

## Editorial

# *Cheney and Rumsfeld Must Go!*

There is the talk of impeachment in the air, particularly in reference to that babbling incompetent President George W. Bush. Allegedly, the Republican Party itself is ecstatic about the discussion, which they claim will discredit those opposing the blatant insanities of the President. Thus, when Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist issued his latest blast at Democratic Minority leader Senate Harry Reid, he attacked him for, among other things, saying “that he, as a leader of Senate Democrats, would not rule out impeaching President Bush over the wiretapping program.”

Senator Reid showed extraordinarily good judgment in responding to Frist’s charge. According to a report sent out by his Political Action Committee, he commented: “Quite frankly, I’d probably rule it out, because the only President who could possibly be worse than George Bush would be Dick Cheney.”

Senator Reid is making an understatement. Putting Dick Cheney in the President’s place would be a total disaster for the United States and the world. Indeed, each day that the President of Vice stays in his current office, from which he effectively tells his “Mortimer Snerd” what to do, the world comes closer to catastrophe. The most urgent task before the Congress, and the American people, is to get Dick Cheney (and Donald Rumsfeld) out of office fast enough to prevent a new no-exit war against Iran, and a devastating financial/economic disintegration of the world economy.

There is clear indication that such a “rearrangement” in the Bush Presidency is being widely discussed, among Republicans and members of the broader institution of the Presidency. According to *EIR*’s sources, however, the assumptions behind such discussions are way off base. The most insane one of all is that Cheney would respond to polite pressure, and go quietly. Related, is the assumption that the Administration could afford to wait until after the mid-term elections to replace the Vice President, putting a suitable candidate for the 2008 Republican nomination in place.

Even crazier is the view among some Democrats that we shouldn’t “help” the Bush Administration by removing the Cheney albatross from its neck—out of

electoral considerations.

Let’s set the record straight, and get the policy right.

First, as he made abundantly clear with his bald-faced lying performance on the CBS “Face the Nation” show March 19, Dick Cheney is determined not to resign—or even offer his resignation for the President to accept or reject. Cheney is entrenched and determined to continue “advising” President Bush to continue the bloody war and dictatorship policies which have already destroyed the United States’ reputation abroad, and threaten an irreversible descent into global irregular warfare, and a New Dark Age.

Second, delaying the removal of Cheney until after the mid-term elections, or, even worse, until the 2008 Presidential elections, is a suicidal move for the *nation*. While President Bush may truly believe the lies which he has been telling about how well the war in Iraq is going, there is no sensible military man, or political leader, who does not understand that the Iraq War has been lost. Similarly, while Bush may believe the United States could carry out a military assault to force Iran to abandon its nuclear program, there is no military option for confronting Iran. Yet, as long as Cheney remains in place as the President’s chief advisor (which he will be as long as he is in office), the President will find these insane policies reinforced, and they will go ahead.

There are those who argue that Defense Secretary Rumsfeld, as the most visible architect of the disastrous war, should be the first to be removed from office. We have no disagreement with that proposal. As we have often pointed out, Rumsfeld and Cheney are a team, going back to the Ford Administration, and the removal of Rumsfeld will definitely weaken Cheney’s grip over the Administration.

But there is no substitute for creating a drumbeat for the immediate removal of Cheney from office. It seems impractical, with a Republican Congress, to threaten impeachment? Then it’s time to make it practical, by creating a bipartisan groundswell against the most corrupt, most thuggish, most incompetent, and most amoral Vice President this nation has ever had: Richard B. Cheney.