PLAYING WITH FIRE

¿A NEW "WAR PARTY"?

Pablo J. Davoli (*).

If there was anything left to "overheat" the geopolitical situation of the Islamic "world", it was a movie aimed at offending Muslims' acute sensitivity. And that is what happened. Besides being terrible and worrisome, the case is extremely curious.

And right in this changeable international context, an unknown named Sam BACILE, an alleged Israeli-American citizen working in the building business in southern California, came up with the idea of making a critic and satiric movie about MAHOMA. With undeniable sarcasm he called it "Innocence of Muslims". And if that was not enough, the building businessman who suddenly had a craving for cinematography, would have informed a journalist of "The Wall Street Journal" newspaper that, for his movie production he had collected 5,000,000 USD coming from a hundred Jew donors, adding -in case anyone has any doubts- that for him, the Muslim religion was a "cancer"...

Centuries ago, wars were openly declared and usually, in a solemn way. Since the end of the 19th century, certain British and American elites frequently, and in a sophisticated masterly way, implemented the shameful practice of provocation or the staging of a "casus belli". Many and different authors considered that -not without solid foundation- the great majority of the big wars of recent times had had its origin in a

"casus belli" (real or apparent) prefabricated by its alleged victims (either through maneuvers intended for manipulating other people behavior, for falsely claiming the responsibility of an attack or, for staging a nonexistent attack). Something like this, for example, would have occurred with:

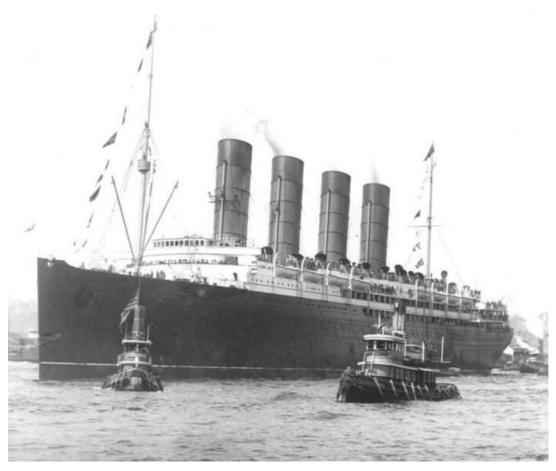
- The blowing-up of the "USS Maine" in front of La Habana (Cuba) in 1898 ("casus belli" for the war between U.S.A. and Spain).



"USS Maine" entering the port of La Habana, Cuba, on January 25, 1898.

Three weeks later, the craft unexpectedly exploded.

- The sinking of "RMS Lusitania" in front of the Irish coasts in 1915 ("casus belli" for the official involvement of U.S.A. in the First World War).



The "RMS Lusitania" arriving in New York (U.S.A.) on September 13, 1907.

According to Dr. Paul H. KOCH, this ship was registered as auxiliary cruiser of the British Navy. In 1913, the journal "New York Tribune" reported that the "RMS Lusitania" was equipped with weapons of high power. In its last journey, the ship departed from New York with a registered load of six million pounds of ammunition. Days before, the German Government had publicly warned that the boat was a military objective, through all newspapers of New York.

- The attack of the Japanese Empire to the American naval base in Pearl Harbor in 1941 ("casus belli" for the official involvement of U.S.A. in the Second World War). (1)
- The incident in Tonkin Gulf in 1964 ("casus belli" for the Vietnam War).

¹ More details of this topic in my article titled "On the occasion of Hiroshima and Nagasaki" (available in: http://www.feedlotcreixell.com.ar/davoli/articulos.html).

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- The air attacks of 09/11/2001 against the "World Trade Center" in New York and the "Pentagon" in Washington ("casus belli" for the invasion of Afghanistan).
- The accusation that Iraq was planning an attack against the Unites States with mass destruction weapons in 2003 ("casus belli" for the invasion of Iraq).

It is not unreasonable to infer from the sudden incursion into cinematography of the unknown Mr. BACILE that this fact "smells" like war. The hostility against Islamism in the movie is evident. The offensive possibilities of the movie were more than predictable. I mean the virtuality of the movie to annoy and exasperate the Muslim masses, "lighting the fuse" in the minefield that was generated in that part of the globe. Here there is no place for the argument of own ignorance or naivety. No place, at least, for the purposes of expecting a complete exemption from responsibility in connection with the tragic events that have been caused.

It would be more beneficial if the American television, so keen on public debates -above all during election campaigns- brings Mr. BACILE face to face with Ambassador Christopher STEVENS relatives. (2) It is just an example. I wonder: in that case, to what arguments will this person appeal to justify the terrible consequences that -as it was highly predictable- have derived almost immediately from his actions?

It is terrible. But in the light of this episode and many others -as or more important and eloquent than this one- it seems that a sort of "war party" has arisen like the group which operated in the United Kingdom, the United States and France towards the end of the thirties. We are talking about a group of people who work hard, in a deliberate,

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² Chistopher STEVENS was the ambassador of U.S.A. to Libya. He died in the American consulate of Benghazi, by the disturbances caused by the film of BACILE.

determined and planned way to trigger a war in the Middle East and at great length, between Occident -or what it is left- and the Islamic "world". I am sure that in that case, thousands -if not millions- of innocent people will die in a ferocious way... And many others will have their lives ruined... It will be a war without justice, mercy and honor.

I hope every person with good will, regardless of his race, religion and/or nationality, does everything within reach to prevent such atrocious outcome. And GOD helps us in the accomplishment of this task.

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He is the author of books like "Sociological Meditations. Confessions of an Argentine worried" and "The large paradigms and the historical study of social

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