cannot win in Iraq and demands that the U.S. retreat from Iraq immediately. He calls it "re-deployment" which is a not-so-clever way to disguise what he is clearly calling for – America's retreat and defeat.



War protesters in Nancy Pelosi's (D-Calif.) San Francisco, a capital city of the Left, carry signs that say, "We support our troops: when they SHOOT their officers." (the emphasis was in the protesters sign). Among the hard Left, this is what passes for supporting the troops, but not their mission. The "blame-America-first" crowd has transformed into a far more offensive and dangerous creature – the "defeat-America-first" crowd. With the aid of the mainstream media, the hard Left is committed to America's defeat because they hope to make America's loss their political gain.

A generation ago, a young John Kerry slandered U.S. soldiers who fought in Vietnam by proclaiming them rapists and murderers who terrorized civilians. Today, the Left plays the same anti-American tune – slandering the troops, their leaders and the Commander-in-Chief, and emboldening our enemies. Yet, amazingly, they claim to "support the troops."

Al Qaeda cannot defeat a united and focused America. Period. But the Left can



sap our resolve and weaken our spirit – and is diligently working to do so. Our military will not be defeated in the battlefield. If we are to lose, it will be in the streets and in the newspapers of America. This is the self-imposed defeat the Left is seeking – again.

Americans of goodwill and good faith can reasonably disagree about how well or poorly things are going in Iraq and how we should best proceed towards victory. However, red-blooded Americans do not call for America to retreat or promote its defeat. Patriotic Americans do not work to weaken our nation's resolve and strengthen our enemies' determination. Yet, this is precisely what the Left is doing.

Mahmoud Hitler and Hugo Mussolini Go to the United Nations

Amid all the rhetoric, politicking, positioning and the alleged smell of sulfur emanating from the world leaders gathered recently at the United Nations, one thing stood out. The United States, for all it does for the UN financially and militarily and for all it does for those who benefit from UN programs, is disliked; but then when you are the only superpower left on the planet you do become the target for every Mahmoud, Hugo and Harry that comes along.

To say that the US took a rhetorical beating during the recent gathering of despots and tin-cup dictators would be an understatement. The insults were so prevalent that the speeches rivaled those given at any number of anti-American rallies that take place around the globe



on a daily basis. The only thing missing was some under-educated, Third World Neanderthal – or perhaps a student from Berkeley or NYU – setting an American flag afire and tossing it to the Security Council floor.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the same guy who denies the Holocaust happened, calls for the genocide of the Jews and for Israel to be “pushed into the sea,” the same fellow who calls for an Islamic Caliphate and the defeat and destruction of the United States, did his best John Kerry impersonation by “voting” for respecting human rights after “voting” against them.

In a post-speech press conference, Ahmadinejad spoke of adhering to the rule of law and “submitting” to justice. Of course, in Ahmadinejad’s warped view of the world, submitting to justice includes the jailing and beating of political dissidents, the stoning of rape victims, the beating of women who are not dressed properly, and the killing and beheading of “infidels.”

Ahmadinejad went on to state that the current UN system is antiquated, complaining that the world body was created and monopolized by those who reigned victorious in World War II, referring to the United States and Britain. He effectively called for a re-writing of the UN charter that would eliminate the veto power of the UN Security Council’s permanent members, so that every nation, no matter how tyrannical their government, has an equal voice in voting on the UN’s actions.

Meanwhile, Ahmadinejad’s oily puppet, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, took to the podium and claimed he could still smell the sulfur from when “the Devil” was standing there just the day before. Mr. Chavez was referring to President Bush and said as much just moments later. Chavez’s diatribe will go down in the history books as



rivaling the shoe-pounding of Nikita Khrushchev as the most inappropriately simplistic action ever taken on the UN floor, yet those in attendance offered him extended applause for his opportunistic degradation of another world leader.

Chavez went on to equate the United States government with the Mafia and President Bush to Al Capone.

The next day, Hugo Chavez marched through New England – the seat of Progressive-Liberalism in the United States – bribing the “attention-span-challenged” masses with free oil in an effort to court their support for his anti-American propaganda. Chavez’s actions draw directly from the tactics used by Hezbollah for buying into the hearts and minds (and political favor) of the Lebanese people, who they used as disposable tools and shields during the recent conflict with Israel. The question here is whether or not the Progressive-Liberals of New England are bright enough to identify this ploy.

For his part in the gathering of “world leaders,”

President Bush used his speech to call for the spread of democracy and freedom throughout the world, renewing his call for a genuine respect for human rights, especially in the Middle East. He spoke around the despotic governments of Iran and Syria, addressing the Iranian and Syrian people directly, inviting them to not be fooled by the caustic propaganda of their self-installed leaders. He invited the world to stand as one against Islamofascism and terrorism. And while he directed some tough talk to the leaders of Iran and Syria, he did so without mentioning whether or not he “smelled sulfur.”



The disdain many nations feel for the United States wasn’t something that manifested overnight. The self-absorbed politics of the 1990s that saw the United States refuse to act

during the Rwandan genocide, that found the United States too squeamish to stay the course in Somalia, the same impotent policies that empowered terror organizations like al Qaeda and Hezbollah, contributed in a great part to the disrespect the United States receives from nations around the world; nations that literally survive on the foreign aid the US provides.

Just as there is no free lunch, there is no “free oil”; the price this time being the difference between a world that accepts oppressive totalitarianism and one that champions the proliferation of freedom and democracy.

Ahmadinejad was correct about one thing. The United Nations is broken. If the world is to survive this crisis of despotism the United States needs to call for the disbanding of the UN in

favor of a world body consisting of functioning democracies, not those bought with the ill-gotten and oily gains of terrorism and tyranny, and not one that would seat the likes of Syria, Cuba and China on its human rights council.

The choice is clear. Either we stand pat with the United Nations, an organization that can’t even produce a definition for terrorism as it teeters on voting Venezuela a seat on the Security Council, or we move forward creating a new world body consisting of functioning democracies that embrace a common definition of right and wrong, good and evil. The question now is whether or not we have the guts to do it.



North Korea's Nuclear Tests and Ambitions

The dust has yet to settle in the wake of North Korea's nuclear weapons tests, and accounts of the nature of the event differ greatly. Stories of the detonation range from its being a success, yielding up to 20 kilotons of energy, to the possibilities of a "dud" that delivered less than one kiloton of firepower.

And being that this is, after all, the North Koreans with whom we are dealing, the prospect cannot be discounted that the entire episode was an enormous hoax, perpetrated with a massive quantity of conventional explosives by which North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il was hoping to convince the world that his nation is indeed a nuclear power.

Yet, no matter what the final assessment of the event, once all of the data is sifted and analyzed, it is inarguable that the little tyrant aspires to an increasingly aggressive and intimidating position on the world stage. Furthermore, whether his ability to wage a nuclear attack on his enemies is a grim current reality, or a looming inevitability, no doubt exists as to his obsessive desire to do so, and his commitment to that end.

In any case, the nightmare does not stop there. Both his nervous neighbors and his twisted "admirers" on the world scene are watching the situation closely. And their reaction to his brazen and defiant determination does not portend well for the stability of Western Civilization.

The general impotence of world reaction to Kim Jong Il has undoubtedly emboldened the leaders of Iran. And it is not beyond the realm of possibility that Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy will renege on his former decision to discontinue his own pursuit of nuclear weapons, which he made in the



immediate aftermath of the fall of Saddam Hussein.

Yet among Democrats and the liberal press, little of any substance is being reported on the event.

And that in itself is extremely telling. Certainly, those on the Left are no more desirous for America to sound a clarion call over this danger than were they anxious for the network news to replay images of helpless people jumping from the World Trade Center towers as they burned.

Both would only serve to remind Americans of just how horribly these situations were bungled by the Democrats, and such a stark dose of reality simply cannot be allowed this close to an election.



So, once again, those on the Left prove their ultimate indifference to the fate of the nation, as they seek to play down the danger, thus allowing too many Americans to bask in ignorance. And in so doing they show how philosophically corrupt and unfit they are to be allowed to retake the reins of power while America faces such challenges to its future.

This is no time for such games. But then again, neither were the past dozen or so years, when the enemies of America amassed their forces against this nation, while the Democrats either ignored or denied them. At a time when the Clinton Administration was able to take decisive action in order avert the present situation, a decision was made instead to seek the sort of "diplomatic solution" that would provide great photo-ops, and would look good on the evening news.

Allowing the danger to grow unchecked, Bill Clinton gambled correctly that the day of reckoning would come on somebody else's watch.

So, Clinton, abetted by the likes of Madeline Albright and Jimmy Carter, took credit for brokering a deal that actually placed the critical components of a nuclear bomb in the hands of North Korea's crazed leaders. Amazingly, they committed this foolish act on the grounds that they had assurances from North Korea that it would not use such technology to build a bomb.

When George W. Bush ordered the invasion of Iraq, he did so in part as a result of his belief that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. Ever since, those on the Left have incessantly excoriated the President for going to war under false pretenses.

But what was the actual result of that faulty analysis? A dangerous and plotting dictator was removed from power, and millions of Iraqis who had once been mobilized as enemies of the free world are now seeking to establish a safe, stable, and benign democracy. Ultimately, a vile enemy of America no longer exists.

In contrast, as the result of a faulty "analysis" of the North Korean situation, and a naive reliance on liberal philosophizing by the Clinton Administration, North Korea, with American help, may now have nuclear capability.



Bill Clinton's minions can continually attempt to recast his "legacy" as one that raised America's stature in the eyes of the world. Yet throughout his tenure, those who were bent on the destruction of our nation were laughing. And we may have only begun to pay the price.

Germany invaded Poland. However, this was not the real start of hostilities, which actually began years earlier – just ask the Czechs or the Jews.

Lastly, the major hostilities of World War II ended with the treaties signed on VE and VJ days, but the conflicts were far from over. German guerrilla groups continued to kill Americans, and Germans who cooperated with the Allies. It took three to four years after the war's official end to completely stamp out Nazi guerillas. The Marshall Plan and U.S. charitable organizations pumped billions of dollars into Europe to get it back on its feet after more than a decade of Hitler's evil and the rest of Europe's denial.

The numerical differences between the two conflicts make any comparison silly. Low estimates of World War II deaths range from 50 million to nearly 100 million. American deaths were 418,000. Poland lost one in six of its populace in the war. Compared to that kind of suffering, the current Iraqi conflict, while painful and unpleasant, is simply not comparable to World War II. On, June 7, 1944, the U.S. landed more than 156,000 soldiers on the beaches of Normandy and suffered almost 10,000 casualties by the day's end. Today, it is accepted wisdom that D-Day was a tremendous victory. But, in 1944, it wasn't so obvious.

No war is pleasant. Even one death or casualty is a tragedy. But comparing things that are not comparable serves only political purposes. The Iraq War, however and costly it is, simply cannot be reasonably compared to World War II. The Iraq War could drag on another 10 years (heaven forbid), and the pain would still not equal the 10 million US servicemen drafted, the estimated 50 to 100 million deaths, or the trillions spent as a result of World War II.

War is never a pleasant thing – even in victory. But sometimes that suffering is required to prevent future, greater suffering at the hands of emboldened, ruthless thugs who have no timeline, and who think as little about killing 10 as they do about killing 100 million.

Timidity is the real cause for the extended duration of the conflict in Iraq, Afghanistan, and indeed the rest of the

world. We fight a ruthless, barbaric, and evil enemy – who values raw power more than the lives of their own women and children. Yet, saying such things is viewed as impolite. So we refuse to call the enemy an enemy, refuse to crush the enemy, and pretend the enemy can be reasoned with. The truth is there is no misunderstanding to be resolved. There is simply an evil to eradicate. Our current enemy respects only brute force. Until we respect him and treat him as an enemy and not as a neighbor, we will not see a lasting peace.

Accurate comparisons establish yardsticks by which we measure progress. But silly comparisons made for rhetorical purposes only muddy the waters and trivialize the suffering that occurred in both conflicts. However, at least one comparison with World War II is instructive. The West's growing unwillingness to vigorously confront and defeat this enemy ensures that we will some day reap results similar to the suffering of the World War II generation.

The Facts about Iraq and World War II

Critics of the Iraq War have taken to making comparisons to previous U.S. conflicts. The purpose of such comparisons is to shift public support. However, to achieve these goals they misuse and even misstate the facts. The truth is, the timidity of the world in confronting tyranny and evil is to blame for the extended duration of this conflict.

On October 26, Terrence Hunt of the AP remarked how the U.S. involvement in Iraq will soon have lasted longer than our involvement in World War II. Ari Berman of The Nation made the same claim more than a month ago. And Rupert Cornwell of The Independent stated way back in August that "America's (and Britain's) disastrous war in Iraq has now lasted longer than the US involvement in the Second World War." Each author uses the most convenient date for the "beginning" and the "end" of US involvement in World War II to make their point, but the actual length is not important to them because they have political points to score.

The misstated facts are too numerous to be recounted in their entirety, but exposing just a few will make the point. First, World War II really began with the 1931 Japanese invasion of Manchuria. This allowed the Japanese to invade China on July 7, 1937. American entry into the conflict did not begin until 1941 because of our blindness to the growing aggression of the Japanese and the Germans. We and the rest of the Far East paid a dear price for our unwillingness to stand up to the growing bully.

Second, the war in Europe officially started on September 1, 1939 when

Frontiers of Freedom Media Report

In July and August, Frontiers' senior staff made more than 192 appearances on news and talk format programs and were seen or heard in all 50 states discussing tax reform, national security, energy prices and energy policy, global warming, missile defense, protection of



fundamental constitutional rights, internet regulation, the global war on terror, environmental regulations, lawsuit abuse reform, and the ACLU's anti-American and anti-constitutional agenda.

The WWII generation also faced evil, but waited years before stopping it in its tracks. It took a world war and untold tragedy and misery to defeat the evil that was initially ignored. Hopefully, this is one comparison we can avoid.

property is a fundamental, individual right.

However, these recent trespasses also illustrate why we must remain vigilant in our efforts to defend and promote private property rights at every level.

Owning a home is an integral part of the American Dream. To that end, Congress chartered Government Sponsored Enterprises, Fannie Mae in the 1930s and Freddie Mac in the 1970s, to help expand homeownership opportunities to more Americans. Today, Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs) like Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae are privately held companies with shareholders that help finance mortgages. The GSEs have been a big help to minorities, low to middle income families and first-time buyers.

With a national homeownership rate now approaching 70%, these GSEs have been extraordinarily successful in their mission of reducing mortgage costs and making homeownership a reality for millions of working class Americans. They have also amassed an unparalleled investment portfolio of almost \$1.5 trillion dollars for their shareholders. Yet, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are under threat from Congress as some think their success has created an unsubstantiated financial risk.

Since when has the financial prowess of a company become justification for a government-ordered divestiture of assets? Furthermore, while these companies have encountered some accounting issues that need to be addressed, it is not a compelling reason for Congress to force them to divest their assets, limit new acquisitions, and impose strict regulations that expands the federal government's regulatory power over them.

Despite being chartered by Congress, these companies are in essence the private property of their shareholders. For Congress to interfere and require privately held, financially stable companies to sell off their assets against their will is unconscionable! Free enterprise cannot exist without the guarantee of individual property rights.

Following the Kelo ruling last year, an unfortunate message was sent to our lawmakers – that they can trample on property rights. But defenders of such foundational rights must not stand for it. It is time to remind lawmakers that the government does not know what is best to do with your assets — you do.

Seizing the American Dream, Again

American patriots like Thomas Jefferson and James Madison were our country's first champions of private property rights. These gentlemen wisely recognized that the right to property is fundamental in assuring all other rights. In fact, Mr. Jefferson once wrote that "The right to procure property and to use it for one's own enjoyment is essential to the freedom of every person, and our other rights would mean little without these rights of property ownership."

It is astonishing how appropriate these words remain over two hundred years later. Frankly, if Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison were alive today, I am sure they would have much to say about our government's encroachment on the private property rights of its citizens.

Egregious violations of property rights like the Supreme Court's Kelo decision stating its now legal for governments to seize an individual's private property for purposes of economic development; restricting ranchers' use of their own land; or the U.S. Senate attempting to force private companies to divest their assets and prohibit them from acquiring new assets, would most certainly raise their ire.

Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison would undoubtedly also be heartened to hear the people's mass outrage and accompanying legal protections that occurred from city councils to Congress after the Supreme Court's inexplicable Kelo decision. They would be pleased to know that millions of American citizens inherited their belief that the right to

FOF's Ten Tenets

- The most basic moral obligation of the federal government is to defend America, which requires military, economic, and moral preparation and strength.
- Property rights and economic freedom are the fertile soil in which all other rights grow and thrive. The environment is best protected and preserved where free markets thrive, capitalism is robust, and property rights are respected.
- The Constitution's enumerated and limited powers, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, and guarantee of basic rights are fundamental to America's freedom.
- "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness" and each of the rights guaranteed in the Constitution are necessary to the foundation of freedom – including the right to bear arms and to not be deprived of property without just compensation.
- The courts have a constitutional duty to faithfully and strictly interpret the law and the Constitution and may not invent or create new law.
- Justice is the equal treatment of all *individuals* regardless of ethnicity or religion. Fabricating group rights undermines individual freedom and civil rights.
- Taxes may be legitimately imposed *only* to the extent necessary to pay for the essential and constitutionally permitted activities of government. To tax more than this is a form of tyranny and extortion.
- Government mandates and regulations too often exceed constitutional authority, waste resources, erode freedom, diminish property rights, and produce harmful unintended consequences.
- To remove sound science from public policy is legislative and regulatory malpractice. To employ junk science in public policy is unethical and irresponsible.
- Basic standards of morality and civic virtue are essential to maintaining America's economic strength, military might, and freedom. Parents and families, not government, are responsible to rear and educate their children.

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