



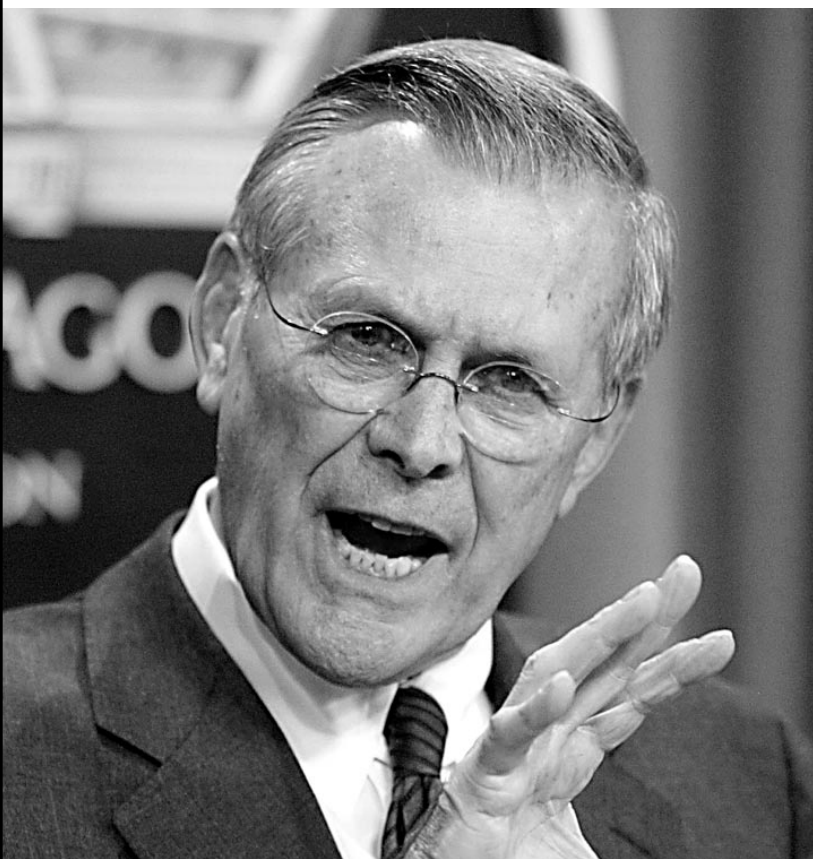
# \$87 Billion

## The High Cost of MISLEADING

**“We’ve had no evidence”**



**“I did mis-speak”**



**“I never believed”**

**G**eorge Bush and his administration drove us to war with Iraq on a wave of deception unprecedented in American history.

On the eve of battle, President Bush said war was required because of Saddam Hussein’s connection to “...the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001.” Now Bush admits “we’ve had no evidence” of such a connection.\*

Dick Cheney charged that Saddam “has reconstituted nuclear weapons.” Now Cheney admits: “I did mis-speak.”

Donald Rumsfeld claimed, regarding weapons of mass destruction: “We know where they are. They are in the area around Tikrit and Baghdad...” Now, Rumsfeld maintains he “never believed” that they would be found quickly.

These deceptions all have a price, and we are paying it. Billions of dollars have been wasted. International alliances have been shattered. And yet the Administration shamelessly offers up new deceptions: The war is going fine. We have enough troops. There are just pockets of resistance. And oh yes, just give us \$87 billion more.

Of course we must provide support for our troops and assist in rebuilding Iraq. But Congress shouldn’t approve one more cent until the Administration comes clean with the truth and offers a realistic plan for meeting the costs.

And why not allocate equal funds for critical domestic needs? Both guns and butter could be funded by rolling back that portion of Bush’s tax cuts that benefit the very wealthy. In the end, it may mean a little less money for Halliburton, but as the President says, this is a time that demands sacrifice.

*Visit [www.MisLeader.org](http://www.MisLeader.org) for more information*

\*Sources for assertions and retractions: Bush – letter to Congress 3/19/03; President’s remarks 09/17/03. Cheney – NBC Meet the Press 3/16/03 and 9/14/03. Rumsfeld – ABC This Week 3/30/03; Associated Press 05/04/03. Complete documentation is available at [www.MisLeader.org](http://www.MisLeader.org).

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