

Can you imagine what an Iraqi child aged 10 (only 6 at “Shock & Awe”) must feel, even if he has lost neither limb nor eye nor parent? I can. Five days of bombing by the Nazis, in The Hague, in May 1940, and ten months of Nazi occupation, left me in terror for thirty years at every low-flying airplane, every siren.

Can you imagine what nightmares visit a veteran, who has seen his buddies blown up beside him, who has made the split-second choice to blow up an innocent civilian who MIGHT have had hostile intent and a weapon to kill him? I thank the Goddess that I have not had my inhibitions against killing trained out of me, nor faced that terrible dilemma “kill or be killed.”

Is there ANY action Congress can take that will curtail the ability of our government to continue this ruthless assault on Iraqis and on our own young men and women – short of refusing to vote the funds to carry on this war? Even Bush has warned that the only way Congress can stop him is by refusing to give him the funds to pursue the war (and its escalation).

Finally: “Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me.” The Bush/Cheney rhetoric about Iraq was a lie: no WMDs, no connection with 9/11, no bringing “democracy”, no rebuilding what we have wrecked. Shame on Cheney and Bush. Now they tell us that Iran is trying to build nuclear weapons; and that Iran has sent weapons to Iraq to kill Americans. The Democratic Congress has just stripped a provision from the war-money bill that would have prohibited the President from spending it to bomb Iran without prior Congressional approval. Shame on Pelosi and her gang! Shame on us all for not electing a responsible Congress!

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