

Wednesday, December 13, 2006

# The San Juan Star <sup>50¢</sup>

THE ONLY PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING PUBLICATION IN PUERTO RICO

47<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

# The San Juan Star Viewpoint

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## Readers' Viewpoint

### 'Tis the beginning of the end

A pack of big bad wolves huff and puff on all sides yet most within this enchanted island remain cozily tucked into their private personal lairs, oblivious to the grave danger their homeland faces and the high possibility that it may soon be cast adrift into a sea of savage predators.

Recent editions of The STAR present clearly and graphically the exact eye of the storm that could drive the future of Puerto Rico. It is high time that statehooders take note of the forces at play, junk their impossible dream, and join other genuine statesmen in a coalition designed to provide united defense for the values cherished by most people on this island.

The pro-independence brush fire that has simmered for years now grows stronger thanks to years of poor judgment by Washington and the strong left-leaning forces

at play in all of Latin America. Come January, the winds of change brought about by the voters' repudiation of Bush policies could propel congressional decisions down a path like when they backed Jimmy Carter in walking away from the Panama Canal.

President Bush and the entire executive branch have proven repeatedly that they maintain Puerto Rico at the very bottom of their agenda. With the rising tide of worldwide discontent creeping ever steadily up over his nostrils, plus his need to work toward a Republican comeback in 2008, Bush may well choose to look the other way in the hope that the big bad wolves blow this lovely enchanted island far out of sight and mind.

**William Butler Salazar Santurce**