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

A. J. Liebling of the New Yorker

July 1, 2002



"He who eats my bread, does my will."

-Marcus Aurelius

Commentary

Howls of the Internationalists notwithstanding, the United States has decided to exercise its own rights in several areas.

The first was the President's statement that the Palestinians must have a new government to get United States support. The Palestinians, the Europeans, and some American internationalist hand-wringers promptly said, "The United States cannot dictate who will be elected the leader of the Palestinians."

No such attempt was made by the President. He simply said the obvious: The Palestinians can elect whomever they chose, and we get to select whether we will send them our money.

Big deal. Who among us has not at one time or another decided not to financially support some stupid decision of our own children. We certainly can't tell our children how they will live their lives – but we can say whether we will give them money with which to do stupid things!

The Internationalists want "world opinion" to have a blank check on the Treasury of the United States.

It ain't going to happen!

Then comes along the "International Criminal Court" – another Internationalist mechanism to control the United States. It would take control of activities by "Peacekeepers" in international hotspots, like Bosnia, and presumably try soldiers from various countries for real and imaginary crimes committed while "peacekeeping." President Clinton even supported such a cockamamie idea. (He would.)

President Bush withdrew his administration's support. Since the United States sends a disproportionate amount of the world's peacekeepers, and pays a disproportionate amount of money to support such efforts, the withdrawal of court support was our signal that the "International community" can do as it pleases – but not with our money and not with our soldiers.

This particular veto was about extending the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, and whether the United States will be excluded from the jurisdiction of the World Court for activities it participates in subsequent to Monday when the Court takes effect.

Once again, the United States cannot stop any country from setting up any court they wish...but we get to choose where, and if, our troops will participate – and where we get to spend our money.

Since the effete Europeans cannot even protect themselves, much less project power internationally, giving them voting control over anything to do with American military or American dollars is absurd. It is not necessary to even evoke the historical memories of WWI or WWII to make the point. The United States, and the United States alone, with little more than token assistance, has solved the Bosnian crises, the Afghanistan problem, the Irish problem, and, if it is to be solved, we will solve the problem in the Middle East.

The International Court is an attempt to provide a platform for tut-tutting by people too caught up with other striped-pants-set hand-wringers to actually get their hands dirty. All sorts of countries get a vote, countries whose entire army is smaller than Ramona's police force. For entirely too long the United Nations has enabled countries the size of a Rhode Island school district to parade around spending American money, on American soil, while castigating America for not doing things exactly as they would do them if they could do them — which of course they can't.

This new court, which went into effect on July 1, is supported by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and other assorted "One-Worlders." In fact, the best coverage supporting the court is found on a website named www.oneworld.net.

That alone should tell you everything you need to know about the subject.



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