

Re: OT: Another Simberg satire?

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2006-12/msg00893.html>

- *From:* "Scott Hedrick" <dinehnmKILLSPAM@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 19 Dec 2006 16:53:18 -0500
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"Dave Michelson" <davem@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:Ywshh.502458\\$R63.339529@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:Ywshh.502458$R63.339529@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

OM wrote:

...And it's a history lesson for the ages. To prevent an enemy from resurrecting itself, you conquer it totally as a conqueror, destroy everything, and then rebuild from scratch to your specifications, showing the locals that it's far better to be your friend and do things your way than be independent and do things in the fucked up fashion you'd been doing them because you didn't know better, much less being your enemy at the same time.

AFAIK, your General Sherman was the first modern military commander to recognize this. His strategy of economically crippling and psychologically intimidating the rebels during his famous March to the Sea has led to his being recognized as one of the fathers of modern warfare.

This, to me, is the primary problem with how the situation in Iraq was handled— we went in as friends, not as conquerors. The only shock and awe that was generated related to the funding. It's too late now to switch to the tactics that were needed in the first place.

Clearly, this is the result of The Prince and other classics no longer being required reading.

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