

Chapter 1 : 1st Armored Division's Iraq timeline - News - Stripes

On 18 March , B and D Squadrons of the British 22nd SAS Regiment had now infiltrated Iraq in full strength (D Squadron by air and B Squadron by ground) along with 1 Squadron Australian SASR and headed for H-2 and H-3 Air Base.

The Convoy has been moving for two days now on their drive north to take down the Iraqi regime. Up until this point the convoy has received little enemy contact. Steven Lopez, 19, with Battery M, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment from Los Angeles, CA carries two charges for a mm howitzer during a ammunition resupply at an artillery position in southern Iraq on March 22, She landed at a forward air base in a country near Iraq. The headquarters mortars, 3rd Battalion, nd Infantry Regiment, st Airborne Division Air Assault section is using the UH Blackhawk helicopter to conduct searches to locate and shut down black market activity in the third largest city in Iraq. The soldiers found documents, weapons, and full grain bags hidden inside the walled compound. Army Soldiers from the Transportation Company pulled their fuel tanker up to a large Saddam Icon so that they could write graffiti on the face. Several members of the company are New York Police and Firemen, and they had personal messages to write on the icon. This was located at Tallil air base in Southern Iraq. David Armstrong, right, while flying a search and rescue flight over southern Iraq on Monday. The Cavalry spent the entire night fighting through the areas and within the city of Al Faysaliyah. A major assault was launched last night by the 3rd Infantry Division as the division makes it way towards Baghdad. The troops have been operating around As Samawah for almost two days now and have been facing some strong resistance from the fighters inside. Kent Fuller from the nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron at an undisclosed air base in the middle east, waves his "retirement Flag" at departing aircraft headed for Iraq. He is from the 31st Fighter Squadron in Aviano, Italy. He got his deployment orders and his retirement orders on the same day so he got this flag to cheer on the pilots during his final deployment. Dan Hunter, from Georgia, a member of a U. The GAAT team measured and tested the quality of the runways and parking ramps to see if they could support the weight of heavy aircraft for use by the US military. The Cavalry is in the process of taking the village and is receiving some resistance from fighters inside. The infantry company searched several buildings turning up uniforms, communication equipment and gas masks, vehicles , dozens of small and large caliber weapons, RPGs, US style uniforms and other personal items, as well as uncovering at least two BM21, a Russian made Multiple Launch Rocket System MLRS. Guilbert Alce, 23, with battery M, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment takes a nap in his sleeping hole near the mm Howitzer he works as a powder man on in an artillery position in southern Iraq. Still flying under "Operation Southern Watch, allied aircraft spent Thursday softening targets during the transition to "Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Cavalry has been fighting in and around the town for more than 48 hours, facing at times strong resistance from the fighters inside. The Cavalry has been fighting in and around the town for more than 48 hours, facing at times strong resistance from the more than 1, fighters inside. Alfredo Martinez, 21, from Lindsay, CA with battery M, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment with fellow Marines patrol outside the artillery position in central Iraq to make sure it is safe for the artillery convey to head to another area on March 26, The 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment has had some fierce fighting on highway 10 over the last two days, killing close to Iraqi soldiers in vehicles ranging from tanks to buses loaded with explosives. Troy King, from Denver, Colorado, mans a. Once there, the GAAT team measured and tested the quality of the runways and parking ramps to see if they could support the weight of heavy aircraft. Army 7th Cavalry positions outside the city, as smoke billows in the background from a weapons depot struck in the city. Bill Brown, 34 of Savannah, Ga takes advantage of a pause in action to find a quiet place to pray. Brown is with the U. The Cavalry is currently holding a blocking position in the south of Baghdad to control all traffic moving in and out of the city. James Shead, right, from Austin Texas care for the wounded. While some of the buildings are destroyed the rest are occupied by soldiers, with soldiers living in every available space in the compound.

Chapter 2 : Iraq War Tank Stock Photos & Iraq War Tank Stock Images - Alamy

Archive: George Bush threatens Iraq pt 1.

Bush address the world on the evening of March 19, to announce that the U. The Iraqi flag as it was in March The Iraqi coat of arms as it was in March Explosions are reported in Baghdad , damaging civilian buildings. The United States Department of Defense later states that the assault consisted of 36 Tomahawk missiles and two F -launched GBU bombs, and that the target was a military bunker thought to contain high-level Iraqi regime officials, including Saddam Hussein himself. Bush states that he ordered the coalition to launch an "attack of opportunity" against specified targets in Iraq. The military action was dubbed "Operation Iraqi Freedom". It has not yet been ascertained when the address was recorded, however. Speculation begins that Saddam Hussein may have been killed. However, these reports are deemed to be false. It is announced that special operations forces are operating inside Iraq. Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States all have special operations forces in the area. Soon after the strike on Baghdad, Iraq launches a number of missiles at targets in Kuwait , including at the coalition forces stationed there. Later in the day, both British and U. During the night, 12 British military personnel and four American troops are killed when a transport helicopter crashes. Around midnight UTC early morning local time , reports indicate that 1, Turkish troops had moved into northern Iraq. Turkey later denies they moved troops into Iraq. Kurdish officials report a U. According to Iraqi regime reports, two civilians are killed and wounded, consisting of mostly women and children. They claim that there have been no defections or surrenders of Iraqi soldiers, and that footage to the contrary is in fact that of kidnapped Iraqi civilians. March 23[edit] American and British forces succeed in taking the airport outside of Basra , and battle with Iraqi forces for control of the city itself. Sixteen Americans go missing; five of them were shown on Iraqi state-run television as prisoners of war and at least four are shown dead in what appears to be a hospital room. In another incident about ten U. Marines are confirmed to be killed, after they ran into an ambush during the Battle of Nasiriyah. The battles around the Iraqi cities of Basra and Nassiriya continue. Iraq reports that it has captured a number of American prisoners of war. The United States military states that 12 soldiers from a maintenance unit are missing. A videotape of the captured and dead soldiers are released, showing possible torture and execution-style killings. Coalition forces take control of a large complex of buildings in An Najaf Province near the city of Najaf. Some news sources proclaim that this is a "huge chemical weapons plant", [19] but Pentagon officials call such announcements "premature" and state that no weapons of mass destruction had yet been found. In Belgium, legal complaints are filed against American officials for " crimes against humanity ". It was reported that an Iraqi representing seven families deposited complaints for violation of human rights against former U. Supported by a socialist deputy and a non-governmental organization NGO , the Iraqis denounce the bombing of a shelter which had made civilian victims in Baghdad in February during the Persian Gulf War. This is made possible by the Belgian law of universal competence, which provides justice on war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, and can apply to any nationalities. Powell stated that this law was a subject of worry. March 24[edit] An operation of about thirty American attack helicopters attack the Medina Division of the Iraqi Republican Guard, entrenched in the Karbala area. Army Apache helicopter is shot down and captured by Iraqi civilians, along with its two crewmen, who appear later on Arab satellite T. A CNN reporter that was embedded with a helicopter unit that participated in the battle reports the destruction of another helicopter and that helicopters were under heavy fire, with only two of them managing to achieve their objectives. China gives the United States the address of its embassy in Baghdad in hopes of avoiding a repeat of the deadly attack on the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. The United States accuses the Russians of deliveries of weapons to Iraq. Ari Fleischer , the spokesman of the U. Devices listed are binoculars for night vision, GPS units, and anti-tank missiles. Fleischer says the U. The Russian government and the companies mentioned as having delivered armaments to Iraq rejects these allegations on Monday, describing them as "inventions" and reaffirming that Moscow strictly respects the embargo imposed by the U. The Arab League votes in favor of a resolution demanding the immediate and unconditional removal of U. The lone dissenting vote was cast by Kuwait. Iraqi leader Saddam

Hussein gives a televised address on Iraqi state television, urging Iraqi citizens to fight coalition forces: Hit your enemy with all your strength. Oh Iraqis, fight with the strength of the spirit of jihad which you carry in you and push them to the point where they cannot go on. British soldiers reported that the Shiite population of Basra appeared to be rebelling against the Iraqi militia. According to some sources, the Iraqi militia forces were attacking the local Basra civilians, attempting to stop the revolt, with artillery and mortars. The Red Cross warned that a humanitarian crisis was emerging in the city. The Red Cross, Save the Children and other organizations are attempting to reach the city. Kuwait also has a caravan of supply trucks heading north into Iraq. Coalition forces announce that the port city of Umm Qasr was now "safe and open" and divers begin searching for mines off shore. Once the waters are clear, British ships, which are waiting off of the Iraqi coast, land in Umm Qasr with additional medicine, food and water for the area. Coalition forces have a small supply of food and water that they begin to pass out to the citizens of Umm Qasr. While fighting in Nasiriya , coalition forces discover and confiscate weapons caches and gear to protect against chemical weapons, including a T tank, over 3, chemical suits with masks, and Iraqi munitions and military uniforms. All of this equipment was hidden in a Nasiriya hospital. Thousands of chemical suits as well as a tank and a large stockpile of weapons are reportedly found by coalition forces in the An Nasiriyah hospital in Iraq. Coalition forces enter the hospital after being fired upon by Iraqi soldiers hiding in the building. British forces attack the mortar position. This assessment, not confirmed by any independent source, would be the heaviest since the beginning of the offensive, the Thursday prior. March 26[edit] The American central command in Qatar admits to have carried out bombardments which could have killed civilians because Iraqi military assets were being placed close to civilian areas - within feet m in some cases. This occurs a few hours after two explosions occurred in on a commercial street of Baghdad which killed 14 Iraqi civilians and injured thirty more, according to Iraqi civil defense. Also on this day special units of the Iraqi Republican Guard, for the first time, take part in the fights against the American and British forces. Just after the marketplace explosions in Baghdad, Russia calls for "the immediate end of the war against Iraq" and discussions to resume within the Security Council. Mayville, conduct a combat parajump into Northern Iraq onto Bashur Airfield. Their mission is to secure a northern front to air-land ground units including armor and logistical assets. The paratroopers also assist special operations forces SOF already active in the areas north of Kirkuk and Mosul.

Chapter 3 : Timeline of the invasion of Iraq - Wikipedia

Shortly before Company L's Fire Support Team unloads 50mm in ordinance against enemy positions in the scorching border town of Safwan. This reconnaissance e.

Aerial bombing[edit] At the time of invasion, coalition aircraft were making bombing runs on Baghdad at the rate of 1, sorties a day, most of them aimed at the Republican Guard and Special Republican Guard. This location turned out to be the best defended Iraqi position of the entire war and two US soldiers were killed by mortar fire early in the fighting. Before sunrise on April 4, the Americans were subjected to a fierce counter-attack by Iraqi troops. Under the cover of darkness, a number of T tanks managed to get within several hundred meters of their position. According to one source: As dawn approached, the attack on the TOC intensified, and Iraqi infantry flooded into the position on foot. Sergeant 1st Class Wilbert Davis is also reported to have been killed along with American journalist Michael Kelly on April 3 after coming under fire, during operations to secure Baghdad Airport. The operation began south of Baghdad and went through main roads to the newly secured airport. The unit was forced to abandon one tank due to a recoilless rifle or RPG strike in the rear that penetrated a fuel cell and set the engine on fire. Later, the Air Force bombed the tank to destroy it in place, and the Iraqi Information Ministry claimed credit for destroying it. Two days later, the entire 2nd Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division was ordered to conduct another "Thunder Run", following the same route as before. This route had been fortified in the intervening period, and senior leaders feared much more substantial resistance than during the prior encounter. The 2nd Brigade easily took control of what is now the "Green Zone" in one day, dramatically speeding up the end of conventional ground combat in Iraq. Each objective was a cloverleaf where east-west roads intersected with the main north-south route Highway 8 being used for the Thunder run. Successfully holding these highway interchanges was essential to keep Highway 8 open thus allowing US forces to remain in the city center following the second Thunder run. US tank 1st and 4th Battalions of the 64th Armored Regiments and infantry units nearly ran out of fuel and ammunition and were almost overrun until reinforcements broke through and were able to resupply Objective Curly. Within hours of a palace seizure and with television coverage of this spreading through Iraq, U. Iraqi government officials had either disappeared or had conceded defeat. Jumhuriya Bridge[edit] On April 8, , some Iraqis mounted a fierce counterattack across the Jumhuriya Bridge, forcing part of the U. At the Yarmuk Hospital, not only all beds, but all medical equipment was stolen. On April 14, the Iraq National Library and National Archives were burned down, destroying thousands of manuscripts from civilizations dating back as far as 7, years. This was a result of theft of some animals for human food, and starvation of caged animals that had no food or water. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. June Learn how and when to remove this template message As the U. This impromptu walkabout was probably his last and his reasons for doing so are still unclear. The walkabout was captured on film and broadcast several days after the event on Al-Arabia Television and was also witnessed by ordinary people who corroborated the date afterwards. He was accompanied by bodyguards and other loyal supporters including at least one of his sons and his personal secretary. After the walkabout Hussein returned to his bunker and made preparations for his family. On April 9, , Baghdad was formally occupied by Coalition forces. Much of Baghdad remained unsecured however, and fighting continued within the city and its outskirts well into the period of occupation. Saddam, certain members of his family and close subordinates had vanished, and his whereabouts were unknown. Many Iraqis celebrated the downfall of Saddam by vandalizing the many portraits and statues of him together with other pieces of his legacy. This attracted considerable media coverage at the time. Firdus Square statue destruction[edit] Main article: Firdos Square statue destruction Before a conglomerate of international press and small crowd of around U. Marine Corps M88 Recovery Vehicle. Various other symbols of the president were defaced. Search for Hussein[edit] This section does not cite any sources. Marines to capture him. The Marines fought a fierce four-hour battle at a Baghdad mosque where senior Iraqi leaders had been thought to be holed up, as American warplanes attacked areas of the city under the control of Iraqi fighters. The fighting in and around the mosque complex

could not be avoided as enemy forces were firing from the area of the mosque. Marines came under fire from rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and assault rifles. One Marine was killed and more than 20 were wounded, but neither Saddam nor any of his aides were found. Reporting[edit] Prior to the invasion, the US policy was that journalists reporting from the ground should be "embedded", that is, be stationed within military units. Such reporters were required to sign contracts with the military and agree to rules that restricted what they could report on. Journalists found breaking those rules risked losing their embedded accreditation and being expelled from Iraq. Be assured, Baghdad is safe, protected. Al Jazeera and Abu Dhabi TV were the only international media organizations to continue operating from their headquarters in Baghdad. Since the war started, other international media organizations had moved their operations to the Palestine Hotel in Baghdad. On the same day a U. Army tank fired into the 15th floor of the Palestine Hotel, killing two cameramen and wounding three. These attacks prompted accusations that the US was deliberately targeting news media outlets. Al Jazeera had provided the Pentagon with co-ordinates of its office in Baghdad; the Abu Dhabi TV building was clearly identified by a large blue sign on its roof, and, for the Palestine Hotel, according to Geert Linnebank, Reuters editor-in-chief, "US troops who have known all along that this hotel is the main base for almost all foreign journalists in Baghdad". In the hotel case, however, other journalists on the scene stated that there was no fire from or around the hotel.

Chapter 4 : War on Iraq begins: From the archive, 19 March | From the Guardian | The Guardian

This is a U.S. military photo released in Baghdad, Iraq on July 24, , of the body of Saddam Hussein's son Qusai who was killed July 22 by U.S. forces in a raid on a house in the town of Mosul.

Overnight, sandbags sprouted on football fields and roundabouts. In the evening the authorities rustled up yet another peace demonstration. The number of fatal car accidents seemed to surge, with drivers in a panic to get home, or to get out. Chemists sold out of valium. Queues at petrol stations broadened and lengthened in a country where fuel is ridiculously cheap and plentiful. The price of mineral water doubled. Tinned foods and packaged soups disappeared from supermarket shelves. Young couples rushed to get engaged. Workers stored the files and fixtures from Iraqi government office buildings. Although Iraqis have talked of little else but war since last September - when it would break out, how long it would last, would their soldiers fight or flee, would Saddam Hussein let his grandchildren be slaughtered in a final stand - it never seemed entirely real. After months of waiting and worry the prospect of imminent attack was here, all too suddenly, and horribly real. In the kitchen of the Abdel Hamid family you could see it had arrived. A young boy, Amr, was making his own final preparations for the onslaught. He was performing the last rites of a four-year-old. In his hand he brandished a plastic gun. Whacking the ammunition clip into the toy, he held it to his stomach and put on a fierce expression. Then he raised it to the heads of the surrounding adults. Baghdadis have lived with the threat so long now that they have become used to burying their fears. One technique is to recount their survival stories of other US and British bombardments: But by yesterday morning, as President Bush made plain, less than 48 hours remained, and it was becoming impossible to hang on to those earlier delusions. Even the weapons inspectors were now all making their getaway. On the runway of Saddam airport, an old soldier in an elegant dark suit and red tie shepherded the weapons experts and remaining UN staff on to a dilapidated green and white Iraqi Airways bus and towards the aircraft waiting to take them to Cyprus. At 10am a vehicle pulled up to the side of the building. Geoffrey Beaumont, the deputy director of the inspectors, was outwardly calm. People are exhausted before it has even begun. He wants to know why there is going to be a war. He wants to know what Bush looks like. He wants to know if Bush is very angry with us. He wants to know if Bush has planes and guns. She put a web of masking tape over the kitchen window in the hope of stopping the glass being shattered by the vibrations of nearby bombs, and piled mattresses and pillows in a ground-floor room, which is seen as a safer sleeping quarters than the first floor. A nephew arrived with cartons of fruit juice to add to the supplies stored in an outdoor shed. The neighbours revved up their generator for a test run, and Myasaa pumped an exploratory trickle out of the tube well recently dug at her doorstep. The only thing left for her to do now is cry when the bombs start dropping, she said.

Chapter 5 : Baghdad Iraq | Tumblr

The Battle of Baghdad, also known as the Fall of Baghdad, was a military invasion of Baghdad that took place in early April, as part of the invasion of Iraq. Three weeks into the invasion of Iraq, Coalition Forces Land Component Command elements, led by the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Division moved into Baghdad.

The Iraq War Debate rapidly shifted, however, following a series of deadly terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, see September 11 attacks. No clear connection was made linking Iraq with the attacks, but U. At the insistence of the United States, the UN Security Council issued Resolution on November 8, , demanding that Iraq readmit inspectors and comply with all previous resolutions. After some initial wrangling, Iraq agreed to readmit inspectors, who began arriving in Iraq within two weeks. Initial inspections were inconclusive, though a small block of countries led by the United States and the United Kingdom argued that Iraq had resorted to its earlier practices, that it was willfully hindering inspection efforts, and that, given the large volume of material unaccounted for from previous inspections, it doubtless continued to conceal large quantities of proscribed weapons. Other countries, particularly France, Germany, and Russia, sought to extend inspections and give the Iraqis further time to comply. On March 17, , the United States and its allies declared an end to negotiations, and on March 20 they launched the first in a series of precision air attacks on targets in Iraq, followed by an invasion of American and British ground forces from Kuwait in the south. On April 9 resistance in Baghdad collapsed, and U. Major fighting ended by late April, but acts of common criminality continued, and, as the months passed, a pattern of concerted guerrilla warfare began to unfold. On December 13, , Saddam surrendered to U. An Iraqi governing council appointed by the CPA had limited powers. Responsible for countless killings and sabotage, the insurgents targeted coalition forces, new Iraqi security forces and recruitment centres, electrical installations, oil pipelines, and other civilian institutions. A push by U. Meanwhile, efforts to hand over control of the government to the Iraqis continued. Ironically, revelations of assault and mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by U. Iraqis around the world were allowed to vote in absentia. Forming a new government A draft constitution approved by a national referendum in October called for a new legislature, the members of which largely would be elected from constituent districts some members would be appointed. Sunni Arabs voted overwhelmingly against the new constitution, fearing that it would make them a perpetual minority. Political violence continued to grow. Attacks directed at coalition forces, which had begun to rise in , became even more violent and sophisticated. Many of these attacks were directed at the police and their families; even with U. Saddam was executed by an Iraqi court on December 30, . President Bush proposed a controversial plan to temporarily increase U. By that time, Iraqis had grown increasingly weary of the violence, and American support for the war, which had come to be called simply the Iraq War, reached an all-time low. Levels of violence in Iraq began to decline during , and some of the additional troops deployed by the United States were withdrawn. The declining levels of violence were attributed not only to the surge itself but to a confluence of factors, including the Sunni Awakening—a movement in which Sunni tribesmen who had formerly fought against U. In November an agreement that determined a timetable for the final withdrawal of U. Under that agreement, U. In February newly elected U. President Barack Obama announced that U. On June 30, , after turning security responsibilities over to Iraqi forces, U. In October the United States announced that the last of its 39, troops would leave Iraq at the end of . On December 15 the U. In December a new cabinet was sworn in, although no ministers were appointed for the defense, interior, and national security ministries, as the parties had been unable to negotiate an agreement regarding the heavily contested security portfolios. However, the power-sharing agreement soon proved unworkable; factional struggles over oil revenues and the control of government institutions continued. In February , protests erupted in parts of Iraq amid a wave of popular uprisings that spread throughout the Middle East and North Africa. Iraqi police responded aggressively, attempting to disperse protesters with water cannons and in some cases live fire. There were also reports that journalists had been detained and beaten by security forces. The protests caused several provincial governors to step down from their posts. Just days after the U. Hashimi was convicted in absentia and in September was sentenced to death. The aggravation of

sectarian tensions translated into increased violence: Radical Sunni militants in western Iraq benefited from the presence of similar Sunni groups fighting in the Syrian Civil War , and weapons and fighters flowed back and forth across the Iraq-Syria border. In mid-June the confrontation between Sunni militants and the government reached a crisis point when ISIL fighters seized the northern city of Mosul , the second largest in Iraq, meeting little resistance from security forces. Images that appeared to show ISIL gunmen executing large numbers of captured Iraqi soldiers circulated on social media after the takeover. In many areas under its control, ISIL circulated decrees threatening non-Muslims with death if they refused to convert to Islam or pay the jizya , a special tax traditionally demanded by Muslim rulers from non-Muslim subjects. Indeed, Abadi was installed as prime minister on September 8, , and was able to form an inclusive administration. Meanwhile, in September , KRG officials held a nonbinding referendum on independence in the area under KRG control; it was overwhelmingly approved with more than 92 percent of the vote. The referendum, however, found very little international support, many countries having urged the KRG not to proceed with it in order to avoid further exacerbating the already unstable nature of the region. The Iraqi central government was strongly opposed to the referendum. Tensions between the two sides were reduced somewhat in March by the progress of ongoing negotiations. Parliamentary elections held in May yielded a surprise victor: His coalition won 54 seats, more than any other group had won but not nearly enough for a majority in the seat legislature. Unexpected results in certain localities immediately prompted calls for a manual recount. Abadi, meanwhile, formed a committee to investigate irregularities; days later the committee found irregularities to have been widespread. As concerns continued to mount across the country, the Council of Representatives ordered a manual recount in June. Shortly thereafter a storage warehouse for ballots cast in the city of Baghdad caught fire. The nationwide recount went on nevertheless. When the results were finalized in early August, there were no major alterations to the original results. Formation of a new government was further complicated by widespread demonstrations over the summer over government corruption and poor services. Protesters temporarily shut down major oil ports and the international airport in Najaf and attempted to disrupt production at major oil fields. Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani , another political heavyweight, called for a new government to be formed immediately in order to address concerns. The newly elected parliament convened on September 3 to begin forming a government. The session ended in deadlock as the legislators were unable to meet a quorum to elect a parliament speaker, the first step in the process of forming a new government; another attempt was scheduled for September . Meanwhile, protests in Basra turned deadly as civilians and security forces clashed, and the protests continued to escalate over the next several days. Parliament met for an emergency session on September 8. A speaker was selected on September 15, after the two major blocs agreed to withdraw both their candidates for prime minister, and a vote for the next president was scheduled for October 2. The selection of a president, traditionally a Kurdish politician, hit a snag of its own. Kurdistan held its own set of elections on September 30, the results of which sparked controversy and were rejected by the major parties. When the vote for the presidency came two days later, the Kurdish parties were initially unable to agree on a nominee, and the vote was delayed. Later in the day, however, Barham Salih was selected as nominee and elected president. Just two hours later he designated Adel Abdul Mahdi prime minister and tasked him with forming a cabinet. Abdul Mahdi was sworn in on October 24 with a partial cabinet. While there was broad consensus on the need to swear in a new government, disagreement over eight cabinet posts prompted many lawmakers to walk out of parliament before a vote could be held on those posts.

Chapter 6 : Salam Pax - Wikipedia

IRAQ WAR - 1. Click to continue 2. CASUALTIES The US has lost 4, service personnel in Iraq since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom on 19 March , according to the latest figures from the US Department of Defense. By 31 August , whe.

Bio[edit] Salam Abdulmunem the name he uses now, based on Abd al-Munim [3] [4] [5] was born to a well-to-do secular family in Baghdad in . When he went through his yearly allowance from back home in a month, his family brought him to Iraq in , [6] where Salam continued his study of architecture at the University of Baghdad. He described the first two years as the most difficult period in his life: I felt lost somewhere between the East and the West. I did not know where I belonged for a long time. He moved to London in , where he took up journalism at City University London , [3] and then lived in Beirut. Raed did not respond promptly to e-mails, so Salam set up the weblog for him to read. Salam continued to post updates to the site even after it was temporarily blocked in Iraq. During the war, he gave accounts of bombings and other attacks from his suburb of Baghdad until his Internet access and the electrical grid was interrupted. Salam remained offline for weeks, writing his diary entries on paper in order to post them later. It turned out not to be instigated by political anarchists, but by Iraqis who ran the prewar Internet cafes in Baghdad for Uruknet, the former government ISP. In August , after not having updated his previous blog for several months, Pax started a second blog titled "shut up you fat whiner! In October he was sent to the United States by The Guardian to report on the American presidential race and current thought there on the subject of Iraq. In his Newsnight report broadcast in October , he interviewed Iraqi Member of Parliament Adnan al-Janabi , a Sunni moderate who served as vice-chair of the constitutional committee, about the proposed Iraqi constitution and revealed that al-Janabi was his father. Salam also mentioned that his mother was Shia , and described his family as being secular in political orientation. Quotes[edit] This section is a candidate to be copied to Wikiquote using the Transwiki process. It takes them around 6 hours to get to Iraq. On the first day of the bombing it worked precisely. The attacks on Baghdad were much less than two days ago. We found out today in the news that the city of Tikrit got the hell bombed out of it. Today the B52s took off at 3pm, in half an hour we will know whether it is Baghdad tonight or another city. Out of sight, out of mind. Lucky you, you have that option. I have to live it. The hospital grounds have been turned to burial grounds.. Saddam is gone, thanks to you. Was it worth it? Be assured it was. We all know that it got to a point where we would have never been rid of Saddam without foreign intervention; I just wish it would have been a bit better planned. Now he [Salam Pax] is the most famous web diarist in the world.

Chapter 7 : 54 Interesting Facts About Iraq - Page 2 of 3 - The Fact File

BAGHDAD, Iraq (CNN) --The U.S. death toll from a downed Chinook helicopter near Fallujah, has risen to 15, U.S. military officials blog.quintoapp.com helicopter was shot down by a shoulder-type missile.

The relations between some coalition members and Iraq had never improved since , and the nations remained in a state of low-level conflict marked by American and British air-strikes, sanctions, and threats against Iraq. Iraqi radar had also locked onto and anti-aircraft guns and missiles were fired upon coalition airplanes enforcing the northern and southern no-fly zones , which had been implemented after the Gulf War in Throughout , the U. Specifically, the stated justification for the invasion included Iraqi production and use of weapons of mass destruction , alleged links with terrorist organizations , and human rights violations in Iraq under the Saddam Hussein government. Because Hussein reneged on his promise to cooperate with UN weapons inspectors for a second time, the United States and Great Britain began planning air strikes. Giorgio Agamben , the Italian philosopher, has offered a critique of the logic of pre-emptive war. As a result, the U. Bush is being urged to do by many advisers is focus on the simple fact that Saddam Hussein signed a piece of paper at the end of the Persian Gulf War, promising that the United Nations could have unfettered weapons inspections in Iraq. It has now been several years since those inspectors were kicked out. At the time of the invasion, they had searched for alleged weapons for nearly four months without finding them, and were willing to continue. Approximately , soldiers and marines from the United States , and 30, from the United Kingdom , as well as smaller forces from other nations, collectively called the " Coalition of the Willing ", were deployed prior to the invasion primarily to several staging areas in Kuwait. The numbers when naval, logistics, intelligence, and air force personnel are included were , Americans, 45, British, 2, Australians and 2, Polish. Plans for opening a second front in the north were abandoned when Turkey officially refused the use of its territory for such purposes. Forces also supported Iraqi Kurdish militia troops, estimated to number upwards of 50, Despite the refusal of Turkey, the Coalition conducted parachute operations in the north and dropped the rd Airborne Brigade, thereby removing the necessity of any approval from Turkey. Later on, during the invasion, it was rumored that Turkey itself had sent troops into the Kurdish part of Iraq. The number of personnel in the Iraqi military prior to the war was uncertain, but it was believed to have been poorly-equipped. Iraqi air-defense installations were engaged on a fairly regular basis after repeatedly targeting and firing upon US and UK air patrols. In mid, the US began to change its response strategy, more carefully selecting targets in the southern part of the country in order to disrupt the military command structure in Iraq. A change in enforcement tactics was acknowledged at the time, but it was not made public that this was part of a plan known as Operation Southern Focus. The tonnage of US bombs dropped increased from 0 in March and 0. The September attacks included a 5 September aircraft attack on the main air defense site in western Iraq. According to an editorial in New Statesman this was "Located at the furthest extreme of the southern no-fly zone, far away from the areas that needed to be patrolled to prevent attacks on the Shias, it was destroyed not because it was a threat to the patrols, but to allow allied special forces operating from Jordan to enter Iraq undetected. Marine Corps Force Recon and U. Air Force Combat Controllers crossed the border into Iraq well before the air war commenced, in order to guide strike aircraft in air attacks. Bush announced that he had ordered the coalition to launch an "attack of opportunity" against targets in Iraq. As soon as this word was given the troops on standby crossed the border into Iraq. These troops were led by the 4th bomb disposal unit which at the time had three R. Before the invasion, many observers had expected a lengthy campaign of aerial bombing in advance of any ground action, taking as examples the Persian Gulf War or the invasion of Afghanistan. In practice, US plans envisioned simultaneous air and ground assaults to decapitate the Iraqi forces as fast as possible see Shock and Awe , attempting to bypass Iraqi military units and cities in most cases. The assumption was that superior Coalition mobility and co-ordination would allow the US-led Coalition to attack the heart of the Iraqi command structure and destroy it in a short time, and that this would minimize civilian deaths and damage to infrastructure. It was expected that the elimination of the leadership would lead to the collapse of the Iraqi Forces and the government, and that much of the population

would support the invaders once the government had been weakened. Occupation of cities and attacks on peripheral military units were viewed as undesirable distractions. One result of this was that one of the divisions intended for the invasion was forced to relocate and was unable to take part in the invasion until well into the war. Many observers felt that the Coalition devoted insufficient numbers of troops to the invasion, and that this combined with the failure to occupy cities put them at a major disadvantage in achieving security and order throughout the country when local support failed to meet expectations. The dark streaks are smoke from oil well fires set in an attempt to hinder attacking air forces. The invasion was swift, with the collapse of the Iraq government and the military of Iraq in about three weeks. The oil infrastructure of Iraq was rapidly secured with limited damage in that time. Securing the oil infrastructure was considered of great importance to funding the rebuilding of Iraq after the invasion ended. In the Persian Gulf War , while retreating from Kuwait, the Iraqi army had set many oil wells on fire, in an attempt to disguise troop movements and to distract Coalition forces. Prior to the invasion, Iraqi forces had mined some oil wells around Basra and the Al-Faw peninsula with explosives. Despite the rapid advance of Coalition forces, some 44 oil wells were destroyed and set blaze by Iraqi explosives or by incidental fire. However, the wells were quickly capped and the fires put out, preventing the ecological damage and loss of oil that had occurred at the end of the Persian Gulf War. In keeping with the rapid advance plan, the U. S Army 3rd Infantry Division defeated Iraqi forces entrenched in and around the airfield and bypassed the city to the west. On 23 March , U. S Marines and Special Forces units pressed the attack in and around Nasiriyah. During the battle an Air Force A was involved in a case of fratricide that resulted in the death of six Marines. With Nasiriyah and Tallil Airfield secured, U. The 1st Airborne Division continued their attack north behind the 3rd Infantry Division, and the 82nd Airborne Division began to consolidate in and around Tallil airfield for further operations. By March, a severe sand storm slowed the U. S advance as the 3rd Infantry Division fought on the outskirts of Najaf and Kufa , with particularly heavy fighting in and around the bridge adjacent to the town of Kifl before moving north toward Karbala. Pre-existing electrical and water shortages continued throughout the conflict and looting began as Iraqi forces collapsed. After a rapid initial advance, the first major pause occurred in the vicinity of Karbala. Army elements met resistance from Iraqi troops defending cities and key bridges along the Euphrates River. These forces threatened to interdict coalition logistical supply routes as U. By the end of March, elements of the 82nd Airborne Division augmented with a mechanized infantry battalion task force of the U. Marine and Army air support, attacked and secured the cities of Najaf and Karbala in order to prevent any Iraqi counterattacks from the east. These attacks effectively protected the eastern flank and rear of the 3rd Infantry Division, which allowed the western flank of the invasion to resupply and continue its advance north through the Karbala Gap and on toward Baghdad, where U. S Marine and British forces had already begun a preliminary assault on the outskirts of the city. Turkey had officially forbidden any US troops from using their bases, so lead elements of the 10th had to make certain detours; their journey was supposed to take four hours but instead it took ten. However, Turkey did allow the use of its air space and so the rest of the 10th flew in. The mission was to destroy the bases of the Kurdish islamist group Ansar al-Islam , believed to be linked to Al Qaida. The 10th would eventually take responsibility for Kirkuk. The target was Sargat and after heavy fighting with both groups, the Special Forces finally took Sargat and pushed the remaining units out of Northern Iraq. After Sargat was taken, Bravo Company along with their Kurdish allies pushed south towards Tikrit and the surrounding towns of Northern Iraq. Iraq was the largest deployment of Special Forces since Vietnam. Initial plans were for armored units to surround the city and gradually move in, forcing Iraqi armor and ground units to cluster into a central pocket in the city, and then attack with air and artillery forces. On 5 April a "Thunder Run" of US armored vehicles was launched to test remaining Iraqi defenses, with 29 tanks and 14 Bradley Armored Fighting Vehicles rushing from a staging base to the Baghdad airport. They met heavy resistance, including many suicidal attacks, but were successful in reaching the airport. Two days later another thunder run was launched into the Palaces of Saddam Hussein, where they established a base. Within hours of the palace seizure, and television coverage of this spreading through Iraq, US forces ordered Iraqi forces within Baghdad to surrender, or the city would face a full-scale assault. Iraqi government officials had either disappeared or had conceded defeat, and on April 9 , , Baghdad was formally occupied by US forces and the

power of Saddam Hussein was declared ended. Much of Baghdad remained unsecured however, and fighting continued within the city and its outskirts well into the period of occupation. Saddam had vanished, and his whereabouts were unknown. Many Iraqis celebrated the downfall of Saddam by vandalizing the many portraits and statues of him together with other pieces of his personality cult. One widely publicized event was the dramatic toppling of a large statue of Saddam in central Baghdad by a US M88 tank retriever, while a crowd of Iraqis cheered the Marines on. The flag was replaced with an Iraqi flag and the demolition continued. The fall of Baghdad saw the outbreak of regional violence throughout the country, as Iraqi tribes and cities began to fight each other over old grudges. The Iraqi cities of Al-Kut and Nasiriyah declared war upon each other immediately following the fall of Baghdad in order to establish dominance in the new country, and Coalition forces quickly found themselves embroiled in a potential civil-war. Nasiriyah responded favorably and quickly backed down, however Al-Kut placed snipers on the main roadways into town, with orders that Coalition forces were not to enter the city. After several minor skirmishes, the snipers were removed, but tensions and violence between regional, city, tribal, and familial groups continued into the occupation period. General Tommy Franks assumed control of Iraq as the supreme commander of occupation forces. The extent of the defections and their effect on the war are unclear. These individuals were identified by a variety of means, most famously through sets of most-wanted Iraqi playing cards.

Chapter 8 : U.S. Military In Iraq - Photo 2 - Pictures - CBS News

The population of Baghdad as of is approximately 7,, making it the largest city in Iraq,[1][2] the second largest city in the Arab World (after Cairo, Egypt), and the second largest city in Western Asia (after Tehran, Iran).

Chapter 9 : Camp Victory - Wikipedia

BAGHDAD, Iraq (CNN) --As U.N. officials translate a page technical report on Iraq's VX nerve agent program, Iraq Saturday continued to destroy its arsenal of al-Samoud 2 missiles, a U.N.