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Chapter 1 : The Iraq Study Group Report: The Way Forward - A New Approach by Iraq Study Group

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A Downing Street spokesman said that Blair would give his submissions via video link on 14 November. It was believed at the time that the UK Prime Minister would outline his ideas on Iraq in a major foreign policy speech on Monday, 13 November. An Iraq expert told the newspaper that there "has been a lot of fighting" among the expert advisers to the group, mainly between conservatives and liberals. Iraq Study Group Report Although the final report was not released until December 6, , media reports ahead of that date described some possible recommendations by the panel. The Iraq Study Group also found that the Pentagon has underreported significantly the extent of the violence in Iraq and that officials have obtained little information regarding the source of these attacks. The group further described the situation in Afghanistan as so disastrous that they may need to divert troops from Iraq in order to help stabilize the country. After these reports began surfacing, co-chair James Baker warned that the group should not be expected to produce a "magic bullet" to resolve the Iraqi conflict. The final report released on December 6, included 79 recommendations and was pages in length. By March , the ISG report had been downloaded more than 1. The Report is readily available for direct reading. Some of many results include: S attention on Iraq diverted resources from Afghanistan an imbalance which the Report says the U. There are many more recommendations. President Bush waited for three other studies from the Pentagon , the U. The report "Choosing Victory: A Plan for Success in Iraq" was released at the latter conference. As such, they suggested it should be welcomed. However, the praise from the ICG was qualified. Its report argued that the study failed to match its conclusions with sufficiently radical proposals for bringing about fundamental policy change. For example, the ICG criticised the Iraq Study Group for not having stressed the centrality of multi-lateralism in processes attempting to address the situation in Iraq.

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The book The Iraq Study Group Report investigated the problem within Iraq, in regards to the ensuing militant insurgency and ongoing civil war that we have sometimes seen on the television news in our home countries around the world.

There is no path that can guarantee success, but the prospects can be improved. In this report, we make a number of recommendations for actions to be taken in Iraq, the United States, and the region. Our most important recommendations call for new and enhanced diplomatic and political efforts in Iraq and the region, and a change in the primary mission of U. We believe that these two recommendations are equally important and reinforce one another. The challenges in Iraq are complex. Violence is increasing in scope and lethality. It is fed by a Sunni Arab insurgency, Shiite militias and death squads, al Qaeda, and widespread criminality. Sectarian conflict is the principal challenge to stability. The Iraqi people have a democratically elected government, yet it is not adequately advancing national reconciliation, providing basic security, or delivering essential services. If the situation continues to deteriorate, the consequences could be severe. Neighboring countries could intervene. Sunni-Shia clashes could spread. Al Qaeda could win a propaganda victory and expand its base of operations. The global standing of the United States could be diminished. Americans could become more polarized. During the past nine months we have considered a full range of approaches for moving forward. Our recommended course has shortcomings, but we firmly believe that it includes the best strategies and tactics to positively influence the outcome in Iraq and the region. No country in the region will benefit in the long term from a chaotic Iraq. Some are undercutting stability. The United States should immediately launch a new diplomatic offensive to build an international consensus for stability in Iraq and the region. Given the ability of Iran and Syria to influence events within Iraq and their interest in avoiding chaos in Iraq, the United States should try to engage them constructively. In seeking to influence the behavior of both countries, the United States has disincentives and incentives available. Syria should control its border with Iraq to stem the flow of funding, insurgents, and terrorists in and out of Iraq. The United States cannot achieve its goals in the Middle East unless it deals directly with the Arab-Israeli conflict and regional instability. There must be a renewed and sustained commitment by the United States to a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace on all fronts: As the United States develops its approach toward Iraq and the Middle East, the United States should provide additional political, economic, and military support for Afghanistan, including resources that might become available as combat forces are moved out of Iraq. The United States must adjust its role in Iraq to encourage the Iraqi people to take control of their own destiny. The Iraqi government should accelerate assuming responsibility for Iraqi security by increasing the number and quality of Iraqi Army brigades. While this process is under way, and to facilitate it, the United States should significantly increase the number of U. As these actions proceed, U. The primary mission of U. By the first quarter of , subject to unexpected developments in the security situation on the ground, all combat brigades not necessary for force protection could be out of Iraq. At that time, U. Intelligence and support efforts would continue. A vital mission of those rapid reaction and special operations forces would be to undertake strikes against al Qaeda in Iraq. It is clear that the Iraqi government will need assistance from the United States for some time to come, especially in carrying out security responsibilities. Yet the United States must make it clear to the Iraqi government that the United States could carry out its plans, including planned redeployments, even if the Iraqi government did not implement their planned changes. The United States must not make an open-ended commitment to keep large numbers of American troops deployed in Iraq. As redeployment proceeds, military leaders should emphasize training and education of forces that have returned to the United States in order to restore the force to full combat capability. As equipment returns to the United States, Congress should appropriate sufficient funds to restore the equipment over the next five years. Miracles cannot be expected, but the people of Iraq have the right to expect action and progress. The Iraqi government

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needs to show its own citizens—and the citizens of the United States and other countries—that it deserves continued support. Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, in consultation with the United States, has put forward a set of milestones critical for Iraq. His list is a good start, but it must be expanded to include milestones that can strengthen the government and benefit the Iraqi people. President Bush and his national security team should remain in close and frequent contact with the Iraqi leadership to convey a clear message: If the Iraqi government does not make substantial progress toward the achievement of milestones on national reconciliation, security, and governance, the United States should reduce its political, military, or economic support for the Iraqi government. Our report makes recommendations in several other areas. They include improvements to the Iraqi criminal justice system, the Iraqi oil sector, the U. Conclusion[edit] It is the unanimous view of the Iraq Study Group that these recommendations offer a new way forward for the United States in Iraq and the region. They are comprehensive and need to be implemented in a coordinated fashion. They should not be separated or carried out in isolation. The dynamics of the region are as important to Iraq as events within Iraq. The challenges are daunting. There will be difficult days ahead. But by pursuing this new way forward, Iraq, the region, and the United States of America can emerge stronger.

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Chapter 3 : Review: The Iraq Study Group Report by James A Baker, Lee H Hamilton et al | Books | The G

The Iraq Study Group Report: The Way Forward - A New Approach is the report of the Iraq Study Group, as mandated by the United States blog.quintoapp.com is an assessment of the state of the war in Iraq as of December 6, , when the ISG released the report to the public on the Internet and as a published book.

Like so many others, I downloaded the report online, and like so many others, the report sat on my desktop unread for months in my defense, I was trying to get my college courses under control. Later, I was at Borders oh, the memories! Deciding that I would finally take a stand, I bought the book. That was June of The magnitude of my failure is, of course, obvious as shown by the events that have occurred since the report was issued: Considering that I never really paid much attention to the war after the invasion was over, I owed it to myself to see how the war was going. I knew it was bad, but not THAT bad. This book is an endless series of depressing insights. This is what I gleaned from the Report: The Report recommended a slow drawdown and projected that all combat troops could be out by Q1 ! Sectarian conflict between Shiites and Kurds was the main driver of the conflict, but every party watched each other with suspicion and no one was willing to back down. Shiites, handed the reins of power, turned their power to abuse of Sunnis, with officials running their agencies not to provide service, but to consolidate power and abuse Sunnis. Additionally, Shiite associated groups security services, militias, government agencies often abused their power to target, persecute or kill Sunnis. Sunnis, bereft of power for the first time in decades, were caught in a paradox of whether to cooperate for a government controlled by their abusive rivals or work to destroy the government through violence and occasionally cooperate with al-Qaeda to do so! Sunni insurgents often attacked anyone supporting the government, with Shiite militias retaliating against them in an endless cycle of blood. Kurds, though having one of the more peaceful regions, were caught between wanting a sovereign state the popular choice and the realization that such a state would be surrounded by enemies. Furthermore, too many government functions only serviced their sectarian interests, with half the Iraqi army only wanting to serve in their sectarian areas! Finally, dividing Iraq into 3 sectarian regions, an idea that was floated around for awhile, was OK with Shiites and Kurds but a nonstarter for Sunnis because much of the country had intermingled ethnic groups, and the proposed Sunni region had no oil reserves. Instead the Sunnis favored a united Iraq under Sunni control. Iran and Syria both worked to undermine efforts to make things better, while the rest of the Gulf States mostly stood by doing nothing. Maddeningly, almost no party wanted the inevitable result of their action: Such an event would create a massive humanitarian catastrophe, a tidal wave of refugees streaming in all directions, and had the chance of igniting a broader Shiite-Sunni war that could engulf the entire region! It is thus ironic that the only parties that wanted the end results of their actions were the US and al-Qaeda!

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Chapter 4 : Talk:Iraq Study Group Report - Wikisource, the free online library

The Iraq Study Group Report, delivered in Fall , was a big thing when it came out. Like so many others, I downloaded the report online, and like so many others, the report sat on my desktop unread for months (in my defense, I was trying to get my college courses under control).

Iraq Study Group The U. Members of the Study Group and staff spoke with officials from various governments, seeking their views regarding the state of Iraq. It researched and outlined problems in Iraq, how such problems relate to each other, and what steps could be taken to fix the problems. Pre-release expectations[edit] The public expected the ISG to present two overall, alternative policies in their report. The first option, "Redeploy and Contain," would call for the phased withdrawal of U. Its central points had for the most part been reported on before its release. The report deals with domestic issues such as budget funding and economic processes, military issues including bringing U. It warns that its policy recommendations are not failsafe, but that the deteriorating situation in Iraq could lead to political and humanitarian consequences if not dealt with immediately. Only five pages of the report address U. Panel members say they were not given a mandate to consider increasing the number of American troops in Iraq because their military briefers dismissed out of hand the premise that it was possible to increase the number of American troops in Iraq, on grounds that not enough were available. October was the deadliest month for U. Total attacks in October averaged per day, up from 70 per day in January Daily attacks against Iraqi security forces in October were more than double the level in January. Attacks against civilians in October were four times higher than in January. Some 3, Iraqi civilians are killed every month. The Report observes, for example, a significant gap in funding for the Iraq defense forces: It observes that the Iraqi Army "is also confronted by several other challenges": The goals of the diplomatic offensive as it relates to regional players should be to: Support the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq. Promote economic assistance, commerce, trade, political support, and, if possible, military assistance for the Iraqi government from non-neighboring Muslim nations. Energize countries to support national political reconciliation in Iraq. Assist Iraq in establishing active working embassies in key capitals in the region for example, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Help Iraq reach a mutually acceptable agreement on Kirkuk. Assist the Iraqi government in achieving certain security, political, and economic milestones, including better performance on issues such as national reconciliation, equitable distribution of oil revenues, and the dismantling of militias. In this report, however, the goals of the United States take precedence over the interests of the population of Iraq: The United States must make it clear to the Iraqi government that the United States could carry out its plans, including planned redeployments, even if Iraq does not implement its planned changes. The report focuses heavily on the oil industry in Iraq. For example, according to Recommendation 62 in part: As soon as possible, the U. In conjunction with the International Monetary Fund , the U. Until Iraqis pay market prices for oil products, drastic fuel shortages will remain. The United states should assist Iraqi leaders to reorganize the national oil industry as a commercial enterprise, in order to enhance efficiency, transparency, and accountability. Their report also notes that corruption may be more responsible for breakdowns in the oil sector than the insurgency itself: Corruption is also debilitating. Experts estimate that , to ,â€”and perhaps as many as ,â€”barrels of oil per day are being stolen. Suggested flaws in some alternative courses[edit] The report outlines three alternative courses that have been suggested and explains possible flaws in these courses: Precipitate Withdrawal Because of the importance of Iraq, the potential for catastrophe, and the role and commitments of the United States in initiating events that have led to the current situation, we believe it would be wrong for the United States to abandon the country through a precipitate withdrawal of troops and support. A premature American departure from Iraq would almost certainly produce greater sectarian violence and further deterioration of conditions, leading to a number of the adverse consequences outlined above. The near-term results would be a significant power vacuum, greater human suffering, regional destabilization, and a threat to the global economy. Al

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Qaeda would depict our withdrawal as a historic victory. If we leave and Iraq descends into chaos, the long-range consequences could eventually require the United States to return. Staying the Course Current U. Making no changes in policy would simply delay the day of reckoning at a high cost. Nearly Americans are dying every month. Our ability to respond to other international crises is constrained. A majority of the American people are soured on the war. This level of expense is not sustainable over an extended period, especially when progress is not being made. The longer the United States remains in Iraq without progress, the more resentment will grow among Iraqis who believe they are subjects of a repressive American occupation. The current approach without modification will not make it better. More Troops for Iraq Sustained increases in U. A senior American general told us that adding U. However, past experience indicates that the violence would simply rekindle as soon as U. As another American general told us, if the Iraqi government does not make political progress, "all the troops in the world will not provide security. Increased deployments to Iraq would also necessarily hamper our ability to provide adequate resources for our efforts in Afghanistan or respond to crises around the world. Some other concerns[edit] Underreporting of violence in Iraq[edit] The report also finds that the U. The panel pointed to one day last July when U. Yet a careful review of the reports for that single day brought to light 1, acts of violence. The standard for recording attacks acts as a filter to keep events out of reports and databases Good policy is difficult to make when information is systematically collected in a way that minimizes its discrepancy with policy goals. Supporters of the war effort, including conservative media outlets and neoconservative think tanks , were highly critical of the report. Snowe said that "It gives impetus to both the Congress and hopefully the president" and that "The time has come to change our course and to support a plan But it also repudiates the way the Bush administration works internally. It offers Bush an honorable exit strategy from the Iraq quagmire. The question is will the president grab it? Iraq panel urges U. The event was titled "Iraq: Qubad Talabani, the Kurdistan representative in Washington and the son of Jalal Talbani, complained that "Many of us feel that centralized tyrannies have led us to what we have today, which is a failed state. Sheik Mohammed Bashar al-Fayadh, a spokesman for the Association of Muslim Scholars, a Sunni Arab group said that the report "guarantees for an exit from Iraq but without paying heed to preventing a civil war from breaking out? Author Antonia Juhasz argued that this recommendation amounted to a call for "extending the war in Iraq to ensure that US oil companies get what the Bush administration went in there for: Eagleburger has ties to Halliburton and Phillips Petroleum , and is a former head of Kissinger Associates , a corporate consulting firm. Paul Bremer was managing partner of Kissinger Associates. The study calls for a large and sustained surge of U. Kagan directed the report in consultation with military and regional experts, including General Keane, former Afghanistan coalition commander Lieutenant General David Barno , and other officers involved with the successful operations of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Tal Afar. An interim version of the report was released on December 14, At this event, Mr. Kagan and General Keane will present their final report, which outlines how the United States can win in Iraq and why victory is the only acceptable outcome. The initial AEI report called for an additional surge of 38, troops.

Chapter 5 : NPR Choice page

The Iraq Study Group report: Print book: English. First Vintage books edition: New York: Vintage Books The Iraq Study Group report.

Chapter 6 : Iraq Study Group Report - Wikipedia

Did they make the Iraq Study Group report in a large-print edition? Then, I'll talk to Jerome Groopman, author of "How Doctors Think." I'll tell him to sit still -- he might feel a little prick.

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Chapter 7 : Iraq Study Group Report/Executive Summary - Wikisource, the free online library

The Iraq Study Group Report James A. Baker, III, and The Authorized Edition of The Iraq Study Group Reportis the ten members of the Iraq Study Group present a.

Chapter 8 : Formats and Editions of The Iraq Study Group report [blog.quintoapp.com]

Title / Author Type Language Date / Edition Publication; 1. Iraq study group report, the. 1.

Chapter 9 : Iraq Study Group - Wikipedia

The Iraq Study Group (ISG) also known as the Baker-Hamilton Commission was a ten-person bipartisan panel appointed on March 15, , by the United States Congress, that was charged with assessing the situation in Iraq and the US-led Iraq War and making policy recommendations.