

IRAQ FACTS

Why didn't Iraqis welcome U.S. troops with "open arms?"

During 12 years of US bombing of Iraq's civilian infrastructure and US/UN economic sanctions, over half a million Iraqi children died, along with hundreds of thousands of elderly and sick.¹ Iraqis largely blame the U.S. government for these deaths.² *Yet – in our ignorance and indifference – we believed that U.S. troops would be welcomed in Iraq despite the devastation and deaths of the last 12 years.*

The U.S. effort to replace Saddam

Hussein started with the first Gulf War in 1991. By bombing Iraq's civilian infrastructure and re-imposing US/UN economic sanctions in 1991, the U.S. hoped to make life for Iraqis so terrible that they would overthrow Saddam Hussein and put a leader of our choice in his place.³ Three U.S. Administrations thought that this way they'd get "regime change" – primarily by economic warfare rather than by military warfare. *(continued on back)*

1 See over and www.scn.org/ccpi/infrastructure especially the New England Journal of Medicine report.

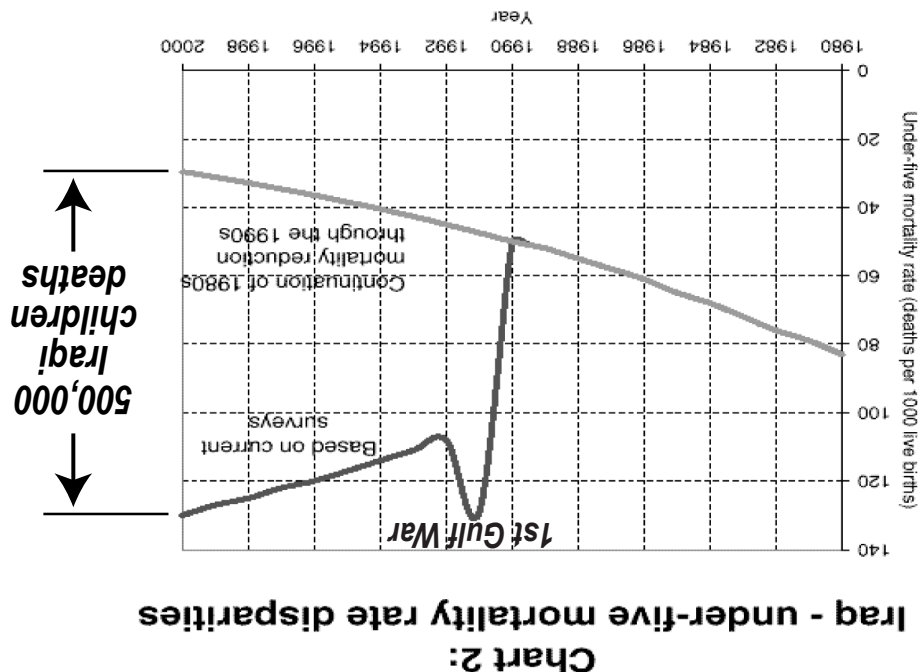
2 www.scn.org/ccpi/300words for sources and details about this deadly form of economic warfare.

3 "[B]y making life uncomfortable for the Iraqi people [sanctions] will eventually encourage them to remove President Saddam Hussein from power." New York Times, March 22, 1991, in a page-one story of UN warning of "famine and epidemic" in Iraq: <http://www.scn.org/ccpi/NYTimesAhtisaari21Mar91.html>

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The chart shows the large disparity between the mortality rates based on recent surveys and what would have been the situation if the mortality trend in the 1980s had been continued through the 1990s.



“... if the substantial reduction in child mortality throughout Iraq during the 1980s had continued through the 1990s, there would have been half a million fewer deaths of children under-five in the country as a whole during the eight year period 1991 to 1998.”

UNICEF Chart and statement:

Why didn't Iraqis welcome U.S. troops... (continued from front)

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