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HIGH COSTS OF THE IRAQ WAR

The Iraq war has cost the American people in so many ways. The human toll has been severe for the U.S. Armed Forces, which has bravely carried out their missions despite critical shortages in equipment. The war has cost America hundreds of billions of dollars and four years which could have been applied to securing Afghanistan and domestic priorities. And to date, the costs of the war, in time, treasure, and the casualties, continue to mount.

OVER 3,000 MILITARY CASUALTIES, OVER 23,000 TROOPS INJURED

Military Deaths in Iraq Now Total Over 3,000. As of Friday, Feb. 9, 2007, at least 3,117 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. The figure includes seven military civilians. At least 2,497 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. [[Associated Press](#), 2/9/07]

Over 23,000 American Soldiers Injured in Iraq. As of February 7, 2007, there have been 23,417 injuries sustained by U.S. soldiers during the Iraq War. [[Brookings Institute](#), www.brookings.edu]

Army Has Suffered From Critical Equipment Shortage. The [Washington Post](#) reported that, “the Army began the Iraq war with an estimated \$56 billion equipment shortage and has struggled to keep up with demands for new armor to protect against increasingly deadly bombs.” [[Washington Post](#), 2/12/07]

OVER FIVE HUNDRED BILLION DOLLARS SPENT, AND BILLIONS LOST

Almost Four Years. The United States and allied forces invaded Iraq almost four years ago, on March 19, 2003. [[Brookings Institute](#), www.brookings.edu]

Iraq War Has Cost Over \$500 Billion So Far. According to a report by the Congressional Budget Office, an updated account of spending on the Iraq War shows that thus far \$532 billion has been appropriated by Congress or requested by the Administration. This total is more than double the \$214 billion requested or appropriated for the war in Afghanistan. [[Congressional Quarterly](#), 2/8/07]

Reconstruction Costs in Iraq. The Congress has appropriated \$20.9 billion in aid to the Iraqi people. Thus far, 16.9 billion dollars of that had has been disbursed to Iraq. By comparison, the rest of the world has pledged \$15.2 billion combined in aid for Iraq. [[Brookings Institute](#), www.brookings.edu]

\$9 Billion in Iraq Reconstruction Funding Unaccounted For. According to a report issued in January 2005 issued by the Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, nearly \$9 billion of money spent on Iraqi reconstruction is unaccounted for because of inefficiencies and bad management. The report said the U.S.-led administration that ran Iraq until June 2004 is unable to account for the funds. [CNN, 1/13/05]