



## *The Betty Letters*

*My Dear Grandchild,*

*It seems to me that the only thing worse than a pre-emptive air/sea strike against Iran by Israel is for the world to permit Iran, a fundamentalist, Islamic country with a clear propensity for evil, to become a nuclear power. Last week's firing of ballistic missiles by Iran, some of those missiles, having the ability to strike at the heart of Tel Aviv, is proof positive that Iran is thumbing its proverbial nose at the world. As misery loves company, so it is true that evil has the innate propensity to foster evil. The President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has gone on record on more than one occasion to state that Israel and the Jews should be obliterated from the world's stage. Iran has supplied insurgents in Iraq with weapons and ammunition with the very obvious intent to ferment further unrest in this country. The result of the supply of arms and ammunition to the Iraqi insurgents, most of whom are stationed in the heart of the country, is to give them the ability to kill and maim innocent Iraqi civilians, very efficiently, as well as to kill and maim soldiers, stationed in the country, Iraqi soldiers and policemen as well as members of the coalition forces. One has to ponder as to the reason that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad would allow his country to ferment further unrest in Iraq, especially since he has gone on record as stating that the former regime in Iraq, led by President Saddam Hussein, was an evil regime and he had welcomed its destruction and the removal of the snake, running the country. By supplying weapons and ammunition to the insurgents of Iraq, Iran is endorsing the actions of these killers. The United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, last week, warned that the US Government has pledged to lend assistance to its allies to defend themselves against an attack from Iran. She put Iran on notice of the true intent of the US Government in this regard. Surely, it follows that Israel will see this as a message that it has the right to defend itself – by a pre-emptive strike against Iran, a country that is intent on the destruction of the Jewish State.*

*While it may be unwise for the US to invade Iran, at this juncture, by the same token, it may be wise for the US Government to invite, obliquely, Israel to take whatever action it deems necessary in order to defend its, that is, Israel's, sovereign territory. That, as far as the Israeli Defence Force is concerned, would mean an air assault on the Iranian missile silos and the nuclear facilities in the country. The missile silos would be the first priority for the Israeli Defence Force, it seems to me, so that Iran would be left toothless to retaliate by a missile attack on Israel or on US installations in the Persian Gulf Region. Nobody likes war, but it is accepted that war is the natural extension of diplomacy. A short war against Iran, led by the Israel Defence Force, would eliminate the possibility of a world-wide conflict which could escalate into a religious conflict: Muslim v. Christian/Jew. It would be obtuse of me to suggest that that which I have outlined in this letter is unknown in political circles, from Washington to Tel Aviv to London, England, and Beijing, but it does appear that, in Tehran, the Government of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is not fully cognisant of its actions of late and of the implications, therethrough. While Iran is known to have a very large military machine, at the same time, so did Iraq – just before it was almost completely annihilated by the coalition forces, led by the US Army when it crossed over into the country on March 20, 2003. According to very reliable sources, the military machine of Iran, today, comprises:*

**Manpower available for military service:**

*Males aged 16-49 years – 20,212,275*  
*Females aged 16-49 years – 19,638,751*

**Manpower fit for military service:**

*Males aged 16-49 years – 17,416,126*  
*Females aged 16-49 years – 16,928,226*

**Manpower reaching militarily significant age annually:**

*Males aged 16-49 years – 766,668*  
*Females aged 16-49 years – 727,654*

*It is unquestionable that Iran has a formidable military machine, but Israel, against what appeared in the past as insurmountable odds, has yet to lose a war throughout its 60 years as an independent country. The human population of Israel has their backs to the wall, so to speak, and they will fight as a cornered, wild animal fights: To the death if necessary. Iran will have a tough time if it determines to take on the might of this Jewish State – especially since it is bound to have the backing of US Jews and their resources and, in addition, the Jewish State will have the US Government's blessings.*

*I really hope that I am wrong ... but I doubt it. Even Bo-Bo, my froglike husband, croaked out a 'Well done!' when I explained by political theory to him. And, then, he fell asleep, again. Men! What may one expect from the inferior sex?*

*Talk to you, next week.*

*Chief Lady*

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