

Correcting the Evils That Led to Iraq War

by Theodore J. Andromidas

March 19—In October 2012, on David Swanson’s Talk Nation Radio, former Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) declared that “there is an unbroken line in policy from the Bush Administration to the Obama Administration. . . . This is the direct result of the Democratic leadership not challenging the Bush Administration’s lies that took us into Iraq.”

This magazine, countless other news sources, and Kucinich himself, had repeatedly documented, from the first day of the invasion until the end of the Bush/Cheney Administration, that it had repeatedly engaged in impeachable offenses. The lies of Vice President Dick Cheney, in the run-up to the Iraq War and in the years following, compelled Kucinich, supported by some anti-war Republicans, to introduce articles of impeachment against Bush and Cheney. But the Democratic leadership, to use then-Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi’s words, “took impeachment off the table”!

Now the Obama presidency, in collusion with the same Democratic leadership, is committing identical impeachable offenses, using the same policies of deceit, to engage in the same “extra-Constitutional” practices. Obama has launched wars in Libya, Pakistan, Somalia, and Yemen, placed U.S. arms in many countries in Africa, and sent U.S. troops to the borders of Syria, putting the world on the edge of World War III. But, unlike Bush and Cheney, Obama does not even attempt to maintain the fig leaf of constitutionally required Congressional approval for these wars. And he goes largely unchallenged.

And the thread of evil and deceit running through both Administrations can be traced back to one source, the British monarchy’s top lackey Tony Blair.

Impeachable Crimes

Contrary to popular myth, it was not President George W. Bush who led Tony Blair “like a poodle”

into the Iraq War, but the other way around. But that said, Bush, and his Svengali, Cheney, were guilty as hell.

While then-Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche was the first to call for Cheney’s impeachment in June of 2003, bills of impeachment introduced in 2007 by Kucinich, and the Downing Street memo commissioned by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) in 2005, laid out an ironclad case against Bush and Cheney.

Conyers’ Downing Street memo, issued in December 2005, stated:

“There is a *prima facie* case that these actions by the President, Vice President, and other members of the Bush Administration violated a number of federal laws, including (1) Committing a Fraud against the United States; (2) Making False Statements to Congress; (3) The War Powers Resolution; (4) Misuse of Government Funds; (5) federal laws and international treaties prohibiting torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment; (6) federal laws concerning retaliating against witnesses and other individuals; and (7) federal laws and regulations concerning leaking and other misuse of intelligence.”

On April 24, 2007 Kucinich filed three articles of impeachment against Cheney. Kucinich said he was doing this to try to stop Cheney from starting a war against Iran, as he had done under false pretenses in 2003 against Iraq.

The three Articles of Impeachment charge that Cheney:

(1) manipulated the intelligence process and lied to the nation about Iraq having weapons of mass destruction;

(2) manipulated the intelligence process and lied to the nation about Iraq’s alleged ties to al-Qaeda;

(3) has “openly threatened aggression against the Republic on Iran absent any real threat to the United States.”

Kucinich’s emphasis on Cheney reflected his judgment, like that of LaRouche, that it was the vice president who was really “the decider,” and, more importantly, that impeachment of Bush *before* Cheney, would leave the warmongering vice president in charge, putting the nation and the world at even greater risk.

‘Sexed Up Dossiers and Suicides’

Bush and Cheney, of course, have largely disappeared from the scene, but the controlling agent behind them, the British monarchy’s Blair, remains an active

force internationally, including with President Obama. Blair's role was decisive.

When, on March 19, 2003, the U.S.-led "Coalition of the Willing" launched the invasion of Iraq, it was done at the instigation of then-British Prime Minister Blair's government. Blair had provided a dossier, which was described on BBC radio by the later "suicided" weapons inspector David Kelly as "sexed up," as proof of Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction. This dossier was the quoted source of "facts" used by then-U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell in his speech before the UN Security Council, as justification to launch the war against Iraq.

On Feb. 5, 2003, Powell, dramatically waving a supposed vial of the deadly anthrax virus, declared before the United Nations Security Council: "Our conservative estimate is that Iraq today has a stockpile of between 100 and 500 tons of chemical weapons agent. That is enough to fill 16,000 battlefield rockets...."

Several weeks later, press accounts would reveal that another source cited by Powell in his report to the Security Council was, in fact, also a fraud, with the "information" plagiarized from an American graduate school paper, based on information more than a decade old. It was another so-called "intelligence report," sent by Blair to the relevant U.S. officials. This report turned out to be a series of plagiarisms from old articles from *Jane's* magazine, and from a term paper on Iraqi politics written by a student at the Monterey Institute for International Studies, in California.

Cheney and Bush used the lies to justify their war plan.

Blair's role in instigating the Iraq War, a pre-emptive war of aggression contrary to international law and worthy of condemnation by a new Nuremberg Tribunal, is still under investigation in Great Britain, where he is broadly hated for his crimes.

Blair Again?

As early as September of 2010, Blair used the release of his memoirs to announce plans for bringing the Obama Administration into new wars. Blair defends his stance on intervening to topple "rogue" regimes as "more necessary than ever." "If change will not come by evolution, should it be done by revolution? Should those who have the military power contemplate doing so?" In effect, he was announcing British imperial plans for the so-called "Libyan Civil War," which would begin six months later. By September 2011, Blair was

calling for "regime change" in Syria, when he told the London *Times* that the Assad government was "not capable of reform" and that "there is no process of change that leaves him intact."

On the tenth anniversary of the Iraq War, Blair is at it again. At the end of February 2013, in a BBC interview discussing his role in starting the war, Blair made the current intentions of his royal masters quite clear: "In a sense, what I am trying to persuade people of now is to understand how complex and difficult a decision it was [invading Iraq]. Because I think if we don't understand that, we won't take the right decision about what I think will be a series of these types of problems that will arise over the next few years. You've got one in Syria right now; you've got one in Iran to come. The issue is how do you make the world a safer place?"

The success of Blair and his royal masters in driving the Obama Administration to war against Syria and Iran was revealed in a March 7 *New York Times* interview with Secretary of State John Kerry. Kerry made what the *Times* characterized as "the most direct public affirmation to date" that the Obama Administration is arming the Syrian opposition.

As recently as March 14, Obama demonstrated the need for his removal by any legal means necessary. Demonstrating complete disdain for the U.S. Constitution's clear statement of Congressional authority to declare war, Obama declared, on Israel's Channel 2 news, when asked about concerns that the United States might be dragged into another war:

"One of the things you learn when you're President of the United States is you get a lot of advice, but ultimately it's your decision...."

Despite the fact that Russia, China, and others demanded that the U.S. "immediately halt the bloodshed and violence and turn to a political dialogue" in Syria, the Obama Administration is rushing toward another illegal war.

The American people have an opportunity to act before this tragedy goes further. Articles of impeachment have already been drawn up against Obama, for his crimes of illegal wars (starting with Libya) and other violations of the Constitution. Another weapon at hand is Rep. Walter Jones' HCR 3, which says that the President commits an impeachable crime if he begins military action without authorization from Congress as the Constitution requires. Kerry admitted that Obama has already taken that action.