

A Few minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

Weapons of mass destructions

In past MAP *Rap Sheets*, I have written columns where I highlighted incidents (as reported by the press) of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

We as a country make policies that border on the absurd, the stupid, and the downright—“you’ve got to be sh**ing me!” I’ve written about children, and I mean children getting suspended for bringing a GI Joe doll with a 3 inch plastic rifle to school. A Federal TA security fellow stopping a flyer from boarding a plane until he “ate” his mini-chocolate handgun. There are others, but you get the point. So most of the time, I just roll my eyes and go on to other stuff that is equally stupid but affects us as police officers on a personal level.

But this news report of June 19th and June 20th got to me. Eight-year-old David Morales, from Coventry, RI, was given an assignment at his elementary school, where he was supposed to make a hat with a patriotic theme. So little David did. The photo shows a baseball cap fronted with an American flag and glued on toy soldiers. The Coventry school superintendent/district subsequently banned the hat because it displayed a toy soldier with a tiny gun. Sort of like soldiers you see on the Pixar Toy Story movies. As a matter of fact, I think some of these guys, after completing the movie, came over to David’s house to help out with his assignment and volunteered to be on his hat!

The school has a zero tolerance, no gun policy, so these super intelligent educators, teachers, and board members cannot tell the difference between a real rifle, and a one-half inch plastic toy that looks like a rifle.

Afterwards, a Lt. General, retired from the National Guard, got involved and praised little David for recognizing veterans and soldiers with his assignment. He indicated that little David depicted the soldier properly after the school objected to the guns and suggested that David illustrate something else besides guns. He said soldiers carry guns and fight in wars and protect America. That is why they call them *soldiers*.”

Well said, sir! Well done, David! The school district, looking the nincompoops that many are becoming with “zero tolerance” and their “Little Miss Tuffet” reaction to guns, now are going to meet and work to change the policy to allow such apparel. They don’t want to limit students’ expressions, especially when depicting military or police. So now maybe even 2 inch plastic molded bayonets will be okay.

Okay, fine, but while they are changing policy, they should look for their collective form of common sense, because they seem to have lost it!

Vita é bella

Next time we will get back to our pension discussion.

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