

# It Often Needs Force To Remove Evil

The Namibian recently ran an editorial, "Bush's Time Running Out?" I'd like to make a couple of comments concerning this article.

It is naive at best to think that a new, Democratic administration in America would "spur on ... a new and more positive turn towards a more peaceful world?"

Much press is rightly given to the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington DC, but those were hardly the only terrorist attacks against American interests (or on American soil for that matter) up to that point in time. In fact, throughout the former Clinton (Democratic) administration, terrorist attacks on American interests had been relatively frequent, and even a prior one at the World Trade Centers had occurred. In a word, it is "silly" to assume that things would get better just by changing parties in the White House.

In fact, terrorist attacks on American interests have decreased dramatically during the present Bush administration, and it seems clear now in retrospect that under the former Democratic administration, matters were much, much worse. In other words, the "war on terror" is actually working.

Further, as in-depth investigations occur even now in America, it is becoming apparent that the problems started long before the current Bush took office. For starters, the 9/11 attacks were planned and developed during Clinton's administration, as it took the terrorists years to work out their evil intentions.

As regards "world peace," often it seems that those who criticize the Bush administration for going into Afghanistan and Iraq have short-term memory loss. As history has made painfully obvious, often "world peace" can only come through force, through wars where innocent lives are lost. Often we praise countries for their independence struggles with virtually little comment on the innocent lives lost during those times as well.

The Palestinians, for example, have made a living off bombing innocents in malls and on buses, but we have become so accustomed to these tactics that we rarely bat an eye anymore. But when Israel decides to eliminate the terrorist leader of the terrorist organization Hamas, all hell breaks loose!

How soon we forget that Saddam Hussein was killing thousands of his own people each and every year he was in office, if not tens of thousands at certain times during his cruel and terrible reign (such as in his attempts at mass genocide of the Kurds). But those who advocate

"world peace" would have us just sit by and idly watch such a dictator, rather than actually do something about it.

And here's the ultimate hypocrisy of those same people. When the Americans do not act, like in the case of Rwanda, they are labeled "criminally responsible" for the atrocities there. But when they do act, as in the case of Hussein's Iraq, they are called disturbers of world peace and even labeled as "terrorists" themselves.

Sometimes, the only way to work toward world peace is to eliminate the dictators and terrorists who are constantly disturbing it, and that more often than not involves force. Are those who are calling for a new administration in

America - and wishfully thinking that one will bring about "world peace" - also asking us to negotiate with Osama bin Laden and other terrorists?

How quickly we forget the lessons of Hitler and Stalin! While we sat "negotiating" with Hitler, he took half of Europe. And while we sat year after year, waiting for Saddam to conform to United Nations demands, he tortured and executed thousands of his own people.

You can never negotiate with terrorists or evil men bent only on perpetuating their evil regimes. Often, the only way for good to prevail is for the forceful removal of evil.

Often, it seems that those people calling for

"world peace" are the same people so ready to cave into the demands of the terrorists! Well, I for one do not believe that the phrases "world peace" and "allowing terrorists to create fear and terror throughout the world unabated" can go hand in hand. Those who believe that having Saddam still in power in Iraq would make for better "world peace" are coldly and selfishly closing their eyes to the atrocities therein. World peace was fostered by the ousting of the Taliban and Saddam, not damaged by it! To say that Afghanistan and Iraq were better off in their prior regimes is tantamount to saying Namibia was better off under Apartheid than under SWAPO. That would be

ludicrous! The end of the Apartheid regime required force to do it, as our President Nujoma made clear during the Independence struggle. Why on earth do we believe that it should be different elsewhere?

Often, the long-term desire for "world peace" necessarily involves the temporary disruption of that same peace. Short-term losses result in long-term gains, as the history of World War II made painfully obvious. Where would Germany and Japan be today if Hitler and Tojo had been allowed to remain in power?

As we recently remembered the anniversary of the attempted German extermination of the Herero people in Namibia, why on earth do we think more

lightly of Saddam's attempted extermination of the Kurds? We should no more mourn the removal of Saddam than we should of Hitler or the Taliban or Apartheid.

Everyone will agree that Namibia's Independence didn't come soon enough, and that if we could have gained our Independence from the Apartheid regime before 1990, we would have gladly done so. But when it comes to Saddam's regime, we were quite happy to negotiate and negotiate and negotiate, while each and every day innocent people were tortured and killed under his regime. It is a sad fact of history that when it comes to our own struggles, we want the freedom to come immediately, but when it

comes to the struggles of others, we have infinite patience to negotiate.

Those who naively believe that words alone can remove dictators are ignorant of history, and in the case of Namibians who believe this, ignorant of their own history. Do you think the Apartheid regime was removed by words alone?

Often, evil regimes can only be removed by force, and whether American-haters like it or not, it is American might that more times than not has come to the rescue of those people otherwise powerless to remove the evil regime holding them in captivity and enslavement.

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