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# Chalabi makes spy game a reality



DAVID JAGERNATH  
CRITICAL MASS

The president got an unusual endorsement Tuesday; Hasan Rowhani, the head of Iran's security council, told local media that Tehran's best interest is served by the re-election of George W. Bush. Does it seem strange that a member of the "axis of evil" would support our current administration? Not if you understand the circumstances surrounding our attack on Iraq.

When future historians write about this war, I suspect they will sum it up like this: In the year 2003, neoconservatives within the Bush Administration were duped by an Iranian double agent into attacking Iraq and removing Saddam Hussein in order to pave the way for a pro-Iran, Shia-controlled Iraq. It was one of the greatest acts of espionage ever perpetrated against the superpower.

Who is this Iranian double agent? His name is Ahmed Chalabi, the founder of the anti-Saddam Iraqi National Congress (INC). The CIA now knows that the INC was either a front for, or had deep links to, Iranian intelligence and that Chalabi was passing U.S. secrets to Tehran. How was Chalabi getting ahold of our secrets? The neocons in the Bush Administration were giving our

secrets to him!

Who were these neocons? Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz, Richard Perle and Dick Cheney, to name a few. Their plans for the invasion of Iraq did not begin after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks or even when they took office in 2001. It began in 1997 when they founded the nonprofit organization Project for the New American Century.

The neocons laid out their vision for "American global leadership" (i.e. world domination) in their Statement of Principles on June 3, 1997. They wrote: "It is important to shape circumstances before crises emerge" (i.e. military preemption); to "promote freedom abroad" (i.e. occupy totalitarian regimes); and to institute the "Reaganite policy of military strength and moral clarity" (i.e. kill Muslims).

In January 1998, members of the Project wrote to President Clinton, urging him to "remove Saddam Hussein's regime from power." They argued that he was responsible for a destabilized Middle East that was putting American troops, Israel, moderate Arab states and oil in jeopardy.

Clinton rejected their argument, choosing a policy of containment over regime change. Containment was effective in keeping WMDs away from Saddam, but sanctions were helping to keep him in power by weakening resistance movements. This angered the neocons. Once they realized that the Project couldn't be achieved with Clinton in power, plans were set in motion to steal the 2000 election.

Or so I suspect. There is no smoking-gun proof of this, but if you look at that list of Project signatures back in 1997, you will find Jeb Bush's name right next to Dick Cheney. Could it only be a coincidence that the voter fraud, which ultimately won Bush (and more importantly Cheney) the White House and ensured the implementation of the Project, occurred in the state headed by Jeb Bush, a signatory to the project? Maybe. But I doubt it.

Even before the neocons hijacked America, the Ahmed Chalabi was their handpicked, pro-U.S. puppet leader primed to assume power through "democratic" elections after Iraq's liberation. Chalabi was the primary, if only, source for the administration's false claims that Saddam possessed weapons of mass destruction and connections to al Qaeda. He was feeding the administration (and The New York Times, it turns out) the disinformation they wanted to hear. Bush, the neocons and the media took Chalabi's chum like a bunch of chumps, ignoring our own intelligence officers who were suspicious of Chalabi and his claims from the very beginning.

Chalabi's lies became the uncontested truth after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The United Kingdom's The Guardian newspaper reports that an Iranian spy (not Chalabi) warned the United States of the impending attacks but was not believed. If true, that means Iran knew about the attacks and, perhaps, even helped to plan and/or finance them. The 9-11 Commission confirmed that Iran has had connections to al Qaeda since 1991.

Iran might have foreseen that

the attacks would provide a catalyst for the invasion of Iraq. And now Iran has exactly what they wanted: Saddam is gone and Iraq is up for grabs.

If you are afraid Bush will send us to war against Iran, I've got news for you: We already are. The majority Shia population of Iraq is attacking our troops everyday. They are being supported by Iran — which is 90 percent Shia — because Tehran wants an ally in the Middle East to help them spread their version of fundamentalist Islam and increase international terrorism.

To summarize: Bush's foreign policy decisions were actually being controlled by Iran through Chalabi. Bush allowed an Iranian spy to access high-level U.S. secrets that more than likely ended up in the possession of al Qaeda terrorists. Hundreds of our troops died doing Iran's dirty work, and now they are killing more Americans everyday without consequence in a power struggle over Iraq.

Is there any wonder why Iran supports the re-election of George W. Bush?

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# Columnists endorse their presidential picks

Chuck Slothower - John Kerry (D)

I voted for John Kerry for president because the presidency of George W. Bush has been an unmitigated disaster. It would be enough to vote against Bush because he invaded a foreign nation unnecessarily. It would be enough to vote against Bush because he has sided with business interests over the environment at every opportunity. It would be enough to vote against Bush because he continues to nominate right-wing ideologues to the federal bench. Put all these reasons together, and this election is a no-brainer for those with brains.

Jennifer McBride - John Kerry (D)

The majority of the last two years, my father has been unemployed. For me, the main factors deciding this election are economic. John Kerry's public service programs have the potential to create more jobs rather than more tax cuts. Small businesses will benefit from Kerry's proposed

health care credits, and if there are tax cuts, they will generally be spread among those vulnerable classes who need it the most. Even if Kerry spent every day in France, sipping champagne and ignoring the country altogether, I think the United States would still come out ahead compared to another four years of George Bush's alternative for America.

Ailee Slater - John Kerry (D)

John Kerry is my choice for president for one reason: civil liberties. Throughout his term, Bush has made severe dents in the rights of women, starting with an early move as president to limit overseas funding to family planning services that discussed the idea of abortion with clients. Apparently Bush doesn't like the idea of logic, which obviously says that ending access to preventive birth control and education will probably lead to more abortion. Whereas Bush virtually ignores the issue of civil rights completely, Kerry discusses his support of affirmative ac-

tion and enforcement of justice for all victims of hate crimes. Re-electing Bush does not in fact mean another four years; with his justices on the court, Bush's conservative, archaic social ideas could last for decades.

Travis Willse - John Kerry (D)

President Bush's record across a wide gamut of issues is spotty enough that undecided voters of nearly any political stripe or interested in nearly any issue can find reason to support someone else for president. Three years after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Department of Homeland Security and the nation's intelligence agencies are a messy, underfunded spaghetti of poor communication. The war in Iraq, however viable its premises, is spinning its wheels, no thanks to the absence of a coherent exit strategy. His administration — which admittedly inherited an unsustainable economy and the beginnings of a recession

has nonetheless seen a 177 percent increase in long-term unemployment. Never mind that the White House's 2005 budget proposal would create a \$5.2 trillion deficit over the next decade (\$18,000 for every person living in America today). Speaking as a fiscal conservative, then, John Kerry's economic record may not be stellar, but Bush's is simply dismal. But Kerry's most important qualification is his evident ability to see an issue for the complexities it actually possesses, rather than succumbing to the myopia of chasing policy goals without considering the consequences of that pursuit. John Kerry is the better candidate for many reasons, maybe the most compelling of which is that he isn't Bush.

## INBOX

Dear Student Body,

Every year, all finance constituents of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon meet to facilitate open communication and foster goal setting. Our retreats are an opportunity for your student leaders to learn the processes that govern our student organizations. These retreats consist of all-day workshops and team-building activities.

Unfortunately, attendees of this year's retreat misrepresented the University. It is regrettable that a few people chose to illegally consume substances after our evening workshops had concluded. We deeply apologize for the actions of a few participants that have negatively impacted the reputation of the University.

In addition, we apologize for not carrying our professional demeanor throughout the extent of the retreat, as this reflects poorly on everyone. Those elected and hired are holding themselves accountable and taking a proactive approach to deal with this issue and ensure that this doesn't happen again. We have been in contact with the director of Student Judicial Affairs and have planned to take responsibility for our actions.

We would like to reassure you that this will not affect our abilities as leaders, as we are still deeply committed to representing the interests of all incidental fee-paying students. We understand that these actions have drawn negative attention from the public, but rather than view this as a setback, we choose to use this as an opportunity to show you we are still worthy and capable of our leadership roles.

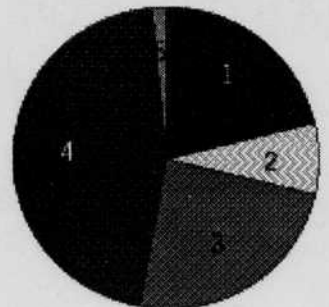
Respectfully yours,  
2004 Finance Retreat attendees

## OREGON DAILY EMERALD LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor and guest commentaries are encouraged, and should be sent to letters@dailyemerald.com or submitted at the Oregon Daily Emerald office, EMU Suite 300. Electronic submissions are preferred. Letters are limited to 250 words, and guest commentaries to 550 words. Authors are limited to one submission per calendar month. Submissions should include phone number and address for verification. The Emerald reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and style. Guest submissions are published at the discretion of the Emerald.

## ONLINE POLL

### THIS WEEK'S POLL RESULTS



Is the United States appropriately addressing the war on terrorism? (66 votes)

1. Yes — The Department of Homeland Security and the USA Patriot Act have made Americans safer. 21.2 percent
2. Yes — Imprisoning Saddam Hussein was worth invading Iraq, even if there were no weapons of mass destruction. 7.6 percent
3. No — Invading Iraq has drawn the focus away from more important goals in the war on terrorism. 24.2 percent
4. Yes — The United States has done more harm than good and has indirectly helped foster more terrorist activities. 45.5 percent
5. Undecided — 1.5 percent