
Obama's Strategic Vision

Posted by truthhurts - 2008/07/23 09:09

Great column in today's Washington Post by Harold Meyerson.

Maybe the symbolism of Barack Obama giving a major speech this week at Berlin's Victory Column - a 19th-century monument to Prussia's military triumphs - isn't as incongruous as it might seem. After all, it was Frederick the Great - the 18th-century Prussian monarch who transformed his kingdom into the dominant German state - who once advised his generals, "He who would defend everything ends up defending nothing."

You can't deploy everywhere in strength, Frederick was saying, and that's a lesson Obama seems to understand a lot better than John McCain does. At a news conference in Jordan yesterday, Obama reiterated his belief that Afghanistan, not Iraq, is "the central front in the war against terrorism" and that confronting that reality requires drawing down the number of U.S. forces stationed in Iraq.

Obama has been making this case for many months. But it was not until last week that McCain acknowledged that our war in Afghanistan was not going well and would require additional forces. Unlike Obama, however, McCain does not favor reducing the number of U.S. troops in Iraq by any timetable and has yet to stipulate where our overcommitted military will find the forces to send to Afghanistan.

Good thing McCain wasn't one of Frederick's generals. He would have been cashiered.....

...And what of McCain's assertion that Obama "has no military experience whatsoever"? It's incontestably true, of course. What's more germane, and clearer with each passing day, however, is that Obama's capacities as a national strategist - the most important qualification for a commander in chief - far outshine McCain's. Victory, in McCain's view, is the result of will and fortitude - an understandable belief for anyone who survived half a decade as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. Had we been more steadfast in Vietnam, he believes, we could have won. Likewise in Iraq, even though the rifts in that nation are not ultimately susceptible to foreign military might.

But fortitude and will are only part of the formula for success. A good president has to know which battles to fight militarily and which diplomatically, which battles are primary and which secondary. By these measures, Obama - who always viewed the Iraq fight as a distraction from hunting down al-Qaeda and who understands that peace in Iraq depends on a political accommodation among Iraqi groups -- is clearly the better strategist.

Military experience isn't an infallible guide to who might make the better commander. Jefferson Davis, after all, graduated from West Point, served with distinction (and with the rank of colonel) in the Mexican War and was secretary of war in the Franklin Pierce administration. Abraham Lincoln served roughly three months in a volunteer militia during the Black Hawk War and never saw action, and he was a vocal congressional opponent of the Mexican War. But Davis had no aptitude for national strategy during the Civil War, while Lincoln emerged as the North's master strategist. That's not to say that Obama is a budding Lincoln and McCain a second Jeff Davis. But by the Frederick the Great standard, Obama already looks to be the smarter commander.

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And that's just Iraq and Afghanistan. Then there is the economy, where McCain's chief economic adviser, Phil "Enron" Gramm, says we are a nation of economic whiners and in a "mental recession."

Oh brother. :blink:

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Re:Obama's Strategic Vision

Posted by alternativecat11 - 2008/07/24 20:56

And Obama has promised AIPAC (American Israeli Political Action Committee) he will be tougher on Iran than McCain. <http://alternativeconservative.com/category/barack-obama>

Obama wants to apply a 0.7% tax to the US GDP and pay it to the UN. This is estimated to cost \$845 billion over the next 13 years
<http://www.aim.org/aim-column/obamas-global-tax-proposal-up-for-senate-vote>

At least we will have Obama's mandatory community service so our children can support us

Short out of context version

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=Tt2yGzHfy7s>

"We cannot continue to rely on our military in order to achieve the national security objectives we've set. We've got to have a civilian national security force that's just as powerful, just as strong, just as well-funded."

Full length, slightly better, but not good version

http://youtube.com/watch?v=Df2p6867_pw

Analysis from another community organizer.

http://www.americanthinker.com/2008/07/obamas_civilian_national_secur.html

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by Everybody Loves Raymond - 2008/07/25 08:28

The Magic Messiah Obama has reached his peak and is going down fast. McCain is surging in key swing states. The European coronation of the King Obama sickened Americans by his arrogance. The polls now show a strong pull towards McCain as Americans want victory over the Islamists be they in Iraq or Iran.

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by utocoman - 2008/07/25 08:41

You go Ray! The Democrats love your party views! The more you post the more Republicans want to distance themselves from you and your kind of

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by Everybody Loves Raymond - 2008/07/25 11:33

utocoman wrote:

You go Ray! The Democrats love your party views! The more you post the more Republicans want to distance themselves from you and your kind of

Then explain the surge for McCain? If the Annoited One is supposed to be already President with hundreds of thousands of unwashed Euro-peasants fainting at the mere sight of the Magic Messiah, why is America flushing him down the toilet?

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by utocoman - 2008/07/25 17:51

Wow, where did you get that dope?

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by Everybody Loves Raymond - 2008/07/25 18:15

utocoman wrote:

Wow, where did you get that dope?

If by "dope" you mean information, I got it from your own Liberal Rag, the Washington Post. You asses need to keep up with the info.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/24/AR2008072401330.html?hpid=topnews>

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by alternativecatll - 2008/07/26 01:46

utocoman wrote:

You go Ray! The Democrats love your party views! The more you post the more Republicans want to distance themselves from you and your kind of

I hate to say it, but utocoman is right. I wouldn't vote for McCain if someone paid me.

One of the few things Republicans have on their side right now is being opposed to illegal immigration. John McCain supports Amnesty (destroying the Middle Class), and he supports staying in Iraq for 100 years. Great. Like we can afford that.

I don't trust Bob Barr, but in good concience I can not vote for John McCain or Barack FISA, NAFTA, supporting Obama. And he supports S. 1959.

http://digg.com/politics/Senate_Bill_to_Criminalize_Thoughts_Blogs_Books_and_Free_Speech?t=10925739#c10925739

Check out what candidates we actually have to vote for at

<http://digg.com/elections>

The mainstream media liberal or conservative won't cover this <http://digg.com/elections> and it's all Michael Powell's fault for getting rid of equal access laws when he was head of the FCC.

<http://mrxfromplanetx.com/orwell-rolls-in-his-grave>

. . . well maybe it's not all his fault, but he made it a lot worse.

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Re:Obama\'s Strategic Vision

Posted by Former Republican - 2008/08/24 05:56

Which polls are showing a strong pull towards McCain?

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