# THE MILITARY AND NATIONAL POLITICS

Today we discuss "The Crisis in Civil/Military Relations" ..... Is there one and why?

## I. The Republicanization of the Military

64% of the officers say they are Republican vs 8% Democrats 29% of US Males Rep. 26% Dem; Elites 30% Rep and 43% Dems Vets 47% Rep vs 23% Dems; Reservists 63% Reps vs 10% Dems ROTC 47% vs 12%

Reagan Youth at West Point

Why?

- White, religious males from South and small town America?
- Vietnam?
- AVF?
- Clinton ? The insults

How rare is this? Married White Males? Academics? Blacks?

## II. What Difference Does it Make?

A. How do the parties differ on Defense and Foreign Policy?

Money?

Missile Defense?

More intervention?

More multi-lateralism?

The Empire? The Alliance? Money for platforms?

The peace party

B. What about Corporate Interest? >>Ridgway and Korea >>Westmorland and Vietnam >>Powell and the end of the Cold War >>Goldwater Nichols >>The Balkans

Force Structure (Post WWII, post CW), Foreign Policy, Strategy

Benefits for service personnel

Contractors, National Guard and Reserve, Veterans

Paying for defense once, twice, three times?

# Powell Doctrine (Weinberger)

- Stake must be vital
- US must be willing to fight wholeheartedly---no limited objectives
- Clear Goals/ Exit Strategy
- Decisive Means
- Public support/Congressional Support
- Use of Force last resort

## **III.** Is it Republicanization or Politicization that is the issue?

- Military gets an excuse for Vietnam----the civilians screwed up. Resign?
- Military gets a protector after Vietnam---The Republicans
- Military gets power----Goldwater Nichols and Clinton
- Military most respected governmental entity
- Military wants to ignore Transformation?

## Rumsfeld/ Civil vs Military

Cheney fired General Dugan

Assert civilian control --- What bothered them about the military?

#### Civilian Control for what end?

Bush Strategy comes after 9/11

Primacy and Preemption?

New? Need transformation

Appropriate?

Doable?

Global War on Terror? What terror? What strategy?

#### Models of Civil Military relations

- Huntington, Military Professionals-Objective Control
- Janowitz, Military the Organizational Man and American values
- Historians---nihilism –it is all ad hoc—strategy, relations
- Finer—Military hard to control –why?

Corporate interest---autonomy, resources, offense, technology

Anything else?

#### Peace Party/War Party?

Democrat Wars

**Republican Wars** 

2000 election –Gore vs Bush

2004 election - Kerry vs Bush

2008 election -Clinton vs McCain?

Which party will benefit from the port debate?

#### **Role of Retired Generals**

- As Candidates (Admirals)
- As Endorsers of policies and candidates
- As TV commentators
- As Corporate Lobbyists/Board Members/Executives
- As a Corps of Government Managers

What should be done to discourage this?