

# The War in Iraq

2003 - 2011



**Source A** – The aftermath of war, cities destroyed

## Source C

Iraqi Civilians Killed – 94,279

Coalition Troops Killed – 4,683

*Statistics from IraqBodyCount.org and icasualties.org*

## Source B

“I had a divine message from God that I needed to invade Iraq in order to bring stability to the Middle East as part of the war on Terror”

*George Bush, Former President of the USA, reflecting on his reasons for the Iraq invasion.*

“We are supporting the USA with their invasion of Iraq as we believe that Iraqi President, Saddam Hussein, is hiding ‘weapons of mass destruction’ in the country”

*Tony Blair, Former Prime Minister of the UK, explains his reasons for going to war.*



**Source D** – In 2005, Islamic extremists kill innocent people in London, protesting about the UK involvement in the Iraq War



**Source E** – In 2003, 1.5 million people march through London to protest about the British involvement in the invasion of Iraq

### Source F

“Since the invasion began in 2003 there has been around 400 suicide bombings in Iraq”

*Dan Eggen in the Washington Post Newspaper (2005)*

### Source H

“By the end of 2011, I plan to withdraw all American troops from Iraq, to focus our War on Terror on the Taliban in Afghanistan”

*US President Barack Obama outlines his plans in a speech to US war veterans (2009)*



**Source J** – A US soldier looks on as a statue of Saddam Hussein is pulled down by US tanks. In the background, civilians celebrate because in 1988, Saddam used chemical weapons on his own people, killing 5,000. Some of his supporters remain hidden away.

### Source G

“Alan Greenspan, a senior figure in the US government has spoken out against the war in Iraq by stating that the only reason why the USA invaded Iraq was to gain control of their oil supplies”

*Graham Patterson in The Times Newspaper (2007)*

### Source I

Sir William Ehrman, former defence general, during an inquiry on the Iraq war, has stated that the UK government received a report before the invasion, stating that the supposed chemical weapons in Iraq had been disabled and were not in use...no weapons of mass destruction have been found in Iraq, since the start of the invasion in 2003.

*Reported on the BBC News Website (2009)*

### Source K

“George Bush and Tony Blair are the real terrorists for lying about the war, they should be put on trial for the deaths of thousands of innocent civilians”

*British MP George Galloway addresses a meeting (2006)*

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# Questions

- 1) Read Source B. Why did the USA and the UK decide to invade Iraq?
- 2) According to Sources A, C, and F. What has happened since the invasion began in 2003?
- 3) Look at Sources D and E. Compare the different ways of protesting against the war in Iraq. Which do you agree is the best way to protest?
- 4) According to Sources D and F, has the invasion of Iraq prevented terrorist activity? Give reasons for your answer.
- 5) Read Sources G and I. How do the opinions expressed in these sources conflict with the opinions expressed in Source B?
- 6) Read Source H. What does this tell us about the future of the war in Iraq?
- 7) Look at Source J. Does this show that the Iraqi people agree with removing Saddam from power?
- 8) Read Source K. Is it fair of the author to talk about George Bush and Tony Blair in this way?

## Extension Work

Using all the sources as a guide, write a letter to your local MP, giving your own opinion as to whether you agree or disagree with the British invasion of Iraq.