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# INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION PROGRAMS

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**Invading Kuwait** 

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#### Saddam Hussein



President of Iraq since 1979 (Vice President from 1968-79). Dictator who stops at nothing to preserve personal power and regime survival. After the 1968 Ba'athist Coup, began his career as Chief of Iraq's security services.

- Executed opponents and suspected potential rivals, including scores of high-level government officials and thousands of political prisoners.
- Since the 1970s, escalated and made routine the systematic torture and execution of political prisoners.

- Ordered the use of chemical weapons against Iranian forces in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war, and against Iraq's Kurdish population in 1988. The 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war left 150,000 to 340,000 Iraqis and 450,000 to 730,000 Iranians dead.
- Ordered the invasion and destruction of Kuwait in 1990-91 with 1,000 Kuwaitis killed.
- Directed the 1991 bloody suppression of Kurdish and Shi'a insurgencies in northern and southern Iraq with at least 30,000 to 60,000 killed.
- Ordered the destruction of southern marshes to extinguish the Shi'a insurgency.

# **Qusay Saddam Hussein**



Saddam's second son and heir apparent. Oversees all Iraqi intelligence and security services, the Republican Guard, and the Special Republican Guard. In 2001, was named Deputy of Ba'ath Party's Military Bureau and elected member Ba'ath Regional Command.

- Qusay swiftly helps Saddam eliminate any real or perceived threat to the regime by using bloody and shocking "tools of repression" to blackmail, force confessions, and destroy opponents.
- Authorizes interrogation, jailing, and execution of political prisoners and their families.
- Periodically ordered during 1988-99 mass prison executions of several thousand inmates ("prison cleansing").
- Led crackdown against the al-Dulaym tribe in 1995 and local Shi'a revolt in 1997.

## Uday Saddam Hussein



Saddam's eldest son, increasingly marginalized in favor of his brother Qusay. Editor of *Babil* newspaper and in control of all Iraqi media, National Assembly member, and Chairman of Iraq's Olympic Committee.

- History of extreme violent behavior including murder, torture, and rape of women and girls.
- Has tortured and jailed members of Iraq's national Soccer Team for losing games.
- A leading regime figure in the wholesale looting of Kuwaiti property.
- Heavily involved in Iraq's smuggling against UN sanctions, and in illicit financial dealings.

## Ali Hasan al-Majid



Presidential adviser and member of the Revolutionary Command Council.

- Known as "Chemical Ali" and "Butcher of Kurdistan" for atrocities in repressing revolts during the 1987-88 Anfal Campaign.
- Ordered the 1988 use of chemical weapons on Halabjah's Kurdish

population.

- As Governor of occupied Kuwait in August-November 1990, he brutalized Kuwait through torture, murder, rape, and wholesale looting.
- As Interior Minister, he coordinated the brutal suppression of the 1991 Shi'a insurgency in Southern Iraq.

## Muhammad Hamza al-Zubaydi



Former Prime Minister and former Deputy Prime Minister.

- Known as Saddam's "Shi'a thug", he violently suppressed the 1991 Shi'a uprisings after the Gulf War with tens of thousands killed.
- Featured in Iraqi news video kicking and beating captured Shi'a dissidents.
- Presided over the destruction of the southern marshes in 1992-98.
- As Commander of Central Euphrates Region from 1998 to 2000, continued repressing Shi'a political-religious activities and unrests.
- Was relieved in 2001 of positions as Deputy Prime Minister and member of the Ba'ath Party Regional Command.

## **Aziz Salih Numan**



Ba'ath Party Regional Command member (responsible for the Southern Office); former Governor of occupied Kuwait, Basrah, Dhi Qar, An Najaf, and Karbala'.

- According to press reports, ordered the destruction of Shi'a holy sites while Governor of Karbala' (1977-83) and An Najaf (1983-86).
- As Governor of occupied Kuwait in November 1990-February 1991, he continued the policy of "reintegrating Iraq's 19th province."
- A career Ba'ath functionary, he rose from low-key provincial positions thanks to his reputed cruelty, brutal efficiency, and loyalty.

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