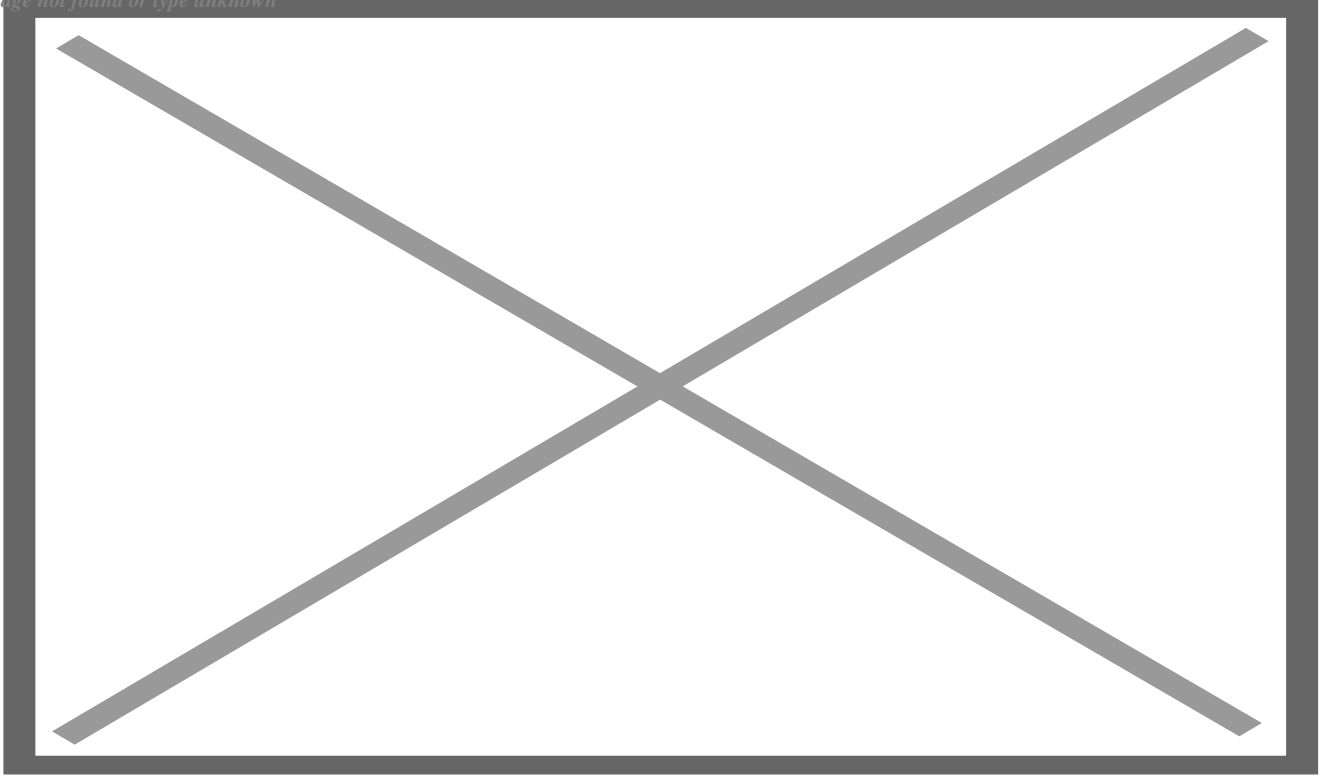


# Remember 2003

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By Guillermo Alvarado

Although 21 years have passed since those events, it is appropriate for the world to keep in mind the months prior to the so-called Gulf War II, when the United States blatantly lied to justify the attacks and bombings against Iraq.

In particular, I recommend keeping in mind the image of General Collin Powell before the UN Security Council on 5 February 2003, where he waved a small vial containing a white powder, which could be salt, flour or sand from the sea or the desert - it was never known whether it was salt, flour or sand from the sea or the desert.

There, this man, who was US Secretary of State, Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff and National Security Adviser, did not hesitate to lie when he said that this was proof of biological weapons of mass destruction in the hands of Saddam Hussein.

With that argument, which was as false as a six-dollar note, Washington perpetrated one of the most cowardly and cruel attacks on a people and destabilised the so-called Middle East for decades.

The war was a strategic fiasco, but Iraqis continue to pay the price for the use of illegal weapons, such as depleted uranium shells.

This story comes as, like all compulsive liars, the United States is at it again, this time against Russia and with the story that Moscow possesses a dangerous anti-satellite weapon.

The matter has been discussed, take note, by current Secretary of State Antony Blinken and National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, among others, and the head of the House Intelligence Committee, Mike Turner, has called on President Joseph Biden to declassify all information on the subject.

Emulating Mexican comedian Mario Moreno "Cantinflas", National Security Council spokesman John Kirby declared: "I can confirm that it is related to an anti-satellite capability that Russia has developed".

He then added: "This is not an active capability that has been deployed". So is it, or isn't it?

The Kremlin dismissed the accusations as a ploy to force the US Congress to approve more military aid to Ukraine.

The issue could be anecdotal, if there were not enough historical evidence of how Washington has repeatedly used lies to justify aggression and wars costly in human lives. This was the case in Guatemala, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Panama, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and a long, long etcetera, bathed in blood, pain and innocent suffering.

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