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**Center for Strategic and International Studies  
1800 K Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 775-7325  
Access-- Web-- CSIS.ORG  
Contact the Author-- awittman@csis.org**

**Low Intensity Conflict:  
Violence Against the Iraqi People**

**Anna R. Wittman  
Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy  
Center for Strategic and International Studies**

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## **Post-war Iraq**

**May 1, 2003**—President George W. Bush declares an end to major combat operations in Iraq. U.S. troops killed 15 civilians at a protest in the city.

**May 13, 2003**—A mass grave with 15,000 bodies is found near Baghdad. The remains appear to be Shiites killed during a 1991 popular uprising.

**June 13, 2003**—U.S. troops question nearly 400 suspects following Operation Peninsula Strike, the biggest military operation since the end of formal combat operations. Several Iraqis die in the three-day operation.

**June 15, 2003**—Hundreds of American soldiers swept through Fallujah in an operation called “Desert Scorpion”. The operation is intended to defeat organized Iraqi resistance. Over 400 hundred Iraqis are arrested.

**June 26, 2003**—In an ambush of a U.S. convoy a pedestrian dies.

**June 30, 2003--** Three blasts rock Fallujah. One at the Al-Hassan mosque kills a Muslim cleric and six theology students, injuring 15 others. U.S. Central Command reports that “something like an ammunition dump” exploded near the mosque.

**July 1, 2003**—An explosion destroys a Sunni mosque in Fallujah, killing at least 10 Iraqis, including the chief cleric, and injuring four others. Many Iraqis blame an American missile for the destruction and chant, “America is the enemy of God.” U.S. troops kill two Iraqis who fail to stop at a checkpoint.

**July 5, 2003**—Seven Iraqi police recruits are killed and 40 are wounded by an explosion at a police-training center in Ramadi.

**July 16, 2003**—Attacks in western Iraq claim the lives of a pro-U.S. mayor and his son.

**July 22, 2003**—U.S. Special Forces kill Uday and Qusay Hussein in Mosul. Special Forces, who were backed by 200 regular Army soldiers and several helicopters, stormed a villa after receiving a tip from an Iraqi source. The Hussein brothers died along with a bodyguard and Qusay’s teenage son.

**July 29, 2003--** A recording, purported to be by Saddam Hussein, declares that his two sons died as martyrs for Iraq, and promises that U.S. forces will be defeated.

**August 7, 2003**—A car bomb explodes outside the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad, killing at least 15 people and wounding dozens. All of the dead are Iraqis. Following the attack, Iraqis storm the rubble, smashing portraits of Jordan's King Abdullah II.

**August 8, 2003**—U.S. troops mistakenly open fire, killing six Iraqi civilians in Baghdad hurrying home before the start of the nightly curfew. U.S. soldiers kill two Iraqis believed to be selling weapons at a market in Tikrit.

**August 11, 2003**—Six Iraqi prisoners die and 59 are wounded when the Abu Ghraib prison comes under mortar fire.

**August 19, 2003**—A truck bomb explodes outside U.N. headquarters in Baghdad, killing 24 people, including the head of the U.N. mission, Sergio Vieira de Mello. Over 100 are injured. The dead also include the Iraq coordinator for the U.N. children's fund, UNICEF, and several World Bank staffers.

**August 29, 2003**—An explosion at a Najaf mosque kills 95, including one of Iraq's most important Shiite leaders, Ayatollah Muhammad Baqr al-Hakim. Another 125 are wounded. Ayatollah al-Hakim was the leader of the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI), and returned to Iraq in May following more than two decades of exile in Iran.

**September 12, 2003**—U.S. troops mistakenly shoot and kill ten Iraqi policemen in Fallujah. In response, residents vow to launch a wave of violence against Americans.

**October 9, 2003**—A suicide bomber rams his car into a police station in Baghdad, killing nine.

**October 12, 2003**—A suicide car bombing near the Baghdad Hotel kills eight and wounds 32.

**October 14, 2003**—A suicide car bomb explodes outside the Turkish embassy in Baghdad, killing one Iraqi and wounding at least 13. In an apparent change of strategy, insurgents are targeting supporters of the Coalition rather than U.S. troops.

**October 17, 2003**—At least seven Iraqis die in a gun battle outside the office of a Shia cleric in Karbala. All 15 members of the United Nations Security Council vote in favor of Resolution 1511. The resolution adds international legitimacy to the CPA but emphasizes the need to hand over political control to Iraqis as soon as possible.

**October 27, 2003**—Four coordinated suicide attacks in Baghdad kill 43 and wound more than 200. The targets are the headquarters of the Red Crescent (Islamic Red Cross) and three police stations. It's the bloodiest day since the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime.

**October 30, 2003**—The U.N. withdraws all non-Iraqi staff from Baghdad.

**November 12, 2003**—A car bomb outside an Italian military police station in Nasiriya kills at least eight Iraqis.

**November 21, 2003**—A suicide bombing outside the PUK office in Kirkuk kills four.

**November 30, 2003**—U.S. forces repel three ambushes on American convoys in Samarra, killing 46 Iraqis and capturing eight.

**December 9, 2003**—A car bomb explodes outside an American military barracks near Mosul, wounding 60 Iraqis.

**December 13, 2003**—Saddam Hussein is captured by American troops. The former dictator is found hiding in a hole near Tikrit, his hometown. He surrenders without a fight.

**December 14, 2003**—A car bomb destroys a police station near Baghdad, killing at least 17.

**December 27, 2003**-- Guerrillas attack government buildings and foreign military bases in Karbala with car bombs, mortars and guns. 19 Iraqis die; 120 are wounded.

**December 31, 2003**—Eight Iraqis die when a car bomb rips through a Baghdad restaurant. Over 30 are wounded.

*It is estimated that 262 Iraqis were killed in 2003 since President B.U.S.h declares an end to major combat operations in Iraq.*

**January 9, 2004**—A bomb explodes outside a mosque in Baquba, killing at least 5.

**January 14, 2004**—Some 30,000 followers of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Hussein al-Sistani march through Basra, protesting in support of his demands for direct elections.

**January 17, 2004**—A roadside bomb kills two Iraqis.

**January 18, 2004**—A suicide bomber detonates a truck packed with 500kg of explosives at CPA headquarters, killing at least 31 people and injuring more than 100.

**January 19, 2004**—Tens of thousands of Shiite Muslims march through Baghdad, demanding direct elections to choose a new government. It is the largest protest since the occupation of Iraq began 10 months before. The demonstration is partly inspired by Sistani's opposition to the American plan for caucuses.

**January 21, 2004**—Four Iraqi women, working as laundresses at an U.S. military base, are gunned down and killed on their way to work.

**January 25, 2004**—Seven Iraqi policemen die in a pair of attacks in Ramadi.

**January 27, 2004**—A gunman opens fire on cars carrying CNN employees south of Baghdad, killing two Iraqis.

**January 28, 2004**—A car bomb explodes outside the Shaheen Hotel in central Baghdad, killing three while destroying the building and a police post.

**January 31, 2004**—9 people are killed in separate bomb attacks in northern Iraq-- a suicide bomber rammed his car into a police station in Mosul, killing at least 9 people and wounding 45.

**February 1, 2004**—109 people die and 247 are wounded in two suicide attacks during celebrations at the headquarters of two leading Kurdish parties in Irbil. 20 people trying to loot an ammunitions dump in southwestern Iraq are killed when the munitions unexpectedly explode.

**February 5, 2004**—Gunmen open fire on the entourage of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, a popular Shiite cleric. He survives the assassination attempt.

**February 9, 2004**—The U.S. military intercepts a document written by Abu Musab al Zarqawi, an Islamic extremist from Jordan with ties to al Qaeda. Zarqawi is suspected of being involved in a number of recent attacks, including the bombings of U.N. headquarters; the main gate of the Coalition's headquarters in Baghdad; and a shrine in the holy city of Najaf. Together, the attacks have killed nearly 200 people and wounded hundreds more.

**February 10, 2004**—A car bomb explodes outside a police station in Iskandariya, killing at least 55 and wounding up to 65. Many of the victims were applicants lined up outside. A riot follows when the Iraqi police chief, Ahmed Ibrahim, arrives at the scene. Crowds shout anti-American slogans.

**February 11, 2004**—In yet another attempt to disrupt the creation of security forces, a suicide bomber rammed a car packed with explosives into a crowd of Iraqi Army recruits in central Baghdad, killing at least 47 and wounding at least 50 others.

**February 14, 2004**—Roughly 70 guerrillas firing rockets, mortars and machineguns raid police headquarters and the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) in Fallujah in an effort to free foreign prisoners. 15 policemen, four insurgents and at least four civilians die in the attack. The dead guerrillas appear to be Lebanese and Iranian nationals. At least 70 prisoners escape, many – 18 by one account – flee with the attackers.

**February 18, 2004**—Polish troops thwart twin suicide car bombs as the vehicles approach a Coalition base in Hilla, south of Baghdad. The speeding trucks explode prematurely, killing 11 Iraqi civilians and wounding as many as 100, including nearly 60 coalition troops from Poland, Hungary and the U.S.

**February 23, 2004**—At least 10 people are killed and over 35 are injured when a car bomb explodes outside a Kirkuk police station.

**February 25, 2004**—Abu Mohammed Hamza, a Jordanian explosives expert believed to be a top lieutenant of Zarqawi, is reported killed after an American raid in Habbaniya.

**February 27, 2004**—A group of Sunni clerics issue a fatwa demanding an end to violence in Iraq. The document calls on Iraqis to stop killing each other inside the country but makes no mention of attacks on Americans or other foreigners.

**March 1, 2004**—The Iraqi Governing Council reaches agreement on a draft constitution. The proposed document recognizes Islam as the central source of Iraqi law but also protects individual rights. The draft envisions 25% of the seats in the national assembly to be filled by women.

**March 2, 2004**—In the bloodiest day in Iraq since the end of the war, at least five bombs explode near Shiite religious ceremonies in Baghdad and Karbala, as hundreds of thousands of pilgrims pack the streets for the Ashoura ceremony. At least 270 people die; 573 are wounded. A mourning procession marches to the hospital decrying, “We defy you, America and Israel.” It is the first time Shiites are permitted to observe the holy day since the Baathists took power.

**March 10, 2004**—In a repeat of an earlier incident, two Iraqi women who wash laundry for U.S. troops are gunned down and killed in Baghdad.

**March 16, 2004**—Four die – including Dutch and German engineers – in an ambush in Karbala.

**March 17, 2004**—Seven die when a car bomb levels the Mount Lebanon Hotel in Baghdad.

**March 18, 2004**—Four Iraqis die in an explosion outside the Mirbad Hotel in Basra. Locals are said to have attacked – or even killed – the suspected perpetrator.

**March 20, 2004**—On the anniversary of the start of the war, rocket attacks strike several targets in Baghdad, killing at least four Iraqi civilians.

**March 22, 2004**—Grand Ayatollah Sistani warns the U.N. of “dangerous consequences” if it endorses the American-sponsored interim constitution.

**March 23, 2004**—Attacks against Iraqi police persist; 11 Iraqi policemen are killed in separate attacks in Kirkuk and Hilla.

**March 24, 2004**—Fallujah continues to be a hotbed of insurgent activity, as attackers ambush a U.S. military patrol, killing three civilians.

**March 26, 2004**—U.S. Marines kill four Iraqis during a four-hour gunfight in Fallujah.

**April 4, 2004**—The followers of Moqtada al-Sadr, a militant Shiite cleric espousing fiercely anti-American rhetoric, march through at least six Iraqi cities, seizing control of the area around Kufa.

**April 6, 2004**—Sadr’s militiamen clash with Iraqi security forces in Najaf, Nasiriya, Basra and Baghdad. In Kufa, Shiite opposition forces replace police, essentially creating an occupation-free zone. Sadr urges his followers to carry on fighting and proclaims his solidarity with Ayatollah Sistani, claiming to be “his military wing in Iraq.” Sistani, for his part, asks Shiites to remain calm.

**April 7, 2004**—Coalition troops clash with opposition fighters throughout central and southern Iraq, and as far north as Kirkuk. U.S. forces drop a 500-pound bomb on a mosque compound in Fallujah. Ukrainian troops evacuate Qut after confrontations with Sadr’s “Mahdi Army”. Polish forces combat opposition in Karbala.

**April 8, 2004**—Sadr’s militiamen maintain control of Kufa, Qut, and parts of Najaf.

**April 10, 2004**—Sadr’s supporters retain control of Kufa and Najaf.

**April 11, 2004**—The streets of Fallujah remain quiet on the first day of the ceasefire.

**April 12, 2004**—Sadr withdraws his militia from Najaf, Karbala and Kufa in a bid to stave off an American assault.

**April 14, 2004**—Sporadic fighting persists in Fallujah despite a four-day-old ceasefire that quelled much of the violence.

**April 15, 2004**—Khalil Naimi, an Iranian diplomat, is shot and killed one day after his arrival in Najaf to mediate the standoff between U.S. troops and al-Sadr supporters.

**April 16, 2004**—15 Iraqis die in skirmishes with U.S. troops in Fallujah.

**April 20, 2004**—Insurgents attack a U.S. detention center near Baghdad, killing 22 prisoners.

**April 21, 2004**—Suicide car bombs explode outside several police facilities in and around Basra, killing at least 68. Angry crowds hurl stones at Coalition forces trying to reach the wounded.

**April 24, 2004**—28 Iraqis are killed in roadside and market bombings near Baghdad.

**April 27, 2004**—U.S. forces kill 64 insurgents in an overnight firefight near Najaf.

**April 31, 2004**—Photos of Iraqi prisoners being abused and tortured while in U.S. custody are splashed across newspapers and on televisions around the world.

**May 6, 2004**—U.S. forces seize parts of Karbala, Najaf and Kufa, but fierce resistance remains. A suicide car-bomber kills five Iraqis.

**May 7, 2004**—Insurgents ambush a police car in Mosul, killing four Iraqi officers.

**May 15, 2004**—Coalition forces battle Shiite insurgents in Najaf, Karbala, Al Amara, Nasiriya and Sadr City.

**May 16, 2004**—Gunmen kill three Iraqi women working for the CPA in Baghdad.

**May 17, 2004**—A suicide bomber kills Izzedin Salim, the president of the Iraqi Governing Council, and at least six others at a checkpoint into a CPA headquarters zone.

**May 19, 2004**—The group headed by Zarqawi, calling itself Jama'at al-Tawhid, claims responsibility for the slaying of IGC chief Izzedin Salim.

**May 20, 2004**—Iraqi officials claim U.S. forces killed 40 unarmed civilians at a wedding party near the Syrian border. American commanders deny the charge, claiming Coalition Forces were fired upon first.

**May 23, 2004**—U.S. troops strike insurgents loyal to al-Sadr in Kufa, killing 36.

**May 25, 2004**—For the second time in a month, the Shrine of Imam Ali, one of the holiest sites for Shiite Muslims, is damaged when U.S. forces clash with militiamen loyal to Sadr in Najaf and Kufa. American commanders deny damaging the shrine. At least 13 Iraqis die.

**May 29, 2004**—Fighting continues between U.S. forces and Sadr's militia in Najaf despite Sadr's offer to withdraw his "Mehdi Army" from Najaf as a compromise.

**June 6, 2004**—21 Iraqis die in bomb blasts at a police station and military base around Baghdad.

**June 11, 2004**—In a surprise move, Sadr endorses the Iraqi Interim Government and urges his followers to adhere to the negotiated ceasefire.

**June 14, 2004**—A morning car bomb kills 12 in Baghdad, ending one of the bloodiest weekends in recent months. Multiple suicide bombings targeting Iraqi policemen kill dozens of civilians. Separately, two Iraqi government officials are assassinated.

**June 17, 2004**—Suicide car bombs explode outside a military recruitment center and a city council building in Baghdad, killing at least 41 and wounding at least 142.

**June 24, 2004**—Sunni insurgents launch coordinated attacks, directed primarily at Iraqi security forces, killing at least 70 in Fallujah, Baghdad, Mosul, Ramadi and Baquba.

**June 27, 2004**—Twin car bombs kill at least 40 south of Baghdad.

**July 1, 2004**—Saddam Hussein is taken into Iraqi custody and formally charged with several criminal acts.

**July 14, 2004**—A suicide car bomb explodes outside the gates of the Green Zone, killing 10.

**July 15, 2004**—10 Iraqi civilians die from a suicide car bomb in Haditha.

**July 18, 2004**—A U.S. air strike kills 10 in Fallujah.

**July 28, 2004**—In the deadliest single attack since the transfer of authority, roughly 70 people die when a suicide car bomb explodes in Baquba.

**August 1, 2004**—Militants bomb five churches in Baghdad and Mosul, killing at least 12.

**August 3, 2004**—At least three Iraqi National Guardsmen die in sporadic insurgent attacks in Baquba, Baghdad and in Al Anbar province.

**August 26, 2004**—After returning from medical treatment in London, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani brokers a truce between Sadr's militia and U.S. forces. Al-Sadr and his followers evacuate the Imam Ali shrine.

**September 6, 2004**—Three Iraqi soldiers die in a car bomb attack outside Fallujah. Insurgents have controlled the city for months; U.S. officials fear that insurgent strongholds may not be able to participate in January's election.

**September 7, 2004**—33 Iraqi insurgents loyal to al-Sadr die in a day of fighting in Sadr City.

**September 12, 2004**—A bloody weekend of insurgent attacks suggests that guerilla forces are better organized and more sophisticated than previously judged. Iraqi officials estimate that 80 civilians died on Sunday alone. A group calling itself Unity and Jihad, which is reportedly led by Zarqawi, claims responsibility for many of the coordinated attacks.

**September 14, 2004**—A car bomb kills 47 outside Army headquarters in Baghdad, where hundreds of recruits were lined up. An angry crowd gathered, cursed the U.S. and blamed American warplanes for the carnage. 12 policemen are gunned down in drive-by shooting in Baquba. Zarqawi's group, Unity and Jihad, claims responsibility for both attacks.

**September 17, 2004**—A suicide car bomb kills at least 13 near a police check point in Baghdad.

**September 28, 2004**—U.S. warplanes bomb suspected insurgent positions in Sadr City and Fallujah. Hospital officials report at least 10 people killed. A U.S. military official reports that 34 car bombs have been detonated in Iraq in September, the highest monthly tally since the war began in March 2003.

*According to the Iraqi Health Ministry, nearly 3,200 Iraqi civilians have died since April in terrorist attacks and in clashes between U.S. forces and insurgents.*

**September 30, 2004**—Two car bombs rip through a street celebration at the opening of a new sewer plant, killing 41 Iraqis, including at least 34 children; 139 are wounded.

**October 1, 2004**—U.S. and Iraqi forces mount a major offensive in Samarra; 96 insurgents are declared killed.

**October 4, 2004**—Three car bombs – two in Baghdad and one in Mosul – explode, killing 26 people and injuring another 100.

**October 7, 2004**—A spokesman for Moqtada al-Sadr agrees to a tentative peace plan, involving the disabling of al-Sadr's militia in Sadr City and other hotspots.

**October 10, 2004**—At least 10 Iraqis die in explosions near the oil ministry and police academy.

**October 11, 2004**—Militiamen loyal to al-Sadr surrender hundreds of weapons in the initial phase of a weapons buy-back program aimed at quelling the violence in Sadr City. In exchange, the Iraqi government and American commanders agreed to halt military operations against the group.

**October 14, 2004**—For the first time since the war ended, insurgents penetrate the heavily-fortified Green Zone, killing six Iraqis.

**October 15, 2004**—American warplanes target insurgent hideouts in Fallujah.

**October 23, 2004**—Guerrillas dressed as police officers execute 49 newly trained Iraqi soldiers on a remote road in eastern Iraq.

**October 25, 2004**—An explosion near the Australian embassy in Baghdad kills three Iraqis. American forces claim to have killed a high-level associate of Zarqawi during an air strike on Fallujah.

**October 28, 2004**—A militant group called the Army of Ansar al-Sunna executes 11 Iraqi security officers taken hostage south of Baghdad. The group, which is blamed for numerous beheadings, is an offshoot of Ansar al-Islam.

**October 30, 2004**—At least 25 Iraqi civilians die from insurgent violence and from reckless fire by Iraqi security forces. Seven died when insurgents attacked the Al Arabiya news network. A previously unknown group calling itself the 1920 Revolution Brigades takes responsibility for the attack.

**October 31, 2004**—Insurgents fire a rocket at a Tikrit hotel, killing 15 Iraqis and wounding eight.

**November 1, 2004**—Two Iraqi government officials, including the deputy governor of Baghdad, are assassinated in separate attacks in Baghdad and Baquba.

**November 2, 2004**—Twin car bombings kill at least a dozen people and wounds dozens more in Baghdad and Mosul. For the first time, insurgents targeted the Ministry of Education in Baghdad.

**November 3, 2004**—The decapitated bodies of three Iraqi guardsmen are found in Baghdad. A group calling itself the Brigades of Iraq's Honorable People claims responsibility. Separately, another group called the Ansar al-Sunna says it has beheaded a senior Iraqi Army officer.

**November 8, 2004**—As the mortar and air assault on Fallujah continues, the U.S. military reports that a total of 130 attacks occurred on this day alone, well above the average of 80 per day during the summer. These include car bombs aimed at Christian churches and police outside the Yarmouk Hospital in Baghdad.

**November 9, 2004**—U.S. forces reach the center of Fallujah amid fierce fighting and now control at least half of the city. Two Iraqi troops are reported killed.

**November 11, 2004**—A suicide car bomb in Baghdad kills at least 19.

**November 14, 2004**—U.S. forces capture Fallujah. Only a few insurgents still remain in the city. An estimated 1,200-1,600 insurgents were killed during the fighting.

**November 15, 2004**—U.S. forces launch air and ground strikes in Baquba after rebels storm Police stations there; at least 27 are reported dead. Six Iraqi troops are killed in Mosul when insurgents raid two police stations.

**November 19, 2004**—American and Iraqi troops raid a prominent Sunni mosque in Baghdad known for inciting insurgent violence. At least three worshipers die in clashes with Iraqi forces.

**November 26, 2004**—U.S. forces discover at least 32 dead bodies in Mosul; more than 20 are identified as new members of Iraq's security forces.

**November 30, 2004**—A car bomb targeting a U.S. convoy kills seven Iraqi civilians in Baiji.

**December 3, 2004**—Four suicide bombers drive an explosives-laden van into a Shiite mosque in Baghdad, killing at least 14 civilians. Insurgents attack a Baghdad police station, freeing prisoners and killing at least 12 officers.

**December 4, 2004**—A suicide bomber plowed a car into a busload of Kurdish militiamen, killing 18.

**December 5, 2004**—In Tikrit, militants surround a bus full of unarmed Iraqis employed by American forces and gun down 17 of them.

**December 6, 2004**—A roadside bomb kills three Iraqi troops and wounds 11 south of Baghdad.

**December 13, 2004**—A suicide car bombing outside the Green Zone in Baghdad kills nine and wounds 19. Most of the dead are Iraqis who work for foreign governments.

**December 14, 2004**—For the second day in a row, insurgents drove a car bomb into a checkpoint near Baghdad's Green Zone, killing at least seven.

**December 19, 2004**—Car bombs in Najaf and Karbala, both holy Shiite cities, kill at least 60.

**December 21, 2004**—A bomb rips through a U.S. military mess tent in Mosul, killing at least 4 Iraqi workers. The Sunni group Ansar al-Sunna claims responsibility for the attack.

**December 28, 2004**—Insurgents trick Iraqi police into raiding a booby-trapped home, triggering an explosion that kills at least 29, including 12 policemen.

**December 29, 2004**—After a two-hour gunfight, U.S. troops kill 25 insurgents attempting to overrun a military outpost in Mosul.

**December 31, 2004**—Iraqi officials announce the capture of Fadil H.U.S.sain Ahmed al Kurdi, a suspected lieutenant in Zarqawi's terrorist organization.

*It is estimated that 3,317 Iraqis were killed in 2004, this number includes Iraqi officials assassinated, Iraqi military personnel, Iraqi insurgents and civilians.*

**January 2, 2005**—A suicide bomber kills 18 National Guardsmen and a civilian in Balad.

**January 4, 2005**—Insurgents assassinate the governor of Baghdad province. Zarqawi's group, now calling itself Al Qaeda in Iraq, claims responsibility. Attacks throughout the country leave 13 Iraqi servicemen dead.

**January 8, 2005**—As many as 14 Iraqi civilians are killed by U.S. forces when American planes mistakenly bomb a building thought to be an insurgent safe house in northern Iraq.

**January 10, 2005**—Insurgents gun down Baghdad's deputy police chief and his son.

**January 12, 2005**—An ambush on a U.S.-Iraqi convoy in Mosul kills two Iraqi soldiers.

**January 13, 2005**—In the latest in a string of predominantly Sunni insurgent attacks against Shiite leaders, a senior aide to Ayatollah Ali Sistani is assassinated in Salman Pak, a city south of Baghdad. Gunmen kill the director of a Baghdad election center.

**January 16, 2005**—Insurgents continue to intimidate and threaten election candidates. Salama al-Khafaji, a candidate for the United Iraqi Alliance (UIA) survives an assassination attempt in central Baghdad.

**January 17, 2005**—At least 17 Iraqi police and National Guardsmen are killed. In a three-day crackdown, U.S. troops detain 81 suspected insurgents and seize several weapons caches in the volatile Al Anbar province. In Basra and Baghdad, gunmen assassinate two candidates running for the National Assembly.

**January 18, 2005**—Iraqi officials announce that the government will close its borders in an effort to thwart terrorist attacks as Election Day approaches.

**January 19, 2005**—In about a 90-minute span, five suicide car bombings kill at least 25 in and around Baghdad. Targets include-- the Australian Embassy, a medical center for the handicapped, and checkpoints manned by Iraqi police.

**January 20, 2005**—U.S. troops launch raids in Mosul, killing five suspected insurgents. Iraqi police warn that some 250-suicide bombers are poised to strike on Election Day.

**January 21, 2005**—At least 14 Iraqi civilians die and some 40 are wounded when a car bomb explodes outside a Shiite mosque in Baghdad. Later, an ambulance drives into a wedding party and explodes south of Baghdad, killing several.

**January 23, 2005**—Zarqawi releases an audiotape saying, "We have declared an all-out war on this evil principle of democracy and those who follow this wrong ideology."

**January 24, 2005**—Iraqi officials announce the arrests of several insurgent leaders, including one man, Abu Umar al-Kurdi, who claims responsibility for 32 car bomb attacks since March 2003. Among the attacks he takes credit for are-- the May 2003 bombing of the Jordanian Embassy and the August 2003 bombing of the UN headquarters in Baghdad, as well as numerous assassinations of Iraqi political figures and attacks on Coalition and Iraqi security forces. A car bomb explodes outside Prime Minister Allawi's office in western Baghdad, killing at least five, including four police officers.

**January 25, 2005**—Insurgents storm a police station in eastern Baghdad, killing three officers. A senior judge is shot dead, along with his son, on his way to work in Baghdad.

**January 26, 2005**—At least eight car bombings throughout the country killed 13 Iraqis and wounded dozens more.

**January 27, 2005**—A suicide tractor bomb explodes outside the Kurdish Democratic Party office in Sinjar, killing four Iraqi soldiers and a guard.

**January 30, 2005**—Despite threats from insurgents telling them not to, large numbers of Iraqis vote in the historic election – Iraq’s first free election in over 50 years. The higher-than-expected turnout prompts most international observers to declare the election a success, although insurgents did kill at least 50 Iraqis.

**January 31, 2005**—U.S. troops kill four prisoners in a riot at Camp Bucca, near the Kuwaiti border.

**February 3, 2005**—Insurgents kill 12 Iraqi soldiers in an ambush south of Kirkuk, executing the unarmed men one by one in the street. Five policemen and a National Guardsman are killed in Baghdad.

**February 6, 2005**—Insurgents attack a convoy of trucks hauling cars destined for Iraq’s Ministry of the Interior. The truck drivers are kidnapped and the cars destroyed.

**February 7, 2005**—At least 27 Iraqis die in two suicide bombings, one targeting policemen collecting paychecks near a Mosul hospital, the other a police post in Baquba.

**February 8, 2005**—In the second straight day of violence since the elections, a suicide bomb struck Baghdad’s National Guard volunteer center, killing at least 20 potential recruits.

**February 9, 2005**—Masked gunmen kill a television correspondent working for the American-funded network Al Hurra and his 3-year-old son in Basra. In Baghdad, insurgents assassinate a director of the Ministry of Housing and three Kurdistan Democratic Party officials. Zarqawi’s group claims responsibility.

**February 10, 2005**—On the first day of the Muslim New Year, insurgent violence claims more than 50 lives throughout Iraq.

**February 11, 2005**—Insurgents attack three Shiite targets – a mosque and two bakeries – in central Iraq killing at least 21.

**February 13, 2005**—Gunmen kill an Iraqi general and two companions in Baghdad.

**February 16, 2005**—Gunmen kill an Iraqi Interior Ministry intelligence officer in Baghdad. In Mosul, a police colonel and his driver are shot and seriously wounded. Clashes in Baquba kill one policeman and eight insurgents. Seven members of the Iraqi security forces die in firefights in Samarra.

**February 17, 2005**—The certified election results from the January 30 election are released. A Shiite alliance wins 140 of the 275 seats in Iraq's legislature.

**February 18, 2005**—A day before Ashura – the holiest day of the year for Shiites insurgents kill 35 Iraqis-- suicide bombers attack two Shiite mosques in Baghdad, killing at least 16 worshippers; a rocket targeting another Shiite mosque in Baghdad kills three; one police officer dies when a suicide bomber explodes at a Baghdad checkpoint.

**February 19, 2005**—10 suicide bombings kill at least 16 Iraqis, many of whom had taken to the streets in Baghdad and Karbala to commemorate Ashura.

**February 21, 2005**—U.S. and Iraqi forces begin a security sweep through Ramadi. 42 suspected insurgents are arrested and several weapons caches are seized.

**February 22, 2005**—Iraq's main Shiite alliance, known as the Dawa Party, nominates Inrahim al-Jaafari for prime minister after Ahmad Chalabi withdraws his candidacy. A car bomb kills two Iraqi soldiers and wounds 30 near Baghdad's Green Zone.

**February 23, 2005**—Insurgents assassinate a Dawa Party official in the Diyala province. A car bomb kills two and wounds 14 in Mosul; RPG fire kills two outside Kirkuk.

**February 24, 2005**—Insurgents strike to the north and south of Baghdad, killing 30.

**February 28, 2005**—A suicide car bomber plows into a crowd of Iraqi police and army recruits in Hilla, killing 127.

**March 1, 2005**—In Baghdad, insurgents assassinate a judge and his lawyer son who worked on the tribunal that is scheduled to try Saddam Hussein. Another judge is targeted but survives.

**March 2, 2005**—Two car bombs target national guardsmen in Baghdad, killing 13.

**March 3, 2005**—Two suicide car bombs explode outside Iraq's Ministry of the Interior in Baghdad, killing five police officers.

**March 4, 2005**—Gunmen kill Saad Kamil, an al-Sadr associate, outside a Baghdad mosque.

**March 7, 2005**—Insurgent attacks on Iraqi security forces in Baghdad, Baquba and Balad leave at least 30 Iraqis dead, including 14 security officers.

**March 8, 2005**—Drive-by assassins kill a senior Iraqi Interior Ministry official in Baghdad. 15 headless bodies are discovered at an old military base between Karbala and Latifiya; 26 dead bodies are found riddled with bullets east of Qaim near the Syrian border. The 41 dead include men, women and children.

**March 9, 2005**—A series of bombs targeting U.S. and Iraqi forces in Baghdad, Basra and Fallujah kill at least six people. Zarqawi's group claims responsibility for one of the attacks.

**March 10, 2005**—A suicide bomb explodes in a Shiite mosque in Mosul, killing 53 Iraqis attending a funeral for a Kurdish politician. Insurgents dressed as Iraqi police shoot and kill the chief of a Baghdad police station and two officers. Insurgents film the attack.

**March 12, 2005**—Gunmen kill three Iraqi police officers as they drive to a colleague's funeral in Mosul.

**March 16, 2005**—A suicide car bomber kills three Iraqi soldiers and wounds 12 more at an army checkpoint in Baquba. Iraq's first freely elected parliament in a half-century meets for the first time in Baghdad.

**March 19, 2005**—A bomb kills three Iraqi police officers in Kirkuk.

**March 20, 2005**—Iraqi insurgents ambush a U.S. military convoy near Salman Pak. 24 insurgents are killed.

**March 22, 2005**—A roadside bomb meant for a U.S. military patrol kills four civilians in Mosul. Militants ambush a convoy carrying Iraqi security officials, including a senior police officer, in front of a mosque in Mosul. Police kill 17 militants and capture 14.

**March 23, 2005**—Iraqi and U.S. forces kill 85 insurgents during a raid on a guerrilla training camp northwest of Baghdad. Seven Iraqi police officers are killed and six wounded.

**March 24, 2005**—A suicide car bomber kills 11 Iraqi special police commandos and wounds nine others in Ramadi. Militants shoot five Iraqi women dead as they leave work at a U.S. military base in southern Baghdad.

**March 25, 2005**—A suicide bomb kills three Iraqi soldiers and wounds six others in an attack on an Iraqi military convoy in Iskandariya, 25 miles south of Baghdad.

**March 30, 2005**—Militants launch three attacks against Shiite pilgrims on their way to Karbala to attend a religious festival-- gunmen open fire on a minibus and wound eight near Latifiya; a second group of gunmen kill one and injure two in a car near the town of Mahaweel; and, also near Mahaweel, a suicide bomber on a bicycle rides into a police patrol protecting pilgrims and kills two officers.

**March 31, 2005**—A suicide car bomb kills two Iraqi Army soldiers and two civilians in a crowd of Shiites celebrating a religious holiday in the northern city of Tuz Khormato, about 100 miles north of Baghdad. A suicide car bomber rams a U.S. military vehicle, killing one Iraqi civilian and wounding seven in Samarra.

**April 2, 2005**—Seven suicide car bombers and 40 to 60 insurgents armed with an array of weapons attack the U.S.-controlled Abu Ghraib prison. A car bomb kills four Iraqi policemen and one civilian at a police station in the town of Khan Bani Saad, 10 miles north of Baghdad.

**April 3, 2005**—The Iraqi National Assembly appoints Hajim M. al-Hassani, a prominent Sunni Arab and the Minister of Industry in the interim government, speaker, and Hussain al-Shahristani, a nuclear physicist and leading Shiite Arab, and Arif Taifour, a Kurd, as deputies.

**April 5, 2005**—A bomb exploded near a bus filled with Iraqi soldiers returning from leave. At least three were killed and 44 were wounded. U.S. troops continued to battle insurgents east of Baghdad. One Iraqi soldier is killed.

**April 6, 2005**—Iraq's parliament selects Jalal Talabani, a Kurd, as President of Iraq. 22 insurgents were arrested in Mosul.

**April 7, 2005**—Iraq's presidential council selects Ibrahim al-Jaafari, a prominent Shia politician, as Prime Minister. A car bomb targeting an American motorcade wounds 12 Iraqi civilians.

**April 8, 2005**—Four Iraqi children were killed by an IED in Baghdad. The bodies of 11 Iraqis who worked for the U.S. military are found near Ramadi. Three masked gunmen kill an Iraqi Army officer. A bomb that went off next to a bus stop in Najaf injured four Iraqi civilians.

**April 9, 2005**—In Baghdad, Sayed Fadel al-Shoq, a deputy to Sadr was killed, and another deputy was injured in the southern Dura district as they drove to an anti U.S. protest. Car bombs and IEDs killed at least 30 and injured at least another 13 Iraqis. Four drivers were killed and four others wounded in an ambush on a Trade Ministry convoy traveling between Qut and the capital.

**April 10, 2005**—An officer was killed Sunday and another kidnapped by unidentified gunmen in al-Haditha.

**April 11, 2005**—In Mosul, 400km north of Baghdad, a member of the provincial council was shot dead by an armed group. It was the second assassination of a provincial politician in the past three weeks. In Baghdad, U.S. and Iraqi forces launched a pre-dawn raid in the southeastern Rashid district arresting 65 suspected insurgents. Other violence claimed at least 4 lives and injured at least 24.

**April 12, 2005**—Interior Undersecretary Major General Tareq Al-Badawi on Tuesday survived an assassination attempt in western Baghdad. A car bomb targeting a U.S. convoy killed at least five Iraqis and wounded three others in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. A car bomb kills five people and wounds eight, including seven children.

**April 13, 2005**—Insurgents blew up a fuel tanker in Baghdad. Also in Baghdad, insurgents struck a U.S. convoy on the road to the Baghdad International Airport, killing five Iraqis and wounding four U.S. contract workers. In Kirkuk, gunmen kill 12 policemen. In the north of the country, 12 Iraqi guards were killed when a roadside bomb exploded as they were defusing another explosive device, later revealed to be a decoy. Nine Iraqi soldiers, including the commander in charge of guarding Kirkuk's oil fields, were killed in a bomb explosion near a pipeline.

**April 14, 2005**—The U.S. military says it had killed 30 insurgents since Monday near Syrian border. Two car bombs exploded near government offices in Baghdad, killing 18 and wounding three dozen as insurgent attacks against security forces left at least eight others dead. Gunmen attack police patrols near Baquba, killing one officer and wounding three others. Other violence throughout the country claimed 8 lives.

**April 15, 2005**—Militants detonate three bombs in Baghdad, killing at least one civilian and wounding eight others. Roadside bombs kill three Iraqi soldiers in Balad; two policemen near Tuz; and a foreign truck driver in Al-Dujail. Guerrilla bombings targeting U.S. and Iraqi forces killed at least four people, as insurgents appeared to rebound after a lull in violence.

**April 16, 2005**—27 insurgents are captured by Iraqi and U.S. forces near Mosul. Other violence in the country left 9 Iraqis dead.

**April 17, 2005**—Three soldiers were killed and another seven injured in an indirect fire attack on Camp Ramadi last night. An American humanitarian worker was among three people killed in a car bomb attack on a convoy traveling on Baghdad's airport road. Armed men assassinate the director of Haditha's police force along with two of his family members.

**April 18, 2005**—A high-ranking Defense Ministry adviser was assassinated late Monday night by armed gunmen at his house in southern Baghdad. At least 10 Iraqis were killed in attacks across the country on Monday, while police and U.S. forces said they had detained eight suspected insurgents.

**April 19, 2005**—A soldier from the U.S. contingent in Iraq attacked Fatah ash-Sheikh, a member of the Iraqi Parliament. A suicide car bomb exploded near one of former-Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's palaces. Six people were killed and 40 wounded. At least 10 people have been killed in two separate attacks by insurgents on Iraqi soldiers. Gunmen shot dead an academic on his way from home to Baghdad University.

**April 20, 2005**—One hundred bodies have been retrieved from Tigris River in the al Sawrah region near the city of Madain. The bodies may be those of the Madain hostages. Prime Minister Iyad Allawi escaped an assassination attempt when a car bomb exploded near his convoy in Baghdad, killing at least two policemen. At least two Iraqis were killed and several other people were wounded in two car bombings that occurred within 90 minutes of each other and in two drive-by shootings. Three Iraqi civilians were injured when a third consecutive car bomb occurred in Baghdad. Other violence claimed two Iraqi lives and injured another nine.

**April 22, 2005**—A car bomb blew up outside a Shiite mosque in Baghdad killing 10 people and wounding 15. 19 executed Iraqi soldiers' bodies were found dumped near the oil refinery town of Beiji, north of Baghdad. Gunmen killed the manager of a government prison in the northern city of Mosul.

**April 23, 2005**—Iraqi insurgents struck around the country killing at least 16 people, and wounding at least another 20.

**April 24, 2005**—Insurgents exploded two car bombs in a Baghdad market and two more in Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, killing a total of 21 Iraqis and wounding 73 in one of the bloodiest days since Iraq's historic elections. At least 16 people have been killed in twin bombings in a market near a mosque in a Shiite area of Baghdad. 50 others were wounded in the explosions.

**April 27, 2005**—Gunmen killed a Shiite Muslim lawmaker in her home — the first elected official slain since the country's landmark election on Jan. 30. Iraqi police officers were dismantling what appeared to be a decoy roadside bomb near Kirkuk when another bomb exploded. At least 12 people were killed. An Iraqi police general was badly injured and two of his bodyguards killed in an assault in the western part of Baghdad. Other blasts across the country kill two Iraqi soldiers and wound five others.

**April 28, 2005**—The new Iraqi cabinet is appointed. Representing most of the country's ethnic, religious and sectarian groups, the cabinet is comprised of 16 Shias, eight Kurds, five Sunnis, one Christian and one Turkman. Six portfolios have yet to be allocated. Gunmen assassinated a senior Interior Ministry official in Baghdad. At least 17 Iraqis were killed in violence across the country.

**April 29, 2005**—Insurgents unleashed a series of car bombings and other attacks across Iraq, killing at least 41 people, and wounding dozens of people.

**April 30, 2005**—At least five car bombs struck Baghdad. Six bombs exploded in the northern city of Mosul. At least 17 Iraqis were killed.

**May 1, 2005**—A suicide bomber attacked the headquarters of a Kurdish party in northern Iraq, killing 25 people. Unknown armed men killed two employees of an Iraqi company working for the U.S. Army in the southeastern part of Baghdad. Insurgents kill five Iraqi policemen at a checkpoint and a car bomb killed four people in Baghdad on Sunday.

**May 2, 2005**—Four car bombs left 11 Iraqis dead and injured 29 others in Baghdad. An Iraqi child was killed and 15 others were wounded in two suicide bombings in Mosul today, in the fifth attack in three days against civilians in northern Iraq. U.S. forces killed 12 people and wounded two others, including a six-year-old girl, in a firefight near the Syrian border.

**May 3, 2005**—A bomb exploded near an Iraqi police convoy in Baghdad, wounding three people. At least 14 civilians were killed when U.S. forces and Iraqi National Guardsmen battled insurgents in the city of Ramadi.

**May 4, 2005**—A suicide bomber killed at least 60 people and wounded 150 more when he blew himself up at the office of a Kurdish party in the northern Iraqi city of Irbil. Nine Iraqi soldiers were killed and 17 people wounded in a car bomb attack in Baghdad. Iraqi security forces captured the son of one of Saddam Hussein's half brothers in a raid on suspected militants near Tikrit.

**May 5, 2005**—Insurgents killed at least 24 people in a wave of attacks in Baghdad.

**May 6, 2005**—A senior Iraqi Army officer and his brother are killed. Suicide bombers killed at least 67 Iraqis in the Shiite town of Suwayra. Escalating violence has killed more than 250 people since the cabinet was announced eight days ago. A car bomb targeted a police patrol in Mosul, killing four police commandos and five civilians. A mortar attack hit a checkpoint jointly manned by U.S. and Iraqi forces in southern Fallujah. In the firefight that ensued, one civilian was killed and three others were wounded. Followers of al-Sadr clashed with Iraqi soldiers after Friday prayers in Kufa, near the holy city of Najaf. Hours later, gunmen killed two Sadr supporters in Baghdad.

**May 7, 2005**—17 people were killed in a car bomb blast in central Baghdad and at least 33 Iraqis were wounded.

**May 8, 2005**—Coalition forces killed six insurgents in raids targeting the terror network of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi near the Syrian border. 54 insurgents were detained and several weapons caches uncovered in Qaim. Gunmen assassinated a senior transport ministry official in Baghdad.

**May 9, 2005**—U.S. forces have killed 75 insurgents, including foreign fighters, over the past 24 hours in an ongoing sweep of a desert region of northwest Iraq close to the Syrian border. Nine Iraqis were killed and 17 wounded in attacks elsewhere in the country.

**May 10, 2005**—A suicide car bomb targeting a U.S. military convoy in central Baghdad killed at least seven Iraqis and injured 16.

**May 11, 2005**—Four suicide bombs killed at least 71 people in Iraq. In western Baghdad, insurgents kill two Iraqi soldiers. Two people were killed and 20 seriously wounded

when an explosive device exploded near a chemical fertilizer factory in Umm Qasr south of Baghdad.

**May 12, 2005**—A car bomb exploded near a local market in eastern Baghdad killing at least 17 people and wounding 65. Two Iraqi ministry officials were killed in separate incidents in Baghdad.

**May 13, 2005**—Snipers opened fire on the motorcade of Maj. Gen Hikmat Moussa Hussein-the undersecretary for the Interior Ministry-in western Baghdad. One bodyguard was killed and three others wounded. In other violence, 10 Iraqis were killed and 12 injured.

**May 14, 2005**—Gunmen assassinate a top Iraqi Foreign Ministry official in a drive-by shooting in Baghdad. A suicide bomber rammed a vehicle packed with explosives into a police convoy in central Baghdad, killing four people and wounding 10. Earlier, three civilians, believed to be street cleaners, were killed and four others wounded by a roadside bomb in Baghdad's southern district of Dura. In Mosul, two civilians died and a policeman was injured when a suicide bomb exploded near a U.S.-Iraqi patrol. The U.S. military announced the end of its weeklong offensive near the Syrian border, saying it had successfully “neutralized” an insurgent sanctuary and killed more than 125 militants.

**May 15, 2005**—The bodies of 38 men shot execution-style were found dumped at an abandoned chicken farm, west of Baghdad. At least eight other Iraqis were killed in a spree of bombings and shootings. Iraqi security forces killed four gunmen and arrested 97 others in Mosul. A failed assassination attempt on the governor of Iraq's Diyala province killed five people and injured 24

**May 16, 2005**—Mortars, bombs and gunmen killed at least 24 Iraqis. Two car bombs exploded within minutes at a mostly Shiite Baghdad market, killing at least nine soldiers and a civilian. At least eight Iraqis were found shot near a Baghdad dam. The body of an Iraqi Kurd was found in a garbage dump in northern Iraq. Gunmen killed two Iraqi journalists working for a Kuwaiti newspaper and their driver, south of Baghdad. Sheik Qadim al-Ghiri-an aide to Iraqi Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani- was assassinated in Baghdad. A suicide car bomber killed at least five people and wounded 30 at a customs checkpoint near Iraq's border with Syria.

**May 17, 2005**-- Gunmen killed a Shiite Muslim cleric. Two missing Sunni clerics were found shot dead. Islamic militant group Army of Ansar al-Sunna said it killed two Iraqis working for U.S. contractor Halliburton. Insurgents killed four Iraqi soldiers in clashes outside a power plant in a southern Iraq.

**May 18, 2005**—18 people, including 14 policemen were injured when a car bomb struck a police convoy in Baquba. Two children were killed and their mother wounded when a bomb struck a Shiite mosque in Baghdad. In other violence, seven Iraqis, including a senior member of Iraq's Interior Ministry died.

**May 19, 2005**—Gunmen killed an official from the Iraqi Oil Ministry official. An Iraqi lawmaker said 10 of his private guards were killed during an hour-long battle with insurgents and Apache helicopter-backed U.S. forces.

**May 20, 2005**—In Baghdad, a car bomb killed two Iraqi soldiers and wounded five, including three soldiers.

**May 21, 2005**—Eight members of an elite Interior Ministry force have been killed in an ambush in Iraq. Their 20-vehicle convoy came under attack in downtown Beiji. Insurgents attacked an Iraqi Army convoy on route from Mosul to Baghdad, killing six soldiers and wounding six others.

**May 22, 2005**—A senior civil servant of Iraq's trade ministry was shot dead while being driven to work in northwest Baghdad. Insurgents have killed more than a dozen senior government officials in Baghdad in recent months. A roadside bomb killed one Iraqi civilian and wounded another Kirkuk.

**May 23, 2005**—Insurgents detonate bombs at a Baghdad restaurant and a Shiite mosque, part of a series of attacks that killed at least 26 and wounded 130. A car bomb exploded outside a northern Baghdad restaurant frequented by police, killing eight people and wounding at least 80. Also in Baghdad, gunmen assassinated a national security official. Later, a suicide car bomber targeted a Shiite mosque in Mahmoudiya, killing seven people and wounding 23, many of them children. A suicide car bomb struck the government headquarters of Tuz Khormato, south of Kirkuk, killing four people and wounding more than 10 others.

**May 24, 2005**—A car bomb exploded near a Baghdad junior high school for girls, killing six people.

**May 25, 2005**—In other violence around the country, seven Iraqis died and 13 people were injured.

**May 26, 2005**—As part of Operation New Market, American troops killed at least 10 suspected militants in Haditha, a Euphrates River city of 90,000. Three civilian Iraqis traveling in a minibus were killed, reportedly shot dead by U.S. forces. In other violence, at least 11 Iraqis were killed, including a member of the Shiite Muslim Dawa party, and a senior official in Iraq's ministry of industry and minerals.

**May 27, 2005**—A mortar attack was launched against a carpentry factory in northern Baghdad. A guard was killed and four others wounded. Insurgents ambush a police patrol in Mosul, killing two.

**May 28, 2005**—Operation Lightning continued as Iraqi police fought with insurgents and thousands of security forces backed by American troops swept through Baghdad's streets to flush out militants. Insurgents struck back - killing at least 30 people, including a British soldier. The operation led to the arrest of a former general in Saddam Hussein's

intelligence service. Two bombs exploded in quick succession near a military base in Sinjar, about 75 miles northwest of Mosul, killing seven and wounding more than 50, including two children. Other violence claimed the life of a former member of Kirkuk's city council and four Iraqi soldiers. The mutilated bodies of 10 Iraqi Shia Muslim pilgrims were found in the desert near the town of Qaim.

**May 29, 2005**—Operation Lightning continued as Iraqi forces arrested 500 in an unprecedented domestic sweep. Bombs killed nine soldiers and two civilians.

**May 30, 2005**—Operation Lightning set off a violent backlash across Baghdad. At least 20 people were killed in the capital, 14 of them in a battle lasting several hours when insurgents launched sustained attacks on several police stations and army barracks. The chief of police in Basra admitted yesterday that he had effectively lost control of three-quarters of his officers and that sectarian militias had infiltrated the force and were using their position to assassinate opponents. An Iraqi Air Force aircraft crashed Monday in eastern Diyala province during a mission killing all four Americans and one Iraqi onboard. Two suicide bombers strapped with explosives blew themselves up in a crowd of ex-policemen protesting outside of Baghdad, killing 27 in one of the deadliest attacks in a month of escalating violence. More than 100 people were wounded. In other violence across the country, 33 people were killed.

**May 31, 2005**—At least 27 policemen were killed and 118 wounded after two terrorists carrying explosives blew themselves up among a crowd of 500 commandos protesting a government move to disband their special forces unit in Hillah. In other violence, 11 people died in Iraq, including the governor of Anbar province. 11 others, including eight U.S. troops were also wounded.

**June 1, 2005**—Operation Lightning continued, netting another 100 suspected insurgents in raids conducted by Iraq forces. An Iraqi soldier died and 12 others were hospitalized after they ate poisonous watermelons given to them near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. Other violence claimed four lives and injured at least another 24.

**June 2, 2005**—Insurgents killed 38 people in a series of rapid-fire attacks, including three suicide car bombings and a drive-by shooting at a busy Baghdad market. Iraq's interior minister claimed Operation Lightning had captured 700 suspected insurgents and killed 28 militants.

**June 3, 2005**—A suicide car bomber rammed his car into a building north of Baghdad, killing at least 10 people and wounding 12. Sporadic attacks around Iraq killed another eight people.

**June 4, 2005**—Nine Iraqi soldiers have been killed in three separate bomb attacks in Iraq. In other violence, six Iraqis were killed and nine others wounded.

**June 5, 2005**—Hundreds of Iraqi and U.S. troops searched fields and farms yesterday for insurgents in an area south of Baghdad. 50 weapon and ammunition caches and a huge

underground bunker west of the capital fitted out with air conditioning, a kitchen and showers, was discovered. The "insurgent lair" contained high-tech military equipment including night vision goggles. Operation Lightning netted another 108 suspected insurgents. In Mosul, a suicide car bomb killed two policemen and wounded at least seven others at a checkpoint. 10 soldiers, members of a force protecting the Green Zone, were injured when a bomb exploded near a bus they were riding in Latifiyah.

**June 6, 2005**—Violence across the country claimed two lives and injured nine.

**June 7, 2005**—Four bombings within seven minutes killed at least 14 people, including at least three Iraqi soldiers, and injured at least 22 in northern Iraq. A Sunni cleric is killed in Basra. Insurgents ambush a convoy of trucks believed to be carrying supplies to a U.S. military base near Habaniyah, killing at least seven. U.S. and Iraqi troops on Tuesday launched an offensive against insurgents in the city of Tal Afar -- not far from the Syrian border. One American soldier and four insurgents have been killed in the operation. U.S. and Iraqi forces have detained 23 suspected insurgents.

**June 8, 2005**—A Sunni Arab politician says two insurgent groups are willing to negotiate with the government, possibly opening a new political front in embattled Iraq. At least 32 lives were claimed in the day's violence, which included four explosions within seven minutes in and around Hawija, 40 miles southwest of Kirkuk, and the killings of a Sunni cleric and a foreign ministry employee.

**June 10, 2005**—A suicide car bomber killed 20 traffic policemen and wounded 100 more outside the unit's headquarters in the city of Irbil. At least 10 people died in a car bomb attack in a mainly Shi'ite neighborhood of Baghdad. The bodies of 16 people who were killed execution-style have been discovered in western Iraq. Gunmen opened fire on a bus filled with laborers just south of Baghdad, killing 10 people and wounding three.

**June 11, 2005**—At least 34 Iraqis were killed in violence in central and western Iraq. U.S. air strikes in the western desert killed 40 insurgents.

**June 12, 2005**—Iraqi police dug up the bodies of 20 men who were shot to death and left in shallow graves east of Baghdad. Eight other bodies were also found near the Iraqi capital.

**June 13, 2005**—Four suicide car bombings and other insurgent attacks killed 10 people. At least 16 Iraqis were wounded after militants opened fire on authorities trying to evacuate the injured.

**June 14, 2005**—At least 29 people were killed and 60 wounded in bombing attacks in northern Iraq. 10 Iraqis, including two children, were killed and seven wounded by a car bomb north of Baghdad.

**June 15, 2005**—A suicide bomber wearing an Iraqi Army uniform killed at least 23 people and wounded 29 at an army mess hall north of the capital.

**June 18, 2005**—Nine Iraqis have been killed in two separate car bomb attacks in Al-Anbar province.

**June 19, 2005**—A suicide car bomb attack in Iraq killed 14 soldiers and injured eight others. A suicide bomber killed up to 20 people including five policemen and several security guards at a Baghdad restaurant close to the Green Zone.

**June 20, 2005**—At least eight car bombs exploded across Iraq killing 29 people as insurgents defied a widespread U.S.-Iraqi security clampdown.

**June 21, 2005**—10 people were killed in attacks north of Baghdad. Around 70 insurgents including a suspected al-Qaida member were arrested in raids around Iraq.

**June 22, 2005**—U.S. and Iraqi forces have ended the four-day Operation Spear, aimed at clearing insurgent bases and training camps in western Iraq. Officials say U.S. and Iraqi forces killed 50 fighters and discovered more than a dozen car bombs in and around the town of Karabilah during the campaign. Three car bombs, which went off almost simultaneously about a kilometer apart, killed 18 people and wounded 48 in a mainly Shiite district of west Baghdad.

**June 23, 2005**—Four car bombs exploded at dusk, killing at least 23 people.

**June 24, 2005**—Yasser Salihee, an Iraqi correspondent for Knight Ridder, is shot and killed by U.S. forces.

**June 25, 2005**—A suicide car bomb struck the house of a police commando officer in the Iraqi city of Samarra, killing nine people and wounding 16 others.

**June 26, 2005**—A suicide bomber with explosives hidden beneath watermelons in a pickup truck slammed into a police station near a market in Mosul, killing at least 33 people and wounding 19 in the northwestern city.

**June 27, 2005**—At least 25 people were killed in bombings targeting Iraqi security forces.

**June 28, 2005**—An Iraqi Parliament member, his son and three bodyguards were among at least 12 people killed in attacks in Iraq.

**June 29, 2005**—Nine people were killed in Iraq's western town of Hit as U.S. and Iraqi troops launched their latest offensive, Operation Sword, in western Iraq. In Samarra, at least two police commandos are killed and six injured when gunmen attack.

**June 30, 2005**—An attack on a police chief in Baquba kills two and injures five. In Mosul, two Kurdish female employees of President Talabani's party are killed.

**July 1, 2005**—Sheik Kamaledin al-Ghuraifi, a senior aid to Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani is gunned down in Baghdad on his way to Friday prayer. Immediately following the attack, a suicide car bomb exploded near the office of a major Shiite political party.

**July 2, 2005**—Three suicide bombers blew themselves up in two separate attacks in and around Baghdad, killing 20 and injuring 59. In Hilla, six policemen died when a suicide bomber struck. A second suicide bomb explodes as paramedics tend to victims of the first attack. 26 people were injured in the second attack. Gunmen kill Adil al-Janabi, a Shiite cleric, and his bodyguard. A bomb went off in a local market in Mahmudiya, south of Baghdad. The attack, which killed two and wounded 10, occurred minutes after the funeral procession of Sheik Kamaledin had passed by.

**July 3, 2005**—A car bomb in Kirkuk kills two Iraqi police officers and wounds another.

**July 4, 2005**—In Baghdad, two roadside bombs kill three civilians and wound three.

**July 6, 2005**—Three police officers are killed in Baghdad. Gunmen shoot and kill Ali Ghalib Ibrahim—the head of Salahuddin’s provincial council, outside Tikrit. Twin car bombings near Hilla kill 11 and injure 19.

**July 7, 2005**—Egyptian diplomat Ihab al-Sharif is killed by the group al-Qaida in Iraq. In a statement issued by the group, they pledged to ‘capture as many ambassadors as we can.’ Gunmen killed 2 Shiite MU.S.lim clerics in Baghdad. Mortar attacks against police stations in Mosul kill 6 and injure 24.

**July 9, 2005**—A suicide car bomber struck a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol, destroying two personnel carriers (one Iraqi, one U.S.), killing two Iraqi soldiers and wounding at least three others.

**July 10, 2005**—A suicide bomber blew himself up among a crowd of recruits at the army-recruiting center at Muthana airfield in Baghdad. 25 are killed and fifty wounded, mostly recruits. A suicide car bomb exploded near a hospital in Kirkuk, killing four civilians and injuring 16. U.S. forces defuse a second car bomb. Two suicide car bombs kill an Iraqi civilian near Fallujah. At least seven Iraqi customs officials are killed when two suicide car bombers detonate their bombs near the Walid border crossing into Syria. A suicide car bomb drove into a police convoy near Mosul, killing five policemen. An attack by three insurgents is foiled by an Iraqi military patrol. Two of the insurgents are killed and the third is wounded when their device exploded prematurely near Ba’qubah.

**July 11, 2005**—Gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Khalis, northeast of Baghdad, killing seven Iraqi soldiers and injuring three, including one civilian. A car bomb exploded in Khalis as an Iraqi Army patrol drove by, killing two Iraqi soldiers and wounding another. U.S. forces in Tal Afar kill 10 insurgents. Six civilians were killed and 22 wounded. Two suicide car bombers struck Al-Tanaf Base near the border with Syria. The number of casualties was unknown.

**July 12, 2005**—A suicide bomber, identified as Abbas Ahmad al-Sumayda'i, detonated his bomb outside Jalawla Mosque in the Diyala Governorate in eastern Iraq, killing two civilians and wounding 16. A car bomb outside Kirkuk intended for a U.S. convoy kills three Iraqi civilians and wounds at least 14. Gunmen kill four Iraqi human rights activists and injure another in Baghdad.

**July 13, 2005**—A car bomb struck an American unit on patrol in eastern Baghdad handing out candy to children, 24 Iraqi children are killed and more than a dozen Iraqis are injured in the attack. Gunmen attack and kill three Iraqi soldiers in two separate incidents in western Baghdad. A suicide bomber on a motorcycle drove into an Iraqi Army column in Al-Sudayrah in northeastern Al-Sharqat, killing one Iraqi soldier and wounding two. At least three are killed when a car bomb exploded in Kirkuk. A senior police officer is gunned down in Baghdad.

**July 14, 2005**—Two suicide bombers struck near the Green Zone, killing two policemen and wounding at least nine others. A third attack was foiled and the attacker captured by U.S. and Iraqi forces. In Kirkuk, gunmen kill three policemen. Gunmen kill three policemen in western Baghdad. Gunmen kill five Iraqi employees of an American base in Baqouba, northeast of Baghdad. Gunmen attacked an Iraqi television crew in Baghdad, wounding three. U.S. and Iraqi forces raid insurgent safe houses in Ghazaliyah and Abu Ghraib.

**July 15, 2005**—Eight car bombs, seven of them suicide attacks, in Baghdad kill at least 23 and injure more than a hundred. A late-night suicide attack on a bridge near the home of President Talabani killed four security guards and injured nine others. Eight Iraqis died when a suicide car bomber struck an Iraqi Army base in the Shaab neighborhood of northern Baghdad. A suicide car bomb exploded near a police commando patrol in western Baghdad killing six policemen and wounding more than forty. A suicide car bomb exploded near an Iraqi patrol in central Baghdad killing two Iraqi soldiers and wounding six. A suicide car bomb near the former Defense Ministry building in northern Baghdad killed two Iraqi soldiers and injured 14. Five Iraqis are injured when a suicide car bomb exploded in eastern Baghdad. Five Iraqi soldiers and one civilian are killed when a suicide car bomber detonated his car near Haswa, south of Baghdad. At least 17 civilians were wounded. Gunmen kill three Iraqi policemen at a checkpoint near Baqouba, northeast of Baghdad. A suicide car bomb detonated prematurely in Kirkuk, killing the two insurgents inside along with one civilian.

**July 16, 2005**—A suicide bomb detonated near a gasoline tanker in Musayyib, south of Baghdad, kills 98 and wounds 160. In Mosul, a suicide attack outside a police station kills five Iraqi police officers.

**July 17, 2005**—A total of six car bombings, four of them suicide attacks, struck Iraq. A suicide car bomb killed 2 policemen and 1 civilian and injured 8 in the eastern part of New Baghdad. A suicide car bomb near Bay'a bus station in southern Iraq killed 3 police commandos and 4 civilians and injured 3 more. A suicide car bomb narrowly missed a U.S. convoy but struck two minibuses in Mahmoudiya, killing 6 civilians. A bomb in

southeast Baghdad kills five members of Iraq's independent electoral commission and one policeman. A car bomb exploded near an Iraqi checkpoint, killing three commandos and wounding 10 civilians.

**July 18, 2005**—Gunmen kill eight police officers in three separate incidents in and around Baghdad. At least 20 other police officers, soldiers and government workers are killed. In one incident, insurgents in Dora gunned down Maissa Jassim, a government employee of the Iraqi Trade Minister. U.S. and Iraqi forces seize 1,000 mortar rounds, 450 rocket propelled grenades and 150 rockets in Mosul. Iraqi and international officials gather in Aqaba, Jordan, to discuss reconstruction efforts. Iraq's planning minister, Barham Salih, while acknowledging that they were needed, criticized American reconstruction 'mega-projects' for not providing basic needs like electricity, water and sanitation quickly enough.

**July 19, 2005**—Gunmen assassinate Shaykh Ahmad al-Juburi, the imam at Al-Taqwa Mosque in Al-Dawrah in southern Baghdad. A roadside bomb in Kirkuk kills one police officer and one civilian. In Tikrit, a police officer is killed when a roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle. Gunmen attack a minibus carrying Iraqi workers to a U.S. air base near Baquba, killing 13.

**July 20, 2005**—A car bomb in Tuz Khormato, near Kirkuk, wounds two civilians. A suicide attack at the recruiting center near the Muthanna airport in Baghdad kills 10, including a Sunni member of the constitutional drafting committee and wounds more than 20. Gunmen kill seven Iraqi officers and wound one in an ambush in Mosul.

**July 21, 2005**—A suicide car bomb exploded near an Iraqi Army checkpoint in Mahmoudiyah, killing six soldiers and injuring 13 others, including five civilians. A suicide car bomb killed one Iraqi soldier and wounded six in the Baghdad suburb of Bueitha. Gunmen kill members of the Qadisiyah provincial council in Khadhra. Gunmen kill Salman Lazim Shikara, an employee of the Ministry of Trade, in Sadr City, Baghdad. A bomb near a British security firm in the western Yarmouk neighborhood kills one Iraqi guard and injures two. A roadside bomb in Latifiyah, south of Baghdad, kills three Iraqi soldiers and injures another three. Gunmen kidnap and kill two policemen and one Sunni cleric (all brothers) in northern Baghdad.

**July 22, 2005**—In Baghdad, gunmen shoot a police officer and his wife. Gunmen kill two policemen and injure another two in eastern Baghdad. Mortars struck Major-General Anwar Amin's (commander of the Iraqi Army Fourth Brigade) house, killing one policeman and wounding three others. A market bombing in Kirkuk kills six soldiers, four Iraqi and two American. Mortal shells kill one Iraqi policeman and injure another in Dumiz.

**July 23, 2005**—A bomb in Al-Qal'ah, in western Samarra kills one Iraqi soldier and wounds three others.

**July 24, 2005**—A suicide truck bomb exploded near Rashad police station in eastern Baghdad killing at least thirty and wounding several dozen. A roadside bomb in Haswa, south of Baghdad, kills one child and injures six other civilians.

**July 25, 2005**—A truck bomb outside a Baghdad police station kills 39 people. Gunmen kill Subhi Thamir Hussein al-Badri, his wife and two sons in Samarra. Australian Prime Minister John Howard visits Baghdad. A car bomb near Harithiyah Bridge in western Baghdad kills two policemen and injures 11. A suicide car bomb at Sadeer hotel in central Baghdad kills 12 and injures 18. A suicide car bomb kills two commandoes and injures another 10 at a Ministry of Interior Police building. A bomb exploded near the Iraqi-Syrian border killing two Iraq policemen. An Iraqi soldier is killed in Ramadi. In response, U.S. forces closed Al-Warrar and Al-Jazeera bridges.

**July 26, 2005**—Gunmen kill 16 Iraqi government employees and wound 27 in western Baghdad. In two separate incidents, gunmen kill a policeman and a government employee in Baghdad. In Basra, gunmen attack and kill two people, including a policeman. Several others are injured. In Kirkuk, two roadside bombs injure five. 20 gunmen attack a water plant killing seven Iraqi soldiers in Tarmiyah, north of Baghdad.

**July 27, 2005**—A suicide car bomb kills six civilians and wounds eight soldiers in western Baghdad.

**July 28, 2005**—Gunmen attack Iraqi Army checkpoints in Ba'qubah and Khan Bani Sa'd, northeast of Baghdad, killing six Iraqi soldiers and wounding eight. A roadside bomb in front of a police station in southern Baghdad kills an Iraqi policeman and wounds four others.

**July 29, 2005**—A suicide bomber struck an Iraqi Army recruiting center in Rabiah, near the Syrian border, killing at least forty and wounding several dozen. A suicide bicycle bomber struck a busy carrying Iraqi Army trainees, killing two and wounding two others, outside of Balad. A suicide bomb exploded near a joint Iraqi-U.S. patrol in Samarra, killing one Iraqi soldier and wounding another. A suicide bomb struck a convoy of military trucks in the Al-Tarmiyah area of northern Baghdad, killing the driver and injuring another. A suicide car bomb in the Al-Sarafiyah district of Baghdad kills one and wounds 10.

**July 30, 2005**—A roadside bomb outside of Basra kills two contractors guarding a British convoy. A car bomb exploded near the National Theater in Baghdad killing seven, including three policemen, and wounding 25. U.S. gunfire kills four Iraqis and injures eight others at a checkpoint in northern Samarra.

**July 31, 2005**—A car bomb kills seven people and wounds another 10, including several policemen, in Al-Haswah, south of Baghdad. Gunmen attacked a Baghdad convoy carrying members of the Iraqi National Congress killing one and wounding three.

**August 1, 2005**—In Baghdad, gunmen storm the house of Haider Mohammed Ali al Dujaili, an aide to Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Chalabi, killing him.

**August 2, 2005**—A car bomb in Baqouba kills one civilian and injures nine others, mostly policemen. In Mosul, a suicide car bomb struck a police checkpoint, killing four, including three policemen. The Rapid Intervention Forces of the Iraqi Army launch a pre-emptive operation against insurgents in Fallujah, arresting eight.

**August 3, 2005**—In Baghdad, gunmen kill General Abdel Salam Rauf Saleh, the head of the Interior Ministry's commando unit. Gunmen in Baghdad kill a police colonel and two finance ministry employees. A car bomb in Baquba kills one civilian and wounds nine. An explosion near Abu Ghraib kills one civilian. A bomb in Kirkuk wounds two civilians.

**August 4, 2005**—Gunmen kill four Iraqi soldiers in Dujail, north of Baghdad. In Kirkuk, gunmen kill three policemen. A car bomb between Tal Afar and Kirkuk kills four civilians and wounds three others. Gunmen kill an Iraqi soldier and his family in Diyala. In a separate attack, gunmen also kill the director of planning for the region. A car bomb kills two Iraqi soldiers from the elite Wolf Brigade in Daquq, south of Kirkuk. The soldiers were part of a unit escorting the Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and his aides back from Tal-Afar. Two clerics were also killed in the attack. A suicide bomb in Ba'qubah kills four Iraqi soldiers and injures four more.

**August 5, 2005**—In southern Baghdad, U.S. forces working with the Iraqi Army kill six insurgents and capture another 12. A suicide bomb kills an Iraqi soldier in southern Baghdad.

**August 6, 2005**—In eastern Baghdad, a suicide car bomb wounds three civilians. Following the attack on U.S. forces the forces allegedly fire on civilians, killing four.

**August 7, 2005**—In Baghdad, gunmen kill three Iraqi soldiers and wound another. A suicide bomber struck an empty fuel tanker in Tikrit killing at least two policemen and injuring another nine. A suicide car bomb struck a police recruitment center in Tikrit killing five and wounding more than a dozen. In Al-Samawah, citizens protesting the lack of clean water and electricity clashed with security forces. One person is killed and eight are wounded.

**August 8, 2005**—Clashes between Iraqi civilians and security forces in Al-Samawah kill one and injure more than two-dozen. In Baghdad, gunmen kill two members of the Oil Ministry and wound two others. Gunmen kill two employees of the Northern Oil Company in Kirkuk. In Baghdad, gunmen kill an employee of the Al-Dawrah electricity station.

**August 9, 2005**—In four separate incidents, gunmen kill 10 Iraqi policemen in Baghdad. A suicide bomb in downtown Baghdad kills at least seven, including one U.S. soldier, and injures almost a hundred. U.S. soldiers kill four insurgents. In Mosul, U.S. forces kill

two insurgents and arrest 22 others. Gunmen assassinate Abbas Ibrahim Mohammed, an Iraqi Cabinet employee, in Baghdad.

**August 10, 2005**—In Kirkuk, gunmen kill a police officer. Gunmen kidnap Brig. General Khudayer Abbas, head of administrative affairs for the Ministry of the Interior. A car bomb struck a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol killing seven, including five Iraqi soldiers. A car bomb in western Baghdad kills seven, including three policemen, and wounds seven (including five U.S. soldiers).

**August 12, 2005**—Two roadside bombs south of Kirkuk kill two and injure five. A roadside bomb struck a U.S. convoy in Nasaf, near Ramadi. U.S. forces allegedly responded by firing at a crowd outside a nearby mosque, killing at least four and injuring more than a dozen. In Mosul, Iraqi security forces kill Mohammed Salah Sultan, also known as Abu Zubair, a lieutenant of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

**August 13, 2005**—A suicide car bomb kills one Iraqi and wounds another in southern Baghdad. In eastern Baghdad, a bomb injures five Iraqi soldiers.

**August 14, 2005**—Gunmen kill an Iraqi soldier and a civilian north of Baghdad. A car bomb struck a U.S. patrol in the Al-Amiriyah neighborhood, west of Baghdad, killing one civilian and wounding six others. Gunmen kill six (including three policemen) in Ba'qubah. A suicide bomber kills one civilian and wounded another four in Al-Mahawil, south of Baghdad.

**August 15, 2005**—In Al-Amiriyah, gunmen kill one Iraq soldier and injure another. A mortar attack on the Interior Ministry in Baghdad injures 20, including five security officers. Gunmen assassinate Muhammad Husayn, a member of the municipal council of Al-Khalis. In Ba'qubah, gunmen attack a checkpoint killing three Iraqi soldiers. A failed assassination attempt is carried out on Iraqi Vice-President Adil Ab-al-Mahdi in Al-Azim. A suicide bomb at a restaurant in Al-Karradah injures 15, including six policemen. In Ba'qubah, an explosion kills an Iraqi journalist and wounds two others.

**August 16, 2005**—U.S. forces open fire on a group of Iraqis in the Allawi al-Hillah section of central Baghdad, wounding 26, after being fired on by insurgents. Gunmen attack the Baghdad-Al-Rusafah Civil Defense Center in Sadr city killing two policemen and wounding four others. Insurgents struck an oil pipeline in the Jurf al-Sakhr area of Al-Musayyab, south of Baghdad. In subsequent clashes one guard is killed and three are wounded. In Mosul, clashes between insurgents and police kill one civilian and injure another. In another attack, gunmen kill a policeman. In Baghdad, gunmen kill one and wound two others.

**August 17, 2005**—Three car bombs kill at least 43 and wound 58 in Baghdad. Zarqawi's al-Qaida organization claimed responsibility. The first two attacks struck Baghdad's al-Nahda bus station, with the third exploding near the al-Kindi hospital. In Fallujah, a car bomb kills three civilians and injures another seven. Gunmen assassinate Ali al-Shimmari, a local imam and a member of the Association of Muslim Scholars, in

northeastern Baghdad. Gunmen attack convoy of trucks near Beiji in northern Iraq, killing three.

**August 18, 2005**—Gunmen assassinate Jasim Waheeb, a Baghdad judge.

**August 19, 2005**—Three members of the Iraqi Islamic Party, Iraq's main Sunni party, are gunned down in Mosul. Gunmen kill Aswad al-Ali, an Arab member of a local council near Kirkuk. In Kirkuk, gunmen kill an Iraqi contractor working with the U.S. military. In Tikrit, a roadside bomb kills two Iraqis and wounds a third.

**August 20, 2005**—Iraqi police and U.S. troops kill three insurgents in Mosul. Also in Mosul, a roadside bomb wounds six Kurdish militiamen. A second roadside bomb wounds six civilians. Gunmen kill Yasser Abed Moussa, a retired brigadier general in Saddam's army. Insurgents attack a market in Fallujah with grenades, injuring 20 civilians.

**August 21, 2005**—A car bomb in a Shiite district of Baghdad kills four civilians. U.S. fighter jets and tanks attack a group wedding in Hit, killing one civilian and wounding 15 others. A roadside bomb kills three people, including a policeman, and injures five others, in southern Baghdad. In Fallujah, a roadside bomb kills three people, including one civilian, and wounds two others. Gunmen kill two Iraqi policemen in western Baghdad.

**August 23, 2005**—A suicide attack against Diyala Police Directorate in Baghdad kills five, including an Iraqi colonel, and wounds five Iraqi policemen. A number of multinational forces are also injured.

**August 24, 2005**—Insurgents attack Iraqi police patrols in western Baghdad. In a tactic the U.S. military calls 'swarming', three car bombs, two of them suicide car bombs are immediately followed by gunfire. The attack kills 40, including 13 policemen, and wounds several dozen. Fighting breaks out between rival Shiite groups in southern Iraq after supporters of Muqtada al-Sadr try to re-open his office Najaf, killing four.

**August 25, 2005**—Gunmen attack a bus near Al-Khalis, killing four and wounding seven. In Baqouba, seven Iraqis (mostly new recruits) are wounded in a mortar attack on a police station. A roadside bomb in Al-Hawijah kills an Iraqi soldier and wounds two. A mortar attack kills one Iraqi soldier and wounds another in Al-Musayyib. Gunmen attack the convoy of Iraqi president Jalal Talabani south of Tuz Khormato killing two bodyguards and wounding three others. Iraqi police discover 36 bodies in southeastern Baghdad. A bomb detonated near a U.S. patrol in Samarra. There are reports that Saddam Hussein's Baath party are making a political comeback as the New Baath Party.

**August 26, 2005**—In Samarra, insurgents battle U.S forces. One Iraqi is killed and three others are wounded. Two bombs strike an Iraqi supply convoy, killing two drivers and wounding a security guard. Gunmen assassinate an Iraqi police officer and a civilian in northeast Baghdad. Fighting between residents of Al-Qa'im and foreign and Iraqi

gunmen erupts in western Iraq. Gunmen kill one Iraqi soldier in the Dawra neighborhood of Baghdad. Also in Dawra, a roadside bomb kills one police officer and wounds two others. In Mosul, gunmen kill Jiyah Hussein—a leader of the local Reform Party—and his son.

**August 27, 2005**—Gunmen kill Lt. Col. Mohammed Salih near Kirkuk. Also in Kirkuk, an insurgent is killed when his bomb detonated prematurely. A bomb kills two Iraqi soldiers and wounds eight others in northern Baghdad, near Tikrit. In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb struck an Iraqi Army patrol, wounding eight officers. Also in Kirkuk, gunmen kill Lt. Col. Muhammad Fakhri Abdullah. Gunmen kill an Iraqi police officer in Baghdad. Clashes among Sunni tribes erupt in western and northern Iraq. In Qa'im, 35 are killed in mortar, rocket and gunfire attacks between rival tribes.

**August 28, 2005**—A suicide car bomb in Mosul kills three, and wounds four others. Iraqi Shiites announce they are ending negotiations on the constitution although they have yet to receive an endorsement of the draft from Iraq's Sunni Arabs.

**August 29, 2005**—Gunmen kill Brig. Gen. Numan Salman Faris, director of rapid response for Baghdad's Azamiyah district. A poll by the Iraqi Centre for Development and International Dialogue shows 88% of polled Iraqis plan on participating in the October referendum.

**August 30, 2005**—U.S. air strikes on insurgent safe houses outside Husaybh, in western Iraq, kill an unknown number of insurgents.

**August 31, 2005**—A stampede caused by a rumor of a nearby suicide bomber kills at least 953 Shia pilgrims and wounds hundreds more in a religious procession in Baghdad. The Iraqi government declared three days of official mourning in response to what was the single deadliest incident in Iraq since the war began.

**September 1, 2005**—Tribal groups clash in Baghdad, near the site of Wednesday's deadly stampede. Iraq's air force carried out its first military mission, transporting two battalions of Iraqi troops from Irbil to Tal Afar, in northern Iraq. A U.S. raid south of Baghdad kills two gunmen and wounds four others. Two consecutive roadside bombs wound seven in Kirkuk.

**September 2, 2005**—In Basra, thousands of Shiites rally in support of Iraq's new constitution. A bomb struck an Iraqi convoy traveling near Beiji, killing five Iraqi soldiers and wounding nine. In Baghdad, two bombs explode, injuring one person. Also in Baghdad, gunmen kill two Sunnis and injure four others outside a mosque following Friday prayers. In Mosul, U.S. and Iraqi forces kill one insurgent and arrest 10 others.

**September 3, 2005**—Gunmen attack three checkpoints in Diyala Governorate in central Iraq, killing 19— in Al-Uzaym, insurgents kill four soldiers; in Baquba, insurgents kill six policemen; and in Al-Abbarah, insurgents kill seven policemen and two soldiers. A rocket attack on Samarra kills three civilians and wounds 14. A mortar attack in Samarra

kills four civilians and wounds 11. Police discover three bodies in the Tigris River north of Baghdad. Gunmen set fire to stalls in a market in a Sunni neighborhood of western Baghdad.

**September 4, 2005**—In Tal Afar U.S. troops kill seven insurgents. In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb exploded near an oil pipeline killing one civilian and wounding another. Drive-by shootings in Baghdad kill four. A suicide car bomb struck an Iraqi checkpoint in Iskandariyah killing one policeman and injuring two.

**September 5, 2005**—Insurgents attack Baghdad's Interior Ministry with rocket propelled grenades and gunfire in daylight, killing two police officers and wounding several others. Also in Baghdad, a car bomb kills four civilians and wounds four others. The bodies of three district leaders who refused to cooperate with local insurgents are found in Tal Afar. Also in Tal Afar, insurgents kill eight civilians, most of them children. A car bomb in Hit kills eight civilians and three Iraqi soldiers. 16 others are wounded. In Baqouba, a mortar attack kills four civilians and wounds four others.

**September 6, 2005**—A rocket fired by insurgents misses a U.S. target and kills a 12-year old boy, and wounds eight other children in Faris, south of Fallujah.

**September 7, 2005**—Gunmen kill Maj. Gen. Hadi Hassan Omran, the director general of the Iraqi Defense Ministry in Baghdad. Also in Baghdad, insurgents attack an Interior Ministry commando patrol, killing Col. Ammar Ismail Arkan and wounding four bodyguards. In Basra, a roadside bombing kills Lt. Col. Karim Al-Zaidi. A suicide car bomb kills 15 and wounds 10 outside a restaurant in Basra's Hayaniyah market. In Baghdad, a car bomb detonated near a convoy of vehicles being driven by foreigners, wounding five.

**September 8, 2005**—A bomb detonated near Umm al-Tubal Mosque in western Baghdad killing a police officer. Sunnis are registering in large numbers to vote in October's referendum in many parts of Iraq. Sunnis are mobilizing in an effort to reject the constitution.

**September 9, 2005**—A car bombing near Sadir hotel in central Baghdad killed one and injured two. Two simultaneous car bombs in Tal Afar kill five Iraqi soldiers. Also in Tal Afar, the bodies of 10 decapitated Iraqis are found.

**September 10, 2005**—A roadside bomb struck a police convoy south of Baghdad, killing two policemen and three civilians.

**September 11, 2005**—In Baghdad, gunmen assassinate Maj. Gen. Adnan Abdul Rihman- director of police training at the Interior Ministry.

**September 12, 2005**—A car bomb detonated outside a restaurant in the Mansour neighborhood of Baghdad killing at least two and wounding 17. Gunmen fire on crowds in Baghdad, killing six and wounding two. Elsewhere in Baghdad, police discover the

bodies of 10 Iraqi men who appear to have been executed. In Kirkuk, gunmen fire on the headquarters of the provincial government, killing two policemen. Also in Kirkuk, a Kurdish militiaman is killed. In Mosul, gunmen kill two security guards and wound three others.

**September 13, 2005**—In Samarra, U.S. soldiers kill two insurgents attempting to detonate a roadside bomb. In Hilla, a bomb on a minibus kills two and wounds six. The body of a former judge, a member of Saddam's regime, is found in Sadr City. Insurgents fire mortars at the Green Zone in Baghdad. There are no reports of casualties. Also in Baghdad, gunmen kill two truck drivers delivering supplies to government buildings. In Baqouba, gunmen kill two Sunni clerics. U.S. forces attack the insurgent stronghold of Haditha in western Iraq, capturing a militant linked to al-Qaida in Iraq and killing four others.

**September 14, 2005**—A dozen bombings in nine hours rocked the Baghdad, killing more than 150 Iraqis and wounding several hundred. The deadliest attack occurred in the Khadamiya district, a Shiite neighborhood in northern Baghdad, when an insurgent detonated his van near a crowd of day laborers, killing 112 and wounding scores more. In Taji, north of Baghdad, insurgents dressed as soldiers kill 17 Shiite men.

**September 15, 2005**—A bomb exploded at Rawdat al-Wadi mosque in Mosul killing the Shayk Hikmat Husayn Ali, the imam of the mosque. In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb struck a police patrol killing two policemen and wounding four others. A roadside bomb struck a Ministry of Industry bus in eastern Baghdad, killing three civilians and wounding 13. A suicide car bombing in southern Baghdad killed 16 policemen and five civilians. Hours later, two suicide car bombs only minutes apart, killed seven policemen in the same neighborhood. The U.S. military announced that 145 insurgents had been killed and 361 captured in the operation in Tal Afar. Iraqi and U.S. forces continue to battle insurgents for control of the western border with Syria, near Qaim.

**September 16, 2005**—In Tuz Khormato, a suicide car bomb detonated near a Shiite mosque, killing 12. Police foiled a second suicide bomber later in the day. In Baghdad, gunmen kill three laborers and wound 12 others. A car bomb in Haswa killed three policemen and wounded four others. In Iskandariya, gunmen assassinated the mayor of the town along with his four bodyguards. In Sadr City, gunmen assassinated Sheik Fadil al-Lami, a cleric at Imam Ali mosque. In Baghdad a car bomb at a checkpoint killed three Iraqi police officers and two Transportation Ministry employees.

**September 17, 2005**—A Kurdish member of the Iraqi parliament, Faris Nasir Hussein is killed along with his three bodyguards. PUK colleague Haidar Shanoun was wounded in the ambush of their convoy north of Baghdad. A senior leader of the Al-Qaeda Iraqi organization was killed in a raid on a terrorist safe house in Haditha.

**September 19, 2005**—Two British special servicemen break through a roadblock and kill an Iraqi policeman and injure others. Those soldiers are arrested and later freed by

British forces that broke into the Iraqi prison. Several Iraqis were reportedly killed in the operation.

**September 20, 2005**—A child was killed during a raid on a suspected insurgent safe house in Mosul. Seven Iraqis were killed and another wounded. Firas Maadhidi, head of the Mosul bureau of the Lebanese newspaper As Safir was shot dead while on his way to the Ninevah province.

**September 21, 2005**—At least eight people dead in a gun battle between Iraqi troops and suspected insurgents, of those five were insurgents, two were Iraqi police officers and an Iraqi soldier. Gunmen shot Ahlam Youssef, an engineer for state-run Al Iraqiya television and her husband, Bassem Fadli, a manger at the stations headquarters in Baghdad.

**September 22, 2005**—Recently in Khalis, Iraqi forces' dining facility was targeted by a suicide bomber, killing 23.

**September 23, 2005**—Duluiyah Council member Jabbar Ateiya Saud, a police captain and another man were killed after ambushing U.S. soldiers assigned to Task Force Liberty that were on their way home.

**September 24, 2004**—Three Iraqi soldiers and two civilians were killed and seven people were wounded when a suicide bomber blew up his vehicle near a bazaar. In an internet posting Iraqi Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility. In the Karbala U.S. troops killed a family of four that was driving close to the U.S. convoy.

**September 25, 2005**—U.S. and Iraqi authorities kill Abu-Azzam (whose real name is Abdullah Najim Abdullah Muhamed Al-Jawari) No. 2 official in the Al-Qaeda organization in Iraq in a raid over the weekend. During the raid another militant was also captured. 10 Iraqi commandoes were killed when a suicide bomber drove his minibus alongside a convoy of Iraqi commandoes. Six people were killed in Sadr City when U.S. and Iraqi forces exchanged fire with members of the Mahdi Army, a militia loyal to the Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr. Five Iraqi civilians were killed and 49 were injured when a booby-trapped bicycle exploded in the city center. Five Iraqi security guards employed by Northern Oil Co., were killed in Samarra. In the same area three unidentified bodies were found shot dead in the Tigris River.

**September 26, 2005**—The Al-Qaeda in Iraq organization's leader in Mosul surrendered to Iraqi military forces; the organization's leader in Karabila, Abu Nasser, was killed along with several others in a raid on the organization's headquarters. Suicide car bomb in Eastern Baghdad killed seven many of whom were employees of the Iraqi Oil Ministry, 14 were wounded.

**September 27, 2005**—Suicide bomber attacked Iraqis applying for Iraq's Quick Reaction Police Force in Baqouba, killing nine and wounding 21. Bodies of 22 men who were shot dead were found in Wasit Province.

**September 28, 2005**—The first Iraqi woman suicide bomber with explosives that contain small metal balls outside a recruiting center in the city of Tal Afar killing seven people and wounding around 30 people. Al-Qaeda in Iraq claimed responsibility for the attack. The tactic of using a woman is said to have been successful since women were not subject to searches at checkpoints as men have been. Now men, women and children will all be searched in the same manner at checkpoints. An explosion in a house in Najaf killed two people relatives of one of the cleric Moktada al Sadr's guards, eight more people were wounded. It is unclear whether the blast came from within the house or whether a grenade was thrown at the house from outside. In Baquba a car bomb exploded at a military checkpoint killing a civilian and wounding 13, including 8 police officers. Scattered violence left four people dead in Baghdad.

**September 29, 2005**—Three truck bombs exploded near a crowded marketplace 50 miles north of Baghdad killing 102 people (mainly Shi'ia) including 18 children and wounding 150 people.

**September 30, 2005**—12 Shi'ia were killed and 47 were wounded by car bombs in Hilla.

**October 1, 2005**—U.S. forces killed 8 rebels according to the U.S. military in a new U.S. offensive against al-Qaeda insurgents in Iraq.

**October 2, 2005**—U.S. forces killed 12 rebels according to the U.S. military in a new U.S. offensive against al-Qaeda insurgents in Iraq. Two Iraqis were killed in a drive-by shooting – a businessman in Baghdad and a soldier in Karbala. Three members of the al-Qaeda in Iraq insurgency are killed by U.S. troops North of Sadah. In addition, a U.S. Cobra helicopter killed another militant.

**October 3, 2005**—Iraqi Oil Minister Ibrahim Bahr al-Ulum survived an assassination attempt when his convoy was bombed and fired on in Baghdad. Two of his bodyguards were killed.

**October 5, 2005**—A bomb kills 25 and wounds 87 at Shi'ite mosque at the start of the Islamic month of Ramadan.

**October 6, 2005**—Death toll comes to at least 23, in attacks including a suicide attack on a minibus in Baghdad and a string of bombings and shootings including the killing of five members of Iraq's Oil Protection Force and a homemade bomb detonated near the city of Kirkuk.

**October 7, 2005**—U.S. Marines and Iraqi troops killed 50 insurgents in a six-day campaign along the Euphrates River meant to stop insurgents from getting in through the border of Iraqi and Syria. In Fallujah a roadside bomb hit Iraqi troops and was then followed by insurgent fire on them, killing five. In Kirkuk a car bomb targeting a police patrol killed two civilians and wounded seven others. Shootings in Baghdad killed three police officers, a truck driver and a civilian. In addition a woman died when a mortar hit her house.

**October 8, 2005**—22 bodies of Sunni from Iskar were found dead following execution style murder.

**October 10, 2005**—10 people killed in attacks as insurgents stepped up campaign before the crucial vote on the constitution. At least nine Iraqis including a policeman were killed in bombings and shootings in Baghdad and northern Iraq. Masked gunmen in police uniforms burst into a school and killed a Shi'ia teacher in front of his students in Samarra. A suicide bomber killed a woman and child in Basra.

**October 11, 2005**—46 people killed in rebel attacks just 4 days before a crucial vote on the constitution.

**October 12, 2005**—8 people were injured including 7 Iraqi soldiers when a suicide car bomb detonated outside the city of Baquba. A remotely detonated car bomb aimed at the Sunni Minister of State for Governorates Affairs, Saad Nayif al-Hardan, exploded in Al-Qahtan Square in western Baghdad injuring six people but he was not in the convoy at the time.

**October 14, 2004**—AP estimates that 3,663 Iraqis have been killed in hostilities between April 28, 2005 and October 14, 2005, this does not include the nearly 1,000 Shi'ites that died in the stampede in Baghdad on August 21, 2005.

**October 15, 2005**—Iraqis go to the polls to vote on the proposed Iraqi constitution. There were scattered attacks throughout the day on polling sites and military bases.

**October 16, 2005**—In a series of U.S. air and ground strikes near Ramadi U.S. sources claim 70 insurgents were killed. Eyewitnesses, residents and health workers reported the number of Iraqis killed in the strikes closer to 39 including 18 children. Two U.S. helicopters fired onto a group of insurgents, killing an estimated 10 people. An F/A-18 fired on another group of insurgents loading a vehicle with weapons. In both attacks it is estimated that 50 insurgents were killed. One to three insurgents were killed in an air strike and firefight between insurgents and U.S. military.

**October 17, 2005**—Insurgents opened fire on a Sunni Mosque killing one worshipper and wounding five others. Insurgents in Karrada accidentally hit a house and killed one civilian and wounded another.

**October 18, 2005**—Insurgents killed Ayed Abdul Ghani, an advisor to one of Iraq's top Sunni officials, Osama al-Najafi, the Industry Minister, in New Baghdad.

**October 19, 2005**—The first day of Saddam Hussein's trial in Iraq. Sunni-led insurgents killed 19 people including 6 Shi'ites who were lined up at a factory and gunned down in front of their co-workers. Three election officials driving home after tallying votes from Iraq's constitutional referendum were shot by insurgents. About the same time insurgents opened fire on a police checkpoint and killed four policemen and wounded 11. Insurgents

shot and killed Hakim Mirza, a Baghdad municipal director, and his driver in Dora, and killed Muhsin Chitheer, lieutenant colonel in the Iraqi Army (that the U.S. disbanded after invading in 2003), in front of his house in al-I'alam. In Kirkuk there was an attempted assassination of a Kurdish tribal leader, Sheik Anwar Khalifa, as his car was hit by a car bomb. He escaped unhurt but a passer-by was killed and three people including his relative were hurt. In another incident a bomb went off by a statue of Abu Jaafar Al-Baghdad, the founder of Baghdad whom Saddam often compared himself to. There were no casualties. Saddam Hussein's trial was adjourned until November 28, 2005 so that his defense could gather witnesses and information for the case.

**October 20, 2005**—In Baquoba a suicide car bomb exploded in front of a provincial government building killing three civilians and wounding 14, 13 civilians and one policeman. A second suicide car bomb exploded near a police checkpoint but there were no people wounded in this attack.

*It is estimated that **6,314 Iraqis** died during 2005 to date, this number includes Iraqi officials, military personnel, insurgents and civilians.*