

Note from AFA President -- Georgia, Quotes Part 2, and CSAF Priorities

Friday, August 15, 2008

AFA Members, Congressional Staffers, Civic Leaders, and DOCA Members, most of you know about the war between Russia and Georgia over Abkhazia and South Ossetia. [So much for the end of State vs State warfare.] What you may not know about were the reports that Russia conducted a cyber warfare campaign against Georgia. Apparently they targeted Georgian government and local media outlets with a denial of service type attack. They did not attack Georgia's physical infrastructure - like the power grid. But experts say that infrastructure is older - and may not be attached to the internet. It's a good thing the Air Force decided to stand up a Cyber Command. Our nation will face this kind of threat in the future. To read more about the attack, see the Wall Street Journal report on our website at: http://www.afa.org/EdOp/edop_08-12-08.asp

Two weeks ago, I sent you the link to a listing of quotes - for those of you who write or give briefings. [See: <http://www.afa.org/PresidentsCorner/Notes/Note-7-30-08.pdf>]. In that note, I asked you for any additional quotes you would like to see added to the list. We received a large number of responses and have put them on our website [See: http://www.afa.org/quotes/Quotes_81208.pdf]. We intend, in the future, to consolidate both lists. Thanks to those of you who sent inputs. My favorites of this second batch are:

"Hitler built a fortress around Europe, but he forgot to put a roof on it." - Franklin D. Roosevelt - page 3

"If we lose the war in the air, we lose the war and lose it quickly." - Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery - page 9.

And of course - a perennial favorite: "We have the enemy surrounded. We are dug in and have overwhelming numbers. But enemy airpower is mauling us badly. We will have to withdraw." - a Japanese infantry commander, situation report to headquarters, Burma, WWII - page 12

Finally, I came across a power point slide briefing listing Gen Schwartz's priorities. After a number of retired officers sent it to me ... and the Washington Post called asking for comments, I decided to put it on our website. You can find it at:

http://www.afa.org/grl/pdfs/SLOC-CSAFsPerspective_1-Aug-08_v5.pdf

http://www.afa.org/grl/pdfs/SLOC_CSAFs_Guidancev2.pdf

For your consideration.

Mike

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