

# Remembering the Devastating US Invasion of Iraq 19 Years Later

## Rally and March

Those attending are asked  
to mask up and stay distanced  
while participating.

### General says US troops to remain in Iraq

The Associated Press Dec 9, 2021



The top U.S. commander for the Middle East said Thursday that the United States will keep the current 2,500 troops in Iraq for the foreseeable future, and he warned that he

**Friday, March 18, 2022  
5:00-6:00 PM**

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

Russia's invasion of Ukraine on the questionable justification of protecting Russians living in that country has drawn parallels to the US invasion of Iraq, based on false accusations of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). From the time George W. Bush pushed for war based on false assertions of WMDs and a non-existent connection to the events of 9/11 through the withdrawal of most troops in 2011 and the subsequent warfare against the Islamic State starting in 2014, the country of Iraq has continued to suffer. The problems have included the economy, health care and other basic needs such as electricity.

In early 2020, Iraq's Parliament voted to demand the US leave their country following President Trump's ordered assassination of Iranian General Soleimani on Iraqi soil. While only an advisory vote, it was a very strong message.

At the end of 2021, President Biden failed to keep the US pledge to take all troops out of Iraq, instead re-designating the remaining 2500 forces as "advisors." That term is a deceptive word used to describe the early troops in Viet Nam.

The Iraqis have not been free from US interference by war, sanctions and other means since August of 1990, shortly after the invasion of Kuwait. In late 2021, Iraq finally paid off the last of its reparations to Kuwait for that invasion despite the fact that Iraq's infrastructure and economy were devastated by the 1991 "Gulf War," the 2003 invasion and other American-led actions. The US must end its attempts to undermine Iraq's sovereignty once and for all.

If the Russians' attack on Ukrainian civilian targets is prosecuted as a war crime, there are many Americans who also need to be brought up on charges for what the US did to Iraq.

*Event coordinated by Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group.*

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

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