

Route Map of Imperial Army

Despite the claim of Pakistan establishment, George W Bush did not rule out military strike in Pakistan. This clarification was issued by the White House officials in the aftermath of the phone call by Bush to Musharraf. It was propagated that President Bush in contrast to the Presidential aspirant Obama, who has called for the withdrawal of US army from Iraq and its deployment in Pakistan, has promised not to do so. With the clarification coming from White House the hints are there that US will intervene in Pakistan to get rid of Jehadi terrorists, the Lal Masjid, Al Qaeda variety. It is another matter that the bombings by US forces are already on in Pakistan but it is not being made public as far as possible to avoid public embarrassment to President Musharraf.

This whole episode of US already bombing in the Pakistani territory, some of US leaders calling for open attack on Pakistan, smacks of the old imperial times, when the kings of greater might were marching with their armies to wherever they pleased with the dictum, might is right. In the decade of mid-twentieth century the World looked to be evolving towards a system where different countries were aspiring to relate to each other on equal terms. They were mediating their disputes through international bodies. The eclipse and decline of UN and its different wings on the World scene is a matter of grave concern for those longing for a peaceful world.

During last couple of decades, with the end of cold war era. with the decline of other major superpower, the Soviet Union, the US has been behaving as a hegemon, invading, one after the other country. This highhandedness began with the 1991 Gulf war against Iraq. The seven years war between two Muslim countries—Iraq and Iran—had deeper dynamics, overall reflecting the change of political paradigm from the era of national liberation movements to the ones veering towards politics around identity issues. Iraq had been claiming that 'Kuwait is its twenty-second state Also Kuwait was indulging in unethical pumping out of oil from its wells and this was to the detriment of the interests of Iraq.

In full knowledge of US, Iraq invaded Kuwait and declared it as its own integral part. US turned around immediately and cried wolf, the sovereignty of the Kuwait Sheikh has been violated Iraq asked for compromise and retreat, US refused to negotiate and launched the major attack on Iraq, Gulf War, to uphold the rule of Sheikh This war. crippled its civic installations, water; sewage plants, electricity and what have you. Apart from others over half a million children also died due to the war and the sanctions which were imposed after that Madeline Albright. US Secretary of State, defended this massacre on the ground that it is worth paying this price to protect the sovereignty of Sheikh.

Following 9/11 attack on twin towers, US demanded that Afghan Government hand over Osama bin Laden to them. The Afghan Government pleaded for the proof of bin Laden's involvement in the act. Without bothering to produce the evidence or to let the UN take charge and punish the guilty it launched a war against Afghanistan on the pretext of catching Osama, live or dead. While Osama continues to be hale and hearty, over 60000 Afghans, majority innocent civilians

lost their lives. US installed a puppet Government and the work of laying of pipe line from Caspian Sea to Arab sea began in due course.

In couple of years Iraq was singled out for attack once again. Despite the UN inspectors saying repeatedly that there are no weapons of mass destruction, US went ahead in preparing its planned attack. From weapons of mass destruction, it shifted ground to say that it wants to eliminate the 'Arab Hitler', Saddam, to 'plant democracy' and to liberate the people of Iraq who are suffering the atrocities of Saddam. US army was projected as the liberating army. The later fate of Iraq is too well known.

The threats are also dished out on regular basis to Iran. It's logical that after seeing the fate of Iraq that Iran might have boosted its nuclear weapons programme. That is the pretext for its coming under the scanner, and the probable reason as though it has not been attacked despite so many threats.

The terrorists on whose pretext the present 'quiet bombings' are going on along Pakistan-Afghanistan, the ones who were attacked in the Lal Masjid were the ones who were the ideological and logistic support of Al Qaeda, when it was engaged in taking on Soviet armies in Afghanistan. At that time these Jehadi terrorists were fully funded and armed by the US itself. The clock turned full circle and the same indoctrinated force turned its guns against the US, WTC and other attacks. Needless to say these acts of terror of Al Qaeda are heinous, against Islam and against humanity.

There is an urgent need to oppose the hegemonic designs of US or any other country for that matter. An objective world body needs to be restored and empowered to bring an end to the present dark tunnel which is permeated by the darkness of terrorism and imperialism.

After establishing their permanent presence in the Middle East, American troops are now moving towards South Asia. If the American imperial army takes over Pakistan, it is a matter of time for Indians to see American bombers hovering over their heads. □ *[Contributed]*