

Crossing The Line

THE United States government has finally crossed the line with their on-going misadventure in Iraq. America's decision - backed by the United Kingdom, to attack Iraq, is a serious miscalculation that many people agree is bound to destabilise and bring chaos to the Middle East region while making our world a very dangerous place to live in.

It is now very evident that the current invasion of Iraq is a self-fulfilling policy for the USA and the UK. Diplomacy never had a chance to begin with, regardless of whether Saddam Hussein disarmed or did not disarm; irrespective of whether Iraq did or did not possess weapons of mass destruction.

It is also clear that the naked aggression against Iraq is motivated more by American thirst for oil, geopolitical power play and revenge than by a genuine desire to free the Iraqis. Iraqi citizens are - contrary to expectations - resisting the invasion, which is testimony to the fact that they would rather live under the tyranny of Saddam than under a foreign invader or infidel.

The "coalition of the willing" has been unsuccessful in its attempts to hoodwink the world community. Having failed miserably in its attempts to intimidate and blackmail the majority of the Security Council into rubber-stamping a resolution that would have legalised its fait-accompli decision to invade a sovereign country, the US and UK nonetheless decided that the overwhelming opinion of the majority of the world is irrelevant and

that only they knew better what is best for Iraq, for the Middle East and for the World at large. It is this type of arrogance that makes the United States and its citizens disliked in most countries the world over, and George Bush the greatest villain that ever sat in the Oval Office. It is true that currently his popularity ratings are at their peak in the US, but that is due to the fact that most US citizens are still traumatised by September 11, and are blinded by their craving for revenge.

The overthrow of the Taliban in Afghanistan was never enough to quench the American thirst for blood. Only the delivery of Osama Bin Laden's head on a platter

would have appeased them. To detract from his failure to capture Bin Laden and neutralise Al Qaeda, Bush sought to redirect his frustration against Iraq and refocus attention on Saddam Hussein.

The Americans and British had already deployed close to two hundred thousand troops and a deadly military arsenal around the Gulf before the debate on disarming Iraq out and is about to be shot in the back. Meanwhile, the US has the audacity to complain about violations of the rules of war. What are the Iraqi people expected to do when they are pushed to the wall? What is a man do if his house is invaded by someone who wants to rape his wife and daughters? Clearly the Iraqi people should be expected to do whatever it takes to defend their territorial integrity, their culture, and their pride.

ons of mass destruction is a self-fulfilling prophecy. Some call it a crusade.

It is sad that United Nations sanctions were used to disarm, starve and weaken a country. Now that Iraq is defenceless, they are being bombed to the carpet while their hands are tied behind their back. It's like a cowboy shoot-out, except that one party has a loaded gun that is already drawn while the other has his bullets taken out and is about to be shot in the back. Meanwhile, the US has the audacity to complain about violations of the rules of war. What are the Iraqi people expected to do when they are pushed to the wall? What is a man do if his house is invaded by someone who wants to rape his wife and daughters? Clearly the Iraqi people should be expected to do whatever it takes to defend their territorial integrity, their culture, and their pride.

No sooner had the attack started did we witness a frenzy by coalition forces to secure Iraqi oil fields. We are told contracts have already been awarded to companies based in Texas. Even the UK media which is pro-war on Iraq is complaining about this aspect. We are told a trust fund for the proceeds from the oil will be set up under the auspices of the United Nations. But this writer is very skeptical about this other attempt to blindfold the world. The rationale behind the war is written on the wall. It is common

knowledge that the Bush family in Texas made their money from oil. It is no secret that the Bushes were catapulted into the White House by money from oil moguls and a Supreme Court appointed by conservatives. The majority of his cabinet was made up of oil company executives.

It is therefore no surprise that American foreign policy is driven by oil. It is alleged that countries like Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria are now suddenly atop the list of countries that are of strategic importance to the United States Government because of their oil wealth. Almost a decade ago the US closed its embassy in Equatorial Guinea because of alleged human rights abuses, but after oil was discovered in that country, they are suddenly now in the process of building the grandest embassy there and it is business as usual. Why the focus on African oil reserves? The Arab world presents the US with great uncertainty. And there are now lots of question marks about Saudi Arabia's loyalty to the United States. Establishing a puppet government in Iraq would ease the pressure. Oil fuels the American economy. The USA is uncompetitive and the Europeans are kicking their rear end. So whom are the Americans trying to fool? It's all about the oil! Even Mandela - who obviously has nothing to lose and needs nothing from any-

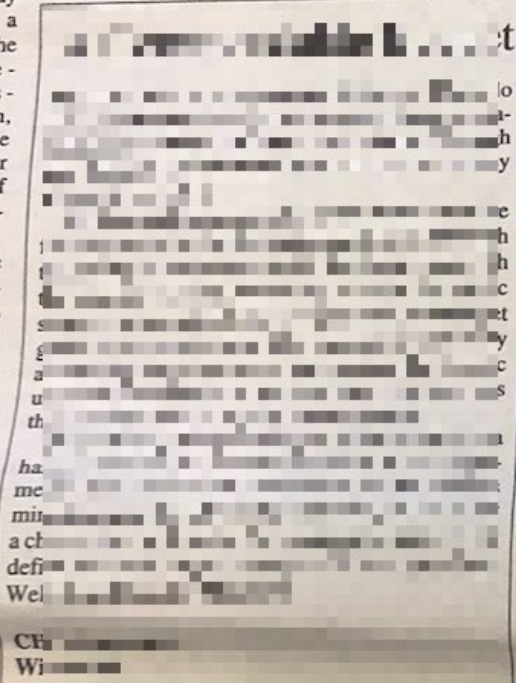
body - had the balls of steel to point that out.

Perhaps the USA will successfully carry out their piracy in Iraq. They might win the battle in that country but will they win the war? What about the war on terrorism? Even if they survive the war in Iraq, will they survive the peace? It is sad that Americans believe they can win the hearts and minds of Iraqi people by lighting up the skies of Baghdad with deadly spectacular fireworks and by pulverising that country into a one giant parking lot. And then they delude themselves into thinking that the Iraqis would welcome them as liberators - with flowers, singing and dancing. Iraq was once a wealthy country capable of feeding itself. Now they are told they can only have food and water if they rise up against their leader. That is an insult to the pride of the Iraqi people and to the Arab world at large.

The US government is clearly intoxicated by their delusions of grandeur and power. They think they can command respect by bullying everybody and beating small countries to a pulp. Their hands are bloodied all the way from Japan (Hiroshima and Nagasaki), Grenada, Cuba, DRC, Angola, Panama, Vietnam, Korea, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and now, once more, in Iraq. When will this madness stop?

Stop The Madness Windhoek

Note: Real name and address provided. Writer wants anonymity because he is a Government employee. - Ed



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