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“The Surge Is Working”

by
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When will the nay-sayers who absolutely refuse to utter the words “Yes, the surge is working,” admit they are wrong. The surge is working by everybody’s scale and measuring stick, the most important one being the fewer number of American deaths since July. Even the Associated Press is reporting a sharp drop in the number of U.S. and Iraqi deaths across the country in the past few months. The months of September through October showed the number of American military deaths fell from 65 to 39.

The sounds of guns, bombs and RPG rounds exploding are becoming rare in the city of Baghdad since American troops began setting up small outposts in some of the capital's most dangerous areas. Again, according to the AP, citizens of the area who were previously suspicious and wary of U.S. soldiers now walk the streets, patrolling alongside them. Locals are also happy that a historic street along the Tigris River is set to reopen later this year, featuring seafood restaurants and displays of art. Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of U.S. forces south of the capital, said Sunday he believed the decrease would hold, because of what he called a "groundswell" of support from regular Iraqis.

The New York Times recently ran a story of a positive nature stating that Iraq’s Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said that over 7,000 Iraqi families have returned to their homes in Baghdad because of the decrease in violence in the town. He also said violence and deaths are down more than 77% from the same time last year. He also was quoted saying that the previous Sunni-Shiite factional violence has ebbed remarkably and “This is an indication that sectarianism intended as a gate of evil and fire in Iraq is now closed.”

The U.S. military has turned to the locals and more than 26,000 Iraqis have been recruited to help identify militants in Gen. Lynch’s area of operations, he said. The area his soldiers patrol includes parts of suburban Baghdad and all of Karbala, Najaf and Wassit provinces along the Iranian border. That area altogether is the size of our great state of West Virginia.

So why don’t all you guys and gals out there rejoice a little bit that a ray of sunshine is peeking through the clouds in that war torn area and rather than dwelling on the mistakes of the past, and there have been some of those, why don’t we all agree that possibly, just possibly, we could finally be accomplishing the goal for which we we’ve been fighting???? At least think about it won’t you?

On another front, our friends the Chi-coms are still out to get us... I should say, to get our children. They've gotten a little bolder this time though... they've gone from slow working lead paint to poison glue. Toy beads are okay for kids to play with, but not those covered with toxic glue. Kids have been known to put things like beads in their mouths and those who put these "Aqua Dots" in their mouths find that their saliva and intestinal juices tend to transform this particular toxin to what we have come to know as a "date rape" drug. Think what that could do to a small child? Only a dozen or more kids have been reported as victims of this toxin, and as yet no deaths, but who knows what the future may hold.

When will we ever learn? There's absolutely nothing wrong with American businesses trying to get more profit out of their production dollars... that's good business. But, and it's a big but, have you noticed that the millions of products from China that have been recalled over the last year were products primarily sold for children and infants? China, with her 1.4 or 1.5 Billion citizens is just now shedding off a third world mentality concerning safeguards and restrictions on production methods, factory emissions, and product quality, including prescription drugs, children's toys, and food exports. They, for a long time, hadn't been a whole lot better than many of the Middle Eastern countries who are still living in third century conditions, technologically and industrially speaking.

Why would we want any country to make our children's products thinking they're safe when that country is one that mandates forced abortions and infanticide for women who make the mistake to become impregnated with female babies? They're so concerned with keeping their population figures low China is not a child friendly country and could care less about saving the lives of children in a foreign country. The only thing they're interested in is saving face after allowing their incompetence and reckless factories to manufacture deadly products and get caught at it. They probably sell them to their own people all the time with no qualms at all.

I'm sure I'm the only guy out here that has these paranoid thoughts that there is the possibility that these "mistakes" being made by their factories aren't mistakes at all... it's just business as usual for them and they just had the misfortune to get caught. Shame on them for trying to take advantage of us and shame on the many companies who use them to make what my children and grand-children will be playing with or wearing, without proper quality control.

The lesson we should learn from this whole episode is... BUY AMERICAN... if that's possible anymore.

Have a great week folks, and exercise off all that turkey you stuffed down your gullet this week. See you next week.

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