
Here is the link to all the newsletters archived in the OMNI web site.


STOP BUSINESS AS USUAL: STOP THE ATTACK ON IRAN

Contents of #11 (October 8, 2011)

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[CLW] Don’t Wait for the Bombs to Drop!
[We can do nothing greater for peace than to try to stop threatening
of war and a war of aggression and its mass killings in violation of
the UN Charter, a treaty therefore the law. Dick]
John Isaacs, Council for a Livable World advocacy@clw.org via
uark.edu  [Dick: CLW is an old and noble peace org.]

to Dick from advocacy@clw.org
January 31, 2012
Dear Dick,
With a second aircraft carrier group steaming toward the Persian
Gulf, tens of thousands of U.S. troops stationed throughout the
region, and unrest in many neighboring countries, it seems that war
with Iran could be imminent.
But we won't wait for the bombs to drop to make our voices heard.
Over the next few weeks, we want to generate thousands of signatures
to counter the war drums. Then we will deliver our petitions to the
White House.
Please take a moment to sign Council for a Livable World’s petition
calling on the President to use all means at his disposal to prevent
a military strike on Iran - by either the U.S. or Israel.
http://livableworld.org/action/petitions/petition_to_prevent_war_with
_iran_2012/
We know we can have an impact on the President's efforts to prevent a
possible attack by Israel if we act right away.
Last year, we launched a similar campaign in April to pressure the
Obama administration to announce significant troop withdrawals from
Afghanistan in July.
By the end of June, twenty-seven U.S. Senators signed a letter to the
President calling for sizable and sustained reductions in troop
levels. By November, a crucial voice vote showed a majority of
Senators in favor of a speedier timeline for the withdrawal of all US
troops.
Please help us repeat this success! Sign our petition to prevent a
war with Iran that would surely have terrible consequences.
We need to take a stand against any military strike on Iran to
counter calls from the extreme right to make war. We are already
seeing Republican Presidential candidates stumbling over each other
to prove they are more willing to use military force than their
opponents and neo-conservatives wanting to repeat their "success" in
Iraq.
You would hope our 'leaders' have learned their lesson. The
unintended consequences that plagued the U.S. military in Iraq and
Afghanistan are surely at play with regard to Iran. The Obama
administration has shown patience in its search for a diplomatic
resolution to the crisis over Iran's alleged nuclear weapons program,
but at the moment tensions run high.
We can't afford to wait. Please sign our petition to prevent war
with Iran today, and get your friends on board as well. We really
can make a difference by acting before the crisis escalates out of
control.
Thank you for your help, and please forward this appeal to your friends.

Action: Urge Obama: In Iran Diplomacy, Go for a Feasible Deal Now, JustForeignPolicy, Jan. 30, 2012
Few have hope that a diplomatic deal that would resolve all outstanding issues between the U.S. and Iran is politically feasible within the six month timeline envisioned by the sanctions passed by Congress, especially given that this is an election year. But a deal that would lower tensions and put off the most extreme sanctions may be possible. Urge President Obama to pursue an interim deal to ease tensions with Iran.
http://www.justforeignpolicy.org/act/20percentdeal

Tom Engelhardt | “Iranian Aircraft Carriers in the Gulf of Mexico” by Tom Engelhardt, Op-Ed, NationofChange, Jan. 30, 2012: “Okay, so I made that up. Sue me. But first admit that, a line or two in, you knew it was fiction. After all, despite the talk about American decline, we are still on a one-way imperial planet. Yes, there is a new U.S. special operations team known as Joint Special Operations Task Force-Gulf Cooperation Council, or JSOTF-GCC, at work near Iran and, according to Wired magazine’s Danger Room blog, we really don’t quite know what it’s tasked with doing (other than helping train the forces of such allies as Bahrain and Saudi Arabia).” READ | DISCUSS | SHARE
http://www.nationofchange.org/iranian-aircraft-carriers-gulf-mexico-132793496

RT: US and Iran on a collision course?
Just Foreign Policy talks to RT about the hype around Iran's nuclear program, the danger of war, and the prospects for a diplomatic solution.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uP34PuQxI8

Christian Science Monitor: Imminent Iran nuclear threat? A timeline of warnings since 1979
Breathless predictions that the Islamic Republic will soon be at the brink of nuclear capability, or - worse - acquire an actual nuclear bomb, are not new. For more than quarter of a century Western
officials have claimed repeatedly that Iran is close to joining the nuclear club. Such a result is always declared "unacceptable" and a possible reason for military action, with "all options on the table" to prevent upsetting the Mideast strategic balance dominated by the US and Israel. And yet, those predictions have time and again come and gone. This chronicle of past predictions lends historical perspective to today's rhetoric about Iran.  

Ray McGovern & Elizabeth Murray: Steps to preventing war with Iran
Former intelligence officers McGovern and Murray propose concrete measures the Administration could take to prevent war with Iran:
- Make public a declassified version of the key judgments of the latest National Intelligence Estimate on Iran's nuclear program.
- Improve communication between US navy and Iranian navy.
- Make clear that the US will not support an Israeli military attack on Iran, in particular, that the US will help protect Iraqi airspace from Israeli planes.  
http://consortiumnews.com/2011/12/30/urging-obama-to-stop-rush-to-iran-war/

Occupy AIPAC
March 2-6, 2012 | Washington, DC
www.occupyaipac.org
“The time has come for the Occupy Movement to Occupy AIPAC.” - Adbusters
January 12, 2012
Dear Dick,
The pro-Israeli government lobby AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) is gunning for a war with Iran—just like they pushed us into the catastrophic war in Iraq. And their manipulation of our political process destroys the possibility of a just peace for Palestinians and Israelis. Join us March 2-6 in Washington, DC as we Occupy AIPAC during their annual policy conference. We’ll have a Summit on Iran, Palestine and the Arab Uprisings, as well as workshops, cultural performances, film showings, protests and creative direct actions. Register now.
And there’s another way you can call for peace with Iran. Help us take out a full-page ad in the influential DC newspaper—The Hill. We’ll send a clear message to Congress that AIPAC does not represent the majority of Americans who won’t want another war in the Middle East. If you can donate $100 or more, we’ll include your name in the
Now is the time to make a large, people-powered push to show our opposition to the stranglehold the Israel lobby continues to hold over our government. In this new year, let's make sure the US doesn't launch into a new war!
Say no to AIPAC. Say no to war with Iran. Say no to Israeli occupation. Speak out for peace and justice.
Onward for justice,
Alli, Farida, Gayle, Janet, Jodie, Kendra, Kristen, Lisa, Melanie, Nancy, Medea, Rae, Sanaa, Sharon, and Tighe
PS: Register today for the Occupy AIPAC summit and be part of history in the making!

4th Nuclear Scientist Assassinated

Excerpt: "The attack - which instantly killed the scientist and fatally wounded his driver on Wednesday - was at least the fourth targeted hit against a member of Iran's nuclear brain trust in two years. Tehran quickly blamed Israeli-linked agents backed by the U.S. and Britain."


Iran, West say ready to resume nuclear talks
Robin Pomeroy, Reuters, Thu, Jan 5 2012

http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/05/us-iran-turkey-ministers-idUSTRE8041NJ20120105

Tehran - Turkey has delivered a Western offer to Tehran to renew negotiations over its nuclear programme, Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said on Thursday, expressing hope talks stalled a year ago could soon be revived.

As new sanctions from the United States and the European Union added pressure on the Iranian economy, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi said Tehran was also interested in
returning to the negotiating table.

Obama Seeks to Distance US From an Israeli War on Iran

Gareth Porter, Inter Press Service, RSN, January 4, 2012

Intro: "President Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are engaged in intense maneuvering over Netanyahu's aim of entangling the United States in an Israeli war against Iran."

READ MORE  http://www.readerssupportednews.org/news-section2/332-141/7917-obama-seeks-to-distance-us-from-an-israeli-war-on-iran

MEDIA

Judy Miller Alert! The *New York Times* Misleads About Iran's Nuclear Program

It's deja vu all over again. AIPAC is trying to trick America into another catastrophic war with a Middle Eastern country on behalf of the Likud Party's colonial ambitions, and the *New York Times* is misleading its readers about allegations that said country is developing "weapons of mass destruction."

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/robert-naiman/ny-times-iran_b_1189407.html

FAIR: NYT Misleads Readers on Iran Crisis

Paper disappears some inaccurate reporting


ACTION:

Contact the *New York Times* and ask it to investigate and explain the editing of the January 5 front-page article, and to correct both misleading assertions about Iran and nuclear weapons.

Contact:

Public Editor Arthur Brisbane, Email: public@nytimes.com, Shift in the *New York Times* reporting on Iran's nuclear program?

Compare:
"Western politicians believe Iran is building a nuclear
wepons *capability*, but the government in Tehran insists that its nuclear program is for civilian uses only.

to:
"Israel and the United States both say that Iran is pursuing the building of nuclear *weapons* - an assertion denied by Tehran - but they have had differing views on how aggressive the pursuit has been and what should be done about it."

We will continue to monitor. Thanks to everyone who has written in to the Times to complain about its coverage of Iran's nuclear program.

Phone: 212-556-7652

Shift in the New York Times reporting on Iran's nuclear program?
Compare:
"Western politicians believe Iran is building a nuclear weapons *capability*, but the government in Tehran insists that its nuclear program is for civilian uses only."

to:
"Israel and the United States both say that Iran is pursuing the building of nuclear *weapons* - an assertion denied by Tehran - but they have had differing views on how aggressive the pursuit has been and what should be done about it."
http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/20/world/middleeast/top-
We will continue to monitor. Thanks to everyone who has written in to the Times to complain about its coverage of Iran's nuclear program.

“Tell PBS, NPR: No proof Iran has a nuclear weapons program”

Dear Dick,

Tell PBS and NPR to correct their misleading reporting on the known status of Iran's nuclear program.

Take Action Public-financed media PBS and NPR have recently promoted as if they were known fact claims that Iran has a nuclear weapons program, even though no proof has been advanced that Iran has a nuclear weapons program. [1] Even Defense Secretary Panetta says, "Are they trying to develop a nuclear weapon? No." [2]

Will you join us in calling on PBS and NPR to correct their reporting? You can write to them here:

http://www.justforeignpolicy.org/act/misleadingoniran

As Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting has noted, on Monday, PBS NewsHour deceptively edited Panetta's comments on Sunday's Face the Nation to exclude his statement that Iran is not trying to develop a nuclear weapon. NewsHour then used his comments to try to suggest the opposite: that Iran is pursuing a nuclear weapon. [3]

On NPR's Weekend Edition Sunday, reporter Tom Gjelten said, "The goal for the U.S. and its allies … [is] to convince Iran to give up a nuclear weapons program," thereby implying that Iran already has a nuclear weapons program, which is not a known fact. [4]

assessment by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Iran’s nuclear program has a military objective," and he wrote that the New York Times should run a correction. [7]

Help us add NPR and PBS to this list. Urge them to correct their reporting on Iran's nuclear program.

http://www.justforeignpolicy.org/act/misleadingoniran

Thank you for all you do to help bring about a more just foreign policy,

Robert Naiman, Sarah Burns, Chelsea Mozen and Megan Iorio

Just Foreign Policy

References:


Al Jazeera Video: Iran War Scenario
Al Jazeera mini-documentary asks the question: what would a war with Iran actually be like?
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJzHVVGc0&

JFP video: “The Folly of Attacking Iran: Lessons from History

Remember this? It's still true. Let's spread it around again.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJRcOF7rEfQ

The following articles came from Historians Against War

"Iran and Historical Forgetting"
http://www.counterpunch.org/2012/01/03/iran-and-historical-forgetting
By John Grant, CounterPunch.org, posted January 3

"Debacle: How Two Wars in the Greater Middle East Revealed the Weakness of the Global Superpower"
http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/175484
By Tom Engelhardt, TomDispatch.com, posted January 3

"Will His New Sanctions on Iran Cost Obama the Presidency?"
http://www.juancole.com/2012/01/will-his-new-sanctions-on-iran-cost-obama-the-presidency.html
By Juan Cole, Informed Comment blog, posted January 3
The author teaches history at the University of Michigan

"The United States as a Global Power: New World Disorder"
http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/dec/28/us-global-power-new-world-disorder
Editorial in The Guardian, posted December 29
"Prospects for Peace on Earth"

http://warisacrime.org/content/prospects-peace-earth

By David Swanson, War Is a Crime.org, posted December 22

FOR FOLLOWING USE MY LTE ON PEARL HARBOR PROVOKED

“Can Iran Close The Strait Of Hormuz?”  Mark Thompson, Time, December 28, 2011  Just Foreign Policy, 12-29-11


Since it doesn't have nuclear weapons yet, Iran is playing the lone trump card in its hand: threatening to shut down the Strait of Hormuz through which Persian Gulf oil flows to fuel much of the world's economy. Iranian navy chief Admiral Habibollah Sayyari told state television Wednesday that it would be "very easy" for his forces to shut down the chokepoint. "Iran has comprehensive control over the strategic waterway," he said as his vessels continued a 10-day exercise near the strait. But just how good a trump card is it?

"Iran has constructed a navy with considerable asymmetric and other capabilities designed specifically to be used in an integrated way to conduct area denial operations in the Persian Gulf and SoH, and they routinely exercise these capabilities and issue statements of intent to use them," Jonathan Schroden writes in a recent report for the Pentagon-funded Center for Naval Analyses. "This combination of capabilities and expressed intent does present a credible threat to international shipping in the Strait."

Not so fast, other experts maintain. "We believe that we would be able to maintain the strait," Marine General James Cartwright, then-vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told Congress last year. "But it would be a question of time and impact and the implications from a global standpoint on the flow of energy, et cetera, [that] would have ramifications probably beyond the military actions that would go on."

[...]

Of course, brandishing a threat and carrying it out are two different things. "By presuming that Iran can easily close the strait, Western diplomats concede leverage, and the current U.S. habit of reacting immediately and aggressively to Iranian provocations risks unnecessary
escalation," Eugene Gholz, a professor at the University of Texas, wrote in Foreign Policy in 2009. "Iran would find it so difficult, if not impossible, to close the strait that the world can afford to relax from its current hair-trigger alert."

Most U.S. military thinkers, speaking privately, seem to agree. There are two linked issues at play here: military and monetary. While it might be challenging for the Iranian navy to shut down commerce flowing through the strait, Iranian moves to carry out that threat could have much the same effect. Oil companies, and the shippers that transport their product by water, are conservative business types, not given to putting their costly tankers and crews in harm's way. But they'd get over it pretty quickly, and commerce would resume, with higher insurance rates.

One point worth noting: analyses of possible Iranian military action to plug the strait generally note that Iran gets about half of its national budget from oil exports that transit the strait. But if the next round of sanctions keeps Iranian oil off the world market, that brake on Iranian military action will be gone.

Iran has been practicing such saber-rattling for decades, and it always sends a nervous twitch through the world oil markets, spiking prices upward. It has done so this week, and oil's per-barrel price has flirted with the $100 mark. That's a drag on the world economic powers seeking to punish Iran for its nuclear-development efforts, and Tehran plainly views it as a net-positive for itself. That's especially true in the year leading up to a U.S. presidential election, where the incumbent is seeking a second term.

About a fifth of the world's oil flows through the strait, which is only 34 miles wide at its narrowest point.

[...] U.S. Navy Commander Rodney Mills examined the military implications of an Iranian move to shut the strait in a 2008 study at the Naval War College. His bottom line:
"There is consensus among the analysts that the U.S. military would ultimately prevail over Iranian forces if Iran sought to close the strait. The various scenarios and assumptions used in the analyses produce a range of potential timelines for this action, from the optimistic assessment that the straits would be open in a few days to the more pessimistic assessment that it would take five weeks to three months to restore the full flow of maritime traffic."

But fighting an Iranian effort to close the strait may not be easy. Iran in recent years has acquired "thousands of sea mines, wake homing torpedoes, hundreds of advanced cruise missiles and possibly more than one thousand small Fast Attack Craft and Fast Inshore Attack Craft," U.S. Navy Commander Daniel Dolan wrote in a report last year at the Naval War College.

[...]

But Mills sees all the Iranian rhetoric and war gaming as little more than Persian saber rattling. "Iran gains more from the existence of their threat," he concludes, "than they would by actually carrying it out."

U.S. GOP presidential hopefuls attack Ron Paul for objection to Iran nuclear strike

Rick Perry: You don't have to vote for a candidate who will allow Iran to have a nuclear weapon to wipe Israel off the face of the earth.

AP/Haaretz, 19:00 28.12.11

Republican presidential contenders Mitt Romney and Rick Perry on Wednesday assailed Ron Paul for saying the U.S. has no business bombing Iran to keep it from acquiring a nuclear weapon, drawing a sharp contrast with their rising rival as he returned to Iowa days before the lead-off caucuses.

"One of the people running for president thinks it's okay for Iran to have a nuclear weapon,"
Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, said in this eastern Iowa city in response to a question from the audience. "I don't."

It was the first time that Romney has challenged Paul directly since the Texas congressman jumped in polls. Neither he nor Perry, the Texas governor, named Paul, but the target was clear.

"You don't have to vote for a candidate who will allow Iran to have a nuclear weapon to wipe Israel off the face of the earth. Because America will be next," Perry said in Urbandale, reiterating a line of argument from a day earlier. "I'm here to say: You have a choice," Perry added.

[...]

Peter Hart. "On Iran, an Unsmoking Nongun." *Extra!* (January 2012). Corporate media distorted the Nov. 2011 UN report on Iran’s nuclear program to make it seem that Iran was working on a nuclear weapon.

Writing for Foreign Policy against Matthew Kroenig's call for attacking Iran, Stephen Walt mocks the "classic blueprint" for justifying a preventive war: exaggerate the dangers of inaction, overstate the benefits of war, and understate the costs and risks of employing force. Walt notes that the US intelligence agencies' conclusion that Iran has not yet decided to build a nuclear weapon has not changed; that no plausible evidence has been advanced to support Kroenig's story that possessing a nuclear weapon would allow Iran to push the US around; that there is no reason to believe that containment would be more expensive than war; that Kroenig's story requires belief that Iran will behave in an extreme way if it is not attacked, but be docile and rational if it is. MORE

Why attacking Iran is still a bad idea, Stephen M. Walt, Foreign Policy, Tuesday, December 27, 2011

http://walt.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2011/12/27/why_attacking_iran_is_still_a_bad_idea

[This piece was in response to: "Time to Attack Iran: Why a Strike is the Least Bad Option,"
http://walt.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2011/12/21/the_worst_case_for_war_with_iran]

War With Iran May Already Have Begun

Excerpt: "Asked whether the United States, in cooperation with Israel, was now engaged in a covert war against Iran's nuclear program that may include the Stuxnet virus, the blowing-up of facilities and the assassination or kidnapping of scientists, one recently retired U.S. official privy to up-to-date intelligence would not deny it."

READ MORE http://readersupportednews.org/opinion2/289-134/8757-war-with-iran-may-already-have-begun

Update: *Washington Post* Fixes Headline That Claimed Iran Has a Nuclear Weapons Program

Nearly a thousand people responded to our alert asking people to contact the *Washington Post* Ombudsman to complain about a *Washington Post* headline that claimed as fact that Iran has a nuclear weapons program. You can see the original screen capture on our alert: http://www.justforeignpolicy.org/act/wapofactcheck

The Washington Post Ombudsman investigated our complaint, and the headline has been fixed. It now says, "Iran's quest to possess nuclear technology." Thanks to everyone who took action! You can see the new headline here:


Dominic Tierney: “Prepare for War: The Insane Plan to Outlaw Diplomacy with Iran

Writing in the *Atlantic*, Dominic Tierney takes aim at a provision of the Iran Threat Reduction
Act of 2011 that would restrict the ability of U.S. diplomats to meet with their Iranian counterparts.  [http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2011/12/prepare-for-war-the-insane-plan-to-outlaw-diplomacy-with-iran/249478/]

* Update: WaPo Ombud Investigating Iran "Quest for Nuclear Weapons" Claim

JustForeignPolicy, 12-5-11  A key way that US media helped railroad the nation into war with Iraq in 2002-3 was by treating as "fact" key allegations about Iraq's alleged WMD program which had not been proven - and which turned out to be false. Now the Washington Post is treating the unproven allegation that Iran has a nuclear weapons program as if it were a known fact.

[http://www.justforeignpolicy.org/act/wapofactcheck]

Update: The *Washington Post* Ombudsman called and said he is looking into our complaint. Thanks to everyone who took action! We'll let you know in this space of any result.

**The Anti-Empire Report**
December 2nd, 2011 by William Blum
[www.killinghope.org]

There's no letup, is there? The preparation of the American mind, the world mind, for the next gala performance of D&D — Death and Destruction. The Bunker Buster bombs are now 30,000 pounds each one, six times as heavy as the previous delightful model..

But the Masters of War still want to be loved; they need for you to believe them when they say they have no choice, that Iran is the latest threat to life as we know it, no time to waste.

The preparation of minds was just as fervent before the invasion of Iraq in March 2003. And when it turned out that Iraq did not have any kind of arsenal of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) ... well, our power elite found other justifications for the invasion, and didn't look back. Some berated Iraq: "Why didn't they tell us that? Did they want us to bomb them?"

In actuality, before the US invasion high Iraqi officials had stated clearly on repeated
occasions that they had no such weapons. In August 2002, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz told American newscaster Dan Rather on CBS: "We do not possess any nuclear or biological or chemical weapons."¹

In December, Aziz stated to Ted Koppel on ABC: "The fact is that we don't have weapons of mass destruction. We don't have chemical, biological, or nuclear weaponry."²

Hussein himself told Rather in February 2003: "These missiles have been destroyed. There are no missiles that are contrary to the prescription of the United Nations [as to range] in Iraq. They are no longer there."³

Moreover, Gen. Hussein Kamel, former head of Iraq's secret weapons program, and a son-in-law of Saddam Hussein, told the UN in 1995 that Iraq had destroyed its banned missiles and chemical and biological weapons soon after the Persian Gulf War of 1991.⁴

There are yet other examples of Iraqi officials telling the world that the WMD were non-existent.

And if there were still any uncertainty remaining, last year Hans Blix, former chief United Nations weapons inspector, who led a doomed hunt for WMD in Iraq, told a British inquiry into the 2003 invasion that those who were "100 percent certain there were weapons of mass destruction" in Iraq turned out to have "less than zero percent knowledge" of where the purported hidden caches might be. He testified that he had warned British Prime Minister Tony Blair in a February 2003 meeting — as well as US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in separate talks — that Hussein might have no weapons of mass destruction.⁵

Those of who you don't already have serious doubts about the American mainstream media's knowledge and understanding of US foreign policy, should consider this: Despite the two revelations on Dan Rather's CBS programs, and the other revelations noted above, in January 2008 we find CBS reporter Scott Pelley interviewing FBI agent George Piro, who had interviewed Saddam Hussein before he was executed:

PELLEY: And what did he tell you about how his weapons of mass destruction had been destroyed?

PIRO: He told me that most of the WMD had been destroyed by the U.N. inspectors in the '90s, and those that hadn't been destroyed by the inspectors were unilaterally destroyed by
Iraq.

PELLEY: He had ordered them destroyed?

PIRO: Yes.

PELLEY: So why keep the secret? Why put your nation at risk? Why put your own life at risk to maintain this charade?"}

The United States and Israel are preparing to attack Iran because of their alleged development of nuclear weapons, which Iran has denied on many occasions. Of the Iraqis who warned the United States that it was mistaken about the WMD — Saddam Hussein was executed, Tariq Aziz is awaiting execution. Which Iranian officials is USrael going to hang after their country is laid to waste?

Would it have mattered if the Bush administration had fully believed Iraq when it said it had no WMD? Probably not. There is ample evidence that Bush knew this to be the case, or at a minimum should have seriously suspected it; the same applies to Tony Blair. Saddam Hussein did not sufficiently appreciate just how psychopathic his two adversaries were. Bush was determined to vanquish Iraq, for the sake of Israel, for control of oil, and for expanding the empire with new bases, though in the end most of this didn't work out as the empire expected; for some odd reason, it seems that the Iraqi people resented being bombed, invaded, occupied, demolished, and tortured.

But if Iran is in fact building nuclear weapons, we have to ask: Is there some international law that says that the US, the UK, Russia, China, Israel, France, Pakistan, and India are entitled to nuclear weapons, but Iran is not? If the United States had known that the Japanese had deliverable atomic bombs, would Hiroshima and Nagasaki have been destroyed? Israeli military historian, Martin van Creveld, has written: "The world has witnessed how the United States attacked Iraq for, as it turned out, no reason at all. Had the Iranians not tried to build nuclear weapons, they would be crazy."7

It can not be repeated too often: The secret to understanding US foreign policy is that there is no secret. Principally, one must come to the realization that the United States strives to dominate the world. Once one understands that, much of the apparent confusion, contradiction, and ambiguity surrounding Washington's policies fades away. Examine a map: Iran sits directly between two of the United States' great obsessions — Iraq and
Afghanistan ... directly between two of the world's greatest oil regions — the Persian Gulf and Caspian Sea areas ... it's part of the encirclement of the two leading potential threats to American world domination — Russia and China ... Tehran will never be a client state or obedient poodle to Washington. How could any good, self-respecting Washington imperialist resist such a target? Bombs Away!
"Seymour Hersh: Propaganda Used Ahead of the Iraq War Is Now Being Reused over Iran's Nuke Program"

http://www.alternet.org/news/153166

Interview with Seymour Hersh on Democracy Now, posted on Alternet.org November 22, 2011

Do Iran’s Objections to the IAEA Report Deserve Consideration?

V. Noah Gimbel, Op-Ed: “Much of the U.S. media, with instigation from hawkish voices in Israel, France, the U.K. and the U.S., has been whipped into an anti-Iran frenzy over the last week surrounding the release of a much-ballyhooed report from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The report, which expresses the Director General’s “serious concerns regarding possible military dimensions to Iran’s nuclear program,” has been dismissed by Iranian leaders as politically biased in favor of the U.S. administration, and lacking in any direct evidence of a weapons program.” READ | DISCUSS | SHARE
http://www.nationofchange.org/do-iran-s-objections-iaea-report-deserve-consideration-1321205098

WarIsACrime.org New Campaign Asks U.S. and Israeli Air, Missile, and Drone Crews to Refuse to Attack Iran
http://dontattackiran.org

AN APPEAL TO UNITED STATES AND ISRAELI AIR, MISSILE AND DRONE CREWS TO STAND DOWN FROM ORDERS TO ATTACK IRAN

November 2011 — Add Your Name!
We are at an historic moment when decisions are being made in the United States and Israel on whether and when to attack Iran. These will be decisions by politicians and individual commanders and air, missile and drone crewmembers charged with the responsibility of raining down munitions in a strike that will likely kill hundreds if not thousands of Iranian people and potentially spread deadly nuclear contamination to millions in Iran and surrounding nations. Beyond this, an attack on Iran will almost certainly bring retaliation that will result in even more human casualties and will disrupt global oil shipments, with severe human consequences around the world. An attack against Iran by the United States and Israel will violate morality, international and domestic law and the interests of humanity. Additionally, both Iran and the United States are parties to the Kellogg-Briand Pact which forbids the use of war. There are those of us signing this appeal who have been members of the United States and other armed forces and understand very well the difficulty of refusing to follow an order to attack. At the same time, each of us as the responsibility to preserve human life and nature in the face of inhuman and illegal orders, a responsibility defined by the Nuremberg Conventions. We urge all of you who may be called upon to attack Iran from the air, and indeed all military personnel who may be engaged in any kind of attack on Iran, to refuse to do so. Sign Your Name Here. Kathleen Barry, Professor Emerita, author, *Unmaking War, Remaking Men*

Judith Bellow, Fellowship of Reconciliation

Medea Benjamin, Co-founder of Code Pink

Elaine Brower, World Can't Wait Steering Committee, military mother

Matthis Chiroux, Iraq war resister, former Army sergeant

Mike Ferner, Acting Director, Veterans for Peace, Navy Corpsman '69-'73

Jim Haber, Coordinator, Nevada Desert Experience, National Committee of the War Resisters League

George Haeseler, Broome County (NY) Veterans for Peace

Jane Hirschmann, Organizer of the US Boat to Gaza and the Freedom Waves to Gaza

Leili Kashani, Advocacy Program Manager, Center for Constitutional Rights

Tarak Kauff, Veterans for Peace

Nada Khader, Executive Director of Westchester Peoples Action Coalition

Dennis Loo, Author, Globalization and the Demolition of Society, World Can't Wait

Liam Madden, Iraq veteran, former Marine sergeant

Ray McGovern, Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity

Nick Mottern, Director of ConsumersForPeace.org
Michael Steven Smith, Esq

David Swanson, Author of When the World Outlawed War; War Is A Lie; and Daybreak

Debra Sweet, Director of World Can't Wait

Ann Wright, retired US Army Reserve Colonel and former US diplomat who resigned in opposition to the Iraq war

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