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The Mesopotamia Campaign in British Politics 1914-1917 Aug 28 2020 [Origins of British Influence in Mesopotamia](#) May 17 2022 **Iraq, 2003-4 And Mesopotamia, 1914-18: A Comparative Analysis In Ends And Means** Jan 01 2021 This paper is a comparative analysis of the British campaign in Mesopotamia during the First World War, 1914-18 and the current campaign in Iraq, 2003-4. The study focuses on an examination of Phase III decisive operations and Phase IV reconstruction operations, including strategic imperatives, operational planning, and the impact of changes during operations. The British had no campaign plan for Mesopotamia upon the outbreak of war in 1914. Deployment to this theater began as a peripheral operation. Overriding politico-strategic requirements spurred further exploitation to reach Baghdad. Failure to match ends and means resulted in the disastrous surrender of a division at Kut on 29 April 1916. Sweeping reorganization and large-scale reinforcements resumed the advance; Baghdad fell on 11 March 1917. The British conducted ad-hoc reconstruction operations throughout this period, beginning in the Basra vilayet and expanding their scope with the capture of Baghdad. The British established viable civil institutions, to include police forces, a functioning legal system, Revenue and Customs Departments, a banking system, and even domestic mail. Conversely, the recent U.S. strategy of pre-emption in Iraq was a policy decision based upon the wider strategic perspective and benefited from exhaustive operational planning. However, the rolling start campaign utilized minimal forces. They had the capability to win the decisive operations phase rapidly, but this same troop level was woefully inadequate to conduct incompletely-planned, sorely underestimated, post-conflict operations. Both campaigns suffered from a serious mismatch of ends and means at certain stages, especially for post-war reconstruction operations. They achieved significant success due to herculean efforts in theater. The study concludes with recommendations for strategic leaders related to planning and force structure.

The Campaign of the British Army in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918 ... Illustrating the Principles of War. With Thirteen Maps Apr 16 2022 [Mesopotamia 1914-15](#) Feb 20 2020 A superb account of the Great War in

the Middle East Mesopotamia (modern day Iraq) was the scene of much bitter fighting during the First World War between the forces of the Ottoman Turkish Empire and the troops of the British Empire. Although, the Middle Eastern theatre of the war is regarded as a 'side-show' to the greater conflict in Europe the fighting, nevertheless, claimed approaching 600,000 casualties on both sides. The principal consideration in the region was, as it is today, oil and the challenges to fighting in the areas bordered by the Tigris and Euphrates rivers included outbreaks of virulent disease and the logistic issues created by operating in a terrain of both swamps and deserts. This book, written by an officer of the 1st Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and based on his personal experiences, has been long out of print and has made been possible in this Leonaur edition by the permission and cooperation of the author's family. This is a particularly well written book which takes the reader into the realities of campaigning with the British infantry in Mesopotamia up to the hard-fought stalemate which was the Battle of Ctesiphon, during which almost 50% of the battalion became casualties including the author who was seriously wounded. Birch Reynardson complemented his text with sketch maps and with his own excellent photographs. These (with additional photographs, maps and other material) have been enhanced and enlarged for this edition. This book is highly regarded in bibliographies of the Mesopotamian Campaign and indeed, no library on the subject can be said to be complete without it. Leonaur editions are newly typeset and are not facsimiles; each title is available in softcover and hardback with dustjacket; our hardbacks are cloth bound and feature gold foil lettering on their spines and fabric head and tail bands.

British Campaign in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918 Aug 20 2022 The Mesopotamian Campaign deserves to be far better known than it is--both in terms of its impact on the war and the subsequent course of the history of the Middle East. This new collection provides the opportunity to review the telegrams, correspondence, minutes, memoranda and confidential prints gathered together in the India Office Military Department on Mesopotamia. In 1914 the British/Indian Army expedition to Mesopotamia set out with the modest ambition of protecting the oil concession in Southern Persia but, after numerous misfortunes, ended up capturing Baghdad and Northern Towns in Iraq. Initially the mission was successful in seizing Basra but the British/Indian forces found themselves drawn North, becoming besieged by Turkish forces at Kut. After various failed relief attempts the British surrendered and the prisoners suffered appalling indignities and hardship, culminating in a death march to Turkey. In 1917, a new Commander-in-Chief was appointed but, as usual in Iraq, military policy kept changing. Hopes that the Russians would come into the war were dashed by the Revolution. Operations were further frustrated by the hottest of summers. Fighting against Turkish forces continued right up to the Armistice. The conduct of the Campaign was subject to a Commission of Inquiry which was highly critical of numerous individuals and the administrative arrangements.

[The First Iraq War--1914-1918](#) Sep 21 2022 When Allah made Hell, runs the Arab proverb, he did not find it bad enough, so he made Mesopotamia—and added flies. What was a British Army doing in this Godforsaken place and how had it all come about? A.J. Barker's masterful retelling of the story of Britain's first Iraq war in 1914 is a masterpiece of military history that provides many answers to the endless problems and realities encountered in Iraq since 2003. Prestige and power played a major role then as they still do today. If the British were dislodged from the Shatt-al-Arab, the effects would undoubtedly have reverberated throughout the whole of the Eastern world.

[World War I in Mesopotamia](#) Jan 25 2023 The Mesopotamian campaign during World War I was a critical moment in Britain's position in the Middle East. With British and British Indian troops fighting in places which have become well-known in the wake of the 2003 invasion of Iraq, such as Basra, the campaign led to the establishment of the British Mandate in Iraq in 1921. Nadia Atia believes that in order to fully understand Britain's policies in creating the nascent state of Iraq, we must first look at how the war shaped Britons' conceptions of the region. Atia does this through a cultural and military history of the changing

British perceptions of Mesopotamia since the period before World War I when it was under Ottoman rule. Drawing on a wide variety of historical and literary sources, including the writing of key figures such as Gertrude Bell, Mark Sykes and Arnold Wilson, but focusing mainly on the views and experiences of ordinary men and women whose stories and experiences of the war have less frequently been told, Atia examines the cultural and social legacy of World War I in the Middle East and how this affected British attempts to exert influence in the region.

Ends and Means Feb 14 2022 Indian Expeditionary Force D landed at the head of the Persian Gulf on 7 November 1914 and quickly gained control of the area around Basra. Since the British army was already involved in drawn-out trench warfare in France, and the outlook there was far from bright, it seemed odd that the British government would commit troops to another campaign. The traditionally accepted rationale behind this move has been the protection of oil supplies used by the Royal Navy - but the campaign veered seriously away from its original intent. What followed was perhaps the finest example of blind political ambition in wartime. In April 1915, another division was added to Force D; and its new commander, General Sir John Nixon, arrived in Mesopotamia with orders to protect the oil supply, establish British control in the province of Basra, and prepare plans for a possible future offensive on Baghdad. The campaign against the Turks was a model of daring and sacrifice in the Middle Eastern desert. Successive victories encouraged the authorities in India to expand the campaign to aim at Baghdad. At this point the campaign was doomed to failure. The lack of direction, policy, and cooperation between Nixon, India, and London resulted in the total lack of a suitable logistic framework in Mesopotamia. An unwitting conspiracy of hesitant and uninformed leaders in London, greedy politicians in India, and aggressive "men on the spot" brought about the longest siege in British history and one of the great military disasters of this century. The appalling suffering and loss of the 6th Indian Division provoked such a public outcry in Britain that the government was obliged to institute a parliamentary investigation. The resulting Mesopotamia Commission rocked the nation and the government alike. This book probes the rationale behind the British interest in the Middle East, the invasion of Mesopotamia, the successes that drove the political aspirations higher, and the brilliance of the leadership and soldiery in contrast to the blindness of zealous politicians. It gives the most in-depth analysis of the Mesopotamia Commission anywhere and apportions blame where it is due and forgiveness where it is necessary. It is a story of soldiers at their best who were sacrificed for politics at its worst.

Great Britain and Mesopotamia: the British Conquest of Mesopotamia Nov 11 2021

British Troops in Mesopotamia 1916-1918. British Official and Agency Photographs. Album 1 Dec 20 2019 Description: Official and agency photograph album, with photographs of British and Indian troops in Mesopotamia, including prisoners of war, camp life, food and water supplies, and entering Baghdad after the occupation of the city. Photographs are from the following agencies and collections: Topical Press Agency; British Official; Central News Agency; The Central Press Photos Ltd; Graphic Photo Union; Daily Mirror; Daily Dispatch; Illustrated London News; and Sport and General Agency.

British-Indian Strategy and Policy in Mesopotamia May 25 2020 Great Britain declared war on the Ottoman Empire on 5 November, and two days later landed troops on Turkish soil at the head of the Persian Gulf. Indian Expeditionary Force 'D', commanded by General Sir Arthur Barrett, quickly captured the port of Basra and expanded their hold to encompass the Shatt-al-Arab as far up-river as Kurna, at the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. An expedition up the Karun River into Persia secured the Anglo-Persian Oil Company's fields, and the original instructions of Force 'D' were fulfilled. Their orders had been to maintain the British interests and alliances with the Gulf sheikhs, show the Arabs that Britain meant to support them against the Turks, and consolidate the oil fields and pipeline. By April 1915 another division was added to Force 'D' and its new commander, General Sir John Nixon, arrived in Mesopotamia with orders to protect the oil supply, establish British control in the province of Basra, and prepare plans for a possible future offensive on Baghdad. -- From April 1915 to April 1916, the lack of direction, policy and cooperation between Nixon, India and London resulted in the total lack of a suitable logistical framework in Mesopotamia, and only disaster could result. It is the purpose of this paper to examine how the course of Force 'D' altered from its original purpose, what the effects of that change were, and to apportion responsibility for the drift and the calamity that ensued because of it.

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This paper will also attempt to appraise the conclusions and effects of the Mesopotamia Commission.

When God Made Hell Oct 22 2022 Since 2003, Iraq has rarely left the headlines. But less discussed is the fact that Iraq as we know it was created by the British, in one of the most dramatic interventions in recent history. A cautious strategic invasion by British forces led - within seven years - to imperial expansion on a dizzying scale, with fateful consequences for the Middle East and the world. In *When God Made Hell*, Charles Townshend charts Britain's path from one of its worst military disasters to extraordinary success with largely unintended consequences, through overconfidence, incompetence and dangerously vague policy. With monumental research and exceptionally vivid accounts of on-the-ground warfare, this a truly gripping account of the Mesopotamia campaign, and its place in the wider political and international context. For anyone seeking to understand the roots of British involvement in Iraq, it is essential reading.

British Interests in Mesopotamia Nov 18 2019

Battles on the Tigris Jun 06 2021 In 1914 the British expedition to Mesopotamia set out with the modest ambition of protecting the oil concession in Southern Persia but, after numerous misfortunes, ended up capturing Baghdad and Northern Towns in Iraq. Initially the mission was successful in seizing Basra but the British under Generals Nixon and Townshend, found themselves drawn North, becoming besieged by the Turks at Kut. After various failed relief attempts the British surrendered and the prisoners suffered appalling indignities and hardship, culminating in a death march to Turkey. In 1917 General Maude was appointed CinC but, as usual in Iraq, policy kept changing. Hopes that the Russians would come into the war were dashed by the Revolution. Operations were further frustrated by the hottest of summers. Fighting against the Turks continued right up to the Armistice. The conduct of the Campaign was subject to a Commission of Inquiry which was highly critical of numerous individuals and the administrative arrangements.

Britain and Mesopotamia Dec 12 2021

The Formulation of British Policy Towards Mesopotamia, 1903-1914 Jun 25 2020

The Campaign in Mesopotamia 1914-1918 Apr 04 2021

Parallel Campaigns: the British in Mesopotamia, 1914-1920 and the United States in Iraq, 2003-2004 May 05 2021 The Mesopotamia Campaign of World War I and Operation Iraqi Freedom of the Global War on Terrorism took place on the same geographic and human terrain. Though separated by nearly a century, a significant number of points of comparison are evident, particularly with regard to strategic and operational missteps. In both cases Western armies successfully invaded and occupied the present-day region of Iraq, and both armies suffered the effects of difficult insurgencies in the wake of their conventional campaigns. This thesis explores parallel mistakes committed by the political and military leadership of each operation in order to determine what aspects of the Mesopotamia Campaign might have provided useful precedents to the planners of Operation Iraqi Freedom. These comparable operations suggest an argument for studying history during the formulation of strategy and the design of supporting campaigns. If the American leadership had closely examined the earlier British encounter in Iraq, then it may have been able to avoid repeating some of that operation's costly and deadly aspects.

British Policy in Mesopotamia, 1903-1914 Nov 23 2022 British imperial interests in Iraq during and after the First World War are well known and have often been studied. But what of British policy towards the Mesopotamian provinces before 1914? In this well-documented study, Stuart Cohen provides the first coherent account of growing British interest in these provinces, in which the defense of India, commercial considerations, the protection of Shia Muslim pilgrims, and fear of a German-dominated Berlin-to-Baghdad railway all had a vital role to play. First published in 1976 and now available in paperback for the first time, this book is essential reading not only for an understanding of the making of British policy towards the Arab provinces of the Ottoman empire, but also of the last days of Turkish rule in Iraq itself.

Britain and Mesopotamia. Iraq to 1914. A Study in British Foreign Affairs, Etc Jun 18 2022

Betrayal of an Army Sep 28 2020 The British invasion of Mesopotamia was initially successful in securing the oil fields around Basra by November 1914. Despite evidence of stiffening Turkish resistance and inadequate supply lines which relied solely on the River Tigris, the Expeditionary Force was disastrously ordered to advance on Baghdad under the command of the ambitious, capable but flawed Major General Charles Townshend. After a pyrrhic victory at Ctesiphon in November

1915 the British were forced to withdraw to Kut. After a five month siege Townshend had little option but to surrender due to heavy losses and inadequate supplies. Such was the humiliation and loss of life that the British Parliament ordered a Mesopotamia Commission to be set up. This attributed responsibility and blame to the toxic combination of incompetent leadership and wholesale military misjudgement. This fine book re-examines the circumstances and personalities that brought about such a disastrous and costly outcome to a classic example of mission creep.

Mismanagement in Mesopotamia Oct 18 2019

The Campaign of the British Army in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918 ... Oct 10 2021

From Old Mesopotamia to the New British Mandate in Iraq Jul 07 2021

Mesopotamia and the British Mandate Jan 13 2022

The Mandate for Mesopotamia Mar 03 2021 *Includes pictures

*Includes a bibliography for further reading The United Nations is one of the most famous bodies in the world, and its predecessor, the League of Nations, might be equally notorious. In fact, President Woodrow Wilson's pet project was controversial from nearly the minute it was conceived. At the end of World War I, Wilson's pleas at the Paris Peace Conference relied on his Fourteen Points, which included the establishment of a League of Nations, but while his points were mostly popular amongst Americans and Europeans alike, leaders at the Peace Conference largely discarded them and favored different approaches. British leaders saw their singular aim as the maintenance of British colonial possessions. France, meanwhile, only wanted to ensure that Germany was weakened and unable to wage war again, and it too had colonial interests abroad that it hoped to maintain. Britain and France thus saw eye-to-eye, with both wanting a weaker Germany and both wanting to maintain their colonies. Wilson, however, wanted both countries to rid themselves of their colonies, and he wanted Germany to maintain its self-determination and right to self-defense. Wilson totally opposed the "war guilt" clause, which blamed the war on Germany. Although the League of Nations was short-lived and clearly failed in its primary mission, it did essentially spawn the United Nations at the end of World War II, and many of the UN's structures and organizations came straight from its predecessor, with the concepts of an International Court and a General Assembly coming straight from the League. More importantly, the failures of the League ensured that the UN was given stronger authority and enforcement mechanisms, most notably through the latter's Security Council, and while the League dissolved after a generation, the UN has survived for over 70 years. One of the League's most lasting legacies was the manner in which it handed over administrative control of land in the Middle East to the victorious Allied Powers, namely France and Britain. The Ottoman Empire quickly collapsed after World War I, and its extensive lands were divided up between the French and British. While the French gained control of the Levant, which would later become modern day nations like Syria and Lebanon, the British were given mandates for Mesopotamia and Palestine. The British Mandate for Palestine gave the British control over the lands that have since become Jordan, Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, while Mesopotamia covered modern Iraq. British interest in supporting Arab nationalist aspirations at the onset of the war were clearly premised on the wider strategic objectives of defeating the Ottomans, and notwithstanding the McMahon-Hussein Correspondence, the concept of a single, unified Arab state under Hashemite rule would never come to fruition. By way of unintended consequences, however, Arab nationalism took root with the fall of the Ottomans, which would sow the seeds of many of the problems that the British would subsequently face in the Middle East, in particular in Mesopotamia. The British, like so many others since, failed to grasp the full complexity of Arab sectarianism and the cross-currents of internal politics, and with a policy premised on their own broad strategic interests, they simply laid the groundwork of future political catastrophe for Iraq and the Middle East in general. Thus, while the intention of the mandate system was to have the administrators peacefully and gradually usher in independent states, and both European powers eventually attempted to withdraw from the region, anyone with passing knowledge of the Middle East's history in the 20th century knows that the region has seen little peace.

The Campaign of the British Army in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918 Jul 27 2020

Parallel Campaigns: The British In Mesopotamia, 1914-1920 And The United States In Iraq, 2003-2004 Dec 24 2022 The Mesopotamia Campaign of World War I and Operation Iraqi Freedom of the Global War

on Terrorism took place on the same geographic and human terrain. Though separated by nearly a century, a significant number of points of comparison are evident, particularly with regard to strategic and operational missteps. In both cases Western armies successfully invaded and occupied the present-day region of Iraq, and both armies suffered the effects of difficult insurgencies in the wake of their conventional campaigns. This thesis explores parallel mistakes committed by the political and military leadership of each operation in order to determine what aspects of the Mesopotamia Campaign might have provided useful precedents to the planners of Operation Iraqi Freedom. These comparable operations suggest an argument for studying history during the formulation of strategy and the design of supporting campaigns. If the American leadership had closely examined the earlier British encounter in Iraq, then it may have been able to avoid repeating some of that operation's costly and deadly aspects.

The Bastard War Oct 30 2020

Mesopotamia (Iraq) 1600-1914 Mar 15 2022

The Campaign of the British Army in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918 ... Illustrating the Principles of War. With ... Maps Sep 09 2021

The Background of the British Occupation of Mesopotamia During the World War Mar 23 2020

GSA 35: The British Army in Mesopotamia 1917 Apr 23 2020

Description: Photographs from a private source donated to the museum via the war office pre-1951.

Mesopotamia and Britain Feb 02 2021 A timely book by a very astute Iraqi academic into the history of British foreign policy in the Middle East. Zaki Saleh was Professor and the Head of the Department of History at Baghdad University. Saleh offers a study of over three centuries of the main features of the history of British foreign policy concerning Iraq and its neighbouring Middle Eastern countries. It is a vital reference book to all students of the Middle East.

The British Museum Timeline of the Ancient World Nov 30 2020 A timeline of ancient history is based on the British Museum's extensive collection of Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greek, and Roman antiquities, features full-color spreads, and includes a detachable insert that compares the developments of each culture. 20,000 first printing.

100 Years Marking the British Campaign in Mesopotamia (Iraq) Aug 08 2021 This book is based on a lecture held in London, England in 2014, marking 100 years since the commencement of the British campaign in Mesopotamia (Iraq) in November 1914. The author has presented a brief overview of important issues relevant to Mesopotamia (Iraq) prior to the campaign itself, and also briefly outlined the military operations of the campaign itself between 1914 and 1918.

Western Imperialism in the Middle East 1914-1958 Jan 21 2020

This work attempts to explain why the Middle East is a major focus for international conflict, looking at the period after 1914, when the Ottoman Empire was defeated and its provinces taken over by Britain and France and ending in 1958 when the Iraqi revolution finally ended British influence on the area.

The British Army in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918 Feb 26 2023 When war broke out between the British and Turkish empires in 1914, the 6th (Poona) Division sailed from India to Basra to bolster Britain's allies, deny the port to enemy shipping, and secure Britain's Persian oil supplies. Further expansion followed: the capture of Al-Amara was the British Army's greatest victory of 1915. When an advance on Baghdad was repulsed, the Siege of Kut became the British Army's longest siege and greatest surrender. Attempts to relieve Kut led to unsuccessful battles that were bloody and muddy even by Western Front standards. Under new leadership, revitalized and reinforced, the British avenged their defeat when Baghdad was captured in March 1917. Thereafter, the British Empire committed, in campaigns of limited value to the overall war effort, huge levels of manpower and materiel desperately needed elsewhere. What was created was modern Iraq and the first Arab government in Baghdad in over 400 years. This detailed history places the campaign in context of Allied operations in the Middle East and sheds light on several unsung heroes of the war, including General Charles Townshend whose spectacular 1915 victories led to humiliating defeat and captivity in 1916; General Frederick Stanley Maude whose March 1917 entry into Baghdad preceded General Allenby's entry into Jerusalem by eight months; and Miss Gertrude Bell, a "female Lawrence of Arabia" who played a central role in the creation of the new Iraqi state.

The Mesopotamia Mess (Paperback) Jul 19 2022 The story about the British invasion on Iraq in 1914.