

## ACTIONS

1. View the video interview at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BEsZMvrq-I>
2. Share and discuss it with your email lists of family, friends, coworkers and your faith community.
3. For a few minutes or more, join our silent peace vigil which we conduct each Tuesday, 8-9 AM at the Federal Plaza, Jackson and Dearborn Sts. in Chicago. We have conducted this vigil since September 2001 and have distributed over 200,000 educational leaflets like this one.
4. Conduct your own peace vigil at a local government office or street intersection. Leaflets for your use at these vigil may be downloaded at <http://www.8thdaycenter.org/resources/leaflets.html>

Local contact:

### 8<sup>th</sup> Day Center for Justice

205 W. Monroe St.  
Chicago IL 60606-5062  
312-641-5151  
[8thday@claret.org](mailto:8thday@claret.org)  
[www.8thdaycenter.org](http://www.8thdaycenter.org)



# CHENEY SAID "IRAQ WAR A QUAGMIRE" IN 1994

It's not the first time that citizen "investigative journalists" have uncovered some embarrassing, or telling, nugget from the past that apparently remained buried for years. But it has happened again with the posting of a now wildly popular video on *YouTube* that shows Dick Cheney explaining in 1994 that trying to take over Iraq would be a bad idea and lead to a "quagmire."



The video first appeared on C-SPAN and was re-aired on C-SPAN 3. It has also appeared on Chris Matthews' *Hardball* on MSNBC on August 16. Posted on *YouTube*, it received over 100,000 hits in just a few days after being widely-linked around the Web. The

transcript of this segment is below.

As Secretary of Defense, Cheney helped direct the 1991 Gulf War against Iraq for President George H.W. Bush, father of the current president. Critics challenged the administration of the first President Bush for not taking Baghdad and officials like Cheney had to explain why not, for years.

If Cheney knew Iraq would descend into a quagmire in 1994, why did he push for the invasion of Iraq in 2003? Certainly, as other evidence shows, he knew that there were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq nor was there any connection between Iraq and Al-Qaeda. The answer to this question seems clear: This administration has made the decision to sacrifice many lives, untold billions of dollars and the stability of the Middle East in order to control the vast oil resources in Iraq and other Middle East countries.

The label on the video cites the conservative American Enterprise Institute, and the date on the screen is April 15, 1994. The video may be viewed at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BEsZMvrq-I>

### **AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE INTERVIEW WITH DICK CHENEY, APRIL 15, 1994**

Q: Do you think the U.S., or U.N. forces, should have moved into Baghdad?

A: No.

Q: Why not?

A: Because if we'd gone to Baghdad we would have been all alone. There wouldn't have been anybody else with us. There would have been a U.S. occupation of Iraq. None of the Arab forces that were willing to fight with us in Kuwait were willing to invade Iraq.

Once you got to Iraq and took it over, took down Saddam Hussein's government, then what are you going to put in its place? That's a very volatile part of the world, and if you take down the central government of Iraq, you could very easily end up seeing pieces of Iraq fly off: part of it, the Syrians would like to have to the west, part of it -- eastern Iraq -- the Iranians would like to claim, they fought over it for eight years. In the north you've got the Kurds, and if the Kurds spin loose and join with the Kurds in Turkey, then you threaten the territorial integrity of Turkey.

It's a quagmire if you go that far and try to take over Iraq.

The other thing was casualties. Everyone was impressed with the fact we were able to do our job with as few casualties as we had. But for the 146 Americans killed in action, and for their families -- it wasn't a cheap war. And the question for the president, in terms of whether or not we went on to Baghdad, took additional casualties in an effort to get Saddam Hussein, was how many additional dead Americans is Saddam worth?

Our judgement was, not very many, and I think we got it right..

