

The Puppet Masters & the 2006 Election

by
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14/11/06 (www.mountainsentinel.com) The pundits are already saying that the 2006 election was a shining example of democracy in action. The electorate was losing confidence in the system. They needed the 2006 democrat upset to prove to them that democracy still works in the US. Nothing could be further from the truth.

What we saw in the recent election was not a Democrat mandate, but a coup within the Republican party and the White House. Pappy Bush just took Junior out to the woodshed and administered a whipping. Then he told Bush's playmate, Rummy, that he wasn't welcome at their house anymore. And he told Cheney that he would be keeping a close eye on him.

We all know Cheney was running the Bush administration, with help from Rumsfeld and others. Dubya was just a figurehead. Cheney was the mastermind behind the War on Terror, the Patriot Act, and the Invasion of Iraq. Bush just sits around the White House playing fart jokes and tearing wings off of flies. He was chosen for his job because he makes a good cheerleader.

Among the unwritten rules in Washington, two stand out above all others: don't upset the applecart and don't disrupt the game. The applecart is the economy and the game is our system of government. Well the antics of the Bush administration, with tax cuts for the rich and massive boosts in military spending, have left the applecart ready to collapse at any moment. And Cheney has all but been caught cheating at the game. He was attempting to tear up the game board in his bid to consolidate power behind the executive branch. The puppet masters couldn't have that, so they sent in pappy's team to stage a coup within the White House.

The Democrats didn't win the election; the Republicans lost it. But there will be no major change of direction in Washington. One of the first statements Pelosi made after the election was that impeachment was not on the table. Then she had lunch with Dubya and assured AIPAC (the Israeli lobby) that they could count on her. The War on Terror will go on, and our troops will stay in Iraq while Congress debates changing the strategy behind the occupation. Maybe the troops will come home, maybe not.

If our political leaders can come up with a successful plan to quiet things down in Iraq while keeping our troops there, then they will do so. You see, they know something about the US public that even the public doesn't know. Over 60% of the US public is not against the Iraq Invasion — they are against losing. Over 60% of the public was not against the invasion when it began; they were waving their flags and showing their support. And they would renew their support if the war took a turn for the better.

But it looks like the US occupation of Iraq was fumbled so badly that there may be no way out but retreat. Of course, that is not the way the politicians will portray things.

Senator Carl Levin, the Democrat likely to be the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, has already trotted out what will be the spin for the Iraqi bailout. To paraphrase, Senator Levin has said that we tried to bring democracy to Iraq, but those Arabs just can't get along with each other.

The Democrats are not going to admit that the Iraqi Invasion was wrong from the start. That might open up the way towards charging some of them with war crimes. Anyway, the US public doesn't want to hear that their country was wrong. They will find it much more palatable to say that we tried to do the right thing in Iraq, but those Arabs just don't know how to behave.

Whatever the plan will be, I can assure you of one thing: we will not pull our troops out of Iraq until those oil fields are secured. That simply is not an option. Now, perhaps we might have to launch a strike on Iran and Syria to ensure that they won't tamper with the oil fields — excuse me, I mean the Iraqi government.

No, an attack on Iran is not entirely off the table. If Cheney can stage a counter-coup, then it is almost a certainty. And Cheney will attempt a counter-coup. He is a fighter, and a dirty fighter at that. He will not take this lying down. You can bet that right now he is assessing his options, searching for some strategy that will bring him back into power. Now that Dubya is under Pappy's control, it wouldn't even surprise me if Cheney had him assassinated so that he could assume the presidency. During the shock and confusion that would follow, Cheney could declare martial law and suspend the constitution. How's that for a worst case scenario?

But whatever his plan, if Cheney's counter-coup fails, then he will be removed from office, by one means or another. Most probably, Congressional investigations will turn up evidence of illegal collusion between Cheney and Halliburton. And if Junior should develop a backbone and try to rebel against Pappy, then he will be impeached — not for lying about the reason for invading Iraq, or any of the other high crimes he has committed, but for incompetence.

But for now, the puppet masters are still in control. Don't look for much to happen in the next couple years. Expect the economy to turn sour and oil prices to slowly work their way back up. The two most likely things to come from Democratic control of Congress are the reinstatement of the draft, and the installation of Hillary Clinton as our next president.

Do not allow yourself to be fooled. The 2006 election was not a shining example of democracy in action. It was a puppet show, with both the US public and our elected leaders dancing on their strings. The 2006 election demonstrated that US democracy is only a façade behind which lurks the specter of fascism.