

Causes of War

Ideology and War

February 3, 2015

Today's Agenda

- 1. War and political ideology.**
- 2. Student presentations on Palmer's "From Dynastic to National War" and Lake's "Powerful Pacifists"**

Where We've Been

What brings states to the bargaining table?

- Commerce**
 - Why trade should cause peace**
 - How global markets raise spoils of war**
- Territory**
 - War and the emergence of the state**
 - How territory serves state goals**

Where We're Going

- **What brings states to the bargaining table?**
 - **Ideology**
 - **Identity**
- **Why does bargaining fail?**
- **Case study of World War I**

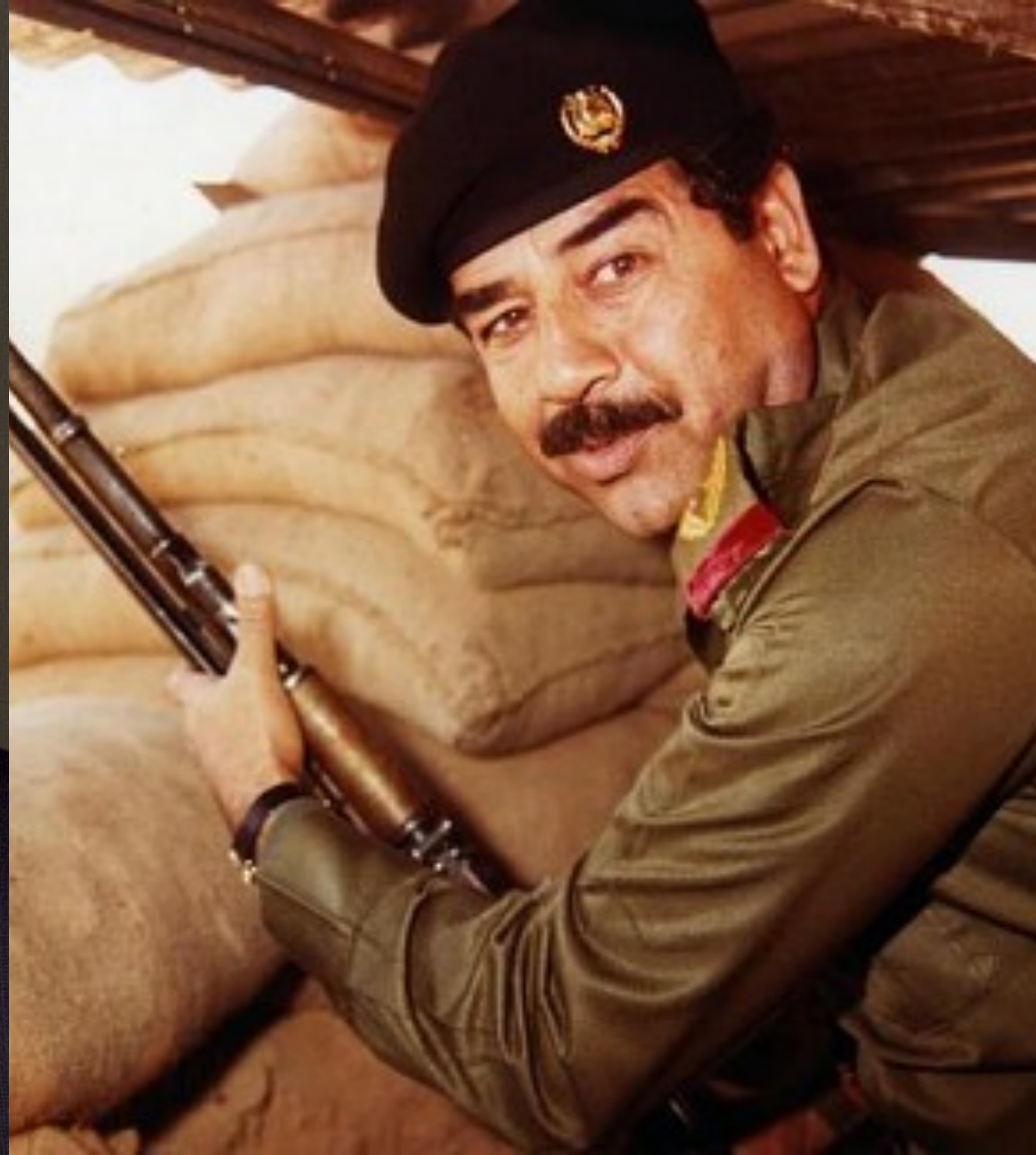
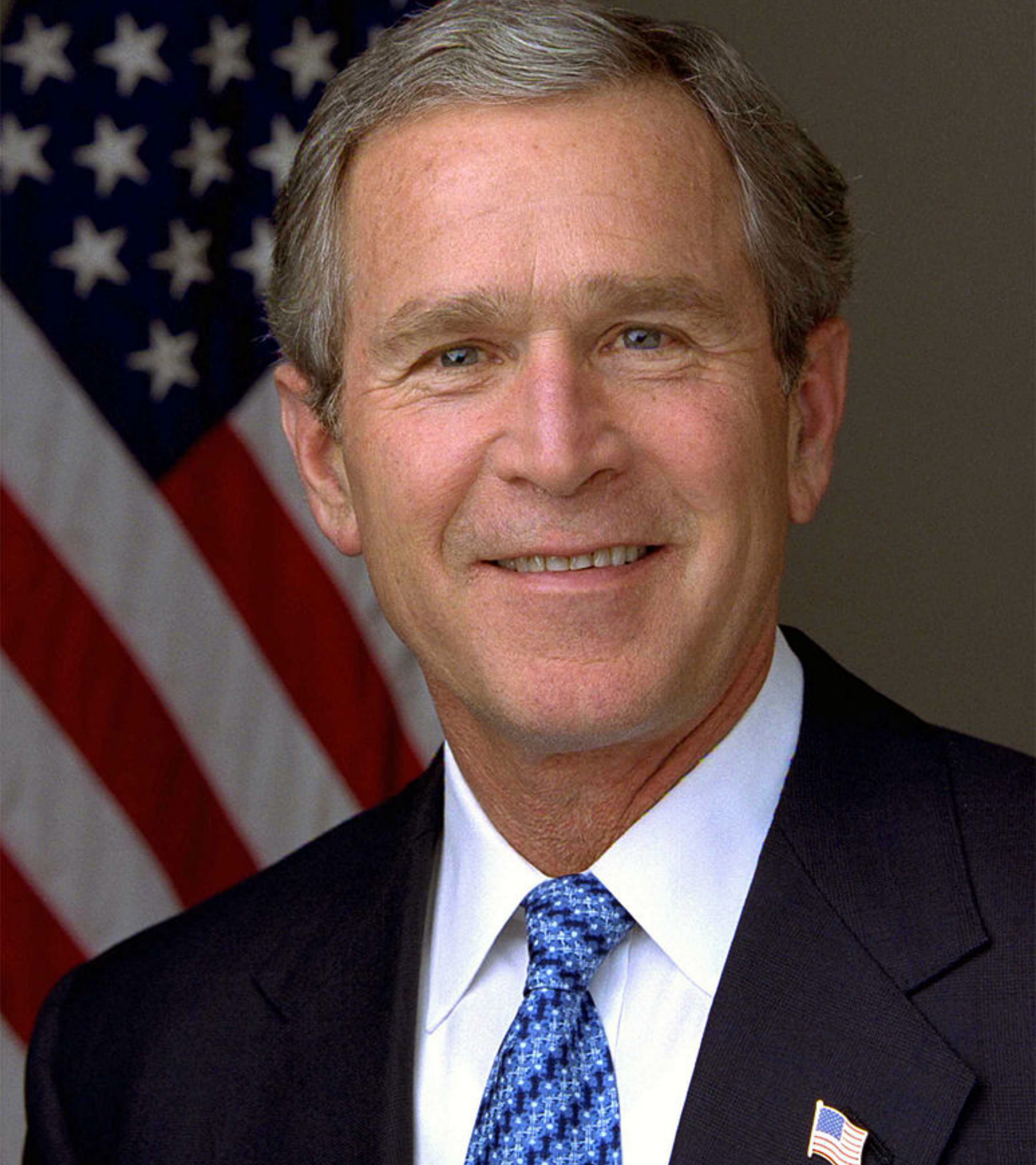
War and political

Ideology

War and Domestic Regimes: Empirical Findings¹

- **Democracies are slightly less likely to start wars**
- **War between democracies is much less likely than between a democracy and an autocracy**
- **War between autocracies is slightly less likely than between a democracy and an autocracy**
- **Democracies are more likely to win wars, especially those they start**

¹ Sources: D. Scott Bennett and Allan C. Stam, *The Behavioral Origins of War*; Dan Reiter and Allan C. Stam, "Democracy, War Initiation, and Victory"







**Why is it worth fighting over
another state's domestic politics?**

Recap: What Do States Want?

- 1. To stay secure in their current position.**
- 2. To expand their power in the international system.**
- 3. To keep the current leadership in power.**

Security and Foreign Regimes

Why would one state feel threatened by another's domestic politics?

- Militaristic ideology in neighboring state**
- Nationalism and irredentism**

Power and Foreign Regimes

How can replacing a foreign regime increase a state's power in the international system?

- Military advantages of certain regime types**
 - Democracy**
 - Fascism**

Leader Survival and Foreign Regimes

How can changing a foreign regime help the current leadership keep its position?

- Democratic leaders**
 - Public outcry at foreign regime?**
- Autocratic leaders**
 - Prevent democratic spillover**
 - Gambling for resurrection**

French Revolutionary Wars

- Making war served the domestic purposes of the Revolution**
- Republican and nationalist ideology increased French power**
- Revolutionary ideology threatened the legitimacy (thus the sovereignty) of monarchs elsewhere in Europe**

Issues and the Ease of Bargaining

- **Commerce: easy (gains from trade)**
- **Territory: hard (land is zero-sum)**
- **Ideology: nearly impossible? (indivisibility)**

For Next Time

- **Read Schroeder, "War and Revolution, 1787–1792" (on Blackboard)**
- **Student presentation on Doyle 1983, "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs"**
- **Reminder: First critical response paper due a week from today**

Image Sources

- War protests: Bob Morris, via [Flickr](#)
- Saddam Hussein: [Wikimedia Commons](#)
- George W. Bush: [Wikimedia Commons](#)
- Kennedy and Khrushchev: [Wikimedia Commons](#)
- Horace Vernet, "La Bataille du Pont d'Arcole":
[Wikimedia Commons](#)