



Destruction of Iraq only serves foreign interests: Analyst

Interview with Edward Corrigan

Tue Jul 8, 2014 3:43PM GMT

Press TV has conducted an interview with **Edward Corrigan**, political commentator, Ontario about the Iraq situation.

The following is an approximate transcript of the interview.

Press TV: Looking at the way things have played out in Syria and Iraq in the past few weeks, how do you interpret the situation right now?

Corrigan: You could say it's the definition of insanity. The United States is supporting the ISIL ... to attack and try to destroy and overthrow the Syrian national government and yet it's the same group of people now proposing to fight in Iraq.

So it's essentially the same organization, but you are arming the Syrian faction and those arms are simply going to be used by the Iraqi faction. So the policy seems to be incoherent and crazy, but in fact that's probably the objective, to further destroy and undermine and weaken Syria and Iraq.

Senator Joe Biden actually made a statement saying Iraq should be divided into three different countries: the Sunnis in the north; the Kurds in the east; and of course the Shia state in the south.

But the point is to destroy what was the largest and most viable Arab state and out of the chaos it creates weakness and of course opportunities for some groups to exploit and to make money and they want a weak fragile states.

The government in Baghdad is quite weak, it's now relying more and more on its Shia base...

But in the end it is the destruction of Iraq, the destruction of Syria and all this serves the interests of foreign parties not the interests of any country in the Middle East, not in the interest of the Arabs; but the British the Americans and the Israelis are sitting back probably laughing at how easy it is getting the Arabs to destroy themselves and not to build viable societies.

Of course the ISIL people are threatening to invade Saudi Arabia and that now is seen by the Americans as a threat to their Saudi allies and other feudal states in the area that are largely dependent on the Americans.

Press TV: Even if all of Iraq unites against these ISIL Takfiris that have been wreaking havoc in their country - as we've been seeing in different areas where Sunnis, Christians and Shias have been coming together to protect their country.

However, as long as the US and its allies continue to fund these elements in Syria will we see the end of ISIL any time soon?

Corrigan: I don't think so because a lot of the ISIL group in fact are foreign mercenaries that are brought in by the Americans the British and the Israelis and funded by the Saudis and the Kuwaitis.

So, as long as there's lots of money to be dispensed by certain parties, there will be no foreseeable end unless there's a decisive defeat.

The problem is with Turkey providing a base; there is also ISIL elements in Jordan and it's very difficult because the borders are very open and porous and they can escape. The Israelis are there as well. And so it's going to be very difficult until the foreign powers that are bankrolling the thing...

But also the local powers – Turkey is providing shelter and a base and it's very difficult to block that, as is Jordan.

There are attempts to try to bring Lebanon into this whole mess to spark a sectarian conflict there and so far the Lebanese have been smart enough and had the discipline not to fall for that trap.

But because of the situation and the support of external powers it is going to be a very long-drawn-out battle...

SC/AB