

We must say NO! to War With Iran

By Richard Drolet

It is clear that National Security Advisor John Bolton is continuing his longstanding goal of waging war with Iran – war that is uncalled for and will be fought by the children of the working class and minorities in this country! He and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have been pushing President Donald Trump to agree with their position regardless of the consequences for world peace! Their actions have increased tensions in the area that have now unnecessarily led to open hostilities.

President Trump initiated these hostilities by getting the U.S. out of the agreement previously negotiated by the Obama administration and six other countries even though virtually everyone agrees that Iran has not violated that agreement! However, President Trump is instead criticizing Iran for acting like the U.S. by interfering with other countries. Who do the Iranians think they are? Us?

Meanwhile, President Trump has no problem supporting Mohammed bin Salman (MBS) in Saudi Arabia, who is their de-facto leader. MBS ordered the brutal assassination and dismemberment of Washington Post reporter Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey at the Saudi Embassy! This conclusion was reached by a U.N, special investigator, who wrote “Mr. Khashoggi has been the victim of a deliberate, premeditated execution, an extrajudicial killing for which the state of Saudi Arabia is responsible under international human rights law.” This is the same Saudi Arabia who we are supporting in their brutal war against Yemen and the massacre of tens if not hundreds of thousands of innocent people!

Our President’s response is to propose the sale of \$8 billion of advanced weaponry to help the Saudis complete their task of conducting this unjust war and slaughtering innocent civilians! Yemen’s Houthi Rebels have been mightily struggling to prevent this slaughter and may have been involved in the recent attacks on Saudi shipping and their pipeline. Since the U.S. won’t stick up for them, they have taken matters in their own hands and have accepted assistance from the Iranian government!

So the U.S. is willing to go to war based on ridiculously grainy photos that could have been anyone. We lied in order to wage war against Iraq! Look what that disastrous war has led to, including not only countless of unnecessary deaths and creating another failed state. It also led to the creation of ISIS which has proven more lethal than Al Quaida!

Let's remember that our government engineered the overthrow of the Iranian government of Mohammed Mossadegh, who had come to power in 1951 during a swell of intense nationalism in that part of the world. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company was almost completely controlled by Great Britain, leaving little profits for the Iranian people! But since Great Britain couldn't get its citizens to support the overthrow of the Iranian government, they asked the U.S. to intervene. We did and as a result we installed the hated Shah of Iran.

Then on July 3, 1988, during the height of the Iraq-Iran war, during which the U.S. was supporting Iraq, the U.S. Navy 'accidentally' shot down Iranian Air Flight 655, killing all 260 people aboard. They mistook an Iranian Airline Airbus 300 for a much smaller F-14 military jet! The U.S. apologized and compensated the families, but never apologized to Iran!

So Iran has some history with the U.S. and has a legitimate lack of trust in our country's motives! The U.S. has complained that Iran has been acting like us by bullying other countries. As for our support for Saudi Arabia, let's not forget that 90% of the 911 attackers were Saudi citizens! And while no other country could fly in the U.S. immediately following 911, President George W. Bush allowed the Saudis to extract their family members, many of whom were suspected of being the support team for the 911 terrorists!

And now our President is complaining that Iran may start to enrich uranium above the levels that were allowed under the above-mentioned agreement with other nations – including the U.S. Wait! Wasn't it the U.S. President Trump who left that deal? So he can leave the agreement and punish Iran with unbelievable sanctions which are hurting the Iranian people. But they should just accept our abuse!

I don't believe Trump's made up evidence, and I am opposed to starting *yet another war* in the Middle East for trumped up reasons! Call your Congresspersons and Senators now to oppose this unnecessary war!

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