

Letter to the President

Mr. President,

Since the start of the Iraq war, I have been racking my brain to find the real reason behind your invasion of Iraq. I considered the possibility of Saddam playing some dangerous politics against the US, such as being in collusion with Al-Qaida. You said it and I believed it. I also considered the possibility of Saddam building an atomic bomb. You said it and I sort of believed it, against my better judgment; as I know that to be able to make an atomic bomb a country needs certain sophistication in science and technology. It turned out that all those claims of yours were based on fabrications and lies. But by the time those lies were exposed it was too late, you had started the war.

The question remained, why did you start the war in Iraq? For a bit I thought that you were an enemy of Islam, like a lot of other "Christians" who are not supposed to be Christians if I go by what views Christ held about non-Jewish people. This view was based upon the anti-Muslim furor that was created by the media. But sir, you were all chummy with the Saudis and the Egyptians. So, even though I held the view that you had the support of a large chunk of population because you were providing them with rivers of flowing Muslim blood, I knew that you were personally not anti-Muslim.

The question still was, why did you start the war in Iraq? Not seeing the answer coming through the proper channels, I started looking at "other possibilities". In trying to see the reason behind the Iraq war, I recalled a statement of yours that ran something like, "He poisoned my dad". But the trouble was that knowing the kind of love American men have for their dads I decided that you would not endanger all those precious American lives for your dad.

Having ruled out your dad as the cause of all that carnage, I was still faced with the question of why you started the war in Iraq. I must admit that for a long time I secretly entertained a rather bizarre scenario. I likened what happened on 9/11 with some scoundrels throwing mud on a pompously clad gentleman and thought we as a nation were exhibiting the wrath of such a gentleman. But we as a nation are very rational people, momentarily we might have acted crazy but we could not have gone on as long as we have.

There was another equally bizarre scenario that I hung onto for a rather long time. I remember that one of Saddam's sons had shot off his mouth about one of the twins; the young American brats who probably would laugh it off. I thought maybe you were sort of ticked off at the suggestion and decided to go crazy old fashion style. This thought kind of came to a climax when Saddam's sons and a grand son got killed. But then, nothing happened. I thought maybe you needed Saddam Hussein packed off to cool down. But then Saddam is packed off and you are still on a war path. This killed off my theory completely, thou' personally I am still sitting on the fence on that.

Back to the drawing board, I started racking my brain again. I am going almost crazy as a result of this stupid pastime. This time I sat down and looked at your buddies, your advisors. It appears that they are either big business or neocons. Getting unbridled access to Iraqi oil and reconstruction projects was in the interest of big business and removing a (remotely) possible threat to Israel and humiliating another Muslim country was the target of the neocons. Now the neocons have got what they wanted and your business buddies have got a lot, though the Iraqi oil has been pawned to China. The situation is bad, looking at the number of casualties and the number of crashing helicopters. Everyone knows, including you sir, that you and your business buddies have no business to be in Iraq. Any army in a foreign and unfamiliar land, where the soldiers would stick out like a sore thumb, is a swarm of sitting ducks. Adding twenty thousand more of them simply means that you are increasing the number of targets and hence of casualties. If there were a reason, I can understand, but is there one?

The business angle too does not completely answer the question of why you started the Iraq war. But then I am hearing about the trouble between Ethiopia and Somalia, about American forces being involved there, and about two American Aircraft carriers getting closer to Iran. This lends some clarity. It appears sir that you want the war to go on, even if you find an "excuse" to pull out of Iraq. Why should you want that? The only reason that comes to mind is that you do not know how to govern without a war on. Possibly you are afraid that if there is no war going on, the Democrats will roast you alive; just what they did to your dad. But then there is the question, why should the nation keep offering the sacrifice of their children to make sure that you complete your two terms successfully?

Sincerely,
Muhammad Zafrullah
Pocatello, ID
Dated: 02-08-07.

PS1. I do apologize for not sending the letter to you before posting it on the internet. It is my experience that if you point out a few things to someone in private, and the guy does not like them, you have had it. I have had bitter experience of that. (I told a fellow Mathematician that by writing papers avoiding mention of my work which he was indirectly using he was at least being dishonest if not a plagiarist. Now the fellow organizes conferences on topics I helped popularize, without inviting me. Also, I wrote a personal letter to a superior MATHEMATICIAN, telling him not to say that the Muslims want to destroy the civilization their forefathers helped build, just blame 9/11 on the terrorists who have no religion but terrorism. When I wrote that I had a job, within a few months I did not have a job. Of course there could be other reasons as I am not a very nice guy, I criticized a book published by my Department's favorite publisher, and of course my name is Muhammad.)

PS2. I realize that I have not said anything positive. I apologize for that and try to make amends. Sir, in my opinion, the only possible solution (if you want one) of the Iraq problem is to involve the countries in the region. Saudis have a lot of influence over the Iraqi Sunnis, Syrians too. Use them. Confront Iran diplomatically and ask the direct question: "Will today's unruly Iraq not be a problem for you tomorrow?" The point is there is a proliferation of weapons in Iraq and this could turn into a proliferation of weapons in Iran. There is a good example in Pakistan. The American weapons did help the "Mujahidin" beat Russia in Afghanistan, but a whole lot of the weapons are now in the hands of miscreants, who are posing a big law and order problem in Pakistan. I am sure that if approached properly the Iranians will understand. I believe the Kurds who are ordinarily fierce fighters would be the easiest to handle, as they hate the prospect of Turkish control. I would love to see a peaceful nook of Iraq made prosperous. This might attract the attention of the Sunnis and possibly Shiites. But the Turks will have to be involved in the peace process, they know Iraq. If Iran understands the danger it is facing in providing weapons to the Shiites, peace can be achieved without much fight. Oh and Sir, Iranians will have to learn a lot more about Nuclear Technology before being able to make an atomic bomb that is not a danger to themselves. I would not worry about them.

PS3. Sorry sir, but I think that I must say this. It is nice to have economic pointers go up, but if the average person is getting poorer, and losing hope of being supported when in need the result can be an ultimate loss of productivity. So, go easy on Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security Please.

M.Z. (02-13-2007)