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Sy Hersh: Cheney Helped Plan Israel's Attack on Hezbollah

Posted by [David DeGraw](#) at 10:49 PM on August 13, 2006.

Sy Hersh's latest article reveals that the Bush administration, especially Dick Cheney's office, was involved in planning Israel's attack on Hezbollah and considers it "a prelude to a potential American preemptive attack" on Iran.

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The evidence keeps piling up: The Neocons want war with Iran.

Earlier this month, Sidney Blumenthal [released information](#) claiming that the NSA has been working with Israel to "monitor whether Syria and Iran are supplying new armaments to Hezbollah" and that Dick Cheney is hoping to use the NSA intelligence to create a "pretext" for expanding the conflict to a "four-front war" involving Syria and Iran.

And now, Sy Hersh has just [released information](#) claiming that the Bush administration, especially Dick Cheney's office, was involved in planning Israel's attack on Hezbollah and considers it "a prelude to a potential American preemptive attack" on Iran:



Also by [David DeGraw](#)

[Democracy Now! War & Peace Report -](#)

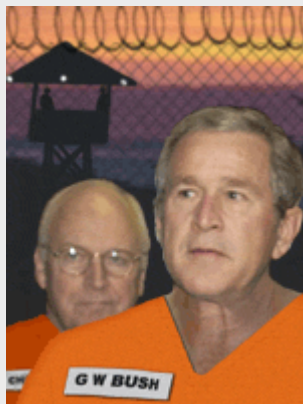
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"The Bush Administration... was closely involved in the planning of Israel's retaliatory attacks. President Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney were convinced, current and former intelligence and diplomatic officials told me, that a successful Israeli Air Force bombing campaign against Hezbollah's heavily fortified underground-missile and command-and-control complexes in Lebanon could ease Israel's security concerns and also serve as a prelude to a potential American preemptive attack to destroy Iran's nuclear installations.... Israel had devised a plan for attacking Hezbollah—and shared it with Bush Administration officials—well before the July 12th kidnappings."

Hersh then goes on to quote a "Middle East expert" who said that:

"The White House was more focused on stripping Hezbollah of its missiles, because, if there was to be a military option against Iran's nuclear facilities, it had to get rid of the weapons that Hezbollah could use in a potential retaliation at Israel."

According to Hersh, the US and Israeli air forces began strategizing and sharing information on Lebanon and Iran in the beginning of the spring and "discussions reached the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld." Hersh then references an early summer meeting between Israeli officials and Dick Cheney:

"Earlier this summer, before the Hezbollah kidnappings, the U.S. government consultant said, several Israeli officials visited Washington, separately, 'to get a green light for the bombing operation and to find out how much the United States would bear.' The consultant added, 'Israel began with Cheney. It wanted to be sure that it had his support and the support of his office and the Middle East desk of the National Security Council.' After that, 'persuading Bush was never a problem, and Condi Rice was on board,' the consultant said.

The Israeli plan, according to the former senior intelligence official, was 'the mirror image of what the United States has been planning for Iran.' Cheney's office supported the Israeli plan... They believed that Israel should move quickly in its air war against Hezbollah. A former intelligence officer said, 'We told Israel, 'Look, if you guys have to go, we're behind you all the way. But we think it should be sooner rather than later—the longer you wait, the less time we have to evaluate and plan for Iran before Bush gets out of office.'"

And as if all of this is not scary enough, a source has told Hersh that the Bush administration is "mishandling" intelligence on Hezbollah and Iran the same way they did with "intelligence" on Iraq's WMDs.

In this video clip, Sy Hersh discusses these revelations with Wolf Blitzer on CNN's *Situation Room*.

David DeGraw is AlterNet's video blogger.

[Democracy Now: War & Peace Report](#)

August 14

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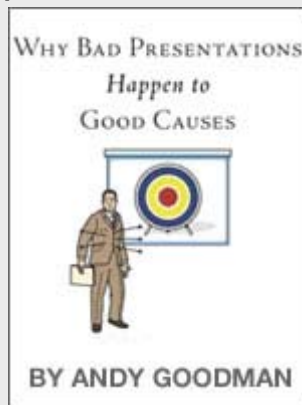
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Clark: Planning started as early as 2001. PNAC: by Summer 2000

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Posted by: jreinhard1 on Aug 14, 2006 7:07 AM
 information from <http://www.globallresearch.ca/index.php?context=viewArticle&code=A%20C20060723&articleId=2797>

connects information from multiple websites that identify PNAC and Clark book as sources that the war for oil and water was identified as early as the summer of 2000.

According to General Wesley Clark--the Pentagon, by late 2001, was Planning to Attack Lebanon

"Winning Modern Wars" (page 130) General Clark states the following:

"As I went back through the Pentagon in November 2001, one of the senior military staff officers had time for a chat. Yes, we were still on track for going against Iraq, he said. But there was more. This was being discussed as part of a five-year campaign plan, he said, and there were a total of seven countries, beginning with Iraq, then Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Iran, Somalia and Sudan.

...He said it with reproach--with disbelief, almost--at the breadth of the vision. I moved the conversation away, for this was not something I wanted to hear. And it was not something I wanted to see moving forward, either. ...I left the Pentagon that afternoon deeply concerned."

PNAC - And, as PNAC's website (<http://www.newamericancentury.org>) notes, that the lead author of that plan, Thomas Donnelly, was a top official of Lockheed Martin--a company well acquainted with war and its profit potential.

It is important to note that the US is already in the Sudan and Somalia as even US newspapers reported but is primarily for protection of oil sources and the route around the African horn.

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Iraqi leaders sign oil agreements with Iran

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Posted by: jreinhard1 on Aug 14, 2006 7:14 AM
 Bahrain news Agency reports Iraq and Iran are jointly working on oil agreements. Of course, this will be considered Iranian interference when the only countries that could interfere are the US and UK.

Sick of being lied to by the US propoganda mouthpiece call "the press".

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jennherne

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Posted by: jennherne on Aug 14, 2006 9:20 AM

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"All war, all the time". That's these guys. They have no cumpunction about killing people, including our own troops.

How can there be one sane person who still believes that they were NOT involved in 9/11?

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Grim thought...

Posted by: bogtrotters on Aug 14, 2006 10:05 AM

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...Will the November mid-term elections be too late to stop these guys?

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» **RE: Grim thought...** Posted by: getagrip

Cheney is part of W's handler's 'brain trust'

Posted by: larry278 on Aug 14, 2006 10:21 AM

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Sy is usually right in his stories. The scary thing for me is that R B Cheney is the brains behind W. As if 'accidently' shooting a hunting buddy isn't bad enough, Elmer Fudd contributed to planning Israel's failed invasion of Lebanon. With Cheney in power al Qaeda need do nothing to bring about the collapse of the USA.

Is it true that comics are preparing routines which will call any invasion of Iran which fails the W-Dick Cheney Desert Open in the spirit of Jimmy Carter's failed attempt to rescue hostages which was called the Jimmy Carter Desert Open?

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Smoke and Mirrors

Posted by: getagrip on Aug 14, 2006 12:07 PM

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Yes Sy Hersh is usually right. He should be.

Weapons of Mass Distraction.....Problem, Reaction, Solution

It's all the same.....smoke and mirrors.

This is another example.

They give us the information through people like Sy, knowing it makes no difference and actually helps to move their agenda forward.

As long as the info is out there nobody can claim it wasn't.

But it also allows them to deny it until it is proven, which it rarely ever is. Nobody ever really goes after high level ministers/politicians. Articles may be written about them or even books, maybe even a movie, but how does that really effect the person or the agendas they have helped move forward over the many years of their career? It doesn't.

This is how criminal acts are perpetrated within governments around the world. Smoke and mirrors.

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