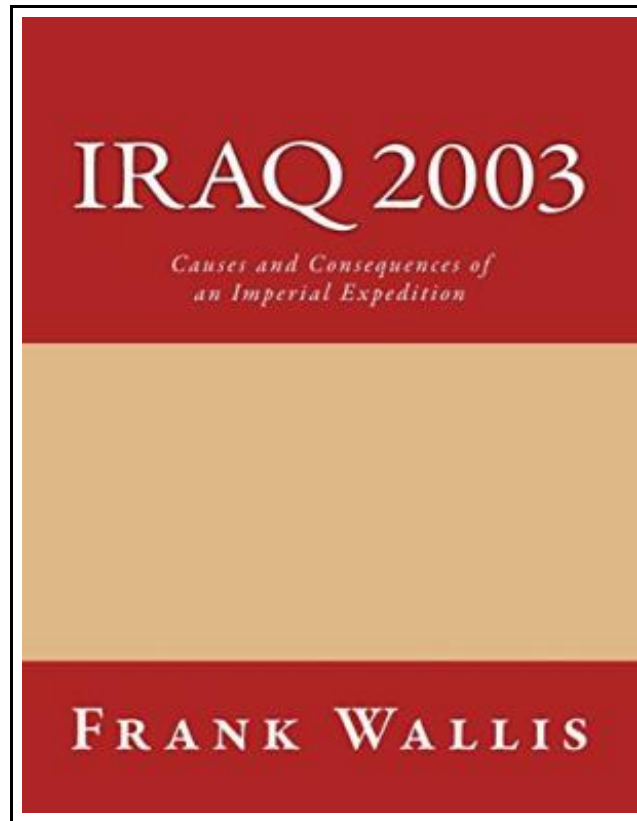


## Iraq 2003: Causes and Consequences of an Imperial Expedition



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## IRAQ 2003: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF AN IMPERIAL EXPEDITION



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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 280 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Well researched, generously footnoted, with a large bibliography, this is a work of scholarship intended for the well-informed specialist and anyone who likes to discover cause and effect in history, instead of slogans from politicians and talk-radio. The US invasion of Iraq in 2003 is best understood as a problem of instability on the American imperial periphery, solved through military power, rationalized by energy policy. The cause of invasion was material (oil in the Persian Gulf), the ideology couched in terms of national security (WMD and Muslim terrorism), based on the belief in American exceptionalism, which resulted in predictable consequences for people living in Iraq (death, destruction, and exploitation), who were either coerced or bribed for the purpose of establishing a collaboration with the United States. Empires are violent, and those who resist collaboration are usually punished: Iraq was no exception. The approach of this book is to accept a holistic interpretation of human behavior. When explaining empire and imperialism some writers assume that actors (people) and agency are at the root of causality, while others assume that structure and system are the overriding factors in history. On the question of the Iraq expedition in 2003 it is most useful to consider both of these general trends in scholarly approach. For example, George W. Bush made a set of critical decisions in the period before 2003, establishing an agenda, delegating responsibilities, and executing policy based on secret intelligence assessments that were customized to fit the president's prejudices. That was human agency at work. But Bush also operated within a structure of power relationships in the US, founded on corporate interests and therefore economic in nature, focused in...



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