
Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI
Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 00:31:46 GMT

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Quote:Iraq's nuclear weapons program was on the threshold of success before the 1991 invasion of Kuwait - there is no doubt in my mind that we could have produced dozens of nuclear weapons within a few years - but was stopped in its tracks by United Nations weapons inspectors after the Persian Gulf war and was never restarted...

By 1998, when Saddam Hussein evicted the weapons inspectors from Iraq, all that was left was the dangerous knowledge of hundreds of scientists and the blueprints and prototype parts for the centrifuge, which I had buried under a tree in my garden...

Was Iraq a potential threat to the United States and the world? Threat is always a matter of perception, but our nuclear program could have been reinstated at the snap of Saddam Hussein's fingers. The sanctions and the lucrative oil-for-food program had served as powerful deterrents, but world events - like Iran's current efforts to step up its nuclear ambitions - might well have changed the situation.

Iraqi scientists had the knowledge and the designs needed to jumpstart the program if necessary. And there is no question that we could have done so very quickly. In the late 1980's, we put together the most efficient covert nuclear program the world has ever seen. In about three years, we gained the ability to enrich uranium and nearly become a nuclear threat; we built an effective centrifuge from scratch, even though we started with no knowledge of centrifuge technology. Had Saddam Hussein ordered it and the world looked the other way, we might have shaved months if not years off our previous efforts.

Better to dispatch our sworn enemies BEFORE they become unmanagable threats than have to deal with them afterwards. This is the fundamental difference in philosophy that distinguishes the resolute President Bush from the indecisive Senator Kerry.

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI
Posted by [Fabian](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 00:56:56 GMT

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So why ignore more imminent threats, like North Korea? There are plenty of countries that we aren't exactly friends with that already have nuclear capabilities. It makes more sense to take care of them first if we are going to do anything at all.

(By "take care of" I don't necessarily mean "go to war with")

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI

Posted by [Hydra](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 01:06:32 GMT

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Who says we're "ignoring" North Korea? Through diplomatic negotiations, it has agreed to begin the dismantle of its nuclear weapons program. How is that not taking care of North Korea?

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI

Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 01:10:01 GMT

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SEALSo why ignore more imminent threats, like North Korea? There are plenty of countries that we aren't exactly friends with that already have nuclear capabilities. It makes more sense to take care of them first if we are going to do anything at all.

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North Korea would not be an imminent threat if past presidents had taken care of it.

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI

Posted by [Crimson](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 02:59:31 GMT

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Damn, what a bunch of war mongers... :rolleyes:

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI

Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 10:54:30 GMT

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btw here is the link

<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/09/26/opinion/26obeidi.html?pagewanted=1>

use the name zgeek and the password zgeek1.

If you ever go to news site you need to register just use those names. they work for most of them.

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI

Posted by [Javaxcx](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 18:27:36 GMT

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hydra1945Who says we're "ignoring" North Korea? Through diplomatic negotiations, it has agreed to begin the dismantle of its nuclear weapons program. How is that not taking care of North

Korea?

Just a point of comparison...

The exact same thing happened with Iraq. And here we are. Do you think the same thing may happen with North Korea?

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI
Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 19:34:36 GMT
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Javaxcxhydra1945Who says we're "ignoring" North Korea? Through diplomatic negotiations, it has agreed to begin the dismantle of its nuclear weapons program. How is that not taking care of North Korea?

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Saddam did not follow what we wanted him to do.

Subject: Saddam, the Bomb and Me By MAHDI OBEIDI
Posted by [Javaxcx](#) on Tue, 28 Sep 2004 19:47:56 GMT
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I didn't say he did. He said that he would, and he did not. That is the comparison.
