

Iraq Lecture Outline

- The Iran –Iraq war
 - The gassing of the Kurds
 - US tilt towards Iraq

- The 1991 Gulf War
 - The lead-up diplomacy
 - The outcome
 - The Powell Doctrine
 - President Dick Cheney, said:
 - "I would guess if we had gone in there, I would still have forces in Baghdad today. We'd be running the country. We would not have been able to get everybody out and bring everybody home..."

 - "And the question in my mind is how many additional American casualties is Saddam (Hussein) worth? And the answer is not that damned many. So, I think we got it right, both when we decided to expel him from Kuwait, but also when the president made the decision that we'd achieved our objectives and we were not going to go get bogged down in the problems of trying to take over and govern Iraq."

- The 1990's
 - The UN and Iraq
 - Sanctions
 - Oil for Food
 - Weapons Inspectors
 - No fly zones
 - 1998 UK and British air enforcement

 - The New American Century Project: the birth of the Neo-Cons
 - January 26, 1998 letter to President Clinton
We urge you to articulate this aim, and to turn your Administration's attention to implementing a strategy for removing Saddam's regime from power.
 - Signed Elliott Abrams, Richard L. Armitage, William J. Bennett, Jeffrey Bergner, John Bolton, Paula Dobriansky, Francis Fukuyama Robert Kagan, Zalmay Khalilzad, William Kristol, Richard Perle, Peter W. Rodman, Donald Rumsfeld, William Schneider, Jr., Vin Weber, Paul Wolfowitz, R. James Woolsey, Robert B. Zoellick

- 2001 The Bush Administration
 - at President Bush's very first National Security Council
 - "From the very beginning, there was a conviction, that Saddam Hussein was a bad person and that he needed to go," says O'Neill, who adds that going after Saddam was topic "A" 10 days after the inauguration - eight months before Sept. 11.

- “From the very first instance, it was about Iraq. It was about what we can do to change this regime,” says Suskind. “Day one, these things were laid and sealed.”
- As treasury secretary, O’Neill was a permanent member of the National Security Council. He says in the book he was surprised at the meeting that questions such as “Why Saddam?” and “Why now?” were never asked.
- “It was all about finding a way to do it. That was the tone of it. The president saying ‘Go find me a way to do this,’” says O’Neill. “For me, the notion of pre-emption, that the U.S. has the unilateral right to do whatever we decide to do, is a really huge leap.”
- And that came up at this first meeting, says O’Neill, who adds that the discussion of Iraq continued at the next National Security Council meeting two days later.
- 2001
 - 9/11
- Spring 2002
 - War against Iraq a litmus test in the Pentagon
- Summer 2002
 - The White House Iraq Group
 - Condoleeza Rice—to Haas—decision made
 - Andrew Card—new product role-out
 - Cheney deprecates the UN
- Fall/winter 2002
 - Bush challenge to the UN-irrelevant?
 - Cheney—more UN deprecation
 - Rice—mushroom clouds
 - Kofi and the inspectors
 - Resolution 1441
 - No deadline
 - Vague on use of force—consequences
 - The Inspectors go back in
- Winter/Spring 2003
 - “Not working”; “slam dunk”
 - The public discourse changes
 - Levitte to the White House
 - De Villepin
 - Powell to Davos
 - The US has earned the trust
 - Powell to the UNSC
 - Facts not conjecture
 - The State of the Union

- The Canadian compromise
 - Blix—threatened by Americans
 - Cheney on Meet the Press
 - The Canadian Decision
 - The War—“a cakewalk”
 - Hubris
- The Aftermath
 - Kofi Annan—“illegal”
 - Oil for Food scandal
 - The Insurgency