



US Department of Defense

Talking Points – Iraq's WMD: Feb. 12, 2004

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What Was Known About Iraq's WMD

- The world knew the following about Iraq and Saddam's WMD:
 - Saddam Hussein used chemical weapons against his own people and Iran at least 10 times.
 - Saddam launched missiles against Iran, Saudi Arabia and Israel.
 - Iraq had a nuclear program discovered after the Persian Gulf War that was far more advanced than pre-Gulf War intelligence had indicated.

Discoveries Since the End of Major Combat Operations in Iraq

- Dr. David Kay served in Iraq for some six months directing the work of the Iraq Survey Group and reporting to CIA Director George Tenet. While the ISG's work is far from over, the following has been discovered (Source www.cia.gov):
 - Evidence of an aggressive missile program concealed from the U.N. and international community, including plans and advanced design work for liquid and solid propellant missile with ranges of up to 1,000 kilometers.
 - Confirmation of prewar intelligence that Iraq was in secret negotiations with North Korea to obtain some of its most dangerous missile technology.
 - Work underway on two unmanned aerial vehicles: one developed in the early '90s and another under development in late 2000 -- both intended for the delivery of biological weapons.
 - Evidence of research and development on a biological weapons program that included a network of laboratories and safe houses containing equipment for chemical and biological research, and a prison laboratory complex possibly used in human testing for biological weapons agents.

Widespread Consensus on Saddam's Threat

- From review of the same intelligence information there was consensus among:
 - The intelligence community.
 - Successive administrations of both political parties.
 - The U.S. Congress.
 - Much of the international community (the U.N. passed 17 resolutions regarding Saddam's WMD).

Saddam's Behavior Reinforced Conclusions About Iraq's WMD

- Saddam did not behave like someone who was disarming and wanted to prove he was doing so.
- He did not open up his country to the world, as did Kazakhstan, Ukraine, South Africa, and as Libya is doing today.
- Instead, he continued to give up tens of billions of dollars in oil revenues under U.N. sanctions when he could have had the sanctions lifted and received those billions of dollars simply by demonstrating that he'd disarmed, if in fact he had.
- His regime filed a fraudulent declaration with the United Nations and ignored the final opportunity to avoid war afforded him by U.N. Security Council Resolution 1441.