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
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 jihadis.
- November 2004—Battle for Falluja occurs between U.S. forces and insurgents.
- November 2005—U.S. loses 2,000th soldiers killed in action.
- November-December 2005—U.S. congress debates timetable to withdraw forces.
DROP BUSH NOT BOMBS
Abu Ghraib torture and prisoner abuse, January 2004 reports.