
Editorial

Britain's New War

Warnings about the imminent danger of a U.S. attack on Iran, or an “accidental” provocation leading to conflict between Iran and the United States, are hard to miss these days. Equally frequent are the Bush Administration’s outright denials that they intend to go to war against the Islamic Republic.

There’s more than one explanation for the Administration’s denial. On the one hand, as in the case of the buildup to the Iraq war, they could simply be lying—especially since they find it very uncomfortable to have an international spotlight shown on their machinations. On the other hand, there is a certain ironical truth to the Bush Administration statements. For the fact is, that it is the *British imperial faction* which is actually planning the war against Iran, and simply using the Cheney team in the White House as their useful tools.

We are not speaking metaphorically. Take the case of the latest pretext for Administration sabre-rattling against Iran, the alleged smuggling of Iranian-manufactured Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) called EFPs (Explosively Formed Penetrators) into Iraq.

After a loud buildup, the Bush Administration held a press conference in Baghdad on Feb. 14 to announce that it had evidence that these deadly devices, which have killed and maimed a large number of American troops in Iraq, were being smuggled into the country from Iran, by members of the Al-Quds organization, which is allegedly closely connected to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. So hush-hush was the press briefing, that the briefers would not identify themselves—not to mention their sources. Thus the “evidence” being cited was shrouded in mystery, and, especially in light of the Administration’s record with “evidence” of Saddam Hussein’s WMD, even the establishment press was more than skeptical.

The skepticism grew even greater when the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Peter Pace, indicated that the revelations did not necessarily imply that the Iranian government itself was involved in supplying such weaponry. While this fact doesn’t create a problem for the simple-minded President Bush, who says we’ll “go get ’em” anyway, it does raise questions to serious people, who understand the cataclysmic results that would come from a war against Iran.

Much light is shed on the subject, however, when you look at non-mainstream press sources, including Radio Free Europe. On Feb. 15, RFE had a report from David Claridge, a weapons expert from Janusian Security Risk Management. Claridge writes: “My first recollection of their [EFPs] use was against a private security company in the [Al-Basrah] area and then, fairly rapidly afterward, against British security military patrols there. And, to my recollection it was the British MOD [Ministry of Defence] that first highlighted, first of all, the use of the weapons, but also their potential connection to Iranian technology.”

An Iranian source reached in Tehran by *EIR*, when asked about this said: “We must remember that Tony Blair accused Iran in 2005 of the same thing [sending weapons to southern Iraq], which are used against British forces in Basra Province. His government failed to prove the allegation and he had to withdraw the allegation in January 2006, admitting that the allegation was made in haste and weapons can easily be bought from the black market in the Middle East. The new allegation by U.S. seems to be but the revival of the same failed British attempt.”

It’s par for the course for the Cheney-Bush Administration to fall for such a British ploy. From the time of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s death, the British imperial faction has been attempting to destroy FDR’s legacy, and the national sovereignty of the United States, by not only economic means, but also by setting up the U.S.A. for a series of conflicts which would destroy it. Look at how successful this has been in the case of the war in Iraq! And that’s nothing compared to what would happen should Cheney get his wish of launching attacks on Iran.

Of course, once the Cheney-Bush team provoked the war, the British would be the first to distance themselves from the action. This is classical imperial manipulation—not an Anglo-American alliance.

There are some in Congress who have the smell of the disaster brewing in preparations for war against Iran. It’s time they got wise to the whole geopolitical game, and stopped it short. That starts with removing Cheney from office, *before* a war against Iran begins.