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1,373 Coalition Deaths in Iraq 1,227 Americans

1,227 Americans have been killed in combat in Iraq. 1,227 flag-draped coffins will have arrived home under cover of darkness. No cameras allowed. No fanfare. No acknowledgement from a president who talks about “us” and “we” when he refers to his invasion of Iraq.

The Failure of the Bush Domino Theory in the Middle East. Democracy can't be forced on an entire nation at gunpoint. The Bush domino theory of freedom spreading like a virus is a failure—cold war theory applied to a completely different kind of enemy. It's made the world a more dangerous place—heightening tension, creating a fertile new breeding ground for terrorists, increasing hatred toward the U.S. and isolating us from the world when we most need cooperation and support.

Why Did America Settle for Four More Years of a Failed Policy? Despite the Bush/Cheney spin, Iraq remains a disaster. We toppled Saddam Hussein, but we're mired in a dead-end war that's accomplished little. What will it cost to continue this failed policy for four more years? How many more American lives lost and dollars wasted? George Bush and Dick Cheney have no way out and no plan to go forward. They've compromised our security and made it easier for Osama bin Laden to recruit a new generation of terrorists.

Why Did George Bush Rush to War in Iraq? We know his stated reasons about WMD's and Iraq/Al-Qaeda links were fabrications and that an invasion of Iraq was discussed long before 9/11. We also know that corporations like Halliburton, Bechtel and ChevronTexaco have earned huge profits as a direct result of their contracts in Iraq. Is Iraq stage one of a long-range plan to gain a military and commercial foothold in the Middle East? Did Bush use fear of WMD's and imminent attacks to gain public support for the invasion, thinking it would be quick and easy battle that he'd never have to answer for?

A Cooperative Media and a Wilfully Ignorant Public. At each stage of failure, Bush has changed his story about the reasons for the invasion. The media spreads the lies without question, and Americans continue to cling to the fiction of Bush's discredited reasoning, perhaps unwilling to face the reality of their own poor judgment in supporting a leader who led them into an unnecessary invasion that's already claimed more than 1,100 American lives and hundreds of billions of dollars.