

## New Developments

"He (Saddam Hussein) has not developed any significant capability with respect to weapons of mass destruction. He is unable to project conventional power against his neighbours." - Colin Powell, Cairo, 2/24/2001

Since the original version of this flier was produced in the summer of 2003, new developments have raised even more questions. In September, a journalist uncovered video footage of a speech Colin Powell gave in Egypt in early 2001, in which he stated that Iraq was not a threat. (A transcript of this speech is also available on the website of the U.S. Embassy in Israel). Then, in January of 2004, the chief U.S. weapons inspector in Iraq resigned, saying of the alleged WMD, "I don't think they exist." (6, 7, 8).

## Hold Bush Accountable

There can now be little doubt that President Bush lied to us. We must hold him accountable; we must vote him out of office.

**Register to vote:** If you're not already registered to vote at your current address, contact the Board of Elections at 810 Barret Ave., 574-6100.

**Learn about the candidates:** There is a comprehensive guide to the current presidential candidates online at [www.politics1.com/p2004.htm](http://www.politics1.com/p2004.htm).

**Vote:** The Kentucky primaries will be held May 18, 2004. The presidential election will be on November 2, 2004. If you don't know where to vote, call the Board of Elections at 574-6100.

**Spread the word:** Please pass this flier on to a friend.

Find out more about Citizens Standing Against War (C-SAW) at [www.louisvillepeace.org/C-SAW/](http://www.louisvillepeace.org/C-SAW/), or call Nick at 636-5848.

### Sources

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3. *Diplomat: US knew uranium report was false*, CNN (7/6/03, <http://edition.cnn.com/2003/ALLPOLITICS/07/06/sprj.iq.uranium/>).
4. *Iraqi mobile labs nothing to do with germ warfare, report finds*, The Observer (6/15/03, <http://www.observer.co.uk/international/story/0,6903,977853,00.html>).
5. *Save Our Spooks*, The New York Times (5/30/03, <http://www.commondreams.org/views03/0530-06.htm>).
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[www.louisvillepeace.org/c-saw/](http://www.louisvillepeace.org/c-saw/)

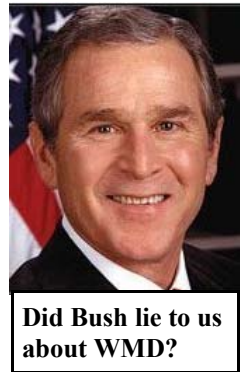
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# Where Are the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)?

President Bush took our nation to war based on specific claims about the imminent threat posed by Iraq's biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons. Now, many of these claims have been called into question or even proven to be false.

Consider these facts:

- No WMD have been found despite extensive searches by US weapons teams.
- The Iraqi regime, which Bush portrayed as an imminent threat, was quickly overrun, and no WMD were used against US troops.
- Forged documents were used as evidence of Iraq's nuclear program.
- Mobile trailers Bush called "biological laboratories" were determined by British and American experts to be used to make hydrogen for weather balloons.
- National intelligence reports from as far back as last October cast doubt on the Iraq-Al Qaeda connection.
- Intelligence agents now say the Bush administration misused and distorted their reports on Iraqi weapons capabilities.



Any one of these facts, by itself, would be enough to raise serious questions about whether the American people were misled into supporting the war in Iraq. As citizens of a democracy, we must be able to trust the information provided by our President on any issue. When the issue is war, this is especially important. A country has been destroyed. Over 500 American soldiers and 8,000 Iraqi civilians have died. More are dying every day. We have a right to know the real reasons for this devastation.

\*\*\***Inside this brochure**, you will find more information about each of the bulleted items above. If you are concerned about this issue, please check the back for some ways you can take action.

## No WMD found yet

*“We know that the regime has produced thousands of tons of chemical agents, including mustard gas, nerve gas, VX nerve gas.”*

- Bush, Cincinnati, 10/7/02

Bush lowered his estimate to 500 tons of chemical agents in the State of the Union address. However, even this lesser amount is so large—500 tons equals 1,000,000 pounds—it’s hard to believe no chemical weapons have yet been found. US weapons teams have been on the ground in Iraq since before the war began and have visited over 300 suspected WMD sites. Lieutenant General James Conway, a leading marine general in Iraq, said of WMD, “They’re simply not there.” (1)

## Imminent danger proves false

*“Some ask how urgent this danger is to America and the world. The danger is already significant, and it only grows worse with time.”*

-Bush, Cincinnati, 10/7/02

The Bush administration repeatedly stated that Iraq represented a significant and imminent threat to the security of our country. We even refused requests to give UN weapons inspectors another 30 days, because the danger was so immediate. Yet the Iraqi regime fell quickly, and no evidence has come to light that Iraq threatened the US in any way. One former intelligence officer said that even before the war, it was clear that “Iraq posed no imminent threat to either its neighbours or to the United States.” (2)

## Forged documents used as evidence

*“The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa.”*

-Bush, State of the Union, 1/28/03

President Bush was referring to specific documents supposedly showing an attempted transaction between Iraq and Niger. These documents have since been proven undeniably to be **forgeries**, and new evidence shows that the administration knew this long before Bush gave this speech to Congress and the American people.

A special CIA envoy sent to Niger at the request of Dick Cheney’s office concluded that the documents were faked. The envoy recently wrote, “I have every confidence that the answer I provided was circulated to the appropriate officials within our government.” He told CNN, “That information was erroneous and... they knew about it well ahead of... the President’s State of the Union Address.” (3)

## Bogus “biological laboratories”

*“We found the weapons of mass destruction. We found biological laboratories.”*

- Bush, on Polish TV, 5/29/03

The “biological laboratories” to which Bush refers are two mobile trailers found in Northern Iraq that have undergone extensive testing. A majority of Defense Intelligence Agency engineers who examined the trailers agreed with an earlier British investigation that concluded they were not mobile germ warfare labs. One British scientist said, “You could not use [the trailers] for making biological weapons. They do not even look like them. They are exactly what the Iraqis said they were—facilities for the production of hydrogen gas to fill balloons.” (4)

## Al Qaeda connection in doubt

*“Iraq could decide on any given day to provide a biological or chemical weapon to a terrorist group.”*

- Bush, Cincinnati, 10/7/02

The Bush administration repeatedly claimed that intelligence showed a connection between Al Qaeda and Saddam Hussein. The vivid, inflammatory language used by the administration played on fears stemming from the events of 9/11. In one speech, Bush said, “Imagine those 19 hijackers with other weapons and other plans—this time armed by Saddam Hussein.”

But this imagery was used irresponsibly. Intelligence reports on the issue were inconclusive, and the intelligence community was deeply divided about the Iraq-Al Qaeda link. The fact is, **no conclusive evidence** has been discovered proving a link between Hussein and terrorists.

## Intelligence agents cry foul

*“The Al Qaeda connection and nuclear weapons issue were the only two ways that you could link Iraq to an imminent security threat to the U.S.. And the administration was grossly distorting the intelligence on both things.”*

-Greg Thielmann, retired intelligence officer (5)

Significant numbers of current and former intelligence officials have been expressing outrage over the administration’s use of their reports. They believe intelligence was abused and distorted for political purposes. One analyst said, “This administration has had a faith-based intelligence attitude ... ‘We know the answers - give us the intelligence to support those answers.’” (2) A group called Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity was even stronger in its denunciation of what it called “a policy and intelligence fiasco of monumental proportions.” (5)