

**Kucinich Iraq Withdrawal Strategy**  
**May 12, 2006**

**I. Troop Reduction/ Withdrawal**

Public announcement of U.S. plan for withdrawal to include statement that U.S. troops will begin to withdraw as soon as possible, and withdrawal will be completed as quickly and orderly as possible to ensure the safety and security of U.S. troops. The announcement will also include the following:

- The U.S. will not maintain a permanent military presence in Iraq. The military bases currently operated by the U.S. in Iraq will be turned over to Iraq and all U.S. equipment will either be brought home or sold to Iraq.
- The U.S. acknowledges the sovereignty of Iraq and any continued U.S. assistance to Iraq is conditioned by determination by the government of Iraq, and the U.S. will leave entirely at any point if asked to by the Iraqi government.
- The U.S. will not exercise any physical or contractual control over Iraqi oil.

All Reserve and Guard units will be repatriated.

Regular military service will be reverted to normal deployments and tours of duty.

The U.S. will retain a rapid reaction task force in the region.

**II. Political/ Diplomatic Assistance**

U.S. works with the United Nations to establish a committee whose purpose is to draft and implement peace accords between Iraq's warring factions.

Appointment of a U.S. Peace Envoy to Iraq out of U.S. Embassy to assist in peace talks between government of Iraq and insurgent groups.

U.S. works with Arab League and Organization of Islamic Conference to convene a peace conference on the establishment of a unified Iraqi security force (comprised of current Iraqi troops and independent, non-Al Qaeda factions).

U.S. works to establish regional and bilateral talks to address issues of peace and stability in Iraq, Iraq border security, and terrorist networks with: Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and Iran.

**III. Reconstruction**

U.S. first and foremost replaces the \$8.8 billion in Iraqi oil revenues that went unaccounted for while the CPA had control over the Development Fund for Iraq.

U.S. advocates for cancellation of odious debts incurred by Saddam's regime, without IMF conditions.

U.S. encourages Security Council to renegotiate the Gulf War reparations program, with respect to the new government of Iraq. The current program is outdated and has become abused by multinational corporations. Iraq has paid millions in war reparations to corporations such as: Halliburton (\$18m), Bechtel (\$7m), Mobil (\$2.3m), Shell (\$1.6m), Nestlé (\$2.6m), Pepsi (\$3.8m), Philip Morris (\$1.3m), Sheraton (\$11m), Kentucky Fried Chicken (\$321,000) and Toys R Us (\$189,449). Reparations make up 5% of Iraq's oil revenues, which is more than Iraq's health and education budgets combined.

Money saved from above measures will greatly help new government of Iraq fund reconstruction and set own economic priorities.

After the initial \$8.8 billion, U.S. provides humanitarian aid to Iraqi government and small-scale grants for reconstruction. Reconstruction is primarily Iraqi-designed and implemented, and funded by the U.S.

A joint U.S.-U.N.-Iraq Reconstruction Oversight and Auditing office is established to ensure proper use of funds for reconstruction.

U.S. provides increased funding to greatly expand military's existing "sympathy payments" program for civilian victims of combat situations, and its program to pay claims for damages and wrongful deaths that occurred in noncombat situations (claims are currently processed by the Army under the Foreign Claims Act).

(This strategy borrows from the following plans: Jubilee Iraq, Democracy Rising, Center for American Progress, Center for Defense Alternatives, Tom Hayden, and Congressman John Murtha)