

Celebrating the End of the Iraq War

It is very good that the Obama administration removed most military forces from Iraq and declared an end to the Iraq War.

However, for those of us who protested the war throughout the past terrible eight years, our celebration is muted. We know that:

- The war should not have been started in the first place.
- Millions of Iraqis were driven from their homes to become refugees.
- Hundreds of thousands of Iraqis died as a result of the war.
- Both the US and Iraq economies were devastated.
- Over 5,000 US military contractors have been left in Iraq to protect US economic interests – oil and US military equipment sales to Iraq. As a consequence we may be drawn back into war.
- It is not clear the American public has learned the lesson that war is not the answer to international problems.

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