

TELLING THE HISTORY OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY AS IT REALLY IS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2006

AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER JOHN HOWARD AND FOREIGN MINISTER ALEXANDER DOWNER CAUGHT IN LIE ABOUT EARLY IRAQ WAR INVOLVEMENT.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard and his Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer, have consistently lied to the Australian people and to the world about the extent to which they had committed Australia to Bush's invasion of Iraq prior to the actual invasion in March 2003. [1] The Howard government, right up until almost the actual invasion date, had denied that they had committed Australia to this disastrous and criminal adventure. But now their lies are coming back to haunt them.

Just two days after Alexander Downer had haughtily told the ABC's *Lateline* program [2] that the notion that Australia had committed itself to Bush's invasion of Iraq prior to the days just before the actual invasion were just 'conspiracy theories', an ex-SAS officer has come forward to tell the world that the Australian SAS were committed to involvement by at least mid-2002 thus putting the lie to Downer and Howard's insistence that their decision to go to war was not made until just days before the actual invasion. [3]

This comes on top of revelations that the former chairman of the Australian Wheat Board, Trevor Flugge, had been told by Australia's then ambassador to the UN, John Dauth, that the 'Howard government would participate in military action with the US to overthrow Saddam Hussein' in early 2002. This directly contradicts Howard's 'previous statements that Australia had not agreed to join the war in Iraq before the UN debate in late 2002 and early 2003.' [4]

ENDNOTES

[1] Patrick Walters, 'Iraq a moral blunder, says war hero', *The Australian*, 25 November 2006. Available online:

ABOUT ME

DAMIAN LATAAN
VERDUN, SOUTH AUSTRALIA,
AUSTRALIA

Aeronautical Engineer, Historian
and general carer of what goes on in
the world.

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<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,20817682-601,00.html> Accessed 25 November 2006.

[2] Alexander Downer, Transcript of 'Interview – ABC's Lateline', 23 November 2006. Available online:

http://www.foreignminister.gov.au/transcripts/2006/061123_abc.html Accessed 25 November 2006.

[3] Patrick Walters, 'Wrong war, wrong time', *The Australian*, 25 November 2006. Available online:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,20815881-601,00.html> Accessed 25 November 2002.

[4] Marian Wilkinson, 'Flugge knew invasion plans', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 November 2006. Available online:

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/national/flugge-knew-invasion-plans/2006/11/22/1163871481920.html> Accessed 23 November 2006.

POSTED BY DAMIAN LATAAN AT 9:30 PM

4 COMMENTS:

Anonymous said...

All nations, including Australia, involved in Iraq knew about the attack before the masses. However, Iraq is a diversion. As the armies attack Iraq, the US gov't erodes rights at home by suspending habeas corpus, stealing private lands, banning books like "America Deceived" from Amazon, [America Deceived \(book\)](#) rigging elections, conducting warrantless wiretaps and starting 2 illegal wars based on lies. Soon, another US false-flag operation will occur (sinking of an Aircraft Carrier) and the US will invade Iran (on behalf of Israel). Australia will be right alongside.

2:55 AM

dingo said...

This is a very precise, fact-laden summary. I avoid a lot of blogs where fulmination and verbiage seem to be the driving force, and I appreciate your lean cogent style. It could be an AP story except you're scrapping below the surface propaganda to try to get at the truth.

So perhaps I can be indulged a little fulminating myself.

Having grown up in the U.S. and followed for decades its sinister political lurch to the far right and its descent into a hollowed out democracy, I harbor few delusions about the prospects for a reversal of our decline.

BUSH FINDS A WAY OUT OF IRAQ
– WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS
WILL BE PUNISHMENT FOR
THE IRAQIS IF VIOLENCE
CONTINUES THERE!!

ARE ISRAELI ACTIONS IN THE
GAZA DESIGNED TO PROVOKE
WAR WITH IRAN?

AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER
JOHN HOWARD SUGGESTS
IRAQI SPLIT JUST WEEKS
AFTER INVASION OF IRAQ!



Perhaps I have been naïve about Australian politics, however. As someone who has traveled extensively in Australia, has an Australian mother, and feels a great fondness for the country, one of my gravest disappointments has been observing the Australians repeatedly reelect this petite Bush from Down Under. I imagined that Australians would eventually break decisively from the hubris and delusion pouring out of Washington. Instead, like the Blairites and to a lesser extent the Canadians, they've enthusiastically gulped the 'kool-aid' and begged for another round.

Despite the recent elections of Democratic majorities here in the U.S. legislature, our political system is now so corrupted by military empire, corporate slush funds, nonstop propaganda, delusions of grandeur, theocratic gibberish, and class war (the superrich preying on the Middle Class and poor), that I have little hope that we will reverse our decline into an Imperial Rome with Fox News and cruise missiles.

The most effective way to counter U.S. imperial power, I believe, is for other nations to adamantly oppose the brutal military invasions, unfettered corporate trade agendas, ecological suicide pacts, etc. Some countries such as Venezuela, Russia, and to a lesser extent Germany, France, and Spain under Zapatero have made some fuss about the invasion of Iraq. But not the Australians or the British. Their blind loyalty, in fact, created a fig leaf for the invasion of Iraq to proceed. And apparently, even as it turned into a horrific debacle--at least for the people of Iraq, if not for the Neocons and Zionists in Washington--the Blair and Howard governments have maintained their fanatic loyalty both to the ongoing destruction of Iraq and the fraudulent "war on terror" rationale.

Both governments supported the cruel devastation of Lebanon unleashed by the Israelis this summer, and I presume that they will extend their support to an attack, at least from the cheering section, on Iran should the Neocons in the Cheney Administration prevail over the circling realists of the Baker camp. And I would not underestimate the fanatic determination of the Olmert camp within Washington to launch the next phase of the Middle East war on Iran.

So what are the Australian people set to do?

And what about global climate change? In prevailing climate models Australia is predicted to be one of the most severely hit regions of the world in terms of increased droughts and heat waves. Australia, already the driest continent in the world, is poised to lose much of its already limited agricultural and ranching areas to droughts. In fact, it

appears to be already suffering from climate change induced droughts although this is not yet certain.

And yet the Howard government mimics the ostrich like behavior of the Bush Administration with absolute fealty. What an irony--as the Australians really do seem intent on committing a form of climate suicide. All in the interest of immediate corporate profits, of course.

3:39 AM

[Chris Womak](#) said...

It's the Jews Stupid!

<http://pcapostate.blogspot.com/2006/06/its-jews-stupid.html>

3:41 AM

[The Ripper](#) said...

Great post, thank you. I don't know if you saw this article/video of Saddam and his inner circle right before the war, but I found it fascinating...

www.minor-ripper.blogspot.com

5:43 AM

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