

# Remembering the Relentless Bombing of Iraq Since 2003



**Iraq Slams US Airstrikes as 'Unacceptable Violation' of Sovereignty**

The Iraqi government called the latest round of U.S. bombing "a clear hostile act"

By JAKE JOHNSON  
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The Iraqi government on Tuesday accused the U.S. of an "unacceptable violation" of national sovereignty after the Biden administration launched a series of airstrikes purportedly targeting a militia group that's seen as an Iranian proxy, a move that critics warned would further inflame tensions in the region and raise the risk of all-out war.

**Article: [Commondreams.org](https://www.commondreams.org) 12/26/23; Map: Carnegie Institute**

**Rally and March  
Friday, March 22  
2024  
5:00-6:00 PM**

**Please mask up and  
stay distanced for safety**

**Pioneer  
Courthouse Square  
(SW Yamhill and Broadway)**

On March 19, 2003, the US launched a massive invasion and occupation of Iraq, based on George W. Bush's false assertions of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and leading to mass devastation from a "shock and awe" bombing campaign. In 2011, President Barack Obama withdrew most of the troops. In 2014, Obama sent more US military back into Iraq to engage in warfare against the Islamic State. In 2017, President Donald Trump stepped up the bombing, destroying most of the Iraqi city of Mosul. In 2020, Trump ordered the assassination in Iraq of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani, leading to a vote by the Iraqi Parliament to eject all US troops. In December 2021, President Joe Biden decided to leave 2500 American military personnel in Iraq, where they remain to this day. As of late January, US forces in Iraq have been the target of attacks over 55 times (and the 900 troops in Syria over 85 times) largely due to American support for Israel's bombardment of Gaza in October. The US has conducted what it says are defensive retaliatory strikes, which Iraq sees as a violation of its sovereignty.

The world seems to respond differently to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and Hamas' attack on Israel when compared to Israel's disproportionate response and the US invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan or countless other military and economic acts of warfare. Some say the US' disregard for international law has opened the proverbial floodgates.

Iraqis have been subject to US interference by war, sanctions and occupation since August, 1990. Iraq's infrastructure has never fully recovered from the the 1991 "Gulf War," the 2003 invasion and other American-led actions. Even if the US removes its troops, as is being considered, their influence-- and the world's largest embassy-- will remain in Baghdad. Join us to remember the past, call attention to the present and call for a better future.

*Coordinated by Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group as part of the weekly Friday Rally for Peace and Justice, held since Nov. 2001.*

**For more info: Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group**

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**[www.pjw.info/Iraq.html](http://www.pjw.info/Iraq.html)**