



The Betty Letters

My Dear Grandchild,

Can you imagine what would happen if the President of Taiwan, advocated wiping Beijing, the seat of power in China, off the map of the world? Such a suggestion would be considered tantamount to be declaration of war. Is that not correct? President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran, just last week, told a conference in Tehran that Israel should be wiped off the map of the world. This, as far as I can make out, is a declaration of war on the sovereign state of Israel. Israel has called for the immediate expulsion of Iran from the one hundred and ninety one members of the United Nations. Quite right, too! The Preamble of the United Nations, drafted on June 26, 1945, reads as follows:

WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

- *to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in*
- *our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and*
- *to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations*
- *large and small, and*
- *to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and*
- *to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,*

AND FOR THESE ENDS

- *to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and*
- *to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and*
- *to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and*
- *to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,*

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS

Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the United Nations.'

History has recorded that countries, which adopt a political policy, based on bellicosity, eventually are destroyed – in many cases from within the country rather than without the country. To tell you of the

many nations that perished by adopting bellicosity as their political mandates would be to write a tome to you, but think of Japan and Germany, during World War II, and how both of these former political and military powers were completely destroyed within just six years of international conflict. Going back two thousand years or so, one notes that Rome was destroyed from within rather than without in spite of this great civilisation, giving the world the concept of equitable law, which gave guarantees to all citizens, the first fire brigade ('virgiles'), a comprehensive system of sewage, building rules and regulations, the concept of belonging, the rights of the citizen of the city, etc, etc, etc. But the Roman Empire collapsed. The reasons for the collapse were:

1. *Bad leaders (inept and incompetent emperors);*
2. *Increasing civilization of the people of the empire (which came to mean less emphasis by the Administration on maintaining a strong military force while the military forces of the enemies of Rome continued to increase in number and strength);*
3. *Roman disunity (endless infighting by various members of the many communities of Roman society and by petty politicians, struggling to increase the size of their bailiwicks);*
4. *Economic decline (lavish spending by the Administration, leading to inflation, resulting in inevitable monetary chaos);*
5. *Pestilence and the inability to treat, adequately, the many diseases of the day; and,*
6. *Mass migration.*

Many of the above six points strike a haunting note of similarity with Administrations of certain countries of today. If history is to be considered a barometer of the civilizations and the pressures that they faced in the past, then, the future will usher in a decided low-pressure area for countries, such as Iran, Syria, North Korea, etc. President George W. Bush of the United States of America stated, just last Friday that Syria and Iran are to be considered 'outlaw regimes'. By that statement, he must mean that they are regimes, operating outside the law. Which law? Obviously, the 'law' of the United Nations because both countries are members of the United Nations. Since the civilized world is at war with terrorism in its many forms, and since the United Nations supports the stance of the United States and its allies in their avowed determination to root out terrorism, wherever it is found, that which President George W. Bush must be alluding are the prospects of persuading the United Nations to agree to issue a proclamation, authorizing an attack on Iran and/or Syria in order to destroy the safe havens of terrorism. In other words, one may safely state that the launch code of Phase One of another war has been input into the computer of the world's international policeman. President George W. Bush went so far as to call President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran a 'madman' (by innuendo). He said, in a speech, delivered in Virginia, with regard to the many attempts to stop the proliferation of deadly weapons:

'Evil men who want to use horrendous weapons against us are working in deadly earnest to gain them. And we are working urgently to keep weapons of mass murder out of the hands of the fanatics ... The United States makes no distinction between those who commit acts of terror and those who support and harbour them because they are equally guilty of murder ... We are determined to deny the militants control of any nation which they will use as a home base and a launching pad for terror ...'.

I would call those statements very clear and very definitive. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran has stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran has no intention of launching an attack on Israel, but, at the same time, he has called on Muslims, around the world, to wipe Israel off the map. Is that not a declaration of war? Has not President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told his people to don the mantle of red, historically the shroud of war, and to kill Israelis? He must be stopped before (a) Iran obtains the status of a nuclear power and, then, exports such technology to Muslim terrorists and (b) before this madman can draft a comprehensive plan to destroy Israel and, it follows, the Jews of the world. It is said that the best defence is a good offence. Let it be so in respect of Iran and Syria unless they come to heel! There can be little doubt that, if the United States, advocated sending in troops to destroy terrorists in Syria and Iran, there could well be a great deal of support by right-minded members of the United Nations. Time is not on the side of the righteous, in this case because, as the nuclear clock ticks, so Iran's ambitions to become a nuclear power approaches – with a deathly presage. Tick ... Tick ...

Tick ...

Talk to you next week.

Chief Lady

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