

Why are US Troops Dying in the Middle East?



"It Was About Oil, All Along!"

"he (US Pres. Bush) shall have Power over the Middle East treasures..."
Daniel 11:43a

"Oh no!" they told us, Iraq isn't a war about oil. That's cynical and simplistic, they said. It's about terror and al-Qaeda and toppling a dictator and spreading democracy and protecting ourselves from weapons of mass destruction. But one by one, these concocted rationales went up in smoke, fire and ashes. And now the bottom line turns out to be ... the bottom line. **It was about oil.**

Alan Greenspan said so last fall. The former chairman of the Federal Reserve safely out of office-confessed in his memoir



"Everyone knows that the Iraq war is largely about oil." He elaborated in an interview with The Washington Post's Bob Woodward, *"If Saddam Hussein*

had been head of Iraq and there was no oil under those sands, our response to him would not have been as strong as it was in the first Gulf War."

Remember also that soon after the invasion, Donald Rumsfeld's deputy, Paul Wolfowitz, told the press that *"...war was our only strategic choice. We had virtually no economic options with Iraq,"* he explained, *"because the country floats on a sea of oil."* (That's why US troops are dying!)



Moyers: "Contrary to facts and what he would have you believe, Pres. Bush's invasion of Iraq had nothing to do with such high-minded goals as liberating the Iraqi people or saving the world from terrorism. Fooling the American people once again, his "principled" stand was actually just a thinly-veiled attempt to gain control of the oil-rich Middle East at the cost of not just a million innocent Iraqi men, women and children but American journalists & soldiers. It is time for the people of the USA to rise up and say to G.W. (the Rider of the White Horse)..."

No more blood for oil!"



Iraq Oil Ministry an untouched building in ravaged Baghdad, April 16 2003

Since US forces rolled into central Baghdad a week ago, one of the sole public buildings untouched by looters has been Iraq's massive oil ministry, which is under round-the-clock surveillance by troops. The imposing building in the Al-Mustarisiya quarter is guarded by around 50 US tanks which block every entrance, while sharpshooters are positioned on the roof and in the windows...The symbolism is loaded, considering how vehemently the United States and Britain denied war opponents' accusations that the campaign to oust Saddam was driven by oil lust. "They came from the other side of the world. Do you believe they're going to do much for me? They've just come for the oil," fumed Salam Mohammad Hassan, a doctor who lives near the ministry. Residents noted that the Irrigation Ministry, just next door, was torched. www.smh.com.au/articles/2003/04/16/1050172643895.html

[The First Seal Opened on 9-11!]

Shades of Daniel Plainview, the monstrous petroleum tycoon in the movie, **"There Will Be Blood."** half-mad, he exclaims, *"There's a whole ocean of oil under our feet!"* then adds, *"No one can get at it except for me!"* No wonder American troops

only guarded the Ministries of Oil and the Interior in Baghdad, even as looters pillaged museums of their priceless antiquities. They were making sure no one could get at the oil except ... guess who?

Here's a recent headline in The New York Times: **"Deals With Iraq Are Set to Bring Oil Giants Back."** Read on: *"Four western companies are in the final stages of negotiations this month on contracts that will return them to Iraq, 36 years after losing their oil concession to nationalization as Saddam Hussein rose to power."*



There you have it. After a long exile, Exxon Mobil, Shell, Total and BP are back in Iraq. And on the wings of no-bid contracts - that's right, sweetheart deals like those given Halliburton, KBR and Blackwater. The kind of deals you get only if you have friends in high places. And these WAR PROFITEERS have friends in very high places.

Let's go back a few years to the 1990's, when private citizen Dick Cheney was running Halliburton, the big energy supplier. That's when he told the oil industry that, *"By 2010 we will need on the order of an additional fifty million barrels a day. So where is the oil going to come from? While many regions of the world offer great oil opportunities, the Middle East, with two-thirds of the world's oil and the lowest cost, is still where the prize ultimately lies."*

BOMBSHELL: US Promised 'Carpet of Gold' to Taliban in Exchange for Oil.

By Julio Godoy, Inter Press Service, 11/15/01

Under the influence of U.S. oil companies, the government of George W. Bush initially blocked U.S. secret service investigations on terrorism, while it bargained with the Taliban the delivery of Osama bin Laden in exchange for political recognition and economic aid, two French intelligence analysts claim.

In the book "Bin Laden, la verité interdite" ("Bin Laden, the forbidden truth"), that appeared in Paris on Wednesday, the authors, Jean-

Charles Brisard and Guillaume Dasquie, reveal that the Federal Bureau of Investigation's deputy director John O'Neill resigned in July in protest over the obstruction.

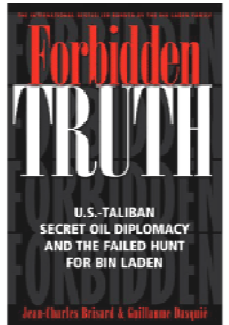
Brisard claim O'Neill told them that *"the main obstacles to investigate Islamic terrorism were U.S. oil corporate interests and the role played by Saudi Arabia in it"*.

The two claim the U.S. government's main objective in Afghanistan was to consolidate the position of the Taliban regime to obtain access to the oil and gas reserves in Central Asia.

They affirm that until August, the U.S. government saw the Taliban regime "as a source of stability in Central Asia that would enable the construction of an oil pipeline across Central Asia", from the rich oilfields in Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan, through Afghanistan and Pakistan, to the Indian Ocean.

Until now, says the book, "the oil and gas reserves of Central Asia have been controlled by Russia. The Bush government wanted to change all that". But, confronted with Taliban's refusal to accept U.S. conditions, "this rationale of energy security changed into a military one", the authors claim.

"At one moment during the negotiations, the U.S. representatives told the Taliban, 'either you accept our offer of a carpet of gold, or we BURY you under a carpet of bombs'." Brisard said in an interview in Paris.



There's a story, perhaps apocryphal, that Pentagon planners wanted to name the invasion of Iraq, "Operation Iraqi Liberation." Only when someone realized that the acronym - O.I.L. -was it changed.

Fast forward to Cheney's first heady days in the White House. The oil industry and other energy conglomerates were handed backdoor keys to the White House, and their CEO's and lobbyists were trooping in and out for meetings with their old pal, now

Vice President Cheney. The meetings were secret, conducted under tight security, but as we reported five years ago, among the documents that turned up from some of those meetings were maps of oil fields in Iraq - and a list of companies who wanted access to them. The conservative group Judicial Watch and the Sierra Club filed suit to try to find out who attended the meetings and what was discussed, but the White House fought all the way to the Supreme Court to keep the press and public from learning the whole truth.

Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill told author Ron Suskind that Dick Cheney also supported an invasion of Iraq before Sept. 11, and the *New Yorker's* Jane Mayer reported on a top-secret National Security Council document dating back seven months before the (govt-sponsored) 9-11 terror attacks that gave some insight into the vice president's thinking:

It directed the N.S.C. staff to cooperate fully with [Cheney's secretive] Energy Task Force as it considered the "melding" of two seemingly unrelated areas of policy: "the review of operational policies towards rogue states," such as Iraq, and "actions regarding the capture of new and existing oil and gas fields."

In her new book, "**The Bush Agenda**," Antonia Juhasz detailed how, six months before the invasion, the administration brought in a group of oil executives to advise them on Iraqi oil policy (*this occurred as President Bush was telling the American people that he had no intention of going to war*).

Think about it. These secret meetings took place six months before 9/11, two years before Bush and Cheney invaded Iraq. What we know is that this is the oil industry that's enjoying swollen profits these days. It would be laughable if it weren't so painful to remember that their erstwhile cheerleader for invading Iraq - the press mogul Rupert Murdoch - once said that a successful war there would bring us \$20-a-barrel oil. The

Big Oil Feasts on Economic Woes

Record Profits from Big Five Oil Companies Feed on High Gas Prices

By Daniel J. Weiss, Center for American Progress | February 5, 2008

High gas prices may have cinched American consumers' wallets in 2007, but they loaded the coffers of the big five oil companies: BP, Chevron, Conoco Phillips, ExxonMobil, and Shell. ExxonMobil, after record high profits in 2005 and 2006, smashed the record for highest profits ever made by a public U.S. company —previously held by Exxon—by posting a net profit of \$40.6 billion in 2007.

last time we looked, it was more than \$140 a barrel. Where are you, Rupert, when the facts need checking and the predictions are revisited?

"Perhaps those sweetheart deals in Iraq should be added to his proposed indictments. They have been purchased at a very high price. Four thousand American soldiers dead, tens of thousands permanently wounded, hundreds of thousands of dead children and crippled Iraqis plus five million displaced, and a cost that will mount into trillions of dollars. The political analyst Kevin Phillips says America has become little more than an "energy protection force," doing anything to gain access to expensive fuel without regard to the lives of others or the earth itself. One thinks again of Daniel Plainview in "There Will Be Blood." His lust for oil came at the price of his son and his soul..."

-PBS tv, **Bill Moyer's Journal** 6/27/08

"Bush – Where's Your Soul?"



Chevron, the country's second-biggest oil company, saw profits rise 29 percent that quarter, contributing to an enviable profit of \$18.7 billion for 2007. Clearly, what's good for big oil is NOT good for most Americans, few of whom would look back on 2007 with favor. We should all recall the **Chevron** tanker named "Condoleezza Rice". Only in America would we think it not a conflict of interest that Rice was paid handsomely for being on the board of Chevron from 1991 until she resigned to go to work in the Bush White House. How worried can she be about the deteriorating position of the United States in the world when her oil company buddies are doing so well, while innocents die.

Bush took FBI agents off Laden Family trail

Times of India, London, Nov.2001

America (*Pres. Bush*) was itself to blame for the events of September 11 because the US administration was using "kid gloves" in tracking down Osama bin Laden and "other fanatics linked to Saudi Arabia", a special BBC investigation has alleged in a damning indictment of the two presidents Bush...

The report, which the BBC claimed was based on a **secret FBI document**, numbered 1991 WF213589 and emanating out of the FBI's Washington field office, alleged that the cynicism of the American establishment and "connections between the CIA and Saudi Arabia and the Bush men and bin Ladens" may have been the *real* cause of the deaths of thousands in the World Trade Centre attacks.

The investigation, which featured in the BBC's leading current affairs programme, *Newsnight*, said the FBI was told (by Bush) to "back off" investigating one of Osama bin Laden's brothers, Abdullah, who was linked to "the Saudi-funded World Association of Muslim Youth (WAMY), a suspected terrorist organisation," ...

Newsnight said there was a long history of "shadowy" American connections with Saudi Arabia, not least the two presidents Bush's "business dealings" with the bin Ladens and another more insidious link revealed by the former head of the American visa section in Jeddah.

The official said he had been concerned about visas issued to large numbers of "unqualified" men "with no family links or any links with America or Saudi Arabia", only to find out later that it "was not visa fraud" but part of a scheme in which young men "recruited by Osama bin Laden" were being sent for "terrorist training by the CIA" after which they were sent on to Afghanistan.



In a reiteration of a now well-known claim by one of George W Bush's former business partners, the BBC said he made his first million 20 years ago on the back of a company financed by Osama's elder brother, Salem. But it added the more disturbing assertion that both presidents Bush had lucrative stakes along with the bin Ladens in Carlyle Corporation, a small private company which has gone on to become one of America's biggest US defense contractors.

After being threatened with arrest, FBI special agent Robert Wright, along with Larry Klayman, President of Judicial Watch, got up on national TV (C-SPAN) and said, "*We can't tell you what we know. Here's a letter threatening to arrest us,*" then added, "*all we can [tell you] is the Bushs vacation with the Bin Ladens.*"



Beware: the oil of Iran is the next target for conquest by...
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