

## Run-in With Iran?

*America's current global predominance is unlikely to be replicated by any single state. Thus, the key question of the future is "What will America bequeath to the world as the enduring legacy of its primacy?"*

—*The Grand Chessboard* by Zbigniew Brzezinski, 1995

Do any of us really doubt that U.S. forces will eventually invade Iran?

Recently our government's rhetoric gives the impression that if Iran abandons its nuclear program and turns from its nefarious ventures, a confrontation between the Middle East state and the U.S. can be avoided.

Myriad times our government sounded the same warnings to Iraq—a nation who posed no threat to the U.S.—but, somehow, Iraq couldn't satisfy our demands.

The *piece de resistance*—if you will think back—was then-Secretary of State Colin Powell's Power-Point presentation in the United Nations that proved Iraq did indeed possess weapons of mass destruction.

And now, as we know, Iraq didn't have squat.

With regard to that embarrassing U.N. show-and-tell, the British newspaper *Observer*—by way of writing an advance about British Broadcasting Company's James Naughtie's forthcoming book, *The Accidental American: Tony Blair and the Presidency*—reported that "Powell described neo-conservatives in the Bush administration as 'f---ing crazies' during the build-up to war in Iraq. . . .

"The 'crazies' are said to be Vice-President Dick Cheney, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and his deputy, Paul Wolfowitz. . . .

"Cheney and his allies were preparing for a spring war and did not wish to be deflected by the U.N. inspection process. Powell is thought to have been terrified that the strategy of the 'crazies' would alienate the Blair government, which believed it needed U.N. backing to win over Parliament and the British public."

Well, the U.S., U.K., and whoever our allies are these days did not receive a U.N. sanction to invade Iraq, and all these nations, technically, can be considered belligerents, which, according to the U.N. Charter, may be attacked by U.N. global forces.

Things are also not going well for us, either, in some of the former Soviet Republics we set up shop in, most notably Uzbekistan.

According to *The Washington Post*: "The government of President Islam Karimov, one of the most authoritarian to emerge from the collapse of the Soviet Union, has made a broader strategic decision to move away from the 2002 agreement made with President Bush . . . and is cooling relations with Europe as well.

"As tensions deepen, Karimov is shifting his strategic alliance toward Russia and China."

And this is where it gets dicey.

Russia and China have shown a predisposition to back Iran, while relegating their respective relationships with Israel to the ice box.

As reported by *WorldNetDaily* in July 2004, "Israel has conducted military exercises for a pre-emptive strike against several of Iran's nuclear power facilities and is ready to attack if Russia supplies Iran with rods for enriching uranium.

“An Israeli defense source in Tel Aviv told the *London Sunday Times*, which first published the story, that ‘Israel will on no account permit Iranian reactors—especially the one being built in Bushehr with Russian help—to go critical.’”

However, this past June, *Al Jazeera* quoted a senior Iranian atomic energy official as affirming that the “first delivery of Russian nuclear fuel for Iran’s first nuclear power reactor in the southwestern Iranian city of Bushehr will take place within months.

“‘The fuel is in Russia and ready to be transported, and it will be delivered soon, but the exact date will remain confidential,’ the official said. Asked when the fuel will arrive in Iran, he replied: ‘God willing, in a few months!’

“Iran and Russia signed a landmark fuel accord earlier this year, paving the way for the firing up of the station in southern Iran, a project the United States claims is being used as a guise for weapons development.”

In attempt to substantiate those claims, the U.S. has sent a message—obliquely meant for Russia—that “no government should permit new nuclear transfers to Iran, and all ongoing nuclear projects should be frozen.”

*Reuters* reported earlier this week that Iran threatened to retaliate if the U.S. did not cease its demand for a termination of Iran’s nuclear program.

*Reuters* quoted Ali Larijani, secretary-general of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council, as stating: “If pressured by America, Iran will use its full might to endanger America’s interests.”

Since Russian President Vladimir Putin has stated that his country will defend Iran both diplomatically and militarily, and given that China—which has recently conducted several war games with Russia—would most likely step in on the side of Russian and Iran, is the world now witnessing a nightmarish square-off between the Eurasian super powers and an alliance of the U.S., U.K., and Israel?

This precarious scenario might not seem as imminent if it were not for the book written by Zbigniew Brzezinski in 1995.

In *The Grand Chessboard*, Brzezinski warns:

“A coalition allying Russia with both China and Iran can develop only if the United States is shortsighted enough to antagonize China and Iran simultaneously. To be sure, that eventuality cannot be excluded, and American conduct in 1995-1996 almost seemed consistent with the notion that the United States was seeking an antagonistic relationship with both Teheran and Beijing.”

“In addition, it is not in America’s interest to perpetuate American-Iranian hostility. Any eventual reconciliation should be based on the recognition of a mutual strategic interest in stabilizing what currently is a very volatile regional environment for Iran.”

Members of our government are seeking empire, envisioning if you will a Fourth Reich that will dominate the globe. This incursion into the Middle East is not about fighting terrorism. It’s not about making us freer at home. (If anything, we are less free now than ever before.) It’s about taking possession of a region known as *The Chessboard* or, in days gone by, *World Island*, which is the pivot point that any superpower must control if it wishes to rule over the most populous and resource-laden landmass in the world.

Is this a worthy pursuit for a nation such as ours that supposedly prizes representative forms of government and individual liberties?

I don’t know about you, but I don’t want to belong to an empire. Wasn’t the reason colonists picked a fight with Great Britain nearly 300 years ago?

Ultimately, aggression into Iran will prove to be Custer's Last Mistake. This incursion will bog down our military in an even bigger killing field, and though it may take two to three years to reach this point, when Russia and China perceive that our forces are punched out, have been strung out too far, and drawn in too deeply, the kings of the corners of the Earth will step in to trigger a Third World War and bring an end to America.

Can't happen to us, eh?

That's what a whole bunch of Germans thought only 60 years ago.

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