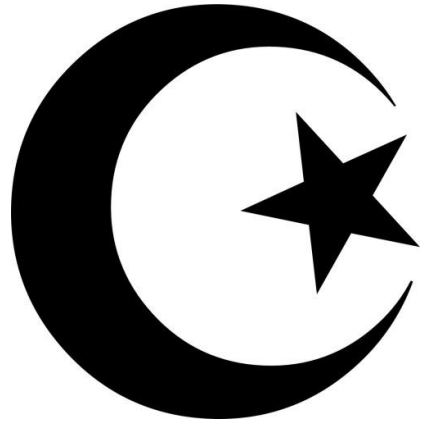


# Suddenly...things are different

*...do you sense things are very trying?...*

*by Kat Rowoldt*



I can't remember a time when things seemed to be so trying, with such an air of deception around every corner. Political correctness is leaning so far over the baseline to the point we are being encouraged to accept falsehoods (aka: lies) as truth, and twisted facts as the way things genuinely are.

I received an unbelievable email from the Family Research Council on June 15th. The opening title read: **THE ARMY'S NEW SHOWER POLICY: BARE WITH US** It begins with, *"There may be privates in the Army, but there's no privacy. That may be the biggest takeaway from the mandatory "transgender soldiers training," which took place on bases across the country Tuesday. In a major break from precedent, the military's largest branch is warning female soldiers to expect biological men in their showers. That's just one of the mind-blowing changes the Army is bracing for on July 1st, along with "male pregnancies" and taxpayer-funded gender reassignment. Unfortunately, this will be the new normal for the U.S. military until the Trump administration steps in and frees the Pentagon from the grip of the Obama years."*

It goes on to later say, *"What's worse, sexual assault and rape are already sky-high in the military. Surely, the DOD's answer isn't throwing open the women's showers to naked men. That's not only dangerous, but degrading. In the real world, public indecency is a crime. No man can walk down the street and expose himself to women. But in the military, we're going to say this is **the price of "inclusivity?"** It's absurd."*

One last tidbit from that article. *"Here's another one you can put in your "I-never-thought-I'd-see-the-day" file: the Army's policy on **male pregnancy**. In one of its sample vignettes, troops are told to imagine that a soldier has "complete Army gender transition from female to male as indicated in DEERS. The soldier did not have sex reassignment surgery, and recently stopped taking male hormones in the order to try and start a family. Today, the soldier approached his commanding officer to discuss his newly confirmed pregnancy." According to the Army, "transgender soldiers will be treated the same as any other soldier with a given medical condition." That means, "all pregnant soldiers will receive prenatal care and are entitled to all relevant medical care, administrative entitlements, and leave prescribed under service policies. Commanders and units will comply with all policies related to pregnant soldiers." No wonder the Army*

*and Marine Corps have asked for a two-year delay on implementing the guidance. They'll need that time to add paternity wards!*

[Article segments from the Family Research Council (above) written by: Tony Perkins with the aid of FRC senior writers.]

In addition to this news, San Angeloans learned last week that we would have a mosque opening on Goodfellow Air Force Base. The formal ribbon cutting was this past Friday. Initially the media was welcome, but due to some push back they received from the community, the base decided to close it to the media. The San Angelo Standard Times actually published that the event was closed, as in private, probably by invitation only.

Not getting the word as to the change, I had planned to attend and was joined by three friends who were interested in going as well. When we learned it was now "closed," one of them called the base. No, the base information office stated, it was open to active and retired military, their families and guests. So off we went.

What a beautiful new chapel the base has on its site. It is shared by Catholics, Christians, Jews, Mormons and now Muslims. We were briskly shown the way back to where the ribbon cutting ceremony was going to be. I was wearing my Christian Reporter News press badge, since I wanted to be upfront in my purpose for being there. When we got to the room where they were meeting, we noticed that the base had its camera set up to record the event. One of my friends asked where I could set up. At first reaction, we were told anywhere I would like. Then another said, "No, let me check on that."

After several phone calls and with some kid-glove handling, I was informed that the decision had been made to not allow any media at the event since the entire press corps had not be invited. Since I had identified myself as press, I was escorted out of the meeting room by Colonel Jeffrey A Sorrell, the 17th Wing Vice Commander, and taken to another part of the building where I could wait for the others who were with me. They were being allowed to attend, but not me.

I was okay with the decision and arrangement. I was more interested in getting the reactions of others than I was in experiencing a call to prayer and whatever information they might share. It turned out that my three friends were the only non-active duty people to attend. There were only maybe a dozen more people there for the big event.

When the ceremony began, I could hear the traditional sound mosques ring out to call people to prayer. It was rather eerie knowing that this time it wasn't on

television or video. Beyond that moment, I could hear nothing else from the event. I entertained myself with my cell phone, today's means of passing time.

When my friends returned from their enlightening experience, they had lots to share. We decided to do lunch so I could get their impression of this special ribbon cutting while it was still fresh in their minds.

Driving to the restaurant, Col. Ken Casper (ret.), my escort, began sharing a few of the points the imam had to say. He found it most interesting to learn that Adam built the very first mosque. I had not heard this information before either. Apparently that mosque was destroyed in the great flood, where "The Noah" had to build the ark. Yes, he referred to Noah of our Bible as The Noah.

We all met for lunch and the conversation was full speed ahead. Each of the men were eager to share their impressions and thoughts. Dining with me were, Bill Bogner, former fire fighter from California (who enjoyed our quick windshield tour of the base and fire school), Major Terrence Giroux (ret.), and Col. Ken Casper (ret.). Giroux is former International Military Student Officer who worked with a full range of students from across the world while serving at Goodfellow.

While the men didn't quite catch the spelling of the imam's name, something along the lines of Atajamow, they each recalled that he was from Uzbekistan and how very young he looked. They were surprised at his young age, as they expected a much older man to be an imam.

I asked my three cohorts how it felt to be in the room when the call to prayer sounded. Giroux quickly responded that it brought to mind Obama's comment "the call to prayer is the most beautiful sound he had ever heard." Giroux then noted the Colonel's demeanor when he realized I was "Press." He had been so welcoming and pleased to see civilians coming to attend the event. Giroux wondered what was happening when he "saw Colonel Sorrell escort me out of the room."

Apparently, the event consisted of the formal ribbon cutting, then an introduction to Islam via a slide show, and finally a peek into the prayer room. It was during this presentation they learned not only Adam built the first mosque, but Ismael helped Abraham build the second. The imam then showed slides of the three most important mosques in all Islam, in Medina, Mecca, and Jerusalem, and were encouraged to visit them one day.

The imam shared with the audience that the room they were in was selected because, like all prayer rooms/mosques it faces Mecca. Giroux reported they were being told it is "just a room, dedicated for prayer." He found it interesting they were trying to step back from using the word mosque after the pushback

they received locally, now calling it simply a room, a gathering place for community functions, and jurisprudence counseling. Hmm... I believe jurisprudence counseling may fall under Sharia law.

I asked each of them what their thoughts were about what they had experienced. Each of these men are Christian, one Catholic, and one raised Catholic.

Bogner, without hesitation, but with great firmness, stated, "I felt like he was lying to me. He didn't look anyone in the eye. Usually a speaker locates someone in the room that he can make eye contact with, and he didn't do that. I believe people do that defensively because they actually have an agenda other than what's being spoken at that moment. I noticed him sizing up the room seemingly happy in the fact there was such a small audience which keep questions and rebuttals to a minimum." I could sense that Bogner was still bothered by the whole experience.

Giroux said, "Being associated with the base both as active duty and as civilian, as a former International Military Student Officer for fourteen years, I realized that this may open up a can of worms. I say that because Goodfellow IMSs (International Military Students) have US military ID cards. This will allow each student to bring a civilian guest on base. I envision seeing our Muslim students inviting Muslims from the civilian community onto the base. Once that starts, you lose control of who is entering your base."

Casper, after some serious thought, added, "I seriously doubt anyone in the room but the imam and perhaps his assistant, understood the meaning of the words that were being used, like jurisprudence instead of Sharia law. Under the cloak of religion, Islam is infiltrating our most sacred institutions: education, law, government agencies and the military.

I asked my lunch companions if there were any other Muslims present. Only one: an NCO who appeared to be a part of the chapel staff.

I appreciate these gentlemen taking time out of their busy lives to witness the dedication of the mosque in San Angelo. Who would ever have expected it to be on Goodfellow AFB, where they conduct intelligence training for the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines, as well as fire training? I am also grateful that two of the three served at Goodfellow and understand the mission of the base. They attended this historic event with great concern, and it was with even more concern that they shared their views.

I asked Giroux why would we need a mosque on our base since we do not seem to have a large Muslim population. We are now one of only four bases in the

United States to have a mosque. Lackland in San Antonio, Langley in Virginia, and Ft. Jackson in South Carolina are the other locations. Why San Angelo?

Here's his response: *There's already an imam assigned here on the Chaplain's staff. I'm pretty sure the reason for the mosque is the establishment of a permanent, full-time Saudi Intel course here.*

*The Saudis talked Obama into selling them F-16s with new capabilities. Next, Saudis wanted the Combat Intel training to go along with the new capabilities.*

*They lobbied the US hard for this classified training until a contractor agreed to build them a Saudi-only course at a Rel-Saudi level (releasable to Saudi Government ONLY). Finally, after all these concessions, the Saudis wanted their own Saudi Training Facility at GAFB.*

*The US Government built them a portable building solely for their Intel course. They have a dozen or more grads from every class.*

*We're starting to worry about the eventuality of a mosque in San Angelo next."*

Suddenly, things are different, very different. The majority of citizens do not understand the concern because they are not paying attention, and even more to the point, they just cannot believe anyone would want to harm them or change the awesome world that we as Americans richly enjoy. Ask a German, a Belgium, or a Brit. They are beginning to awaken to the harsh new reality that they ALLOWED into their country.

I do imagine there will be more to come. Stay tuned!

Until next time....

*Kat Rowoldt*

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