

Top Ten Differences Between the Iraq War and Trump's Proposed Iran War

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1. *Iraq is 168,754 mi² and Iran is 636,400 mi²; that is, Iran is geographically 3.77 times bigger than Iraq, almost 4 times as big.*

2. Iraq's population when invaded was 26 million. Iran's population today is 81 million.

3. General Eric Shinseki testified before Congress prior to Bush's invasion that based on the US military's experience in the Balkans, 800,000 troops would be needed to provide security to Iraq. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld insisted on 100,000 troops, wrongly believing he could pull them out in 6 months. Bush's viceroy in Iraq, Paul Bremer, later admitted that "we never had enough troops" in Iraq.

4. Since Iran is 3 times as populous as Iraq, by Shinseki's correct calculation, the US would need 2.4 million troops to occupy Iran.

9. Bush found international allies for his war on Iraq, including Britain and Spain. No one in Western Europe would join Trump in a war with Iran, making the US isolated and causing it to look like a unilateralist bully.

10. Whereas Iraq's neighbors- Turkey, Iran and Saudi Arabia in particular- had been mauled by Saddam and so did not strongly oppose Bush's invasion, Shiite Iraqis, many Syrians, the Hazaras of Afghanistan, and the some 40 million Shiites of Pakistan would support Iran.

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