

IRAQ FACTS

Were the reasons the US went to war true or false?

The Bush Administration has flip-flopped from one reason to another for attacking Iraq. Were any of those reasons true?

Was there a connection between Iraq & 9/11?

No. President Bush said, "We know [Iraq has] got ties with al Qaeda."¹ But the 9/11 Commission report stated clearly that Saddam Hussein's government had no role in the 9/11 attacks by Al Qaeda.² Recently Secretary of State Colin Powell and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld have

admitted this.³

Did Iraq pose a nuclear threat?

No. President Bush said, "Iraq is reconstituting its nuclear weapons program."⁴ But the CIA reported, "We do not have any direct evidence that Iraq has used the period since Desert Fox [1998] to reconstitute its weapons of mass destruction programs."⁵ And the top U.S. inspector recently reported that the Iraqis eliminated illicit arms in 1991.⁶

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- 1 Office, White House Press Secretary, 11/1/02 <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/11/20021101.5html>
- 2 New York Times, 7/12/04 "9/11 Report is Said to Dismiss Iraq-Qaeda Alliance." <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.htm?res+f70D1FF93A5FOC718DDDAE0894DC404482>
- 3 New York Times, Oct. 6, 2004, pp 1 and 19
- 4 Office, White House Press Secretary, 10/7/02, www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/10/20021007-8.html
- 5 CIA Homepage, Report to Congress Feb. '01, http://www.odcio.gov/cia/reports/721_reports/jan_jun_2000.htm#4
- 6 "US Report finds Iraqi eliminated illicit arms in 90's" on Duelfer report, New York Times, Oct. 7, 2004, front page.

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- 7 Office of the White House, op. cit.
- 8 US Defense Intelligence Agency, June 9, 2003, <http://www.fas.org/irp/news/2003/06/dod060703.html>
- 9 Seattle Post-Intelligence, October 7, 2004, pp 1 and A4, "Report: Iraq had no WMD since '91."
- http://www.seattlepi.com/national/194154_iraq07.html
- 10 Ted Kennedy, "The Effect of the War in Iraq," speech on 9/27/04; www.commondreams.org/view/04/0927-17.htm

"There was no reason whatsoever to go to war when we did, in the way we did, and for the false reasons we were given."

None of these reasons for war were true. None justified over 1000 American deaths, many thousand Iraqi deaths, and far more thousands wounded and traumatized. None of these reasons justified violating international law.

No. Just weeks before the war, the President claimed, "Iraqi operatives continue to hide biological and chemical agents."⁷ But the Defense Intelligence Agency's report to the administration found "no reliable information to prove Iraq was producing and stockpiling chemical weapons."⁸ And since 1991 no chemical or biological weapons have been found in Iraq.⁹

Was there a threat of Iraqi chemical or biological weapons?

Were the reasons the US went to war true or false?
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