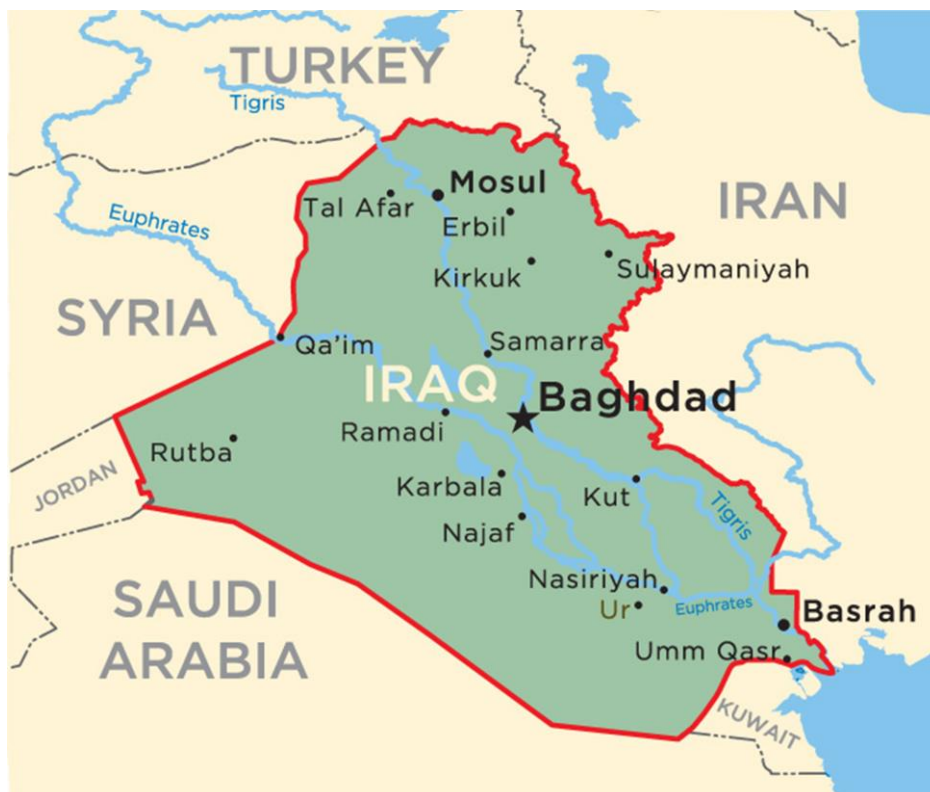

Forum:	The Historical Security Council
Issue:	Handling terrorism after 9/11
Chair:	Lu Huang
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Introduction of the Third Phase (May 2013)

May 1st, 2003 marks the end of the Iraq war, or commonly known as the third Gulf War, as the president of that time, George W. Bush, declared it over, after the conquest of Baghdad and the fall of the Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. Since then there has been a raging guerrilla war against the occupying forces. The main reason, stated by the United States of America, for the third Gulf War was the alleged threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. The Iraq war was an internationally wrongful invasion of Iraq by the armed forces of United States and of the United Kingdom, which supported by a “coalition of the willing”. The war began with the bombing of selected targets in Baghdad on March 20th, 2003.



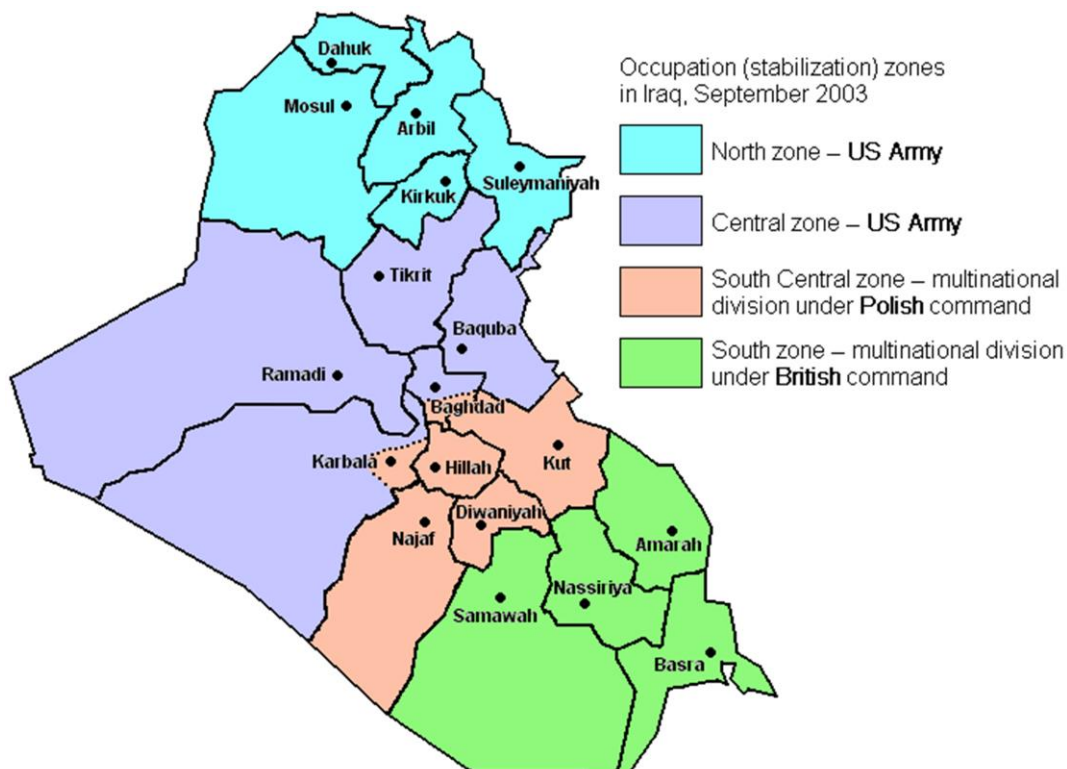
Source: http://www.penn.museum/sites/iraq/?page_id=191

The United States' government started the planning of the Iraq war in January 2001, immediately after the inauguration of George W. Bush. They took advantage of the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001 to enforce this plan. It justified its invasion as a preventive war to prevent an allegedly impending attack of Iraq with weapons of mass destruction to the

United States. For this the United States of America received no United Nations mandate from the Security Council as they broke the prohibition of offensive war stated in the United Nations' Charter. The United States and United Kingdom submitted the UN resolution 1441 against the other Security Council members in an attack mandate to prevent the Security Council to condemn the Iraq war with their veto power.

The stated reasons for the war in Iraq have been refuted and often valued as a deliberate deception of the public, since neither weapons of mass destruction nor evidence of acute aggressive intentions have been found in Iraq. Instead, many geopolitical and economic interests of the United States are believed to be actual reasons for war. After the declared end of the war, there were civil war-like conditions, acts of terrorism and violent crime, both of different Iraqi groups against each other and against the Western occupation forces which resulted in, particularly among Iraqi civilians, an unknown number of deaths and injuries.

Even after the withdrawal of foreign troops in 2011, there was no peace in the country. The expansion of the Islamic State crisis in Iraq in 2014 is partly as a result of the Iraq war.



Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d1/Iraq_2003_occupation.png

Timeline of Events

- January 28th, 2003** President Bush announced that he was ready to attack Iraq, even without a United Nations resolution
- March 17th, 2003** Ultimatum to Saddam Hussein to leave Iraq within 48 hours, otherwise, there would be an attack

March 19th, 2003

Iraq war was officially declared

March 20th, 2003

The war was opened targeted bombardments in Bagdad. The ultimatum had just expired for two hours and the US fired 40 cruise missiles, according to US figures, on alleged whereabouts of Saddam Hussein

March 24th, 2003

The US troops were at this time already 95km in front of Bagdad

April 7th, 2003

US troops entered the city centre the first time and although no urban combat took place, there were heavy casualties on the Iraqi side. The US forces invaded the whole city in the next four days and brought it largely under their control

April 14th, 2003

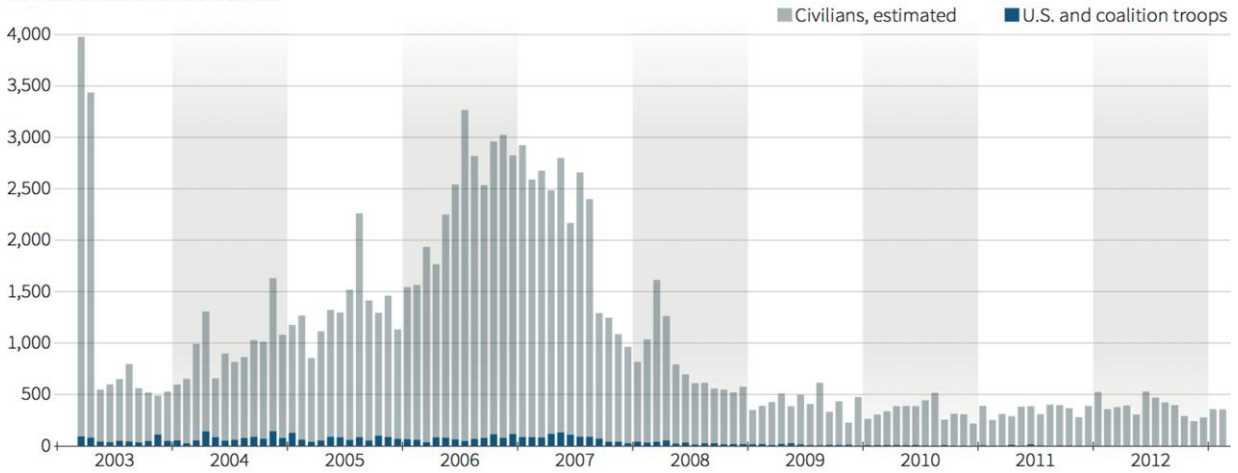
The war was declared as over by the Pentagon as the last embattled city Tikrit could be taken, however, Saddam Hussein was undetectable at that time

May 2003

Iraq war officially declared as over by President Bush, Saddam Hussein war captured

Iraq war deaths: 10 years on

Number of documented fatalities



2003 March 20 U.S.-led forces invade Iraq. Baghdad falls to U.S. troops on Apr. 9	May 1 U.S. President G.W. Bush declares end to combat	Dec. 13 Saddam Hussein is captured by U.S. forces	2004 June 28 U.S. hands sovereignty to interim Iraqi govt	2005 Oct. 19 Saddam Hussein goes on trial	Dec. 15 Iraqis elect full-term government	2006 Dec. 30 Saddam Hussein is executed	2008 Nov. 17 Iraq and U.S. sign accord, U.S. to withdraw troops by end-2011	2009 Jan. 1 U.S. hands control of Green Zone over to Iraq	2011 Dec. 18 Last of U.S. forces leave Iraq.	2013 Feb. 1 Sunni Muslims protest against the Shi'ite premier
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Sources: Iraq Body Count; Iraq Coalition Casualty Count; Reuters news reports
W. Foo, 19/03/2013



Source: <http://blog.thomsonreuters.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/iraq-war.jpg>

Background Information

Political History

The Second Gulf War had already derived continuity to the Iraq war, because the United States of America decided, as leader of the UN coalition, not to overthrow Saddam Hussein. The United Nations always maintained him in office, but initiated more punitive steps. So they set up two no-fly zones in the north and south of the country in order to protect the Kurdish and Shiite minorities, and imposed a strict ban on the import into Iraq, which focused on military equipment and to all conceivable ingredients of nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) weapons. In addition, weapon inspectors were installed by the Security Council, which checked for suspicious facilities in Iraq. Despite these measures, the United States and the United Kingdom suspected Iraq of the possession of such weapons. This accusation was brought up, especially in the Security Council, continuously and was a latent factor of contemporary international politics.

After the Iraqi regime under Saddam Hussein had expelled the UN inspectors, contrary to UN Resolution 1551 of 1991, from the country, the Clinton administration bombed military facilities and suspected sites for the construction of weapons of mass destruction. In February Clinton had enumerated, which weapons of mass destruction Iraq had. The “Iraq Liberation Act” was passed by the Congress in October 1998 and called for a regime change in Iraq. It was signed by President Bill Clinton, who declared that it was the policy of the United States to support democratic movements in Iraq. After the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001 the so-called “Iraq issue” became recent again. This was partly due to a change of the United States government towards a confrontational foreign policy after President Bush had initially dedicated to a more domestically stressed agenda. In the wake of the United States’ fight against terrorism, the suspicion against Iraq to endanger international security grew.

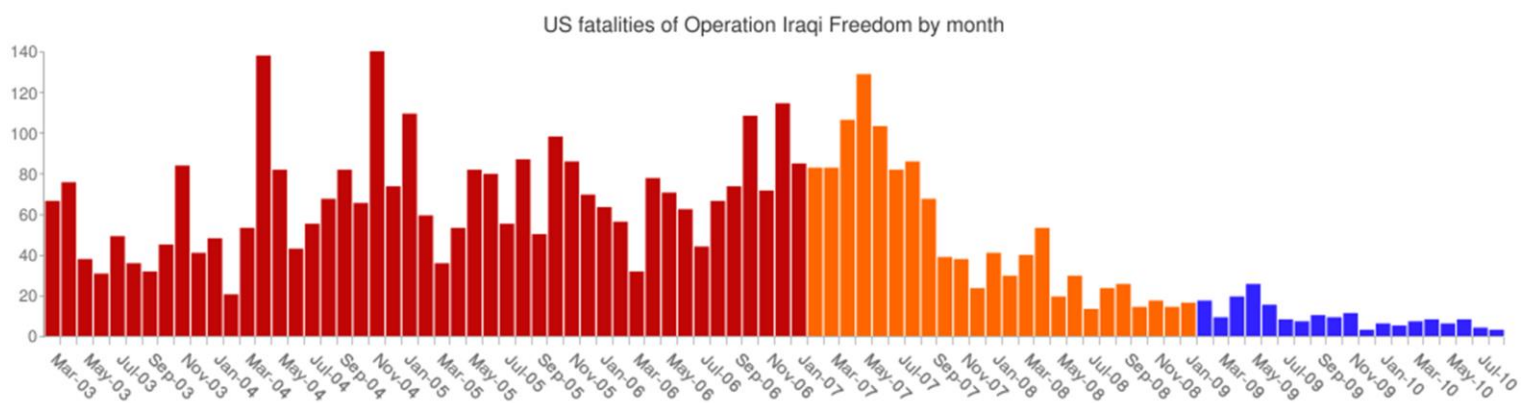
Military preparations

During the political debate about the legitimacy of the war the United States and the United Kingdom had already prepared an invasion of Iraq. In the end of 2002 the US and UK send major formations in the Gulf region to prepare for the invasion, in March of the following year, it should already be 200,000 soldiers. Australian troops should also be consulted. On February 21st, 2003, the United States’ Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld announced that the number of troops in the Gulf region now were sufficient for an attack on Iraq as planned number of troops in the region had been achieved.

In the Operation the coalition strengthened their control flights over the southern no-fly zone in Iraq. At the same time American and British special forces pushed forward to the Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti border and neutralized border posts so that the coalition of the willing already controlled a quarter of the country at the official beginning of the invasion. The United States Central Command succeeded, according to a statement by its former commander, to deceive Iraq over the actual war plans.

Consequences of war

The numbers of victims of the Iraq war and the subsequent period of occupation vary depending on the source from less than 100,000 to more than 600,000 people. A political scientist, who has the present numbers matching from the beginning of the invasion until 2008, considered an indication of 151,000 dead until early 2008, the civilians and the security forces of all sides including, as realistic. The details are very different, official data are not available. In addition, the studies cannot reliably verify how many of the civilians killed by violence of the coalition and how many were killed by the numerous terrorist attacks.



Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:OIF_fatalities_by_month.png

Key Countries and Persons Involved

George W. Bush

George Walker Bush, usually abbreviated George W. Bush (born July 6th, 1946 in Connecticut) is a US politician of the Republican Party and was the 43rd President of the United States of America from 2001-2009. In response to the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001 Bush launched a “war on terror” campaign, including the war in Afghanistan since 2001 and the Iraq war. His reputation declined after the high war losses, Hurricane Katrina and the financial crisis from 2007 onwards. Bush is a member of a wealthy and influential family. His grandfather was the entrepreneur and Senator Prescott Bush. His father George H.W. Bush was the 41st US president.

Saddam Hussein

He was the President of Iraq from 1979 to 2003 and from 1979 to 1991 and from 1994 to 2003 the Prime Minister of Iraq. He ruled the country dictatorially and was later convicted of to death for the massacre of Shiites and Kurds and executed.

The United Kingdom

When it became clear that the evidence they had relied on would not be sufficient enough for it to obtain the international law agreement on an invasion of Iraq, the United States of America forged a “coalition of the willing” that would give international acceptance of the

invasion. The United Kingdom had been one of its members. Characteristic of the member countries was their traditional ties to the United States, or at least a conservative orientation in foreign policy. When this alliance comprised nearly 30 countries, it prepared the invasion under the leadership of the United States. The military invasion was preceded by a global debate over its legality and necessity. Many US allies were opposed to participation. In public, the majority of European countries rejected the war. However, the United Kingdom was the country to first invade Iraq alongside of the United States.

Definition of Key Terms

Weapons of mass destruction

The term weapon of mass destruction (WMD) refers to a category of certain weapons that are considered to be particularly destructive and have a serious impact on life, objects and the environment. They include chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons with which the defendant should be militarily disabled or shut off.

The formerly exclusively used formulation NBC-weapons (NBC stands for nuclear, biological and chemical) has been replaced by the term CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear). The similar concept of mass destruction will be more fully used: not only for military ordnance, but also for firearms and small arms or for pesticides and herbicides which are sprayed for pest control or warfare.

The second Gulf War

The Second Gulf War began with the violent conquest of Kuwait by Iraq on August 2nd, 1990. On August 28th, Kuwait was annexed by Iraq. From January 16th, 1991 a coalition led by the United States and legitimized by the resolution 678 of the UN Security Council, with combat operations to liberate Kuwait. In terms of military equipment used and the level of mobilization of the warring parties of the Second Gulf War, it would be the worst war since the end of World War II, even when introducing the Korean War in the comparison.

Relevant UN Resolutions and Treaties

- Security Council Resolution 678 (November 29th, 1990)
<http://www.un.org/depts/german/sr/sr_90/sr678-90.pdf>
- Security Council Resolution 1441 (November 8th, 2002)
<<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/682/26/PDF/N0268226.pdf?OpenElement>>
- Security Council Resolution 1483 (May 22nd, 2003)
<<http://www.cfr.org/international-organizations-and-alliances/un-security-council-resolution-1483-iraq/p8471>>

Helpful links

- Progress of the Invasion in a graphic
<https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Iraq_War_2003.gif>
- Wiki Leaks document on the Iraq war
< <https://file.wikileaks.org/file/crs/RL31715.pdf>>
- Detailed Timeline
<<http://thinkprogress.org/report/iraq-timeline/>>

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