

## Roundup: Media's Take

### **Doug Bandow: Libya's Lesson for Europe**

Source: *American Spectator* (3-16-11)

[Doug Bandow is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute. A former Special Assistant to President Ronald Reagan, he is the author and editor of several books, including *The Politics of Plunder: Misgovernment in Washington* (Transaction).]

After the Arab League urged creation of a no-fly zone over Libya, Mustafa Gheriani, a spokesman for the Libyan Transitional National Council, said, "We hope the Europeans will deliver now." But with divided opinions and shrinking militaries, the Europeans can't deliver.

The Libyan crisis again demonstrates that the emperor has no clothes, at least in Europe. For years a transnational European elite hoped to turn the continent into a third Weltmacht to compete with America and China. While the Common Market and then European Union created an economic colossus, leading European politicians wanted more.

The Euroelite frustration was palpable. For years the EU talked about forging a united foreign policy separate from that of America. Plans were advanced for European military planning and multinational units.

These efforts came to naught...

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