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“Petraeus”
by
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Okay... let me get this straight... if I can. Eight months ago the United States Senate approved Gen. David Petraeus 81-0 with no dissenting votes as the new commander of U.S. troops in Iraq, with the belief that he had the skill and the integrity to make the right decisions necessary to improve the situation existing in Iraq and ultimately make it possible to bring the bulk of our troops home. Barely did Gen. Petraeus have time to pack his foot locker and arrive in Baghdad when the ‘boo birds,’ Democratic Senators Harry Reid, Chuck Shumer, Russ Feingold, John Murtha, Carl Levin, John Kerry, Dick Durbin and Barbara Boxer climbed up on their soap boxes saying the General’s plan would not work and demanded that he give a report in September (this month) apprising the Congress and the Senate of its success or failure. After hearing from their twisted far left constituency admonishing them for voting for Petraeus in the first place these media darlings went further saying even if Petraeus’ report said we were winning they would demand that U.S. troops be withdrawn from Iraq, because they wouldn’t believe the General. (I wrote on this in August as well.)

There were, of course, several Republicans who fell into the trap believing they didn’t have to do what was correct but what was expedient and added their two cents to the vitriolic verbiage. Sen. Chuck Hagel the Republican Senator from Nebraska who, as one writer stated, “loves to surf around on the waves of public opinion” rather than making intelligent, thought out decisions, has never supported our efforts to bring democracy and freedom to the Iraqi people. Thankfully he will be retiring from the Senate in 2008.

Now, here we are in September and Gen. Petraeus has made his report and true to their word the erudite and elite force of Democratic Senator leadership publicly condemned the General’s report which in part said “measurable progress was being made and if allowed to continue it should make even greater inroads into Al-Qaeda control and terrorist killings” in Iraq. He also said that by positioning American soldiers among civilian populations the Iraqi citizens were feeling safer and starting to cooperate with our military by pointing out terrorist cells and individuals. He, in no way, said victory would be an easy goal *but* it is an attainable one. U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker concurred with Gen. Petraeus and encouraged the lawmakers to support the General’s request that more time be given to bring peace and stability to the embattled country.

The Democrats are so antagonistic toward President Bush that anyone who even breathes a suggestion that we actually could win the hearts of the Iraqi people and ultimately the war, including

the U.S. Commander whom they unanimously confirmed, will do anything to subvert the efforts. MoveOn.Org a Democratic web site funded primarily by Democrat billionaire George Soros, had a front page picture of Gen. Petraeus and the headline, “General Petraeus or General Betray Us.” Unbelievable!!

The web site gives as evidence the General is lying about his report by quoting many media reports stating the opposite. Who are we to believe, the commander on forces fighting the war or an agenda pushing, politically motivated liberal media who hasn’t spent the time or effort in Iraq necessary to get the full picture of what’s happening throughout the country.

The one issue that the left continues to rally around, ignorantly I would like to believe, but ridiculously none the less..... “Give us a definite timetable for removing our troops!” How can any commander tell anyone the exact date a war will be over? Was anyone in WWI, WWII, or any other American conflict, ever able to dictate an exact time and place the wars would be over? Absolutely not! To demand otherwise is idiotic at best and treasonous at worst. Time and again our President has stated the troops will be brought home when the Iraqi security forces, i.e., Army, Police, and Intelligence agencies, have proven themselves capable of keeping the country secure.

The inability of the Democratic U.S. Senate leaders to pass legislation demanding an immediate withdrawal of American troops from Iraq also shows that the majority of American citizens are against such action as well. We want our troops to come home... no question... but not until the job is done. The troops want the same thing.

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