

At War Again

/ G C D E_m / C G D - / C D G E_m / C D G - /

We've a war across the ocean – two of them in fact.
The body count grows higher as I sing.
The land's not much to fight for, always hot or cold.
Still the Bushwa had to have his fling.

We started with Afghanistan – to hell with the Taliban.
And, oh yes, once we sought bin Laden.
Soon were joined by NATO, and it didn't seem enough;
On to Iraq, with dub em dees to spin.

Old Europe might object, the Germans and the French,
But we didn't care what the world would say.
Although their blood might boil, we had to save that oil,
For Halliburton had to have its pay.

chorus: / C D G E_m / C D G - /

Why the hell are we at war again?
Curse the Bushwa, we're at war again.

Iraq became the big one; we forgot that other place.
We also put aside the dub em dees.
'Cause Saddam was such a threat, it was him we had to get.
Damn the collaterals, we bombed him to his knees.

In no time at all, came the Young Pretender's drawl:
"Mission Accomplished – election guaranteed."
But the corpses still piled higher, theirs and ours as well,
And Congress mutely wished them all Godspeed.

<chorus>

Then, with years gone by, and civil war ablaze,
"We need more troops," selected generals claimed.
There was no end in sight, still with all our might,
We surged them in, no matter who got maimed.

Hundreds of thousands dead; more than a trillion burned.
We watched the Phoenix rise of the Taliban.
Iraq a ticking bomb, still with much aplomb,
Bushwa hawks began to eye Iran.

<chorus>

Now we have new leaders, but things are much the same –
Fifty thousand troops still in Iraq.
They've put aside Iran, but reinforced Afghanistan,
Though we harbored such great hopes for our Barack.

/ C D G E_m / C D G E_m / C D G - /

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The Oxford English Dictionary defines "bushwa" as "rubbish, nonsense" – i.e., bullshit.

Bin Laden was a primary, now largely forgotten, target.

WMDs – weapons of mass destruction, the putative reason for attacking Iraq

"Old Europe" was Rumsfeld's contemptuous name for those European countries that did not support the US.

Iraqi oil sales were to be used to offset the cost of rebuilding the country, via "no-bid" contracts.

There were no WMDs, so the reason for the war changed to removing the "evil" Hussein.
"Collaterals" is military-speak for civilian casualties.

Many Americans did not think Bush had been elected.

The "Mission Accomplished" photo op was purely political.

Congress spinelessly accepted it all.

Some pundits argued that civil war had already begun.

A number of the ranking generals thought more troops a bad idea. In fact, one or two generals to whom Bush offered command of the "Surge" declined.

Estimates of deaths in Iraq range between 70,000 to 400,000; the total financial cost is between 500 billion and three trillion dollars. The Taliban resurged in Afghanistan, ethnic and religious differences in Iraq are severe.

"End of combat operations in Iraq." Sound familiar?

50,000 gun-toting non-combatants.