

10-Year Iraq War Anniversary: What We've Learned

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In-depth Report: IRAQ REPORT

The Iraq war started 10 years ago.

Here's what we know now:

- The American government planned the Iraq war long <u>before 9/11</u>. Former CIA director George Tenet said that the White House <u>wanted to invade Iraq long before 9/11</u>, and inserted "crap" in its justifications for invading Iraq. Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill who sat on the National Security Council also <u>says</u> that Bush planned the Iraq war before 9/11. Top British officials <u>say</u> that the U.S. discussed Iraq regime change even before Bush took office. And in 2000, Cheney <u>said</u> a Bush administration might "have to take military action to forcibly remove Saddam from power." And see <u>this</u> and <u>this</u>. Indeed, neoconservatives planned regime change in Iraq and throughout the Middle East and North Africa <u>20 years ago</u>.
- <u>Everyone knew</u> that Iraq did not possess weapons of mass destruction (update here)
- The Iraq war <u>was in fact for oil</u>
- U.S. officials are guilty of war crimes for <u>using 9/11 as a false justification</u> for the lraq war. Indeed, <u>the entire torture program was implemented in an attempt to justify</u> the lraq war
- American officials considered lettering Saddam should down a U.S. or UN plane, in order to provide a false justification for war
- Saddam <u>allegedly</u> offered to leave Iraq if the U.S. would call off the war ... but we refused
- The American military used depleted uranium in Iraq which can causes cancer and birth defects for decades (see <u>this</u>, <u>this</u>, <u>this</u>, <u>this</u>, <u>this</u> and <u>this</u>).
- The Pentagon sent in one of the main US creators of the death squads in El Salvador to set up paramilitary death squads and torture centers in Iraq
- Nobel prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz estimated in 2008 that the Iraq war could cost America up to \$5 trillion dollars.
 But a new study by Brown

University's Watson Institute for International Studies says the Iraq war costs could exceed \$6 trillion, when interest payments are taken into account. And top economists say that war is bad for the economy

- National security experts including both hawks and doves agree that waging war against Iraq and other Middle Eastern countries has weakened national security and increases terrorism. See this, this, this, this, this, this, this and this
- Iraqis are worse off now than before the Iraq war. Christians are more widely persecuted than under Saddam

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