

Information Clearing House

NEWS YOU WON'T FIND ON CNN

[CLICK HERE FOR BREAKING NEWS](#)

 [E-MAIL TO A FRIEND](#)

The Cradle will fall...

by Jon Letman

March 15, 2003

Rock-a-bye-baby on the tree top, when the wind blows, the cradle will rock...

Like the baby stuck in the cradle, perched precariously on a bough, the Iraqi people, along with this current state of "non-war" are about to come crashing down. One sneeze, a cough or a light breeze and the whole thing will fall through the branches, smashing the fragile peace and Iraq itself into broken fragments, changed irrevocably.

Of course, that is the idea. Smash the cradle, grind it to bits and hope the baby can survive the fall.

For debatable reasons, and ones which are highly contested, if not overwhelmingly opposed both in America and abroad, this second Bush administration has set itself up to wage another war literally in the cradle of humanity, this time to defang the very monster the U.S. Government helped create over nearly three decades of recognition and support.

The thinking of the Bush administration seems to be that after a massive military assault, unprovoked in the eyes of millions, the United States will rid Iraq of Saddam, liberate the people and help establish a new kind of Arabic nation where people have the same freedom and liberties that the Americans hold so dear. No one speaks of a time line, but the government insists the U.S. will be in and out as quickly as possible, presumably leaving a big fat "Democracy & Freedom: A New User's Guide" amidst the rubble for the new caretakers to study.

This "new Iraq," according to the President, is going to serve as an example to the rest of the region and help lay the groundwork for peace in the Middle East.

But millions around the world fear that pushing the cradle out of the tree may ultimately be far more damaging to the baby inside, than if another, more peaceful solution were sought for getting back down to earth safely.

Even as warships race to the Persian Gulf, as American soldiers practice using their sophisticated equipment in the midst of the debilitating sand storms of spring time in Kuwait, before the 'real fighting' begins, the U.S. Government has invited bids by engineering companies for contracts to be awarded to rebuild the country it is about to destroy. Among the successful bidders is Halliburton's Kellogg Brown & Root, whose C.E.O. between 1995-2000 is now employed as the U.S. Vice-President.

Cynicism aside, one is inclined to question the true motives for a war against Iraq at this particular time. After twelve years of isolation and international scrutiny, is Saddam Hussein really the greatest threat the U.S. faces? Or, like his father, does George W. Bush seek to build a "kindler, gentler nation" (in Iraq)? Is it the alleged al Qaeda links? The W.M.D.? Or does the President sincerely believe the best way to foster peace and security is by waging war against an oil-rich Arab-Islamic nation and installing a government more favorable to U.S. interests?

Whatever it is that motivates this President, it is clear we are moving into a frightening New World Disorder, dominated by a small posse of U.S. officials who are willing to shun the advice of its allies, ignore the will of its own people and attack nations which it fears, regardless of the threat

posed. And even as the Bush administration talks about "going the extra mile for peace" and giving diplomacy a last chance, the military build-up around Iraq reaches its zenith and the generals have already said they are ready to fight.

Today it is not too late for the U.S. to step back from the brink, but it appears highly unlikely and sadly inconceivable. From Baghdad to Beijing and Tel Aviv to Paris, the people of the world watch nervously as this coming catastrophe unfolds. And as the desert winds blow, the bough will break and down will come baby, cradle and all.

 E-MAIL TO A FRIEND

Search

Power Search

top ▲

Join our Daily News Headlines Email Digest

Fill out your email address
to receive our newsletter!

Submit

Subscribe Unsubscribe

Powered by YourMailinglistProvider.com

Information Clearing House

Daily News Headlines Digest

[HOME](#)

[COPYRIGHT NOTICE](#)

Best sites ▼