

----- Original Message -----

From: CNN Reply <CNN.Reply@turner.com>

Sent: Monday, September 10, 2001 8:26 PM

Subject: RE: Opinion

>Thank you for contacting CNN Interactive and for your input. Your comments have been forwarded to the appropriate content producers for consideration.

>

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>Thanks again for your interest and keep your browser pointed to <http://cnn.com>.

>

>Sincerely,

>

>The CNN.com Community Staff

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>

>-----Original Message-----

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> First Name: Hassan

> Last Name: Farazian

> Quote: Yes

> URL: www.cnn.com

> Target: Community

> Comment: As the economic slow down begins to spread rapidly like a wild fire to all parts of the world with consequential soci-economic and therefore serious political tension amongst all nations--the role of foreign policy in the current, ever interdependent world has become even more crucial and relevant. Yet, unfortunately, the Bush administration has failed to demonstrate either any REAL imaginative or bold initiatives or much less leadership role--so often proclaimed since the end of communism.

>One such area/region that exemplifies the above is the Middle-East/Persian Gulf region. The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has for instance eclipsed many more serious strategic questions in the region.

>At the same time, due to the neglect of vicious circle of the violence by Washington (probably having thought at the outset that it will die out eventually) it has turned into such a snowball effect that the INVISIBLE U.S. diplomacy has probably lost the upper hand in being influential for an effective intervention.

>Further along in the region after TWO decades of the hostile Iranian revolution the U.S. has failed to address or DEFINE a proper response other

than "wait and see", "wishful thinking", or manipulation, as was the case with the Iran gate by other elements. Hence an extremely costly and constantly CONFLICT ORIENTATED foreign policy that covers the Persian gulf, Iraq and Turkey towards the attainment of that objective.

> Obviously, the US has never been a good student of history, since Saddam Hussein like Fidel Castro continue to outlive consecutive U.S Presidents--like the TWO Bushs--while gaining international sympathy to the detriment of U.S. position--just like Cuba. However, the containment of both Iran's fanatic mullahs and Saddam's aggressive policies has meant a costly support of a devastated Turkey in BILLIONS of dollars--with no end in sight. How the current administration can break the above dead lock will not be an easy task. But the lack of a coherent plan with imaginative and ambitious role will leave the U.S. foreign policy in its current mediocre, half-measure state. Along with very grave short and consequently long-term challenges that will necessitate much more resources with little certainty of success--as the U.S foreign policy continues to drift AIMLESSLY in the unfriendly waters of the international relations from one conflict management to the next waiting only for a certain !

> and definite disaster that is only a matter of time.

> Hoprfully, this administration will wake-up to a long-term vision before that determining next crisis.

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> submitTime: Mon Sep 10 14:57:53 UTC+0200 2001