

This newsletter is the sole responsibility of Allen Polk Hemphill, and does not reflect the views of anyone but Allen. Allen can be contacted, and (free) electronic subscriptions are available at allen@allenhemphill.com
May be quoted with proper attribution.

"Freedom of the Press belongs to those who own one."

A. J. Liebling of the New Yorker

March 20, 2004



Commentary

Both Dishonor AND War!

We have a perfect example of the difference between the European reaction to an attack and the American reaction. Americans get angry. Europeans cower.

Spain rewarded the terrorists for their cowardly attack...in effect the Spaniards decided to feed the alligator and hope that the alligator eats them last.

Cowering in the face of a threat is a normal European reaction: "Lets see if we can all sit down and reason together." That is not an unusual reaction in Europe, and it is not terribly abnormal among some segments of American society. Let's just say that universally, people with a basic social science tendency want to ask, "Can't we all just get along together?"

The answer is "NO!" we can't just get along together! Personally, I don't care if some Americans and even more Europeans call Osama and ask for a personal audience except that eventually they will want to be rescued or avenged, and personally I don't want to do rescue or avenge audience?] and I tire of sending others. Cleansing the gene pool of those who prefer hope over experience always seems like a good idea to me. There are just too many of them for my liking, and they place the rest of us at risk by their terminal naiveté.

I am certain that Spain has bought some time from an attack, as has France and Germany...but in their hearts they know that if we are defeated, they will be next. They may hate us, but they

want, nay, expect, us to win. And we will. In the end they also win, but they can afford the luxury of hating us while we protect their sorry asses.

It seems to be a genetic trait in my family to finally abandon those who will not fight for themselves. I have previously told the story of my family becoming one of the first white families in North Carolina because they tired of protecting the Pennsylvania Quakers who refused to protect themselves.

Spain is probably having second thoughts, but personally I would prefer to ask them to take their troops out of Iraq, and please do not call for any assistance for 50 years...of course I would not be in a position to do so because I am not sufficiently “nuanced” to use Senator Kerry’s term, to win public office. What he calls nuance I call waffling.

Terrorists do not want a dialog. Terrorists want a world governed by their own interpretation of Islamic law. Since we have seen in the Taliban of Afghanistan how that world would look, I have a lot of wonder at how women in particular are not in the forefront of demanding that we wipe out the terrorists before other women also end up in Burkas!

Do the people who oppose the war in Iraq believe that Al Queda would be less powerful if we had not invaded that country? I know, I know...it is always the same answer – the triumph of hope over experience.

Spain now joins France and Germany in both Socialism and in anti-Americanism – although France and Germany are making overtures to return to our good graces. Personally, I think President Bush is cutting all of them too much slack.

I am indebted to Tom Freidman’s recent column for this quote from Winston Churchill upon the return of Chamberlain from the Munich Conference: “You were given the choice between war and dishonor. You chose dishonor and you will have war.”

That pretty much sums up the problems with European softness.



Dolphin Realty

Allen P. Hemphill

Real Estate Broker

15817 Bernardo Center Dr,
111, San Diego, Ca 92127
RB Office (858) 487-4750

27739 Mountain Meadow Road
Suite #5
Hidden Meadows CA 92026
Meadows Office (760)-749-5005

Home Office (760) 749-2654

www.allenhemphill.com
allen@allenhemphill.com