



IRAQ POWER REPORT

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Background

1917 Britain seizes Baghdad during WWI

1920s - 1930s British mandate in Iraq is approved by the League of Nations. Demarcated its borders and appointed a pro-western monarchy.

1932 Mandate ends and Iraq gains independence. Britain retains military bases

1948-1949 Arab-Israeli war destabilized the region, through which emerged anti-western nationalism

1940s - 1950s US Officials sought to stabilize the Iraq

1955 U.S enlisted Iraq as a member of the Baghdad Pact (anti-soviet defense partnership)

1958 Monarchy is overthrown in a military coup

1967 U.S-Iraq relations tank

Early 1970s Iraq partnered with the Soviet Union to develop oil capacity. Kurdish rebels were equipped by U.S officials

1979 Saddam Hussein seized power in Baghdad

1980 - 1988 Iran - Iraq war resulting in stalemate

1987 Reagan administration assumed limited military involvement in the war on behalf of Iraq

1988 Ceasefire. Reluctantly by Iran, they wanted Iraq to pay for war reparations

1990 Iraq invades Kuwait. UN imposes sanctions on Iraq

1991 US-led coalition begins airstrikes on Iraq. Kuwait is liberated. UN inspections.

1992 "no-fly zones"

1998 Operation Desert Fox

2001 9/11. President W. Bush launched military invasion of Iraq

2002 UN weapons inspectors return to Iraq backed by a UN resolution

2003 US-led invasion topples Saddam Hussein's government



American Occupation in Iraq

2003-2011, 2014-present

Original Rationale

Primary Justifications

Chemical,
biological,
and nuclear
programs

Development
of long-range
missile
programs

Support for
Al Qaeda
terrorist
group

Initial Invasion: Iraq War 2003

March 17, 2003:

- Bush administration issues 48-hour ultimatum

March 19, 2003

- United States sends 125,000 soldiers along with 20,000 British and 500 Australian troops invaded Iraq. (Defeats Iraqi army of some 400,000 soldiers)

May 1, 2003

- Bush announces that the mission is complete. In the following months, insurgencies erupt as a power struggle between the Sunni, the Shiite, and the United States plays out.



Post Invasion of Iraq 2003- 2011

- Flawed post-war policy taints Bush Administration
 - Lack of Hussein WMD capabilities
 - Abuses made by American soldiers
- December 13, 2003: Operation Red Dawn captures Saddam Hussein
- 2004: Coalition Provisionary Authority (CPA) created by Bush is replaced with a multi-ethnic Iraqi Transitional Government
- 2005: Democratic elections held in January and December
- 2006: Saddam Hussein put to death.
- 2007: Bush Escalates (surge)
- 2008: Iraqi parliament ratifies plan for U.S. troop withdrawal ending in 2011
- 2009: Obama takes office
- 2010: Obama announces an end to the seven-year combat mission
- 2011: United States announces formal withdrawal from the military mission in Iraq

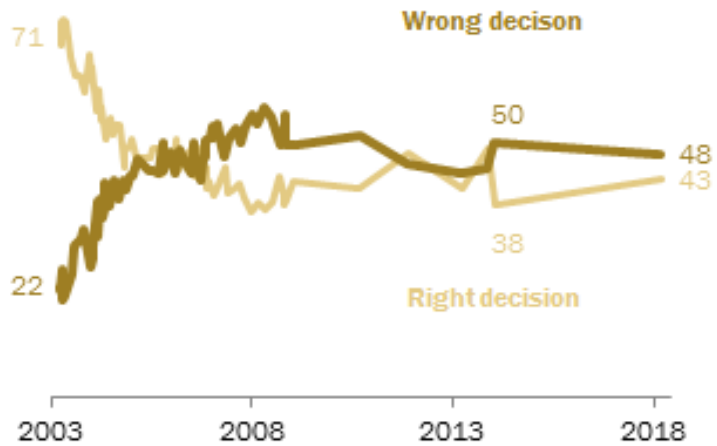


Major Problems with American Invasion of Iraq

- Question of legality
- No WMDs found
- No proof of links to Al Queda
- The Preemption Doctrine

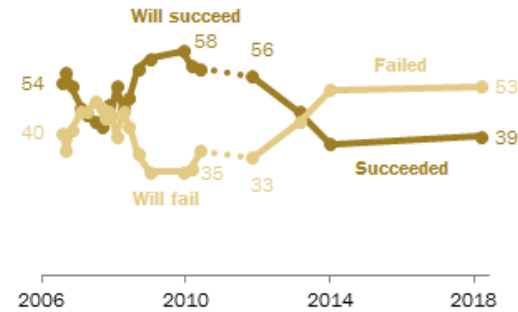
Views of U.S. military force in Iraq: 2003-2018

% who say the U.S. made the ____ in using military force in Iraq



Half of Americans say the U.S. 'mostly failed' to achieve goals in Iraq

% who say that the U.S. ____ in achieving its goals in Iraq



Continued Support for Obama's Troop Withdrawal

Obama's decision to withdraw all combat troops by end of 2011	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Nov 2011				
Approve	75	48	90	79
Disapprove	21	47	8	18
Don't know	4	5	2	4
	100	100	100	100

Obama's plans to withdraw most combat troops by end of Aug 2010

Obama's plans to withdraw most combat troops by end of Aug 2010	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
March 2009				
Approve	76	50	94	77
Disapprove	18	41	5	16
Don't know	6	9	1	7
	100	100	100	100

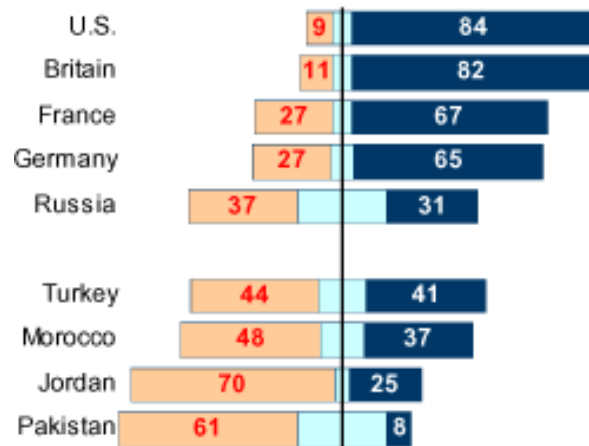
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 9-14, 2011 Q57f1. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

National Public Opinion

International Opinions

Post-Hussein, Iraqi People Will Be...

Worse off Don't know Better off



Transatlantic Tensions Unabated

Support for an Independent European Foreign Policy

	Apr 2002	Mar 2003	May 2003	Mar 2004
Britain	47%	48%	45%	56%
France	60%	67%	76%	75%
Germany	51%	52%	57%	63%

U.S. Favorability Ratings

	Summer 2002	Mar 2003	May 2003	Mar 2004
Britain	75%	48%	70%	58%
France	63%	31%	43%	37%
Germany	61%	25%	45%	38%

Trend: Favor US-led War on Terrorism

	Summer 2002	May 2003	March 2004
U.S.	89%	--	81%
Britain	69%	63%	63%
France	75%	60%	50%
Germany	70%	60%	55%
Russia	73%	51%	73%
Turkey	30%	22%	37%
Pakistan	20%	16%	16%
Jordan	13%	2%	12%
Morocco	--	9%	28%

U.S. Overreacting To Terrorism

	April 2002	March 2004
France	30%	57%
Germany	33%	49%
Britain	20%	33%
Jordan	--	76%
Morocco	--	72%
Pakistan	--	66%
Turkey	--	55%
Russia	--	34%
U.S.	--	13%

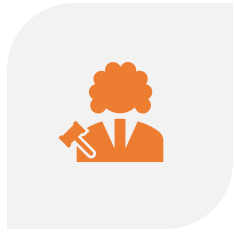
Suggested Alternatives to Military Operations

UN Operations

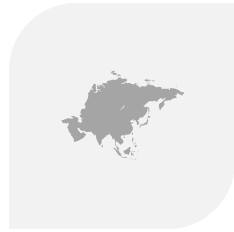
Emphasis on Deterrence (Economic Sanctions)

Reliance on Satellite Surveillance

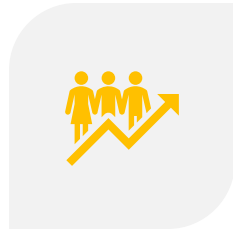
Return to Iraq 2014 - Present



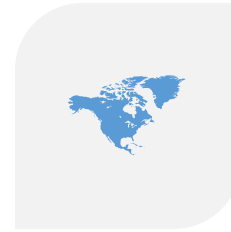
BETWEEN 2012 AND 2013,
TENSIONS RISE AS SUNNIS
ACCUSE SHIA-
DOMINATED
GOVERNMENT OF
EXCLUSIONARY ACTS



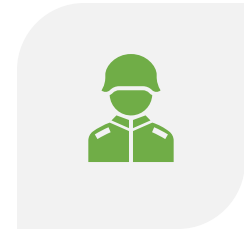
UNDERGROUND
EXTREMIST MOVEMENT
(ISI) TO RECRUIT
THOUSANDS OF SUNNIS
AND EXPAND INTO SYRIA
BECOMING THE ISLAMIC
STATE IN IRAQ AND SYRIA
(ISIS)



IRAQI ARMY CRUMBLES
DESPITE SUPERIOR
NUMBERS



2014 THE UNITED STATES
FORMS "THE GLOBAL
COALITION TO DEFEAT
ISIS" AND REDEPLOYS U.S.
TROOPS TO IRAQ



2020 THE UNITED STATES
ATTACKS IRANIAN
COMMANDER SULEIMANI
AND IS ASKED TO START
NEGOTIATIONS FOR
TROOP WITHDRAWAL

Discussion

What specific actions taken by the United States during the occupation of Iraq (the first and second time) would you consider smart uses of hard and soft power?

What are your thoughts on the speed at which troops were withdrawn from Iraq once the Bush term ended? Was Obama too hasty to withdraw?

The United States acted in Iraq without the "go-ahead" from the UN Security Council. What is the importance of the UN's approval in international military operations? When, if ever, is it ok to act without or even against them?

Was the United States justified in their return to Iraq in 2014? How quickly after getting involved should the United States have left?

Moving forward, what has the United States gained and lost in power due to its intervention in Iraq? What can be done to regain lost power in the region and internationally?

Sources

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