

2014, August 8

FRIDAY NIGHT HARD NEWS CALL

INFORMATION REGARDING CALLS PRESENTED AND/OR SUPPORTED BY 2013 RAINBOW ROUND TABLE

I TO ACCESS THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet

A BBS RADIO Go To www.bbsradio.com ; click on Talk Radio Station #2; click on "64K Listen"

Thursday: 9 pm – 12:00 pm EST **Stargate Round Table** **Host: Marietta Robert**

Friday: 9 pm – 2 am EST **Friday Night Hard News** **Hosts: T & R**

Saturday: 4:30 pm – 2 am EST **History of our Galactic World & NESARA** **Hosts: T & R**

Friday, Saturday: From **10 – 11 pm EST**, for one hour, the call moves to the Conference Call Line [PIN below] and then returns to BBS Radio.

- Use the following phone numbers to ask questions or make comments during the radio show.

530 – 413 – 9537 [line 1]

530 – 763 – 1594 [line 2 & 3]

530 – 746 – 0341 [line 4]

- **BBS Toll Free # in Canada, US** 1 – 888-429-5471 This number picks up whichever line is available.

B Conference Call: 1-213 -342-3000

Thursday PIN #	87 87 87#
Friday PIN #	23 23 23#
Saturday PIN #	13 72 9#

C Skype: **BBSradio2**

D Archives for the 3 Programs listed above:

- To access the **FREE BBS archives** for any of these programs:
 - Go to [BBSRadio.com/ Station 2](http://BBSRadio.com/Station2); scroll down; click on **Current Program Archives**
 - Scroll down to **Hard News on Friday with Tara and Rama**, and click on **"More Archives"**
 - Click on those words and you will be taken to the listing of all program archives, the latest one being at the top.
 - You can download the program to your own computer or listen directly.

- The **2013 website also has an archive section:**

<http://2013rainbowroundtable.ning.com/> look under the "Archives" tab for written notes.

II TO ACCESS OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable

A Sunday, Mondays: 9 – 10:30 EST **Cheryl Croci's Activation Calls**
By telephone only: 1 – 213 - 342- 3000; PIN 9467441#

B Tuesdays, 2nd & 4th of each month: **Ashtar on the Road**
9:30 – 11:00 pm EST Host is Fran; Susan Leland channels Ashtar & Mother Sekhmet
www.Ashtarontheroad.com

- Phone Number: 1 – 559 – 726 – 1300; PIN 163731#
- Call is free [except for long distance charges]
- Can also listen to the call via Skype

C Wednesdays: 7:00 – 9:00 EST **The Friends of The Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call**
By telephone only: 1– 712-432-0900 PIN 666238#
Replay # [good for 1 week] 1-712- 432-0990 PIN 666238#

Opening Meditation: D'Yanna

Housekeeping: Rainbird Thank you!

- BBS:**
- A listener-supported radio program; we can access program archives on BBS
 - **We are caught up for this week! Many thanks** for all contributions and blessings!
 - Needs everyone of us to donate something, would like to hear from all on the call.
 - What we hear and learn feeds our minds and our souls!
 - Go to BBS.com/Radio 2; find the listing for Friday Night Hard News; find the **Paypal** button
 - BBS appreciates getting checks through the mail – no fees taken off by Paypal
 - **NO COST TO ACCESS THE ARCHIVES** for any of the T & R PROGRAMS, or the one for Thursday night: Stargate Round Table, hosted by MariettaRobert
 - Re: archives of the other programs on BBS: the money we pay to listen to someone else's archives is put towards our BBS bill!
 - The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:
BBS Network, Inc.
5167 Toyon Lane
Paradise, CA 95969
 - A check to BBS means all of the money you send is received; using Paypal incurs a fee.

- T & R:**
- Asking for money for some bills.
 - Can donate via the Paypal button on the website: www.2013RainbowRoundTable.ning.com
 - **Please notify them if you're sending something:** koran9999@hotmail.com
NOTE NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS
 - Rama's mailing address for cheques, Money orders: Ram D Berkowitz
1704 B Llano St, # 249
Santa Fe, NM 87505
 - **phone contact** is via MariettaRobert: 317-773-0061
or by e-mail: stargatemarietta@gmail.com
 - **Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!** [Once T & R have moved.]

- MR:**
- Please remember to support MariettaRobert's show, too

Hard News:

T: These are difficult times: we need to reach & maintain a very high vibrational place/level of consciousness in order to watch them killing kids again, after a 3 day cease fire.

R: it is NOT HAMAS, it is our Black Ops completely inside the group called ISIS

- Used to mean Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria
 - Now it's ISIL - Islamic state of Iraq and Lavant: want to form a caliphate – has to do with Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia
- the complete caliphate means everyone who is not Islamic will be killed

R: the Mahdi is here: Lord Kalki Maitreya – the story is not about the iron fist; it's about the hummingbird medicine and the butterfly

- This is a voice [Rama's] crying in the wilderness: turn off the fake news and turn this on!

T: the IS [Islamic State] IL has taken over the biggest dam

R: all the folks in the Islamic State – trained by Paul Bremer & got all kinds of funding via John McCain when they were in Syria

- they are gathering forces from groups around the middle east: It's the Nazi 4th Reich wanting to do this in Obama's last term and blame it on the black man and then have the war of civilizations

R: the 13 families are playing with the fake WW III story or a fake alien invasion: playing it to the hilt now!

- A much bigger story than just blaming Obama: it's about the criminals sitting in the House

R: Brian Epstein – used to be a hedge fund manager; got out with his life

- **Talked to Rama** about being a lobbyist & on the coattails of John McCain
- All senators and congressmen have 5 or 10 lobbyists on their coattails
- Sen Bernie Sanders makes his own money, has nothing to do with lobbyists

T: everyone on the conference line last night had a hard time hearing what was said

- **HERE IS AN EMERGENCY NUMBER TO USE WHEN WE CANNOT HEAR: THE FOLKS WHO ARE HAVING THE TROUBLE HAVE TO TELL SOMEONE: TARA & RAMA & BBS CANNOT HEAR AND DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON – ALL OF THEIR LINES WERE COMPLETELY TAKEN UP** because of the troubles Rainbird, Angelsu, Marietta, Cathy Lauren were having

CUSTOMER SERVICE # 888-710-8061 – an emergency number only

If you have a smart phone, you can download the BBS radio app and can listen directly from BBS - One touch call in!

- **What is happening on many different levels**, the force / mitochondria – an intelligent force that is taking control in spite of the war talk

T: this is the final battle between the Light and the Dark

R: The final battle is not WWF: the wrestling match in Revelations has been cancelled between Lucifer & Sananda on the Plains of Magido!

- The portal of 2012 came and went, and they are not out of luck – they can choose up to the very last nano second; only need to ask for help

T: The 47th Asian Foreign Ministers Meeting in NaiPea 2, Myanmar – a call for unity for beginning next year with a new Asian community.

- the current developments in the world are a serious cause for concern. Asians ... should resort to the peaceful settlement of disputes

R: Yoko Ono has lit the peace tower in NW Iceland for all the people, children in Gaza!

- The Southern hemisphere Asian Free Trade Agreement / TPP / Shafta

T: In Mosel, it was 113* - no shade, no food, no water on the top of the Sindjar Mountains

- wants to invoke that there be Galactic Intervention – the Islamic State people at the bottom of the mountain are not going anywhere
 - the US counsel is in Mosul: Obama is obligated to protect the people there
 - there is no solution if this goes on and on: these ones [I S] will not budge!
 - Simple: beam me up, Scotty

R: if his father is handed the talking stick by this planet in Loving Presence . . .

- **Brian Epstein today:** rubs elbows with people dripping with blood money;
 - said that Argentina has filed a lawsuit against Paul Singer & the NY Judge as it is a crime to attempt to take down an entire nation!
 - Brian Called Singer one of the walking dead – the only way to remove him is to jail him!
- **Al Jazeera:** said many more people have died, both elderly and children; can get up to 130*

R: asks that as we do the night work, we ask to be taken there and help them: just meditate on the idea to ask to go to this place & the energy is blended to help these people, we can be seen as there is no veil

T: on the border of Syria, the IS has said they have taken control of a Syrial army base

- have already slaughtered all kinds of Ytzadis & Zoroastrians
- the dam at Mosel has been taken over: in 2006 the US army named it the most dangerous dam in

the world – 30 miles upriver from Mosul; holds millions of gallons of water and is not very stable; if it is not maintained, it could fail. Iraq has maintained it by pumping tons of grout into it regularly to keep it going.

- The US Army predicted that a wall of water about 65 feet high would be down the mountain in no time, & 500,000 people could die in an instant. If the maintenance of the dam is ignored, it could fail – it is not in good repair
- Galactic intervention is becoming a necessity

R: Barbara Boxer was on a radio program: she is furious and saying the Republican party has failed this country

T: Barbara Lee – the republicans have abdicated their responsibilities – didn't declare war re: Iraq, and all the other wars; also concerned about mission creep – she is the only one who voted against war after 9/11

- Mc Cain and Graham are screaming about how small a thing Obama has done – and **they were the ones who set up the Islamic State in the first place!**

T: Please dig deep: there is no lack of purpose for anyone at this time: **despair is not an option – make every word, every thought a meditation -**

Conference Call:

C1: is encouraging her daughter to hang on; looking to the new technologies being of great help

T: appreciating what the caller does for her daughter and that love is all there is.

- The Peace Tower in NW iceland send a light up 2,000 feet
- Need to **send that light to Jordan:** the Palestinians are being blocked from entering Jordan – they have been doing this for 18 months – a case of racism, as the Syrians are being allowed to enter
- R will find out if the recording is clear
 - Usually the BBS recordings are very clear: Using androids etc would be very helpful

C2: wants to know if the daughter knows who her angel is – will do a session with the daughter and the mother [541- 751 0605] so she can access help from her guides

C1: daughter's name is Janet.- a graphic artist but does nothing or little due to the difficulty of just living and breathing. Getting slowly out of contact with those she used to know. She got sick in 1993 with a lung, breathing problem; had a remission; then got acute and critical – a general diagnosis of hypersensitive "numanitus"[? - spelling]

T: Hiroshima: "RiVERS OF LOVE" K.G. NAKASAWA

- a beautiful song, sung by a japanese singer who also sang it in English
- The poet was 6 years old in the bombing; having a hard time as he has liver cancer from the radiation – now in his 80s

T: Celia Fenn – an 8 - 8 lionsgate

T: talks about President Obama's comments on Iraq

[SEE BELOW]

C2: discusses with T & R about getting in touch with

Julianna Forlano Show – 503 – 367 – 6115 - says she wants to help get the real news out.

T: talks about the reaction of a tradesman who came to the house: underlying things is racism in many people.

Reading: 2014, July 25 **Turning Inwards to Core Power ~ A Planet and Population in Transition**

Archangel Michael through Celia Fenn : New Year July/August 2014

[SEE BELOW]

Happy New Year, Everyone!

BBS

Music – The most powerful mantra there is! The most sacred purification mantra – works with illumination, purification. As we do this mantra, we are being initiated into our full power on all our levels: physical, mental, emotional, spiritual.

Mother Sekhmet

Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant one! In the Office of the Christ and only in the Office of the Christ, we invoke the loving energies of St Germain and the Violet Flame.

T: we ask that all that comes up for clearing that we with

You Tube: the Gayatree mantral by Premal Deva – so we can download and play as often

Greetings!

- We are ALL here in this mix of this cosmic story which is only about Love!
 - This Gayatree mantra: this story we have before us as a gift on this Diamond One, Tita Lacoria – it is the cosmic story being played out for all to see.
 - At the moment, things look very grim for the people of Palestine, but it is only a momentary glitch in the frequency shift that is sweeping across this sector of the Milky Way galaxy
- We are at the time of moving towards to the Autumn equinox: the full moon coming up this weekend; the energies with what is going on, with how they get filtered down to 3D as we call it – it is all relative!
 - we are really in 5D moving up to 6D and everyone and his dog is here: the 4th dimension is just outside your door – careful where you walk!
- We see you, you see us and it has not caused any major accidents on any highways!
 - We are the subject of taboo: your talking heads only put us in the category of swamp gas, or a brain fart - not funny.
 - It is about as so much of humanity has already embraced – what your friend Thom calls this – The Fourth Turning. The 4th turning – the heroes, the prophets show up, the indigo crystal children across these great nations.
 - The people of Gaza are under 30 and they only wish for peace. The only story going on is our wayward children who are in what this guy calls "Rigor Mortis death throes" – it is getting hard to walk, as they are living corpses so to say
- it is only about this cosmic grand cycle we are in, coming to this conclusion called the 4th turning; the heroes, the prophets show up to make it a better day, yet that better day is already here and the change that is happening is the change we feel within – within, without are one and the same.
- What is happening is our wayward children have nowhere to go except back to the heart; it is the one place they kind of forgot or, you could say, conveniently left out of the picture;
 - everything that is unlike the divine qualities like the Gayatree mantra coming up for serious transfiguration at the highest levels.
- She could say we are in a Sci Fi movie already; what is transpiring she has no answers for: we are all in this boat together as we ride the tide.
 - It is how WE make the path through this pathless path right now: it is the people, WE THE PEOPLE, who get the timeline has already changed as we catch up with the matching timeline called NESARA.
 - As you do this by holding your sacred documents, as we call them, that our Founding Fathers put together for the New Atlantis. Now is the time to call in LM Nada, the best lawyer in the galaxy! She knows how to handle these affairs.

T: [cannot hear]

Mo: she has dual citizenship

T: we all do in a certain sense, Mother. She wants to know who the 3 females Barack is talking to

Mo: Je ne sais pas. No way out except up. It is about this glorious, magnificent time!

- The indigo crystal children are seeing it for what it is: we are the ones who must make this change, as Gaia/Vyamus vibrates to a higher octave and then end this war, and all the children are

speaking up - maybe we be at the right place at the wrong time:

- **it is NOT HAMAS; it is the fingers of Soron from fear:** we must at this unique moment as we all hold the key to this manifestation that is already made manifest, called the end of the circle/ cycle of endless war: let it begin with me!

- As we built it, we have already come and meeting ourselves in the sacred holy ground:

- As Neo said "There can be only One" and that is ALL OF US – 144,000 x 10 hundred thousand x 10 hundred thousand x 10 hundred thousand billions of times of unmanifested energies that is swirling around at the moment.

REJOICE even in the midst of what we are looking at which is not anything to talk about - except "Wizards" describes it the best way:

T: Wizards? Avatar? – we must all become ??

T: gives wolves a bad name

Mo: there are good wolves in this story

T: If we haven't seen the movie "**Wizards**" – it has animated water colours with real scenes in between – **can find it on You Tube. [Ralph Bakshi] WORTH WATCHING**

- They showed it to the children at Sunrise Spring, an alternative school – much to learn, much to wake up to, much to realize - that only love wins

- The astrology is telling us: the planetary astrology for this period to Lions Gate: we are expecting it look so very ugly because of the kicking and screaming of going down!

Mo: You've had 13,000 years of lies coming from our children who are skin walkers who do not represent the Office of the Christ

- It is only about this frequency of divine, orgasmic cosmic love pouring forth on this sphere of influence

- at the same time, our wayward children have clouded the lens with FEAR: false evidence appearing real. Wipe the lens clean: it is that simple, and you can see things as they really are, and they are no more: it is why we call it The 4th Turning – this time we are in there is "the change"

T: Ukraine is completely on fire! This news is being downplayed

Mo: about these nations playing with their own fire.

T: Talk about the 20,000 troops on the border are for the humanitarian efforts going on

Mo: at the same time, it is the convoluted work by our media which feeds on fear.

T: It IS a humanitarian effort: people are sleeping in their basements if they have one – if they are out on the ground, they are shot - it is our Black Ops doing it again and the UN is going again to help our Black Ops in northern Iraq – who will do it over there?

Mo: this is the crossroads you have come to: war no more!

- you are already in the place as the children have asked that we all come together in the sacred circle, the hoop, the wheel of life, and figure out how we can best heal and move on with the cosmic day of Brahma

- it is about the 1,000 years of peace, Sat Yuga; and you are looking at what does not seem to be Sat Yuga, yet the change is already in the mix as people across the planet are saying "No more war". Now we must take the next moment here and change it, like the indigo crystal children are asking

T: getting help

Mo: the new Aquarian Age is about arts, science, music, dance – the divine synchronicity – serendipity – which has already been seen where, out of the nothingness comes that which removes the darkness, and that is about the 5th element –

- all of us all combined with her people make **The One:** 14,000 x 10, 100,000 x 10 hundred thousand and we in that quantum field have already come to that conclusion: we choose to not live in an environment where war is not the topic of the day.

T: This has to be a global experience so we put a dent in things on every front

Cambodia has tried their war criminals from the Kamur Rouge: one was 88, and one was 83 & got life imprisonment – still have another genocide trial for both of them.

Mo: put the apple in the guy's mouth in places like viet Nam– it means putting them before a firing squad and doing what is done!

- She does say that these methods, these forms of leaving the temple are very barbaric indeed;
- yet at the same time, this temple of the living god is like an overcoat - yet what we must get is that this is the suit that we have a symbiotic relationship with in this environment in order to exist, it is a divine gift, and she watches the gov't of the planet throw them around like pieces of wood.
- And The Force takes care of her own: it entails that she takes her children back to the Dark Rift where she must create some cosmic soup and create universes out of the magic dust. And at this moment, it is
- The ride as Bill Hicks called it is a rush – he is helping from her side of the story: this cosmic place where we are witnessing all of the shenanigans though they have everything to do with not facing your own demons:
 - the chief demon gave it up a long time ago and turned into Lucifera –
 - the energies playing out here are the lackeys who do hold some power, but not enough to do what must be done. They are Dinosaurs – send them on their way as they head into the sunset, with Loving Presence.

T: how are people going to grasp this?

- Mo:** you have always been visited by inter galactic fellow travellers whether they have living temples like these forms, or just spheres that have a voice and you just talk to them as your friends and neighbours. Whether we have a body, or a temple of the living god - there are so many beings that are in your presence
- Can you remember the scene when the little mouse shows up in **The Matrix** at the edge of the cliff and says "Neo made it" ?
 - the light of creation that has never failed, is getting so bright – the ones that are the dogs of war are just that: send them on their way with a bone. And clean up the mess – leave that to us:
 - we have the ways to clean up the radiation – depleted uranium is a big deal, and there is so much of it around: your police wear it on their bodies – why would you do that?
 - You poison yourself every day going to the double arches or the kentucky half chicken -

T: they do grow them headless! [chickens]

Mo: you are on the island of Dr Moreau

T: we are in the last days of 2015

Mo: Harmonic Convergence is upon us, and we move into 2016 on August 18th

T: on Monday, it is 22 weeks since the crash

Mo: is the 20 number when it crashes? They want to play with this

T: whatever is getting done needs to be done now: the climate change thing

Mo: when you get horizontal, we will take you up: ask to go to Mt Sinjar and we will go as the 144,000 and help these ones; why not a round trip: want to see Aleppo? Baghdad? Tarete?

T: they got themselves a dam, and they got themselves into a jam!

Mo: will take more than gray goop or crazy glue: it is not funny! If we allowed the emotion in this one, [Rama]. there would be oceans of tears.

- Now is the time when she who is the true form of the goddess – Inanna, Isis - and Mr Benjamin Netanyahu will have to face the goddess. And though he puts on a good show for the cameras, it is only nano seconds: it is right f***** now to use his language, and that is why you feel like throwing up all the time
- this Lions Gate is about how we can create the magic: here it is, you asked us long ago "Mother teach us how to create in all its forms' – god is art; the temple of the living god in all its forms
 - our children who fell were the elohim who became elohim [not all elohim fell]

T: brings up the film from last week when the people in the South African mines killed their own people, a power class struggle within their own people!

- How will be ready to do a money thing with NESARA when people are paying so little attention? How about a landing all over the planet? How about a decloaking with the Wingmaker ships over

Mo: be careful what you ask for!!!

T: what's wrong with asking for that?

- Have read the articles about the football fields and football fields of downed craft

Mo; in response to Tara's comments about the 2 holes in Russia

T: super high amounts of methane coming out of those holes – not good – not a viable thing

Mo: It is about change! As they advance us into a • there are ways in which they show us the dynamics of the cosmic laws of love within quantum universal physics; it takes on a new realm where methane gas in the gaseous state can be extracted and used for powering certain technologies that react with elector-magnetic chemical nature that works within the framework of the methane gas: Everything is based on electrons and protons – what we call :the god particle"

T: the attempt to find the Bose Higgs particle will ge them into trouble, like in Atlantis

Mo: This story is about The Big Story – Mother Zudiachus

- what is the big pot being stirred in Africa, the mother land? She has said "Now is the time for my people to be free all across this planet."
- It is the rising up of the goddess energy – the passing of Nelson Mandela was a key as he has taken off his coat and gotten to work. What is happening is that, aAcross the planet there is the idea of Umbutu, societies, cultures working within the framework of "We are All One" that is transpiring at the moment in spite of the moment.
- Greetings in the light of the most radiant one.

Rama: has been to the Temple of the Sun, at Teotechcan which is coming into manifestation

- the Eagle and the Condor have to meet up and discuss about doing this with love – Turtle Island
- Story being completed now by all of us doing our part

T: return of the Sun, return of the Children of the Sun, and the return of the Mayan Consciousness

R: Yes

T: some of them descended too – refers to the sacrificing that was done

R: whichever side of the door is it on: if you want to see what Gaza looks like, ask to go tonight – we need your help!

T: there are higher vibrations going on – just remember this as you listen to the tape!

Audio: Democracy Now Aug 8 – US intervention in Iraq

[SEE BELOW]

Audio: Greg Braden Feb 2014

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iprj7PQlqPk>

Gregg Braden Interviui feb 2014

Audio: Max Keiser

[KR637] Keiser Report: Great Cake Collapse

August 7, 2014

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=b0uF9lriRYY

We discuss the headlines which prove that a great empire, like a great cake, is most easily diminished at the edges. In the second half, Max interviews Peter Greenhill, Head of e-Gaming Development for the Isle of Man, about e-gaming and cryptocurrencies on the island. They also discuss why the Queen has no crown on the currency notes of the Isle of Man.

Reading: Learning the Cherokee Way – D'yanni Ywahoo

Music: Sufi music – One Through Love

Closing: lots of music!

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary
For Immediate Release

August 07, 2014

Statement by the President

State Dining Room

9:30 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Good evening. Today I authorized two operations in Iraq -- targeted airstrikes to protect our American personnel, and a humanitarian effort to help save thousands of Iraqi civilians who are trapped on a mountain without food and water and facing almost certain death. Let me explain the actions we're taking and why.

First, I said in June -- as the terrorist group ISIL began an advance across Iraq -- that the United States would be prepared to take targeted military action in Iraq if and when we determined that the situation required it. In recent days, these terrorists have continued to move across Iraq, and have neared the city of Erbil, where American diplomats and civilians serve at our consulate and American military personnel advise Iraqi forces.

To stop the advance on Erbil, I've directed our military to take targeted strikes against ISIL terrorist convoys should they move toward the city. We intend to stay vigilant, and take action if these terrorist forces threaten our personnel or facilities anywhere in Iraq, including our consulate in Erbil and our embassy in Baghdad. We're also providing urgent assistance to Iraqi government and Kurdish forces so they can more effectively wage the fight against ISIL.

Second, at the request of the Iraqi government -- we've begun operations to help save Iraqi civilians stranded on the mountain. As ISIL has marched across Iraq, it has waged a ruthless campaign against innocent Iraqis. And these terrorists have been especially barbaric towards religious minorities, including Christian and Yezidis, a small and ancient religious sect. Countless Iraqis have been displaced. And chilling reports describe ISIL militants rounding up families, conducting mass executions, and enslaving Yezidi women.

In recent days, Yezidi women, men and children from the area of Sinjar have fled for their lives. And thousands -- perhaps tens of thousands -- are now hiding high up on the mountain, with little but the clothes on their backs. They're without food, they're without water. People are starving. And children are dying of thirst. Meanwhile, ISIL forces below have called for the systematic destruction of the entire Yezidi people, which would constitute genocide. So these innocent families are faced with a horrible choice: descend the mountain and be slaughtered, or stay and slowly die of thirst and hunger.

I've said before, the United States cannot and should not intervene every time there's a crisis in the world. So let me be clear about why we must act, and act now. When we face a situation like we do on that mountain -- with innocent people facing the prospect of violence on a horrific scale, when we have a mandate to help -- in this case, a request from the Iraqi government -- and when we have the unique capabilities to help avert a massacre, then I believe the United States of America cannot turn a blind eye. We can act, carefully and responsibly, to prevent a potential act of genocide. That's what we're doing on that mountain.

I've, therefore, authorized targeted airstrikes, if necessary, to help forces in Iraq as they fight to break the siege of Mount Sinjar and protect the civilians trapped there. Already, American aircraft have begun conducting humanitarian airdrops of food and water to help these desperate men, women and children survive. Earlier this week, one Iraqi in the area cried to the world, "There is no one coming to help." Well today, America is coming to help. We're also consulting with other countries -- and the United Nations -- who have called for action to address this humanitarian crisis.

I know that many of you are rightly concerned about any American military action in Iraq, even limited strikes like

these. I understand that. I ran for this office in part to end our war in Iraq and welcome our troops home, and that's what we've done. As Commander-in-Chief, I will not allow the United States to be dragged into fighting another war in Iraq. And so even as we support Iraqis as they take the fight to these terrorists, American combat troops will not be returning to fight in Iraq, because there's no American military solution to the larger crisis in Iraq. The only lasting solution is reconciliation among Iraqi communities and stronger Iraqi security forces.

However, we can and should support moderate forces who can bring stability to Iraq. So even as we carry out these two missions, we will continue to pursue a broader strategy that empowers Iraqis to confront this crisis. Iraqi leaders need to come together and forge a new government that represents the legitimate interests of all Iraqis, and that can fight back against the threats like ISIL. Iraqis have named a new President, a new Speaker of Parliament, and are seeking consensus on a new Prime Minister. This is the progress that needs to continue in order to reverse the momentum of the terrorists who prey on Iraq's divisions.

Once Iraq has a new government, the United States will work with it and other countries in the region to provide increased support to deal with this humanitarian crisis and counterterrorism challenge. None of Iraq's neighbors have an interest in this terrible suffering or instability.

And so we'll continue to work with our friends and allies to help refugees get the shelter and food and water they so desperately need, and to help Iraqis push back against ISIL. The several hundred American advisors that I ordered to Iraq will continue to assess what more we can do to help train, advise and support Iraqi forces going forward. And just as I consulted Congress on the decisions I made today, we will continue to do so going forward.

My fellow Americans, the world is confronted by many challenges. And while America has never been able to right every wrong, America has made the world a more secure and prosperous place. And our leadership is necessary to underwrite the global security and prosperity that our children and our grandchildren will depend upon. We do so by adhering to a set of core principles. We do whatever is necessary to protect our people. We support our allies when they're in danger. We lead coalitions of countries to uphold international norms. And we strive to stay true to the fundamental values -- the desire to live with basic freedom and dignity -- that is common to human beings wherever they are. That's why people all over the world look to the United States of America to lead. And that's why we do it.

So let me close by assuring you that there is no decision that I take more seriously than the use of military force. Over the last several years, we have brought the vast majority of our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan. And I've been careful to resist calls to turn time and again to our military, because America has other tools in our arsenal than our military. We can also lead with the power of our diplomacy, our economy, and our ideals.

But when the lives of American citizens are at risk, we will take action. That's my responsibility as Commander-in-Chief. And when many thousands of innocent civilians are faced with the danger of being wiped out, and we have the capacity to do something about it, we will take action. That is our responsibility as Americans. That's a hallmark of American leadership. That's who we are.

So tonight, we give thanks to our men and women in uniform — especially our brave pilots and crews over Iraq who are protecting our fellow Americans and saving the lives of so many men, women and children that they will never meet. They represent American leadership at its best. As a nation, we should be proud of them, and of our country's enduring commitment to uphold our own security and the dignity of our fellow human beings.

God bless our Armed Forces, and God bless the United States of America.

END

9:38 P.M. EDT

2014, July 25

Turning Inwards to Core Power ~ A Planet and Population in Transition
Archangel Michael through Celia Fenn : New Year July/August 2014

<http://www.starchildglobal.com/ChannelAAMJuly2014.html>

Once again you have reached the "New Year" of your planet. As you approach the end of July 2014, a turbulent month filled with challenges, you are now ready to cross the threshold and enter into a New Year of Light, Time and Experience. Will you choose to move with the rising light and into a new level of experiences, or will you simply continue to repeat the same experiences again and again in the coming year?

This is a valid question, for as the Planetary energies rise and increase in intensity, each living being on the Planet is given the opportunity to initiate a new level of personal growth and experience in accordance with the energies of the Planet and the incoming Light Codes that are transmitted from the Great Central Sun and the Galactic Center as Light Impulses from the Great Cosmic Heart and Mind.

This is not an easy time for any of you, as the Planet is moving through a period of Transition from the old pre-2012 system and order and into its New Earth manifestation and form, according to the blueprints and dreams of the Collective Heart and Mind in action. It may not seem so, since the level of confusion, violence and chaos on the Planet is intense. Yet we see this a manifestation of the old energies falling away in order to give rise to something new that will sustain life on Planet Earth in the years to come.

Each one of you, on the personal level, will be led to question your life and your values, and to choose a new path that aligns more closely with what you hold to be truth in your life.

You may also find that while you are asked to "let go", there may be nothing that arises immediately to take its place. This may be a frightening prospect, being asked to step into a void with nothing but trust that you will be held and guided. But in truth, Beloved Ones, you have been prepared for this moment for many years.

Yes, this is the moment when you are truly stepping forward as Masters of Light, Masters of Time and Space, and claiming your Core Power.

Core Power and how it Sustains you and Guides you in the Transition

You may ask....what is this Core Power of which we speak? It is a very deep inner power and knowing that you have been developing since you began your process of awakening and transformation.

When you awakened, you began the process of activating your Light Body and activating your DNA in accordance with the Divine Template or Blueprint for Human Life. When you were ready, you were able to receive the Light Codes that activated the Christ Consciousness with its Golden Christ Light, and the Diamond Codes that activated your Galactic Consciousness and enabled you to align fully with the incoming Galactic Light Codes.



The combination of an active Light Body and Light Activated DNA creates a powerful energetic flow that can be directed through the Heart and the Higher Chakras to create what we would call "Core Power" in each awakened and conscious individual.

This means that you have a power and an influence that goes beyond your mind and your simple mental thoughts and judgments. You have a flow of energy that is aligned with the Cosmic Heart and you can draw

on that power at times when you feel blocked, challenged, or without focus and direction on the Mental level.

Core Power is centered on the Heart, and it must be felt and experienced, rather than thought about. It is higher than the mental and emotional aspects of being, and is expressed primarily as feeling, passion, intuition and trust.

Once this level of feeling and passion is activated in the Body/Light Body, then it can be directed downwards into the Mental, Emotional and Physical aspects of Being, allowing solutions and opportunities to manifest in an easy and natural way.

As you begin to work with Core Power, you will notice two things happening. Firstly you will be challenged on many levels, and secondly you will learn to let go and allow the power to flow and create solutions in your life.

The challenge will come from allowing the Core Power to take over and be the leading force in your life. Your mind and your emotions will seek to assert their control over you. They have been in control most of your life, and will be unwilling to just let go of their illusion of control. So many situations will arise where you will be confronted with a choice, to either use your Core Power, or to follow your mind and your emotions, or, as a Master to allow them to work in harmony and in balance. For the "natural" flow of energy is to engage the Core Power and then bring that through so that it may be expressed as mental, emotional and physical energies in the "real" world.

The Use of Core Power in the Coming New Cycle of Change and Transition

Beloved Ones, in this new cycle of Time and Space that will be initiated at the New Year and within the Lion's Gate portal, you will find many opportunities to make use of your Core Power. Indeed, we can say that unless you do make use of this Core Power you may feel lost and caught up in the confusion and chaos of those around you who are still awakening to their own power and core powers.

We will say too, Beloved Family, that this period of Transition on your Planet is likely to continue in the coming year and into 2016, so it really is important that you will embrace your Mastery and your Core power and work from this energy as you move forward.

Now, we will say too that the Core Power needs to be used in a balanced way. Indeed, as you will know, the Divine Feminine energy has been anchored on the Planet in a wonderful way in the past years, and it is important to allow the Divine Feminine energy aspect of the Core Power to be engaged. This means to allow the Flow of Life and to be closely connected to Love, Trust and Acceptance. Know when to simply allow the flow of life to bring to you the necessary opportunities and choices, but be ready to step forward and grasp those opportunities and make those choices at the right time. Be willing to see your life as a work of art in which you are consciously choosing the shapes, forms, colors and tones that will manifest as Beauty and Harmony.

But also, be willing to engage with the Divine Masculine aspects of your Core Power, in responsibility and integrity and commitment. As you make your choices, be empowered to walk in personal integrity and responsibility, being impeccable and walking in the light of honesty and truth. This includes not blaming yourself or others for choices made, and simply allowing the flow of life as it manifests into form. In your Masculine energy you will know that each form that manifests is a part of the manifestation power of Core



Energy, and has a part to play in the unfolding narrative of your Timeline or Time Spirals in your life.

And then, once you have made your choices, remember to follow your path and your destiny down the Timeline with Passion, Creativity and Joy!

Beloved Family, now is certainly the time to remember that you have been trained to be a Master of Light and a Master Soul. You have access to Core Power and you are never alone. Always, there are Higher Energies and Angelic Forces that are on hand to assist you and guide you as you learn to engage your Core Power and to exist in the Earth Plane as a Human Angel and an Earthly Being of Light, Love and Power.

As you Remember Who You Are and focus on What you are Becoming, you will find it easier to move through this great period of Transition on your Planet, and to cope with the endings and changes that are a part of the releasing of the old and the coming of the New.

This will be especially intense in this period of the end of July and the beginning of August, as the new energies and frequencies of the next cycle are flooding onto the Planet.

Remember also that this Transition includes the shift to the new Diamond Crystal Grids on the Earth, where you will reconnect with Nature and with the new Light Codes that are preparing to manifest a new and sustainable Earth as soon as they are called forth by those who are in training to be the new Shamans and Dream Walkers on the Earth. In the next two years, many will be called to follow the path of the New Earth Shaman, and to work with nature and the Elemental energies in bringing the New Earth into manifestation on the Planet, through Dreaming, Ceremonies and Circles of Power, as well as working with the land in programs of community and the creation of sustainable ways of being on the Earth.

The Planetary New Year and a New Cycle of Time

According to the Galactic Calendars that were kept by the Mayans and other advanced races on Earth, the "natural" New Year of the Planet is on 26th of July. Because the more traditional calendars do not keep accurate time in synchronization with Galactic cycles, the 25th of July is designated as the "Day out of Time" when the Earth realigns with Galactic time in preparation for the New Cycle of Ascension and Creation. This is a magical day filled with Joy and Creativity and Magic as the New Energy is birthed.

The 26th marks the New Year itself, as the moment when the New Light Codes are fully grounded and a new cycle of creation can begin. This cycle is always experienced at a higher level of consciousness in the natural order of things, as consciousness is always evolving in an upwards spiral towards Light. However, in your old energy matrix, many have chosen not to move upwards, but to keep cycling round and round in the same old energies and making the same old choices. At this time too, those in power often try to hold the mass consciousness at a level of fear and anger by creating drama and diversion so that the Earth Collective will not "naturally" move upwards but will stay pinned in the levels of fear and violence. It is therefore so necessary, Beloved Family of Light, that you do not allow yourself to be pulled into the mass



emotions at this time, but allow yourself to move on the upward flow of evolutionary energy that is "natural" in your existence on Earth.

As you make this choice, individually, and by engaging your Core Power, you will enable others to also begin making this choice. The field of resonance of those making the choice to evolve provides a powerful alignment with Divine Light and enables the Planet to begin more easily aligning with Divine Light. Your choices right now are powerful and can assist the Planet on her journey into Higher Consciousness as a Collective.

In the coming month of August, these energies will culminate at the Lion's Gate on the 8/8, a powerful moment of integration and grounding of the new energies and light codes, and by 12th August your new direction for the upcoming cycle will be established, both on the personal level and on the Planetary level.

Beloved Family of Light, we wish you much Joy as you engage your Conscious Creator Energy and work with the Galactic Diamond Light. May you enter into the Clarity of Heart, Soul and Mind as you create a New Cycle of Time on Planet Earth.

President Obama has authorized airstrikes in Iraq to halt the sweeping advance of militants known as the Islamic State. The group has captured large swaths of northern Iraq, including the country's largest dam, near Mosul, and its largest Christian town. The militants have advanced to a half-hour drive from the Kurdish regional capital, Erbil, where the United States has a consulate and military personnel. The United States has also begun dropping relief supplies to Iraqis forced to flee their homes. About 40,000 members of the Yazidi religious minority remain trapped on Mount Sinjar near the border with Syria, surrounded by rebels and slowly dying of thirst. Obama said airstrikes may be needed to prevent what he called a "potential act of genocide."

President Obama: "When we have a mandate to help — in this case, a request from the Iraqi government — and when we have the unique capabilities to help avert a massacre, then I believe the United States of America cannot turn a blind eye. We can act, carefully and responsibly, to prevent a potential act of genocide. That's what we're doing on that mountain."

[Update: Just before 9 a.m. on Friday, the Pentagon announced U.S. aircraft have launched strikes against Islamic State artillery in Iraq.]

As U.S. Airstrikes in Iraq Begin, Will Military Intervention Escalate Growing Crisis?

<http://publish.dvllabs.com/democracynow/ipod/dn2014-0808.mp4>

Topics: Iraq
 Guests: Phyllis Bennis, fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies. She has written several books, including Ending the Iraq War: A Primer.

The Pentagon has announced U.S. military aircraft carried out airstrikes in northern Iraq today targeting artillery used by the militant group Islamic State used against Kurdish forces defending the city of Erbil. The bombing came less than 12 hours after President Obama spoke on national television announcing he had authorized airstrikes in Iraq in an attempt to halt the sweeping advance by the Islamic State. Obama becomes the fourth U.S. president in a row to order military action in Iraq. The Islamic State has captured large swaths of northern Iraq and has advanced to a half-hour drive from the Kurdish regional capital, Erbil. Up to 40,000 people, many of them members of the Yazidi religious minority, remain trapped on the Sinjar Mountains near the border with Syria, surrounded by rebels and slowly dying of thirst. The United States has also begun dropping relief supplies. We speak to Phyllis Bennis, a fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies. She has written several books, including "Ending the Iraq War: A Primer." One of her recent articles is "Don't Go Back to Iraq!: Five Steps the U.S. Can Take in Iraq Without Going Back to War."

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: We turn now to Iraq. President Obama authorized airstrikes in an attempt to halt the sweeping advance by fighters from the militant group now known as the Islamic State. Obama becomes the fourth U.S. president in a row to order military action in Iraq. The Islamic State has captured large swaths of northern Iraq and has advanced to within a half-hour drive from the Kurdish regional capital of Erbil.

AMY GOODMAN: Up to 40,000 people, many of them members of the Yazidi religious minority, remain trapped on the Sinjar Mountains near the border with Syria, surrounded by Iraqi rebels and slowly dying of thirst. The United States has already begun dropping relief supplies, but speaking last night, President Obama said airstrikes may be needed to halt what he said could become a potential "genocide."

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA: When we face a situation like we do on that mountain, with innocent people facing the prospect of violence on a horrific scale, when have a mandate to help

—in this case, a request from the Iraqi government—and when we have the unique capabilities to help avert a massacre, then I believe the United States of America cannot turn a blind eye. We can act, carefully and responsibly, to prevent a potential act of genocide. That's what we're doing on that mountain. I've therefore authorized targeted airstrikes, if necessary, to help forces in Iraq as they fight to break the siege on Mount Sinjar and protect the civilians trapped there. Already American aircraft have begun conducting humanitarian airdrops of food and water to help these desperate men, women and children survive. Earlier this week, one Iraqi in the area cried to the world, "There is no one coming to help." Well, today America is coming to help. We're also consulting with other countries and the United Nations, who have called for action to address this humanitarian crisis.

AMY GOODMAN: Some members of the Yazidi faith who have fled into southeast Turkey have described a dire situation in the Sinjar Mountains.

YAZIDI REFUGEE: [translated] We have gone through a lot at Sinjar Mountain. Women and children are being killed. We cannot get help. I have four children, and I don't know their whereabouts. Two have disappeared, and I don't know what happened to the other two. I don't know if they are dead or if they are alive.

AMY GOODMAN: Meanwhile, residents of the Kurdish capital of Erbil are fearing fighters from the Islamic State may soon attack the city. This is resident Mahmoud Yousif.

MAHMOUD YOUSIF: [translated] Because of the situation, we are afraid that something bad will happen and all the supplies will run out. We are afraid because of the political and military situation. As a precaution, we bought milk, eggs, meat, and above all, we bought huge quantities of canned foods, out of fear that something bad will happen, God forbid.

AMY GOODMAN: We go now to northern Iraq to speak with Tracey Shelton, freelance journalist covering Iraq, Syria, Libya and conflict zones throughout the Middle East, joining us from Erbil, Iraq. Her recent piece for GlobalPost is headlined "There are Reports of the Islamic State Executing Dozens of Yazidis."

Can you tell us about the situation there, Tracey, and who the Yazidis are?

TRACEY SHELTON: Yeah, it's a really tragic situation now. When [inaudible] around Sinjar, I was in Lalish, which is the holy center of the Yazidi religion. And [inaudible]—

AMY GOODMAN: We're having trouble understanding you. Can you speak directly into your phone?

TRACEY SHELTON: Yes. I am, actually. Is that better?

AMY GOODMAN: Slightly.

TRACEY SHELTON: Oh, OK.

AMY GOODMAN: Listen, we're going to try to reconnect with you to get a better phone line. So, if you hang up, we'll do that. In the meantime, we'll go to Phyllis Bennis in Washington, D.C., fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies, who has written a number of books, including *Ending the Iraq War*. One of her recent pieces is headlined "Don't Go Back to Iraq!: Five Steps the U.S. Can Take in Iraq Without Going Back to War."

Well, then, I was wondering your response, Phyllis, to President Obama announcing that there will be possible airstrikes in Iraq, both because of what's happening on the Sinjar Mountain and because Americans are threatened in Erbil.

PHYLLIS BENNIS: Thanks, Amy. You know, there's no question that the people that are particularly those that are exposed out on Sinjar Mountain are at great risk. It's a terrible situation for civilians throughout that region. Having said that, the question of U.S. airstrikes is almost certainly going to make things worse and not better. This should have been the lesson we learned from what President Obama called the "dumb war." He admitted this time around there is no American military solution, and yet he's authorizing American military actions. It doesn't make any sense. There's no logic to it.

The notion that there is going to be the need for airstrikes to protect the few dozen U.S. diplomats and a couple of hundred military people in Erbil, I think, is widely understood as a legal feint away from the reality. This is what allows the president, in his mind, apparently, to use military force without consulting Congress. We didn't hear anything about his understanding of the War Powers Act, his understanding of his obligations to consult with Congress. There were reports earlier yesterday afternoon that there had been consultations between the White House and Congress—not in any two-way sense, but that members of Congress were informed—but there's been no details about what that consultation was about. This is simply the White House making the announcement that they may be about to go back to war. President Obama indicated that he's aware of the widespread antiwar sentiment. I think the last polls indicated it was somewhere between 78 and 82 percent of people in the United States who are absolutely opposed to going back to Iraq militarily.

The notion, when he said that this is—that we are uniquely capable, we are not uniquely capable. The United Nations, even before this move by President Obama, had offered the Iraqi government technical help to carry out real humanitarian airlifts to the people stuck on the mountain in Sinjar Mountain. You know, the U.S. history of linking airdrops of food and water with bombing raids is not a good one. If we look back to the last time this happened, it was in November of 2001 in Afghanistan, when you had the United States simultaneously dropping food packs—at that time, they were using MREs, Meals Ready to Eat, that were wrapped in strong, bright yellow plastic to make them easy to spot. They were being dropped to Afghan refugees who were fleeing the U.S. bombing of the cities, but at the same time the U.S. was dropping cluster bombs that also happened to be made with bright yellow plastic of exactly the same color. And no one knows how many children, in particular, were killed running to what they thought were food packages that turned out to be cluster bombs. This is not a safe way to carry out a humanitarian operation.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Well, Phyllis, as we mentioned, it's four presidents now, a quarter of a century now, that the United States has been involved in some sort of military conflict connected to Iraq, beginning with the first President Bush beating back Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait, then 10 years of no-fly zones and military sanctions, then the invasion by the second George Bush, and now this latest reversal of his own policy by President Obama. If there's a definition of a quagmire, this is it. Your sense of why this continues now for, essentially, a generation?

PHYLLIS BENNIS: You know, Juan, there are a number of reasons. I think you're absolutely right, this is a slippery slope waiting to happen. I think that there are a number of reasons, both at the immediate level and at the longer-term level. At the longer-term level, Iraq is still what it has always been for the U.S.: a key point in terms of oil, a key point in terms of the strategic location of Iraq. It's the point from which there can be strategic reach, meaning military attacks, on Africa, Europe, Asia. Iraq—and the Middle East, more broadly—stands at the intersection of three continents. In the immediate, I think some of it had to do with the threat of the hapless government in Baghdad, backed by the United States, despite its acknowledgment that al-Maliki is responsible for huge problems in Iraq. I think Maliki is widely viewed as responsible for the rise in sectarianism in Iraq, because of the sectarianism of his own government. The fact that they could lose control of one of the two key dams in Iraq—the question of water, of course, in this region remains very key, so that was part of the immediate crisis that was underway.

You know, this is a situation where there is a huge set of dangers in the region as a result of this

attack. There is no question that in Iraq any U.S. military attack now is going to be widely viewed as being in support of the incredibly corrupt, unpopular government of Nouri al-Maliki. Today, Friday, is supposed to be the deadline for the Parliament to choose a new prime minister. Maliki is under enormous pressure from the Parliament to step down. So far he has refused to do that, and the U.S. has said, "Oh, we're not going to take a position on who should be the prime minister of Iraq, although we think there should be an inclusive government." Maliki has made clear his government is a sectarian government based on empowering the Shia community in Iraq to the detriment of Sunni, Christians, Yazidis and all other minorities. In that context, this is viewed widely as direct U.S. support for al-Maliki, and it seems to me that there is almost no way that al-Maliki is going to step down now.

People in and around Iraq are talking about the fact that the Sunni tribes will be prepared to move against the Islamic State, once they are clear that there is a government in Baghdad that is not a sectarian government in its own right. People welcomed IS, the Islamic State. They welcomed them, not because they agree with them. They've been horrific in social terms, in terms of these communities. But they were welcome, particularly by Sunnis across Iraq, precisely because they represented an alternative to what was seen as the worse situation, being under the domination of this sectarian government in Baghdad. So, the role of the U.S. now, with increasing military involvement back in Iraq, returning to Iraq, is going to put the U.S. in a situation where it's widely going to be blamed for the continuing rise of sectarianism.

And in the region more broadly, it's going to be pointed out what hypocrisy it is, where the United States is arming Israel to kill Palestinians in Gaza. The language that President Obama used, that there are innocent people facing violations on a massive scale, that describes the situation of Palestinian civilians in Gaza. And yet, rather than providing humanitarian aid, demanding that Israel open the gates of Gaza, that it open the border crossings, the United States instead is sending more weapons and more money to buy more weapons and more ammunition for those Israeli attacks. So, the question of how the U.S. is going to be blamed for this is even wider because of the simultaneous crisis underway in Gaza.

AMY GOODMAN: Phyllis, I do want to touch on Gaza with you and the end of the ceasefire. But on the issue the president raised, one was the humanitarian airdrops. The other was saving Americans in Erbil, the military advisers, the U.S. workers who are there. The other possibility is to move them.

PHYLLIS BENNIS: Exactly. If there was so much concern about these 40 or so diplomats and a couple of hundred military advisers—I'm not quite sure that they're as threatened as some reports have indicated, but if there was that concern, that's a completely doable thing to simply get them onto helicopters and planes and move them out. That's a false, you know, rationale. It's being used because both at the public level and, I think, for the Obama administration, their understanding of how they can use the limitations on acting unilaterally without consulting with Congress is shaped by the notion that American lives are at stake. If American lives are at stake on an emergency basis, it's possible, under some circumstances, for the president to move. In this situation, there hasn't been a move yet. There isn't that level of urgency. You know, this is not a situation where there are not cellphones, where members of Congress cannot be called back to Washington, if necessary. They can be on a conference call. Technology makes many things available. We should let the White House know that; they seem to have forgotten. But if this was really so dangerous for those couple of hundred people, put them on a plane and get them out. That's not a problem.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: And, Phyllis, what about this issue of the threat to Erbil? We're talking about the Kurdish region that was relatively peaceful compared to the rest of Iraq and supposedly had a military force that was quite capable, yet ISIS has managed to roll back the Kurdish forces, as well.

PHYLLIS BENNIS: Well, that's right, Juan, except for, the thing that I think is important for us to

understand is that ISIS is not operating alone. ISIS, or IS, the Islamic State, is a small operation of somewhere around 10,000 fighters. They are good fighters. They are well armed, with U.S.-supplied equipment that they have picked up all over Iraq. And it's exactly what the danger is if the U.S. decides to send more weapons to Syria: We will see the same thing with the Islamic State fighters getting those weapons because they're stronger fighters. But they have overcome the Kurdish fighters, the Peshmerga, only in one area, in the area near the dam, which does in fact threaten Erbil, in theory. But what's important about IS is that part of the reason they appear so strong is that they are backed by military support from former generals, former strategists, former leaders of the Baathist army in Iraq who lost their jobs, lost their positions, lost their ability to protect their families, in many cases, at the time of the U.S. invasion in 2003 and have been sort of waiting for an opportunity to challenge the U.S.-backed government in Baghdad. And they also have the support, in many areas, of the Sunni tribal leaders and their militias.

Now, right now they're not fighting in a massive scale. They were early on this year. They've pulled back. But there are every indications now that if there were a change in Baghdad, in the government, that the tribes would rise again against IS. That would place those tribal militias, as well as the other forces of the Peshmerga, against the former Baathists that are now fighting with IS. It's an ugly kind of sectarianism that was put in place by the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003. All of this sectarianism really can be traced back to that.

But I think it is important that we not see this as somehow a magic of this Islamist organization that somehow has such incredible power on its own to overcome the Peshmerga fighters, to overcome government forces. They are powerful because, one, they have really good weapons that are made here in the U.S., and, two, they have leadership and military capacity strengthened by these Baathist military forces that remain in Iraq.

AMY GOODMAN: Finally, Phyllis, back to Gaza, the ceasefire over Hamas firing rockets into Israel, Israel bombing Gaza—can you talk about the breakdown of the talks in Cairo?

PHYLLIS BENNIS: You know, many of us were very much afraid, Amy, that this halt in the fighting, this ceasefire, even if it lasted the three days, which it barely did by a moment, was not going to work unless the siege of Gaza could be lifted. There is no way that there's going to be a permanent ceasefire while Gaza remains completely surrounded by a wall that is backed by the armed force of the Israeli military; where the skies are controlled by the Israeli Air Force; while the waters, the coastal waters, are controlled by the Israeli Navy, who prohibit the fishermen from going any more than two kilometers out; while nothing is allowed in for rebuilding; when Israel can bomb the power plant, the sewage treatment plants and expect people to simply stop fighting and wait for negotiations, as if that's going to work. We saw this the last time, after the eight-day Israeli assault on Gaza in November of 2012, when the ceasefire that was negotiated by Hillary Clinton at that time said that within 24 hours of the ceasefire there should begin implementation of lifting the siege. It never happened. So, not surprisingly, Palestinians—and this is not only Hamas, this is across the board, every political faction—and, we should note, the United Nations are calling very clearly for an end to the siege of Gaza. Without that, no temporary ceasefire is going to work.

AMY GOODMAN: Phyllis, I want to thank you for being with us. Phyllis Bennis, fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies. She has written many books, including *Ending the [Iraq] War*. One of her recent headlines—pieces, headlined "Don't Go Back to Iraq!: Five Steps the U.S. Can Take in Iraq Without Going Back to War." This is Democracy Now! Back in a moment.