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ABSTRACT

Motives and outcomes of the strategic American decision to occupy Iraq militarily in 2003.

The study analyzes the stage following the American decision to occupy Iraq militarily in 2003 while highlighting the influential factors of the official American institutions, the American political climate, and the international environment.

The study also explored the target goals of the decision in addition to its consequences locally, regionally and internationally.

The study's main hypothesis is that there is a relationship and an effective role for the dominant elite in manufacturing the foreign American policy in Bush's administration and the American decision to occupy Iraq. The study relies mainly on the powerful elite methodology

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