Turkish forces ready to cross Iraq's border

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ANKARA, Turkey (AP) -Turkey's top general said Thursday his army - which has been massing troops on the border with Iraq - is prepared to attack separatist Kurdish guerrillas in a cross-border offensive.

Gen. Yasar Buyukanit said the military was ready and awaiting government orders for an incursion, putting pressure on the government to support an offensive that risks straining ties with the United States and Europe and raising tensions with Iraqi Kurds.

"As soldiers, we are ready," Buyukanit said at an international security conference.

Although the United States has branded the guerrillas a terrorist organization, Washington fears that Turkish military action could destabilize northern Iraq — the most stable part of the war-torn country. Washington is also concerned that supporting Turkey in an incursion could alienate the pro-American Iraqi Kurds.

Many Turks believe a major incursion would help finish off the rebels from the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which has been fighting for autonomy in Kurdish-dominated southeastern Turkey since 1984. Turkey's human rights record has been stained by allegations of excessive use of force in the fight against the guerrillas in a conflict that has killed tens of thousands of people.

Separatist Kurdish guerrillas, taking advantage of a power vacuum in northern Iraq, have escalated attacks on Turkish targets. The military says up to 3,800 rebels are now based in Iraq, and up to 2,300 operate inside Turkey.

Turkey fears that Iraqi Kurds want to establish an independent Kurdish state, which could revive the aspirations of separatist Kurds in Turkey.

the toothless Lion ROAKS

War against Taiwan would have high cost, military report says.

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon is warning China in blunt language that despite Beijing's massive military buildup, it lacks the power for a successful attack against rival Taiwan.

The annual report on China's military, released Friday, is likely to add to rising tension between Washington and Beijing at a time when U.S. lawmakers are considering bills that would punish China for what they contend are predatory trade practices.

What the report says

The Defense Department explicitly describes what would happen if China should attack Taiwan, the self-governing democratic island that Beijing claims as its own.

An attack could severely damage China's economy and lead to international sanctions, spur a Taiwan insurgency that could tie up the Chinese military for years, and possibly cause Beijing to lose its hosting rights for the 2008 Olympics.

China does not yet have "the military capability to accomplish with confidence its political objectives on the island, particularly when confronted with the prospect of U.S. intervention.

"China's leaders recognize that a conflict over Taiwan involving the United States would give rise to a long-term hostile relationship between the two nations — a result that would not be in China's interests."

What U.S. analysts said

Michael Pillsbury a former Pentagon official who now serves as an adviser on China issues, called the Taiwan language the "most blunt warning in any U.S. document in history to China of the really bad things that will happen if they attack Taiwan."

■ Loren Thompson, a defense analyst with the Lexington Institute, said China's military still is relatively modest, despite the country's huge population and booming economy.

Background

The report was released the day the Chinese delegation left Washington after economic meetings with lawmakers and senior Bush administration officials yielded few results.

of petience The Chinese home lots

Z_Z_07. Dear Tom: Many thanks for your thought-provoking letter of 30 MAY! I don't have a crystal ball for The Middle East, nor do I have a magic carpet, but I do hear that "The Thief of Bagdad" is still used as a U.S. military training film, with the evil magician representing Osama bin Laden. It is great to know that our military is up to date!

I lack a crystal ball, but I have a good idea that The Middle East is a political/demographic kaleidoscope. When it turns, all the pieces form a different configuration. The Kurds form one important piece, for they are a nation without a state. The USA used them as patsies when Saidam ruled Iraq, twhen the USA was making trouble for Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini, around the time of the Iran-Iraq War, if I recall correctly. With the USA's toppling of Saidam, with help from the Kurds, Turkey has been experiencing Kurdish separatism within its territory. The Kurds occupy the 2 major oilfields, as I mather: Kirkuk & Mosul, or at least one of them. Turkey is cozy with Israel, as well as the USA, & the USA is cozy with the Iraqi Kurds, so which ones will the USA screw? My guess is the Kurds--again. But a Turkish invasion of Iraqi territory would likely create even more dissension amongst the Sunnis & Shia of Iraq, not to mention Iran, which seems desirous of annexing the Shia part of Iraq, as it almost did in the Iran-Iraq War, had the USA not supplied its ally, Saidam, with "weapons of mass-destruction."

In "A Century of War," Engdahl reports U.S. intentions of establishing

In "A Century of War," Engdahl reports U.S. intentions of establishing "a crescent of crisis" from the Balkans to Central Asia, ostensibly to gain control of oilfields & supply routes. Apparently, the crises prevent ZCC from getting much oil out of the region, as well as threatening the shutdown of the entire Persian Gulf. I'm sure someone has calculated how much a barrel of oil costs in terms of the U.S. military commitments, & I'd guess

that it's exorbitant. ZOG knows!

The Eush regime is another Zionist-Armageddonist bunch with a heady dose of hubris, that arrogance which offends the gods. There is indeed a streak of madness in our ZOG. No one in his right mind would meddle in The Balkans, nor in Afghanistan, if he'd read any history. As for the bastard state of Iraq, which the Brits carved out of The Turkish Empire after ww 1, our top-

Pling of Saddam guaranteed chaos, as we now experience.

According to former Mossadnik, Victor Ostrovsky, Iraq was #1 on Israel's hitlist. Other jewish sources confirm that Israel wants its territory to extend from the Tigris-Euphrates to the Nile, the 2 blue lines on the Israeli flag. What Emperor Bush thinks he's doing in this area may benefit Israel, but it certainly harms the USA. I would be surprised if any candidate for U.S. presidency had U.S. interests at heart, especially when we follow the money, i.e. the campaign funding.

All I have to add is DOWZ & ORION!

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