



The Noble Wolf

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MY TWO CENTS ON THE SHOE THROWING INCIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 20 (*PinoyGlobal*) - Daisy, a friend of mine sent me an article by Armstrong Williams appearing in his column 13th Century Illiterates printed in the publication The Hill, a congressional newspaper that publishes daily when Congress is in session. Williams wrote:

“Do many Americans lack the ability to rally around the flag? The absent-mindedness of some Americans has proven to be appalling. There can be no greater sign of disrespect to a country than when an incident such as the infamous shoe attack occurred on President Bush's recent surprise trip to Iraq.

“What people are failing to realize is that when people show such a sign of disrespect to the president, they are doing so to the entire country. Then what happens, the public, instead of showing their outrage, exacerbate the issue by throwing the president under the bus.

“Spoofs are ubiquitous on the Internet and are a sign of Americans spitting on itself. The most common are video games, YouTube videos and numerous pictures. Not to mention, people have gone live on national television making disgraceful comments, such as that they wish the president would have been hit. What kind of message does this send to the world? Clearly, we are becoming an international laughing stock.

“I find this to be outrageous. No matter if you are in favor of President Bush's policies or not, you should realize that he is still the president of the United States and we should show respect and set the example for others. To witness the ignorance of the uncivilized Iraqis' marching and dancing in the street praising and hailing Muntader al-Zaidi as a hero is beyond comprehension and belief.

“Unequivocally, if Iran's Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

or Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe had been on American soil giving a press conference, and the same thing happened to one of them—that is, they were attacked on American soil by having a shoe hurled at them—the American people would be livid, and in turn apologetic.

“One needs to realize that this is about humanity, not about policy. No one, and I don't care who you are, would want this to happen to them. So why would we want it to happen to our president? This act is appalling, inhumane and outrageous. How can anyone find anything to laugh at and make fun of when it comes to our commander in chief? If the thug had had a gun or weapon he would have tried assassinating our president of the United States. Think about it!”

Here are my two-cents rejoinder to the Williams article: Yeah right, Daisy. This call to blind nationalism is empty.

It is too darn uselessly symbolic to rally around the flag when we are talking of George W. Bush. This man belongs quickly to oblivion. Even McCain's defeat and Obama's win cannot be attributed to either McCain or Obama, but to how far Bush has dragged this whole nation to a virtual halt while feeding our young to the lions in an unjust war. And did you notice how fast the gas prices declined soonest his success or was elected? Daisy, the pump is now at 1/3 where it was two years ago and the only thing that is about to happen is the changing of hands in the White House. How about that for the absence of public confidence in the still incumbent presidency?

George W. Bush has no one to blame, he did this to himself. He polarized this country with him on one side and the rest of the nation on the other. It is even

unforgivable that Cheney and he even destroyed the Republican Party with their extremism. He is a disgrace even to the Bush family, and certainly to George Bush Sr. who is a friend and a wonderful president. Sorry but his son deserves more than a couple of shoes flying in the air. Some spanking can help.

This is not to say that I condone the shoe-throwing incident, in fact in Sharia law, that man's hands must be cut. But the Iraqi nation has only thanks but no thanks for that goon masquerading as journalist and the American people even found it entertaining. Frankly, I felt indifferent about that incident. I did not really feel that those shoes were directed at the United States of America, or the American people. And I did not take it personally.

In fact, I felt the outrage was deservedly

dedicated to the one person it was aimed at. It struck me more as a lesson for future presidents to be truly presidential, to truly reflect the aspirations of his constituency, to truly use his war powers never capriciously but judiciously and to be fully transparent and accountable for their decisions because the US of A is the last nation that will rally behind blind dogma. To insist on dogmatism is to incite the Spirit of 1776 all over again.

Sure I will be first among those rallying behind the flag and the presidency, but after Bush is gone to join the ranks of Saddam Hussein whom he deposed for reasons he still has to explain up to now and presidents like McKinley whose arrogance deserves the halls of shame.

Daisy, give up George W. Bush, and strike your passion on how we can get out of the national rut that he brought us. #