

OMNI NEWSLETTER, SPECIAL NUMBER 5 to IMPEACH BUSH AND CHENEY, JUNE 21, 2008, WE, THE PEOPLE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND JUSTICE

Editor: Dick Bennett (Previous Impeachment Newsletters, available in OMNI's web site, www.omnicenter.org: 1) Dec. 7, 2006; 2) June 17, 2007; 3) October 25, 2007; 4) Feb. 12, 2008. Plenty of material for your own analysis and letters and calls for impeachment.)

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Kucinich Introduces Impeachment Articles Against Bush

Tuesday 10 June 2008 by: Christopher Kuttruff, t r u t h o u t | Report

Congressman Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) introduced 35 articles of impeachment against President George W. Bush late on Monday during a speech on the House floor.

Kucinich, a former contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, pointed to "high crimes and misdemeanors" committed by the Bush administration, including misrepresenting intelligence in the lead-up to the war, violating domestic and international laws against torture, illegally spying on American citizens, obstructing justice and governmental oversight, and dozens of other violations.

The impeachment resolution came four days after a June 5 Senate Select Intelligence Committee report that vigorously challenged statements made by the Bush administration regarding military intelligence in the runup to the invasion of Iraq. Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee John D. Rockefeller said in a press release, "Before taking the country to war, this Administration owed it to the American people to give them a 100 percent accurate picture of the threat we faced. Unfortunately, our Committee has concluded that the Administration made significant claims that were not supported by the intelligence."

"It is my belief that the Bush Administration was fixated on Iraq, and used the 9/11 attacks by al Qa'ida as justification for overthrowing Saddam Hussein," Rockefeller noted.

While House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-California) and other members of the Democratic leadership maintain that such

a resolution is "off the table," Kucinich, along with a group of his colleagues, has consistently pressed for a more urgent and direct response to the often unilateral and controversial actions of the Bush administration.

Despite the unlikelihood of impeachment gaining much traction in Congress, advocates of such a resolution continue to demand greater accountability of the executive branch.

As Kucinich began to issue his remarks, shuffling and talking could be heard in the background of the House chamber. Responding to the disarray, Kucinich objected to the Speaker, "The House is not in order." After several strikes of Pelosi's gavel, Kucinich started reading his articles into the record.

"In violation of his constitutional oath to faithfully execute the office of president ..." Kucinich stated, "George W. Bush ... both personally and through his subordinates ... illegally spent public dollars on a secret propaganda campaign to manufacture a false cause for war against Iraq."

Kucinich started his speech by referencing a variety of news and intelligence reports regarding White House communications, specifically the White House Iraq Group, which was composed of senior officials (then-National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, then-Deputy National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley, Karl Rove, then-Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Karen Hughes, former chief of staff Andrew Card, then-chief of staff to the Vice President I. Lewis Libby, then-White House press secretary Scott McClellan and others) who "produced white papers detailing so-called intelligence of Iraq's nuclear threat that later proved to be false." These papers included later-debunked claims that Iraq sought uranium and specialized centrifuges for enrichment.

These claims, which were central to the administration's rationale for preemptive action against Iraq, were used, according to Kucinich, to "market an invasion of Iraq to the American people."

Kucinich also noted that the White House Iraq Group papers "were written at same time and by the same people as speeches and talking points prepared for President Bush and for some of his top officials."

Congressman Kucinich went on to challenge the administration's policies toward Iran, as well as its conduct regarding military interrogations.

The resolution comes days after a sharply written letter by 56 Congress members requesting that Attorney General Michael Mukasey investigate potential crimes committed by the Bush administration during the course of its interrogation program. [The letter](#), signed by House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers, Barney Frank, Jan Schakowsky, Dennis Kucinich and other House Democrats, urged that the seriousness of the evidence on the program warrants a thorough investigation by a special counsel.

Revelations about the Bush administration's interrogations policies, along with its systematic practice of controlling information provided to the media and the American people, led Kucinich to conclude that the president has "misled the Congress and the citizens of the United States" and should be held accountable for violating his oaths of office to "faithfully execute the office of the president" and "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution."

CHRISTOPHER KUTTRUFF IS AN EDITOR AND REPORTER FOR TRUTHOUT.

Articles of Impeachment

Dear Friend:

Under circumstances that can best be described as "suspicious," the www.kucinich.us website was crippled early this morning a few hours after Congressman Dennis Kucinich introduced 35 extensively documented Articles of Impeachment against President George W. Bush.

Until we can restore the website and implement additional security measures, you can find the full list and detailed Articles at <http://www.democrats.com/files/amomentoftruth.pdf> and <http://chun.afterdowningstreet.org/amomentoftruth.pdf>

If you would like to show your support for the Congressman's efforts, please go to myinfo.kucinich.us to offer your comments and provide us with contact information so that we can continue to keep you informed.

Thank you
Committee to Re-Elect Congressman Kucinich

Paid for by the Re-Elect Congressman Kucinich Committee

PO Box 110475 | Cleveland | OH | 44111 | 216-252-9000

FROM DAVE DAVISON OF PN0 ON KUCINICH'S ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT

To Members & Friends of the Peace Network of the Ozarks,

We have all heard about Dennis Kucinich presenting 35 articles of impeachment against Bush to the House floor this last Monday night. I watched it on C-SPAN, and he did such a good job to emphasize the gross illegalities of the Bush-Cheny Administration it took him over four hours to make his presentation. On Tuesday night all of the 35 articles were read into the House Record. On Wednesday the House voted to send the impeachment demand to the House Judiciary Committee.

We are planning an updated "Support Impeachment" rally soon.
US PUBLIC FOR IMPEACHMENT

The other day, due to the Kucinich action in the House for impeachment, MSNBC did a live poll on impeachment. Over 700,000 people participated in the poll, which is a large enough segment to make the wishes of America quite plain. I am showing you the MSNBC graph below that indicates 89% of those polled approve, and want impeachment of the white house crazies, starting at the top.


 **LIVE VOTE**

Do you believe President Bush's actions justify impeachment? * 702770 responses


Yes, between the secret spying, the deceptions leading to war and more, there is plenty to justify putting him on trial.

89% 

No, like any president, he has made a few missteps, but nothing approaching "high crimes and misdemeanors."

4.2% 

No, the man has done absolutely nothing wrong. Impeachment would just be a political lynching.

4.6% 

I don't know.

2% 

Not a scientific survey. [Click to learn more](#). Results may not total 100% due to rounding.

Peace.

Dave

“Full House sends Articles of Impeachment to Judiciary”

Thursday, June 12, 2008 8:41 AM (from Larry W)

Submitted by [Bob Fertik](#) on June 11, 2008 - 2:47pm.

- [Dennis Kucinich](#)
- [Impeach.TV](#)
- [ImpeachForChange](#)
- [John Conyers](#)
- [Nancy Pelosi](#)



By a **bipartisan** vote of [251-166](#), the full House of Representatives sent [Dennis Kucinich's 35 Articles of Impeachment](#) to the Judiciary Committee. That means [Chairman John Conyers](#) now has the power to



decide whether to hold impeachment hearings - or not. Incredibly, **24 Republicans** voted with 227 Democrats; the 166 no votes came exclusively from Republicans.

So what will Conyers do? After the [Downing Street Memo](#) was published on May 1, 2005, Democrats.com worked closely with Conyers to hold the famous basement hearings featuring Cindy Sheehan, Ray McGovern, and John Bonifaz. In August 2006, Conyers published all of the evidence of Bush's crimes in [The Constitution in Crisis](#). Many of us believed he would begin impeachment proceedings if Democrats won the House, which they did that November.

But in the spring of 2006, Nancy Pelosi declared impeachment "off the table." And when Democrats took control and Conyers was sworn in as Judiciary Chairman, he fell firmly into line behind the Speaker.

(Conyers insists Pelosi did not threaten to deny him the Chairmanship.)

Since 2005, Conyers has received millions of impeachment petitions. Hundreds if not thousands of activists have spoken to him personally. But he remains adamantly opposed to hearings, for one simple reason: he fears it will hurt the Democratic candidate for President (now Barack Obama) in November.

<http://www.democrats.com/house-sends-impeachment-to-john-conyers>

LETTER FROM PRES. OF PNO ON **IRAN AND IMPEACHMENT: WE, THE PEOPLE, MUST TAKE ACTION**

From: peacenet@ozarkpeace.net [mailto:peacenet@ozarkpeace.net]

Sent: Friday, June 20, 2008 12:21 PM

To: lgddavison@aol.com

Subject: The Prospective Attack On Iran

To Members & Friends of the Peace Network of the Ozarks,

The prospective attack on Iran is heating up. Many of us are seeing the blathering Bush rhetoric on television, and reading the latest internet reports of the Israeli practice attack maneuver that describes the practice utilizing 100 war planes. This is getting more and more serious, and all without correct methods of diplomacy by reasonable minded men. The cowboy diplomacy and considerations of the Bush Administration fall far short of understanding what agreements may be made, and what will happen if Iran is attacked by the war mongering right wing leaders of America and Israel.

Experts are saying that if the attack occurs the price of oil will increase to \$300 per barrel immediately. If we think we are having a hard time in our daily routines now in just moving around for the necessary purposes of work and family, we haven't seen anything yet compared to the difficulties that will come to America and the entire world in energy costs. What do we think that will cause in the American transportation industry, the many trucking companies that serve America? Will food and supplies be readily available to American shelves when the independent truckers, the vast majority of trucks on the road, have to increase their prices astronomically in order to stay alive in their business? What will the price effects be in the insurance costs of the ocean going oil tankers who will suffer war risks in their business? What do we think the reaction of the entire world will be who will be equally affected by the tremendously increased oil price?

Regardless of the administration's cowboy bravado, our own military indicates large concerns in what the reaction to the attack will be. Shites throughout the middle east will unite to attack our soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan as a minimum. Its no telling what the reaction may be with retaliatory missile strikes on the nearby American bases, and on Israel, and maybe on the oil fields. After all the back and forth blathering for so many months in the poor cowboy tactics, do our leaders really believe Iran has not

taken many steps to withstand an attack with their most lethal weapons that will respond to the attack?

This is crazy!!! Consequently there are a growing number of notable Americans who are standing up for impeachment to begin as a method to deter the attack and dramatically expanded war. The former commander of American Forces in Kuwait stood up the other day to recommend charges against Bush for war crimes. Ray McGovern, the former CIA analyst we met in Springfield over a year ago, while undergoing treatment for cancer, and many other notable Americans, are literally pounding on the table for impeachment action before something really bad happens. Kucinich is ready to go with another 25 articles of impeachment additional to the the initial 35 articles presented to the House last week... while the national Democratic leaders and the Judiciary Committee are just sitting on their duff. It is time for our 2006 elected leaders to stop fooling around and rolling over for their Bush tummy rub, and AIPAC money in their bank accounts.

All Peace Keepers... let's all write a letter to our local newspaper reporter. The Springfield News-Leader has assigned a bright, new, energetic reporter to cover such actions and events. His name is Chad Livengood, and his email address is... clivengood@springfi.gannett.com [WHO ARE THE EQUIVALENT REPORTS WITH TMN, NAT, AND ADG?] Also please send a copy to PNO by pasting it in an email you can punch back on the reply button, and we will print them and hand carry them to the News-Leader. We will also hand deliver them to local offices of Blunt and McCaskill. [GOOD IDEAS FOR US.]

Print this email and give it to others, your friends and neighbors, with our email address...

peacenet@ozarkpeace.net [ANOTHER GOOD IDEA]

We NEED to pay attention to this, and we NEED your help. Everybody please follow through with a letter. We have to make the consequences of the very ill advised attack known to our community.

I am embedding a copy of an article from this morning. See below.

Thanks to all. We all always wish for peace, and now it is time for us to pray in our own various ways for the insanity to be halted in time.

Peace to all, including our many Republican friends who have become much more aware of the poor leadership and their antics in their quest for profit and oil, not to mention the poor economic policies that are breaking our country's economy.

Dave Davison Pres. PNO <http://www.ozarkpeace.net/>

How Iran would retaliate if it comes to war

Military analysts say the Islamic Republic would strike back in unconventional ways - targeting American interests in Iraq and Afghanistan.

By [Scott Peterson](#) | Staff writer of *The Christian Science Monitor*
from the June 20, 2008 edition

Istanbul, Turkey - Pressure is building on Iran. This week Europe agreed to new sanctions and President Bush again suggested something more serious - possible military strikes - if the Islamic Republic doesn't bend to the will of the international community on its nuclear program.

But increasingly military analysts are warning of severe consequences if the US begins a shooting war with Iran. While Iranian forces are no match for American technology on a conventional battlefield, Iran has shown that it can bite back in unconventional ways.

Iranian networks in Iraq and Afghanistan could imperil US interests there; American forces throughout the Gulf region could be targeted by asymmetric methods and lethal rocket barrages; and Iranian partners across the region - such as Hezbollah in Lebanon - could be mobilized to engage in an anti-US fight.

Iran's response could also be global, analysts say, but the scale would depend on the scale of the US attack. "One very important issue from a US intelligence perspective, [the Iranian reaction] is probably more unpredictable than the Al Qaeda threat," says Magnus Ranstorp at the Center for Asymmetric Threat Studies at the Swedish National Defense College in Stockholm.

"I doubt very much our ability to manage some of the consequences," says Mr. Ranstorp, noting that Iranian revenge attacks in the past have been marked by "plausible deniability" and have had global reach.

"If you attack Iran you are unleashing a firestorm of reaction internally that will only strengthen revolutionary forces, and externally in the region," says Ranstorp. "It's a nightmare scenario for any contingency planner, and I think you really enter the twilight zone if you strike Iran."

Though the US military has since early 2007 accused Iran's Qods Force - an elite element of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) - of providing anti-US militias in Iraq with lethal roadside bombs, and of training and backing "special groups" in actions that the US government alleges have cost "thousands" of lives, US commanders have played down Iran's military capabilities.

Even Admiral William Fallon, who publicly opposed a US strike on Iran before he resigned in April, dismissed Iran as a military threat. "Get serious," Adm. Fallon told Esquire in March. "These guys are ants. When the time comes, you crush them."

But that has not kept Iran from rhetorical chest-beating, with an active military manpower of 540,000 - the largest in the Middle East - dependent on some of the lowest per capita defense spending in the region. Iran "can deal fatal blows to aggressor America by unpredictable and creative tactical moves," the senior commander Brig. Gen. Gholam Ali Rashid said in late May. "It is meaningless to back down before an enemy who has targeted the roots of our existence."

Iran's supreme religious leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei also warned of far-reaching revenge in 2006. "The Americans should know that if they assault Iran, their interests will be harmed anywhere in the world that is possible," he said. "The Iranian nation will respond to any blow with double the intensity."

Analysts say Iran has a number of tools to make good on those threats and take pride in taking on a more powerful enemy. "This is not something they are shying away from," says Alex Vatanka, a Middle East security analyst at Jane's Information Group in Washington.

"They say: 'Conventional warfare is not something we can win against the US, but we have other assets in the toolbox,' " says Mr. Vatanka, noting that the IRGC commander appointed last fall has been "marketed as this genius behind asymmetric warfare doctrine."

"What they are really worried about is the idea of massive aerial attacks on literally thousands of targets inside Iran," says Vatanka, also an adjunct scholar at the Middle East Institute. "Their reading of America's intentions in that scenario would be twofold: One is to obviously dismantle as much as possible the nuclear program; and [the other], indirectly try to weaken the [Islamic] regime."

Any US-Iran conflict would push up oil prices, and though Iran could disrupt shipping lanes in the Persian Gulf, its weak economy depends on oil revenues.

But nearby US forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Gulf provide a host of targets. Iran claimed last October that it could rain down 11,000 rockets upon "the enemy" within one minute of an attack and that rate "would continue."

Further afield, Israel is within range of Iran's Shahab-3 ballistic missiles, and Hezbollah claims its rockets - enhanced and resupplied by Iran since the 2006 war to an estimated 30,000 - can now hit anywhere in the Jewish state, including its nuclear plant at Dimona.

Closer to home, Iran has honed a swarming tactic, in which small and lightly armed speedboats come at far larger warships from different directions. A classified Pentagon war game in 2002 simulated just such an attack and in it the Navy lost 16 major warships, according to a report in The New York Times last January.

"The sheer numbers involved overloaded their ability, both mentally and electronically, to handle the attack," Lt. Gen. K. Van Riper, a retired Marine Corps officer who commanded the swarming force, told the Times. "The whole thing was over in five, maybe 10 minutes."

During the 1990s, Iranian agents were believed to be behind the assassinations of scores of regime opponents in Europe, and German prosecutors issued an arrest warrant for Iran's intelligence minister.

Iran and Hezbollah are alleged to have collaborated in the May 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in revenge for Israel's killing of a Hezbollah leader months before. Argentine prosecutors charge that they jointly struck again in 1994, bombing a Jewish community center in the Argentine capital that killed 85, one month after Israel attacked a Hezbollah base in Lebanon.

With some 30,000 on the payroll by one count, Iranian intelligence "is a superpower in intelligence terms in the region; they have global reach because of their reconnaissance ability and quite sophisticated ways of inflicting pain," says Ranstorp. "They have been expanding their influence.... Who would have predicted that Argentina would be the area that Hezbollah and the Iranians collectively would respond?"

Past examples show that "Tehran recognizes that at times its interest are best served by restraint," says a report on consequences of a strike on Iran published this week by Patrick Clawson and Michael Eisenstadt of The Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

But Iran could target the US, too, depending on the magnitude of any US strike. "Iran's capacity for terror and subversion remains one of its most potent levers in the event of a confrontation with the United States," says the report, adding that "success" in delaying Iran's nuclear programs could backfire.

If "US and world opinion were so angered by the strikes that they refused to support further pressure against Iran's nuclear ambitions, then prevention could paradoxically [eventually ensure] Iran's open pursuit of nuclear weapons," concludes the report.

And the long list of unconventional tactics should not be taken for granted in Tehran, says Vatanka, noting that the Islamic system's top priority is survival.

"So the Iranians have to be careful," says Vatanka. "Just because the US doesn't have the will

right now, or the ability to produce the kind of stick that they would fear, doesn't mean the way of confrontation is going to pay off for them in the long run."

Two articles from Ray McGovern. In between is a message from Chris Rice about how to mobilize. (From Babs Bakie)

*"Cheney Impeachment Not Off the Table" By Ray McGovern, Consortium News
Posted on March 21, 2008, Printed on May 25, 2008
<http://www.alternet.org/story/79761/>*

You would not know it for the news blackout, but New Yorkers of Rep. Jerrold Nadler's district held a Town Hall/Impeachment Forum last Sunday to encourage Nadler, chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, to begin impeachment proceedings against Vice President Dick Cheney.

Panelists included former congresswoman Elizabeth Holtzman, former Reagan Justice Department attorney Bruce Fein, human rights attorney and Harper's commentator Scott Horton, and John Nirenberg, the activist who at the turn of the year walked from Boston to Washington, D.C., in a futile attempt to meet with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on impeachment.

The organizers had asked me to be on the panel, but I had to send regrets and submitted a statement instead (see below). A video of the proceedings will be posted on afterdowningstreet.org.

Taking Stock

In a post mortem the next evening, the organizers reflected on what seemed to be a mixed picture of good and bad news.

On the positive side, Judson Memorial Church was crammed to overflowing with 300 folks. And this, despite the fact that most were already aware that Nadler had announced (late Friday afternoon) that he would be a no-show. He did not even send a representative.

The panelists' remarks were compelling. Blame for inaction on impeachment was laid squarely on our invertebrate Congress. (But ouch, that familiar whining can get a bit tiresome.)

The audience was described as well-educated, nonfringe, and polite.

On the negative side, despite Herculean efforts to interest the "mainstream media," no one showed. And the enthusiasm of those hardy souls trying to spur action on impeachment was dampened by continuing frustration at the obstacles, as politicians like Nadler continue to put political expedience above their sworn duty to protect and defend the Constitution.

Tories back in charge

It took some 230 years, but the Tories are back in charge -- I mean the Nadlers, the Conyers, the Pelosis, so bereft of the courage of our forebears to defy a new King George, preferring to let him dis us the people and trash the Constitution. Remember those stirring final words of the Declaration of Independence? "We mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." We have come a long way. Surely, the Founders are rolling over in their

graves.

Many of our forebears were also well-educated and nonfringe; fortunately, they were NOT polite.

Is it not clear, finally, that the time for politeness is over?

It is up to us, now, whether we shall have constitutional separation of powers or shall have kings. It is up to us whether an unrestrained executive will be able to march our children and grandchildren off to an endless series of resource wars likely to dominate this century.

The time for talking is over. Impeachment proceedings must begin. And no one is going to get that done but us.

We need to acknowledge that one of the hurdles is outrage fatigue; it is hard to decide where to start among the many high crimes and misdemeanors of which Vice President Cheney is demonstrably guilty. From my perspective as a former intelligence officer, we certainly cannot allow to escape censure Cheney's conjuring up false "intelligence" to justify what Nuremberg defined as the "supreme international crime" -- a war of aggression -- in Iraq.

My colleagues and I in Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity could see what was happening early on. That is why, in the first appeal of its kind by an intelligence alumni group, we wrote to President George W. Bush on July 14, 2003: "We strongly recommend that you ask for Cheney's immediate resignation (Memorandum for the President, "Intelligence Unglued").

As I mention in my statement to the NYC Town Hall, former CIA director George Tenet has since written that Cheney's warmongering "went well beyond what our analysis would support," and apparently came as something of a surprise to the president himself.

The Founders knew that, human nature being what it is, abuses like these were inevitable somewhere down the line. That's why they took such pains to provide an orderly political procedure to enable us to deal promptly and responsibly with such high crimes and misdemeanors. I doubt it ever entered their minds that their successors, for perceived partisan political advantage, would shun that orderly procedure upon which so much now depends.

The process is called impeachment; the rules are clear.

All it takes is courage. And I do not refer here to the invertebrates in Congress.

I mean us. Can we handle the truth? Can we press for our rights as courageously as the Founders? Everything hinges on our answers to these questions.

Chris Rice www.votestrike.com:

Sooner or later all freedom loving Americans will realize that the only way to stop those who would bleed our nation dry, dismantle our constitution, and dissolve our national sovereignty is to **say I will not work for you, buy from you, fight for you, or die for you, until the criminals are gone from the halls of our government.**

Call to action: No work, No school on September 11, 2008. It also includes "no shopping;" a suspension of all purchasing during the strike. 75% of our economy is consumer spending, when Bush says to shop, we must STOP!

The general strike calls for participants to "Hit the Streets." **But why spend our time protesting in DC to be ignored? Unless we get in the streets outside our rep's personal residences- who is going to care?**

We need to mobilize locally- & demand national action. Few of us could go to Washington, DC- but many of us- can go to our city halls or state legislatures- or local Congressional offices.

Tell the government that we're fed up with lies, war, torture, corruption, & special interest funding our elections & our media.

Strikes have brought civil rights in the U.S. & around the world. Help make our voices louder than the mainstream media & corporate dollars.

"It is not the function of our Government to keep the citizen from falling into error; it is the function of the citizen to keep the Government from falling into error".

U.S. Supreme Court, in American Communication Association v. Douds, 339 U.S. 382, 442

In order to get involved, here are the five best steps to take now:

- 1) Sign up with your email address HERE in order to get updates, e-alerts@votestrike.com
- 2) Mark the day on your calendar and plan to be at a protest in your community,
- 3) Send this URL to all your friends, post it to forums, put it on your personal pages, <http://www.votestrike.com>
- 4) Be a volunteer activist, ask us how.
- 5) Take the lead and help organize a protest on 9/11

SECOND STATEMENT BY RAY MCGOVERN

*"Is Impeachment Necessary to Protect the Constitution?"
Town Hall Meeting/Impeachment Forum March 9, 2008*

Congressman Nadler, I am Ray McGovern, born and bred in the Bronx a bit north of your district.

I regret not being able to be with you in person to give my perspective on whether impeachment is necessary to protect the Constitution -- and specifically, whether the manufacturing of false intelligence to "justify" an unprovoked war fits the category of "high crime or misdemeanor."

I was an analyst at the CIA for 27 years after serving as an Army infantry/intelligence officer in the early '60s. You may recall that we first met on June 16, 2005, in the basement of the Capitol, the only room made available to congressman John Conyers to take testimony on the Downing Street Minutes.

The minutes were the official British record of a briefing of then-Prime Minister Tony Blair on July 23, 2002. At that briefing, the chief of British intelligence reported on his discussions with his counterpart in Washington, who told him three days earlier that, President George W. Bush had decided to make war on Iraq and that "the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy."

In my testimony in the Capitol that day I drew attention to the words of Vice President Dick Cheney on August 26, 2002 -- words that framed the discussion for the next 45 days during which Congress was deliberately misled into giving the president approval to make war on Iraq.

This is what Cheney said:

"We now know that Saddam has resumed his efforts to acquire nuclear weapons. Among other sources, we've gotten this from the firsthand testimony of defectors -- including Saddam's own son-in-law."

This was a lie.

Saddam's son-in-law told us just the opposite when he defected in 1995.

You can find it on page 13 of his debriefing report. He said: "All weapons -- biological, chemical, missile, nuclear were destroyed."

Cheney continued:

"Simply stated, there is no doubt that Saddam Hussein now has weapons of mass destruction ... Many of us are convinced that [Saddam] will acquire nuclear weapons fairly soon."

In a memoir published last year, then CIA Director George Tenet complained that Cheney did not follow the usual practice of clearing the speech with the CIA, and that what Cheney said "went well beyond what our analysis could support." Tenet added his "impression" that "the president really wasn't any more aware of what his number two was going to say." Yet, Tenet admits that he did not raise the issue with either the president or vice president. Tenet was all too well aware that the intelligence was being "fixed around the policy."

The power to intimidate

Intimidated by the vice president, Tenet ended up ordering his analysts, my former colleagues, to prepare a National Intelligence Estimate to Cheney's terms of reference -- you remember, the one that said Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and ties with al-Qaeda; the NIE that appeared just ten days before Congress voted to give the president the power to make war on Iraq.

Col. Lawrence Wilkerson, who was chief of staff to then Secretary of State Colin Powell, and who chaired the preparation of Powell's Feb. 5, 2003, speech at the United Nations, was asked about all this when Wilkerson testified before Congress on June 26, 2006.

The question came from Republican Congressman Walter Jones of North Carolina: Why was it that a small number of individuals got so much power in the administration that they "had more influence than the professionals?"

Wilkerson gave a three-word answer: "the vice president."

Torture

It is an open secret that Vice President Cheney was, and continues to be the prime mover behind torture. As some will recall, speaking on open radio Cheney called the use of water boarding a "no-brainer."

It was his lawyer, David Addington, who prepared the Jan. 25, 2002, memorandum signed by then White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales, recommending that the laws against torture could be circumvented.

George Bush applied that advice in his own presidential memorandum of Feb. 7, 2002, launching our country onto "the dark side," as Cheney has put it. That memorandum opened

the gaping loophole through which the administration drove the Mack truck of torture.

High crimes? Misdemeanors? Who will argue the point?

The Constitution

Congressman Nadler, articles of impeachment for Dick Cheney have sat in your in-box since last November. You are chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution; you have refused to take action.

As an Army officer I took an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States from all enemies, foreign and domestic. You took that same basic oath as a congressman.

With all due respect, let me suggest you have a duty to act on that oath -- and not on some promise you may have made to avoid anything that could be viewed as divisive and thus jeopardize Democratic Party election wins in November.

I hope you will agree that the transcendent value is to protect the Constitution, and for that, impeachment is indeed necessary. Please take the articles of impeachment regarding Dick Cheney out of your in-box and launch the investigation.

Thank you. Ray McGovern

Former CIA analyst Ray McGovern is co-founder of Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity.

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View this story online at: <http://www.alternet.org/story/79761/>

NEW PLAY ON IMPEACHMENT

We have some incredible news, we're doing a PLAY!!!

On her way back from the Take Back America Conference last week Shirley Golub, who is challenging Nancy Pelosi for the Democratic primary nomination in San Francisco in June, heard from a playwright working with impeachment scholar Bruce Fein on a new impeachment passion play with a socko surprise ending that will have you on your feet clapping and cheering, and Shirley has stepped up to finance a full legit theater production of this inspirational and education! all new play, and with your help we can make it happen in a couple weeks.

Picture this scene in your mind.

The audience is cast as the members of the U.S. Senate hearing evidence in the impeachment trial of George Bush and Dick Cheney. With all the damning evidence presented of their many high crimes, the lies to go to war, the illegal wiretaps, the secret torture of detainees, the outing of a CIA agent, the law defying signing statements and everything else, it looks very bad for Bush and Cheney for anyone with a fair, open and patriotic mind. But Bush still remains arrogant, and at the end he taunts the audience, thinking he will still be able to skate away from the whole thing.

"And that's why I'm going to finish my term ! as your president . . . and who's going to stand up to stop me?" And there is silence in the

theater. And then . . . we hear a single voice from the back of the audience, calling out in loud voice from the dark.

"I . . . I will stand up. I will for impeachment."

And whole audience turns their heads to see who this person is who has stood up to protect and defend the Constitution.

And then we hear another voice from the other side of the audience, just as brave and courageous,

"I . . . I too will stand up. Now there are two of us standing together. If that's all it took to make it happen, to just stand up in our seats right now, will we do it?"

And then another and another, and it turns in to a standing ovation with everyone clapping and cheering, "Impeach, Impeach!!!".

THE END of the Bush/Cheney nightmare.

Have you got a lump in your throat? Is that amazing or what? To have an inspirational mobilizing vehicle, where people can actually visualize what it would be like to make impeachment happen now, with your help.

Impeachment Play Donations; <http://www.shirley08.com/donations.php>

Paid for by Shirley Golub for Congress

If you would like to get alerts like these, you can do so at <http://www.shirley08.com/in.htm>

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about the growing "**On The Table**" **impeachment movement**, and take heart that in just the next couple months we can apply enough pressure ...

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[Movement to impeach George W. Bush - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

5 Criticism of the **impeachment movement**; 6 See also; 7 References; 8 Further reading

..... "**Impeachment Should Be on the Table**": Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN). ...

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Maverick Republican Drops WC Bomb on Bush/Cheney

Headlined on 2/20/08:

by [Dan DeWalt](#)

In a packed hearing room on Feb 19th, under a carved wooden sign reading "Live Free or Die"-, the New Hampshire House committee of State-Federal Relations and Veterans' Affairs heard testimony on Representative Betty Hall's HR 24, which calls on the U.S. Congress to begin impeachment hearings for George W. Bush and Dick Cheney.

What was most notable about the four straight hours of testimony was not that opponents of the resolution could only muster two people willing to testify against it, both Republican stalwarts using selected excerpts from Jefferson's parliamentary manual or from the bill itself, whose arguments were embarrassingly empty....

The most remarkable moment came late in the afternoon when Republican House member Steve Vaillancourt strode into the room to testify. After passing out copies of the second chapter of Patrick Buchanan's "Day of Reckoning"- as supporting evidence, Vaillancourt opened his remarks quoting "fools rush in where wise men fear to tread"-, and it sounded like a set up to condemn a rush to impeach. But instead he said that Betty Hall is neither fool nor wise man, but is a model of courage and that her impeachment resolution should be supported.

And then the fun began.

http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne_dan_dewa_080220_maverick_republican.htm

Impeach Bush & Cheney for War Crimes & Crimes against Humanity!

BRATTLEBORO, VT VOTERS AND IN ANOTHER TOWN CALL FOR THE INDICTMENT OF BUSH AND CHENEY FOR WAR CRIMES. TMN (3-5-08).

SENATOR LINCOLN (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.

Fayetteville office: 251-1380

Senator Mark Pryor: Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

CONGRESSMAN Boozman: Lowell office: 479-725-0400.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldng., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

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END OF NEWSLETTER #5 ON IMPEACHMENT, June 21, 2008