

THE WAR IN IRAQ

3/16/07

TOTALS

- **CASUALTIES TO DATE: 3,204** (*Source: iCasualties.org*)
- **APPROPRIATED COST TO DATE: \$379 BILLION** (*Source: CRS*)

SIGNIFICANT DATES

2002

- **1/30/02:** President Bush refers to Iraq as part of an “Axis of Evil.”
- **9/12/02:** President Bush tells skeptical world leaders at a UN General Assembly session to confront the “grave and gathering danger” in Iraq, or stand aside as the US acts.
- **10/16/02:** H.J.Res.114, To Authorize the Use of United States Armed Forces Against Iraq is signed into law (PL 107-243).
- **11/18/02:** UN weapons inspectors return to Iraq, backed by a UN resolution that threatens serious consequences if Iraq is in “material breach” of its terms.
- **12/19/02:** US accuses Iraq of being in “material breach” of the UN resolution after Hans Blix states that the Iraqi arms declaration contains little new information about its weapons of mass destruction capability.
- **12/31/02:** UN inspection team member admits to finding no evidence of WMD.

2003

- **1/9/03:** Hans Blix states that UN weapons inspectors have not found any “smoking guns” in their search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, but acknowledges that Iraq’s 12,000 page weapons declaration was incomplete.
- **2/5/03:** Secretary Powell presents the case for war to the UN Security Council.
- **3/5/03:** The foreign ministers of France, Russia and Germany release a joint declaration stating that they will “not allow” a resolution authorizing military action to pass the UN Security Council.
- **3/16/03:** Vice President Cheney says “my belief is that we will, in fact, be greeted as liberators” on Meet the Press.
- **3/20/03:** Operation Iraqi Freedom is launched.
- **4/13/03:** Tikrit, the last Baathist hold-out, is taken by Marines.
- **5/1/03:** President delivers “Mission Accomplished” speech.
- **8/20/03:** Attack on U.N. headquarters in Baghdad.
- **12/14/03:** Saddam Hussein captured.

2004

- **1/17/04:** U.S. casualties reach 500. Daily attacks on U.S. troops average 17.
- **1/28/04:** Former U.S. weapons inspector David Kay testifies that “we were wrong” about WMD in Iraq.
- **4/28/04:** Images of prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib emerge.
- **Total U.S. casualties for April:** 135 (second overall deadliest month of war)
- **6/28/04:** U.S. transfers sovereignty to Iraq.
- **8/27/04:** President acknowledges for the first time that he made a “miscalculation of what the conditions would be” in post-war Iraq.
- **9/7/04:** Total U.S. casualties reach 1,000.
- **November 2004:** U.S. assault on Fallujah leads to casualties – 137 total. (deadliest overall month of war)

2005

- **1/27/05:** 30 Marines, Sailor die in helicopter crash (deadliest single event yet for U.S. forces).
- **1/30/05:** Iraqis vote to form a Transitional National Assembly.
- **3/3/05:** Total U.S. casualties reach 1,500.
- **5/30/05:** Cheney says insurgency is in its “last throes.”
- **7/17/05:** Massive suicide bombing south of Baghdad kills 100+ Iraqis.
- **10/15/05:** Iraqis ratify draft constitution.
- **10/26/05:** U.S. casualties reach 2,000.
- **12/15/05:** Iraqis elect members of Assembly.

2006

- **January 2006:** More than 180 Iraqis killed over two-day period in al Qaeda attacks.
- **2/22/06:** Bombing of the Golden Mosque in Samarra, a Shia shrine. 1300 Iraqis killed over next few days (Washington Post).
- **Spring/Summer:** Sectarian violence escalates as Shia militias expand.
- **4/21/06:** Maliki replaces Jaafari as Prime Minister.
- **6/8/06:** Zarqawi killed in air raid.
- **6/15/06:** U.S. casualties reach 2,500.
- **June/July 2006:** Maliki attempts to quell rampant violence in Baghdad with new checkpoints. Experiment fails.
- **July 2006:** Deadliest month of the war for Iraqis. 110 average deaths per day (Washington Post). 1,666 total bombings (NYT).
- **August 2006:** Generals Abizaid and Casey admit civil war is “possible.”
- **9/29/06:** “At least 100,000” Iraqi civilians killed to date (Washington Post).
- **October 2006:** 22% spike in attacks (AP), militias continue to splinter into smaller, more radicalized cells. 106 U.S. casualties. 3,709 Iraqis killed and 100,000 fleeing monthly (UN).

- **11/5/06:** Hussein verdict.
- **12/5/06:** Refugees International predicts Iraq will soon become the world's largest refugee crisis – bigger than Darfur.
- **12/6/06:** Iraq Study Group issues report, calling the situation in Iraq “grave and deteriorating.”
- Total U.S. casualties for December are 111, making it the third deadliest month of the war and the most deadly in over two years. IED attacks at an all-time high, killing 72 U.S. troops. Weekly attacks increase to 959.
- **12/30/06:** U.S. casualties reach 3,000.

2007

- **1/10/07:** President announces that he will send 21,500 additional troops to Iraq.
- **1/20/07:** 25 US troops killed in Iraq (3rd-deadliest day for US troops since the beginning of the war)
- **1/31/07:** There are approximately 1.8 million internally displaced people in Iraq, and an additional 2 million Iraqi refugees outside Iraq. The US has admitted 466 of them since 2003. (NY Times editorial)
- **2/1/07:** Pessimistic Iraq National Intelligence Estimate released, which describes increasing levels of violence and the inability of Iraqi forces to deal with it.
- **2/3/07:** 130 Iraqis die when a truck bomb explodes in a Baghdad market, in the deadliest attack since the US first invaded Iraq.
- **2/10/07:** General Petraeus formally takes command of troops in Iraq.
- **2/11/07:** General Odom, former head of Army Intelligence and the NSA, writes devastating op-ed explaining why victory is no longer possible in Iraq.
- **2/12/07:** 70 people were killed when a bomb exploded in a crowded market on the one-year anniversary of the bombing of the Shiite mosque at Samarra, which touched off the ongoing sectarian violence.
- **2/16/07:** House passes non-binding resolution 246-182 opposing President's surge plan. Senate fails to agree to debate the resolution in a special Saturday session the following day.
- **2/21/07:** Tony Blair announces withdrawal of 1,600 British troops over the next several months.
- **2/26/07:** Iraqi cabinet approves a draft of a law that would set guidelines for distribution of oil revenues and foreign investment in the oil industry.
- **2/27/07:** U.S. agrees to participate in talks with Iran and Syria, organized by the Iraqi government.
- **3/1/07:** U.S. officials announce that there will not be full-time electric power in Baghdad until 2013.
- **3/10/07:** President announces that he will send an additional 4700 troops to Iraq, in support of the 21,000 announced in January.

- **3/10/07:** U.S., Iran and representatives from 11 other nations meet in Baghdad to discuss Iraq's future. U.S. asks Iraq's neighbors to stop supplying arms to Iraqi militias; Iran denies that it has done so.

U.S. CASUALTIES

- 2003: 486
- 2004: 848
- 2005: 846
- 2006: 821
- 2007: 203
- TOTAL: 3,218