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“Surging Ahead”

by

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In January the United States Senate overwhelmingly confirmed **Gen. David Petraeus** to be the commander of U.S. military forces in Iraq. Almost immediately they began digging tunnels underneath the foundation of his “surge” plan of placing additional troops in Iraq to make an intense push against the terrorists. Why is it those on the left can hate one man so much that, regardless of facts and statements from reliable sources to the contrary, they still do everything in their power to make the American people think the Iraqi war is already lost and to de-rail any efforts to make a positive change in the war?

Well, finally, several political writers who happen to be Democrats, one a former member of the Clinton administration’s NSA staff, have written optimistic statements about the military “surge” tactics now being implemented in Iraq. Writing for the **New York Times**, a paper historically against all things “Bush,” **Michael O’Hanlon and Kenneth Pollack** wrote, *“We are finally getting somewhere in Iraq, at least in military terms. As two analysts who have harshly criticized the Bush administration's miserable handling of Iraq, we were surprised by the gains we saw and the potential to produce not necessarily "victory" but a sustainable stability that both we and the Iraqis could live with.”* This statement came at the end of an eight-day fact finding trip to Iraq.

The two men are qualified to report on military conditions in Iraq because one is a specialist in military affairs and the other is purportedly an expert on Iraq and Iran, according to their bios. I applaud them for their honest opinion because I’m sure for them to make such a positive statement was the journalistic equivalent of eating crow.

They concluded their article with the following paragraph, *“How much longer should American troops keep fighting and dying to build a new Iraq while Iraqi leaders fail to do their part? And how much longer can we wear down our forces in this mission? These haunting questions underscore the reality that the surge cannot go on forever. But there is enough good happening on the battlefields of Iraq today that Congress should plan on sustaining the effort at least into 2008.”* Hey folks, this is big news. So big that even **Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid** (D-NV) who previously said, (I paraphrase) that even if Gen. Petraeus gave a good report in September he (Reid) would not believe him (Petraeus.)

This positive, un-biased report by O’Hanlon and Pollack, plus other independent stories from reliable sources presenting a positive take on the “surge” strategy, has had the effect of pouring boiling water in the lap of many Democratic leaders, who still speak “uglies” about the war and anyone connected with it. I have heard many statements of how the leaders of the Democratic Party secretly are hoping for a military failure in Iraq so they can bolster their chances of winning the White House in 2008. Can they

really be unhappy about a victory in Iraq? Could they be that shallow and politically motivated... surely not? Yet, when asked by the media his opinion on the possibility of a good report coming from Gen. Petraeus in September, **Democrat House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn**, as quoted by the Washington Post, said that a positive report by the General would be “a real big problem for us,” the “us” being the Democratic Party. Makes a body wonder doesn't it?

Any sane thinking, logical person knows that a positive report is just that... a report stating that the situation in Iraq is better than what it was and that there is a chance that we actually could win this thing. Apparently more and more of the American people are beginning to believe it since a new poll by CBS News and the New York Times indicated that support for the war is up from 35% to 42% from May to July, and those who think it was a wrong decision to go into Iraq dropped from 61% to 54%. Isn't it amazing how just a little bit of good news can change the thinking of a people? Of course Democratic “leaders” and main stream media know this well and that's why they are experts at spreading the bad news, much like spreading manure on a garden.

Good news is like water on their fire of hate and divisiveness and they don't even want to listen to it. Hear what **Rep. Nancy Boyda (D-Kansas)** said about the optimistic testimony of **General Jack Keane** concerning the obviously working “surge” strategy. A direct quote, “*...and I just will make some statements more for the record based on what I heard from--mainly from General Keane. As many of us--there was only so much that you could take until we in fact had to leave the room for a while. So I think I am back and maybe can articulate some things--after so much of the frustration of having to listen to what we listened to.*” Folks, they don't want to hear the truth... it goes against everything they've been forcing down the throats of their constituents and endangers their position in Congress.

Will total peace and an end to ethnic violence ever come to Iraq or anywhere else in the Middle East... sure... about the same time that gang killings come to an end in downtown Los Angeles, Detroit, or Newark.

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