

Free read Parallel campaigns the british in mesopotamia 1914 1920 and the united states in iraq 2003 2004 Copy

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 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 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 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 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 the story about the british invasion on iraq in 1914 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 dangerousy 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 modern iraq was created deliberately by the british over the seven years following their first invasion in 1914 charles townshend provides an informative and compelling explanation of that conquest and examines how an initially cautious strategic invasion by british forces led to imperial expansion on a vast scale 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 divvied 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 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 to understand contemporary iraq and the ongoing crisis in the middle east no book provides a surer guide or more unsettling experience

written as it was for another war another army and another time gertrude bell for a fleeting moment was the optimistic progenitor of the iraq that today is becoming unglued 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 whilst the british campaigns in palestine and mesopotamia during 1917 18 are well known the earlier phase of the war in this region is much less so in this detailed and balanced account the author describes the british attempt to advance on baghdad during 1915 culminating in the unsuccessful battle of ctesiphon 22 november 1915 their subsequent besieging in kut and the failed effort to relieve them at the battle of the dujailah redoubt march 8 1916 at the end of april the garrison at kut surrendered to the turks a huge blow to the british across the entire region utilizing war diaries unpublished papers and even turkish material the author's work provides a very fair appraisal of a controversial and neglected phase of british military history the text is accompanied by extensive orders of battle maps and photographs key sales points a detailed account of a neglected and controversial episode in british military history british military operations in iraq of 1915 and 1916 are of much topical interest today the text is accompanied by extensive orders of battle maps and photographs helion library of the great war a series designed to bring into print rare books long out of print as well as producing translations of important and overlooked material that will contribute to our knowledge of this conflict 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 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 drawing primarily from us state department archives and the four volumes of the official british history of world war i in mesopotamia published during 1923 1927 majd reconstructs the political and military history of iraq in world war i a period that began with fierce iraqi resistance against the british and ended with the consolidation of british control under the mandate system in addition to documenting the military ebb and flow of britain's colonial project in iraq majd also presents two chapters considering the aftermath of the war in terms of iraq's commercial decline and the impact of disease 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 solely under estimated 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 this highly opinionated book written by a british officer in occupied iraq first appeared in 1923 thomas lyell was completely convinced of the necessity of the british presence in iraq and felt his book would help to enlighten westerners as to the true nature of iraqi life complicated as it was by the various religious and political factions that existed within the country bigoted and prejudiced though intensely pragmatic this book is a truly startling expose of the attitude taken by british officers towards the indigenous peoples of the gulf region over whose day to day lives they were given charge against a background of the british invasion of the first world war and the subsequent civil war lyell presents a portrait of life as he saw it he explodes in detail the influence of religion on arab life both in its domination of everyday affairs and in the antipathy between orthodox sunnis and unorthodox shias believing an appreciation of this to be crucial to any understanding

of the area although his experiences as a criminal judge may have coloured his views towards the arabs whom he considered lawless and unfit for self government he is equally castigating of british jewish and kurdish peoples in the region bemoaning british folly in placing a sunni on the throne of largely shia iraq and referring to the kurds as untrained savages commenting in the final section of the book on the possible future of iraq lyell has grim warnings he foresaw the influence of the red army in the area the threat of a kurdish revolution and in the event of the british pulling out and leaving the iraqis to govern themselves a bleak future for the minority elements in the country no conceivable guarantees in the world ensure their safety all modern civilization and progress would be wiped out impressions of the war along the tigris the author of this book was well known under several pseudonyms for the writing of military accounts either based on his own experiences or those of an australian soldier or legionnaire of the french foreign legion the writing style might seem sensationalist and that could lead readers to speculate about how much of the narrative is genuine however that concern was ever a consideration of the military memoir regardless of how soberly the facts were presented this account is based upon the authors experiences as a british soldier involved in the mesopotamia campaign during the first world war it includes photographs including those of the author so we might assume the account to be comparatively well founded it is a stark brutal no holds barred version of the war against the turkish army and is without doubt an entertaining read for anyone interested in the subject 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 the work of the british school of archaeology in iraq 1932 1982 with an introduction by seton lloyd between july 1920 and february 1921 in the territory known as mesopotamia now the modern state of iraq an arab uprising came perilously close to inflicting a shattering defeat upon the british empire a huge peasant army led by shi i clerics baghdad notables disaffected sheikhs and former ottoman army officers surrounded and besieged british garrisons with sandbagged entrenchments british columns and armoured trains were ambushed and destroyed and well armed british gunboats were sunk or captured the quest for oil was central to britain s middle east policy during the first world war and was one of the principal reasons for its continuing occupation of iraq however with around 131 000 arabs in arms at one stage of the conflict the british were very nearly driven out only a massive infusion of indian troops and the widespread use of aircraft prevented a total rout this book is the history of the first british occupation of iraq and the revolt against it in 1920 the most serious armed uprising against british rule in the twentieth century using a wealth of primary sources author ian rutledge brings central players such as winston churchill arnold wilson t e lawrence gertrude bell and sit mark sykes vividly to life in this gripping account kut al amara was the site of one of the longest sieges ever endured by british forces on december 3 1915 the 6th indian division under charles townshend sought refuge from pursuing turkish forces inside the walled town with no heavy artillery to destroy fortifications the turks circled the town subjecting it to intermittent shelling small arms fire and infantry attacks british relief units made repeated attempts to break through the turkish lines meanwhile within kut al amara a different sort of war was going on townshend s division was made up of muslim sepoys who had misgivings about fighting the turks not only were the turks fellow muslims but they served the ottoman sultan recognized by many as the caliph the spiritual and temporal head of islam the turks played upon this potentially divided loyalty with a propaganda campaign intended to encourage desertion then when a shortage of food forced the garrison to supplement its rations with horsemeat muslim and hindu soldiers were faced with violating dietary restrictions in order to survive for british officers prolonging the defense of kut was complicated by the need to combat disaffection and starvation among the indian rank and file a significant event in the british campaign in mesopotamia the siege of kut al amara offers important insights into britain s imperial army and its role in the middle east during world war i the forgotten siege of kut el amarah mesopotamia 1916 a saga of heroism and military blunder the greatest humiliation suffered by british arms between balaklava and singapore p 1 of book jacket 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 this work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it this work is in the public domain in the united states of america and possibly other nations within the united states you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public to ensure a quality reading experience this work has been proofread and republished using a format that seamlessly blends the original graphical elements with text in an easy to read typeface we appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant

Parallel Campaigns: The British In Mesopotamia, 1914-1920 And The United States In Iraq, 2003-2004

2014-08-15

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

2022-07-01

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

World War I in Mesopotamia

2015-01-12

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

The First Iraq War--1914-1918

2009-07-01

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

Battles on the Tigris

2006-09-15

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

The Mesopotamia Mess (Paperback)

2008

the story about the british invasion on iraq in 1914

When God Made Hell

2010-10-21

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

Desert Hell

2011-03-31

modern iraq was created deliberately by the british over the seven years following their first invasion in 1914 charles townshend provides an informative and compelling explanation of that conquest and examines how an initially cautious strategic invasion by british forces led to imperial expansion on a vast scale

The Mandate for Mesopotamia

2021-03-13

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 British Army in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918

2013-08-09

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

Report of the Commission Appointed by Act of Parliament to Enquire Into the Operations of War in Mesopotamia

1917

to understand contemporary iraq and the ongoing crisis in the middle east no book provides a surer guide or more unsettling experience written as it was for another war another army and another time gertrude bell for a fleeting moment was the optimistic progenitor of the iraq that today is becoming unglued

Iraq and Gertrude Bell's The Arab of Mesopotamia

2008

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

The Arab of Mesopotamia

1917

whilst the british campaigns in palestine and mesopotamia during 1917 18 are well known the earlier phase of the war in this region is much less so in this detailed and balanced account the author describes the british attempt to advance on baghdad during 1915 culminating in the unsuccessful battle of ctesiphon 22 november 1915 their subsequent besieging in kut and the failed effort to relieve them at the battle of the dujailah redoubt march 8 1916 at the end of april the garrison at kut surrendered to the turks a huge blow to the british across the entire region utilizing war diaries unpublished papers and even turkish material the author s work provides a very fair appraisal of a controversial and neglected phase of british military history the text is accompanied by extensive orders of battle maps and photographs key sales points a detailed account of a neglected and controversial episode in british military history british military operations in iraq of 1915 and 1916 are of much topical interest today the text is accompanied by extensive orders of battle maps and photographs helion library of the great war a series designed to bring into print rare books long out of print as well as producing translations of important and overlooked material that will contribute to our knowledge of this conflict

Ends and Means

1994

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

A Chapter of Misfortunes

2006-02-01

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

Mesopotamia and Britain

2016-06-22

drawing primarily from us state department archives and the four volumes of the official british history of world war i in mesopotamia published during 1923 1927 majd reconstructs the political and military history of iraq in world war i a period that began with fierce iraqi resistance against the british and ended with the consolidation of british control under the mandate system in addition to documenting the military ebb and flow of britain s colonial project in iraq majd also presents two chapters considering the aftermath of the war in terms of iraq s commercial decline and the impact of disease

The British Museum Timeline of the Ancient World

2004

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 solely under estimated 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

Ur Excavations

1976

this highly opinionated book written by a british officer in occupied iraq first appeared in 1923 thomas lyell was completely convinced of the necessity of the british presence in iraq and felt his book would help to enlighten westerns as to the true nature of iraqi life complicated as it was by the various religious and political factions that existed within the country bigoted and prejudiced though intensely pragmatic this book is a truly startling expose of the attitude taken by british officers towards the indigenous peoples of the gulf region over whose day to day lives they were given charge against a background of the british invasion of the first world war and the subsequent civil war lyell presents a portrait of life as he saw it he explodes in detail the influence of religion on arab life both in its domination of everyday affairs and in the antipathy between orthodox sunnis and unorthodox shias believing an appreciation of this to be crucial to any understanding of the area although his experiences as a criminal judge may have coloured his views towards the arabs whom he considered lawless and unfit for self government he is equally castigating of british jewish and kurdish peoples in the region bemoaning british folly in placing a sunni on the throne of largely shia iraq and referring to the kurds as untrained savages commenting in the final section of the book on the possible future of iraq lyell has grim warnings he foresaw the influence of the red army in the area the threat of a kurdish revolution and in the event of the british pulling out and leaving the iraqis to govern themselves a bleak future for the minority elements in the country no conceivable guarantees in the world ensure their safety all modern civilization and progress would be wiped out

Oil and Empire

1976

impressions of the war along the tigris the author of this book was well known under several pseudonyms for the writing of military accounts either based on his own experiences or those of an australian soldier or legionnaire of the french foreign legion the writing style might seem sensationalist and that could lead readers to speculate about how much of the narrative is genuine however that concern was ever a consideration of the military memoir regardless of how soberly the facts were presented this account is based upon the authors experiences as a british soldier involved in the mesopotamia campaign during the first world war it includes photographs including those of the author so we might assume the account to be comparatively well founded it is a stark brutal no holds barred version of the war against the turkish army and is without doubt an entertaining read for anyone interested in the subject 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

By Nile and Tigris

1920

the work of the british school of archaeology in iraq 1932 1982 with an introduction by seton lloyd

Iraq in World War I

2006

between July 1920 and February 1921 in the territory known as Mesopotamia now the modern state of Iraq an Arab uprising came perilously close to inflicting a shattering defeat upon the British Empire a huge peasant army led by Shi'i clerics Baghdad notables disaffected sheikhs and former Ottoman army officers surrounded and besieged British garrisons with sandbagged entrenchments British columns and armoured trains were ambushed and destroyed and well armed British gunboats were sunk or captured the quest for oil was central to Britain's Middle East policy during the First World War and was one of the principal reasons for its continuing occupation of Iraq however with around 131 000 Arabs in arms at one stage of the conflict the British were very nearly driven out only a massive infusion of Indian troops and the widespread use of aircraft prevented a total rout this book is the history of the first British occupation of Iraq and the revolt against it in 1920 the most serious armed uprising against British rule in the twentieth century using a wealth of primary sources author Ian Rutledge brings central players such as Winston Churchill Arnold Wilson T. E. Lawrence Gertrude Bell and Sir Mark Sykes vividly to life in this gripping account

Excavations at Ur

19??

Kut al Amara was the site of one of the longest sieges ever endured by British forces on December 3 1915 the 6th Indian Division under Charles Townshend sought refuge from pursuing Turkish forces inside the walled town with no heavy artillery to destroy fortifications the Turks circled the town subjecting it to intermittent shelling small arms fire and infantry attacks British relief units made repeated attempts to break through the Turkish lines meanwhile within Kut al Amara a different sort of war was going on Townshend's division was made up of Muslim Sepoys who had misgivings about fighting the Turks not only were the Turks fellow Muslims but they served the Ottoman Sultan recognized by many as the Caliph the spiritual and temporal head of Islam the Turks played upon this potentially divided loyalty with a propaganda campaign intended to encourage desertion then when a shortage of food forced the garrison to supplement its rations with horsemeat Muslim and Hindu soldiers were faced with violating dietary restrictions in order to survive for British officers prolonging the defense of Kut was complicated by the need to combat disaffection and starvation among the Indian rank and file a significant event in the British campaign in Mesopotamia the siege of Kut al Amara offers important insights into Britain's imperial army and its role in the Middle East during World War I

Iraq, 2003-4 And Mesopotamia, 1914-18: A Comparative Analysis In Ends And Means

2014-08-15

the forgotten siege of Kut el Amarah Mesopotamia 1916 a saga of heroism and military blunder the greatest humiliation suffered by British arms between Balaklava and Singapore p 1 of book jacket

By Nile and Tigris

1975

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

The Ins and Outs of Mesopotamia

2016-07-12

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Ur Excavations

1965

The Legion of Marching Madmen

2014-08-29

Ur Excavations

1976

Ur Excavations

1935

By Nile and Tigris

1920

Fifty Years of Mesopotamian Discovery

1982

Enemy on the Euphrates

2014

The Siege of Kut-al-Amara

2014

The Siege

1970

The Insurrection in Mesopotamia, 1920

1922

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1935

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1974

Betrayal of an Army

2016-10-14

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A Brief Outline of the Campaign in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918

1926

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