

## **U. S. Security More Pressing Than Political Correctness**

**June 11, 2002**

As I follow the latest federal government debacle some thoughts come to mind. I refer to the one where the FBI agent in Phoenix, AZ expressed some concerns of hers to Director Mueller in the form of a memo. It was about young Middle Eastern men interested in flight training in commercial aircraft. The kicker was they were only interested in flying the planes, not landing them. Unfortunately it never got past middle levels of management who have tried to keep it under wraps.

It's a sad story that is becoming all too familiar with all facets of federal and state government. Sadder yet, it is not new and we do not seem to ever come close to a solution. We study history so we learn from our mistakes and not repeat them but invariably do.

The incident mentioned above concerned 9/11, which possibly could have been avoided if there had been no breakdown in communications. As ominous as it sounds the warning signs were nowhere near as evident as those prior to Pearl Harbor some sixty years earlier.

Politics was essentially the main reason for failure in both cases. One more ingredient has been added to the mix of politics since 1941. It is political correctness. A much more onerous factor since few dare to question its validity, fairness or opposition to the precepts of the Constitution. Those advocating or defending same have only one alternative defense of its principles. Label the questioner as a racist or homophobe. It's the classic O.J. defense. When you have no defense attack the accusers personally. It may have worked in the Simpson case but should have no bearing in cases of national security.

One could present the Simpson case as political correctness at its zenith. Starting with the circumstances of a classic beautiful white female married to an African American sports hero accused of her murder. The defense team, a.k.a. the Dream Team, was about as multicultural as one can get. I'll spare the details as I am sure most everyone is familiar with their make up.

The D.O.A. white male conveniently moves the case from the affluent white upscale neighborhood where the principals had resided for years to downtown L.A. It insured the defendant of a jury that would undoubtedly be influenced by his race.

Any impropriety from that quarter balanced out perfectly by the prosecution team that was the epitome in political correctness. Prosecutors were a white female and an African American male. The Japanese judge was married to a white female police sergeant who supervised many of the white male police officers investigating the case. The forensic expert was Chinese American and the coroner an Egyptian American.

End result was a politically correct verdict.

We as a nation have become obsessed with multiculturalism and too thin skinned about our ethnicity. It's a typical liberal elitist conception designed to curry favor and votes. It purposely causes divisiveness, resentment and corruption in much of American life. It has spawned a whole new business forcing others to grant rights supported by no other logic than to not do so is based solely on racial considerations.

We are, as is every other locality in the state, being presented with a question that I believe makes my point exactly. It's the subject of school mascots and the relevance of their origins and demands that they be changed.

Here in Old Forge it's the Eskimos, a term adapted years ago as I suspect, meant to honor and not denigrate a proud race of native peoples. If you look up the definition in the dictionary one can find nothing derogatory about its connotation.

I suspect this campaign that has been sweeping across the nation and states is the brainchild of some politically correct appointed bureaucrat. It's nothing more than another attempt to control our minds and speech along yet one more continuing liberal ideological line.

We were asked to vote on a proposal to change the school's mascot at the recent board election. I for one am all for it if it is indeed offensive to the majority of those directly concerned with the name. I personally know, as many of you out there do, at least two attractive and vivacious Native American young ladies who are residents of our town. I am friends and admirers of both of them and their families. One of them is a graduate of the Town of Webb School and the other has been a cheerleader coach at the school. I personally know one of them is proud of the name and all others honoring Native American people.

I would be equally proud if I were able to say the same. As one old Zuni army buddy of mine once said, "Dad always said it doesn't hurt anyone to have a little American in him."