

So, which is true anyhow?

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Lazarus has nothing on the U.S. military.

As miracles go, the recent transformation of our military is the equivalent of being raised from the dead.

It was only a year ago that a steady diet of media reports confirmed that the U.S. military was absolutely broken down and used up. We were told that the Army and Marines were worn out and incapable of meeting the commitments assigned to them by politicians.

That may have been true.

But you won't read it today.

And let there be no confusion. This is not more sniping about President Obama. Sure, it is true that he is taking a long time to decide whether to back the general he hand-picked to lead the war in Afghanistan. Several weeks after the request was filed, Obama still can't decide whether to commit the 40,000 troops General McChrystal said are absolutely necessary to win the war.

And yes, the delay does seem odd.

It is President Obama, after all, who has made dozens of speeches about the importance of winning the war in Afghanistan. So it is somewhat surprising that he may have already changed his mind about the war or has lost confidence in the general he only recently appointed.

But this is really about the media and whether anything they report can be trusted.

Little has changed since the media were reporting the strain fighting two wars had put on our military. While Iraq is much more stable, there are still about 120,000 troops in Iraq. At the peak, the U.S. had about 155,000 troops there. That is when the media reported almost daily that the military was at the breaking point.

Yet when the request for 40,000 more troops in Afghanistan was submitted, there were no reports questioning whether the military could meet the obligation.

That is odd.

The request would mean the United States would have more troops committed in wars overseas than at any time when fighting raged in Iraq, yet there was no alarm raised by the media whether the troops were available.

So what's changed?

Well, the guy in the White House.

And that should cause alarm for every American.

Whether you love, hate, despise or ignore the media in this country they are absolutely critical in a free society. Republicans have long charged there is a media bias. There is little question President Obama receives very favorable treatment, bordering on adoration in some circles, from the media. It is one thing for the media elite to cheerlead for a liberal, but quite another to ignore a story as important as the status of the military.

Is the military overextended? Can the military support the request for 40,000 troops?

Those are life and death questions n literally n yet the media are ignoring them. That would be fine, if not for the fact that less than a year ago the media was filled with reports of the poor condition of our military.

So the question begs, when were the media being truthful? Today, when there seems to be no reason for alarm --- or a year ago, when even the rate of enlistments were front page news?

The fact the question even has merit says nothing good about the media today. n DAN
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