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(agent provocateur)
04/02/06 01:25 PM**Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006** [Post [294534972](#)]**Category:** News & Opinion (General) **Topic:** International Affairs**Synopsis:** The groundwork of propaganda has been carefully laid to justify a pre-emptive attack on Iran in April**Source:** [AntiWar.com](#)**Published:** April 2, 2006 **Author:** Jorge Hirsch**For Education and Discussion Only. Not for Commercial Use.**

War Against Iran, April 2006

Biological Threat and Executive Order 13292

History repeats itself, but always with new twists. We are back to the good old days when a [Declaration of War](#) preceded the start of a war. Such declaration [occurred on March 16th, 2006](#). Reversing the old order, we are now in the "[Sitzkrieg](#)", to be followed shortly by an aerial "[Blitzkrieg](#)" in the coming days.

In the old days, Congress declared war, and [directed the Executive to take action](#). In the new millenium, [the Executive declared war last March 16th](#), then Congress will pass [H.R. 282](#), "To hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its threatening behavior and to support a transition to democracy in Iran." This bill and [previous ones like it](#) are in direct violation of the legally binding [Algiers Accords](#)[pdf] signed by the United States and Iran on January 19, 1981, that states "*The United States pledges that it is and from now on will be the policy of the United States not to intervene, directly or indirectly, politically or militarily, in Iran's internal affairs*"; however, this is clearly of [no interest](#) to the [353 policymakers](#) sponsoring the bill.

The US promised Russia and China that [the UN Security Council statement just approved](#) will not be a trigger for military action after 30 days; true to its promise, the US will attack *before* the 30-day deadline imposed by the UNSC for Iran to stop its nuclear enrichment activity, i.e. before the end of April. The "justification" is likely to be an alleged threat of [imminent biological attack with Iran's involvement](#).

The Declaration of War against

Iran

In the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, the [Congressional Declaration of December 8, 1941](#) stated: " Whereas the Imperial Government of Japan has committed unprovoked acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial Government of Japan which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and the president is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial Government of Japan."

Similarly, the formal war declaration against Iran, the [National Security Strategy of March 16, 2006](#), stated:

- "We may face no greater challenge from a single country than from Iran."
- "The Iranian regime sponsors terrorism; threatens Israel; seeks to thwart Middle East peace; disrupts democracy in Iraq; and denies the aspirations of its people for freedom."
- "[T]he first duty of the United States Government remains what it always has been: to protect the American people and American interests. It is an enduring American principle that this duty obligates the government to anticipate and counter threats, using all elements of national power, before the threats can do grave damage."
- "The greater the threat, the greater is the risk of inaction – and the more compelling the case for taking anticipatory action to defend ourselves, even if uncertainty remains as to the time and place of the enemy's attack. There are few greater threats than a terrorist attack with WMD."
- "To forestall or prevent such hostile acts by our adversaries, the United States will, if necessary, act preemptively."
- "When the consequences of an attack with WMD are potentially so devastating, we cannot afford to stand idly by as grave dangers materialize."
- "[T]here will always be some uncertainty about the status of hidden programs."
- "Advances in biotechnology provide greater opportunities for state and non-state actors to obtain dangerous pathogens and equipment."
- "Biological weapons also pose a grave WMD threat because of the risks of contagion that would spread disease across large populations and around the globe."
- "Countering the spread of biological weapons will also enhance our Nation's ability to respond to pandemic public health threats, such as avian influenza."

This has to be combined with the 2005 U.S. State Department ["FINDING. The United States judges that, based on all available information, Iran has an offensive biological weapons program in violation of the BWC."](#)

In addition, the March 16 declaration makes it clear that the US [will use nuclear weapons](#) in the war against Iran:

- "...using all elements of national power..."
- "Safe, credible, and reliable nuclear forces continue to play a critical role. We are strengthening deterrence by developing a New Triad composed of offensive strike systems (both nuclear and improved conventional capabilities)."

and this is further reinforced by the [just released "National Military Strategy to](#)

["Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction"\[pdf\]](#) that states "Offensive operations may include kinetic (both conventional and nuclear) and/or non-kinetic options (e.g. information operations) to deter or defeat a WMD threat or subsequent use of WMD."

There is of course also the [claim that Iran is a threat because it intends to develop nuclear weapons](#). The sole purpose of that claim, which [flies in the face of all available evidence](#), is to [generate a diplomatic stalemate at the UN](#) that will allow Bush to state that [other nations share the US concern but not the resolve to act](#). However the actual trigger for the bombing to begin will not be the [long-term and by now discredited nuclear threat](#), rather it is likely to be [the threat of an imminent biological attack](#).

Casus Belli

There is no casus belli against Iran based on its nuclear program. The [IAEA has found no evidence](#) that in the 20 years of its development there has been any diversion of nuclear material to military applications. The Bush administration now [officially acknowledges](#) that the issue with Iran arises from a ["loophole" in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty](#), that allows non-nuclear countries to pursue uranium enrichment. [However it is not a loophole, the right to a full civilian nuclear program is an integral part of the compromise](#), that made non-nuclear countries agree to it. For the US to call it a loophole means to abrogate the treaty unilaterally and propose a different treaty that non-nuclear countries will have no motivation to agree to.

The Bush administration declares that a civilian nuclear program that gives Iran ["knowledge"](#) or ["capability"](#) to build a nuclear weapon is unacceptable. It could apply exactly the same logic to biotechnology. [The State Department says that](#) "Iran is expanding its biotechnology and biomedical industries by building large, state-of-the-art research and pharmaceutical production facilities. These industries could easily hide pilot to industrial-scale production capabilities for a potential BW program, and could mask procurement of BW-related process equipment." Why isn't the US demanding that Iran stops its biotechnology research and development, and that [it transfers all biotech related activities to Russia](#)?

The key lies in [Executive Order 13292](#), which made information on "weapons of mass destruction" and on "defense against transnational terrorism" classified. If concrete details about [Iran's alleged biological weapons programs](#) were made public, they would be subject to public scrutiny and they would be discredited, as the [allegations on Iran's "nuclear weapons program"](#) have been. The US is likely to have "assembled" classified information on Iran's biological weapons programs and shared it with selected individuals, including members of Congress, under the constraint that classified information cannot be made public. For example, at the [June 25, 2004 House subcommittee](#) "MEMBERS ONLY CLASSIFIED BRIEFING on Iran, Middle East Proliferation and Terrorist Capabilities." The *unclassified* portion of that [briefing states](#) "It is time for Iran to declare its biological weapons program and make arrangements for its dismantlement."

There is likely to be a [team of "experts"](#) lined up by the administration that will support its [claims that Iran had a biological weapons program](#) representing an imminent threat. There is always room in science for differing opinions, and if an open scientific debate is not possible because information is classified, any outlandish claim can find some supporters in the scientific community. The [most likely biological threat to be invoked](#), because it has a [natural time element](#)

associated with it, is the [threat of a bird flu pandemic](#) caused by a [deliberately mutated H5N1 virus](#) carried [by migrating wild birds](#).

The Biological Threat

Consider for example [Dr. Ward Casscells](#), a renowned cardiologist that has of late [become an "expert" in bioterrorism](#). Even more recently, Dr. Casscells [joined the Army as a colonel](#). According to the US Defense Department, ["his years of research on now-spreading avian flu are now deemed cutting edge."](#) However, I know of no independent credible scientific body that makes the same assessment: Dr. Casscells has written a total of four papers on the effect of influenza on cardiac disease which have been cited by no other scientists. His paper "Influenza as a bioweapon" has a grand total of 5 citations, meaning a mere 5 other papers refer to it; "cutting edge" scientific papers have hundreds or thousands of citations. His only other paper on the subject, "Influenza as a bioterror threat: the need for global vaccination" has zero citations.

Nonetheless, [Dr. Casscells' outstanding credentials](#) as a scientist will be invoked by the administration if he vouches for the credibility of "intelligence" indicating that a dangerous mutated bird flu virus has been developed in an Iranian underground bioweapons laboratory. Dr. Casscells has been surveilling the Middle East to ["scope out the possibility for a widespread outbreak" of bird flu](#). Because he has been advocating the view that ["Bird flu is poised to be an explosive problem"](#) and has [predicted the use of influenza as a bioweapon](#), he is likely to be inclined to believe such claims. Similarly his scientific colleagues at the ["Defense of Houston"](#) committee, that work on anticipating bioterrorism threats and [are highly lauded by the administration](#) and very well [funded by Army grants](#).

The [Bush administration](#) has spent [vast sums of money](#) in combating bioterrorism threats, reportedly [over \\$7 billion per year](#), without any evidence or precedent for bioterrorism attacks. Nevertheless [there will always be plenty of scientists](#) that will flock to [where the grant money is](#) and devote efforts to validate conclusions that are valued by the organizations giving the grants, [and news media duly publicize the hyped threat of bioterrorism](#). Still, last year over [700 scientists including 2 Nobel laureates](#) signed a petition objecting to the diversion of funds from projects of high public-health importance to biodefense, calling it a "misdirection" of priorities. Dr. Richard H. Ebright, a renowned molecular biologist, [states that](#) "A majority of the nation's top microbiologists – the very group that the Bush administration is counting on to carry out its biodefense research agenda – dispute the premises and implementation of the biodefense spending."

On the supposed threat of bird flu, while it is continuously being hyped by the administration [\[1\]](#), [\[2\]](#), [\[3\]](#), [\[4\]](#), [\[5\]](#), expert opinion is that it is not a serious threat [\[1\]](#), [\[2\]](#), [\[3\]](#), [\[4\]](#), [\[5\]](#), [\[6\]](#) [and is politically motivated](#). The blaming of bird flu spread on wild birds is also highly questionable [\[1\]](#), [\[2\]](#).

On March 15th, right before the disclosure of the new National Security Strategy, I suggested [the bird flu casus belli against Iran](#), that would "necessitate" bombing of Iranian facilities *before* the bird migration season begins in the Spring. Several elements emphasized in the March 16 NSS appear to support that scenario, [as discussed above](#). In a [March 20 press conference](#) concerning federal preparedness for avian flu, Secretary Michael Leavitt (who also [warned a few weeks ago to store tuna and milk under the bed to prepare for bird flu](#)) stated "Think of the world if you will as a vast forest that is susceptible to fire. A spark if allowed to burn will emerge as an uncontrollable fire. That's a pandemic. If we are there when the spark happens, it can be squelched. But if allowed to burn for a time it begins to spread uncontrollably." An aerial attack on Iranian installations may be touted as the

"squelching" of the bird flu pandemic spark.

Does Bush need congressional authorization to bomb Iran?

The answer is contained in the [Statement by the president of October 16, 2002](#), in signing into law the congressional authorization to use force against Iraq. It states

"...I sought an additional resolution of support from the Congress to use force against Iraq, should force become necessary. While I appreciate receiving that support, my request for it did not, and my signing this resolution does not, constitute any change in the long-standing positions of the executive branch on either the president's constitutional authority to use force to deter, prevent, or respond to aggression or other threats to U.S. interests or on the constitutionality of the War Powers Resolution."

In other words: "I appreciate Congress' authorization but didn't need it and will not need it next time with Iran."

The [War Powers Resolution](#) encourages the president to consult with Congress "in every possible instance", [yet allows the president to introduce Armed Forces into hostilities](#) without Congressional authorization; it simply compels him to terminate hostilities within 60 to 90 days unless Congress authorizes an extension. Plenty time enough.

The Attack

It is unlikely that there will be a public announcement of the impending attack before it starts, since it would generate opposition. Allies [do not want to be implicated](#) and will deny any knowledge. Who will be officially notified that an attack is about to take place? Most likely, Iran itself.

[Direct conversations between the US and Iran are about to start](#), nominally on the subject of Iraq only. They will also provide the only direct conduit for the US to communicate with Iran without intermediaries. An "ultimatum" unacceptable to Iran, as was delivered publicly [to Iraq on March 17th, 2003](#), could be delivered privately to Iran through that route.

The reasons for our actions will be clear, the force measured, and the cause just.

The initial US attack on Iranian facilities is likely to be "measured": a highly accurate strike on selected facilities "suspected" of bioweapons work, with [cruise missiles](#) launched [from submarines or ships](#) in the Persian Gulf. That is a component of the [CONPLAN 8022](#) Global Strike mission, which [recently became operational and](#) also includes [nuclear preemptive strikes](#).

The "clear" reasons and "just" cause for the administration to attack can be stated

as follows: if [a bird flu pandemic can cause 150 million deaths](#) and there is even a one percent probability that the ["intelligence"](#) is right, i.e. even if there is a 99% ["uncertainty about the status of hidden programs"](#), the [expected number of deaths](#) that would be prevented by bombing the Iranian facilities is the product of those two numbers, i.e. 1.5 million, vastly larger than the few thousand Iranian casualties due to "collateral damage."

[Any military reaction](#) by Iran to the attack, perhaps even a verbal reaction, will be construed as ["aggression"](#) by Iran towards the US and Israel, and result in large scale bombing of Iranian missile, nuclear and other facilities. Does that sound absurd? Recall that [the US](#) and [Britain](#) bombed [Iraq's no-fly zones well before the Iraq invasion](#), and Iraqi response was labeled ["aggression toward planes of the coalition forces."](#)

Nuclear [earth penetrating weapons](#) may be used in the initial attack, and [certainly will be used](#) in the large scale attack that will follow.

Why will this happen? Because it was ["pencilled in"](#) a long time ago. The [actions of the US against Iran](#) in [recent years](#) have been clearly directed towards a confrontation, to [suppress the rise of Iran as a strong regional power](#) that does not conform to US interests.

Can it be Prevented?

A [small group of thugs](#) is about to lead America across [a line of no return](#). On the other side of this line there is no nuclear taboo, no restraint on preemptive nuclear attacks on non-nuclear nations, and no incentive for non-nuclear nations to remain non-nuclear. A global nuclear war and the destruction of humanity will be a distinct possibility.

[Americans are largely unaware](#) of what is about to happen. [Half a million people go to the streets on immigration law](#), yet nobody is demonstrating against the Iran war that will radically change the life of Americans for generations to come. The more informed sectors of society, scientists, arms control organizations, the media, the political establishment, the military, are not taking a strong stand against the impending war. [Congress is silent](#). Only people in the know can stop this. Resigning from the job is not good enough [\[1\]](#), [\[2\]](#), [\[3\]](#). *People in the know [have to come forward with information](#) that brings the impending attack to the forefront of attention of Congress and the American public and thwarts it.* Not doing so is being complicit in a plan that will bring tragic consequences to America and the world.

Else, all that will be left is to [bring the perpetrators to justice](#). Danton, Robespierre, Mussolini, Petain, Ribbentrop, Goering, Ceausescu also occupied positions of power and prominence at some point in their careers.

[whiteaglesoaring](#) writes: "109th U.S. Congress (2005-2006)
H.R. 282: Iran Freedom Support Act

Status: Introduced (By Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen [R-FL])

This bill is in the first step in the legislative process. Introduced House bills go first to House committees that consider whether the bill should be presented to the

House as a whole. The majority of bills never make it out of committee.

Introduced: Jan 6, 2005

Last Action: Mar 15, 2006: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 37 - 3.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen [R-FL]

Cosponsors

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Rep. Clifford Stearns [R-FL]
Rep. Ted Strickland [D-OH]
Rep. Bart Stupak [D-MI]
Rep. John Sullivan [R-OK]
Rep. John Sweeney [R-NY]
Rep. Thomas Tancredo [R-CO]
Rep. John Tanner [D-TN]
Rep. Ellen Tauscher [D-CA]
Rep. Charles Taylor [R-NC]
Rep. Lee Terry [R-NE]
Rep. Bennie Thompson [D-MS]
Rep. C. Michael Thompson [D-CA]
Rep. Todd Tiahrt [R-KS]
Rep. Patrick Tiberi [R-OH]
Rep. Edolphus Towns [D-NY]
Rep. Michael Turner [R-OH]
Rep. Mark Udall [D-CO]
Rep. Tom Udall [D-NM]
Rep. Frederick Upton [R-MI]
Rep. Christopher Van Hollen [D-MD]
Rep. Peter Visclosky [D-IN]
Rep. Greg Walden [R-OR]
Rep. James Walsh [R-NY]
Rep. Zach Wamp [R-TN]
Rep. Debbie Schultz [D-FL]
Rep. Henry Waxman [D-CA]
Rep. Anthony Weiner [D-NY]
Rep. W. Curtis Weldon [R-PA]
Rep. David Weldon [R-FL]
Rep. Gerald Weller [R-IL]
Rep. Lynn Westmoreland [R-GA]
Rep. Robert Wexler [D-FL]
Rep. Roger Wicker [R-MS]
Rep. Heather Wilson [R-NM]
Rep. Addison Wilson [R-SC]
Rep. Frank Wolf [R-VA]
Rep. Lynn Woolsey [D-CA]
Rep. David Wu [D-OR]
Rep. Albert Wynn [D-MD]
Rep. C. W. Bill Young [R-FL]

GET ON IT!

"

Post Extras: 

[process](#)

(rebel)

04/02/06 01:32 PM



 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [whiteaglesoaring](#) |

Post [294534988](#), reply to [294534972](#)] (Score: 1)

Introduced by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen [R-FL] : Let me guess, jewish?

My Blog: <http://teacuptempestry.blogspot.com>

[Ben Franklin was right.](#)

Liberty is not a right, but a duty. - Ezra Pound, March 8, 1942

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[whiteaglesoaring](#)

(agent provocateur)


04/02/06 02:23 PM

 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [process](#) | Post

[294535080](#), reply to [294534988](#)] (Score: 2)

Bingo! Shall we begin the roll call? Waxman ...

In a time of universal deceit, telling the truth is a revolutionary act....George Orwell

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[ORRAVEN](#)

(rebel)

04/02/06 02:30 PM




 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [whiteaglesoaring](#) |

Post [294535089](#), reply to [294534972](#)] (Score: 1)

These people are evil. Normally I would describe their behavior as insane, but calling them insane excuses them.

"All we want is to be left alone."

President Jefferson Davis
Confederate States of America

Post Extras: 

[Zamolxe](#)


(tyro)

04/02/06 02:30 PM

 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [whiteaglesoaring](#) |

Post [294535092](#), reply to [294534972](#)] (Score: 1)

People should stop giving "predictions" about the date of the attack on Iran. The only ones who know when it will happen are the fuckers who will make the decision.

Post Extras: 

[Monkeys_at_War](#)

(nonconformist)

04/02/06 02:42 PM


 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [whiteaglesoaring](#) |

Post [294535106](#), reply to [294534972](#)] (Score: 1)

my guess is a dirty radioactive bomb in some place filled with "minority" , and/or another nice demolition of a record-keeping federal building to get rid of some more scams papertrails.

and an Irani called somethin like Zuweed Tufeeq or some evil-sounding obviously invented name, will be "caught in the act" and killed, with papers on, leading all the way to Iranian intelligence.

so, if I were you, and you are working in any federal building that keeps financial records, or any amusement park in some latino or black county, I'd be taking a month vacation starting anytime soon.

Post Extras: 

[Brittney_Hole](#)

(insurgent)

04/02/06 03:21 PM



 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [Zamolxe](#) | Post

[294535161](#), reply to [294535092](#)] (Score: 1)


Quote:

are the fuckers who will make the decision.

And who is following through on this 'decision'?
If no one listens then no one goes to war
Who is still listening to them?

The five things we never see in America
1. bicycle lanes

2. cooperatively owned businesses
3. teacher run schools
4. use of alternative energy sources
5. recycling

Post Extras: 

[process](#)

(rebel)

04/02/06 07:14 PM



 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [Monkeys at War](#) |


Post [294535488](#), reply to [294535106](#)] (Score: 1)

The most recent [American Conservative](#) suggests that it will be Bush's October surprise, Repubs will be on a high point prior to the elections and whatever fallout there is would likely come after they cross the finish line. If they bomb now, it's a potential liability all the way through to November. But of course that isn't taking black box voting into account..

My Blog: <http://teacuptempestry.blogspot.com>

[Ben Franklin was right.](#)

Liberty is not a right, but a duty. - Ezra Pound, March 8, 1942

Post Extras: 

[KingKangaroo](#)

(Son of Liberty)

04/03/06 05:09 AM




 **Re: Signs point toward War Against Iran, April 2006**  [To: [whiteaglesoaring](#) |

Post [294535934](#), reply to [294534972](#)] (Score: 1)

According to good judges of LF, war against Iran was 'guaranteed' for March 2005, along with a nuke at the Superbowl.

Usecuncekanfarcwriteorf.

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