

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT INVADING IRAQ

“The reality is that, from a qualitative standpoint, when you judge Iraq’s current weapons of mass destruction capabilities today, they have none. In terms of long-range ballistic missiles, missiles with a range greater than 150 kilometers, Iraq no longer has these missiles. They have been disarmed. ... The same holds true with chemical weapons. ... The same holds true for biology. The same holds true for nuclear. So when we talk about Iraq’s current weapons of mass destruction threat, the answer is there is no weapons of mass destruction threat.”

—**Ex US Marine and former UN Weapons Inspector Scott Ritter**
Testimony before US Congress, May 3, 2000

“Just open a map. Afghanistan is in turmoil, the Middle East is in flames, and you want to open a third front in the region? That would truly turn into a war of civilizations.”

—**Unnamed member of the Kuwaiti royal family**
The New York Times, July 30

“An attack on Iraq would constitute an attack on the Charter of the United Nations.”

—**Historian Howard Zinn**
Boston Globe, August 19

“I don't believe that America will justifiably make an unprovoked attack on another nation. It would not be consistent with what we have been as a nation or what we should be as a nation. ... In my estimation it is not enough reason to go in, [if Hussein] does not allow weapons inspections”

— **Dick Arney (R-TX-26) the House Majority Leader**
Associated Press, August 9

“There is scant evidence to tie Saddam to terrorist organizations, and even less to the Sept. 11 attacks. Indeed, Saddam’s goals have little in common with the terrorists who threaten us. ... An attack on Iraq at this time would seriously jeopardize, if not destroy, the global counter terrorist campaign we have undertaken.”

—**Brent Scowcroft, National Security Advisor under Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush**
Wall Street Journal, August 15

“If we ... are to take seriously the words of Jesus to become peacemakers and seek justice and peace with one another (Matthew 5:1-12), we must speak out now—to the president, members of congress, and our local media—that the path upon which the President seeks to embark is counter to the teachings of Jesus, inconsistent with the position of the United Methodist Church, and is one that threatens the rule of law as a fundamental principle of democracy.”

—**Jim Winkler, General Secretary of the United Methodist Church**
Church Statement, August 30

“Since there is no surplus in the budget from which the cost (of an invasion) could be paid, there will be trade-offs, making initiatives like Medicare drug coverage harder to do, and there almost certainly will be deeper deficits and more debt.”

—**Representative John Spratt Jr. (D-SC) the senior Democrat on the House Budget Committee**
New York Times, July 30

“We are really appalled by any country, whether a superpower or small country, that goes outside the UN and attacks independent countries. No country should be allowed to take the law into their own hands. ... What [the Bush Administration] is saying is introducing chaos in international affairs, and we condemn that in the strongest possible terms.”

—**former South African President and Nobel Peace Prize Winner Nelson Mandela**
Associated Press, September 3