

Iraq War and the U.S. Global “War on Terror”

- I. 9/11 and Geopolitical Change**
- II. Bush Doctrine and The War on Terror**
- III. Iraq War: Geopolitical Alignments**

9/11 and Geopolitical Change



Both images taken at 9:03 a.m. on 9/11 2001

Paul Wolfowitz- "Defense Planning Guidance" (1992)

- ▶ **The number one objective of U.S. post-Cold War political and military strategy should be preventing the emergence of a rival superpower.**
- ▶ **If necessary, the United States must be prepared to take unilateral action.**

Road to War with Iraq

- ▶ **January 2002 “Axis of Evil” Speech**
- ▶ **September 12, 2002-Bush urges “tough stand” with Iraq.**
- ▶ **October 16, 2002-Congressional Resolution for use of force in Iraq.**
- ▶ **November 8, 2002-UN Resolution promising “severe consequences” if Iraq does not disarm.**
- ▶ **February 14, 2003-Weapons inspectors report to UN that no WMD found.**
- ▶ **March 17, 2003-US and GB abandon attempt at UN backing.**
- ▶ **March 19-20-Opening military campaign in Iraq.**

Iraq War





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Toppling of Saddam, April 9, 2003

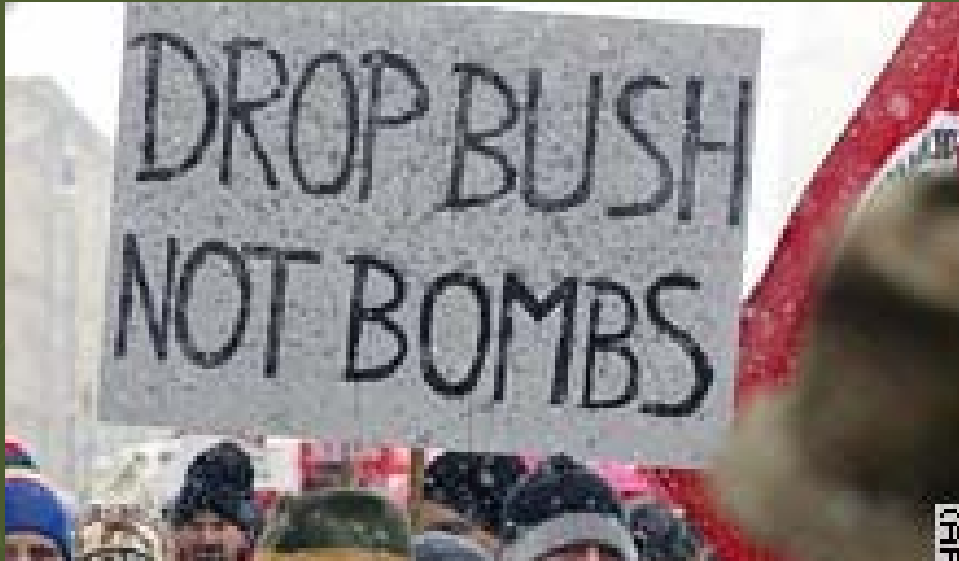


Bush Announces "Mission Accomplished" aboard USS Abraham Lincoln when he gave the speech May 1, 2003



The War Continues

- ▶ **Fall of Baghdad in April 2003.**
- ▶ **Saddam Regime deposed and insurgency against coalition forces begins.**
- ▶ **Made up of remnants of Saddam's Baathist militias, disaffected Iraqis and "foreign" Arab jihadists.**
- ▶ **January 2004-Abu Ghraib torture and prisoner abuse scandal begins in January 2004.**
- ▶ **November 2004- Battle for Falluja occurs between U.S. forces and insurgents.**
- ▶ **November 2005-U.S. loses 2,000th soldiers killed in action.**
- ▶ **November-Dec. 2005-U.S. congress debates timetable to withdraw forces.**





**Abu Ghraib
torture and
prisoner abuse,
January 2004
reports.**



Battle for Falluja

