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MY REACTION TO TODAY'S GAZETTE EDITORIAL

 Posted by Dave Hughes on October 29, 2011 at 10:00am [View Blog](#)

Opinion

Gazette Telegraph

The editorial you reprinted from the Orange County Register on October 29th was juvenile. You headlined it "Long, Costly War Has Harmed Us All" and subtitled it 'Let's be careful to never repeat this.' It reads like a school boy who thinks, by wishing it were so, and writes an essay, all wars will just stop happening.

You are fools if you think, in a world now of 7 Billion people there will not be any more protracted wars or serious attempts by enemies of America and its wealth and freedom, to harm its people, its global presence or destroy it - with nuclear weapons, cyber attacks, or even more deadly weapons of mass destruction.

Forty Four years ago during Vietnam - the war we lost - a small handful of we Army officers in the Pentagon predicted that the future will see many more similar wars in the 3d world - almost all 'Insurgencies' - for ideological, religious, territorial, or resource - food and water - reasons. And they will be prolonged by the ever greater miniaturization of ever deadlier weapons and technologies in the hands of un-uniformed rebels.

We were spot on - Iraq and Afghanistan fit our predictions exactly. But we also - and I provided the then Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara as his 'Assistant for Counterinsurgency' - an American strategy for preventing, as well as winning, such protracted wars. That the US has to aid seriously in sustained Development - economic, political, social - in the 3d world wherever festering insurgency breaks out into armed conflict. As well as wisely use our Security - military and clandestine - forces.

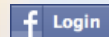
In fact in his speech of May 18th 1966 before the Newspaper Editors of North America he said what I shortened to '**Security IS Development.**' Read about it yourselves in the May 22d pages of the New York Times. It was repeated in publications around the world. They thought he was running for President. Instead he headed for the World Bank - the preeminent global 'development' organization.

Had not Gen Petreaus and Ambassador Crocker, and Fort Carson's own Colonel -

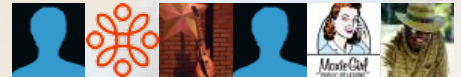
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now General - McMasters learned those lessons and persuaded President Bush to apply them to the war in Iraq, it would never have ended as well. There is now hope even for Afghanistan.

Col (Ret) David Hughes
6 N 24th Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
dave@oldcolo.com

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Comment by [Bob Stephens](#) on October 31, 2011 at 3:47pm

Thanks for your post, Col. Hughes, and your insights. I welcome you to post on Wayne Laugesen's new Facebook page "Gazette Opinion." I know you've interacted often with the editorial board in the past. Here is the link ...
<http://www.facebook.com/gazetteopinion>



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March 23, 2016 all day - [Stargazer's Theatre and Event Center](#)



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April 23, 2016 at 10am to April 24, 2016 at 3pm - [Lewis Palmer High School](#)



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May 13, 2016 from 7pm to 9pm - [Stargazers Theatre](#)

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