

Table 17.2 Summary of Iraq’s Chemical Program

Prewar Concerns	Pre-2002 Intelligence Assessments	October 2002 NIE Assessment	UN Findings 2002-2003	Administration Statements	Evidence Since March 2003
Iraq had large stockpiles of chemical weapons.	Maybe. Pre-2002 reports did not discuss the existence of chemical weapon stockpiles, but “Iraq may have hidden an additional 6,000 CW munitions.”	Yes. “High confidence” that Iraq had chemical weapons, probably between 100 and 500 metric tons.	Not Sure. UNMOVIC uncovered several chemical warheads, but no significant stockpile. Iraq failed to prove it destroyed significant quantities of munitions and precursors.	Yes. Certain that Iraq had vast chemical weapon stockpiles including mustard gas, sarin nerve gas, and VX, and was hiding them from inspectors.	No. No chemical weapons found. Kay: “Iraq did not have a large, ongoing, centrally controlled CW program after 1991.”
Iraq had covert chemical weapon production facilities.	Not sure. Iraq “rebuilt key portions of its chemical production infrastructure for industrial and commercial use.”	Yes. Iraq “has begun renewed production” of chemical agents, including mustard, sarin, cyclosarin and VX.	Probably Not. Inspections did not find any active production facilities or evidence of hidden production capability.	Yes. Powell: “We know that Iraq has embedded key portions of its illicit chemical weapons infrastructure within its legitimate civilian industry.”	No. No open or covert chemical munitions or production facilities found. Some low-level research activity possible. Senate: Intelligence did not support claims.

ABBREVIATIONS:

NIE = National Intelligence Estimate; CW = chemical weapons; UNMOVIC = U.N. Monitoring, Verification, and Inspection Commission; CIA = Central Intelligence Agency; DIA = Defense Intelligence Agency.

NOTE:

This table is updated from Joseph Cirincione, Jessica Mathews, and George Perkovich, *WMD in Iraq: Evidence and Implications* (Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2004); available at www.ProliferationNews.org.