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BUSH LIKENS WAR ON TERROR TO WORLD WAR TWO, COLD WAR

President outlines four-step strategy for victory

President Bush described the global war on terror as a struggle between freedom and tyranny similar to the struggles of World War Two and the Cold War.

“Our goal, the goal of this generation, is the same,” Bush said, in a speech to graduates at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs June 2. “We will secure our nation and defend the peace through the forward march of freedom.”

“[J]ust as events in Europe determined the outcome of the Cold War, events in the Middle East will set the course on the war on terror,” the president said.

“If the Middle East is abandoned to dictators and terrorists, it will be a constant source of violence and alarm. If the Middle East grows in democracy, prosperity, and hope, the terrorist movement will lose its sponsors, lose its recruits, and loose the festering grievances that keep terrorists in business,” he said.

“Our enemies have no capital or nation-state to defend,” Bush said. “They share a vision and operate as a network of dozens of violent extremist groups around the world, striking separately and in concert. Al Qaeda is the vanguard of these loosely affiliated groups, and we estimate that over the years many thousands of recruits have passed through its training camps.”

Bush outlined four elements for achieving victory in the War on Terror: one, using every resource available to

disrupt, dismantle and destroy terrorists and their organizations; two, denying terrorists places of sanctuary and support and preventing the emergence of terrorist states; three, using all elements of national power to deny terrorists the nuclear, biological and chemical weapons they seek; and four, working for freedom and reform in the broader Middle East and stopping the flow of recruits into the terrorist movement by offering a real and hopeful alternative.

The president noted that all four elements of this strategy are being applied in Iraq.

“[O]ur coalition is determined and the Iraqi people have made it clear: Iraq will remain in the camp of freedom,” Bush said.

The president praised the accomplishments of the Iraqi people in moving toward democracy.

“Iraq now has designated a prime minister, along with a president who will lead a government of 33 ministers that will take office immediately in preparation for transfer of full sovereignty on June 30,” he said.

Bush stressed that the United States and its allies will work with the United Nations to help Iraq’s new government prepare for national elections by January 2005.

The president stated, “We believe that the future belongs to the free, and we will keep our word and hold firm to our values -- showing the world the power of liberty once again.”

The United States is engaged with Israelis and Palestinians to settle their dispute, and with the Afghan government under President Hamid Karzai to stabilize Afghanistan, Bush said.

UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM REVISE IRAQ DRAFT RESOLUTION

Amendments propose time limits for MNF, clarify U.N. role

By Judy Aita

Washington File United Nations Correspondent

United Nations -- The United States and the United Kingdom have presented amendments to their draft U.N. Security Council resolution on the restoration of Iraqi sovereignty in an effort to refine the role of the multinational force

(MNF), including setting a time limit to its mandate.

The text was presented June 1, hours after the interim Iraqi government and cabinet members were announced in Baghdad, Iraq, and the Iraqi Governing Council disbanded rather than wait until the June 30 transfer of sovereignty from the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA).

The amendments, said U.S. Ambassador James Cunningham, “focus the resolution text more clearly on the objective that is before the council -- which is to mark the end of the occupation and the restoration of full sovereignty to Iraq.”

Talking with journalists after the private council meeting, Cunningham said that “a number of the amendments we proposed goes to clarifying the role of the U.N., the duration of the multinational force, how some of the economic and other aspects of the framework will come into being.”

The U.S. ambassador said the amendments take into account many of the comments made over the past week by members of the Security Council, Iraqis, and other U.N. member nations. He said that the council now wants to hear from U.N. Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, who has been in Iraq for several weeks helping the Iraqis form the interim government, and representatives of the new government.

Diplomats said that Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari is on his way to New York to meet with council members. No time has been set for the meeting, but it is expected to take place within the next few days so that the council can vote on the draft resolution as quickly as possible.

The amendments state that the MNF mandate shall be reviewed in 12 months, or at the request of the transitional government. The mandate will expire at the completion of the political process, or earlier if requested by the elected transitional government.

Cunningham defined the end of the political process as “the coming into being of a constitutionally elected government.”

“That is when we foresee this phase of Iraq’s political transformation ending and the point at which we would peg the end of the MNF mandate,” he said.

The political process sets the holding of elections for a transitional national assembly no later than January 31, 2005. That assembly will form a transitional government and draft a new constitution leading to a constitutionally elected government. That phase of the process is expected to take until early 2006.

The interim government, which takes over June 30 with the end of the Coalitional Provisional Authority (CPA), will be responsible for the Iraqi security forces, the Iraqi police, and border control. The relationship between the interim government and the MNF will be worked out between the two, according to the proposed amendments.

“What we are creating here is a partnership between the MNF and a sovereign Iraqi government,” Cunningham said. “That is a relationship between two sovereigns -- those who are willing to contribute to the MNF and help Iraq -- and the sovereign (Iraqi) government.”

“We are just beginning those discussions right now on how we’re going to do that. That is something to work out amongst ourselves,” the ambassador said.

“The point of what we are proposing is to put that kind of decision and the nature of the relationship, particularly in the future, between the MNF and the transitional government of Iraq, into the hands of Iraqis and to signify in the resolution that that’s our intention,” Cunningham said.

British Ambassador Emyr Jones Parry emphasized that the amendments “will underline the full transfer of sovereignty (and) actually put in place mechanisms for a multinational force to support the stability of Iraq and to move forward in a very positive way.”

Algerian Ambassador Abdallah Baali said that his first impression of the amendments “is quite positive.”

“We believe many improvements have been brought into the draft resolution, which we welcome. They correspond to some of our concerns and preoccupations,” Baali said.

But the Algerian ambassador said that “there is still a need to improve the text,” especially paragraphs dealing with the relationship between the interim government and the multinational force.

“We wish to see interim government views on major military operations prevail when the MNF intends to carry out major operations. This does not appear clearly in the draft resolution,” Baali said.

Chilean Ambassador Heraldo Munoz recognized the effort by Britain and the United States to accommodate many of the suggestions made by members of the council since the first draft of the text was presented May 24.

“We are satisfied that many of those suggestions presented have been incorporated,” Munoz said. “However the task is not done. We need to listen first to Ambassador Brahimi and his suggestions, to the [U.N.] secretary-general, and,

most importantly, to the representatives of the sovereign interim government that has just been announced. ... Those inputs will be absolutely fundamental to improve the resolution.”

USTR ZOELICK WILL ATTEND APEC TRADE MEETING JUNE 4-5

Trade representative will promote WTO talks at Chile conference

United States Trade Representative Robert Zoellick will attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings for trade ministers in Pucon, Chile, on June 4 and 5, according to a June 2 press release from his office.

The trade representative plans to discuss ways to liberalize trade and investment with his APEC counterparts. In particular, he will stress the need to move forward with the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations known as the Doha Development Agenda (DDA).

Zoellick has worked hard over the last several months to promote a resumption of the DDA negotiations, which have languished since September 2003, when the WTO ministerial conference in Cancun, Mexico, ended without consensus.

“APEC has been an important vehicle for building momentum in the WTO,” Zoellick said, recalling that, at their last meeting in Thailand in October 2003, APEC leaders had called for WTO members to return to the negotiating table and build upon the draft ministerial text from Cancun. “Driving APEC’s agenda and the DDA is a shared vision of economic growth and prosperity,” he said.

While in Chile, Zoellick will meet with officials from Chile and Brunei to discuss two separate U.S. bilateral initiatives. On June 3, the USTR and Chilean Foreign Minister Soledad Alvear will conduct the first meeting of the U.S.-Chile Free Trade Commission, a requirement under the U.S.-Chile Free Trade Agreement. Zoellick will meet with Brunei Minister of Industry and Primary Resources Abdul Rahman bin Mohamed Taib to discuss trade issues under the U.S.-Brunei Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, part of a U.S. government initiative to promote trade with the countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Zoellick will meet individually with representatives of several APEC member states during the APEC meeting. The members of APEC are: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

NEW U.N. STABILIZATION MISSION BEGINS IN HAITI

U.S. officers to participate in U.N. mission

By Eric Green

Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- Troops and civilian police under the banner of the United Nations have begun arriving in Haiti to help continue efforts to stabilize conditions in the troubled Caribbean nation.

The 8,000-strong U.N. Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was formally launched June 1 to help the people of Haiti tackle the "complex challenges" they face, says U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

The mission demonstrates the international community's commitment to Haiti and reflects that commitment "in its mandate, size, and structure," Annan said in a June 1 speech.

The U.N. stabilization mission assumes responsibility in Haiti from a U.S.-led 3,600-person multinational interim force that was sent to the country following the February 29 resignation of former Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

The United Nations "stands ready to work with Haiti and its people to overcome the current critical situation and to ensure a sustainable future," Annan said.

The U.N. mission is required to coordinate its operations with the Organization of American States and the 15-nation bloc of Caribbean countries known as Caricom.

Among its tasks in Haiti, MINUSTAH aims to establish a secure and stable environment; foster democratic governance and institutional development; assist Haiti's transitional government in organizing free and fair municipal, parliamentary and presidential elections as soon as possible; strengthen the rule of law; and support the country's human-rights institutions and groups.

"The international community must do its part and remain engaged [in Haiti] for the long term, both politically and financially," Annan said.

MINUSTAH is the fifth U.N. mission in Haiti since 1993. Brazilian Lieutenant-General Augusto Ribeiro-Pereira has been named as Force Commander of the new mission, which is receiving personnel from Argentina, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, France, Guatemala, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, the United States and Uruguay.

The U.S. Southern Command (Southcom) said in a May 28 statement that the multinational interim force that has been in Haiti for the last three months plans to conduct operations in the country for an additional 20 days before transferring responsibility to MINUSTAH. The plan calls for the 1,900 U.S. forces deployed to Haiti as part of that interim force to conduct a phased redeployment to the United States during June as the MINUSTAH forces are sent to Haiti.

The majority of U.S. forces are scheduled to depart Haiti by June 29, Southcom said. Southcom explained that the U.S. forces are returning to the United States because their work in Haiti is complete; he said that the mission from the outset "was to be an interim force, and they succeeded in all assigned missions" in Haiti.

Southcom said the United Nations has asked for four U.S. officers from the multinational interim force to remain as part of the MINUSTAH military staff under the operational control of the U.N. special representative in Haiti.

U.S. Ambassador to Haiti James Foley said in a May 24 press conference that the two latest U.N. forces sent to the country succeeded in "avoiding disaster" in the nation.

The interim U.N. force "did not resolve all problems, such as the security problems" in Haiti, Foley said. Resolving that issue, he said, is a "long-term job" that must be preceded by the "reform" of the Haitian national police. The United States will continue to contribute to helping Haiti resolve its security problems, Foley said.

The ambassador added that the United States will be present at a "big" donors' meeting for Haiti scheduled for the end of June, where an announcement will be made on aid being provided to Haiti from the international community.

"It is obvious that the present is very difficult for the Haitian people," said Foley. "But I can tell you that the future is promising, and we are beginning to really help the Haitian people in the coming weeks."

ALI MAZRUI WELCOMES U.S. PUSH FOR DEMOCRACY IN ARAB WORLD

Scholar says Middle East freedom initiative is "healthy trend"

By Jim Fisher-Thompson
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- Scholar and documentary filmmaker Ali Mazrui has often been critical of the West's influence on his native Africa and Islamic culture, but at a recent conference on "Justice in Muslim Society" he said he welcomed moves by the U.S. government to help spread democracy throughout the Arab world.

In an exclusive interview with the Washington File, Mazrui said initiatives like President Bush's "Forward Strategy of Freedom" to promote democracy in the Middle East are "a healthy trend because in the past [U.S.] president after president had been identified in much of the Arab world with kings and dictators, with very little external evidence that they [Americans] were trying to get the regimes to be any more democratic."

Mazrui, who was born in Kenya and now teaches at Binghamton University, State University of New York (SUNY), spoke to the Washington File on May 29 before making the keynote speech on the last day of a two-day conference on Muslim society sponsored by the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy (CSID), held at the Wyndham Hotel in Washington.

Mazrui said, "In the past the United States in its relations with the Arab world was regarded as a friend of authoritarianism" because most of the Arab states were one-party regimes that discouraged political pluralism. "It was not evident either to the people there [in the Arab states] or the outside world that the United States was pushing for democratic change."

But now, "this particular [democracy] rhetoric of the Bush administration is an improvement" on American policy toward the Arab world because for once the United States is no longer too readily identifying with shahs, emirs, kings and secular dictators, but is attempting to find ways in which it can be an influence for democratization.

"This is a positive change" in U.S. policy, Mazrui declared.

The scholar referred to President Bush's "Forward Strategy of Freedom" initiative, announced by the White House on November 6, 2003, whose goal is to promote democracy in the Middle East to counter the political repression and economic stagnation the U.S. government believes breed

anti-Western violence by terror networks like al Qaeda.

Bush later fleshed out the Middle East initiative in a speech in early February in which he said: "True democratic reform must come from within. And across the Middle East reformers are pushing for change. From Morocco to Jordan to Qatar, we're seeing elections and new protections for women and the stirring of political pluralism. When the leaders of reform ask for our help, America will give it."

To implement the initiative, Bush said, "I've asked the Congress to double the budget for the National Endowment for Democracy, raising its annual total to \$80 million. We will focus its new work on bringing free elections and free markets and free press and free speech and free labor unions to the Middle East."

Arab leaders responded to the Bush initiative at a May 23 summit in Tunis, where they announced a 13-point reform program aimed at implementing many of the political and social changes called for in the U.S. program. President Bush has invited a number of Arab leaders to the G8 meeting of industrialized nations on Sea Island, Georgia, beginning June 9, where democratization in the Middle East will be on the agenda.

Asked what he thought about U.S. policy toward Africa, Mazrui said, "Since the end of the Cold War and before September 11 [the 2001 terrorist attacks in America that killed 3,000 people], things looked promising" in Africa's relations with the West. "Then came September 11 and, unfortunately, one of the consequences is that the [U.S.] pressure to combat terrorism is beginning to reduce the [African] enthusiasm for democratization," he said.

Another unfortunate consequence of this pressure, he added, is that "those countries with large Muslim minorities start harassing their populations. I don't regard this as a permanent feature of American foreign policy, but it's certainly a feature of the first few years [after 9/11] and will probably last for another three years."

Acknowledging that Africa has suffered directly from terrorism, for example in the more than 200 Kenyans and Tanzanians killed in the al Qaeda bombings of U.S. embassies in both those countries in August 1998, Mazrui said, "It's true, the [Kenyan] government pushed anti-terrorism legislation without much debate through Parliament because of American pressure, or their [Kenyan] interpretation of what America wanted."

Mazrui said what concerned him most about the campaign against terrorism in Africa was what he termed the targeting of dissidents and terrorist suspects "by race, national origin

and religion,” which some call “profiling.” “That is the problem with this entire war,” he asserted.

Born and raised in Kenya, Mazrui is now the Albert Schweitzer Professor in the Humanities and director of the Institute of Global Studies at Binghamton University, State University of New York (SUNY). In addition to authoring several books on Africa and its cultures, he also produced and narrated an award-winning 1986 documentary series for television called “The Africans: A Triple Heritage.”

USAID PROGRAM AIMS TO SAVE FAMILIES IN WAR-RAVAGED SUDAN

Agency’s Peterson details Sudan Health Transformation Program

By Charles W. Corey
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- Improving the health and saving the lives of the children, mothers and families living in war-ravaged southern Sudan is the goal of the Sudan Health Transformation Program, which was recently announced by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Assistant Administrator for Global Health E. Anne Peterson when she toured selected parts of the region.

The \$34 million, five-year program, according to Dr. Peterson, seeks to transform U.S. humanitarian health assistance to southern Sudan from simply providing emergency-based treatment for medical maladies to improving the long-term sustainable health of the southern Sudanese people, whose health status is among the poorest globally.

The program’s focus will be Eastern and Western Equatoria, Upper Nile, Southern Blue Nile, Bahr el Ghazal and the Nuba Mountains.

Extremely poor nutrition due to the country’s decades-long civil war has exacerbated disease epidemics, including malaria, diarrhea and respiratory infections, resulting in high child-mortality rates.

“By no means has there been a concerted, overarching health system” operating in southern Sudan, Peterson told the Washington File in a recent interview after returning from the region. “There aren’t any drugs, there aren’t any roads, there are barely any intact clinics,” she said.

“We saw two hospitals that barely are [functioning] and

... diseases are getting worse. We know that malaria and TB [tuberculosis] are getting worse, the diarrheal diseases -- they had an Ebola outbreak last week. ... On every health care indicator we have been concerned about they have gotten worse, not as bad as if the NGOs [nongovernmental organizations] had not been there, but we need to transform their entire health system. ... Some kind of government entity needs to actually implement services and policies and then link in the NGOs and private providers that are in there,” she said.

Peterson, a medical doctor with a specialty in public health and preventative medicine, identified southern Sudan’s number one health goal as building access to health care, followed by enhancing the capacity of the health care system. She said she came away from the region with measured optimism about what can be accomplished there.

“I was very impressed with the southern Sudanese health sector leadership. They understand Sudan’s health problems. They understand what is not working, what is broken and what they don’t have. They understand what they need to have to put together a health system. ... They know what they want -- like every child immunized -- but they don’t necessarily know what it takes to put a system together -- the staffing that you need, the policies and the structures.

“These guys [the health care leaders] were very impressive and understanding of what it will take to put a system together and asked the right and hard questions about what the donors could be bringing in to help them put that system together,” she said.

“If we want to make the most difference very quickly,” Peterson stressed, basic health care is needed throughout the region, starting with safe water, improved sanitation and a focus on HIV/AIDS education programs.

“As Sudan, hopefully, moves into a peace process, one of the big issues” of concern, she said, “is the large number of Sudanese who are outside of southern Sudan and are expected to be crossing borders from high-prevalence AIDS areas back into Sudan -- bringing AIDS with them.” With lots of people and commerce coming in, she warned, there is the tendency to spread diseases.

The peace process to which Peterson referred includes the May 26 signing of three protocols by the government of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement. Taken together, these protocols, with the agreements reached previously, resolve the outstanding substantive issues that were at the heart of Sudan’s civil war.

Peterson said Sudanese health officials have told her they see HIV/AIDS as the country’s second war. “They want to

address it now before it spreads in southern Sudan. That was very, very heartening to hear that kind of political leadership that can be so transforming for HIV/AIDS,” she said.

Peterson said the biggest and most immediate health care issue she saw in southern Sudan was malaria, which is “probably the largest killer,” followed by a lack of clinics. “There are no clinics. The hospitals don’t have running water, there are no people to staff them and there is nothing inside them.”

Asked how this program for southern Sudan compares to other USAID medical programs, Peterson said: “The problems are going to be similar, the prevention strategies are going to be similar. We are going to need to get clean drinking water and immunization in there and malaria bed nets and treatment.

“What is different [in Sudan] is that you are starting with nothing essentially. Normally, we have some amount of an existing public sector with a government with central policies and a ministry of health and district hospitals and clinics and trained nurses ... but here you have almost nothing. ...

“We just have little spots of NGOs working -- doing great work in different areas in very adverse circumstances -- that are only able to cover small amounts [of territory]. ... There are no roads. You can’t get from one place to another ... so all of those things make things much more difficult.”

In southern Sudan, she said, the health care infrastructure must be put together from nothing, “so deciding how centralized and decentralized” must take place, as well as determining how many clinics in each province, staffing levels, etc. “They are starting with all that, essentially, as a blank slate ... and that is unusual.”

One of the few other places where somewhat the same conditions existed was in Afghanistan, she explained.

Peterson said she had just traveled to Afghanistan before going to Sudan. “There are some real similarities there,” she noted -- “two crisis countries that had been decimated and did not have anything that were putting together their whole health care system from scratch [nothing]. ...

“What was very heartening, going from one to the other, was seeing two years out how much progress has been made, at least in certain parts of Afghanistan,” she said.

“They [the Afghans] had strong leadership and they are implementing the kinds of programs that we are going to be doing in Sudan.

“We have been doing a lot of health systems work with the Ministry of Health in Afghanistan and already at two years, when I went and talked to the people in the villages and the leaders, they said: ‘Now there are clinics, now our children are getting services. Our mothers are doing better when they are pregnant and our babies are not dying anymore.’

“That is part of the message that I could bring when I went to Sudan ... that this is a little bit like putting back together Afghanistan. ... I have just seen where Afghanistan is two years down the road and it is good. ... It is hopeful. It is not perfect, it is still building, but Sudan can go in this direction, and you have the right leadership to guide you that way.”

Please Note: Most texts and transcripts mentioned in the U.S. Mission Daily Bulletin are available via our homepage www.usmission.ch. Select “Washington File” from the drop-down menu under “News.”