

David Kay

Dr David Kay was chief nuclear weapons inspector in Iraq during 1991-2. in his **evidence before the House Armed Services Committee** on September 10, 2002, which is worth reading in full, he said, of Iraq's *previous* WMD programme:

What is much less well understood is the impact that the discovery of the gigantic scope and indigenous nature of Saddam's weapons program had on the prospects of being able to eliminate this program by inspection alone. We now know that the Iraqi efforts to build an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction:

- Spanned more than a decade;
- Cost more than \$20 Billion;
- Involved more than 40,000 Iraqis and succeed in mastering all the technical and most of the productions steps necessary to acquire a devil's armory of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons as well as the missiles necessary to deliver them over vast distances.

[...]

The nuclear weapons secrets are now Iraqi secrets well understood by Iraq's technical elite, and the production capabilities necessary to turn these "secrets" into weapons are part and parcel of the domestic infrastructure of Iraq which will survive even the most draconian of sanctions regimes. Simply put, Iraq is not Libya, but very much like post-Versailles Germany in terms of its ability to maintain a weapons capability in the teeth of international inspections. As long as a government remains in Baghdad committed to acquiring WMD, that capability can be expected to become – and without much warning – a reality.

Anyway, the good news is that David Kay has **just been appointed** Special Advisor for Strategy regarding Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs.

Dr. Kay, 63, will be based in Iraq and will be in charge of

refining the overall approach for the search for Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

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