



## Iran Timeline: Tracking the March to War

Recent war signals are actually a continuation of aggressive plans for war with Iran that began even before the publication of the 1997 Project For A New American Century.

For insights on how war can be prevented, it is helpful to go back in history to when the governments of the US and Iran were the best of friends.

As the US war propaganda intensifies, ask yourself what would the Middle East look like today if the CIA did not overthrow Iran's democratic government in 1953?



### A Timeline Worth Remembering

#### – 1907 & 1908 –

**In 1907**, Britain and Russia signed a secret agreement to divide and exploit Iran.<sup>1</sup>

**In 1908**, Britain struck oil and founded the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in 1909.<sup>2</sup>

#### – 1950s & 1960s –

**In 1951**, US and Iranian relations were so good that Mohammad Mossadeq was named *Time* magazine's Man of the Year. To show his admiration of America's democracy, Mossadeq made a high-profile trip to the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia.<sup>3</sup>

**In 1953**, the US and Britain illegally overthrew Iran's democratically elected government because Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq interfered with US and British oil interests.<sup>4</sup>

**In 1954**, the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company is renamed British Petroleum and shares Iran's oil wealth with American oil companies.<sup>5</sup>

**In 1967**, Mossadeq died after many years of living under house arrest. Mossadeq's comment on his arrest was "My only crime is that I nationalized the oil industry and removed from this land the network of colonialism and the political and economic influence of the greatest empire on Earth."<sup>6</sup>

#### – 1970s –

**In 1971**, the Shah commemorates the 2,500 anniversary of the Persian Empire with a \$100-million party. Protests erupt at Tehran University and the party retrospectively is seen as the beginning of the end of Shah's regime.<sup>7</sup>

**In 1973**, the US offered Israel a defense treaty after the Yom Kippur war. Israel rejected this offer because Israel would have to define its boundaries. Contrary to incorrect statements by former President Bush, there is no defense treaty between the US and Israel. Why does President Obama reinforce the false notion that the US has a defense alliance with Israel?<sup>8</sup>

**In 1976** Chief of Staff Dick Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld persuaded President Gerald Ford to approve offering Iran nuclear reprocessing facilities. Cheney and Rumsfeld stated that Iran needed a nuclear program to meet future energy requirements which is what Iranian officials are saying today.<sup>9</sup>

**In 1979** US embassy personnel in Iran were held captive for 444 days and the Islamic revolution changed the balance of power in the Middle East. Iran's current President Ahmadinejad was a leader of the student group that stormed the embassy.<sup>10</sup>



#### – 1980s –

**In 1980**, Iraq attacked Iran. The US initially provided weapons to Iraq but eventually sold weapons to both sides. Iraq ended up spending more on weapons than it earned from oil sales. The war ended in 1988.<sup>11</sup>

**In 1980**, President Reagan's campaign manager and future CIA Director, William Casey, made a deal with Iran's leadership to delay the release of the US embassy personnel until a few hours after President Jimmy Carter leaves office. For compensation, President Reagan arranged for Iran to receive several billion dollars and a document stating the US would never attack Iran. In President Bush's first term, this document was reviewed by Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales and deemed invalid because it was signed under duress.<sup>12</sup>

**Since the 1980s** Iran has had anthrax and other weapons of mass destruction.<sup>13</sup>

**In 1981**, Israel destroyed the Iraqi Osirak nuclear facility. Israel's attack, against international law, motivated Iran to disperse, bury and harden its nuclear facilities.<sup>14</sup>

**In 1983**, Iran is suspected of involvement in Beirut Marine barracks bombing.

**Between 1984 and 1988**, Iraqi air attacks damaged Iran's Bushehr nuclear facility.<sup>15</sup>

**In 1986**, Pakistan began helping Iran develop nuclear weapons. Abdul Qadeer Khan transfers over 2000 components and by 1995, P-2 centrifuge components are transferred to Iran.<sup>16</sup>

**In 1987 and 1988** US forces secretly attacked Iranian forces, including strikes on Gulf oil platforms.<sup>17</sup>

**In 1988** the US cruiser Vincennes mistakenly shot down an Iranian commercial plane and 290 people are killed. Vice President George H. W. Bush (later President of United States of America) declared a month later "I will never apologize for the United States of America, ever. I don't care what the facts are."<sup>18</sup>

#### – 1990s –

**In 1995**, Russia resumed work on the Bushehr nuclear facility.<sup>19</sup>

**In 1996**, China tried to sell Iran an uranium hexafluoride conversion plant and subsequently informed the Clinton administration the sale was canceled.<sup>20</sup>

**In 1997**, the *Project For A New American Century*, authored by Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld and other neo-cons now in power, calls for preemptive attacks so that the US will remain the dominant power in the new century. A cornerstone of the strategy is to keep a rising China subordinate by denying access to resources in Central Asia and the Middle East.<sup>21</sup>

#### – 2000 to 2002 –

**Sep 2001:** Pakistan's Khan network and assistance to Iran is shut down after the US threatens to nuke Pakistan and bring it back to the stone age.<sup>22</sup>

**Sep 2001:** Iran's president, Mohammad Khatami condemned the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States and said that the people involved will not go to heaven.<sup>23</sup> Thousands of Tehran residents walk to the Swiss embassy (home of the U.S. Interests section) in Mohseni Square after the 9/11 attacks to show their support for the victims of the attack in America.<sup>24</sup> Iran provides intelligence to the US to support attacks in Afghanistan on the Taliban and Al Qaeda. Iran also arranges for the Northern Alliance to work directly with US Special Forces.<sup>25</sup>

**Jan 2002:** President Bush, in his State of the Union address, described Iran, Iraq and North Korea as an "axis of

evil".<sup>26</sup>

**Aug 2002:** Iranian dissident, Alireza Jafarzadeh, revealed two previously undeclared nuclear sites: a uranium enrichment facility in Natanz and a heavy water facility in Arak.<sup>27</sup>

– 2003 –

**Mar:** The US illegally invaded Iraq.<sup>28</sup>

**Apr:** The “Grand Bargain” is offered by Iran to the US. The document offered the US Iran’s complete cooperation in return for a renewed security guarantee (Iran received a previous security guarantee by Ronald Reagan as part of the hostage release arrangement).<sup>29</sup>

**Jul:** Iran developed enriched uranium not needed for peaceful energy production.<sup>30</sup>

**Dec:** US sent humanitarian aid to Iran after earthquake kills up to 50,000 people in the Iranian city of Bam.<sup>31</sup>

**Dec or earlier:** President Bush had the 1980 agreement stating the US will not attack Iran nullified because it was signed under duress.<sup>32</sup>

– 2004 –

**Jun:** The International Atomic Energy Agency claims to have found new traces of enriched uranium that exceeded the levels necessary for civilian energy production.<sup>33</sup>

**Jul:** Iran admitted to having resumed production of parts for centrifuges that are used for enriching uranium, but insists that it has not resumed its enrichment activities.<sup>34</sup>

**Jul:** The US Independent Task Force led by Zbigniew Brzezinski and Robert Gates reject the “Grand Bargain.”<sup>35</sup>

**Sep:** Iran refused to accept an unlimited suspension of uranium enrichment and says it will not stop manufacturing centrifuges.<sup>36</sup>

**Sep:** To facilitate military operations in Iran, the U.S. sent 4,500 smart bombs to Israel and built a staging base in Afghanistan near its border with Iran.<sup>37</sup>

**Oct:** The Iranian parliament passed a bill approving resumption of enrichment activities.<sup>38</sup>

**Dec or earlier:** Israel built a model of Iran's Natanz nuclear facility to practice attacks on the facility.<sup>39</sup>

– 2005 –

**Feb:** The book *American Hiroshima* is published and warns the US will attack Iran’s nuclear facilities and this may lead to others attacking US nuclear facilities. The most likely scenario is a build up of US anger by the Bush administration with a focus on Iran’s Quds Force and their use in Iraq of Explosively Formed Penetrators (EFPs). *American Hiroshima* makes the case that Iran will not attack the US and is pursuing peace and a false flag attack orchestrated from the Vice-President’s office that would seek to motivate Americans to support an attack on Iran is a very real possibility.<sup>40</sup>

**Feb:** The inner cabinet of Ariel Sharon, at his private ranch in the Negev desert, gave “initial authorization” to attack Iran. They agreed to coordinate the attack with the most supportive US administration since Israel was created in 1948.<sup>41</sup>

**Feb:** Iranian Information Minister Ali Yunessi confirmed that US spy planes have been spotted in Iran. The objective of these spy missions is to identify approximately 36 nuclear weapons-related targets that can be destroyed by an Israeli or US surprise attack.<sup>42</sup>

**Feb:** North Korea, secretly collaborated with Iran. North Korea declared it has nuclear weapons.<sup>43</sup>



**Aug:** A US intelligence review concludes Iran is 10 years away from developing a nuclear bomb.<sup>44</sup>

– 2006 –

**Feb to present:** The war propaganda, direct from the playbook of Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels, is repeated daily. The “battlefield of public perception” is prepared for war with statements from Donald Rumsfeld that Iran is the “world's leading state sponsor of terrorism.” Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist repeated the mantra “we cannot allow Iran to become a nuclear nation.” Richard Perle said “If we just let our vision of the world go forth, and we embrace it entirely and we don't try to piece together clever diplomacy, but just wage a total war ... our children will sing great songs about us years from now.” We also see Iran’s President repeatedly misquoted (e.g., he is quoted as saying military force should be used to wipe Israel off the map when President Ahmadinejad’s actual statement never used the words “wipe” or “off the map”).<sup>45</sup>



**Feb:** President Bush was asked if the United States would rise to Israel's defense militarily, he said: "You bet, we'll defend Israel."<sup>46</sup>

**Mar:** US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice says the US faces "no greater challenge" than Iran's nuclear program.<sup>47</sup>

**Apr:** A report by Seymour M. Hersh in the New Yorker warns the US is planning a tactical nuclear strike against Iran.<sup>48</sup>

**Apr:** The Washington Post reports the US is studying military strike options on Iran.<sup>49</sup>

**Apr:** The Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper reported Iran’s military response to an attack is called Operation Judgment Day.<sup>50</sup>

**May:** President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad sends a letter to President Bush proposing new and peaceful solutions to their differences. This is the first communication between Iranian and US leaders in 27 years.<sup>51</sup>

**May:** The Physicians for Social Responsibility publish a report titled “Medical Consequences of a Nuclear Attack on Iran.” The report illuminates that millions of lives will be lost if the US attacks Iran.<sup>52</sup>

**Jul & Aug:** Israel responds to the kidnapping of soldiers with war. This is seen by many as an attempt to draw Iran into a direct conflict with Israel. As a result of Israel’s attack, Hamas and Hezbollah “near” enemies are subsequently less able to inflict harm on Israel when the “far” enemy of Iran is attacked.<sup>53</sup>

**Aug:** War propaganda continues to ramp up with Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney, and other prominent proponents for attacking Iran, stating Iran is 5 to 10 years away from having a bomb. The public is “sold” this ridiculous piece of information, especially given Pakistan’s previous direct assistance, to minimize concerns about what Iran can do to retaliate. In addition, as media commentators increasingly demand America attack Iran, there is no mention of Iran’s existing chemical and biological weapons.<sup>54</sup>

**Aug:** Iran started the "Blow of Zolfaqar" military exercise in the Persian Gulf.<sup>55</sup>

**Aug:** Iran rejected the US led UN Security Council offer to stop uranium enrichment.<sup>56</sup>

**Aug:** Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is interviewed by Mike Wallace on 60 Minutes and calls for peaceful dialogue. He subsequently offers to debate with President Bush. The White House rejects the offer.<sup>57</sup>

**Sep:** Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), “asked for fresh eyes” to review the existing U.S. plans to blockade two Iranian oil ports on the Persian Gulf.<sup>58</sup>

**Sep:** The Pentagon announced the extension of overseas assignments for US soldiers.<sup>59</sup>

**Oct:** A major naval strike force carrying nuclear weapons received surprise “prepare to deploy” orders to depart for the Persian Gulf.<sup>60</sup>

**Oct:** North Korea sees the US as preoccupied with attacking Iran and conducted a nuclear test. The US media ignores North Korea’s 2005 public announcement that it had nuclear weapons to reinforce the fiction that a new rogue state has become a nuclear power stressing the message “this is what happens if we don't strike Iran.”<sup>61</sup>



**Oct:** Ayatollah Ali Khamenei held an AK 47 on October 13 to symbolized Iran's readiness to repel an Israeli and US attack.<sup>62</sup>

**Oct:** The Defense Department started mandatory anthrax immunizations.<sup>63</sup>

**Oct:** Iran's military forces are deployed to battle positions as the Eisenhower naval strike force reportedly entered the Persian Gulf.<sup>64</sup>

**Oct:** Respected US whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg warns the US is planning to attack Iran with H-bombs. An H-bomb, also known as thermonuclear bomb, can be from ten to even more than a hundred times more powerful than an atomic bomb.<sup>65</sup>

**Oct:** An Operations Northwoods event (i.e., a self-inflicted attack to create support for starting a war) is increasingly likely. Israel has already made the decision to attack Iran and is waiting for the green light from the US. Peacemakers must continue to reveal the truth, as this information has the potential to prevent the red light for this horrific attack.<sup>66</sup>

**Nov:** The American people elect a majority of Democrats to the Senate and House of Representatives on November 7th. The top election issue is the war in Iraq and a loud message is sent to President Bush to end the war and risk a mass uprising if he attacks Iran.<sup>67</sup>

**Nov:** Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Ephraim Sneh said on November 10 that Israel might be forced to launch a military strike against Iran.<sup>68</sup>

**Nov:** On November 12, Iran’s Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mohammed Ali Hosseini said “Iran will take no longer than a second to respond” if attacked by Israel.<sup>69</sup>

**Nov:** Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert met with President Bush at the White House on November 13 to discuss stopping Iran’s nuclear program. With Donald Rumsfeld’s November 8 departure, Olmert is concerned that the US is stepping back from a military airstrike.<sup>70</sup>

**Nov:** Ephraim Sneh said in the Jerusalem Post: “The danger isn’t as much Ahmadinejad’s deciding to launch an attack but Israel’s living under a dark cloud of fear from a leader committed to its destruction....Most Israelis would

prefer not to live here; most Jews would prefer not to come here with families, and Israelis who can live abroad will....I am afraid Ahmadinejad will be able to kill the Zionist dream without pushing a button. That’s why we must prevent this regime from obtaining nuclear capability at all costs.”<sup>71</sup>

**Nov:** British Prime Minister Tony Blair broke ranks with President Bush and called for diplomacy with Iran instead of a military attack.<sup>72</sup>

**Nov:** Yediot Ahronot, Israel's largest newspaper reports "massive construction" at Parchin in Iran. The construction is believed to be a nuclear weapon testing facility.<sup>73</sup>

**Nov:** Benjamin Netanyahu, the Likud leader said in Los Angeles "It's 1938 and Iran is Germany. And Iran is racing to arm itself with atomic bombs." He noted that time was running out to stop the Iranians.<sup>74</sup>

**Nov:** Seymour Hersh reported on November 20th that control of Congress by the Democrats will not stop Bush and Cheney's plans to attack Iran. He makes the case that Bush and Cheney want to "double up" on their bet by ordering an airstrike that would eliminate Iran's nuclear weapons program and stop Iran's ability to support the insurgency in Iraq. He also notes that a Kurdish resistance group, the Party for Free Life in Kurdistan, is conducting clandestine cross-border forays into Iran.<sup>75</sup>



**Dec:** In a discussion with Seymour Hersh on December 21, Scott Ritter discloses his conversations with government insiders confirm war with Iran is going to happen.<sup>76</sup>

**Dec:** Behind the scenes efforts to move key FBI and FEMA operations outside nuclear blast zones in the US are revealed on December 27th.<sup>77</sup>

– 2007 –

**Jan:** On January 2nd, Israeli Brigadier General Oded Tira calls for war with Iran and suggests Azerbaijan's airbases be used for the attack.<sup>78</sup>

**Jan:** On January 6th Reuters reports that Israel has plans for a nuclear strike on Iran. A few days later, the US Treasury places sanctions on Iran's oldest bank, Bank Sepah, for facilitating Iran's weapons program.<sup>79</sup>

**Jan:** Following President Bush's announcement of a "troop surge" in Iraq on January 10, the Pentagon abandons active-duty time limits. Americans wonder if additional troops are needed in Iraq because a new war with Iran is about to start.<sup>80</sup>

**Jan:** Ahmed Al-Jarallah, Editor-in-Chief of the Arab Times, reports on January 14, 2007 that a US military sea-launched strike on Iran is planned.<sup>81</sup>

**Jan:** The reported deployment of the USS John C. Stennis to the Middle East puts two U.S. aircraft carriers in the Gulf region for the first time since the 2003 Iraq invasion. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said that Patriot anti-missile missiles, aircraft carriers, and cruise-missile-firing ships have been deployed in order to show Iran that the US means business.<sup>82</sup>

**Jan:** Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton suggested on January 19, 2007 that she would back a military strike on Iran.<sup>83</sup>

**Jan:** President Bush orders attacks on Iranians in Iraq to help clear the way for an attack on Iran.<sup>84</sup>

**Jan:** America is ready to strike Iran's nuclear sites from bases in Bulgaria and Romania.<sup>85</sup>

**Jan:** Pentagon stop sales of F-14 parts on January 30th that have the potential to be used by Iran.<sup>86</sup>

**Jan:** Also on January 30th, US Senators warn President Bush not to attack Iran.<sup>87</sup>

**Feb:** On February 1st, Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security adviser, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that President Bush is seeking a pretext to attack Iran.<sup>88</sup>

**Feb:** John Pilger writes CONPLAN 8022 is the Pentagon's aerial attack plan and National Security Presidential Directive 35, entitled Nuclear Weapons Deployment Authorization, is believed to authorize the use of tactical nuclear weapons.<sup>89</sup>

**Feb:** Iranian media now has daily commentaries on a possible US attack. On February 8th, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Iran will retaliate if attacked by the US by striking targets around the world.<sup>90</sup>

**Feb:** The US military reports Iran is providing Iraqi militants with bombs that are killing Americans.<sup>91</sup>

**Feb:** Desperate to start a war, on February 11th the US military releases information about the role of Iran's Quds Force in assisting the Iraqi insurgency. This information was widely known and published over a year ago.<sup>92</sup>

**Feb:** The US military, after four years preparing, reports that "Operation Iranian Freedom" is ready if an attack is ordered. Admiral Fallon, head of the US Central Command and the TIRANNT (Theatre Iran Near Team) plan, is bringing additional assets into the theater (i.e., in addition to the Stennis and Eisenhower carriers on station, the Reagan, Truman, Roosevelt, and Nimitz can be brought into the fight. The Marines also have the USS Boxer and USS Bataan carrier forces in the Gulf and probably the USS Kearsarge and USS Richard. The USS Pelellu, USS Wasp and USS Iwo Jima are ready to join this group. The HQ staff is now in Bahrain. The nuclear release "Global Strike" plan is in the hands of General James Cartwright. With all the firepower on station, approximately 10,000 targets can be hit in a single raid.<sup>93</sup>

**Mar:** The Moscow weekly *Argumenty Nedeli* reported the US is planning to attack Iran. General Ivashov said, "we have drawn the unmistakable conclusion that this operation will take place."<sup>94</sup>

**Mar:** On March 23rd, 15 Royal British Marines were arrested by Iran in the Shatt-al-Arab waterway.<sup>95</sup>

**Mar:** The man with nuclear release authority with respect to a war with Iran set the stage for the use of nuclear weapons with Iran. General James Cartwright said in testimony before the House Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee that a US nuclear attack is the only option in some cases like when an enemy is at intercontinental ranges.<sup>96</sup>

**Mar:** On March 11, 2007, language in the House war funding bill stated that the President must obtain approval from Congress before starting a war with Iran. This step forward was erased the following day when Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi removed this life-saving Constitutional reminder. By stripping the language, the House leadership made war with Iran more likely by implying congressional authority for an attack on Iran. Why did the Constitutional reminder language get stripped? The American Israeli Public Affairs Committee and other influential pro-Israel lobbies want the US to attack Iran. AIPAC's tremendous influence was illustrated by the deployment of approximately 6,000 AIPAC members to the halls of Congress on March 12th.<sup>97</sup>

**Aug:** At the American Legion 89th Annual National Conference, President Bush warns of a nuclear holocaust. On August 28, 2007 he says "Iran's active pursuit of technology that could lead to nuclear weapons threatens to already put a region known for its stability and violence under the shadow of a nuclear holocaust." He also says "we will confront this danger before it is too late."<sup>98</sup>

**Aug:** Nuclear weapons were transferred on August 30th to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. Since Barksdale is a launching point for the planned attack on Iran, the public is questioning was this a mistake while decommissioning warheads or something more sinister.<sup>99</sup>

**Sep:** The *Sunday Times* (London) reports the Bush Administration is planning a 3-day blitz on Iran.<sup>100</sup>

**Sep:** War propaganda, even depicting 70 million Iranian people as cockroaches is published in US newspapers.<sup>101</sup>

**Sep:** Mohamed ElBaradei, leader of the International Atomic Energy Agency, seeks a peace between the US and Iran. The *Washington Post* attempts to undermine his efforts in an editorial entitled "Rogue Regulator."<sup>102</sup>

**Sep:** A US federal judge ordered Iran to pay \$2.65 billion in compensation to the families of 241 Marines killed in the 1983 Beirut Marine barracks bombing.<sup>103</sup>

**Sep:** The US is building a new military base near the Iraq-Iran border.<sup>104</sup>

**Sep:** In a sign that future US military action should not be disrupted by diplomacy, a delegation of Iranians were denied visas to visit the US.<sup>105</sup>

**Sep:** In a sign that Iranian leaders are seeking to prevent a proxy war in Iraq from becoming a war with the US, General Petraeus says Iran's Quds Force has left Iraq.<sup>106</sup>

**Sep:** The Guardian reports the US is planning to attack Iran in 2008. They quote the former CIA chief in charge of counter-terrorism, Vincent Cannistraro. He said: "The decision to attack was made some time ago. It will be in two stages. If a smoking gun is found in terms of Iranian interference in Iraq, the US will retaliate on a tactical level, and they will strike against military targets. The second part of this is: Bush has made the decision to launch a strategic attack against Iranian nuclear facilities, although not before next year. He has been lining up some Sunni countries for tacit support for his actions."<sup>107</sup>

**Sep:** Philip Sherwell and Tim Shipman in the UK *Telegraph* explain how President Bush is setting America up for war with Iran. A prime target would be the Fajr base run by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Quds Force in southern Iran, where Western intelligence agencies say armour-piercing projectiles used against British and US troops are manufactured. Condoleezza Rice, who has been pushing for a diplomatic solution, is now prepared to settle her differences with Vice-President Dick Cheney and sanction military action.<sup>108</sup>

**Sep:** Iran war propaganda increases and the Columbus Dispatch portrays 70 million Iranians as cockroaches that are infesting the entire Middle East.<sup>109</sup>

**Oct:** The "Showdown With Iran" and fact that war is on the horizon is explained in a Frontline television show.<sup>110</sup>

**Oct:** At President Bush's news conference on October 17th, he said people "interested in avoiding World War III" should be working to prevent Iran from having the knowledge needed to make a nuclear weapon.

**Dec:** A national intelligence estimate found that Iran halted its nuclear bomb development in the fall of 2003.

## – 2008 –

**Jan:** On January 6th, an incident in the Strait of Hormuz almost results in combat between the US and Iran. Washington publicly alleges Iran threaten the US and releases video with the threatening words "I am coming to you. You will explode after a few minutes." On January 9th, Iran accused the United States of fabricating both the video and audio. By Ali Akbar Dareini, Associated Press Writer on 9 January. The U.S. Navy then said the chilling threat in English could have come from the shore or from another ship.<sup>111</sup>

**Feb:** In a prelude to an attack on Iran or perhaps a test run, several undersea internet cables in the Middle East were cut.<sup>112</sup>

**Mar:** On March 19th President Bush contended that Iran has "declared they want a nuclear weapon to destroy people" and that the Islamic Republic could be hiding a secret program.<sup>113</sup>

**Mar:** A unit within the US Treasury Department, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), issued an

advisory to the world's financial institutions under the title: "Guidance to Financial Institutions on the Continuing Money Laundering Threat Involving Illicit Iranian Activity." FinCEN reminds the global banking community that United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSC) 1803 (passed on March 3, 2008) "calls on member states to exercise vigilance over the activities of financial institutions in their territories with all banks domiciled in Iran, and their branches and subsidiaries abroad." UNSC 1803 specifically mentions two Iranian state-owned banks: Bank Melli and Bank Saderat. These two banks (plus their overseas branches and certain subsidiaries), along with a third state-owned bank, Bank Sepah, were also unilaterally sanctioned by the US in 2007 under anti-proliferation and anti-terrorism presidential executive orders 13382 and 13224. As of March 20, however, the US, speaking through FinCEN, is now telling all banks around the world that all of Iran's banks represent a risk to the international financial system, no exceptions.<sup>114</sup>

**Apr:** General David Petraeus, informs Congress that Iran is involved in Basra and other battles in Iraq. Soon after Petraeus's presentation, President Bush said :“The regime in Tehran also has a choice to make. If Iran makes the right choice, America will encourage a peaceful relationship between Iran and Iraq. If Iran makes the wrong choice, America will act to protect our interests and our troops and our Iraqi partners.”<sup>115</sup>

**Apr:** On April 21st, Secretary of Defense Bob Gates said that Iran "is hell-bent on acquiring nuclear weapons."<sup>116</sup>

**Apr:** On April 25th Iran announced that US claims of a confrontation in the Gulf are fabricated. That same day, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Michael Mullen, said the US is preparing military options for Iran.<sup>117</sup>

**Apr:** U.S. President George W. Bush said on April 29th his decision to brief members of Congress on an Israeli attack on an alleged Syrian nuclear facility was meant as a "message" to North Korea and Iran.<sup>118</sup>

The neo-conservatives and the Israeli government likely believes they will never witness a more favorable time than the next few months to attack Iran. The Israeli government may take advantage of their relationship with President Bush to attack without a green light from the US. Americans need to know that the US does not have a defense alliance with Israel. Peacemakers can demand that if Israel attacks Iran, the US will not participate and stop supplying Israel with the weapons for subsequent attacks.

**May:** The *Jerusalem Post* reported on May 20th that President Bush will attack Iran in his final months in office.<sup>119</sup>

**June:** Repeating history from the summer of 1941 and US sanctions against Japan that led to war, the House of Representatives calls for a naval blockage against Iran.<sup>120</sup>

**July:** President Bush seeks to open off shore drilling to reduce dependence on foreign oil.<sup>121</sup>

**July:** Iran test fired missiles and warned it will retaliate if attacked by the US. The US Senate seeks expanded sanctions. <sup>122</sup>

**August:** War between Georgia and Russia alters the balance of power drawing Russia closer to Iran and Syria. Russia establishes a naval base in Syria. The article *Encircling Russia Endangers Us All* by Jimmy Spearow, P.h.D explains why surrounding Russia with U.S. bases and an attack on Iran can transform into World War III.<sup>123</sup>

**August:** Fundamentalists converge on Washington, DC to attend the 3rd annual Washington-Israel Summit and demand war with Iran. <sup>124</sup>

**August:** Iran warns of a 'world war' if attacked. <sup>125</sup>

**Sep:** On September 23rd Iranian President Ahmadinejad in a television interview with Larry King repeated his past confirmations that he never called for Israel to be wiped off the map with military force. <sup>126</sup>

**Oct:** A major financial crisis, enabling a select group of banks to use taxpayer "bailout" funds to buy smaller banks, ruins John McCain's presidential campaign reinforcing a Bush or Israeli government initiated attack may happen before January. A \$700 billion bailout, explained as grand theft in Teach Peace Foundation educational materials, is signed into law.<sup>127</sup>

**Nov:** The financial bailout is confirmed in the New York Times as grand theft for a handful of financial giants with JPMorgan Chase on point.<sup>128</sup>

**Nov:** Barack Obama is chosen as the 44th president. Unlike John McCain, Obama is not expected to support attacking Iran. The price of oil is believed to be kept artificially low by the OPEC cartel on instructions from Washington to convince consumers that “everything has returned to normal.” To some extent the low oil prices do falsely boost confidence that bailout programs and discount rate reductions are helping solve the financial crisis. The global recession is decreasing demand but not at a sufficient rate for energy producing nations like Nigeria to produce oil at a loss (i.e., Nigeria’s breakeven cost per barrel of oil is \$85 and on November 18 a barrel sold for \$55). The Bush administration is not preventing total collapse but they are delaying it. If the US or Israel do attack Iran, the global recession will become a global depression before the end of Obama’s first term. As a sign of the true seriousness of the financial crisis, on November 15th at the G20 conference, President Bush revealed that the nation was at risk of falling into “a depression greater than the Great Depression.”<sup>129</sup>

**Nov:** The conclusion in the 2005 *American Hiroshima* book that a US initiated attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities will unfortunately create a generation of jihadists focused on attacking US nuclear power facilities changes the paradigm of safe nuclear power.<sup>130</sup>

– 2009 & 2010 –

See the Articles section at [www.teachpeace.com](http://www.teachpeace.com) for this part of the timeline.

### If The US Attacks Iran, What Happens?

Consistent with Ayatollah Ali Khamenei’s February 8, 2007 statement, on April 27, 2006 the Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper reported Iran’s military response to a US and Israeli attack is a plan called Operation Judgment Day.<sup>131</sup>

The Judgment Day plan has several components. The final component is an American Hiroshima attack.

1. A missile strike directly targeting the US military bases in the Persian Gulf and Iraq, as soon as Iranian nuclear installations are hit.
2. Suicide operations in a number of Arab and Muslim countries against the US and US allies.
3. Stepped up attacks by the Basij, the Revolutionary Guards and Iraqi fighters loyal to Iran against US and British forces in Iraq.
4. Hezbollah launches hundreds of rockets against military and economic targets in Israel.
5. Disproportionate U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iran will also create many non-Iranian jihadis who will also target U.S. citizens.

The final Judgment Day component is for Iran to give the al Quds Brigades the go-ahead for more than 50 terrorists cells in Canada, the US, and Europe to attack civil and industrial targets. This could lead to an American/global Hiroshima attack to maximize civilian casualties by attacking nuclear and chemical facilities. Is component 1 why the anthrax vaccinations of US military personnel started in October 2006?<sup>132</sup> Components 2 and 3 are already happening. Israel attempted to minimize component 4 with the July and August 2006 war with Hezbollah in Lebanon. A detailed explanation of why this is happening and how it can be prevented is the subject of the *American Hiroshima* book.

### While War With Iran Is On The Horizon - Choose Hope!

Iran may or may not have developed the “greatest deterrent.” In the 1960s, it was unknown to US intelligence that the Soviet Union had almost 100 nuclear weapons in Cuba at the time of the 1962 missile crisis.<sup>133</sup> Regardless of

Iran's status as a nuclear weapons power, Iran's Quds Force has been capable of attacking US nuclear power facilities for over a decade but has not. Therefore, the issue is really not Iran's nuclear program but how can we return to the friendship that existed in 1951?

A first step would be for President Obama to acknowledge that the US was wrong to overthrow Iran's democratically elected government in 1953. **Regardless of what President Obama elects to do, you can call upon Congress to pass legislation outlawing the use of nuclear weapons against Iran. We have a brief but powerful opportunity to save millions of people from the horror of a nuclear attack and counter attack with this lifesaving measure!**<sup>134</sup>

Please choose hope and work to prevent war. History has shown us that a peaceful future is possible. In 1962 the US and the Soviet Union were on the brink of nuclear war and yet the Cuban Missile Crisis was solved without war.

As Martin Luther King, Jr. said "We still have a choice today: nonviolent co-existence or violent co-annihilation. History will record the choice we made. It is still not too late to make the proper choice. If we decide to become a moral power we will be able to transform the jangling discords of this world into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. If we make the wise decision we will be able to transform our pending cosmic elegy into a creative psalm of peace. This will be a glorious day. In reaching it, we can fulfill the noblest of American dreams."<sup>135</sup>

Americans bear a special responsibility for preventing war with Iran. I challenge my fellow citizens and people around the world to work to save lives in the Middle East and around the world. When we accept our share of the responsibility for a better world, everyone will be more secure. Please share this information with your political leaders. Please take action now so that we can create a groundswell for peace that is too powerful to be set aside!

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