

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Mr. Stephens shares a quote from a former Iranian leader who stated, ““If one day, the Islamic world is also equipped with weapons like those that Israel possesses now, then the imperialists’ strategy will reach a standstill because the use of even one nuclear bomb inside Israel will destroy everything. However, one bomb will only harm the Islamic world.” What is so chilling about that sentiment? What is the former Iranian president referring to when using the term ‘Imperialist’s strategy?’ What are the significant differences between Iran and the nations that already have nuclear weapons?
- We learn that, “Iran has been committing actual acts of war against what it calls “The Great Satan” for over three decades.” Why do you think that Iran considers the U.S. to be “The Great Satan?” What do you think would motivate Iran to actually use a nuclear weapon against the U.S. if it could?
- We learn from Mr. Stephens that Iranian leaders, “...wage a continuous terrorist war against Israel through their proxies, Hezbollah and Hamas,” and, “...have called publicly and repeatedly for Israel’s “annihilation.” Considering how dangerous a threat to its neighbors and to the U.S. Iran already is, why do you think that some nations and people believe Iran’s lie that it is only using its nuclear program for energy? Based on Iran’s ideology and corresponding actions, do you think that Iran would actually drop a nuclear weapon on Israel? Why or why not? As evidenced by his signing of the Iran Nuclear deal, why do you think that the Obama administration doesn’t take this genuine threat seriously?
- Mr. Stephens points out that, “A militant nation that does not fear its own destruction is a sure threat to its enemies. And that threat is taken to a whole new level if the militant nation arms itself with nuclear weapons.” What exactly does he mean by this? Do you agree? Why or why not? Why do you think the Iranian regime doesn’t fear its own destruction? How does that make Iran even more dangerous?
- At the end of the video, Mr. Stephens warns us that if Iran is allowed to develop a nuclear weapon, “...they will pose a severe threat to the security of America and Europe, spark a regional arms race that could see the world’s worst players acquire the world’s worst weapons, and threaten the Jews with extermination for the second time in a century,” and reiterates his main point that, “Iran cannot be allowed to get the bomb because they might actually use it.” Considering what a proven threat the Iranian regime is, why do you think the world is not doing more to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons? What do you think can be done to stop Iran from weaponizing its nuclear program?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Khobar Towers

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Saudi Arabia ‘holds suspect in Khobar Towers bombing’,” then answer the questions that follow.

- What happened at the Khobar Towers? Why were the U.S. Marines there in the first place?
- What was Iran’s involvement in the bombing? How exactly was it involved? In what ways do you think Iran ‘backs’ militant Islamic movements and groups such as Hezbollah?
- In the video, Mr. Stephens states that, “A nuclear Iran could greatly expand its efforts to harm American interests, secure in the knowledge that its possession of nuclear weapons would make any military retaliation extremely unlikely.” Why? Do you think that this reality puts more pressure on the Free World to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons? Why or why not?



QUIZ

IRAN AND THE BOMB

1. Why do we have to stop Iran from getting the bomb?

- a. They don't realize the environmental impact of their work.
- b. We are trying to denuclearize the world, including Iran.
- c. They might actually use it.
- d. It might fall into the wrong hands.

2. Iran is not scared to use the bomb because:

- a. They do not fear their own destruction.
- b. They don't think anyone will retaliate.
- c. No one can reach them.
- d. They have underground bunkers to protect from a counter-attack.

3. Iran calls the United States of America:

- a. Its best friend.
- b. The Great Satan.
- c. The protectors.
- d. Its friend for peace.

4. Iran's three enemies are:

- a. Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Mexico.
- b. Israel, the United States, and Sunni Muslim nations.
- c. Lebanon, the United States, and Russia.
- d. China, Russia, and Iraq.

5. Once Iran gets the bomb, they will pose a severe threat to:

- a. The security of America and Europe.
- b. Israel.
- c. The world.
- d. All of the above.



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-34064110>

Saudi Arabia 'holds suspect in Khobar Towers bombing'

- 26 August 2015
- From the section [Middle East](#)



Al-Sharq al-Awsat did not say when or by whom Ahmed al-Mughassil was detained in Beirut

The main suspect in the 1996 bombing of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia is reported to have been captured.

Ahmed al-Mughassil was apprehended in the Lebanese capital Beirut and then transferred to Riyadh, the Saudi-owned newspaper al-Sharq al-Awsat reported.

There was no immediate comment from the Saudi authorities, but a US official confirmed Mr Mughassil was being held.

He has been indicted by a US court for the attack, which killed 19 US military personnel and a Saudi citizen.

The US has accused Iran of being behind the bombing - something it has denied.

In a report published on Wednesday, al-Sharq al-Awsat said Mr Mughassil, a Saudi national, had been "disguised in a way that made it hard to identify him".

The newspaper quoted official Saudi sources as saying Saudi security personnel had received information about the 48-year-old's presence in Beirut. It did not give further details about when or by whom he was detained.

Later, a US official told the Associated Press that Mr Mughassil was in custody.

Saudi Hezbollah

The US had offered a [\\$5m \(£3.2m\) reward](#) for information leading directly to the apprehension or conviction of Mr Mughassil, who it alleges was the head of the military wing of Saudi Hezbollah, also known as Hezbollah al-Hijaz, a branch of the Iran-backed Lebanese Shia Islamist movement that operated in the Sunni-ruled Gulf kingdom.

Image caption The US authorities say evidence of Iranian involvement in the Khobar Towers attack is strong

Mr Mughassil was one of 13 people named in a [2001 indictment](#) filed at a US District Court in Virginia.

It says that on 25 June 1996 Hezbollah al-Hijaz members drove a tanker filled with plastic explosives into the car park at the Khobar Towers housing complex near the eastern city of Dhahran and detonated it, all but destroying the nearest building.

In 2006, a US District Court judge ordered the Iranian government to pay \$254m in damages to the families of 17 of the 19 Americans killed in the attack after it failed to respond to a lawsuit.

The judge said he had been persuaded by former FBI agents that the truck bomb had been assembled at a base in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley operated by the militant Shia Islamist movement, Hezbollah, and Iran's Revolutionary Guards. He also concluded that the attack had been approved by Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

However, the 9/11 Commission Report said in 2004 that "while the evidence of Iranian involvement is strong, there are also signs that al-Qaeda played some role, as yet unknown".