

Secret Memo by Donald Rumsfeld Proves Iraq War Started On False Pretenses

Newly-Released

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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Everyone Knew Iraq Had No WMD ... and Was Not Behind Anthrax Attacks or 9/11

[Everyone knew](#) that Iraq didn't have weapons of mass destruction.

Indeed, Secretary of State Colin Powell's chief of staff – Colonel Lawrence Wilkerson – just said that Powell knew that there were no WMDs:

I wonder what will happen when we put 500,000 troops into Iraq and comb the country from one end to the other and find nothing

[\(starting at 6:43 into video\).](#)



But [war is sold just like soda or toothpaste](#) ... and so a false justification also needs to be concocted. [George W. Bush](#), [John McCain](#), [Sarah Palin](#), a [high-level National Security Council officer](#), [Alan Greenspan](#) and others all say that the Iraq war was *really* about oil.

It has been extensively documented that the White House decided to invade Iraq [before 9/11](#):

- Former CIA director George Tenet said that the White House [wanted to invade Iraq long before 9/11, and inserted "crap" in its justifications for invading Iraq](#). Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill – who sat on the National Security Council – also [says](#) that Bush planned the Iraq war before 9/11. Top British officials [say](#) that the U.S. discussed Iraq regime change even before Bush took office. And in 2000, Cheney [said](#) a Bush administration might "have to take military action to forcibly remove Saddam from power." And [see this](#).
- Cheney made Iraqi's oil fields a national security priority [before 9/11](#). And the Sunday Herald [reported](#): "Five months before September 11, the US advocated using force against Iraq ... to secure control of its oil." (remember that [Alan Greenspan](#), [John McCain](#), [George W. Bush](#), [Sarah Palin](#), a [high-level National Security Council officer](#) and others all say that the Iraq war was really about oil.)

Indeed, neoconservatives planned regime change [in Iraq – and throughout the Middle East](#)

[and North Africa – 20 years ago.](#)

The government [tried to falsely blame the anthrax attacks on Iraq](#) as a justification for war:

When Congress was originally asked to pass the Patriot Act in late 2001, the anthrax attacks which occurred only weeks earlier were falsely blamed on spooky Arabs as a way to scare Congress members into approving the bill. Specifically:

- The FBI was actually [told to blame Anthrax scare on Al Qaeda by White House officials](#)
- [High-level government insiders pointed towards Iraq as the source of the anthrax](#), even though there was absolutely no reason to think that the anthrax had come from Iraq

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, President Bush and VP Cheney all [falsely linked Iraq with 9/11 ... and the entire torture program was aimed](#) at establishing such a false linkage.

A new book by NBC News and Newsweek investigative reporter [Michael Isikoff](#) adds details, including a [memo written by Rumsfeld in November 2001](#) – a year and a quarter before the start of the Iraq war – asking how to start a war against Iraq, and suggesting as one potential “justification” for war:

US discovers Saddam connection to Sept. 11 attack or to anthrax?



Here is the whole memo:

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November 27, 2001

- Focus on WMD.

- Slices (building momentum for regime change): *might not have to go all the way*

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- WMD sites.
- Seize or destroy offensive missile sites (factories, deployed systems).
- Seize or destroy Republican Guards.

b(1) 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

Do in advance?

- Oil fields in south.
- Oil fields in north.
- Seize western desert:
 - Secure Jordanian border,
 - Prevent SCUD missile launches (against Israel).
- Deploy ground forces in western desert or south of Baghdad:
 - Threaten Baghdad.
 - Force Republican Guards to move and present targets.

** what order to create likelihood of collapse?*

- Cut off Baghdad:
 - Prevent movement of WMD materials.
 - Pressure on regime.

- Protect Provisional Government, north or south.
- Regime change.

** what do forces do coming out of Afghanistan?*

- How start?

- Saddam moves against Kurds in north?
- US discovers Saddam connection to Sept. 11 attack or to anthrax attacks?
- Dispute over WMD inspections?
 - Start now thinking about inspection demands.

- Surprise, speed, shock and risk.

*— Power communications, etc
People hate him -- they want to take him out.*

- Do not reduce footprint now.
- Be ready to strike from a standing start.

Enhance current footprint.

Start military action before moving into place all the force Republican Guards that would be required in the worst case. Larger forces flow in behind.

- Decapitation of government.

- Do early.
- Cut off communications too -- including television and radio.

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- Inspections.
- What if Saddam uses CW or BW or fires missiles at neighbors?
- Warnings to regime.
- Warnings to individuals in Iraq's WMD programs.
- Amnesty for defecting forces?

- Provisional government.

- **PIFWCs** War crimes indictments against Saddam and top lieutenants.
- Recognize once pieces are liberated from north and south (no separate Kurdish state).
- UN seat.
- Release frozen Iraqi assets to the Provisional Government.
- Give control over oil sale proceeds from liberated fields.

- Unlike in Afghanistan, important to have ideas in advance about who would rule afterwards.

- Doing the planning.

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- Abort any executive order to b(1) 1.4(a)

- Consider radical ideas

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b(1) 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

- Protect options for unilateral action.

- No-Saudi option.
- No-Turkey option.
- US may get cooperation only from 2 or 3 of GCC countries.

- Coalition – who do we want in?

- Declaratory policy:

- Confidentiality.
- How many people do you need?
- Can talk to service chiefs and get you people, who will be de

Where do the work? Here or DC?

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- They can work in DC or in Tampa.
- Rough concept, not complete execution-level planning.
- Deadline.
- Command structure issues.
- Centcom and Eucom.

• Influence Campaign --- when begin?

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steps
Next

The Bush administration launched the Iraq war under false pretenses ... unfortunately, [Obama is no better](#).

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