

11 05 2009 Pakistan, India, Atomiche e Talebani, una miscela Esplosiva in corso di formazione

L'India si sta preparando ad intervenire lei se l'esercito pakistano non lo fa, l'India non può permettersi che ci sia il rischio che le atomiche possano cadere in mano a gente come quella che ha fatto la strage di Bombay ed ha invaso il Pakistan altre volte.

È possibile che, se l'esercito pakistano dà segnali di perdere il controllo, come dice questo articolo, l'India intervenga direttamente.

La forza dei talebani viene dalla coltivazione dell'oppio che l'America potrebbe distruggere in un mese spargendo un fungo con gli elicotteri, ma poi diverse importanti famiglie nella zona, che ci si arricchiscono anche loro, inclusa quella di Karzai, il presidente "democraticamente eletto" si oppongono e quindi non fanno niente.

Così i soldati inglesi ed americani continuano a morire da anni per niente, perché fino a quando i talebani hanno l'oppio, avranno anche il denaro per le armi e per espandersi. Ma con l'oppio si arricchiscono tutti quelli che contano in Afghanistan e, inoltre, fa comodo ricevere miliardi di dollari di aiuti per cui nessuno ha interesse a finirla sul serio coi talebani: se sono spazzati via, poi gli aiuti non arrivano più, finisce il mercato nero e l'indotto, etc.

Il Pakistan è diviso in tre o quattro gruppi etnici e i due principali, punjabi e pashtun si odiano da sempre, i punjabi hanno però in mano l'esercito, i pashtun sono della stessa etnia degli afgani e, di conseguenza, simpatizzano in parte per i talebani, poi c'è il fatto che l'esercito è sempre più islamizzato e quindi, anche se potrebbe schiacciare i talebani in una o due settimane, mettendo in campo anche solo una parte dei due milioni di soldati, è paralizzato perché è pieno di infiltrati e simpatizzanti.

Il Pakistan, cioè, non è una nazione vera, potrebbe rompersi in tre tronconi diversi, solo l'esercito lo tiene assieme perché unica istituzione che funziona, ma purtroppo è anche quello che ha creato e protetto per due decenni i talebani per diversi motivi; ed il problema delle atomiche è acuto per l'India, che è lì di fianco ed è pronta ad invadere.

Questo potrebbe essere l'evento (solo la minaccia, il rischio, non un conflitto vero), che interrompe l'attuale luna di miele dei mercati, la stagionalità è critica e deve essere considerata..... insomma ci sono parecchie cose che sono diverse da come sembra...

In ogni caso l'Oro ne beneficerà, sul petrolio potrebbe esserci un effetto immediato, poi destinato a sgonfiarsi perché se l'India interviene militarmente, questo ovviamente deprimerebbe tutte le borse mondiali.

...Obama did not insist on solving the heart of the Taliban problem, any more than did his predecessor. Mr. Bush refused to order Afghanistan's poppy fields be wiped out via high-altitude spraying of a micro-herbicide developed by DARPA. And so has Zero.

The poppy-killing fungus will cause the entire Afghan poppy crop (which supplies 90% of the world's heroin) to disappear for decades - with no other crop being affected. Doing so would wipe out the Taliban and the ISI financially. But as it would also wipe out lots of powerful folks on the take in the Afghan and Pak governments, it will not be used, and the Taliban will expand its power until it takes over both governments.

So let's talk about India instead. There are indications India is about to take matters into its own hands, with or without Washington's approval. This is particularly true since, as noted by former US ambassador to India Robert Blackwill in a speech in New Delhi this week (5/05), Zero is abandoning the efforts of George Bush to build a strong US-India relationship in favor of currying favor with China.



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Pakistan is a make-believe country. Take a look at this official map which the Pak government delineates its borders:

First look at the area in the upper right labeled "Jammu & Kashmir." See that faint dotted line starting at the China border, goes across the area underneath Skardu and wraps around Srinigar? That's the real border: below it (Srinigar) is India, above it (Skardu) is Pak. The Skardu-Gilgit area is composed of ancient tribal peoples such as Baltits and Hunzukuts who just want to be left alone by the rest of the world, including Islamabad.

The NWFP, or North West Frontier Province is Pushtun, the same tribe that populates 42% of Afghanistan, forming that country's largest ethnic group. That nice dark line between Afghanistan and the NWFP, which Islamabad pretends is its border, is an illusion. There is no border, the entire region on both sides of it are Pushtun, and Islamabad has never exercised any control over it.

The pretend line continues, claiming to divide Afghanistan and Iran from the Pak province of Baluchistan, a huge region that takes up almost 45% of Pakistan yet contains only 10% of the country's population, mostly split between Pushtuns in the north and wild Baluchi nomads in the southern desert wastelands.

The Pak government has never controlled the Baluchis any more than the Pushtuns. It's all Apache country over which it has little real sovereignty.

So we come to the core of the country, Punjab and Sindh, and the unending hatred between Punjabis and Sindhis.

First a famous story that I can't resist relating. India, including what is now Pakistan, was created by the imperial British, and when the region of Sindh was conquered by British General Sir Charles Napier in 1842, he sent a one-word message back to Delhi headquarters announcing his victory: peccavi.

In those days, all British officers were classically educated, so they knew instantly what Napier was saying. Peccavi is Latin for "I have sinned." Napier had Sindh.

Sindh is a feudal region dominated by wealthy land-owning families (of which the Bhutto and Zardari families are among) who control the lives of 40 million poverty-stricken illiterate farmers.

It also contains Pakistan's largest city (12m) and business center, Karachi, where the Mohajirs are concentrated, the Indian Moslems who fled to Pakistan during 1947 Partition and their descendents. The hatred is mutual between them and native Sindhis.

While Sindhis are farmers ruled by a land-owning aristocracy and Mohajirs are business folk, Punjabis consider themselves warriors. Half the Pak population is Punjabi, some 80m. 90% of the Pak Army officer corps is Punjabi.

Not only is the Punjabi Pak military so politically powerful that, as Alex Alexiev observes this week in *The Real Problem in Pakistan*, "Pakistan is not a sovereign state with a military, but a sovereign military with a state at its disposal to use as it sees fit." It is that the Punjabi Pak military is so economically powerful that it controls most business activity like a mafia.

There is no way to untie this Gordian Knot of ethnic hatreds, fanatical stone-age Islamism, a heroin-smuggling mafia military, corruption at every level of society, feudal poverty, and an arsenal of nuclear weapons. The solution is to let India cut the Gordian Knot of Pakistan asunder.

This is tricky. India has no desire to conquer and absorb Pakistan, which would double the number of Moslems within it (there are 160 million Moslems in each). It needs to rather break the place apart into pieces.

The first object should be a quick in-and-out military operation to seize Pakistan's nukes. They



are dispersed so it's complicated - and more so because there will be no help from the US military under Zero. So India will be smart about it and take advantage of the Pak military's greatest vulnerability: it's officers and key personnel are for sale, they can be bought.

The Punjabis have always looked upon Afghanistan as theirs, and the Pushtuns as barbarian inferiors. (The disgust is returned. The greatest insult a Pushtun parent can give a misbehaving child is: "Stop that - you're behaving as a Punjabi.") Simultaneously, they are in constant fear of Pushtuns on either side of the border joining together to form an independent "Pushtunistan."

Yet Pushtuns don't want their own political entity apart from Afghanistan. The solution is to move the border east, so that Afghanistan encompasses the NWFP and the Pushtun region of northern Baluchistan.

This is not difficult to broker. The Pushtuns would jump at the chance to be unified, and it would deny the Taliban of the fig leaf of a Pak sanctuary. After India seizes the Pak nukes and engenders a period of chaotic destabilization, India has Kabul claim all of Pushtunistan and the Pushtuns declare for it. The US military, commanded by David Petraeus, is then free to nail the Taliban with no concern over violating "Pakistan sovereignty."

During the same chaotic time, the Baluchis can get the independence from Islamabad they've fought decades for. The capital would be Quetta, and the Baluchis could make a go of it, as one of the world's largest gold and copper deposits is at Reko Diq in the west near Iran (it's being developed by the Australian mining giant BHP Billiton). Further, the Chinese have spent \$2 billion developing the Baluchi port of Gwadar (spelled Gawadar on the map) with state-of-the-art import/export facilities.

What would be left is a rump state of Sindh-Punjab plus the Gilgit-Skardu northern territory. If the Sindhis and Punjabis and Mohajirs can get along sufficiently, they could still have a single country however reduced in size and power - for the chaos should be used to shrink concomitantly the size and power of the Punjabi Pak military.

Such a plan is being worked on right now at the South Block headquarters of the Indian Defense Ministry in New Delhi. The generals all realize now they have to act alone without America. It is the same situation that Israel is in regarding Iran. There is even some talk - for there is a great deal of communication between the Indian and Israeli militaries - of coordinating attacks, Israel upon Iran's nukes, Indian upon Pakistan's nukes, simultaneously.