

The World Cannot Be Ruled

9.1.02

The purpose of the coming invasion of Iraq is debated furiously but for the most part within a sort of Terrarium. Is Hussein more evil than Bin Laden? Than Hitler? Would he use a nuclear bomb? Is he “sponsoring terrorism”? More so than Pakistan? Most of these kinds of arguments revolve around whether we have a moral justification.... is it Good vs. Evil?

Another sort of discussion is about the “big picture” and what will happen once we do attack. Will this cause the dreaded Islamic fundamentalists to rise up and take over Saudi Arabia or Indonesia? Do we really have a strategy of “nation-building” that will lead to a democratic Iraq? Will oil prices go destructively sky-high? Will Israel be hit with biological bombs? These are conjectures that can be brushed aside by the aggressive cabal in power as “the usual hand-wringing”.

Few want to talk about the pure self-interest of the US Imperial Command. No one is quite able to see what a tremendously aggressive Board of Directors might be dreaming. The same was true after the World Trade Center attack. It was hard to see that the USA might have an aggressive imperial idea about felling the Taliban and installing garrisons in Central Asia. A little research revealed the Unocal pipeline scheme and the geo-political strategy of getting control of the vast new fields of oil & gas in land-locked regions of Central Asia.

Toppling the Iraqi regime with mythic ferocity & speed would open up an exhilarating scope of power and direct control for the US Corporate Empire. First of all, it would place one of the great oil reserves under its paw. Second, it would send a shiver of dread throughout the region. Imagine an aftermath when the US sends a negotiating team to Syria to end their plotting against Israel. Or sends word to Iran that they have 30 days to cease covert operations. Empires have always seen the efficacy of “making an example” of some hapless souls. The bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki were largely done to put the Great Fear into the command center of the Soviet Union.

Just behind the more obvious military strategy of an iron ring of force from Israel to Afghanistan, there certainly lies a financial scheme. If, after five years of successful military effort, there are safe new pipelines & a huge increase in productivity of new & old gas & oil fields under reliable control....imagine the strangle-hold this command center would have on the entire world economy. They could manipulate the price of oil at will, which can make a market crash or a boom in Tokyo or Paris. They also would be sitting on top of the heap as the inevitable scarcity of fossil fuels comes on in the next fifty years.

The War Planners are certainly thinking of a linked series of Bastions where now there are Regimes they must threaten, tweak & trade favors with. Recently, conservative political scientists have raised the idea that “Empire” is not a morally wrong concept. They point out that Order was good for many dominated zones of the former British Empire, or the old Roman one.... “*why not*” seems to be the idea... “*we’ve got absolute military power anyway..*” As Bush Senior said during the Gulf War: “*why quibble? We have air superiority*”

Why quibble, indeed? Oh...just these nagging memories, dusty little things...something to do with the “American Revolution”? Just a little uneasiness that something calling itself the “United States of America” has set out to rule the World with naked military ferocity. That “it” no longer honors the principles agreed upon after the last devastating attempt to rule the world... that is, that little dusty thing called the United Nations Charter. Something about the *sovereignty of nations, non-aggression*? I suppose it could be a quibble to wonder why the ”nation” that trumpets itself the standard-bearer of decency & human rights has decided it cannot honor any international treaties intended to restrain barbaric cruelty? Cannot sign the land mines agreement? Nor the International Criminal Court? *Will not be “regulated”?*

There is no guarantee in history that we will see “progress” forever. Civilizations have their arc and decline, and there are event-streams about which we know nothing. It is possible that we are at a hinge-point. That if this “United States of America” is to attempt the military rule of the world economy, the civilization that we assume is ascending to better futures, will in fact decline into a kind of Dark Age of wars and dystopian nightmares. It’s almost in place already, existing in a parallel with the brighter fertile life of the lucky strata in more comfortable parts of the world.

All the “Nations” are compromised, all the Parties & Religions as well. They are all *de facto* corporations with property, debts, dependencies, and Directors who are in some ways interlocking with the world-view of the Big Boys. It seems every such entity has strings that can be pulled. “*We can’t do that, our loans would be called in*” If there is any hope of thwarting aggression, it has to be from the ***people of the world***. It can happen, it has happened before, that a wind of conscience & passion blows around the mental landscape, knocking down the walls of the Terrarium. Suddenly the various Parties, Leaders & Churches are scrambling to get over to the people’s side of things.... and the tide goes out for the Armada. It’s our only chance.