

December 24, 2007
(Mijas Pueblo, Spain)

Sidebar

Merry Christmas

I Why Happy Holidays? Christmas is *the* holiday (*la fiesta*) of *the* Nativity (*de Navidad*)—the birth of Jesus—a Christian festivity. (*Note: 70-80% of Americans are Christians.*) Happy Holidays sends the wrong message. It is not proper for this religious period. So, to all my readers: MERRY CHRISTMAS!

A Dangerous World

II Are You Tough Enough For This Dangerous World? Your favorite US presidential candidate must answer this question twofold: (1) “Yes, I am tough enough.” (2) “I will explain how I will deal with Islamic radicalism (Osama bin Laden’s Al Qaeda); Iran’s nuclear “warhead” bid; Iraq’s insane insurgency; the Middle East peace; Hugo Chavez’s collection of armaments; the economic rise of China and India (“Chindia”); Russia’s new aggressive politics, etc.” Whether the US is liked or disliked (that is not the issue), the world remains a dangerous place. Some writers pose the issue anchored on the US ills. That is plain wrong. Whatever happened in Iraq (Abu Ghraib), in Guantanamo, with the dollar, with Attorney General Gonzales, etc. has nothing to do with the present dangerous world. In my opinion, American values should not be exported. American values must be absorbed by other nations at their own speed. For example, take a look at Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, etc., in South America; Spain (after Franco) in Europe; and the Eastern European Nations: Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, etc. They are all *strong* democracies. No matter the past US ills (if any), we remain a nation of hope and freedom (millions want to immigrate to our land). The world is better off with our example (not perfect, but simply the best). America is no cruel joke, as some writers portray it. (That is shameful!) America is life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. America is an *exceptional* country—under a constitutional government—red, white, and blue. Can we capture the hearts and minds of other foreign people? Yes, indeed, we can. Our nation is a model of freedom. Our leaders need to voice our principles. We must reach the aspiration of global people. This is best accomplished by direct interaction. (Americans must be educated accordingly.) But without mutual understanding, progress will be slow—we must not fail. For example, French President Sarkozy (a declared pro-American leader) is lending a caring hand. He understands our values. He understands that America is not a conquering nation. (Tony Blair [former PM of the UK] and Jose Maria Aznar [former president of Spain] understood those fundamental values.) So, my friends, ask your candidate—(R) or (D)—to explain his or her methodology to deal with global danger. It is real—terrorists want to destroy us. We must not elect a weak and unprepared president.

