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# **Iraqi Security and Military Force Developments:**

## **A Chronology**

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**May 23, 2003:** Paul Bremer issues Order No. 2, The Dissolution of Entities, dissolving the old Iraqi armed forces.

**September 12, 2003:** US troops of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division accidentally kill ten Iraqi policemen in the city of Fallujah. Fallujah's residents promise a wave of violence against US troops.

**October 2003:** Estimates indicate that the Iraqi security forces will number some 170,000.

**October 9, 2003:** A car laden with explosives slams into a Baghdad police station. Ten Iraqis are killed.

**October 27, 2003:** The headquarters of the Red Crescent and three Baghdad police stations are hit in the same day by four coordinated suicide bombs. 43 die and more than 200 wounded in the bloodiest day since the fall of Hussein's government.

**November 2003:** Estimates for the necessary manning of the Civil Defense Corps rise from 25,000 to 40,000 troops. Estimates for the necessary manning of the Border Police rise from 11,800 to 25,700.

**November 4, 2003:** US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld states that over 100,000 Iraqi security forces have been trained.

**December 14, 2003:** 17 Iraqis are killed when a suicide car bomber runs into a police station near Baghdad.

**January 25, 2004:** Iraqi policemen in Ramadi are attacked on two separate occasions. Seven Iraqi police die.

**January 31, 2004:** 9 Iraqis are killed and 43 others wounded when a suicide bomber runs his car into a police station in Mosul.

**February 10, 2004:** 55 Iraqis are killed and approximately 65 are wounded when a car bomb explodes outside a police station in Iskandariya. Many of the dead were applying for jobs as policemen. When the Iraqi police chief, Ahmed Ibrahim, arrives, the gathered crowd nearly riots while chanting anti-American slogans.

**February 11, 2004:** A gathering of Iraqi Army recruits are attacked in central Baghdad by a suicide car bomber. 47 are killed and at least 50 more wounded.

**February 14, 2004:** Approximately 70 insurgents stage a daring raid on the headquarters of both the police and the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps in Fallujah in a bid to free many of their cohorts. Up to 70 prisoners escape and a number were seen fleeing with the insurgents. 15 policemen and four Lebanese and Iranian insurgents were killed.

**February 23, 2004:** A car bomb detonates outside of a Kirkuk police station, killing at least ten and wounding more than 35 Iraqis.

**March 9, 2004:** Two American CPA officials and their Iraqi translator are killed intentionally by Iraqi policemen 70 miles south of Baghdad. These are the first American civilian deaths in Iraq.

**March 23, 2004:** In Kirku and Hilla, 11 Iraqi policemen were shot and killed in two separate attacks.

**April 2004:** Available Iraqi Army forces drop from 5,600 to 2,400. The available Civil Defense Forces drop from 34,700 to 23,100.

**April 5, 2004:** US Marines lay siege to Fallujah following the murder and desecration of four American security contractors in the city. Several Iraqi battalions refuse to fight in either Fallujah or Sadr City.

**April 21, 2004:** Several suicide bombs explode outside of a number of police facilities in the area of Basra. Crowds assault the Coalition forces trying to reach the wounded with stones. At least 68 are killed by the bombs.

**April 30, 2004:** The siege of Fallujah ends at the urging of Iraqi politicians. The Fallujah Brigade, a cobbled-together militia led by former Iraqi army officers, is formed to rid the city of foreign fighters.

**May 7, 2004:** Four Iraqi police officers are killed when their squad car is ambushed by insurgents in Mosul.

**June 6, 2004:** A police station and military base around Baghdad are bombed: 21 Iraqis are killed in the attacks.

**June 10, 2004:** Moqtada al-Sadr's Mehdi Army takes control of a Najaf police station in direct violation of the ceasefire agreement between Sadr and the US. Sadr's forces free the prisoners and loot the station.

**June 14, 2004:** Multiple suicide bombings aimed at Iraqi police kill dozens of civilians in Baghdad.

**June 17, 2004:** 41 are killed and approximately 142 are injured when suicide car bombers detonate outside a military recruitment center and a city council building in Baghdad.

**June 24, 2004:** Sunni insurgents launch a series of coordinated attacks on Iraqi security forces in Fallujah, Baghdad, Mosul, Ramadi, and Baquba. At least 70 Iraqis are killed.

**July 2004:** The Civil Defense Corps disbands and is replaced by the National Guard. The Intervention Force is established with an end manning goal of 6,600. The Special Operations Force is established with an end manning goal of 1,600 troops. The Coastal Defense Force is established with an end manning goal of 400 as is the Air Corps, with an end manning goal of 500.

**July 16, 2004:** Australia deploys the Iraqi Army Training Team consisting of 50 soldiers with the task of training a full brigade of Iraqi soldiers.

**July 28, 2004:** A car bomb kills 70 Iraqis outside of a police recruiting center in Baquba.

**August 2004:** US marines arrest the Al Anbar Province's police chief, on charges of corruption.

**August 3, 2004:** Insurgent attacks in Baquba, Baghdad, and the Al Anbar Province kill six US troops and approximately three Iraqi National Guardsmen.

**September 2004:** Prime Minister Allawi and President Bush both state that there are 100,000 fully trained and equipped Iraqis providing security in Iraq. NATO ambassadors agree to send 200 trainers to help rebuild the Iraqi army. The First Infantry Division arrests a senior commander of the Diyala Province's Iraqi National Guard, alleging that he maintained ties to insurgents. The end manning goal of the Iraqi National Guard increases from 41,000 to 61,900 as does the end manning goal for Border Enforcement, from 16,300 to 32,000. The end manning goal for the Iraqi police increases from 90,000 to 135,000.

**September 6, 2004:** 7 US soldiers and three Iraqi soldiers are killed by a car bomb outside of Fallujah.

**September 10, 2004:** The Fallujah Brigade disbands without having secured the city. A small riot breaks out as people leave a mosque. Iraqi police fire into the crowd killing two people and injuring five. Aides to al-Sadr claim that the dead and injured were unarmed.

**September 14, 2004:** 12 policemen are killed in Baquba by a drive by shooter. 47 Iraqis are killed and 114 are wounded by a car bomb outside a military recruitment area. The recruits were forced to stand outside blast absorbing concrete barriers. The ensuing crowd curses the US and blames US warplanes for the attack. Elements associated with Abu Musab Zarqawi claim credit for both attacks.

**September 17, 2004:** 13 are killed by a suicide car bomb near a police checkpoint in Baghdad.

**September 18, 2004:** A suicide car bomb kills 19 and wounds 67 more in Kirkuk. The bomber targeted a crowd of young men seeking employment with the Iraqi National Guard.

**September 19, 2004:** A car bomb aimed at a joint Iraqi-US patrol near Samarra kills one Iraqi soldier, one Iraqi civilian, and wounds seven others.

**September 21, 2004:** An insurgent abandons a car loaded with explosives near the Iraqi National Guard recruiting center in the Jamiya neighborhood of western Baghdad. No one was hurt.

**September 22, 2004:** The Iraqi National Guard center in the Jamiya neighborhood of western Baghdad is hit by a suicide car bomb that kills at least 11 and wounded an unknown number. Recruits had gathered around the center and were apparently the target.

**September 23, 2004:** Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld testifies that since May 1, 2003, 721 Iraqi personnel have died providing their country with security.

**September 25, 2004:** Seven Iraqi National Guard applicants die in the Jamiya neighborhood of western Baghdad at the hands of insurgents. A US army soldier faces 25 years in jail for his part in the death of an Iraqi National Guardsman in Adwar in May. An Iraqi police captain, Salman Turki al-Shamani, is killed by insurgents near Baquba.

**September 26, 2004:** Two suicide car bombers try to drive into a base used by US Marines and Iraqi National Guardsmen in Karma, near Fallujah. When challenged, they detonate the cars. No injuries are reported.

**October 2004:** The Highway Patrol and the Dignitary Protection service are established with end manning goals of 1,500 and 500 men each.

**October 1, 2004:** 3,000 US and 2,000 Iraqi forces launch an assault on the approximately 500 militants controlling the city of Samarra, an area 60 miles north of Fallujah. Estimates now indicate that the Iraqi security forces will need to number some 346,700 men, double the estimate from October 2003.

**October 4, 2004:** General James Jones, NATO's commander, announces that up to 3,000 NATO troops could be involved in the training of Iraqi security forces. US and Iraqi forces take Samarra, killing 100 militants. Iraqi units fight with distinction and capture 24 suspected foreign fighters. Three car bombs, two in Baghdad and one in the west, kill at least 26 people and wound more than 100 others. Iraqi security forces fight a gun battle in downtown Baghdad after one of the blasts. One of the suicide bombers rams a recruiting center for Iraqi plainclothes policemen.

**October 5, 2004:** An estimated 3,000 US and Iraqi troops begin a campaign designed to wrest control of insurgent-held areas of the Babil Province. Iraqi Special Forces play a prominent role in the subsequent raids.

**October 6, 2004:** A suicide bomber drives an explosives-laden vehicle into an Iraqi checkpoint at the Iraqi National Guard encampment near Anah, 160 miles northwest of Baghdad. Approximately 1,200 members of the 202<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi National Guard, 7<sup>th</sup> Army Battalion, and 1<sup>st</sup> Ministry of Interior commando battalion are designated to stay in Samarra. The governor pledges to send 1,500 additional police officers.

**October 9, 2004:** 11 Iraqi National Guardsmen are killed and six others injured during an insurgent attack on the National Guard compound located in Karabilah, near the Syrian border. NATO declares its commitment to sending 300 military trainers to Iraq after stiff resistance, especially from France. The program is unlikely to be in place until the end of the year.

**October 10, 2004:** Iraqi National Guardsmen assist in a border operation that results in the deaths of two insurgents or smugglers. At least 10 Iraqis die in explosions near the oil ministry and police academy.

**October 12, 2004:** In Ramadi, a joint force of US and Iraqi troops arrests a Sunni cleric, Sheik Abdul Aleem Saïdy, and his son. Iraqi police in Sadr City continue buying heavy weapons from al-Sadr's militia forces.

**October 15, 2004:** A suicide car bomber narrowly misses a unit of Iraqi police on patrol, killing 10 bystanders.

**October 19, 2004:** Four Iraqi national guardsmen are killed and 80 are injured in a mortar attack 80 miles north of Baghdad. Insurgents unsuccessfully try to assassinate Col. Mohamed Essa Baher, the commander of the 507<sup>th</sup> Iraqi National Guard Battalion. Baher had identified a financier allegedly a part of the Zarqawi terror network the day before the attack.

**October 23, 2004:** Three minibuses filled with 49 Iraqi recruits for the 16<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Army Brigade are ambushed by insurgents dressed as Iraqi police. All 49, as well as 3 accompanying civilians, are killed. The ambush takes place as the recruits leave a training base in Kirkush, 15 miles from the Iranian border and northeast of Baghdad. This is the singlemost deadly insurgent ambush to date. Several Iraqi National Guardsmen are killed by a car bomb at a checkpoint south of Samarra. At least four are killed. Another car bomb kills between 10 and 16 Iraqi policemen at a checkpoint outside of the Marine base in Al Asad in the Anbar Province.

**October 25, 2004:** An Iraqi national security aide declares that up to 5% of Iraq's security forces are most likely infiltrated by insurgents.

**October 26, 2004:** Prime Minister Allawi blames the US and its Coalition allies for the massacre of the 49 Iraqi army recruits. Iraq's interior minister, Falah al-Naqib, announces a new campaign to rid the police force of corrupt and ineffective members. The militant group, the Army of Ansar al-Sunna, claims responsibility for the murder of 11 Iraqi National Guardsmen it had captured on the road between Hilla and Baghdad.

**October 28, 2004:** Two senior Iraqi police officers are killed near Latifiya, south of Baghdad, allegedly by the Army of Ansar al-Sunna.

**October 30, 2004:** Iraqi police officers allegedly fired indiscriminately on civilians after an attack on an American convoy south of Baghdad. Reportedly, the police direct their fire on three minibuses and three vans, killing 14 and wounding 10.

**November 2, 2004:** A car bomb intended for an Iraqi security convoy kills four Iraqi civilians and wounds 12 Iraqi National Guardsmen in Mosul. NATO begins its first eight-week training

course for security personnel at its Joint Warfare Centre in Norway. 19 mid to high-level officials from the Iraqi military, Ministry of Defense, and the Ministry of the Interior attend.

**November 3, 2004:** Three decapitated bodies of Iraqi National Guardsmen are found underneath the 14<sup>th</sup> of July Bridge in Baghdad. A group calling itself the Brigades of the Iraqi Honorables claims responsibility for killing the three men. Ansar al-Sunna posts pictures of another decapitation on the Internet, claiming that the victim is Maj. Hussein Shanoun, an officer in the new Iraqi army.

**November 6, 2004:** More than 15 Iraqi police officers are killed by a series of closely coordinated assaults against police stations in Samarra. In addition, an Iraqi National Guard Commander, Abdel Razeq Shaker Garmali, is among those killed in Samarra.

**November 7, 2004:** Insurgents launch an attack against a police station in the town of Haditha, taking 21 policemen hostage. The insurgents kill all of them execution-style. In another attack on a police station in the town of Haqlaniya, insurgents kill the head of security in western Iraq, Brigadier Shaher al-Jughaifi. Unknown gunmen kill Iraqi police Col. Abdul Adim Abed in the Mualmeen neighborhood of Baquba. The director of security in Sulaimaniyah, Brigadier Sarkout Hassan Jalal, claims that Islamic militants regularly smuggle recruits from Iran into Iraq and on to Fallujah and other "hotspots." The Iraqi government declares a state of emergency for 60 days with the exception of the northern Kurdish regions. The declaration coincides with the beginning stages of an assault on the restive city of Fallujah. Iraqi commandos from the 36<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Commando Battalion supported by US Marines take control of Fallujah's main hospital just prior to the declaration.

**November 8, 2004:** The battle for Fallujah begins. Approximately 10,000 US troops and 2,000 Iraqi forces confront 3,000 to 5,000 insurgents. Iraqi commandos seize a hospital and a railway station. The hospital was the focal point of erroneous casualty reports following the first assault on Fallujah.

**November 9, 2004:** Two police stations in Baquba are attacked. One police officer is killed and eight are wounded. Reportedly, the police stand their ground and fight well. Elsewhere, a suicide car bomb strikes an Iraqi National Guard base north of Kirkuk, killing at least three. Prime Minister Allawi visits Camp Fallujah and gives a speech in front of the assembled Iraqi forces. The prime minister's speech is met with praise and cheers.

**November 10, 2004:** Insurgents loot and strip an Iraqi National Guard base in the town of Hammam al-Alil. The National Guard battalion stationed there falls apart when attacked, leaving the base, armory and all, to the militants. Two members of the Iraqi security forces are reported killed in action in Fallujah. Prime Minister Ayad Allawi places Maj. Gen. Abdul Qader Mohammed Jassim, the Iraqi ground forces commander in Fallujah, in control of the Western



Anbar province until a civilian authority can be appointed. In Fallujah, the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the Iraqi Intervention Force begins operations against the insurgents in Fallujah on its own and controls one part of the city by itself. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade aids US forces in bringing the Hydra Mosque under control. The 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, and the Iraqi Police Service's Emergency Response Unit see action. The 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade helps US forces subdue insurgents in the Al Tawfiq Mosque. The 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade mans vehicle checkpoints with US forces in the heart of Fallujah.

**November 11, 2004:** An Iraqi police vehicle and an American convoy are attacked by a suicide car bomber in central Baghdad. Nineteen people are killed. In Mosul, reports indicate that insurgents openly roam the streets and repeatedly attack police stations and government facilities. The insurgents, numbering between 400 and 500, split into groups of 15-20 to carry out attacks. Several police stations are burned to the ground despite pleas from imams via mosque loudspeakers. Insurgents seize control of six to seven police stations for the better part of an hour. When they are repelled, the fighters seize vehicles, weapons, body armor, radios, and uniforms. One senior police officer, the brother of Mosul's police chief, is shot dead in his front yard. Fighters attack the Iraq Media Network. Brigadier General Carter Ham, commander of Task Force Olympia, states that he has never seen the level of command and control exhibited by the insurgents prior to today. Ten Iraqi National Guard troops die in the fighting. In response, US soldiers and members of the Iraqi National Guard raid southern portions of the city. In Fallujah, US and Iraqi forces seize control of 70% of the city. A total of nine Iraqi security force members are wounded.

**November 12, 2004:** The 1<sup>st</sup> battalion of the new Iraqi army encounters stiff resistance in the Jolan section of Fallujah. Brigadier Abdul Hussain Mahmoud Badar arrives in the Maysan province to take command of the Iraqi National Guard 73<sup>rd</sup> Brigade. Badar flees the same day, having been verbally threatened by individuals who claimed to be actively involved in the insurgency.

**November 13, 2004:** Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Allawi declares Fallujah liberated. Insurgents launch two attacks on an Iraqi National Guard base near Mosul, killing two guardsmen and wounding 21.

**November 14, 2004:** A total of six Iraqi military personnel are reported killed and more than 40 wounded in the fighting in Fallujah. Reports indicate that Iraqis are taking over the screening process for police recruits and are firing thousands for incompetence or inaction. Iraqi sources state that such competence or corruption in the police led to the death of the 49 recruits last month. Reports indicate the firing of the police chiefs in both Samarra and Mosul following waves of insurgent attacks. The same reports state that Iraqi military officials have raised the recruiting age from 17 to 20, require a letter of approval from a local community council for each recruit, require that recruits must have a family member in the service to be eligible, and that committees will be sent to recruits' neighborhoods to investigate their morality.

**November 15, 2004:** Insurgents attack two police stations in Baquba. Elements are believed to have belonged to Saddam Hussein's intelligence apparatus. It appears that there are a few foreign fighters, mostly Syrians, mixed in. Fighting continues in Mosul. The Iraqi Interior Minister reports that in one unidentified Iraqi city, a wounded Iraqi police officer was taken from his bed, dismembered, and that his remains were strung up in the city square.

**November 16, 2004:** Militants fight with National Guardsmen from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in the northern Mosul neighborhood of al-Ta'mim. Three guardsmen are hurt and at least two insurgents are killed. US officials state that between 1,000 and 2,000 insurgents have been killed in Fallujah, with an additional 1,000 detained.

**November 17, 2004:** Brig. Gen. Carter Ham states that Mosul is back under US and Iraqi control. Insurgents fire mortar rounds on the al-Ahrar police station within the city. The Iraqi Interior Ministry states that it is investigating reports that 31 security force recruits may have been kidnapped in Rutbah. The Iraqi police in Karbala indicated that they believed that they may have been taken. NATO unanimously agrees to increase the number of military trainers in Iraq from 65 to approximately 400. These trainers require around 1,600 supporting staff and will not serve in a combat role. Reports indicate that new personnel will be in place in the next six weeks.

**November 18, 2004:** Militants detonate a car bomb in Baghdad outside the emergency Yarmouk police station in the west of the city. Two civilians die. Reports indicate that insurgents in Baghdad are lining one particular street with police uniforms in an effort to intimidate future recruits. Shelling and sporadic fighting continues in the southern outskirts of Fallujah. In Mosul, a mortar attack in the western portion of the city wounds five Iraqi soldiers. Iraqi commandos, backed by US troops, prepare to storm rebel-held parts of the city. Two Iraqi National Guard officers are publicly beheaded in the city by a group claiming allegiance to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

**November 19, 2004:** A suicide car bomber rams an Iraqi police checkpoint in Maysalon Square in east Baghdad. The attack kills five police officers and wounds four others. Elsewhere in Baghdad, worshippers outside a mosque protest the assault on Fallujah. Some of the protestors fire on Iraqi National Guardsmen who subsequently return fire. A police convoy traveling through the city is hit by a suicide car bomber, killing one policeman and a bystander and wounds five others. In Fallujah, the commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Force states that the assault had "broken the back of the insurgents" in the city. He reports that 51 US troops and eight Iraqi troops had been killed and that an additional 425 US troops and 43 Iraqi troops were wounded. He states that approximately 1,200 insurgents were killed, 25-30 civilians were being treated for injuries, and that he knew of no civilian deaths caused by the fighting. Insurgents attack a police station in Muqdiya with mortars, killing a police officer. In Mosul, reports indicate that residents are growing uneasy with the presence of Kurdish National Guardsmen in the city.

**November 20, 2004:** Unidentified assailants kill an Iraqi National Guard recruit in a drive by shooting near Baquba. He was on his way to a training center when he was attacked. Iraqis find the bodies of eight Iraqi policemen some 15 miles west of Mosul. US forces reportedly detain three Iraqi National Guardsmen who were working for the insurgency. Reports indicate that approximately 15 Iraqi Army troops were killed in the last 24-36 hours.

**November 21, 2004:** Militants attack a convoy ferrying Iraqi National Guardsmen in Ramadi. The insurgents kill nine guardsmen and wound an additional 17. In Mosul, US troops discover the bodies of nine Iraqi soldiers who had been shot execution style. Attackers kill the police chief and his driver in the town of Khalis. An Internet statement from a group purportedly affiliated with Abu Musab Zarqawi appears claiming that the group had killed 17 Iraqi National Guardsmen from Kisik.

**November 23, 2004:** Approximately 5,000 US, British, and Iraqi troops launch an offensive dubbed Plymouth Rock in locales south of Baghdad in an effort to pacify the restive area. Reports indicate that the main elements involved are Iraqi SWAT forces supported by the 24<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit. The campaign begins with early morning raids in the town of Jabella in the Babil province which net 32 suspected militants. Elsewhere, interim defense minister Hazem Sha'alan tells reporters that he cannot provide safety for voters in candidates in the upcoming election. He states that Iraqis don't understand elections and that they are not aware of the candidates. Sh'alan accuses a "vile coalition" within interim Prime Minister Allawi's government of obstructing the flow of funds to former soldiers' pensions and to the new Iraqi army. In Baghdad, insurgents attack the deputy chief of Baghdad's Major Crime Unit, Col. Ziyaa Hamed's, car. In Baquba, gunmen attack a convoy carrying Iraqi security forces, killing three of them. US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld states in a press briefing that, though Iraqi forces took part in a supporting role, they performed well in recent operations in Fallujah.

**November 24, 2004:** Iraqi interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi attends the graduation of 2,500 troops of the Iraqi Intervention Force at the Numaniyah military base near Kut, south east of Baghdad. The graduates will form the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the Iraqi Intervention Force and are specially trained in counterinsurgency tactics. US Lt-Gen. David Petraeus states that they will be operational within two weeks and that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade should be ready by the end of December. In Mosul, militants attack Iraqi Gen. Rashid Flaih, the head of the Iraqi commando unit in the city. Flaih is unhurt.

**November 25, 2004:** US troops and Iraqi National Guardsmen launch raids on suspect buildings in the west side of Mosul. Reports indicate that some 11 dead Iraqi soldiers were found in and around Mosul. They were bound and shot in the back of the head. Iraqi Minister of State, Qasim Dawood, states in a press conference that Colonel Fawas Armoot was chosen as Ramadi's police chief. Dawood declares that soldiers in Fallujah have discovered a rudimentary chemical and biological weapon facility that was being run by insurgents. The minister states that Iraqi police have captured five foreign terrorists, Libyan, Tunisian, and Syrian, trying to cross the border into Iraq.

**November 26, 2004:** US troops and Iraqi National Guardsmen continue to conduct operations in Mosul. The forces raid one mosque run by an imam who is suspected of being an insurgent leader. The Iraqis perform well though they encounter no enemy fire. Two executed Iraqi soldiers are dumped at a busy traffic circle in downtown Mosul. US forces believe that soldiers are being kidnapped at taxi stands when they return home on leave.

**November 27, 2004:** Three Iraqi police officers die in a bombing attack. The location of the attack remains unclear.

**November 28, 2004:** Iraqi police detain two men and a vehicle packed with explosives in the Al-Jadriya neighborhood of Baghdad. In Baquba, militants fire mortars at the Al-Wahda police station, wounding a police officer. Militants storm a police station in Samarra, stealing several police vehicles and looting the armory. Iraqi police fail to confront them. US and Iraqi forces launch land and amphibious raids to the south of Baghdad, killing 17 militants and capturing 32. In Basra, British and Iraqi troops surround the headquarters of the southern regional Iraq National Guard after Brigadier General Diaa al-Kadhimi refused to step down as commander in favor of Salah al-Maliki.

**November 29, 2004:** A car bomb near Ramadi explodes, killing four Iraqi police officers and wounding three others. Three Iraqi National Guardsmen are injured as well. In a separate attack in Baghdadi, 120 miles northwest of Baghdad, a suicide bomber detonates his car at a police checkpoint, killing seven Iraqi police and National Guardsmen. The blast injures an additional nine security personnel. Brig. Gen. Kadhimi continues his standoff in Basra. Reports indicate that at least 50 pro interim government or security force personnel have been killed in Mosul in the last 10 days. The police chief states that no police are on active patrol because the city remains too dangerous. The US and Iraqi National Guard strike a deal with Mosul police to move back in to several of the police stations that were seized or looted during the beginning of the Fallujah campaign. The police agree to man some of the more dangerous stations by mid-December. Reports indicate that Iraqi security forces have abandoned Tal Afar. The governor of Najaf, Adnan al-Zurufi, announces that his security chief has been arrested by police in connection with a plot to assassinate the governor and several other top regional officials.

**November 30, 2004:** In the Babil Province south of Baghdad, Iraqi and US forces captures 14 suspected militants and discovers three arms caches. Near Iskandariyah, the Iraqi SWAT team and the Iraqi Specialized Special Forces capture several high value suspects in separate operations. In Najaf, the 11<sup>th</sup> US MEU commander declares that Iraqi security forces have formally assumed control of the entire province and have the ability to conduct limited operations on their own.

**December 2, 2004:** Iraqi National Security minister Dr. Qassim Dawood states that securing the polling centers for the Iraqi election will be left to the Iraqi security forces and Iraqi society as a

whole. He declares that the US forces will only be called upon if a polling center faces a major insurgent attack.

**December 3, 2004:** Gunmen shoot and kill sixteen Shi'ite Iraqi police officers, laying siege to a police station in the Baghdad neighborhood of Saydiya. Sources believe that the area harbors militants who fled Fallujah prior to the US and Iraqi attack on the city. In a separate attack at the other end of the city, insurgents ram a suicide car bomb into a crowd outside of a Shi'ite mosque, close to a nearby police station. 14 die and a gun battle ensues between the Iraqi police and the insurgents who fire on the police station. In Mosul, three police stations are attacked, though no immediate casualty reports are available. An Iraqi National Guard captain is assassinated in Karbala

**December 4, 2004:** A suicide car bomber kills at least 18 Kurdish militiamen when he rams his car into their bus in Mosul. More than 16 are wounded. Another suicide bomber rams a police station in Baghdad near the Green Zone. The attack kills eight officers and wounds more than 38. Gunmen attack a police station in the Ghazaliya neighborhood in Baghdad. Another police station is attacked by militants in Samarra. Both attacks are repulsed, with two officers wounded in Samarra.

**December 5, 2004:** Insurgents ram a suicide car bomb into an Iraqi National Guard checkpoint near Bayji and follow the explosion up with small arms fire. Three Guardsmen are killed and 18 are wounded. In Samarra, gunmen attack an Iraqi army patrol, killing one soldier and wounding four more. Two Iraqi National Guardsmen are killed and four are wounded in Latifiyah in an insurgent attack.

**December 6, 2004:** A statement from the US Customs and Border Protection officers and their Iraqi counterparts indicates that they caught more than 40 terrorists arming insurgents within Iraq. The statement reveals that the officers, working closely with Iraqis, broke up an Iraqi smuggling ring.

**December 7, 2004:** A roadside bomb explodes south of Baghdad, killing three Iraqi National Guardsmen and wounding an additional 11. General John Abizaid, commander of US CENTCOM, declares that the Iraqi security and military forces are behind schedule in their training. He states that the indigenous forces will not be able to secure the country for the January election and that more US troops will temporarily be needed. He suggested that there would be more embedded US trainers and that more special operations forces might need to be created.

**December 8, 2004:** The police chief of Samarra's home is attacked by insurgents. Reportedly, the police chief resigned following the attack. Unconfirmed reports state that a police station within the city was overrun by insurgents. In Ramadi, militants detonate a bomb near a police

station. No injuries are reported. One Iraqi policeman claimed that half of Ramadi's policemen had failed to report for duty because of threats and intimidation.

**December 9, 2004:** NATO formally agrees to increase its training staff in Baghdad from 60 officers to 300. Poland, Hungary, and the Netherlands agree to contribute forces. France, Germany, Belgium, Greece, Spain, and Luxembourg refuse. The German Foreign Minister, Joschka Fischer, states adamantly that no Germans will go to Iraq. A US-backed Iraqi National Guard patrol is ambushed in Mosul. The casualties are uncertain though it is believed that at least one Guardsman is killed.

**December 10, 2004:** Militants try to attack an Iraqi National Guard patrol in Samarra with mortars. The attack leaves the Guardsmen unscathed but kills two civilians. In Baquba, four Iraqi national Guardsmen are injured when a roadside bomb explodes by their patrol car. Insurgents attack them with small arms after the explosion.

**December 11, 2004:** Insurgents ambush a police patrol car on a road between Baiji and Tikrit. Two officers die and three are wounded. One of those killed is reportedly Brig. Gen. Razzaq Karim Mahmud, a senior police commander. In the town of Hit, militants attack a minibus carrying a contingent of Iraqi National Guardsmen. Seven Guardsmen are killed.

**December 12, 2004:** Reports indicate that more than 160 bodies, many members of the Iraqi National Guard, have been found in and around Mosul since November 12<sup>th</sup>. South of Baghdad, 72 suspected militants are seized by US Marines and Iraqi security forces near the Euphrates River. Insurgents attack a police station near Mahmudiya. Iraqi National Guardsmen and Iraqi police successfully repel the attackers and suffer no losses. They uncover a car bomb across the street from the station and US forces detonate it. Officials attribute recent success by Iraqi forces in the area to the removal of a senior National Guard officer in November who, it was discovered, had been supplying insurgents with information. He was directly implicated in the murders of 12 Iraqi National Guardsmen.

**December 14, 2004:** In central Baghdad, a suicide bomber detonates a bomb at an entrance to the Green Zone. Three Iraqi National Guardsmen die and 12 people are wounded. The bombing is the second attack on the same entrance in two days and comes a day and a year after Saddam Hussein's capture. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's Al-Qaeda in Iraq group claims responsibility for both attacks. US and Iraqi forces continue to fight insurgents in northern Mosul and in the western Anbar province. Two Iraqi National Guardsmen are killed and five wounded in a battle with insurgents near Dijail. In Samarra, Iraqi police report that three children were killed in the crossfire during a firefight between US forces and Iraqi forces and insurgents.

**December 16, 2004:** A roadside bomb explodes in western Baghdad, killing three Iraqi National Guardsmen. The Iraqi Minister of Defense, Hazim Al-Shaalan, orders the Iraqi forces to secure the churches and places of worship for the coming holiday.

**December 18, 2004:** Militants in Samarra fire mortar rounds at an election office located in a youth center. One Iraqi dies and eight others are evacuated to a hospital by members of the Iraqi National Guard who respond to the attack. Elsewhere in Samarra, Iraqi commandos seize bomb-making material and take into custody three insurgents during a raid. In Mosul, Iraqi National Guardsmen engage militants in a gun battle in the western part of the city, killing three insurgents.

**December 20, 2004:** A driver throws a hand grenade at a police station in Karbala. No injuries are reported and the driver is arrested.

**December 21, 2004:** A suicide bomber detonates his explosives at a U.S. military base mess tent near Mosul, killing 22 and wounding 72 more. The attack hits a dining hall where US soldiers, Iraqi National Guardsmen, and Iraqi civilians are having lunch. 3 Iraqi security forces personnel are killed. The suicide bomber is believed to be a Saudi allied with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi named Abu Omar al-Mosuli, and apparently he had acquired an Iraqi military uniform. After the attack, indigenous insurgent groups claim that the suicide bomber was not affiliated with Zarqawi and was a native Iraqi. Najaf's police chief, Ghaleb al-Jazaeri, states that an Iraqi in custody confessed to having received training in a camp in Syria under the supervision of a Syrian military officer. The Iraqi reportedly took part in a bombing in Najaf in early December which killed 54 people. Syria denies having trained any insurgents.

**December 23, 2004:** 141 Iraqi police officers graduate from six specialty training courses given at the Adnan Training Center. The one to two week courses are designed to bolster the regular eight week training courses and focus particularly on basic criminal investigation, supervision, executive leadership, and kidnapping/hostage rescue.

**December 25, 2004:** In Mosul, a roadside bomb explodes, destroying an Iraqi National Guard bus. Five Guardsmen die and three are wounded. Reportedly, Iraqi civilians threw rocks at the burning vehicle after the attack.

**December 26, 2004--**Col. Yassin Ibrahim Jawad, a high-ranking police officer, is killed in southern Baghdad. Gen. Babakir Shawkat Zebari states that the bombing of the mess tent in Mosul was not perpetrated by a member of the Iraqi military or security forces. He further states that President Bush's criticisms of Iraqi forces, primarily that some would not fight and that some had deserted, were erroneous.

**December 28, 2004:** Insurgents attack and destroy the Um Kashifa police station near Tikrit. 12 Iraqi police officers are killed. In a separate attack near Tikrit, militants attack a police checkpoint killing one officer and wounding two others. Police checkpoints south of Tikrit are attacked, killing five Iraqi police officers and wounding three more. 13 Iraqi police officers are shot execution-style at one of the stations. US Maj. Neal O'Brien, spokesman for the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, states that despite the attack, the Iraqi security forces in Tikrit are performing quite well. One soldier cites nearly 2 ½ months of relative quiet in the city as proof. An Iraqi employed at the city hall states that 25 members of the Iraqi National Guard resigned after the attacks. An elaborate ambush on Iraqi National Guard troops takes place south of Baquba. It starts with a roadside bomb that wounds three Iraqi National Guardsmen near the Maffrak traffic circle in the Mualemeen neighborhood. A second roadside bomb is found and a disposal team comes to remove it. A suicide car bomber then drives through the security cordon, killing a civilian and 26 others. Insurgents in Baghdad detonate a car bomb near the home of Maj. Gen. Moudher al-Mula, an Iraqi National Guard commander, in an assassination attempt. He escapes unhurt, though several bystanders are killed. In a separate attack in the western Baghdad district of Ghaziliya, insurgents lure Iraqi police officers into an explosive-laden home and then blow up the house, killing seven police officers and wounding two others. In Mosul, militants fire from a mosque at a joint US-Iraqi military patrol, wounding one Iraqi National Guardsman. Near Samarra, five Ministry of the Interior commandos are wounded by an IED.

**December 29, 2004:** Iraqi Defense Minister Hazim Al-Shaalan announces that the Iraqi National Guard will be incorporated into the Iraqi Army on the anniversary of Army Day on January 6, 2005. He states that forces totaling a division in size will all be graduating on that day. An Iraqi official states that Iraqi security forces have captured a key member of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's organization in the city of Mosul. Abu Marwan allegedly directed attacks in the city and was responsible for purchasing weapons and training the various terrorist cells.

**December 31, 2004:** Five Iraqi National Guardsmen are wounded near Baiji when a car bomb explodes near their patrol vehicle. Two civilians are killed.

**January 1, 2005:** Militants claiming loyalty to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi release a video showing the execution of five Iraqis believed to be Iraqi border guards. The insurgents warn that the same fate will befall any Iraqis who join the military and security services.

**January 2, 2005:** 22 Iraqi National Guardsmen die north of Baghdad in the city of Balad when their bus is hit with a car bomb. Four Iraqi police officers die in an ambush in Samarra and another is wounded. Insurgents shoot and kill the police chief in the town of Jebala. Reports indicate more than 1,000 Iraqi military and security force members have died since September.

**January 3, 2005:** A car bomb detonates outside Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Allawi's political party headquarters, killing three police officers. Four Iraqi National Guardsmen die in a suicide car bomb explosion in Dijail, near the site of the bombing of the Iraqi National Guard bus the



day before. In Tall Afar, one Iraqi police officer dies and two are injured when an explosion occurs while they investigate a decapitated body. Insurgents had booby-trapped the body with explosives. Six Iraqi National Guardsmen die in Tikrit when two roadside bombs explode. In Baiji, insurgents kill a police major and captain in a drive-by shooting.

**January 4, 2005:** Iraqi police backed by US forces conduct a large raid in Diali. Iraq forces claim to have captured “an important terrorist.” Some suggest that it is Abu Musab al-Zarqawi but US forces fervently deny this. In Baghdad, a suicide truck bomb explodes, killing eight Iraqi police commandos while wounding at least 60 other people. Near Baquba, three Iraqi National Guardsmen die in a bomb attack.

**January 5, 2005:** At least two newly-graduated Iraqi police are killed when a suicide car bomber rams his vehicle into a crowd of people. At least eight other people are killed and 44 wounded. Insurgents kill Col. Khalefeh Ali Hassan, security chief for Iraq’s Independent Election Commission, in a drive-by shooting in Diyala Province. A suicide car bomber tries to strike a joint US-Iraqi military convoy in western Baghdad but succeeds only in killing Iraqi civilians.

**January 6, 2005:** Iraq celebrates Army Day, the 84<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the army in 1921.

**January 8, 2005:** In Ramadi, Col. Jassim al-Kharbeet, a member of the police force, is killed by gunmen. In the Anbar province, Brig. Abid Ahmed al-Assafi is assassinated by militants.

**January 10, 2005:** Gen. Amer Nayef, the deputy police chief of Baghdad, and his son, Lt. Khaled Amer, are assassinated by insurgents in the al Dora neighborhood of southern Baghdad. Also in the southern part of the city, a suicide bomber rams his vehicle into the main gate of the al-Mada’ en police station, killing three Iraqi police officers. Reports indicate that the attacker’s car was painted to resemble a police car or might have in fact been a stolen one. In Samarra, the city’s deputy police chief, Brig. Mohammed Mudhafar Al-Badri, is killed in a drive-by shooting. A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle in front of the entrance to an Iraqi security forces base in Rubai’a, 105 miles northwest of Mosul. Four Iraqi security personnel die. In Basra, a suicide bomber attacks a police station. In a coordinated attack, another bomber targets a police internal affairs office in Basra. The ensuing blasts kill only the bombers.

**January 11, 2005:** Insurgents detonate a car bomb near a police station in Tikrit. Six Iraqi policemen die. In Mosul, insurgents attack a US-Iraqi convoy delivering heaters and supplies to a nearby school. The attackers detonate a car bomb close to the convoy and fire weapons from a mosque. Three Iraqi soldiers die and six are wounded.

**January 12, 2005:** In Mosul, militants detonate a car bomb next to an Iraqi National Guard patrol. The attack kills two Guardsmen and wounds two more. An Iraqi soldier discovers a weapons cache in Kadasia while on joint patrol with US soldiers. The uncovered munitions would have provided enough explosives for 35 IEDs.

**January 13, 2005:** Insurgents in Baqubah detonate a roadside bomb as an Iraqi police patrol passes. Six officers are wounded and one dies. Militants kill an Iraqi National Guard captain in Qaim.

**January 14, 2005:** 38 Iraqi prisoners escape from the Abu Ghraib prison. Iraqi guards almost immediately recapture 10 of the detainees. The prisoners managed to loosen their bonds and overpower the nearby police and guards, fatally shooting one police officer. The Iraqi authorities set up checkpoints in the Sa'alam neighborhood of western Baghdad to try and apprehend the prisoners. It is believed that two Egyptians are among the escaped. Reportedly, Iraqi police officers may have facilitated their escape as the prisoners were moved at night and with little security: conditions that are extremely unusual. Three Kurdish troops die fighting against insurgents alongside Iraqi National Guard forces in Mosul. Militants detonate a car bomb outside a Shi'ite mosque in Khan Bani Saad. Four Iraqi policemen die in the blast along with three civilians. A bus carrying 15 Iraqi National Guardsmen on their way to a US base is ambushed near the western city of Hit. The Guardsmen are abducted by unknown assailants and the bus is burned. Iraqi soldiers and multinational forces arrest two suspected insurgents and uncover a bomb making plant during a raid in Duluiyah. The raid uncovers 500 kilograms of ammonium nitrate and 55 gallons of diesel fuel, ingredients used in the powerful car bombs made by insurgents.

**January 16, 2005:** Gunmen assassinate an Iraqi police captain and two government auditors in Kut. Militants dressed in Iraqi police uniforms open fire on Shiite political candidate Salama Khafaji's car in central Baghdad. She is unharmed and the attackers flee. The Iraqi Defense Ministry releases a statement declaring that Iraqi forces killed 35 insurgents near Fallujah over the weekend. An Iraqi National Guard commander in Baquba states that a majority of the city will go to the poles to vote in the January 30<sup>th</sup> elections. Approximately 900 Iraqi soldiers assigned to the 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division graduate from basic military training. The soldiers were trained at the Al Kasik Military Training Base and will join the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division in pre-election patrols in the Ninewa Province.

**January 17, 2005:** Insurgents ambush a bus in Buhruz carrying Iraqi soldiers with rifles and rocket-propelled grenades, killing at least seven soldiers. In Baiji, a suicide car bomber rams a checkpoint. Seven Iraqi police officers die. Reportedly, guerillas attack Iraqi police stations in Sharqat and Dawr. A spokesman for Interim Prime Minister Allawi states that a man, Izz al-Din Al-Majid, captured in early December by Iraqi security forces was trying to unify Ansar Al-Sunna, Jaysh Muhammad, and the Islamic Resistance Army, three insurgent groups.

**January 18, 2005:** Four suicide car bombs explode in Baghdad within 90 minutes. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claims credit for all four bombs. One bomber detonates his vehicle near the al-Alahi hospital in central Baghdad, killing five Iraqi policemen. Another bomber targets a control point south of the Baghdad International Airport. Two Iraqi security guards die and three are wounded. Reportedly, another bomb was headed for an army garrison and the final bomb was destined for a bank where police officers tend to congregate. Col. Mike Murray, commander of the US 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry states that all four bombers failed to reach their intended targets because of the efforts of the Iraqi military and security forces. 12 miles north of Hilla, insurgents detonate a car bomb, killing one Iraqi policeman and wounding two others. In Tikrit, militants launch several attacks which kill five Iraqi policemen and wound four others. Another Iraqi policeman dies near Baqubah and three more are wounded during a mortar attack on a police station. The 204<sup>th</sup> Iraqi army battalion conducts several raids that net Hashum Mehdi Hussein Al Tai and Ahsan Abd Ali Khadhim Al Obaydi in Khalis. Reportedly, the two men were the primary leaders of the Khalis insurgency. 670 Iraqi Intervention Force soldiers graduate from training at the Taji Military Training Base. Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi states that he has been talking to US commanders in the field about ways to speed up the training and equipping of Iraqi soldiers. In her confirmation testimony before the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, former National Security Adviser and future Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice states that there are 120,000 fully trained and equipped Iraqi soldiers.

**January 20, 2005:** An Iraqi police official estimates that 250 suicide attackers with 150 car bombs are prepared to strike during the Iraqi elections. His estimate was based on a series of interrogations of captured insurgents. Militants try to seize the Al Salam Hospital in Mosul, but Iraqi forces prevent them from doing so. Hospital workers and patients flee the scene.

**January 21, 2005:** Insurgents lob grenades at an Iraqi police river patrol in northern Baghdad. Four officers are injured. In Hit, 15 militants storm a police station, order the Iraqi policemen out, steal their equipment and two police cars, and then blow up the building. No officers are injured. Iraqi Intervention Force soldiers repel insurgent attacks on the Mosul train station. Reports indicate that \$300 million in American currency was taken from Iraq's Central Bank and put on a plane for Lebanon earlier in January. Critics claim that there is no indication why this money was sent and for what purpose. Aides to Iraqi Defense Minister Hazim al-Shalaan state that the money was rushed to arms dealers in an effort to quickly supply Iraqi forces with the equipment needed to fight the insurgency. The aides refuse to list the names of the dealers, citing concerns for the dealers' safety. Iraq's national security adviser was unaware of the transfer and it is unclear whether the money came from Iraqi or American sources.

**January 22, 2005:** Gunmen ambush and kill Muwthana Salman, an Iraqi intelligence officer, in Baqubah. US military and Iraqi police forces arrest one of the top insurgent suspects. Retired four-star Army general Gary E. Luck, sent by the Pentagon two weeks ago to assess the training efforts in Iraq, states that the US must speed up the training process while bolstering the Iraqi security and military forces.

**January 23, 2005:** An insurgent group led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi posts a video on the Internet showing an Iraqi National Guard colonel being shot in the head. The colonel had been kidnapped in Mosul. Reports indicate that the US may be attempting to bring back much of Saddam's former army in an effort to bolster the fledgling Iraqi military and security forces.

**January 24, 2005:** The Iraqi Ministry of the Interior announces that it has made several significant arrests of insurgents in and around Ramadi. Among them is Abu Omar Al Kurdi, the man Iraqi government officials claim was behind 75% of the car bombs in Baghdad in 2003. The Iraqi government states that he is a top bomb maker and recruiter, and was one of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's top men in the Baghdad area. General Babakir, head of the Iraqi military, states that he foresees Iraqi military and security forces numbering 150,000 by summer 2005. Additionally, he foresees US troops pulling out of the cities and operating only one or two major bases by the end of 2005.

**January 25, 2005:** Four Iraqi policemen from the Muthana station are gunned down in the Rashad neighborhood of Baghdad by insurgents. Reportedly, the gunmen pointedly ask if the individuals are police before they start firing. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a police colonel and his 5-year-old daughter are shot to death while driving. In the southeastern portion of the city, gun battles between insurgents and Iraqi police kills three officers.

**January 26, 2005:** Two car bombs target Iraqi security and military forces. One bomb explodes outside of a police station in the town of Riyadh, killing three Iraqi police. Insurgents detonate the second bomb outside of the mayor's office in the same town. Two Iraqi soldiers die. In Baquba, militants launch assaults on the offices of the Kurdish Democratic Party and the Iraqi Patriotic Gathering Alliance. The resulting battle kills one Iraqi policeman.

**January 27, 2005:** In Sinjar, 17 miles southwest of Mosul, a suicide tractor bomber detonates his vehicle outside of the offices of the Kurdish Democratic Party. Four Iraqi soldiers and a guard die in the explosion. Nine soldiers and three guards are wounded. In Baquba, a suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle as an Iraqi police convoy passes by the Diyala provincial governor's office. An Iraqi police lieutenant dies in the attack and three other officers are wounded. The bombing takes place at the same time the governor was expected to arrive for a Peace Day meeting. The meeting was aimed at bringing together Ba'ath figures, insurgents, and interim political figures to discuss options for making the elections peaceful and successful. The governor is unhurt. Militants launch rockets at the home of Deputy Interior Minister for Police Affairs, Maj. Gen. Hikmat Moussa. No one is hurt by the attack. Insurgents detonate a roadside bomb targeting Iraqi police on patrol near the Al-Shaab Stadium in the eastern part of Baghdad. The explosion fails to injure anyone. Commander of the Iraqi Army, Gen. Babaker Shawat Zebari, states that if the Iraqi military and security forces continue to improve, he believes that they will be able to protect major Iraqi urban areas in six months.

**January 28, 2005:** A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle outside of the al-Dora police station in southern Baghdad, killing four people and wounding two more.

**January 30, 2005:** The Iraqi elections take place. 44 people are killed in insurgent attacks, but the number of casualties and attacks is far below the expected number. One Iraqi policeman, Abdul Amir, is killed in Baghdad when a suicide bomber walks up to him outside of a polling station and detonates his explosives. Reportedly, Amir wrapped his arms around the bomber and dragged him away from the polling station before he could utilize his explosives.

**January 31, 2005:** Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih announces that the Iraqi government has arrested Anab Mohammed Hamid al-Qas, reportedly an Iraqi military adviser to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi who ranked third in his organization and who helped finance attacks in Baghdad.

**February 1, 2005:** The US deploys another Customs and Border Protection team in Iraq to help secure its borders

**February 2, 2005:** Militants stop a convoy of Iraqi army recruits near Kirkuk and force 12 of them to lie in the street. The gunmen shoot the recruits and then run their bodies over.

**February 3, 2005:** Five police and one National Guardsman are killed in an insurgent attack on a road south of Baghdad. Chairman of the joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Richard B. Myers, states that 40,000 of the reported 136,000 Iraqi security forces are adequately trained and equipped to go almost anywhere and confront almost any threat. The rest, he stated, were only fit for policing the calmer parts of southern Iraq. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul D. Wolfowitz, testifies that Iraqi units experience up to 40% absenteeism and that 1,342 Iraqi police and soldiers had died since June 2004.

**February 5, 2005:** In Basra, a roadside bomb explodes, killing four Iraqi National Guardsmen on patrol. Two Iraqi soldiers die in an explosion in Samarra. An insurgent group posts a video on the Internet depicting the murder of seven Iraqi National Guardsmen.

**February 6, 2005:** Gunmen attack a police station in Mahawil. 14 insurgents, 5 Iraqi National Guardsmen, and 17 Iraqi police die. Iraqi security forces announce that they had captured Khamis Masin Farhan, a former Iraqi general, on December 20<sup>th</sup> in Baiji. Iraqi officials maintain that he assisted in a number of insurgent attacks.

**February 7, 2005:** Iraqi police officers and National Guardsmen note an increase in tips from the general public concerning the insurgency in the week following the election.

**February 8, 2005:** In Baquba, a car bomb explodes outside of the provincial police headquarters, killing 15 recruits and wounding 17 more. In Mosul, a suicide bomber detonates his explosives inside the grounds of the Jumhuri Teaching Hospital. 12 Iraqi policemen die and four others are wounded. Witnesses say the bomber called police over to him prior to detonating his explosives. A group affiliated with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claims credit for the hospital bombing.

**February 9, 2005:** A suicide bomber in Baghdad detonates his explosives in the middle of a crowd outside of the Iraqi National Guard headquarters at the Muthana airfield. 22 people die and 30 are wounded. Three police officers die in Baghdad during a firefight in the Ghazaliya neighborhood. Iraqi security forces claim that they have captured a militant involved in beheadings in and around Mosul.

**February 10, 2005:** Four Iraqi policemen die in Samarra when a roadside bomb explodes. A police colonel, Riad Al-Yawi, attached to the Oil Ministry is abducted by gunmen loyal to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in southern Baghdad. Police and insurgents wage a fierce battle in the town of Salman Pak, southeast of Baghdad. 10 policemen and 20 insurgents are killed. At least 65 policemen are wounded. Police capture two Saudis and three Iranians. An Iraqi army driver is shot dead in Balad.

**February 11, 2005:** Four bodies, believed to be Iraqi policemen, are found in Haswa, south of Baghdad. In Baquba, a police officer dies in a driveby shooting.

**February 12, 2005:** A suicide car bomb targeting an Iraqi National Guard patrol detonates, killing 13 and wounding 40 in Balad Ruz. It fails to injure any Guardsmen. A group affiliated with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claims credit for the attack. In Mosul, the bodies of six Iraqi National Guardsmen and six Kurdish security Guards are dumped in separate parts of the city.

**February 13, 2005:** Iraqi troops recover the bodies of three US servicemen killed in a Humvee accident at the Isaki Canal. They weld a tool themselves to recover the bodies and brave freezing water temperatures.

**February 14, 2005:** Reportedly, 10,000 Iraqis arrive at one military base looking to enlist. Half pass the recruiting test.

**February 15, 2005:** Iraqi officials state that Iraqi security forces had captured two brothers who served as Iraqi intelligence agents in the Hussein regime. Sabah Nouri Milhim and Riyah Nouri Milhim were captured sometime in January and are suspected of training, supplying, and financing insurgents in Fallujah and Baghdad. It is believed that they had a large role in the countless attacks on Iraqi security forces in Baghdad.

**February 17, 2005:** In Samarra, four Iraqi police officers die in two separate attacks. One attack was reportedly an unsuccessful assassination attempt on a police captain. In Baghdad, a suicide bomber kills an Iraqi National Guardsman. In a later attack, Guardsmen shoot and kill another would-be suicide bomber before he can detonate his explosive vest. The attacks occur in the Mansour district. Elsewhere in Baghdad, Ghazi Houshi, an Interior Ministry intelligence officer, is gunned down in the Dawra neighborhood. In Baquba, gunmen fire on an Iraqi police patrol, killing one officer. Two insurgents die in the fight. In Mosul, a police station is fired upon, wounding the commander and killing his driver.

**February 18, 2005:** Gunmen in Diyala assassinate an Iraqi National Guard officer and four civilians. Najaf city police chief, a visible opponent of the insurgency, Ghalib Jazaeri states that his two sons, members of the police force, had been kidnapped and murdered in Karbala. He states that he is worried that his force has been infiltrated by insurgents. The responsibility for providing security in several parts of Baghdad is turned over to the Iraqi 305<sup>th</sup> "Tiger" unit.

**February 19, 2005:** In Baquba, a car bomb detonates at the National Guard headquarters, killing one Guardsman.

**February 20, 2005:** US and Iraqi security forces launch simultaneous raids and set up checkpoints in the cities of Ramadi, Hit, and Haditha. The Iraqi National Guard reports that nine men were arrested for connections to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. A US Marine Corps spokesman states that while some of the insurgents in Ramadi had come from Fallujah prior to the assault on the city, most were common criminals. US soldiers and Iraqi police detain 17 suspected insurgents and seize weapons in a raid in Baghdad. The Iraqi interim government reports that an Iraqi battalion had captured Jaffa Sadaq Fette, the leader of a 100-man cell who profited by transporting Iraqis out of the country for insurgency training and then transporting them back in. He was captured February 3<sup>rd</sup> in Balad. 267 Iraqi police begin parols in Samarra to try and quell the restive city.

**February 21, 2005:** A suicide bomber drive his vehicle into a crowd of people gathered outside the Interior Ministry's Rangers Battalion headquarters in the Qadisiriyyah neighborhood of Baghdad. Trainees and volunteers finish a drill as he strikes. At least two die and seven are wounded. Iraqis say that it is the third or fourth time that crowds have been targeted outside the complex.

**February 22, 2005:** In western Baghdad, Iraqi police shoot and kill an insurgent attempting to plant an IED near a Shi'ite Mosque. The incident occurs in the Ghazaliya neighborhood.

**February 24, 2005:** Insurgents detonate a suicide car bomb at the police headquarters in Tikrit. 10 Iraqis are killed and 35 more are injured. The bomber wore a police uniform, indicating

either that it was stolen, sold on the black market, or that the bomber had infiltrated the force. In Qaim, four Iraqi National Guardsmen are killed by two roadside bombs. In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb kills two policemen and injures three. Khattab Omar Arif, the leader of the city's emergency police, states that the bomb was intended for him and instead killed the men guarding him.

**February 26, 2005:** In Nibai, one Iraqi army soldier is shot dead and an Iraqi policeman is killed in Baquba.

**February 27, 2005:** In the Musayyib district, insurgents try and disrupt an Iraqi army raid with a car bomb. One Iraqi soldier is killed and three are wounded. 12 suspects are captured.

**February 28, 2005:** Insurgents launch the single deadliest attack to date, detonating a suicide car bomb outside of a Hilla city government office where police recruits were waiting to get physicals. The explosion kills at least 127 and wounds more than 150. A separate car bomb explodes in Musayyib: no details are available. In Mosul, a firefight between insurgents and Iraqi commandoes leaves four civilians dead and a group of insurgents blow themselves up after they are chased down and surrounded by Kurdish forces and Iraqi police. In Baghdad, Iraqi soldiers fight a contingent of Sudanese militants following an attack on an army convoy. The battle takes place in the al-Battaween district. 22 militants are detained and at least two are killed.

**March 2, 2005:** A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle near an army recruiting center in the Salihiya neighborhood of Baghdad. Six soldiers die and 28 are wounded by the blast. This is the third time the center has been targeted in a year. The third attack produced the fewest casualties and it is believed that the blast walls were successful in protecting the site. A second car bomb explodes two hours later in the Jadriya neighborhood of the city. The second blast targeted an Iraqi military convoy, killing seven and injuring two.

**March 3, 2005:** Col. Mou'ness Saeed, chief of the al-Mouqdad station in Kirkuk, narrowly dodges an assassination attempt. Gunmen target him in a driveby shooting, but he escapes unharmed. Insurgents detonate two car bombs near the Ministry of the Interior in Baghdad, killing five police officers and wounding seven others. In Baquba, a suicide car bomber targets the chief of the emergency police in the Diyala province, Mudhafar Shahab Jiburi. The bomber detonates his vehicle outside the headquarters of the Iraqi emergency police, killing one person and wounding 12 others. Jiburi escapes unharmed. A previously unheard of Iraqi insurgent group, the Saladin Al Ayobi Brigades of the Islamic Front of Iraqi Resistance (JAME) pledges to stop targeting Iraqi security forces and civilians and to concentrate on US forces.

**March 4, 2005--**Col. Ghaib Hadab Zarib, the al-Budair police chief, is shot to death outside his home by gunmen. US Army officials announce that Cpl. Dustin Berg, an Indiana National



Guardsman, will be court-martialed for the November 2003 murder of Iraqi police officer Hussein Kamel Hadi Dawood Dubeidi. 15 decapitated bodies are found in an old military base between Latifiya and Karbala. The dead include women and children. It is believed that the men were part of a group of Iraqi soldiers kidnapped some time ago.

**March 6, 2005:** Reports indicate that most of the violent neighborhoods in Baghdad, including the Adhamiya neighborhood and Haifa Street, have been turned over to Iraqi forces in the weeks following the election. A reported ten neighborhoods are in the care of the Iraqi Army's 40<sup>th</sup> Brigade. The Iraqi forces hope to control all of the city by December 2005.

**March 7, 2005:** Militants bomb Mohammed Jasim's, a major in the Iraqi National Guard, house in Balad, killing his family. Jasim claimed credit for capturing or killing most of the insurgents that had been neutralized in the area. Two Sudanese men were taken into custody for questioning in connection with the attack. In Baqubah, insurgents launch an elaborate attack on an Iraqi Army checkpoint. Eight cars pull over and 50 masked militants leap out and open fire on the checkpoint. The attackers withdrew and the Iraqi forces took their comrades to the hospital. On the way, an explosion, believed to be a suicide bomber, rocks the hospital convoy. Officials believe that the attacks were coordinated. Six soldiers, two policemen, two civilians are killed and 23 people are wounded. A group affiliated with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claims credit for the attacks.

**March 9, 2005:** Insurgents park a garbage truck packed with explosives close to the Sadr Hotel in central Baghdad. A firefight breaks out between the hotel's armed guards and the insurgents minutes before the truck is detonated. An Iraqi police officer is killed and more than 40 other people are wounded. A group affiliated with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claims credit. In Basra, insurgents detonate a roadside bomb while an Iraqi police convoy passes. Two police officers are killed and five more wounded in the attack. In Habbaniya, a town within the Sunni Triangle, a suicide bomber drives his car into an Iraqi Army base. The driver is believed to be Sudanese. The bomb kills two officers, a civilian, and wounds 15 people. 20 bodies are found near Qaim, close to the Syrian border. It is unclear if the men were Iraqi soldiers or policemen. Investigators believe the killings occurred on March 5, toward the end of the Marine-led Operation River Blitz which focused on the towns of Ramadi, Hit, Hadita, and Qaim. In al-Habbaniya, a suicide car bomber attacks a joint US-Iraqi checkpoint on the road to a US military base. No casualties were confirmed. Shoqayer Fareed Sheet, a former Iraqi police lieutenant, confessed to a special Iraqi antiterrorism unit, al-Theeb, or "the wolf," that he had tortured and killed 113 Iraqi police officers, Iraqi soldiers, and Iraqi civilians and had provided Iraqi Sunni insurgents with information.

**March 10, 2005:** In southeastern Baghdad, gunmen attack and critically wound Iraqi Interior Ministry police official Gen. Abdul Karim Raheem while he is in his car. Col. Aiyad Abdul Razaq, who was driving to work in the same general part of Baghdad, is shot to death. He was the chief deputy of the Jisdiala police station. In central Baghdad, the chief of the al-Salihya police station, Col. Hamad Ubeyis is shot to death in his squad car. Shoqayer Fareed Sheet leads

al-Theeb to a mass grave at the Wadi Egab Cemetery where 31 bodies, believed to be members of the Iraqi security forces, are found. In Baghdad, gunmen kill top police official Lt. Col. Ahmed Obais who was being driven to work by a driver and his bodyguard.

**March 12, 2005:** Militants ambush three Iraqi policemen in Mosul's Sukar district. The officers were driving to a friend's funeral. All three were shot to death.

**March 14, 2005:** Ramzi Hashim, a Mosul man, is arrested by the Najaf police. Police chief Ghalib al-Jazairi states that they captured him in a hotel plotting a major attack. The police believe that he was involved in the August 2003 bombing at the Imam Ali Mosque that killed SCIRI head Ayatollah Mohammed Baqr al-Hakim. Iraqi officials announce that they have in their custody Marwan Taher Abdulrasheed and Abdulla Maher Abdulrasheed. The two men were arrested in Tikrit on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Marwan is a former Saddam bodyguard and officials believe that Abdulla was helping to fund the insurgency.

**March 15, 2005:** A car bomb in Baghdad wounds an Iraqi policeman. There are no further details reported.

**March 16, 2005:** In Baquba, a car bomb is detonated by insurgents at a checkpoint manned by Iraqi Army soldiers, killing two soldiers and wounding five more.

**March 20, 2005:** A suicide bomber walks into police headquarters in Mosul and detonates his explosives. Two people are killed, including Walid Kashmoula, the chief of Mosul's anti-corruption operations. Three Iraqi police officers are wounded when a roadside bomb explodes in Kirkuk. In Baquba, gunmen open fire on a police station, killing four Iraqi officers and wounding two others.

**March 21, 2005:** Insurgents try to assassinate Mosul's provincial police chief. The attack is a failure and 17 militants die. No Iraqi security force casualties are reported.

**March 22, 2005:** Iraqi officials state that 85 insurgents died earlier in the day when Iraqi commandos, assisted by US air and ground support, overran an insurgent training camp located in swamps near Tharthar Lake in the Sunni Triangle. The commandos were part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Police Commando Battalion. The 85 killed insurgents were the most killed in any one battle since the offensive against Fallujah. Among the dead insurgents were Iraqis, Sudanese, Algerians, Moroccans and others. Seven Iraqi commandos were killed and five were wounded. Reportedly, the camp was part of the Islamic Army of Tikrit which, in an unusual act, distributed leaflets announcing that they had sustained 11 casualties in the assault in the swamps. Insurgents attack Iraqi soldiers in Kirkuk, but, according to Iraqi officials, they fight them off. No casualties are reported.

**March 23, 2005:** US and Iraqi forces conduct raids south of Mosul near Tal Afar. Iraqi officials announce that Iraqi security forces had disrupted a plot to attack the National Assembly the previous week during its meeting in the Green Zone.

**March 24, 2005:** 11 Iraqi policemen of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Special Police Commando unit are killed when a suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle at a checkpoint in Ramadi. In Mosul, Iraqi police mistake three Iraqi army officers and two Iraqi police officers for insurgents. They open fire, killing all five men. US and Iraqi forces continue raids near Tal Afar, seizing 13 suspected insurgents and several weapons. Militants shoot and kill the commander of an Iraqi Army brigade in Basra, Maj. Gen. Salman Muhammad, as he drives from a friend's funeral in Baghdad.

**March 25, 2005:** Reports cast doubt on the Iraqi claim that police commandos killed 85 insurgents in March 22<sup>nd</sup>'s major raid. Exact casualties remain unknown, but US and Iraqi officials assert that the Iraqis, in their first major lead operation, performed well. A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle in Iskandariya close to an Iraqi Army convoy. Four soldiers die and nine soldiers and civilians are wounded. In Fallujah, US and Iraqi forces impose a curfew after an Iraqi policeman is shot to death. Reports today indicate that Iraqi commandos admitted that the attack on the terrorist training camp in the swamps on March 22<sup>nd</sup> was not as successful as it first seemed. Most of the insurgent casualties reported were caused by American helicopter gunships. Iraqi commandos confirmed that the dead insurgents were mostly foreign Arabs. A Filipino and an Algerian were found among the dead, allegedly along with Chechens, Saudis, and Afghans.

**March 27, 2005:** A militant group claiming to be Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's Al Qaeda in Iraq releases a video depicting the apparent shooting death of an alleged employee of the Ministry of the Interior. The murdered man identifies himself as Col. Riyadh Katie Olyway just before he dies. An Iraqi Ministry official confirms that a Col. Olyway worked for both the Ministry of the Interior and the Oil Ministry, but could not verify the identity of the man in the video. Guards outside of the Ministry of Science and Technology in Baghdad open fire on protesters who were demanding better pay. One protester is killed.

**March 28, 2005:** Militants detonate a roadside bomb near an Iraqi police patrol in southwestern Baghdad. Three police are wounded and one is killed. The chief of the Balat al-Shouhada police station in southeastern Baghdad, Col. Abdul Kahrim Fahad, is gunned down while being driven to work.

**March 31, 2005:** Joint Iraqi and US raids in Mosul and Tal Afar begin. In Tuz Khurmatu, insurgents detonate a car bomb at an Iraqi Army checkpoint designed to protect visitors to a Shi'ite shrine. Several civilians die and eight Iraqi soldiers are wounded.

**April 1, 2005:** In Balad Ruz, an Interior Ministry commando is killed during a raid in the Daniya section of the city. Elsewhere in the city, police chief Col. Hatem Rashid Mohammed is killed by insurgents while getting into his vehicle. Joint Iraqi and US raids continue in Mosul and Tal Afar. Raids have netted eight insurgent suspects and multiple weapons. At a Baghdad mosque, a group of 64 Sunni Arab imams and religious scholars issue an edict encouraging Sunni Arabs to join the Iraqi army and police. The edict was signed by Ahmed Hassan al-Taha, an imam who has been a strong critic of the occupation, but not Harith al-Dari, the leader of the association of Muslim Scholars.

**April 2, 2005:** In a bold attack, between 40 and 60 insurgents launch an attack on Abu Ghraib prison from all sides, utilizing car bombs, mortars, RPGs, and small arms. The insurgents attack the part of the prison controlled by the Iraqi security forces in an apparent attempt to free an unknown quantity of prisoners. US forces call in reinforcements and repel the attack which lasts for approximately 45 minutes. In Khan Bani Saad, insurgents detonate a car bomb at a police station, killing five, including three policemen, and wound three more Iraqi police.

**April 3, 2005:** The body of a Kurdish police officer who had been shot to death is found in Mosul.

**April 4, 2005:** During a joint search operation, Iraqi forces are attacked by insurgents in Diyala province. US air and ground assets from the US Army's 42 Infantry Division move in to help once they are attacked. One Iraqi soldier is killed during the hour-long battle.

**April 5, 2005:** General Jalal Mohammed Salah, the commander of an Interior Ministry mechanized armored brigade, is kidnapped in Baghdad. In Amiriya on Baghdad's western outskirts, insurgents detonate a car bomb as an Iraqi military convoy passes by. No military casualties are reported, but several civilians are hurt. In Tal Afar, a bus filled with around 50 Iraqi soldiers is hit by an explosion from a roadside bomb. 3 Iraqi soldiers are killed and more than 44 are wounded. The soldiers were on their way to distribute pay to their families. Reportedly, Iraqi soldiers believe that the attackers knew they were coming. Several trucks with mounted machine guns were protecting the bus before the explosion.

**April 7, 2005:** Iraq's president, Jalal Talabani, takes office and offers an amnesty to insurgents, possibly even insurgents who have killed Iraqi security force members. The amnesty is seen as much broader than the one posed by the former interim prime minister, Ayad Allawi. In Mosul, insurgents launch a bomb attack on an Iraqi army patrol. Three soldiers are killed and 20 more wounded. The patrol issues a statement claiming to have captured 7 attackers. In Basra, Maj. Mahmoud Hassan al-Yassiri, and Iraqi army officer, is killed when gunmen burst into a restaurant where he is eating with a colleague and shoot him in the head.

**April 9, 2005:** In Mosul, an insurgent car bomb kills two Iraqi policemen. Press reports indicate that claims of abuse had been lodged against members of Iraq's security forces by other Iraqis.

**April 11, 2005:** US soldiers and approximately 500 Iraqi soldiers conduct sweeps dubbed Operation Vanguard Tempest in the Al-Rasheed district in Baghdad. The sweeps net some 65 suspected militants. The district is suspected to be a hub of insurgent activity.

**April 12, 2005:** The Iraqi government claims that it has captured Fadhil Ibrahim Mahmud al-Mashadani. Mashadani, reportedly, aided insurgent attacks and was a high ranking Ba'athist in the Saddam Hussein regime. The Iraqi government had posted a \$200,000 reward for information leading to his capture. In Baghdad, Maj. Gen. Tareq al-Baldawi, the deputy interior minister, is attacked in the Hay al-Adel district. He escapes unhurt. US Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld visits Iraq and states that the US will not leave until the Iraqi security forces are capable assuming full control of the country.

**April 13, 2005:** Insurgents in Kirkuk detonate a bomb close to 12 Iraqi security force members who are defusing a roadside bomb. All 12 are killed. In Baghdad, gunmen attack Col. Naji Hussein, a Ministry of the Interior official, as he drives through the al-Dora district. Hussein is wounded by small arms fire.

**April 14, 2005:** US soldiers and Iraqi soldiers arrest 17 suspected insurgents in western Baghdad and seize weapons, US currency, and bomb-making materials. Insurgents detonate two car bombs nearly simultaneously near an Iraqi police convoy. Most of the casualties are civilians. The exact number of hurt or killed Iraqi police is unknown. Approximately two hours later, US and Iraqi forces destroy a follow-on car bomb near the same site. Elsewhere in the city, gunmen kill 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Firas Hussein while on his way in to work. Hussein was reportedly working for Iraq's intelligence service. In Mahaweel, a suicide bomber detonates a briefcase full of explosives in a market. Four Iraqi policemen die and several civilians are wounded. In Kirkuk, militants assault the Al-Adala police station, killing three Iraqi policemen and wounding two others. In Baquba, Iraqi forces take into custody 27 suspected militants.

**April 15, 2005:** Insurgents attack an Iraqi military convoy in Baghdad. Exact casualties are unknown. In the city's Talbiya district, a roadside bomb detonates near an Iraqi army convoy, killing one civilian and wounding three others. Reports indicate that 50 Shi'ite prisoners may have been taken by Sunni militants demanding that all Shi'ites evacuate the town of Madain. Civilians are reported fleeing the area.

**April 16, 2005:** Reports indicate that the kidnapping in Madain may be a response to an earlier kidnapping of 20 Sunnis from a nearby town. In Baquba, insurgents bomb a restaurant. 10

police officers are killed. In Kirkuk, militants shoot and kill a policeman and an Iraqi army officer. Near Hilla, a suicide car bomber plows into an Iraqi police patrol, killing four officers.

**April 18, 2005:** Iraqi security forces, numbering some 2,000 police and soldiers and reinforced by US helicopters, receive a tip that leads them to a weapons cache. The arrest several suspected militants and uncover a bomb-making plant and a firing range. 10 insurgents wearing Iraqi military uniforms appear at Lt. Gen. Adnan Qaragholi's home. When invited inside, the shoot and kill Qaragholi, an advisor to the interim defense minister, and his son, Iraqi army Capt. Alaa al-Din. The insurgents left their uniforms at the scene of the shooting. The public information officer for the Iraqi police in Mosul, Brig. Gen. Younis Mohammad Sulaiman, is killed by gunmen on his way to work. Iraqi security forces take control of Madain City, finding no Shi'ite hostages or prisoners. They arrest ten suspects and seize an unknown quantity of weapons. The Shi'ite bloc that forms the majority in the new Iraqi government announces plans to pursue a drastic purge of Ba'athists in the Iraqi security and military forces. US and Iraqi officials state that this policy could do much to damage the forces that have been created and send many of the best intelligence and military officers over to the insurgency.

**April 19, 2005:** A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle, a green Kia minibus, near a group of Iraqi security forces and recruits at the Adhamiya Palace in Baghdad. Two Iraqi army soldiers and two recruits are killed. Eight soldiers are wounded and approximately 30 recruits were hurt. Maj. Gen. Adnan Thabet reportedly suggests that the incident in Madain had more to do with local tribal politics than anything else. He suggests further that the media and several political parties turned the incident into a crisis. In Basra, two Iraqi policemen are killed and six hurt by the detonation of a roadside bomb.

**April 20, 2005:** 50 bodies are found in the Tigris River. Some Iraqis believe that these bodies are the hostages that were reported taken in Madain, yet Riadh Sakhi, a policeman, states that it appeared as though several of the victims, which included two school girls, had been in the water for weeks and may have washed up as a result of the spring thaw. Reportedly, Iraqi President Jalal Talabani claims to have the names of both the kidnapped and those who committed the crime in Madain. Reports indicate that the bodies of 19 Iraqi National Guardsmen are found in a soccer stadium in Haditha. The men were part of a six minibus convoy headed to Haditha on the 19<sup>th</sup> to check reports of armed militants. When ambushed, four buses managed to escape but two were left behind. The Iraqis that escaped returned to the site with US reinforcements but found nothing. Reportedly, the Iraqis in the six minibuses were badly outgunned by the insurgents who were armed with grenade launchers. The Guardsmen that were left behind were taken hostage and then executed. In Ramadi, two suicide car bombers detonate their vehicles in the center of the city, close to an Iraqi checkpoint. The attackers failed to injure anyone. In Sadr city, militants kill policeman Ali Talib in a drive by shooting. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a roadside bomb kills an Iraqi policeman and injures two others.

**April 22, 2005:** The prison director for the Nineveh Province, Col. Khalid Najim Abdallah, is killed in Mosul by insurgents who stop his car.

**April 23, 2005:** Reportedly, insurgents detonate a car bomb near and Iraqi National Guard convoy as it passes the village of Zaydan, close to Abu Ghraib prison. Nine soldiers are killed, and 20 more are injured. 314 Iraqi Army soldiers graduate in Tikrit. In an attack on a joint US-Iraqi convoy traveling a street close to the road to Baghdad International Airport, a suicide bomber wounds seven Iraqi soldiers and three US soldiers. A roadside bomb in Yusufiyah kills an Iraqi National Guardsman. Three Iraqi soldiers are wounded by an IED that strikes their convoy in Mosul.

**April 24, 2005:** Militants detonate two car bombs at the checkpoint entrance to the Iraqi Police Academy in Tikrit. Six police are killed with an additional 35 wounded. Most of the wounded were Iraqi police.

**April 25, 2005:** Joint Iraqi and US sweeps around Baghdad net 41 insurgents and an unspecified quantity of weapons. 10 of the militants are suspects in the shooting down of a civilian MI-8 helicopter.

**April 26, 2005:** The Staff Judge Advocate team from the US 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division begins providing human rights training to the 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Army Brigade.

**April 28, 2005:** In Basra, Iraqi soldiers apprehend six insurgents armed with explosives and various sundry weapons. Militants detonate a bomb in a heavily populated part of east Baghdad as police officers in two pickup trucks drove by. Two officers die and two more are wounded. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a Ministry of the Interior official, Lt. Col. Alaa Khalil Ibrahim, is shot dead on his way into work. Militants detonate a bomb near a joint US-Iraqi convoy, killing two Iraqi soldiers and wounding 12 others.

**April 29, 2005:** Iraqi police successfully prevent three suicide bomber attacks near Salman Pak. One police officer is killed and five others are wounded. In the Al Dora district of Baghdad, Iraqi officers safely detonate an IED near the Al Dora police station. In Baghdad, four suicide car bombers strike in the Azamiyah section of the city. 15 Iraqi soldiers die and 30 are wounded in attacks on an Iraqi army patrol, on a police patrol, and two on barricades close to the headquarters for the Interior Ministry's special forces. All told, more than 10 car bombs explode in Iraq today, yet reports indicate that most of the bombers were unable to reach their intended targets. In a separate attack in the city, militants shoot at a police patrol, wounding one officer. Not far from Basra, an IED detonates near an Iraqi border guard patrol, killing one Iraqi soldier and wounding two others.

**April 30, 2005:** Militants shoot at an Iraqi police patrol in Mosul, wounding two officers.

**May 1, 2005:** Following a suicide bomb targeting the funeral gathering of Kurdish Democratic Party official Sayid Ahmed Wahab in Tal Afar, US and Iraqi forces clash with insurgents. No casualties are reported. In the Nahrwan area of Baghdad, six Iraqi policemen are killed in an insurgent ambush on their checkpoint. Several of the 18 militants are killed as well.

**May 2, 2005:** Insurgents target an Iraqi commando convoy in the al-Huriyah neighborhood of Baghdad. Two commandos are wounded and the commander of Baghdad's commandos, Maj. Gen. Rasheed Aflayeh, escapes unharmed. In the Zayouna neighborhood, a car bomb explodes close to an Iraqi police patrol, killing two officers. Insurgents detonate a car bomb near an Iraqi army convoy in the al-Tarmiyah portion of the city, wounding an Iraqi soldier and a police officer. In the southeastern Baghdad neighborhood of al-Rustumiya, 30 insurgents attack an Iraqi police checkpoint. Five police officers die and an unknown number of insurgents. A suicide bomber detonates his truck at a checkpoint south of the city. The blast kills eight soldiers and wounds 20 more.

**May 3, 2005:** An Iraqi soldier and policeman die in firefights in Baghdad. In the western portion of the city, three roadside bombs explode close to Iraqi police patrols, hurting four officers. In Ramadi, a joint Iraqi-US checkpoint comes under fire from insurgents. 12 militants are killed and two Iraqi soldiers are wounded. In Samarra, militants shoot and kill three Iraqi policemen following a series of police raids on suspected insurgent-held areas. In Shurgat, an Iraqi soldier is killed. No details are released.

**May 4, 2005:** The Army of Ansar al-Sunna claims credit for a suicide bombing in Erbil that targets an office of the KDP political party where more than 300 people were waiting to get approval to apply for Iraqi security jobs. More than 60 are killed and more than 150 injured by the blast. Reports indicate that the suicide bomber seems to have mingled among the recruits before detonating his explosives. Ansar al-Sunna had struck recruits previously in Erbil in February 2004. In Baghdad, a car bomb explodes in the Dora area, killing nine Iraqi soldiers and wounding three others.

**May 5, 2005:** Nine Iraqi police officers die in insurgent ambushes on what appears to have been a convoy. Six die in the Sayidiya district and three close to Sayidiya Square. A suicide bomber detonates his vehicle outside of the frequently attacked army recruiting station outside the Al-Muthana Airfield in Baghdad. 13 Iraqi soldiers die and seven are wounded. Maj. Gen. Salman Hikmat Moussa, an Interior Ministry official, escapes a suicide bomber who detonates his vehicle outside of his home in western Baghdad. One Iraqi police officer dies in the attack and six others are wounded. Reports released today indicate that Iraqi security forces had captured Ayman Sabawi, an alleged supporter of the insurgency and half brother of Saddam Hussein in Tikrit.

**May 6, 2005:** In northeastern Tikrit, a suicide bomber rams a 45-person bus carrying Iraqi police officers to work. Seven officers die and three are wounded. Lt. Gen. Naiser Abadi, deputy chief



of staff for Iraq's armed forces, states that he doubts the rumors that Abu Musab al-Zarqawi was injured and recovering in a Ramadi hospital are true. US forces reportedly were investigating the rumors.

**May 8, 2005:** In the Rawa area, US and Iraqi forces capture 54 militants and kill six more in a firefight after information gleaned from a captured Zarqawi aide, Ghassan Muhammad Amin Husayn al-Rawi, directs them to the region. They seize bomb making material and two large stashes of weapons. The US military reports that Iraqi forces captured Ammar al-Zubaydi, an alleged aide to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Reportedly, Zubaydi is responsible for multiple bombing attacks, including a number of attacks in Baghdad on April 29<sup>th</sup> and the April attack on the Abu Ghraib prison. Those attacks killed 23 Iraqi troops and wounded 31. Press releases state that he was planning to assassinate a senior Iraqi official, that he had stolen hundreds of rockets and cases of ammunition from facilities in Yusifiya in 2003, and that he had helped Abu Omar al-Kurdi, another suspected Zarqawi aide captured in December.

**May 9, 2005:** Two Iraqi policemen are killed and six are wounded when a suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle at a police checkpoint in southern Baghdad. Reports state that militants had detonated 135 car bombs in April, more than any other month since the invasion. The same reports indicate that Iraqi police had seized 10 vehicles in 10 days packed with explosives that were to be used in bombings.

**May 11, 2005:** In Hawija, a suicide bomber detonates his explosive vest amongst a crowd that had lined up to join the Iraqi army. The suicide bomber managed to slip by security. 20 are killed and another 30 are wounded. In Baghdad, insurgents detonate a car bomb outside of a police station in the al-Dora neighborhood, killing civilians and wounding eight Iraqi police officers. In a separate car bomb attack on an emergency police patrol, four police officers are injured. The attack occurs at Jordan Square in the Yarmuk area of the city. In Jamiya, insurgents attack an Iraqi army patrol, killing three Iraqi soldiers. A suicide bomber detonates his vehicle near a police station in the Dawra area, killing civilians but no Iraqi policemen. In the Mansour district, militants gun down two police officers.

**May 12, 2005:** Iraqi Army Brig. Gen. Ayad Imad Mahdi is shot to death by gunmen as he drives to work in western Baghdad. An Iraqi Interior Ministry employee, Col. Jamal Ahmed Hussein, is killed on his way to work in the al-Amin neighborhood. Reportedly, Polish and Iraqi soldiers seize a cache of weapons and arrest 29 suspected militants in the Wasit province in a mission dubbed 'Operation Cobweb.'

**May 13, 2005:** Reports released by the Iraqi government state that Iraqi forces had captured Saif Aldin Mustafa Nuaimi and Abdul Qadir Ashur Jaburi, two men allegedly affiliated with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's organization, on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Jaburi, Nuaimi's father, is accused of raising money for Zarqawi's group while Nuaimi is an alleged bomb maker. In Baghdad's Adil district, gunmen open fire on an Iraqi police patrol, killing two policemen and wounding three more. In

Baquba, insurgents detonate a car bomb, killing two Iraqi National Guardsmen and wounding five more.

**May 14, 2005:** The bodies of 10 Iraqi soldiers are found in western Ramadi. Two Iraqi police officers are killed in a clash in Samarra. Iraqi Army soldiers detained 58 suspects in Miqdadiya.

**May 15, 2005:** In Iskandariya, Iraqi police find 11 bodies, four of which had been beheaded. At least three of the dead are Iraqi soldiers. A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle next to an Iraqi police patrol in Baghdad, killing four people. It is not clear how many officers are killed/wounded. Militants throw grenades at a Iraqi police convoy in the western part of the city, killing one officer.

**May 16, 2005:** In Baghdad, an unidentified Iraqi general working for the Defense Ministry escapes an assassination attempt when his guards open fire on a car that pulls up next to his. The vehicle was flush with weaponry. Elsewhere in the city, Defense Minister Sadoun Dulaimi announces that, due to complaints over Iraqi security force raids by Iraqi citizens, Iraqi forces would no longer be able to raid mosques and places of worship. Insurgents detonate a car bomb in a market within the city. When Iraqi troops investigate, militants detonate a follow-on car bomb, killing nine Iraqi soldiers. Unidentified Iraqis dressed as Iraqi Army soldiers bind, blindfold, and shoot eight civilians in the Al-Sha'ab area of Baghdad. Four more are found in the Ur neighborhood close to a mosque. In Baquba, insurgents detonate a roadside bomb, killing five Iraqi soldiers and wounding seven more. Iraqi officials announce that they captured a Mosul-based bomb maker, Salim Yussef Ghafif Huseyn, last week.

**May 17, 2005:** An Interior Ministry official, Brig. Gen. Ibrahim Khammas, head of criminal intelligence, is killed by gunmen in a drive-by shooting as he leaves for work.

**May 18, 2005:** A US military official states that 126 car bombs had been detonated or disarmed since February 27, 2005. Iraqi forces are attacked in central Baghdad. They return fire, killing four militants. Further details are unavailable.

**May 19, 2005:** Reports indicate that the US 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division had received over 100 allegations of abuse by Iraqi military forces by the time they left Iraq in February, spanning back six months.

**May 21, 2005:** Reports indicate that at least three Iraqi policemen are killed overnight.

**May 22, 2005:** Iraqi Army and Interior forces, in conjunction with Coalition troops, conduct a series of raids in the Abu Ghraib district, termed 'Operation Squeeze Play,' capturing a number of suspected insurgents. The Iraqi units involved include two battalions from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 6<sup>th</sup>

Iraqi Army Division, two battalions from the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Intervention Force, and three battalions from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Special Police Commandos.

**May 23, 2005:** In Mosul, a member of the Iraqi security forces dies when the bomb he was attempting to diffuse detonates. Operation Squeeze Play continues, with Iraqi and Coalition forces having netted some 400 suspects. Militants detonate a car bomb in north Baghdad next to a café popular with Iraqi police. Five people are killed, though it was not immediately clear if any were police officers. Maj. Gen. Wael Rubaei, an Iraqi security official, is shot to death as he drives into work in Baghdad. In the largest combined action to date, Iraqi and US troops sweep the area near Abu Ghraib prison and the road to Baghdad's airport. 300 people are detained. A famous Iraqi police commando, Abdul Waleed, appears on Iraqi state television in a music video and threatens to cut off the arms of insurgents.

**May 25, 2005:** 1,000 Iraqi and US troops begin an offensive as a follow up to Operation Matador in the Anbar province. This Operation New Market uncovers a weapons cache and a clash between US Marines and insurgents. Iraqi Defense Ministry officials announce the capture of an associate of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Baquba. Captured on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Iraqi forces describe him as Zarqawi's 'secretary.' In the Baghdad neighborhood of al-Dora, insurgents detonate a car bomb that kills eight police commandos.

**May 26, 2005:** Iraqi Interior Minister Bayan Jabr announces that insurgent leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had been wounded in an assault. Jabr announces that 40,000 Iraqi security forces will be stationed in Baghdad to help root out insurgents. In Western Baghdad, a suicide taxi bomber kills two police officers.

**May 28, 2005:** Two suicide car bombers detonate their vehicles at a checkpoint in the city of Sinjar. Four Iraqi soldiers die and 35 people are wounded.

**May 29, 2005:** Operation New Market ends. A total of 12 insurgents were killed and 30 were detained. Numerous weapons were seized, including 300 82mm high explosive mortars. Operation Lightning, a sweep against insurgents in Baghdad using between 13,000 and 20,000 Iraq forces and 7,000 US forces, begins.

**May 30, 2005:** In Hilla, police commandos demonstrate in front of the Interior Ministry. The ministry discovered that the units had formed unofficially and then had forged documents in an attempt to appear government sanctioned. During the demonstration, a suicide bomber mingles with the crowd and then detonates his explosives. When the crowd begins to run, a second bomber runs with them and then detonates his explosives. 31 are killed and 108 wounded. A provincial police chief, Maj. Gen. Qais Hamza, vows revenge for the bombings. An Iraqi Air Force plane crashes in the Diyala province, killing an Iraqi aviator and a US pilot.

**May 31, 2005:** Operation Lightning captures 65 suspected insurgents and kills 12.

**June 1, 2005:** Near Buhriz, a suicide bomber detonates his explosives at a checkpoint, killing two Iraqi soldiers.

**June 2, 2005:** Iraqi Interior Minister Bayan Jabr announces that Operation Lightning has brought control of all roads into and out of Baghdad under Iraqi control. Jabr states that 700 suspected insurgents had been detained and that 28 had been killed. The Interior Ministry releases figures that show that insurgents killed 20 Iraqi civilians a day on average over the past year and a half. Approximately 12,000 civilians were killed by insurgents over the time period. In Mosul, two motorcycles rigged with bombs explode next to a coffee shop that is known to be frequented by police officers and which is close to a police station. Five people die and it is not immediately apparent if any were police officers. A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives next to a convoy carrying deputy chief of the provincial council, Hussein Alwan al-Tamimi, in Baquba, killing him and wounding four police officers. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's Al Qaeda in Mesopotamia claims credit for the attack. In Mahmudiya, militants attack a police patrol, injuring one policeman. 121 police officers graduate from advanced specialty courses at the Adnan Training Facility. The courses included basic criminal investigations, critical incident management, counterterrorism investigations, and executive leadership. Command of the Kirkuk Military Training Base is formally transferred from MNSTC-I to Iraqi Brig. Gen Abd Zaid. The Iraqi Navy begins its Direct Recruitment Replacement Program.

**June 4, 2005:** Iraqi and US forces arrest a man dubbed Mullah Mahdi in Mosul, along with his brother and three other men. Iraqi officials state that Mahdi had links to Ansar al-Sunnah and Syria's intelligence service. The same officials claim that he was responsible for all of the major attacks, assassinations, and beheadings of Iraqi security forces in the area.

**June 6, 2005:** A suicide car bomber detonates his vehicle close to an Iraqi army checkpoint near al-Daira. Six Iraqi soldiers are wounded in the attack. In the Amil neighborhood, a suicide bomber drives his vehicle into a former factory that had been converted to an Iraqi security forces base. Lacking concrete barriers, the attacker managed to get inside the facility and kill approximately three police, though estimates varied.

**June 7, 2005:** Iraqi army and US troops launch an offensive in the city of Tal Afar to eradicate insurgent activity in the area. 23 suspected insurgents are captured. Reportedly, the city is believed to house foreign fighters who have come across the close-by border with Syria. Reports differed over whether town elders requested the operation or whether the operation had been planned for some time. Three car bombs are detonated in and around Hawija within minutes of one another, killing eight Iraqi soldiers. Two Iraqi police officers are wounded by a car bomb in Baghdad. In a separate car bomb attack in the capital city, insurgents attempt to target a police convoy but kill mostly civilians. One police officer dies. Police in Musayyab raid an insurgent

hideout in Jurf al-Sakhr and seize a cache of weapons. US and Iraqi forces begin a joint assault in Tal Afar.

**June 8, 2005:** Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jafari and President Jalal Talabani meet with the founder of the political party that founded the Badr Brigade. Both Talabani and Jafari hail the Badr Brigade and Kurdish pesh merga as indispensable and legitimate forces. In Baghdad, an Iraqi commando is killed and an Iraqi police officer wounded in two separate drive-by shootings.

**June 12, 2005:** Al Qaeda in Iraq claims to have captured and then executed 21 Iraqi soldiers outside of Qaim. Though the bodies were found, the Iraqi Ministry of Defense denies that any soldiers were missing. Militants attack the home of Iraqi army Gen. Rashid Fleys, where the funeral for the mother of a top security official was being held in Baghdad. 13 people are wounded.

**June 13, 2005:** In Tikrit, a suicide car bomber attacks and Iraqi police patrol, killing two officers and wounding four. Two Iraqi police officers die in Samarra when a suicide car bomber detonates close to a joint US-Iraqi military patrol. Three more die in the city when insurgents detonate two bombs close to their barracks, drawing them out, at which point they open fire on them.

**June 14, 2005:** Militants launch a coordinated attack on a Kaanan police station using mortars and a car bomb. An unknown number of Iraqi police and soldiers are among the nine dead.

**June 15, 2005:** More than 26 Iraqi soldiers die and many more are wounded when a suicide bomber, dressed in an Iraqi army uniform, detonates his explosives in a military mess tent in Khalis. Iraqi security forces announce the capture of Abid Dawoud Salman and his son, Salman a former Iraqi general and his son a former captain, in Khaldiyah. According to Iraqi officials, Salman was an important military adviser to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

**June 16, 2005:** A suicide bomber rams an Iraqi police convoy on the road to Baghdad's airport, killing eight officers and wounding 25 more.

**June 17, 2005:** Operation Spear begins in the Anbar province in an attempt to disrupt insurgent activity.

**June 18, 2005:** Operation Daggar begins as a complement to Operation Spear in the Anbar province.

**June 19, 2005:** A suicide bomber with an explosive vest targets a restaurant just outside of the Green Zone in Baghdad. The ensuing explosion kills between 2-7 Iraqi police officers. A group claiming fealty to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claims responsibility on the Internet. In the northern part of the capital, a suicide car bomber sidles up to a police convoy and detonates his vehicle, wounding two people. In Tikrit, a suicide bomber wearing an Iraqi police uniform drives up to the gate of a US military base and detonates vehicle, killing two Iraqi soldiers.

**June 20, 2005:** In Irbil, a suicide car bomber rams a group of traffic cops gathered for roll call outside of their headquarters. The ensuing explosion kills 20 traffic policemen and wounds 100. Insurgents launch a coordinated on a US military convoy and then an attack on the Baya police station in southwestern Baghdad, utilizing small arms, two suicide car bombs, RPGs, and mortars. Approximately eight policemen are killed and 23 are wounded. One Iraqi soldier dies. Operations Spear and Daggar have resulted in 60 insurgent deaths and the capture of approximately 100 militants. 1,000 US and Iraq soldiers are involved in the two operations. In the Mansour district, militants detonate a roadside bomb, killing four Iraqi police. A gunfight erupts between police and insurgents and one policeman dies. 15 are wounded. In Nisoor Square, two car bombs detonate close to a police commando station, but there are no casualties. Near Tuz Khurmatu, insurgents detonate a roadside bomb as an Iraqi army convoy passes, killing three soldiers and wounding two more.

**June 21, 2005:** Iraqi and US troops begin pulling out of Karabilah, near the Syrian border, following the conclusion of Operation Spear. Several car bomb workshops were uncovered, one insurgent was captured, and an estimated 47 were killed. Insurgents had been harassing the town and had set up roadblocks. In Tuz Khormantu, Iraqi security forces reportedly prevent a suicide bomber from carrying out an attack, and the Defense Ministry announced that 11 weapons caches had been uncovered around the country. In Al Habibiya, citizens inform an Iraqi army patrol of a stockpile of arms in a nearby sewer. Iraqi security forces uncover RPGs and rounds.

**June 22, 2005:** A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives next to an Iraqi army patrol in the Ameriyah neighborhood of western Baghdad. No Iraqi soldiers are killed, though the attack kills four civilians. Militants detonate a roadside bomb close to an Iraqi police patrol and special operations unit. The attack near Madain kills two policemen and wounds two more officers.

**June 23, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide bomber attacks an Iraqi police patrol near a gas station in the northern-central part of the city. Three police officers are killed. Three more are killed in a suicide bombing in the Karada area of the city near an old mall.

**June 25, 2005:** In Samarra, five cars loaded with insurgents run interference for a suicide car bomber as he rams his vehicle into the wall outside of Lt. Muthana al-Shaker's home. Al-Shaker is a member of the police special forces in Samarra. The attack kills multiple civilians, but fails to injure al-Shaker. Two insurgents attempting to plant a follow-on bomb for emergency services and police outside of his home accidentally set the device off, killing themselves. In

Kirkuk, insurgents strap an explosive belt to a dog and detonate it when the dog wanders near Iraqi security forces. One officer is injured.

**June 26, 2005:** In Mosul, Iraqi security forces are targeted by Zarqawi's Al Qaida in Iraq group. One suicide truck bomber rams a police station, killing ten policemen. In the parking lot of an Iraqi army base on the fringe of the city, another suicide bomber detonates his explosives. 16 people are killed, most of them civilians, but reports indicate some security forces personnel are among the dead. A third Mosul suicide bomber walks into the Jumhuri Teaching Hospital, detonating his explosives in a room used by Iraqi policemen charged with guarding the hospital. Five policemen are killed, including several who were sleeping. A total of 16 policemen are wounded in the attacks. Minister of Defense Dulaimy states that it is necessary to open a dialogue with the armed insurgent groups who wish to join the political process. In Sadiyah, militants killed six Iraqi soldiers outside of their base. In Baghdad, Al Qaida in Iraq claims credit for the shooting death of police Col. Riyadh Abdul Karim, an assistant district police director of emergency services, in the eastern portion of the city. In the Amin neighborhood, Iraqi police seize 500 anti-personnel mines, 60 RPG rounds, several mortar rounds, and arrest seven suspected insurgents. Shortly after the raid, Iraqi police from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Army Brigade discovered a car bomb and called in experts to diffuse it.

**June 27, 2005:** In Mosul, insurgents detonate a car bomb near an Iraqi army patrol in the Al Wihda neighborhood, killing two people and wounding four. It is not clear whether the killed and wounded were soldiers or civilians. In Tal Afar, militants shoot at an Iraqi army convoy from a mosque. One Iraqi soldier and five militants die in the following gun battle. In Baghdad, insurgents detonate a roadside bomb close to an Iraqi police patrol. The attack in the northern Azamiyah neighborhood kills two Iraqis. It is not clear whether the killed were civilians or policemen.

**June 28, 2005:** In Baquba, a suicide car bomb near the headquarters of the Iraqi security forces detonates, killing civilians. In Baghdad, militants shoot and kill two Iraqi policemen. The police chief of Kirkuk escapes a suicide car bombing attempt that kills a bodyguard and a civilian. A suicide bomber wearing an explosive belt detonates his charges in front of the main hospital in Musayyib. One policeman is killed and 17 others wounded.

**June 29, 2005:** In Mosul, militants sporting Iraqi army uniforms shoot and kill an Iraqi police officer and two members of his family in the center of the city.

**June 30, 2005:** Operation Sword, a sweep along the Euphrates River in the Anbar province, continues into its third day. More than 1,000 US forces and 100 Iraqi soldiers are deployed in an effort to sweep insurgents out of the western towns. According to Iraqi military officers, more than 2 tons of explosives were seized in the city of Hit and 45 suspected insurgents arrested.

**July 1, 2005:** In the Mansour neighborhood of Baghdad, a car bomb detonates in front of the offices of Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari's Islamic Dawa Party shortly after the departure of Interior Ministry administrative affairs undersecretary police Maj. Gen. Adnan al-Assadi, killing one civilian and injuring at least 4 armed guards stationed at the compound. It is unclear whether al-Assadi was the primary target. Two policemen are also wounded after striking a roadside bomb at a checkpoint on the outskirts of Baghdad. A drive-by shooting results in the death of an Iraqi Defense Ministry civilian employee. A battalion of the Iraqi National Guard uncovers a huge weapons stockpile including hundreds of rockets and mortar shells buried in the desert south of Karbala. Residents directed Iraqi police to a location in Ramadi where the bodies of 3 men, described by the residents as a Saudi, a Jordanian, and a Kuwaiti who were members of al-Qaeda in Iraq, had been dumped the side of the road from a truck. US and Iraqi troops complete house searches and begin foot patrols under Operation Sword.

**July 2, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide bomber kills 11 and injures 22 at a checkpoint near a base of the Interior Ministry's commando force headquarters, marking the third major attack on this location since October. Most of those killed were new recruits. In eastern Baghdad, a car bomb aimed for a police patrol unit kills 3 policemen and 8 others. An additional car bomb in Mahmudiyah results in one death and 3 wounded. A series of attacks from Duluiyah to Baiji targeting Iraqi police forces kills 13 including 6 civilians. In Mosul, an area where security forces have been frequently targeted, the Medical City hospital reports to have received 12 unidentified bodies in 24 hours, most of which were victims of gunshots to the head. In response to the recent violence, al-Jaafari requests that foreign troops continue their presence until Iraqi troops are able to handle insurgent violence on their own.

**July 3, 2005:** Two policemen are killed by a bomb intended for the vehicle of Colonel Imad Nureddin, police chief of the town of Al-Ryad. Three suicide bombers targeting Iraqi security forces launch a total of two attacks: one in western Baghdad and one in Hilla: resulting in at least 20 deaths and 59 injuries. During a news conference, Laith Kubba acknowledges that some Iraqi troops have participated in the torture and abuse of prisoners.

**July 4, 2005:** Operation Muthana Strike, a raid of insurgent safe houses near the western end of the Baghdad International Airport by 600 Iraqi army soldiers and 250 U.S. soldiers, is carried out in the early morning hours with the arrest of 100 suspected Iraqi insurgents and foreign fighters, including several Egyptian suspects. The intended outcome was to thwart future attacks through the seizure of weapons and the gathering of intelligence through a series of detainments.

**July 5, 2005:** Twenty miles south of Kirkuk, a suicide car bomber detonates his explosives at a checkpoint, killing one Iraqi soldier and injuring 3 others.

**July 6, 2005:** In west Baghdad, militants shoot and kill Captain Hazim Jabbar, member of the police special commando brigade and former bodyguard to a consultant for former interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi. Three other police officers including 2 commandos are also killed in



another neighborhood in western Baghdad. Nine other members of the police force, including a brigadier general, were injured in various locations around the city. Iraqi police reported the death of a member of the Badr Brigade, the largest Shiite militia, in an ambush in south Baghdad. An audiotape is found on the web with a statement that Iraqi troops and police are as much an enemy as the Americans and are equally legitimate targets for violent acts. The speaker claimed to be Al-Qaida in Iraq chief Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

**July 7, 2005:** Operation Lightning is nearly complete and will be followed by three additional projects, including one that will attempt to secure oil and electricity installations and another that will involve an intelligence mission that will transition into an undisclosed third operation, according to Iraqi Interior Minister Bayan Jabr. In a raid west of Baghdad in the village of Dihab Abyad, Iraqi security forces confiscate thousands of liters of oil that were designated for sale on the black market. In various other locations in Baghdad, 4 Iraqi police are killed and 9 wounded. On a road between Baghdad and Mahaweel, security forces kill 3 insurgents attempting to plant a roadside bomb. There were no reported casualties of the security forces from this incident. The "Omar Brigade," al-Zarqawi's supposed newly created group, is believed to be the most organized effort yet seen to combat the Badr Brigade, the armed wing of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq. Al-Zarqawi is believed to be acerbating Sunni anger over the alleged torture and killing of several Sunni men by Iraqi police forces. According to a member of the Badr Brigade, recruits numbering in the hundreds from the Shiite group have entered the Iraqi security forces.

**July 8, 2005:** In Fallujah, a suicide bomber crashes into a U.S.-Iraqi joint patrol approaching the eastern exit of the city at night, destroying 1 Iraqi personnel carrier and 1 American personnel carrier. After receiving a tip from a local citizen in eastern Baghdad, police in Baghdad discover a roadside bomb and disable it before it detonates with the aid of a coalition explosive ordnance disposal team. Elsewhere in eastern Baghdad, the Iraqi police successfully capture a weapons dealer in possession of a sniper rifle, a submachine gun and three AK-47 rifles.

**July 9, 2005:** In the Yarmouk district of western Mosul, militants fatally shoot an Iraqi police officer in his car. Elsewhere in the city, Iraqi security forces kill 3 gunmen, and in another location find the bodies of 2 Iraqi soldiers. Gunmen in southwestern Baghdad kill Iraqi police officer Capt. Saad Muhsen Abdulmir. An explosion occurs as an Iraqi military patrol passes through Fallujah, causing a fire to ignite in a personnel carrier. Casualties are yet unknown. Interior Minister Jaber Solagh announces the formation of the Lightning Force, a 3,000 troop strong group of specially trained and equipped anti-terrorist forces. In a desert region south of Baghdad, two suspected terrorists are arrested in booby-trapped cars and in a western area, 7 additional suspects are arrested. A further 8 suspects are taken into custody in near Mosul in Tellafar, as well as 5 others south of Baghdad in Alexandria. Operation Scimitar, the most recent offensive by U.S. Marines and Iraqi security forces in the Anbar province, is publicly announced though it officially began on Thursday 7 July. Operation Scimitar is the sixth major offensive in the province over the past several months, although its troop strength of 500 Marines and 100 Iraqi soldiers is smaller than the previous efforts which tended to employ approximately 1,000 troops.

**July 10, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide bomber wearing a belt strung with explosives targets security force volunteers outside an army recruitment center at the former Muthana airport, killing 25 and wounding nearly 50. Most of those pronounced dead are believed to have been recruits. An additional suicide bomber in a pickup truck near Mosul pulls up next to a police convoy escorting an Iraqi brigadier general and detonates his ammunition, killing 5 policemen but leaving the brigadier general unharmed. In northern Baghdad, a mortar bomb falls on a police station, injuring 2 Iraqi police and demolishing 4 police cars. A joint Iraqi and U.S. patrol question a local citizen in the Ameriyah district after noticing a black BMW parked in front of a house that is normally uninhabited. Finding him suspicious, the soldiers search the house and uncover a cache of weapons, including a bag of raw C-4 plastic explosives, an AK-47, 20 hand grenades, a machine gun, a sniper rifle, a loaded 9 mm pistol with an attached silencer, approximately 500-700 rounds of ammunition, and 4 containers believed to encase explosives. An Iraqi army unit responds to a civilian call in Baghdad and finds a rocket on an improvised launcher which they successfully disarm without casualty. Nighttime clashes in Tal Afar between Iraqi security forces and insurgents resulted in 6 deaths and at least 22 wounded.

**July 11, 2005:** Northeast of Baghdad in Khalis, insurgents stage an armed assault on a checkpoint, firing mortars, machine guns and semiautomatic weapons, and killing 8 Iraqi soldiers. Less than two hours later, 2 army troops are killed when their patrol passes a car bomb parked on the side of the road. Al-Qaeda in Iraq claims responsibility for both attacks in a statement released on the web, although its authenticity is unsubstantiated. The Iraqi government announces the detainment of 4 members of the Mujahedeen Brigade, 2 Egyptian nationals, and a cell leader by the Iraqi security forces as part of the ongoing Operation Lightning. The Association of Muslim Scholars, a Sunni group, accuses the Iraqi security forces of torturing and killing 10 Sunnis after a doctor confirmed the receipt of 9 bodies that showed signs of mistreatment.

**July 12, 2005:** In Baghdad, militants fatally shoot police colonel Amir Mirza in a market in the Wahda district and gunmen kill a police captain outside his flat. Elsewhere in Baghdad, gunmen open fire on security guards in front of a health clinic, resulting in the death of one policeman. North of Baghdad, in two separate attacks, an Iraqi policeman and Iraqi soldier are killed. A task force Iraqi soldier dies of injuries incurred from striking a landmine on 11 July, an incident that is currently under investigation. Members of the Iraqi army detonate approximately 3 metric tons of explosives including 1,282 mines, 628 mortar rounds and 825 artillery shells that were found near oil fields in southern Iraq by Oil Protection Services. The explosives are assumed to be remnants of a 1990 plot by Saddam Hussein to prevent US troops from taking the oil fields after the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The Interior Ministry announced the launch of an independent investigation into the torture and death of the 10 Sunni Arabs protested by the Association of Muslim Scholars. Defense Minister Saadoun al-Duleimi announces the posthumous granting of army status to all recruits that were killed by the suicide bombing of the Baghdad recruitment center on 10 July.

**July 13, 2005:** In western Baghdad, an Iraqi soldier is shot and killed while driving, and in a nearby neighborhood, militants kill a lieutenant and another Iraqi soldier during a firefight. Clashes in northern Mosul result in the death of one policeman and 4 suspected insurgents. An Iraqi soldier is killed and another wounded at a checkpoint near Fallujah after being fired upon by a U.S. soldier for failing to stop properly. An additional police officer was shot to death in Basra. In Kirkuk, an explosion occurs in an industrial district near passing pedestrians. Police on the scene are shot and 3 are wounded. As part of an ongoing investigation into the deaths of 10 Sunnis on 10 July, a senior Interior Ministry official acknowledges that the victims died by suffocation after being shut in a police car with its engine turned off during a day in which the temperature reached 115 degrees Fahrenheit. The official noted that the security forces responsible for the deaths would be tried accordingly. In an unrelated incident, 13 people including 12 Sunnis and one Shi'a were tortured and killed during a raid on a series of houses by the Iraqi security forces, according to a complaint issued by the Association of Muslim Scholars. An official from the Interior Ministry announced the launch of an investigation into the matter.

**July 14, 2005:** In Baghdad, 2 suicide bombings result in the wounding of 2 Iraqi police at a checkpoint to the Green Zone, where the government of Baghdad and center of U.S. operations are located. Police kill a suspected third bomber who ran after security forces noticed wires running out of his clothes. At a checkpoint in western Baghdad near the headquarters of the Iraqi Police Major Crimes Unit, militants shoot to death 2 police officers and wound 4. Operation Scimitar is completed after resulting in the seizure of 5 weapons caches and the arrest of 26 suspected insurgents, one of whom allegedly planned an April attack on the prison at Abu Ghraib.

**July 15, 2005:** Twelve suicide bombers targeting Iraqi security forces and U.S. troops kill at least 33 people and wound 111 in various locations in Baghdad and northern Iraq. Among the casualties were nearly 15 Iraqi soldiers wounded at an Iraqi army checkpoint in Ash-shab, 5 soldiers wounded near Andalus Square during an assault on a convoy, 2 soldiers killed by a bomber who detonated his explosives while crashing his truck into the main gate of an army camp in Bab al-Moadham, 5 soldiers killed in a motorcycle bomb in Al-Bayaa, 2 soldiers killed by a bomber north of Baghdad in Balad, and 2 soldiers killed and 1 wounded at a checkpoint in Al-Sharqat.

**July 16, 2005:** Ten miles south of Mosul, a suicide attacker detonates his explosives inside a police station, causing 6 police fatalities and 20 wounded. A suicide car bomb attack injures 4 Iraqi soldiers near an army convoy in Hawija. An additional suicide car bomber in the Baghdad neighborhood of Dora kills 3 commandos and injures 5 civilians. Northwest of Kirkuk, 3 Iraqi soldiers and 2 of their American counterparts are wounded during an attempt to disarm a bomb. Police successfully arrest a suicide bomber in Baghdad before he was able to detonate his explosives amidst a crowd of citizens mourning a large-scale suicide attack that occurred on 13 July. The detainee claimed Libyan descent.

**July 17, 2005:** In the New Baghdad neighborhood in eastern Baghdad, a suicide bomber kills 2 policemen and injures 7 others. Three police commandos die in a second suicide car bombing approximately 1 hour later near the Bay'a bus station in southern Baghdad. At the eastern end of the Karradah peninsula, a vehicle-borne IED kills 3 Iraqi police officers and wounds 1. The blast from the device causes damage to power lines, a water main, and 15 houses in the vicinity.

**July 18, 2005:** Operation Thunder, a security sweep on the west side of the Tigris River in Baghdad, expands in its second week after resulting in nearly 50 arrests in the initial few days. Combined troops uncover several weapons caches during operations over the past 48 hours in Mosul, Tal Afar, and Zagaytan. The Mosul cache was notably large, consisting of assembled roadside bombs and bomb-making equipment, anti-tank mines, 250 hand grenades, 1,500 blasting caps and more than 10,000 rounds of rifle ammunition, as well as mortars, artillery rounds, rockets, missiles. Militants kill at least 24 police officers, soldiers, and government workers in a series of small-scale attacks: in Khadra, eight Iraqi police officers die in a gun battle with insurgents; in Rawah, a car bomb intended for Iraqi and U.S. military troops results in the death of at least one civilian; in a series of attacks in various other locations around the city, militants kill 5 Iraqi police officers, including one colonel and three civilians working for the government. North of Baghdad, a shootout between security forces and insurgents resulted in the death of one police officer in Taji, a police colonel and 3 civilians were killed in a series of attacks in Samarra, and 2 Iraqi troops were gunned down in Mosul along with Abdul-Ghani Naimi, brother of a member of the Iraqi Parliament. Iraqi soldiers continue with Operation Veterans Forward by arresting several suspected terrorists and uncovering a variety of weaponry in Tal Afar.

**July 19, 2005:** In the Ameriyah district and Al Dora neighborhood of Baghdad, joint operations by Iraqi police and coalition soldiers result in the arrest of four suspected terrorists, including an alleged mid-level cell leader who has ties to Ansar Al Sunna and was wanted for the sale of surface-to-air missiles.

**July 21, 2005:** Two suicide bombings targeting Iraqi security forces kill at least 17 people. Thousands of Iraqis leave Tal Afar fearing an increased crackdown on militant action by joint U.S. and Iraqi security forces in the area. The Pentagon releases a report to Congress stating that the Iraqi security forces are not yet capable of defending their country without aid from the U.S. and coalition forces.

**July 22, 2005:** In a wasteland area in eastern Baghdad, 2 police officer brothers are found dead with gunshot wounds to the head and chest after being abducted from their home on Thursday. Elsewhere in eastern Baghdad, 3 policemen die after they are gunned down while directing traffic, and 7 others are killed in drive-by shootings around the city. A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi army convoy on a highway near Latifiyah detonates, killing 2 civilians and damaging 3 civilian vehicles, but leaves the convoy intact. Militants open fire on a car in the Dora neighborhood in Baghdad carrying an Iraqi army captain Wissam Abdul-Wahab and his new

wife, killing the bride and leaving the captain wounded. In Samarra, 1 soldier and 3 civilians die in a clash with insurgents.

**July 23, 2005:** In western Samarra, a bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol detonates, killing 1 soldier and wounding 3 in the Al-Qal'ah area. Raids conducted by Iraqi police in Al-Yusufiyah and Al-Musayyib result in the arrest of 30 suspected insurgents, including 8 Egyptians. One policeman suffers minor injuries.

**July 24, 2005:** Southeast of Baghdad in the Al-Mashtel neighborhood, a truck filled 500 pounds of explosives detonates in front of the Al-Rashid police station, killing up to 40 people and wounding 25, although reports of the death toll varied. Fires from the explosion spread to 22 cars, 10 shops and a nearby building. Elsewhere in Baghdad, 2 police lieutenant colonels are fatally shot while on their way to work, 1 in Baghdad, and 1 in Kirkuk. Seven additional police are killed around Baghdad, one by mortar fire and the rest in as a result of several clashes with insurgents.

**July 25, 2005:** In Baghdad, Iraqi commandos open fire on a vehicle filled with explosives at a checkpoint near the Ministry of Interior compound, causing an explosion that kills 2 soldiers and injures 12. Joint U.S.-Iraqi forces conduct raids in Mosul and northwestern Tikrit, detaining 17 suspects and confiscating a variety of weaponry.

**July 26, 2005:** In the Al-Risalah neighborhood of western Mosul, an armed clash between police forces and insurgents results in the deaths of 2 Iraqis and 8 others.

**July 27, 2005:** In northern Baghdad, a suicide car bomber targeting an Iraqi army convoy kills 2 civilians and injures 10 others, including 5 soldiers. Another car bomb explodes in the Shurta al-Khamsa section of southwestern Baghdad near a group of Iraqi commandos, causing 1 death and 4 injuries. Members of the U.S. and Iraqi armies capture Ammar Abu Bara, who is also known as Amar Hussein Hasan, the alleged terror cell leader for Mosul and trusted aid to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

**July 28, 2005:** Joint U.S.-Iraqi forces announce that they have detained 49 suspected terrorists during operations over the past 2 days in Mosul, Tal Afar, and Rawa. A series of 4 coordinated attacks against Iraqi army checkpoints on a road between Baquba and Baghdad kills 6 soldiers and injures 3 soldiers, 4 police officers and a civilian.

**July 29, 2005:** A suicide bomber detonates his belt of explosives amidst a crowd of Iraqi army trainees in the town of Rabia, near the Syrian border, killing 44 and injuring 57. Al-Qaeda in Iraq claims responsibility for the attack. In a village west of Haditha, Iraqi security forces and U.S. Marines raid safe houses and kill 9 militants, 5 of whom are allegedly Syrian nationals.

Iraqi and U.S. soldiers are attacked in Cykla while conducting a security patrol. No casualties were reported.

**July 30, 2005:** In the Karada district of central Baghdad, a car bomb explodes in front of a mobile police checkpoint near the Iraqi National Theater, causing 3 police fatalities and wounding 20 people, some of whom were policemen. Militants attack a convoy in Kufa carrying senior advisor to the Iraqi environment minister Ibrahim Issawi, resulting in the death of one of his security guards and the wounding of 3 others.

**July 31, 2005:** In Latifiya, an insurgent attack on the convoy of Deputy Prime Minister Ahmed Chalabi kills one of his bodyguards and injures 3 others. Chalabi himself was not in the convoy. On a road between Haswa and Wahawil, a car bomb intended for the Iraqi police forces is remotely detonated, resulting in 5 deaths and 10 injuries. Militants kill an Iraqi soldier dressed in plainclothes in the Baghdad neighborhood of Iskan. Armed insurgents fire upon a group of cooks as they depart from a military base in Baquba, killing 1 and wounding 3.

**August 1, 2005:** In the Baghdad neighborhood of Um Maalif, 22 bodies of Shiite Muslims are discovered, including one of a police colonel from Karbala. All died from apparent gunshot wounds and 2 had been beheaded, apparently by a gang of men dressed in Iraqi National Guard uniforms that raided the town during the night.

**August 2, 2005:** In Baquba, a car bomb targeting a police patrol near Al-Haiyat hospital detonates, killing 1 policeman and 1 civilian, and wounding 7 policemen and 1 other. 4 people, 3 of them police officers, die in a suicide attack on a police checkpoint in Mosul. In northeastern Baghdad, 3 assailants ambush and kill Col. Mizhir Hamad Yousif, commander of Abu Ghraib police station, as he travels through the neighborhood of New Baghdad on his way to work.

**August 3, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide bomber detonates his explosives at a checkpoint in Al-Isakhi, killing 5 Iraqi soldiers. Elsewhere in Baghdad, militants shoot and kill a police officer. Two other police officers are shot dead while driving in Baghdad. One Iraqi soldier dies in Balad when a bomber blows up a tractor. Militants attack a police patrol in Baquba and fatally shoot 2 policemen.

**August 4, 2005:** North of Baghdad in Dujail, assailants stage an attack on an Iraqi army patrol, killing 4 troops. Iraqi security forces begin a month-long operation to protect the 544 voter registration centers nationwide that opened August 3<sup>rd</sup> in anticipation of a general election and constitutional referendum. Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim Al-Jaafari announces a new 12-point security plan that includes steps to protect infrastructure, improve intelligence, and secure borders against foreign fighters. A U.S. government liaison in Baghdad reports a new Iraqi plan to build a 10-kilometer-wide weapons-free “buffer zone” around the nation to prevent the illegal entrance of foreign fighters and weapons shipments. Iraqi security forces are arranging for the

assumption of control of 5 southern cities, including Diwaniya, Karbala, Najaf, Nasseriya and Samawa. Iraqi army and Task Force Baghdad soldiers conduct 3 combat operations in southern, western and northern Baghdad, arresting 5 terrorist suspects. Iraqi army members detain 4 other suspects in Baghdad who are under suspicion of plotting government assassinations.

**August 5, 2005:** In Baquba, Iraqi security forces neutralize 5 IEDs and detain 45 terrorist suspects under Operation Vanguard Thunder, an undertaking targeting 150-200 suspected insurgents. Iraqi security forces and U.S. soldiers conduct a raid in Sharmiyah, arresting 39 suspected insurgents. Approximately 1,000 Iraqi soldiers and U.S. Marines conduct a large-scale operation entitled Operation Quick Strike aimed at flushing out insurgents in the western Euphrates valley, focusing on the cities of Haditha, Haqliniyah and Barwanah.

**August 6, 2005:** In Haqliniyah, Iraqi soldiers and U.S. Marines disable 3 car bombs and discover 2 weapons caches that including bomb-making materials. South of Baghdad, a suicide bomber drove his truck into a checkpoint, killing 1 Iraqi soldier and wounding another. Nearby, at an army post, Iraqi and coalition forces thwart an insurgent attack, killing 6 militants and capturing 12. Two other attacks on nearby locations are successfully countered by U.S. and Iraqi forces and result in no casualties.

**August 7, 2005:** In Samawah, clashes between protestors and police result in 1 death and 44 injuries, including 14 members of the Iraqi security forces. Demonstrators set several cars on fire, including one police vehicle parked in front of the office of the mayor. A suicide tanker bomb detonated at the headquarters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> police battalion in Tikrit kills 2 people and wounds 10. In Baghdad, 3 Iraqi soldiers in civilian clothing are killed in drive by shooting. Elsewhere in Baghdad, another Iraqi soldier is injured in an attack in the Saydida neighborhood. Iraqi army soldiers and U.S. forces conduct a series of raids in Rawah, Fallujah, Mugdadiyah and Baghdad, locating a variety of weapons caches, IEDs and roadside bombs and capturing several suspected insurgents without casualties.

**August 8, 2005:** Operation Quick Strike enters its second week as US and Iraqi forces discover 6 explosive-laden vehicles and 5 roadside bombs at two locations in Haqliniyah. The People's Mujahedeen Organization of Iran, or Mujahedeen Khalq, releases a statement accusing the Iraqi security forces of kidnapping 2 of its members. The Iraqi Interior Ministry denies having any knowledge of such an incident.

**August 9, 2005:** In the New Baghdad neighborhood of the Iraqi capital, armed assailants attack a police patrol and kill 5 policemen who had fallen asleep at their post. In the Dora neighborhood, gunmen shoot to death police Capt. Haidir Mizhir Salih and another policeman on their way to work in the morning. A third attack in the Zayouna neighborhood results in the death of 1 police officer and the wounding of another. Militants kill a police officer and wound 2 others in a drive-by shooting in the Shuaula district of Baghdad. Also in Baghdad, a car bomber strikes a police patrol and U.S. convoy, killing 3 policemen and wounding 42 people, many of them

policemen, as well as destroying 16 vehicles. Iraqi security forces along with Polish and American troops uncover a large weapons cache in central southern Iraq.

**August 10, 2005:** In Baghdad, a car bombing at a police patrol in the Ghazaliya district kills 2 police officers and 4 others, and wounds an additional 14 people including 2 policemen. 9 vehicles, 3 of them police vehicles, are destroyed as a result of the same explosion. Iraqi security forces search the RIA Novosti office in Baghdad, confiscate audio and video material and ask one translator to leave to undergo questioning. The seized material was returned later that day. Members of the Iraqi military discover a weapons cache and detain 3 suspects in Fallujah, while others uncover several IEDs during operations in Balad, Baquba, Tikrit, Hit and Raway.

**August 11, 2005:** In Basra, gunmen assassinate Ministry of Defense intelligence official Lt. Col. Ibrahim Khalil al-Ani while he was shopping in the Junaina neighborhood. Militants kill a police lieutenant in a drive-by shooting in the western part Baghdad. Iraqi security forces detain 3 suspected insurgents in Mosul and arrest 4 in Mosul, Rawah and Tal Afar.

**August 12, 2005:** In Mosul, Iraqi security forces shoot and kill Mohammed Salah Sultan, also known as Abu Zubair, a lieutenant of Al-Qaeda in Iraq. He was strapped with explosives at the time of his death. A car bomb attack near a police patrol in the Dora district of Baghdad wounds 4 civilians, leaving the policemen unharmed.

**August 14, 2005:** In Hilla, police discover 30 mutilated bodies in a mass grave that appears to be approximately six months old. After conducting a search in which one Iraqi suspect was killed, Iraqi forces arrest 13 individuals including an Egyptian and a Sudanese. At a checkpoint on the border of the Muthanna governorate, forces arrest 3 men including one Syrian for allegedly plotting to launch a suicide attack during a demonstration in Samawa against the provincial governor, Mohammad Ali Hassani. All three suspects were found wearing explosive belts and the Iraqis were found in possession of grenades. In Kirkuk, militants attack a police patrol, killing 1 policeman and wounding 3. Two police are found dead from gunshot wounds in Samarra. Also in Samarra, police elevated security and added several checkpoints due to backlash from the death of Najim Takhi, a well-known resident and alleged member of Al-Qaeda. Several placards have been posted in various locations around the area, such as one that promises the death of 1,000 policemen as retribution for the killing of Takhi.

**August 15, 2005:** Gunmen stage an attack on a checkpoint, killing 4 Iraqi soldiers and injuring 3 near Bohruz. Another ambush by insurgents in the Al-Amiriyah neighborhood in eastern Baghdad results in the death of 1 soldier and the wounding of another. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a suicide attacker on a motorcycle rams into a restaurant in the Karada district, wounding 15 people, including 6 policemen. The restaurant is known to be frequented by police officers. Insurgents stage an attack on the convoy of Iraqi Vice President Aadel Abdul-Mahdi in the Dayala governorate of northeast Baghdad, killing 2 guards and injuring 3. The Vice President was not present at the time of the attack. A mortar shell injures 5 policemen and 3 civilians near



the interior ministry. Four Iraqi soldiers conducting a patrol are fatally wounded when a roadside bomb explodes in Fallujah. Iraqi SWAT officers and American soldiers kill a suspected terrorist and arrest 16 others in joint operations conducted in Hilla. Six additional suspects are captured during similar operations in Mosul and Balad. The Iraqi army and U.S. soldiers uncover 2 weapons caches in Fallujah and detain 2 suspects.

**August 16, 2005:** In the Sadr City area of Baghdad, gunmen fire upon a civil defense center, killing 2 police officers and injuring 2 others.

**August 17, 2005:** In Baghdad, three consecutive car bombings within 30 minutes kill at least 43 and wound up to 90. Additional casualties include six members of the Iraqi security forces. Three suspects carrying remote controls were immediately arrested for suspicion of involvement. Near Kirkuk, six cousins and recent military graduates are shot and killed in an ambush. One policeman is shot to death in a bus station in Mosul. Six Iraqi soldiers guarding oil pipelines in northern Iraq die in a series of attacks by insurgents. Militants fatally shoot a police officer in Samarra.

**August 18, 2005:** In Fallujah, 2 coordinated roadside bombs kill 3 Iraqi soldiers. Iraqi security forces discover IEDs in Mugdadiyah and Hawija.

**August 20, 2005:** In western Baghdad, 2 soldiers are killed in a firefight with insurgents. Iraqi news sources report the wounding of Commander of the Iraqi Border Guards General Ali Hamdi al-Mousawi by U.S. soldiers, though the U.S. military denies this.

**August 21, 2005:** In Samarra, a man wearing an Iraqi army uniform storms a house and kills 5 family members, missing only 1 family member, a young boy who hid when the attack began. Iraqi police officers confiscate 32 mortar rounds and 20 rockets in 2 locations in Baghdad.

**August 22, 2005:** North of Baghdad in Tarmiyah, militants open fire on a bus carrying Iraqi policemen, killing 8 as well as 2 civilians and the bus driver. In Al-Sainiya, insurgents fire a mortar at a joint U.S.-Iraqi military base, resulting in the deaths of 5 Iraqi army soldiers. Two soldiers die and 3 are wounded as their patrol passes roadside bomb in Tulul al-Baj. Gunmen shoot and kill a senior police commando and his wife as they drove through Kirkuk. Armed insurgents kill 2 truck drivers and a guard with the special Facility Protection Security Force 50 kilometers north of Baquba.

**August 23, 2005:** In Najaf, clashes between Iraqi security forces and supporters of Muqtada al-Sadr result in the deaths of 2 members of the Iraqi security forces and another Iraqi, as well as the wounding of 5 others. A suicide bomber in Baquba kills 1 police officer and 6 others at an emergency response coordination compound. However, conflicting reports announced that 3

additional police officers had died in the explosion and that 3 more were killed when they were mistakenly fired upon by American soldiers. Iraqi armed forces participating in Operation Hawk capture 5 insurgents in Ad-Dujayl, while 10 others are captured by Iraqi forces in Tikrit and Balad.

**August 24, 2005:** In Baghdad, former members of Saddam Hussein's security apparatus kill 13 Iraqi police officers, 27 civilians and a member of the American security force. Elsewhere in Baghdad, more than 30 suspected Sunni insurgents ambush Iraqi security forces as they respond to a car bombing, killing at least 15 and wounding 59. Special forces from the Interior Ministry are deployed in Najaf as approximately 1,000 demonstrators clash with followers of Muqtada al-Sadr, resulting in the deaths of 7 people and the wounding of dozens. Four bodyguards of Deputy Justice Minister Boshu Ibrahim die when their convoy is attacked by militants in Baghdad.

**August 25, 2005:** In Baghdad, 13 are killed as large groups of insurgents attack Iraqi police checkpoints with rocket-propelled grenades, ostensibly in response to the newly drafted constitution. In various locations around Baghdad, Iraqi police hunt down attackers, killing 3 and capturing 1. Police officers also find 14 artillery rounds near the Kirkuk traffic circle. Clashes in southern Iraq between the Mahdi Army and the SCIRI, two rival Shiite Muslim groups, fill the streets. Iraqi police are not targets in this particular incident, but have been instructed not to intervene. Iraqi security forces enforce a curfew in Najaf after approximately 1,000 participate in silent protests.

**August 26, 2005:** In Barwannah, joint U.S. and Iraqi forces arrest 6 suspected terrorists and confiscate 2 weapons caches. Another cache of Russian and Chinese weapons is found in Tuz. In Mosul, 16 suspects have been captured over the past 48 hours and one was killed in a firefight with police.

**August 27, 2005:** In a western suburb of Baghdad, Iraqi security forces detain 3 men who admitted to kidnapping and killing Egyptian diplomat Ihab al-Sherif in July.

**August 28, 2005:** In Baghdad, 2 police are fatally shot during a patrol of the Al-Khadra neighborhood. Also in Baghdad, two other police are shot and killed in the Al-Jihad neighborhood. In a third Baghdad incident, 2 policemen die and 1 is wounded in after insurgents open fire on a patrol in the Al-Adil district. Gunmen ambush a checkpoint in Baquba, killing 2 policemen and wounding 1. The bodies of 3 policemen with fatal gunshot wounds are found near Fallujah in the town of Al-Therthar. Two additional policemen are found shot dead in Mosul.

**August 29, 2005:** In eastern Baghdad district of Azamiyah, armed insurgents shoot and kill senior Interior Ministry police officer Brig. Gen. Numan Salman Thabit while he was driving near the al-Nedaa mosque.

**August 30, 2005:** In western Baghdad, militants shoot and kill chief of Al-Ghazalia police station, Major Diya Hilal Taha. A lieutenant with the Iraqi special oil protection force, Mohammad Rashad, is fatally shot along with his bodyguard in Kirkuk. Two policemen are the casualties of a suicide car bomber in Samarra. 4 others were wounded.

**August 31, 2005:** In Kirkuk, 1 Iraqi police officer dies and 4 are wounded from a roadside bomb. The motorcade of Lieutenant Colonel Ali Keza'al, a director of intelligence in the Diyala province, is fired upon, leaving one bodyguard seriously injured, but causing no harm to the Lieutenant. One policeman is shot to death in Kerbala as he travels to work.

**September 1, 2005:** In Baquba, insurgents stage an ambush on a patrol, killing 2 policemen and wounding 2 others. Two mortar rounds fall on a police station but do not result in casualties.

**September 2, 2005:** In Baiji, a roadside bomb strikes an Iraqi military vehicle, killing 5 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 9. Two police officers are found dead in Baghdad, 1 on Al-Qanat Street and 1 near the Souk Al-Thulathaa area of Al-Zayouna district. In the Al-Jadriya area, an explosive device detonates, but no casualties are reported. A roadside bomb explodes near a police patrol on its way to Mahaweel, killing 1 policeman and wounding another.

**September 3, 2005:** In Baquba, insurgents kill 6 policemen in an ambush on a checkpoint. Four Iraqi soldiers die in a similar incident 30 miles north of Baquba in Adhaim. South of Baquba, 7 police officers and 2 soldiers are shot and killed. An additional 2 policemen are wounded. A firefight between Iraqi police and insurgents in Tal Afar results in one insurgent death but no police casualties.

**September 4, 2005:** In Siniyah, 5 Iraqi soldiers are shot and killed in a surprise attack by insurgents. 1 police officer dies and 2 are wounded as a result of a car bomb in Iskandariyah. Militants kill an Iraqi army lieutenant in Kirkuk. U.S. and Iraqi soldiers close off the town of Tal Afar as insurgent violence continues to rage.

**September 5, 2005:** As many as 30 gunmen in 10 cars open fire on the Iraqi Interior Ministry, resulting in the deaths of 2 policemen and the wounding of 5 others. Al Qaeda in Iraq claims responsibility in an internet statement. A raid conducted by joint U.S. and Iraqi security forces captures 50 suspected insurgents in Baghdad.

**September 6, 2005:** Joint U.S. and Iraqi forces stage a raid near the Syrian border, killing 2 foreign suspected insurgents and arresting 3 others. The U.S. military transfers full control of its Najaf base to Iraqi security forces, but U.S. forces are still stationed nearby to facilitate intervention in the event of a crisis. A bomb explodes near an Iraqi army vehicle in Khalidiya, triggering a firefight between insurgents and Iraqi security forces that kills 4 soldiers and 3 civilians, and injures an additional 5 soldiers. In Dhuluiya, an Iraqi army officer is shot and killed on his way home from work.

**September 7, 2005:** In Khalis, militants ambush an Iraqi army checkpoint, killing 4 Iraqi soldiers and 2 civilians. Iraqi security forces announce the capture of a leading insurgent in Latifiya. Defense Ministry official Maj. Gen. Hadi Hassan Omran is shot and killed in Baghdad's Doura neighborhood. A car bomber detonates his explosives outside a restaurant in Basra, killing 16 civilians and demolishing 2 police vehicles. In the Ghazaliya district of Baghdad, militants fatally shoot Interior Ministry commando Col. Ammar Ismail Arkan and wound 4 bodyguards.

**September 8, 2005:** In an area west of Tikrit, 2 Iraqi soldiers guarding oil assets are the casualties of a roadside bomb. An additional 9 soldiers are wounded in the same attack. Iraqi soldiers announce the capture of 150 foreign suspected insurgents as well as 50 of their Iraqi counterparts as a result of military raids in Tal Afar. Search operations by the Iraqi security forces in Alexandria, Baiji, Mosul and Tal Afar root out 46 suspected terrorists and result in the confiscation an arms cache.

**September 9, 2005:** In Rustamiyah, Iraqi security forces discover 6 unidentified bodies that had been tied up, shot, and dumped in the sewage system. Militants attack a police patrol in Baghdad, overturning one vehicle and burning another. One police officer dies and 3 are wounded in the overturned vehicle. A roadside bomb targeting a U.S. convoy kills 12 Iraqis, 7 of them policemen. In the Al-Alam neighborhood of central Baghdad, 3 police commandos and one other person die from another roadside bomb. A police colonel from the disbanded Iraqi army in Baiji is shot and killed while driving. In southwestern Baghdad, 2 guards from the government-run Facility Protection Service are critically injured after sustaining gunfire from insurgents. Elsewhere in Baghdad, 3 policemen are killed and 9 wounded from a roadside bombing in the Saydeyah district. Militants open fire on a police patrol in western Baghdad, killing 1 police officer and injuring 5. Insurgents target a separate police patrol with a roadside bomb between Yusufiya and Mahmudiya, resulting in the deaths of 2 civilians but no policemen. In Baquba, 2 special force policemen are shot and killed by militants in an open market.

**September 10, 2005:** In Baquba, 4 Iraqis workers from a multi-national forces base are shot and killed on their way to work. In Khalis, an off-duty army officer is shot dead. Two off-duty police officers come under fire in Kirkuk, resulting in the death of 1 and the serious wounding of the other. Another policeman is seriously injured after being shot at while driving his superior's car. Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim Al-Jaafari issues a decree sealing the border crossing into Syria and imposing a dusk till dawn curfew as 5,000 Iraqi forces backed by 3,500 American

soldiers swept into Tal Afar in an offensive on the insurgent stronghold. Maj. Gen. Adnan Abdul Rihman, the Interior Ministry's director of police training, is shot and killed in his home in western Baghdad as he waiting on a ride to work. The Iraqi Defense Minister announces that raids on Tal Afar will be extended to include Ramadi, Samarra, Rawa and Qa'im. Police in Kerbala discover and defuse a huge truck bomb before the start of a religious festival. A police officer approaches 2 small trucks in Mahawil and is subsequently killed as both trucks explode. Two Iraqi soldiers die from a bomb inside a house in Samarra. A car bomb targeting a police station in Al-Mashrou kills 4 and injures 11.

**September 11, 2005:** An audiotape claimed by Al-Qaeda in Iraq is posted on the Internet telling insurgents to prepare for the "final battle." Although the fighting has subsided in Tal Afar, U.S. and Iraqi soldiers continue raids, conducting a second day of house-to-house searches and battering down stone walls looking for insurgents and weapons. Joint forces worry that many insurgents have escaped through the tunnel system, which was discovered during the raids along with a bomb factory and 18 weapons caches. 90% of the population of Tal Afar fled the city before the raids and many are being housed in shelters while they wait for clashes to end. Police discover a large quantity of explosives in a truck headed for Kerbala. In Qa'im, 4 bodies, including one in an Iraqi army uniform, are discovered with their hands bound. Two policemen are wounded in Kirkuk as a bomb explodes near a police patrol guarding a main bus station.

**September 12, 2005:** In downtown Kirkuk, a father and son police duo are killed and 3 civilians wounded by gunfire. A roadside bomb strikes a military convoy in Fallujah, killing or wounding at least 6 Iraqi soldiers. The U.S. and Iraqi crackdown on Tal Afar continues, with joint forces announcing the killing or capture of nearly 450 insurgents as well as the discovery of 24 weapons caches and 12 booby-trapped houses during the operation so far. One Iraqi soldier dies in clashes with the insurgents in Tal Arar.

**September 13, 2005:** U.S. and Iraqi forces continue to battle insurgents in Tal Afar. In Baghdad, a suicide car bomber explodes as he approaches a police checkpoint, causing no casualties. A second suicide bomber at the same location is captured before his bomb is detonated.

**September 14, 2005:** In the Azimiyah district of Baghdad, gunmen fatally shoot 2 top police officials and 2 other police officers while they were driving. As rescuers rushed to the scene, a suicide car bomb exploded, killing 3 Iraqi soldiers and 4 policemen. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a car bomb targeting a National Guard convoy kills 2 people in the Shula district. Another suicide car bomber attacks a U.S. convoy, injuring 14 Iraqi police officers. There was no report of American casualties. An Iraqi army officer is shot dead in the Dora district. A civilian is wounded in the same incident. In the Al-Amin district, a roadside bomb wounds 3 policemen. Militants stage an attack on 2 police stations in the Karada district, critically wounding 3 police officers. Three soldiers and 3 civilians die in when a car bomb targets an Iraqi military patrol in the western Adel district. In the Aadamiyah district, another car bomb aimed at a police patrol kills 2 policeman and wounds 1. Three Interior Ministry officials and 2 guards die in an attack

on their convoy in the Waziriya district of northern Baghdad. 4 additional policemen who come to the scene as reinforcements are wounded by a suicide car bomber. An additional suicide car bomb attack injures 2 police officers near the Amiriyah district. Insurgents shoot and kill a policeman south of Baghdad in Rumatha. North of Baghdad in the village of Taji, gunmen dressed in military uniforms execute 17 people from the Tameem tribe. The rise in violence in Baghdad that killed at least 152 people and injured 542 in a total of 12 attacks is attributed to the ongoing battle between joint U.S. and Iraqi forces and insurgents in Tal Afar. Al Qaeda in Iraq claims responsibility for the attacks in an Internet statement. In Tal Afar, fierce fighting escalates in the Kadisiyah district. Elsewhere in Tal Afar, 2 Iraqi soldiers were seriously injured as they enter a booby-trapped house, triggering an explosion. Insurgents shoot and kill a policeman south of Baghdad in Rumatha. U.S. and Iraqi soldiers detain 8 people in Kirkuk accused of developing and setting up IEDs.

**September 15, 2005:** In the Dora neighborhood of Baghdad, a series of bombings target Iraqi security forces. The first attack involves a suicide car bomber who kills 16 policemen and 5 civilians, and wounding 13 policemen. Shortly before noon, 2 additional suicide bombers detonate their explosives within a minute of each other and a half a mile apart, resulting in the deaths of 10 police officers and the wounding of 17. Elsewhere in Baghdad, another car bomber kills 4 police commandos and injures 12. In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb is detonated as a police patrol passes, killing 2 policemen and wounding 4, in addition to destroying the police vehicle. Gunmen open fire on U.S. and Iraqi soldiers in Ramadi, but no casualties are reported. One policeman dies and another is wounded during a firefight between insurgents and paramilitary police in the Saydiya neighborhood of Baghdad. Police discover the bodies of 8 men with their hands bound and fatal gunshot wounds to the head scattered across various location in Baghdad. All are unidentified except one who was recognized to be a policeman and whose wrists were handcuffed. In Baquba, a series of attacks by insurgents using mortars and small-arms fire kills 1 policeman and injures 3. A police major is abducted from his home and shot dead by masked gunmen in Samarra.

**September 16, 2005:** South of Baghdad in the suburb Al-Hashwe, a car bomb detonates near a police patrol, killing 3 policemen and injuring 6. Four Iraqi soldiers are killed when roadside bomb explodes as their patrol passes in Khalidiya. A large explosion occurs within the Green Zone; no casualties are reported. Although clashes continue in Tal Afar, an Iraqi officer says that 95% of the city is now secure.

**September 17, 2005:** In Balad, Iraqi troops thwart a 4-car attack on an army checkpoint. Two gunmen die and 2 others are arrested in the incident. Iraqi police discover 9 people in 3 separate locations around Baghdad shot dead in the head and chest. In Baquba, a suicide car bomber targets an Iraqi army patrol. One civilian dies and 17 people are injured, 3 of them policemen.

**September 18, 2005:** In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb detonates near an Iraqi Army patrol, killing 3 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 4. The Chief of Domiz police announces the arrest of 4 suspected Al Qaeda members with suspected ties to senior Al Qaeda leader Ayman Al-Thawahri, and who

were carrying on their person documents proving their involvement in Kirkuk and Diyala insurgent attacks. Kirkuk police capture another suspected Al-Qaeda member in a separate incident, and Iraqi security forces in Baghdad dismantle a booby-trapped vehicle without casualties. In Khalidiya, Iraqi police uncover 4 blindfolded bodies dead from gunshot wounds. Two of the dead were wearing Iraqi army uniforms. North of Baghdad, 20 bodies are found dead of gunshot wounds with their hands bound in the Tigris River. They are believed to be Iraqi security forces, although their identities are yet unconfirmed. Iraqi army troops with Coalition forces find and clear a weapons cache in northern Fallujah.

**September 19, 2005:** South of Baghdad, 2 suicide bombers stage attacks at 2 separate checkpoints in Mahmoudiya and Latifiya on a road between Baghdad and Karbala, at a time when thousands of pilgrims are traveling to Karbala to celebrate the 12<sup>th</sup> Shi'a imam. Ten people are killed, including 7 policemen and an Iraqi army member, and 12 are wounded. Reports indicate that 15 Iraqi soldiers have been taken hostage by unidentified militants west of Samarra. A suicide bomber targets a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol near Taji. Fourteen Iraqi soldiers die in the attack. South of Baghdad, a suicide bomber detonates his explosives, killing 5 policemen and 2 civilians, and wounding an additional 13 police officers and bystanders. A bomb targeting the north oil pipeline protection forces kills 2 Iraqi policemen. In Kirkuk, Iraqi police arrest a shoot and kill a man suspected of planning to detonate a suicide car bomb. British troops storm a Basra prison to rescue 2 British commandos accused of shooting Iraqi troops, and a firefight between British and Iraqi military members ensues.

**September 21, 2005:** After Iraqi security forces raid a militant safehouse in the Mansour neighborhood of western Baghdad, a firefight breaks out between Iraqi police and army members, and rebels hiding in the house. One police officer and 2 soldiers die along with 5 gunmen; an additional 3 policemen and 2 soldiers are wounded. Iraqi police and civilians rally in Basra in a protest against the British. West of Balad, the bodies of 19 Iraqi border guards are discovered with their hands bound and fatal gunshot wounds to the head. 15 of the bodies are believed to be those of a group of border guards abducted on Sunday, September 18 near Samarra.

**September 22, 2005:** Iraqi Gen Abdulaziz Mohammed announces the end to the 3-week joint U.S.-Iraqi operation in Tal Afar, noting that it has now moved into the final phase of reconstruction. On a highway between Baquba and Kanaan, militants kill a police colonel and his driver in drive-by shooting. Militants in the Zayouna area of Baghdad shoot and kill 3 Iraqi police officers and wound a fourth. A mortar attack on a police station in Samarra kills 1 police officer and injures 5. Heavy clashes between Iraqi security forces and insurgents result in the death of 1 civilian and the wounding of 3 additional civilians. There were no reports of security force casualties.

**September 23, 2005:** Gunmen fatally shoot a policeman in Mosul. In southern Baghdad, a booby-trapped car driven by a suicide attacker explodes near a checkpoint, resulting in the death

of 1 Iraqi soldier and the wounding of 4 others. Iraqi security forces arrest 10 suspected insurgents in a raid in Khalis.

**September 24, 2005:** In Sinjar, a car bomb explodes near an Iraqi police checkpoint, killing 2 soldiers and wounding 2 policemen. An additional car bomber kills a child and wounds 2 policemen and 2 civilians at a checkpoint near Musayyib. A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives near an Iraqi army checkpoint in the Karrada district of Baghdad, killing 3 soldiers and 1 civilian, as well as wounding 3 soldiers and 2 civilians. In Beiji, 2 Iraqi soldiers and 4 civilians are wounded when an Iraqi army patrol comes under small arms fire. Gunmen ambush an Iraqi army patrol near al-Tooze, wounding 6 soldiers.

**September 25, 2005:** In a slum in eastern Baghdad, a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol engages in a firefight with militants loyal to Muqtada al-Sadr during which at least 8 Shiite gunmen are killed and 5 are wounded. Nineteen joint forces are also wounded, including 13 commandos. A suicide bomber targets an Interior Ministry convoy in Baghdad, killing 7 Iraqi police commandos and 2 civilians when his explosives are detonated. Gunmen clash with Iraqi police in Mosul, resulting in the deaths of 2 civilians and the wounding of 3 others. No police force casualties were reported.

**September 26, 2005:** A suicide car bomber attacks an Iraqi police checkpoint guarding government ministries, killing 6 policemen and injuring 13 others: 5 policemen and 8 government workers.

**September 27, 2005:** The Iraqi Ministry of Defense announces the start of a Coalition offensive on the insurgent stronghold of Samarra, prompting the mass exodus of hundreds of Iraqi families from the city. In Baquba, a suicide bomber targets a police recruiting center, killing 12 Iraqi recruits and wounding 30. One policeman is killed and 3 others are wounded when gunmen open fire on a police patrol on a highway near the Green Zone. A roadside bomb detonates near a police patrol in Kirkuk, injuring 2 policemen and killing a civilian. Elsewhere in Kirkuk, gunmen assassinate police Major Fakhir Jalal Amin.

**September 28, 2005:** In Tal Afar, the first Al Qaeda female suicide bomber dressed in men's clothing detonates her explosives outside an army recruiting center, killing at least 7 and wounding 37, many of whom were signing up to join the Iraqi army. A policeman on his way to work in northeastern Baghdad is shot dead by gunmen. In the Huriya district of Baghdad, several men dressed in commando uniforms detain 6 people, all of whom were later found dead from gunshot wounds in Baghdad's morgue. An explosion stemming from a roadside bomb on the Doura highway wounds 2 soldiers passing on patrol. In Baquba, a suicide car bomber targeting a security checkpoint kills 1 civilian and wounds 15 when his explosives are detonated. No police or military casualties were reported. Iraqi police seize a weapons cache in Mosul during a cordon-and-search operation. Coalition forces transfer control of the city of Karbala to Iraqi security forces.



**September 29, 2005:** In the Jami'a neighborhood of western Baghdad, 2 high-ranking police officials from Balad are shot dead in a drive-by shooting. Elsewhere in western Baghdad, gunmen stage an attack on a police patrol in the Jihad neighborhood, killing 2 police officers and injuring 3. A roadside bomb explodes near the convoy of a police colonel in Kirkuk. The colonel escapes without injury but one of his bodyguards is wounded. In Khalis, gunmen fatally shoot a policeman and his brother. Militants kill 4 policemen and wound 1 in an ambush on a police convoy in Basra. British forces transfer control of Basra to the Iraqi security forces, one week after riots broke out over British attempts to recover 2 troops arrested by Iraqi police. The British are now stationed 18 miles outside of Basra.

**September 30, 2005:** In Kirkuk, police report the killing of a guard for the Housing and Reconstruction Ministry officials when gunmen attack their motorcade. Iraqi security forces arrest a woman in a Baghdad market strapped with explosives under her clothes. Joint U.S. and Iraqi troops uncover 5 weapons caches in northern Baghdad.

**October 1, 2005:** In the Shiite district of Sadr City, an Iraqi army officer is shot and killed in his car. A bomb targeting an Iraqi police patrol in Kirkuk detonates, killing 3 policemen and wounding 4. Four civilians are killed and 10 are injured. One soldier and a bus driver are killed in Baquba when gunmen open fire on their vehicle. An additional 3 soldiers are wounded. One Iraqi policeman and another Iraqi are killed upon detonation of a bomb targeting an army patrol in Dujail. In Miqdadiya, 2 Iraqi soldiers are killed and 3 are injured when they are ambushed by gunmen on their way to work. U.S. and Iraqi forces announce the launch of Operation Iron Fist, targeting targeting insurgents in the city of Sadah, near the Syrian border.

**October 2, 2005:** In Baquba, militants stage an attack on a checkpoint, killing 3 Iraqi soldiers and injuring 3. Gunmen kill an Iraqi policeman in Ramadi. Iraqi police in Baquba arrest 17 suspected insurgents in a search-and-raid campaign. In Karbala, Lt. Ali Jubouri is fatally shot by militants as he left his house for work. House-to-house searches continue in Sadah, yielding several weapons finds but few of the targeted foreign fighters. Kamal, a Deputy Minister representing the Interior Ministry, announces that Iraqi soldiers requested the participation of the U.S. military in operations in Sadah and elsewhere along the Syrian border, due to Iraq's lack of adequate air power.

**October 3, 2005:** In Kirkuk, militants kill 2 Iraqi police officers in an ambush on their vehicle. The American military transfers control of 4 districts in central and northern Baghdad to the 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi army division in a ceremony at Muthana Airfield. Also operating in the Baghdad area is the 9<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division (Mechanized), which is working with the U.S. on raiding operations on major road networks; the Iraqi 4<sup>th</sup> Division, which is conducting cordon and search operations along the Tigris River Valley as far north as Tikrit; the Iraqi 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, operating around Mosul and to Tal Afar; and a battalion of the Iraqi 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, which was recently moved to Tal Afar by the Iraqi 23<sup>rd</sup> Air Transport Squadron. The latter operation marks the first report of the new Iraqi Army being supported by the new Iraqi Air Force.

**October 4, 2005:** A suicide bomber detonates his explosives at the main entrance of the Green Zone, killing two Iraqi police officers and a civilian, and wounding 4 Iraqi soldiers and 2 policemen. In Yusufiya, 4 Iraqi police commandos die and 14 are wounded during a firefight with militants. Operation River Gate, a mission to root out insurgents in the Anbar province near the Syrian border, is launched. It includes hundreds of Iraqi troops, and marks the most involvement yet of Iraqi soldiers with the U.S. military. It is targeting three cities in the Euphrates River Valley: Haditha, Haqlaniyah, and Barwana.

**October 5, 2005:** In Kirkuk, 6 security guards for the North Oil Company are critically wounded from a car bombing. Coalition forces transfer control over additional areas of central Baghdad to the Iraqi Army's 6<sup>th</sup> Division. Joint U.S. and Iraqi forces continue with Operation River Gate. Iraqi security forces and U.S. Marines discover and destroy without incident a roadside bomb containing two 155 mm artillery rounds. Iraqi forces guard the Haditha General Hospital, which was nearly 50% destroyed from a suicide attack last spring.

**October 6, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide bomber detonates his explosives near a police patrol by the Iraqi Oil Ministry, killing 5 police officers and 4 civilians, and wounding 4 policemen and 5 civilians. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a suicide bomber strikes a private security convoy, killing 3 civilians. No guard casualties were reported. In a third incident in Baghdad, a police officer is shot dead by militants. Insurgents kill Salem Ayoub Sillo, a local prison chief, and his driver in the Noor district of Mosul. Iraqi police fatally shoot 2 suspected insurgents fleeing the capital in a car that was later found to be rigged with explosives. Gunmen ambush and subsequently kill a retired brigadier-general in Kirkuk. Five members of the Iraqi security forces are killed and 3 are wounded while driving in the town of Uthaim, south of Kirkuk. Reports differed on the occupation of those killed and wounded, some stating they were policemen and others identifying them as Oil Ministry security guards. A shooting and a roadside bomb in Taji and Udaim kill 2 Iraqi soldiers and a policeman. The Iraqi army announces plans to assign 2 additional battalions to guard the oil installations in Kirkuk. The 3 battalions already protecting the oil installations have seen an escalation in attacks. A group of approximately 30 insurgents stage a series of attacks on police checkpoints along the Mohammed Al-Qassem Highway in Central Baghdad. No casualties have yet been reported. The following is a series of updates on Operation River Gate: In Haditha, Iraqi security forces and U.S. Marines are attacked with a roadside bomb wired to the nearby Qaryat Al Khadfah mosque. The mosque grounds were found to be littered with various other explosive devices and artillery. Neither the Iraqi nor American soldiers suffered casualties. Joint Iraqi and U.S. forces discover a weapons cache in Haditha and another in Haqlaniyah, together containing over 40 artillery and mortar rounds, 2 complete mortar systems, thousands of rounds of ammunition and various small arms.

**October 7, 2005:** In an area near Al-Adheem, a roadside bomb explodes near a fuel tanker being driven by a group of security guards for a northern oil facility. When they step out of the vehicle to survey the damage, a group of armed militants stage an ambush, killing 3 guards and wounding 6. British troops seize 12 men, including several Iraqi policemen, during overnight

raids in Basra. Many of those arrested include Sadr supporters and other members of militia groups. In the Ameriyah neighborhood of Baghdad, militants open fire on a taxi carrying Iraqi civil defense members, killing 2 of those members and wounding 2, as well as injuring the driver. Other separate shootings in Baghdad kill 3 policemen. Militants stage an attack on a police patrol in Kirkuk, killing 2 Iraqis and wounding 8, including 3 policemen. In Fallujah, a roadside bomb detonates by Iraqi troops and is immediately followed by an ambush by militants. Five Iraqi soldiers are killed. Operation Iron fist is completed, with an estimated total of over 50 insurgents killed. Operation Saratoga is underway in northern Iraq.

**October 8, 2005:** In western Baghdad, a suicide car bomber targets a police patrol, killing 1 policeman and 6 civilians, and wounding 10 policemen and 6 civilians. Other reports claimed up to 5 police casualties resulted from the explosion. Elsewhere in Baghdad, 2 roadside bombs aimed at Iraqi police and army patrols injure 4 soldiers and 1 civilian. Five Iraqi soldiers are wounded in a drive-by shooting near Hillah. In an area east of Mosul, 2 Iraqi policemen suffer gunshot wounds. Iraqi security forces with Coalition forces discover a bomb-making factory and a house containing a large amount of Al Qaeda audio/visual equipment while conducting clearing operations in Haditha under Operation River Gate. Iraqi soldiers strike several targets simultaneously to detain a total of 12 suspected terrorists.

**October 9, 2005:** In Samarra, insurgents disguised as policemen fatally shoot a teacher in front of students at a teacher training college. A video released by the Army of Ansar al-Sunna claims the group is responsible for the deaths of 2 Iraqi guards at an oil facility. In Saklawiya, a roadside bomb is detonated near an Iraqi army patrol. Human casualties are yet unknown. Gunmen open fire on a police vehicle in Baghdad, killing 2 police officers and wounding 1. In northern Mosul, militants shoot and kill the bodyguard of Iraqi Parliament member Hanin Mohemmed al-Kadu while driving. Militants ambush a joint U.S.-Iraqi security rehearsal for next week's vote on the Iraqi Constitution, killing 2 Iraqi troops and 2 American troops. Reports indicate that 40 Iraqi police and Interior Ministry officials captured 22 men in the Iskan neighborhood of Baghdad. All of the detainees were later found bound, blindfolded, and dead in a desert nearly 70 miles away from where they were originally taken into custody. Two Iraqi soldiers were killed and 8 injured in an attack in al-Hawija. A joint U.S. and Iraqi police patrol detains a man and confiscates his 6 AK-47s and Russian sniper rifle in Taji.

**October 10, 2005:** Two Iraqi soldiers are killed and 2 wounded in an insurgent attack on their patrol south of Kirkuk. In western Baghdad near Al-Nusur Square, militants kill 3 policemen and wound 3 civilians in an attack on an Iraqi police patrol. Elsewhere in western Baghdad, gunmen open fire on a convoy carrying members of the Arab League delegation, killing 3 police officers and wounding 4. In a series of separate incidents in Baghdad, militants kill 1 policeman and wound 9 police. Eight police officers are wounded from an insurgent attack on a police checkpoint in the Khadimiya district of Baghdad. A bomb targeting a checkpoint near the Green Zone in Baghdad kills an Iraqi soldier, translator, and civilian, as well as a U.S. soldier. Also in Baghdad, police open fire on a suspected car bomber, causing the bomb to detonate prematurely. Four officers are wounded from the explosion. In continuing developments of Operation

Saratoga, raids conducted in Kirkuk result in the arrest of 2 wanted insurgents and the confiscation of a small weapons cache.

**October 11, 2005:** In Baghdad, U.S. troops and Iraqi commandos detain 57 suspected terrorists and kill 2 others. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a suicide car bomber targets an Iraqi army patrol in the Amiriyah district, killing more than 25 people. Early reports indicated that most of the casualties were soldiers. In Tikrit, a roadside bomb kills police Lt. Soud Abdul Kareem when it explodes near his house. Two policewomen are shot and killed while riding in a taxi in Doura.

**October 12, 2005:** In Tal Afar, a suicide bomber targets an army recruitment center, killing 30 Iraqis and wounding 40, nearly all of whom were waiting in line for jobs. A suicide bomber in Baghdad detonates his explosives near the convoy of Iraqi Minister of Provincial Affairs Saad Naif al-Hardan, wounding 5 bodyguards and 5 civilians, but leaving the Minister unharmed. In Baquba, a suicide bomber targets an Iraqi army checkpoint, causing injuries to 7 soldiers and 2 civilians. In the Ghazaliya area of Baghdad, joint forces seize a car being driven by a Somali suicide bomber as well as another car directly behind it carrying video equipment to document the bombing. The campaign against insurgents in the Anbar province continues, with the Iraqi Army 1<sup>st</sup> Division, also called the Iraqi Intervention Force (IIF), leading operations in Fallujah, Ramadi, Rawah, and Khalidiyah. The Iraqi Army and police forces provide security during a 3-day medical and veterinarian mission (10 October – 12 October) north of Tal Afar in Burghah, Avghani, and Bughah.

**October 13, 2005--** Joint operations across Iraq involve raids of militant safehouses and enforcement of 10 p.m.-6 a.m. curfews ahead of this weekend's upcoming constitutional referendum. In Mosul, police institute a temporary ban on all civilian vehicles. A Defense Ministry press release notes the arrest of 19 insurgents and the seizure of weapons and explosives in operations by the Iraqi security forces across Tikrit, Dholoeya, and Balad. It also announces the seizure of car bombs in Karbala and Saqlawiya. A car bomb detonates in the city of Kirkuk, killing 2 policemen and wounding 2. U.S. and Iraqi forces announce that they are in the midst of Operation Sunrise II, an anti-insurgency effort launched September 15<sup>th</sup> that will continue through the referendum period in the Diyala province. Militants kidnap Said Ahmed said Kana'an Shakir, the secretary general of the Independent Turkmen Movement, and Hashim Ali, an official in the Turkmen Front, along with 9 of their bodyguards near Udaim. Gunmen shoot and kill a policeman from the Facility Protection Service in Baiji. Two mortar rounds land on the Aadamiyah police station in Baghdad, wounding 8 policemen, including Brigadier Khalid, director of the station.

**October 14, 2005:** In Muthanna, a masked insurgent opens fire on a police patrol using an automatic weapon. One policeman is injured but no deaths are reported. A roadside bomb east of Baghdad on the road to Baquba explodes near a police patrol, killing 4 policemen and wounding 3. In Samerraa, gunmen ambush a polling station using RPGs and machine guns, injuring an undisclosed number of soldiers guarding the station. Two additional polling stations were fired upon in Baghdad. It is unknown whether the incidents resulted in human casualties.

Two Iraqi soldiers and 1 policeman are wounded in a friendly fire incident in Kerbala. Reports indicate that the policemen opened fire on an army patrol when the patrol neglected to stop at a police checkpoint. A car bomb in Kirkuk injures 4 Northern Oil Company guards and 1 civilian. In Mosul, police arrest 15 insurgents as they prepare to launch an attack on polling stations.

**October 15, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide car bomber drives his vehicle into a truck carrying Oil Ministry staff, killing at least 6 people and wounding 14. Two of those killed were policemen and most of the remaining victims were from the Oil Ministry. Unconfirmed incidents were also reported in Basra and Ramadi. A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi military convoy east of Baquba kills 3 soldiers and wounds 3. In Latifiyah, mortars land on a checkpoint overnight, killing 3 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 2. Two police units open fire on each other outside a polling station in the Amil district of Baghdad. Four civilians are wounded by the gunfire. In the Ghazaliya district of Baghdad, police injure 1 woman and 1 man in separate incidents in which police suspected insurgent activity. One policeman is wounded when 3 roadside bombs targeting a police patrol are detonated in the Amiriyah district of Baghdad. In Hilla, police defuse a car bomb with 12 mortar rounds. Joint U.S. and Iraqi troops engage in clashes with insurgents using mortars, rockets, and machine guns in the Ramadi province.

**October 16, 2005:** In Fallujah, gunmen throw grenades into a market, resulting in the deaths of 2 Iraqi soldiers. Three additional soldiers are wounded by the attack. U.S. and Iraqi army troops conduct a joint operation in Mahmudiyah, killing 11 insurgents and arresting 57. Militants assassinate Colonel Saad Abbas Fahil, a security advisor at the Iraqi Interior Ministry, in front of his home in the Saydiya district of Baghdad. His son, who was also present at the time of the attack, was wounded. Iraqi security forces form defensive rings around each polling center.

**October 17, 2005:** In Kirkuk, gunmen kill two Iraqi police officers. In Baiji, a roadside bomb strikes a joint U.S.-Iraqi army patrol, killing 2 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 7. Police discover the bodies of 8 men who appeared to have died from gunshot wounds to head. All of the men are believed to be Iraqi soldiers. In Fallujah, a bomber mistakenly kills himself in an attempted attack on an Iraqi security forces convoy. Two civilians are also killed in the incident.

**October 18, 2005:** In the al-Wasiti district of Kirkuk, militants ambush a group of Iraqi army soldiers, killing 1 soldier and wounding 3. Talib al-Dulaimi, Deputy Governor of the Anbar province, is killed along with his bodyguard in Ramadi. Militants ambush an Iraqi Army patrol, killing 3 people, one of which was an Iraqi soldier. Police also report the deaths of 2 intelligence officers, although further details were not released. Sunnis accuse Kurds in the Iraqi security forces of using their status to rig the election. U.S. and Iraqi forces announce that they have successfully cleared Haditha of insurgents under Operation River Gate. Iraqi Army and coalition forces announce the capture of 15 suspected insurgents: among them 3 bomb emplacers, a weapons dealer, and a terrorist cell financier: during pre-dawn operations in Baghdad.

**October 19, 2005:** In Baghdad, militants kill Muhsin Chitheer, a former Iraqi Army lieutenant colonel under Saddam Hussein. Elsewhere in Baghdad, gunmen fire upon a police checkpoint near the Hai Al-Adil highway, killing 4 police officers and wounding 11. Differing reports on the same incident indicated that there had been 3 police deaths and 2 policemen wounded. A firefight lasting several hours ensued. In the Ghazaliya district of Baghdad, 2 Iraqi police commandos die and 3 are wounded in clashes between security forces and insurgents. A roadside bomb in Fallujah kills 2 Iraqi soldiers and injures 2. Iraqi security forces set up checkpoints in Dujail ahead of the trial of Saddam Hussein. A member of the Kurdish Peshmerga militia is wounded, along with 2 other unidentified individuals, by a car bomb in Kirkuk. Iraqi security forces arrest Yasser Sabawi Ibrahim, an ousted nephew of Saddam Hussein, on suspicion of helping to finance the insurgency in Iraq by channeling funds from family members abroad. The arrest comes several days after he was forced back into Iraq from Syria by Syrian authorities. Iraqi police arrest a car bomb maker in Kirkuk, after discovering a wired vehicle containing 2 mortar rounds, 2 Katusha rockets, and TNT. Militants open fire on a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol in Hit. Iraqi police subsequently arrest 9 men who all tested positive for explosives residue.

**October 20, 2005:** In Baquba, a policeman is wounded when a suicide car bomb detonates his explosives in front of a government building. The incident also causes 3 civilian deaths and 13 injuries, as well as damage to the government building, 10 nearby shops, and a parked car. Elsewhere in Baquba, a second suicide bomber targets a police checkpoint; however, no casualties are reported. British Army chief General Sir Mike Jackson gives a statement to the BBC, indicating that militia elements have infiltrated the police force in Basra, and implicates some degree of involvement on the part of Iran. Gunmen shoot and kill 1 Iraqi soldier in Baiji. In the Dora district of Baghdad, insurgents kill an Iraqi intelligence officer on his way to work. Three of his guards are wounded. Also in Baghdad, a mortar round lands on a school, killing a child and 2 guards, and wounding 4 children. Armed men in Iraqi army uniforms kill a man and his 2 sons in an attack on a house in Iskandariya. Other gunmen dressed as policemen kidnap the head of a concrete company in the al-Mansour neighborhood of Baghdad. In Khalis, a suicide car bomber driving an old military fuel truck detonates his explosives near the base for Iraqi rapid reaction forces, killing 1 Iraqi police officer and wounding 8. Another suicide car bomber targets a coalition convoy in Diyala traveling to a nearby compound. Four Iraqi civilians die from the attack, and 13 Iraqis are wounded, including 3 policemen. Firefights between insurgents and Iraqi Army and U.S. forces break out in the streets of several different districts in Ramadi, killing at least 1 civilian and wounding 1. Militants kill 5 policemen in a drive-by shooting in Karmah. In Abayachi, an Iraqi Army patrol confiscates a roadside IED consisting of a 130 mm round with a radio-controlled ignition device.

**October 21, 2005:** In northern Baghdad, gunmen open fire on a minibus, killing 3 Iraqi army soldiers and wounding 4 Iraqi police commandos.

**October 22, 2005:** In southern Baghdad, a roadside bomb targets an Iraqi police patrol in the Al-Madaan area, killing 1 policeman. Also in southern Baghdad, a roadside bomb kills a second policeman in an unrelated attack. Mortar fire in the western Al-Yarmouk area of Baghdad injures a third Iraqi policeman. Ansar al-Sunna announces the slaying of 6 Iraqis, including 4 contractors

working for the U.S. and 2 members of the National Guard—1 in Ramadi and 1 in Mosul. On Jaffa Street in central Baghdad, Iraqi security forces engage in a confrontation with militants, and subsequently arrest 6 of the insurgent fighters. Two Iraqi soldiers are wounded during the clash. Iraqi soldiers in Ramadi seize and detonate a car wired with bombs.

**October 23, 2005:** In central Baghdad, a car bomb targets an Iraqi police patrol, killing 4 people, at least 2 of which were policemen, and injuring 13, including at least 1 policeman. In Tahrir Square in downtown Baghdad, a suicide bomber drives his vehicle into 2 police vehicles, killing 2 policemen and 2 civilians, and wounding 11 others. In Tikrit, a bomb kills a police colonel and his 4 children in front of their house. The explosion sparks a fire in nearby oil tanker, destroying the colonel's house as well. East of Tikrit, near Baquba, a series of drive-by shootings results in the deaths of 1 police colonel, 3 civilians, and a Shi'ite student-cleric. The Iraqi police find a potential IED in Al Bayaa. The device contained a 120 mm shell with TNT and small bottles of gas with nails.

**October 24, 2005:** In the Al Shaab neighborhood of Baghdad, a car bomber targeting an Iraqi police patrol kills 2 Iraqis and wounds 5. Elsewhere in Baghdad, gunmen kill an Iraqi soldier and a girl standing in front of her nearby house in an attack on an Iraqi army checkpoint in the western part of the city. Two other Baghdad attacks include a drive-by shooting that kills a policeman, and a roadside bomb that fatally wounds 2 policemen. In Kirkuk, a roadside bomb detonates near the convoy of Ibrahim Zangana, a senior member of the Kurdish Democratic Party. The blast seriously wounds Zangana, as well as killing 1 of his bodyguards and injuring another. Also in Kirkuk, an Iraqi policeman dies after a car bomb explodes near his patrol. One policeman is fatally shot in a drive-by incident in Mosul. In eastern Baghdad, a car bomb targeting a police patrol destroys the targeted patrol car and wounds 5 Iraqis. A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives near a police checkpoint in Mussayyib. The blast wounds 1 police officer and 1 civilian. A triple bomb series in Baghdad targets the Palestine Hotel, which houses many foreign reporters. The attack was partially foiled by Iraqi security forces, as the drivers of the third car bomb did not make it all the way to the hotel before their explosives were detonated; however, several passers-by were killed. Police reported that all 3 explosions stemmed from car bombs, but a journalist claimed that the first 2 were rockets. Casualty reports also differed, with the U.S. announcing 6 civilian deaths and 15 wounded, and Iraqi national security advisor Mouwafak al-Rubaie reporting at least 20 deaths (including 4 or 5 police officers) and 40 wounded. Al-Rubaie also announced his belief that the attack was an attempt to take over the hotel and claim hostages, although Deputy Interior Minister Hussein Kamal disputed this theory. Iraqi Army forces detain 1 person suspected of terrorist activity in Tal Afar.

**October 25, 2005:** In Baghdad, a policeman is killed in a drive-by shooting. This incident was the only one specifically described in Baghdad, although reports indicated that a series of 3 bombs and 5 shootings killed a total of 2 people (the policeman and a young boy) and wounded 34 Iraqis, most of whom were police officers. A drive-by shooting in Mosul results in the death of 1 policewoman. A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives in Sulaimaniyah near the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs. Six Peshmerga and 3 civilians are killed, 2 Peshmerga and 2 civilians are wounded. Elsewhere in Sulaimaniyah, a suicide car bomber crashes into the 7-car

convoy of Mullah Bakhtiyar, a senior Kurdish official in President Talabani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan party, killing 1 guard, wounding 2 guards, and damaging 2 cars in the convoy. A suicide car bomber targets an Iraqi army checkpoint in Baquba; however, the only deaths reported were those of the driver and a companion. A second companion of the driver was injured. In Ramadi, 3 dead bodies of Iraqi army soldiers in plainclothes are discovered. They all appeared to have died from gunshot wounds to the head. In the Ghazaliya district of Baghdad, 2 policemen are killed and 7 wounded when gunmen ambush a vehicle transferring prisoners. There were no reports of prisoner casualties. The Iraqi Prime Minister's office releases a statement announcing the capture of Monem Shakem al-Qubaisi, the alleged "main terrorist financier in Fallujah." Police announce the discovery of 8 corpses of Iraqi border guards near the Saudi border in western Iraq, 155 miles from Kerbala. All of the border guards were blindfolded with their hands tied behind their backs.

**October 26, 2005:** In Fallujah, 3 Iraqi soldiers are killed and 2 wounded from a roadside bomb explosion. Four Iraqi soldiers are brought to a hospital in northeastern Haditha after being tied up, blindfolded, and shot by insurgents. Reports did not indicate the day in which these soldiers in Haditha were actually shot. Iraqi security forces conduct raids in Hurriya neighborhood of Baghdad and take into custody 20 suspected terrorists, along with quantities of ammunition. Elsewhere in Baghdad, gunmen open fire on several cars of guards for Financial Resources Minister Abdullatif Rasheed, although no casualties were reported. Two Iraqi policemen die in an insurgent attack on their police station in Ramadi. In Baghdad, gunmen kill Nabil Moussawi, an official at the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, and seriously wound one of his guards. Also in Baghdad, militants fire upon a convoy of guards for the Iraqi minister of water resources and subsequently wound 2 people. The Minister was not present at the time of the attack. Reports indicate that 2 Iraqi soldiers and 5 policemen have been shot and killed in Baghdad, although the exact location was not disclosed. South of Baghdad in Jirf al-Sakhar, a roadside bomb explodes near a police patrol, killing 2 policemen and wounding 3. In Madain, insurgents fire missiles at an Iraqi army base, causing the deaths of 3 civilians and the wounding of 4 civilians. No Iraqi military deaths were reported.

**October 27, 2005:** Southeast of Baghdad in Nahrawan, clashes between the Shi'ite Mahdi Army and Sunni insurgents result in the deaths of 14 Mahdi Army militiamen and a policeman. Fourteen people were wounded, including 2 policemen and 12 members of the Shi'ite militia and civilians. Later reports varied considerably, saying that the clash occurred between villagers and policemen in civilian clothes, and that casualties included 25 police and 2 civilian deaths. Four villagers were arrested in the battle. Police Lt. Colonel Mahdi Hussein is killed in a drive-by shooting in Dora. In Kirkuk, a police Lt. Colonel Ardjman Abdullah dies from a drive-by shooting. Elsewhere in Kirkuk, 2 bombing target police patrols, killing 1 policeman and wounding 6. Insurgents fire a mortar round at the Iraqi Army headquarters in Fallujah, sparking return fire by Iraqi forces that mistakenly hit a car carrying teachers to a school. One teacher is killed and 2 are wounded. The bodies of 3 engineers working at an Iraqi army base are discovered in Baquba. Elsewhere in Baquba, 1 policeman is killed and 5 others are wounded in clashes between police and insurgents. Another policeman in Baquba is found dead in his car. Three Iraqi soldiers are killed and 4 soldiers and 7 civilians are wounded when insurgent throw a grenade at an Iraqi army checkpoint south of Baghdad in al-Madain. The body of police officer



Ali Jassin is found in Tuz Khurmatu, following his abduction from Tikrit on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. A remote control car bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol in Hawija kills 1 soldier and 3 other Iraqis. In a southern Baghdad district, gunmen shoot and kill a police major. Iraqi security forces and Task Force Baghdad troops detain 19 men in the Dora neighborhood of Baghdad following an explosion near the soldiers' location.

**October 28, 2005:** In Fallujah, 1 Iraqi soldier is killed and 1 wounded from after a roadside bomb explodes near their patrol. Iraqi Rapid Reaction Forces kill 2 gunmen during an operation in Khamishli to free approximately 24 hostages. Five of the hostages are found dead of gunshot wounds. Iraqi security forces and Coalition forces discover a weapons cache at a mosque east of Al Asad. Iraqi Border Patrol forces detain 4 people suspected terrorists at a checkpoint near the Syrian border. Basra police confirm the seizure of evidence implicating the Iranian intelligence agency in the recent violence in Basra, after Iraqi security forces conduct a raid on Yusif al-Musawi's Tha'rallah Movement in the city. Police note that documents confiscated prove Iran's involvement in plots to assassinate political officials, financial and logistical support, and participation in military and other armed operations. Majid al-Sari, Defense Advisor for the southern region confirms actions taken by the Iraqi security forces on the Iran-Iraq border to prevent infiltration by insurgents. He notes the arrest of an Afghani affiliated with Al Qaeda while he was attempting to cross the border. The Diyala Police Directorate confirms the 25 October arrest of 9 Iranians attempting to cross the border into Iraq and the confiscation of a quantity of drugs, which was in the possession of one of the detainees.

**October 29, 2005:** Abu Mahmoud, a suspected member of Al Qaeda of Saudi Arabian descent who was believed to be planning attacks on Iraqi security forces and Coalition representatives is killed in U.S. air strikes in Huseiba. Iraqi police arrest 9 Iranians attempting to cross the border illegally. Reports indicate that Iraqi security forces in Basra have developed a new strategy for securing the border between Iraq and Iran. Iraqi troops arrest a suspected terrorist and seize a large cache of weapons and ammunition. Gunmen attack the northern Baghdad residence of a police colonel, killing the colonel and his bodyguard, and wounding his wife and nephew. Elsewhere in Baghdad, gunmen open fire on an Iraqi Army checkpoint, killing 3 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 7. Three militants are killed in return fire by Iraqi troops. In Kirkuk, 5 Iraqi policemen die from an explosion targeting an Iraqi police patrol. An Iraqi soldier and the brother of a policeman are shot and killed in Baghdad.

**October 30, 2005:** In Fallujah, a roadside bomb kills 2 Iraqi soldiers. Other Iraqi soldiers retaliate with gunfire, and mistakenly kill a woman and boy who are passing by the scene. Gunmen open fire on the motorcade of Deputy Trade Minister Qais Dawoud Hassan, killing 2 of his bodyguards and wounding 6 bodyguards and a passerby. The minister himself was wounded in the shoulder. A roadside bomb targets an Iraqi police patrol in Mahmudiyah. There were no reports of police casualties; however, the attack kills 2 civilians and wounds 3. Sunni Arabs, including police and civilians, threaten to topple the government of Ninevah during protests following the removal of provincial police chief Ahmed Mohammed al-Jibouri. The protesters believe that the regional administration is dominated by Kurds, and that the dismissal of al-Jibouri was for political and ethnic reasons, rather than for the alleged charges of corruption.

**October 31, 2005:** Northeast of Baghdad in Bani Saad, 2 soldiers are killed and 7 wounded after 2 mortar rounds strike an Iraqi Army base. Iraqi police uncover the bodies of 14 people buried in a shallow grave east of Tal Afar. The corpses appeared to have been dead 1-3 months. Fourteen people appeared to have been bound and shot in the head, while the remaining 2 had been decapitated. Two policemen are injured in a bomb attack on their patrol in Kirkuk. Iraqi police arrest 56 insurgents suspected of coordinating attacks in Saladin during a search campaign in the Al-Tein neighborhood near Tikrit University. Iraqi police report that they killed 2 insurgents and arrest 3 during clashes in Kerbala. Several mortars fall on the Iraqi Army headquarters in Baquba, killing 2 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 4. In Sinjar, a suicide bomber targets an Iraqi army checkpoint, killing 1 person and wounding 7. Reports did not distinguish between civilian and military casualties. Two Iraqi soldiers are killed and 4 are wounded following the detonation of a roadside bomb in Fallujah. A car bomb in northern Baghdad targets an Iraqi police patrol, killing 4 people and damaging 2 civilian cars after detonating prematurely. No police casualties were reported. Iraqi President Jalal Talabani criticizes the United States for not sufficiently coordinating its actions with Iraqi Army troops and police, citing this as a major reason that the recent upsurge in violence has not subsided. Ukrainian Army instructors have begun training 35 sappers for the Iraqi police teams in the Wasit province at the regional training center of the Iraqi security forces.

**November 1, 2005:** In Baghdad, Iraqi police commandos mistakenly kill 1 civilian. Police in Balad discover 2 corpses, 1 of which was a police officer and was found in a river, and another which was unidentified and found in a nearby village. A police officer was abducted from his home near Samarra. A roadside bomb targets an Iraqi police commando patrol southbound on the Saydiya highway extending out of Baghdad. One civilian is wounded, but no police casualties were reported. A police patrol in the Jurf al-Nadaf region of Baghdad strikes a roadside bomb, killing 1 civilian and injuring 3 others, including 1 policeman. Gunmen open fire on a police patrol al-Qadssiyah highway, killing 1 policeman and 1 policewoman. Police arrest 2 suspects believed to be involved with the 31 October car bombing in a Basra marketplace, one of which was identified by authorities as a Sunni fundamentalist. A boy suicide bomber detonates his explosives in Kirkuk, injuring the city's police chief General Khattab Abdullah Areb and his driver. At least 3 policemen are killed by a roadside bomb near Mahmudiyah. Iraqi and U.S. forces conduct a series of raids in Mosul, arresting 11 people suspected of terrorism. Iraqi police seize a weapons cache in Qayarrah.

**November 2, 2005:** In southeastern Baghdad, 9 Iraqi soldiers are killed and 9 more wounded in 2 separate attacks on their Army patrol. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi police patrol in the southern area of the city kills 5 Iraqi civilians. The Iraqi Defense Minister invites some officers of Saddam Hussein's former army to enlist in the new Iraqi security forces as part of an effort to reach out to Sunnis. One Iraqi soldier dies and 4 are wounded when a roadside bomb targets their patrol in Fallujah. Gunfire after the explosion kills 2 civilians. Militants fire upon an Iraqi police patrol in western Baghdad, wounding one policeman. Gunmen attack the Ninevah chief of police in northern Baghdad, wounding 2 of his

guards but leaving the chief himself unharmed. Iraqi police drag a corpse from a river in Khasim, and identify the dead as a senior member of the city council of Khasim who had been abducted 3 days prior. Iraqi Army soldiers and U.S. troops engage in a gun battle with 15 armed insurgents northeast of Ramadi, and subsequently discover a cache of weapons and 3 Iraqi Army uniforms in the vicinity. Iraqi police detain 3 suspected terrorists in Jamessia.

**November 3, 2005:** In southeastern Baghdad, police find 11 bodies, including some who died by gunshot wounds and others who had been beheaded. Iraqi police have been unable to identify the victims. Iraqi Army soldiers detain a suspected terrorist during a raid in eastern Mosul.

**November 4, 2005:** In Baghdad, Sunni insurgents attack a police checkpoint, killing 6 Iraqi police officers. Insurgents fire mortar rounds at an Iraqi police checkpoint in Buhriz, and then 8 cars of insurgents arrive and open fire on the checkpoint. At least 6 policemen are killed and 10 wounded. Militants kill Tarijk Hasan, a former colonel in the Iraqi Air Force, while he was driving in Baghdad. In Tuz Khormato, a roadside bomb strikes an Iraqi convoy, killing 5 police commandoes with the Iraqi Interior Ministry, and wounding 4 others. Iraqi police detain 11 suspected terrorists in Tal Afar. Iraqi police and military police detain 9 suspected terrorists in Mosul.

**November 5, 2005:** A total of 3,500 U.S. and Iraqi troops launch "Operation Steel Curtain," a joint attack on the insurgent-held town of Husaybah near the Syrian border. The stated aim of the mission is to secure the Syrian border region of the Anbar province ahead of the Parliamentary election scheduled for December 15. The new offensive is part of the wider Operation Hunter, which aims to secure the Euphrates River Valley region from terrorists and establish a permanent security presence along the Iraqi-Syrian border. Al Qaeda releases a statement claiming responsibility for the 3 November abduction and subsequent killing of 14 members of the Iraqi security forces. The authenticity of the statement was not confirmed. In northern Baghdad, a roadside bomb detonates, killing 5 Iraqi police commandos and wounding 3.

**November 6, 2005:** A roadside bomb targets an Iraqi police patrol in Mahawil, killing 1 policeman and injuring 3. Iraqi police respond to a tip about an IED at a school in Adhamiyah that was found to be wired for detonation when the children exited the school. The police Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) team safely disposes of the grenade, as well as another found in the same area. Members of the Iraqi 3<sup>rd</sup> Public Order Brigade find a group of insurgents placing a bomb on a road east of Salman Pak. A firefight between police and militants ensues, ending in 1 insurgent death and another insurgent evading capture. Iraqi police safely dispose of the bomb.

**November 7, 2005:** Operation Steel Curtain continues, with the U.S. military announcing that 36 suspected insurgents have been killed in the past 2 days, including 17 killed from air strikes. Neither the U.S. nor the Iraqi government has reported any civilian casualties, although Al Qaeda in Iraq has warned that it will increase insurgent violence unless the offensive is

abandoned within 24 hours. The Al Qaeda statement threatened to destroy the homes of all Iraqi soldiers and government workers in retaliation for comments by the Iraqi Defense Minister that individuals who sheltered terrorists should consider their homes targeted by the offensive. Iraqi soldiers shoot and kill 3 suspected terrorists dressed in women's clothing and carrying weapons near the entrance to the safety zone for displaced persons. Iraqi troops identified them as foreign fighters. A car bomb attack at sundown targets a police patrol in the Doura district of Baghdad. Six police officers are killed as well as 3 civilians, and 10 people are injured, including a number of policemen. In Kirkuk, 2 soldiers are killed and 14 wounded when a suicide car bomber detonates his explosives near a checkpoint. Elsewhere in Kirkuk, a policeman is shot and killed by insurgents. At least 2 Iraqi soldiers are killed and 13 injured in a suicide car bombing targeting Iraqi soldiers guarding oil pipelines in Thibban.

**November 8, 2005:** In Dali Abbas, a roadside bomb explodes near an Iraqi patrol car, killing 4 soldiers and critically injuring 1. Iraqi police uncover 5 decomposed corpses in Rustumiya. The identities of the dead are not yet clear. A roadside bomb targets an Iraqi police patrol south of Kirkuk in Daquq, killing 2 policemen and wounding 3. In southern Basra, a colonel in the Iraqi security forces is killed along with his brother when a roadside bomb strikes their vehicle as they are driving. Insurgents kill 1 policeman and injure 5 in an ambush on an Iraqi police patrol in Baquba. Gunmen attack an Iraqi army patrol in Ameriyat al-Fallujah, killing 2 soldiers and wounding 5. The U.S. military announces that Husaybah has been secured and that members of Al Qaeda have been neutralized there. The completed Operation Steel Curtain reportedly achieved in the arrest of 180 suspected insurgents—including some Africans and Asians—and the killing of 36 additional militants.

**November 9, 2005:** In Baquba, a suicide bomber detonates his explosives near an Iraqi police patrol, killing 7 policemen and wounding 9 others, most of whom were civilians.

**November 10, 2005:** In Baghdad, 2 suicide bombers target a restaurant frequented by Iraqi police, killing at least 35 people and injuring 25 upon detonation of their explosives. One report estimated that at least 7 of the dead were police officers, while the rest were civilians. Al Qaeda in Iraq claimed responsibility for the attack. Iraqi troops uncover 27 corpses near Jassan. All of the dead were blindfolded, had their hands bound, and appeared to have died from gunshot wounds. Gunmen fatally shoot 2 police officers in Mosul. In Tikrit, a car bomb detonates outside of an Army recruiting center, killing 10 people and wounding 20. A car bomb wounds 2 policemen after exploding near an Iraqi police patrol in eastern Baghdad. Militants ambush a group of policemen in southern Baghdad, injuring 4. Gunmen shoot and kill an intelligence officer in Basra. Iraqi officials announce the arrest of Hatem al-Hassani, the brother of Iraqi Parliament speaker Hajim al-Hassani, under suspicion that he is the emir of a terrorist group. This is in contrast to an earlier report by Iraqi police that Hatem al-Hassani had been kidnapped. The Iraqi Defense Minister announces that 200 insurgents have been killed to date in Operation Steel Curtain. This concludes the campaign in Husaybah. The U.S. announces that Task Force Baghdad soldiers and Iraqi security forces have conducted a 2-day effort, confiscating contraband and conducting cordon and search operations, in Horajeb and an area west of the

Tigris River. Thirty-two suspects were detained all together, and a weapons caches and bomb-making materials were confiscated.

**November 11, 2005:** Gunmen open fire on the Embassy of Oman in the Mansour district of western Baghdad, killing an Iraqi police officer and an embassy employee, and wounding 2 additional police officers. Elsewhere in Baghdad, clashes between insurgents and police in the Ghazaliya district end in 1 insurgent death and 1 police wounding. Hospital sources reported 5 police deaths from the incident. In central Baghdad, a makeshift bomb injures 3 Iraqi policemen after it explodes near their patrol. Militants ambush an Iraqi police vehicle near Baquba, and subsequently kill 3 Iraqi policemen and a baby. Insurgents target an Iraqi police patrol in Qamishli, killing 1 policeman and wounding 3. Joint U.S.-Iraqi forces discover 2 corpses that appeared to have died from gunshot wounds in the Ghazaliya district of Baghdad. Also in Baghdad, gunmen attack an Iraqi police patrol, killing 1 policeman and wounding another. The U.S. military announces that a new joint U.S.-Iraqi operation to root out terrorists in the town of Karabilah near the Syrian border was begun on 9 November. The offensive is an extension of Operation Steel Curtain, and is intended to target terrorists who escaped the Husaybah offensive. An Iraqi-U.S. patrol captures a suspected terrorist in northwestern Baghdad. Iraqi forces with 1st Battalion, 4th Public Order Brigade arrest a terrorist placing an IED on a highway in Doura. Iraqi police and U.S. soldiers detain 24 suspected terrorists and seize AK-47 rifles in Tal Afar during 10-11 November.

**November 12, 2005:** An Iraqi Red Crescent doctor reports to have found 54 bodies, some of women and children, in the rubble left in Husaybah by the U.S.-Iraqi Operation Steel Curtain. There was no immediate response from U.S. or Iraqi sources regarding the finding. U.S. and Iraqi troops move from Husaybah to Karabilah, and reports indicate that this marks the final stages of Operation Steel Curtain, although the umbrella offensive, Operation Hunter, continues. In Kirkuk, 1 Iraqi policeman dies and another is seriously wounded after an insurgent attack on their patrol. Iraqi police detain 360 suspects in a major operation in the Diyala province. A judge and several politicians were among those arrested. Clashes between Iraqi police commandoes and insurgents end in 1 insurgent death. Iraqi security forces arrest more than 350 people in Baquba, including several members of the Islamic Party. A mortar attack by militants on the Baquba home of an Iraqi Army officer sparks the arrest by U.S. and Iraqi forces of 5 insurgents under suspicion of involvement. Iraqi police and Task Force Band of Brothers' soldiers discover and dispose of 2 weapons caches in an abandoned Iraqi Army compound near Kirkuk. Another weapons cache is confiscated by Iraqi soldiers in southeastern Fallujah. Iraqi Army troops and coalition forces attempt to detain 2 insurgents following a firefight in Barwanah; however, the suspects escape, to be caught later by a coalition and quick-reaction force. Iraqi security forces and coalition troops continue to hunt down terrorists in the Baghdad area under Operation National Unity.

**November 13, 2005:** Iraqi forces discover 10 civilian corpses near the Iraq-Iran border close to Badra town. All of the bodies had been blindfolded and had their hands bound, showed signs of torture, and were riddled with bullet wounds. Iraqi police in Mosul find the dead body of Colonel Mohamed Sheit who appeared to have been shot multiple times in the head and chest. The

colonel had originally been abducted on 11 November. In the Jarf El-Sakhr area south of Baghdad, Iraqi security forces kill a suspected insurgent and detain another after they were found planting a bomb. The militant was killed during an exchange of fire. A roadside bomb explodes near an Iraqi military patrol, wounding 5 soldiers. The Iraqi Ministry of Defense announces the donation of 77 tanks and 36 troop carriers by NATO and the Hungarian government. The Iraqi government is spending \$3 million to update and develop the tanks. A car bomb is detonated near a police station in the Dora district of Baghdad. No casualties were reported.

**November 14, 2005:** A booby trapped car detonates near the entrance to the Green Zone in Baghdad, killing 1 Iraqi police officer, 2 South African contractors from Dyncorps and another foreign contractor, and 4 civilians. The attack appeared to target the contractors' convoy. An explosion in the Dora district of Baghdad causes the death of 1 Iraqi policeman. On the Al-Khayzaran road in western Baghdad, a bomb is detonated near the patrol of the Karkh emergency squad, killing 1 Iraqi and 3 others. Five hundred Iraqi troops and 1,500 American soldiers storm the town of Ubaydi, near the Syrian border, in a continuous effort to eradicate foreign fighters in the western Anbar province under Operation Steel Curtain. At least 1 Iraqi soldier is injured, along with 2 civilians. Throughout the day, more than 70 militants are killed and 100 detained as part of the offensive. Reports indicate that a roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi Army patrol killed 3 civilians and injured 4, although the location of the bombing was not immediately available. A roadside bomb strikes an Iraqi police commando patrol in the Sadiyah district of Baghdad, killing 1 commando and wounding 3. Elsewhere in Baghdad, a roadside bomb in the Camp Sarah area explodes after the passage of an Iraqi Army convoy. Three people are killed and 4 wounded, and a civilian car is destroyed. The U.S. announces that Iraqi Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Interior forces have detained 370 suspected terrorists during Operation Knockout this week, and that Operation Open Window, in the central-south region of Iraq has moved closer toward a transfer of power to the 8<sup>th</sup> Iraqi division in the area. Another joint U.S.-Iraqi mission entitled Operation Kennesaw Dragon begins sweeps around Dawr.

**November 15, 2005:** In eastern Kirkuk, gunmen kill 4 Iraqi police officers in an ambush. Elsewhere in Kirkuk, a roadside bomb detonates, killing 3 police officers and wounding 3. A car bomb planted near a restaurant in eastern Baghdad explodes, causing the deaths of 2 policemen. Six policemen were injured in the same incident. The Iraqi Defense Ministry announces that Iraqi forces have arrested 70 insurgents in a variety of operations throughout the day. Five of those arrested were suspected of planning to assassinate an unnamed ambassador in Iraq. A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives near an Iraqi Army checkpoint in Mahmudiyah, killing 3 soldiers and wounding 7 other people, 3 of whom were civilians. One policeman is killed in a clash between police and insurgents in Mosul. Seven others are injured during the firefight. Elsewhere in Mosul, 2 civilians and 4 policemen, including 1 ranking officer, die in another clash between a police patrol and militants. U.S. and Iraqi forces release Hatem al-Hassani, the brother of Iraqi Parliament speaker Hajim al-Hassani, after he was cleared of all charges against him. U.S. and Iraqi troops move from Old Ubaydi to New Ubaydi, characterizing the resistance as patchy, but heavy. The Iraqi Central Investigating Court in Baghdad publicly acknowledges its 17 October 2005 issuance of warrants for the arrests of Muhammed Hilah Hammad al Ubaydi, also known as Abu Ayman, and Jamal Wahab al-Dhari al ZawbaI, also

known as Abu Asim. Both were former members of the Hussein regime and are suspected of active involvement in financing and training insurgents.

**November 16, 2005:** In Mikaithfa, Iraqi police discover 3 corpses, all of whom appeared to have died by gunshot wounds. Gunmen in Mosul kill 3 Iraqi policemen from the Facility Protection Service, a government-run security force. Elsewhere in Mosul, militants kill an Iraqi traffic policeman. A roadside bomb detonates near the motorcade of the head of police in Baiji, seriously wounding the officer along with 5 of his bodyguards. During a raid in Muqdadiah, Iraqi and U.S. troops detain 3 suspected terrorists and confiscate a weapons cache. Iraqi soldiers detain 2 men suspected of conducting a roadside bomb attack that knocked over a power line tower outside of Samarra.

**November 17, 2005:** Iraqi security forces perform several search and rescue missions in 3 separate areas. In the Al-Rishad area of southern Baghdad, Iraqi forces arrest 5 militants and rescue 3 children hostages. Elsewhere in Baghdad, Iraqi security forces arrest 5 insurgents wearing black masks, and holding weapons and empty envelopes. Fifteen additional militants are arrested in Babylon. Iraqi police discover the bodies of police Lieutenant Colonel Sulaiman al-Dulaimi and his police officer son in Ramadi. They were abducted 1 day earlier, on 16 November, and were found dead with gunshot wounds to the head and chest.

**November 18, 2005:** In western Iraq, U.S. and Iraqi troops engage in a firefight with militants that leaves 32 insurgents dead and 1 American and 1 Iraqi soldier wounded. A roadside bomb targets a U.S.-Iraqi patrol in Buhruz, killing 2 Iraqi policemen and wounding 7. A suicide bomber detonates his explosives near the Hamra, a hotel frequented by foreigners, killing at least 6 people and wounding 40. It remains unclear whether the attack was targeting the hotel or the nearby Interior Ministry bunker. In an area north of Baghdad, a suicide bomb targets a U.S.-Iraqi patrol, killing 2 Iraqi policemen and 2 U.S. soldiers.

**November 19, 2005:** In Iskandaria, gunmen dressed in Iraqi Army uniforms attack a house and kill 4 of its inhabitants, including a father, 2 sons, and another relative. An additional relative was injured. British reports indicate that Iraqi policemen trained by British troops tortured 2 prisoners to death with electric drills in Basra. The exact date of the incident was not released. Joint U.S.-Iraqi troops occupying a house in Mosul engage in a firefight with militants. Eight insurgents, including 1 woman, are killed and 4 others are arrested. Gunmen attack a police checkpoint in Baquba, killing 2 Iraqi policemen and 2 civilians. Two bodyguards of the Diyala governor are wounded when the politician's eastern Baquba house is attacked. The governor did not sustain injuries. In central Baghdad, a suicide car bomber attacks a police patrol on Saadoun Street, wounding 3 policemen and 11 civilians. On a highway in eastern Baghdad, gunmen wound 3 policemen in an attack on their police patrol. In Baiji, 2 roadside bombs kill 5 Iraqi soldiers on patrol.

**November 20, 2005:** In Basra, a police vehicle is heavily damaged following a roadside explosion. North of Baghdad, 2 women working with the Iraqi Army are kidnapped by militants. Reports differed as to whether the bodies were found in Tikrit or Baiji. Two members of the Iraqi Islamic Party in Buhriz are found fatally shot in a Baghdad morgue. Relatives said they had been abducted by Interior Ministry commandos 1 week before. An explosion stemming from a makeshift bomb targeting an Iraqi Army patrol in western Baghdad kills 3 Iraqi soldiers and wounds 5. A roadside bomb detonates in Haditha, sparking a firefight between joint U.S.-Iraqi troops and insurgents. One U.S. soldier, 15 Iraqi civilians, and 8 insurgents are killed and 1 insurgent is wounded. The U.S. and Iraqi security forces are conducting a second day of a crackdown in Haditha that intends to restore order to the town, as part of a wider campaign in the Anbar province. The U.S. military announces in a statement that approximately 150 Iraqi Army soldiers and 300 U.S. Marines and soldiers launched Operation Dhibbah (Bruins) in Ramadi on Saturday, 19 November. Initial activities included conducting cordon and search operations, blocking off terrorist escape routes, and searching for weapons caches. British troops in Basra conduct a “purge” of the regional Iraqi police, capturing several members of the Interior Ministry and other Sadr supporters who are believed to have infiltrated the Iraqi police forces.

**November 21, 2005:** In Tarmiyah, gunmen kill 4 policemen and wound 1. Militants in Baghdad shoot and kill 1 policeman and 2 other people. Police in Basra announce an arrest by the Iraqi Navy of 80 foreigners with Arab and foreign documents who were trying to cross into Iraq. Those detained—including people from Kuwait, Syria, Jordan, and Iran—are suspected of attempting to conduct terror activities in Basra. Iraqi police find the body of Lebanese contractor Nidhal Adnan in Dujail.

**November 22, 2005:** In northern Iraq, insurgents shoot and kill a police officer. When a crowd of investigators and bystanders gathers around the dead policeman, militants set off a bomb that kills 17 people. A similar incident occurs in Kirkuk, when a small bomb goes off in a busy marketplace, followed by a larger explosion when a suicide bomber rams into a police vehicle. A total of 15 people are killed and 25 wounded. No breakdown of police and civilian deaths was reported. West of Kerbala in al-Ghadeer, gunmen kill 3 security guards. Three policemen die after being gunned down by militants in Ramadi. A suicide car bomber detonates his explosives at an Iraqi Army checkpoint, seriously injuring 2 soldiers. Abdul Wahab al-Dulaimi, a former Iraqi intelligence officer, is killed in his home in Ramadi. Insurgents fire a mortar at a ceremony in Tikrit marking the transfer of power of a presidential palace from U.S. troops to Iraqi authorities. No casualties were reported. Iraqi 2nd Public Order Brigade soldiers and the 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery conduct a joint search operation in Zafaraniya neighborhood of eastern Baghdad.

**November 23, 2005:** In the Hurriyah district of Baghdad, gunmen in Iraqi Army uniforms attack the home of Khadim Sarhid al-Hemaiyema, 70-year old Sunni Batta tribe leader and brother of a candidate in the December 15<sup>th</sup> parliamentary election, killing the man as well as his 3 sons and son in law. Major al-Mohammedawi denied any involvement of Iraqi security forces, noting that Iraqi military uniforms may be bought in many Baghdad shops. In the Yarmouk district of Baghdad, a former traffic policeman is shot and killed in his home. A roadside bomb targets an



Iraqi Army convoy in the al-Tayaraan district of central Baghdad, wounding 2 civilians. In southwestern Baghdad, a roadside bomb strikes an Iraqi police patrol, causing injuries to 2 policemen and a teenage boy.

**November 24, 2005:** In the Doura region of Baghdad, police Lt. Col. Khalid Hashim is killed by gunmen along with his 2 sons. Elsewhere in Baghdad, militants kill police Major Muwafaq Hussein Abbas in the western Risalah neighborhood. Two other policemen are wounded in western Baghdad. South of Baghdad in the Jarf Al-Sakhr area of the Babil province, the police patrol of Lt. Col. Mu'ayad Hussein is struck by a roadside bomb, fatally wounding the police officer. Militants attack the convoy of the Iraqi Minister of Industry in western Baghdad, killing 3 guards and wounding 1 civilian. The minister was not in the convoy at the time of the attack. A roadside bomb explodes near a patrol in Baiji, killing 2 Iraqi soldiers. In Khalidiya, 1 Iraqi soldier is killed and 2 are injured following the detonation of a roadside bomb near their patrol. The Iraqi Army conducts a raid immediately following the explosion and arrests 6 suspects. A source from the Interior Ministry announces that a former senior traffic police officer killed on Wednesday 23 November was also an advisor for the Ministry. The U.S. announces the conclusion of the joint Operation Lions in the Tammim area of Ramadi, with a total of 20 suspected terrorists detained. Iraqi and U.S. soldiers discover a large weapons cache while on patrol in the North Babil district of Baghdad.

**November 25, 2005:** Gunmen open fire on an Iraqi Army vehicle near Howaija, killing 4 Iraqi soldiers—including a top officer from Howaija—and 2 Iraqi civilians. In Kirkuk, militants attack an Iraqi Army patrol, killing 2 soldiers and wounding 2 other people. More than 200 members of the Batta tribe gather at a mosque in northwestern Baghdad demanding the resignation of the Minister of Defense, in response to the killing of Khadim Sarhid al-Hemaiyema on Wednesday 23 November.

**November 26, 2005:** In Samarra, a roadside bomb detonates near the passing motorcade of former Interior Minister Faleh al-Naqib, killing 1 civilian and wounding 3. Three Iraqi Army soldiers were killed and 2 are wounded when gunmen ambushed their patrol north of Baghdad in Balad. Approximately 400 U.S. Marines and 150 Iraqi Army troops launch a new offensive in the Ma-Laab district of eastern Ramadi entitled Operation Tigers (Nimur). Activities include searching for weapons caches, cordon and search operations, and blocking off terrorist escape routes. Joint Iraqi-U.S. forces conduct a cordon and search operation near Baquba, arresting 9 suspected insurgents and seize several anti-aircraft artillery rounds and fuses for detonating explosives. Iraqi police in Samarra investigate an explosion at a gas station in Samarra and fail to dismantle 4 additional IEDs before they are detonated, killing 9 suspected insurgents. The Samarra police detains 4 other suspects at the scene.

**November 27, 2005:** In Kirkuk, the Iraqi Army announces its detainment of Khaz'al al-Kurdi, former intelligence officer in Hussein's regime suspected of involvement in a plot to kill Raad Johi, the head judge in the Hussein trial. Six other people were also detained. In the Shuhada'a district of southern Falluja, a roadside bomb detonates as a joint U.S.-Iraqi Army patrol passes

by, killing 2 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 3. A firefight ensues, causing 1 insurgent death and an undisclosed number of American casualties. Several hours later, a second roadside bomb explodes in the same district near an exclusively Iraqi Army patrol, destroying a vehicle and killing all 5 soldiers inside it. Other soldiers in the patrol open retaliatory fire and kill 2 civilians. In western Baghdad, a car bomb detonates near an Iraqi police patrol, killing 2 civilians and wounding 2 others. One Iraqi policeman is killed and 1 is wounded in Mosul after a roadside bomb targets their police patrol. Southwest of Kirkuk in Hawija, Iraqi police discover the beheaded body of former Iraqi Army. Nearby in Riyadh, a roadside bomb targets the passing car of an Iraqi Army officer, wounding 2 of his bodyguards but leaving the officer unscathed. A roadside bomb explodes near an Iraqi police patrol in Baquba, resulting in the death of 1 civilian and the wounding of another. Police report that a major crimes unit official was shot and killed by militants in Kerbala.

**November 28, 2005:** In the Albaya district of Baghdad, a guard of one of Baghdad's mayors is shot and killed by militants. An Iraqi police patrol discovers 4 dead bodies in Rustomia. The victims appear to have been strangled. Gunmen open fire on an Iraqi military convoy south of Kirkuk, killing 1 soldier and injuring another. Two Sunni Arab politicians, Iyad Alizi and Ali Hussein, are killed along with their bodyguard after gunmen open fire on their vehicle near Abu Ghraib in Baghdad.

**November 29, 2005:** The Muslim Scholars Association issues a report based on documents and over 40 interviews that Shi'ite militias have infiltrated the Iraqi police forces and are carrying out targeted abductions, torture, and killings of Sunni Arab Muslims. The most deadly Shi'ite squads operate out of the 60,000-strong police force in Baghdad. Nori, the inspector general, responds by announcing a new Interior Ministry initiative requiring Iraqi police units to report all raids and arrests directly to the ministry. Former Iraqi Army officer and relative of Saddam Hussein, Thafer Migwil Hazza, is kidnapped by gunmen from his home in Tikrit. The national security center in Diali announces the arrest of Ali Saleh al-Noaimi, an admitted member of a 13-person militant network responsible for bombing 2 Shi'ite mosques in Khanqain and committing other crimes. Iraqi police release 4 Indians, 7 Pakistanis, and 3 Egyptians whom they had jailed on 13 August 2005 for crossing the border from Kuwait to Iraq without stopping.

**November 30, 2005:** In western Baghdad, snipers fired upon the office of Salama al-Khafaji, a member of the National Assembly, wounding 2 security guards. Al-Khafaji was not present at the time of the attack. A makeshift bomb was detonated near an Iraqi Army patrol in the Manzilah district, southwest of Kirkuk, seriously wounding an Army officer and 2 soldiers. Joint Iraqi and U.S. soldiers launched a new offensive on the Hai al-Becker region, northwest of Baghdad and east of Hit, entitled Operation Iron Hammer. The operation involved 500 Iraqi Army soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division, and 1,500 Marines and Sailors from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit with 500 Soldiers from 2nd Battalion-114th Field Artillery Regiment. The stated mission was to rid that region, along with the area east of the Euphrates River that had not been typically patrolled by either U.S. or Iraqi forces, of terrorists, mainly those traveling from Syria into central Iraq. This offensive was part of a series of "disruption operations" intended to stabilize the Anbar province. The U.S. military announced

that another such offensive, Operation Thunder Blitz, started Tuesday 29 November in southern Baghdad. Thirty-three suspects were detained in the offensive, which involved hundreds of US soldiers from 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and Iraqi forces from the 1st Battalion, 2nd Commando Brigade (Wolf Battalion) raiding 7 areas along the Tigris River.

**December 1, 2005:** As part of Operation Iron Hammer in the Hai al-Becker region, northwest of Baghdad and east of Hit, Iraqi and U.S. Forces used specialized explosive charges to clear paths through routes suspected to be seeded with roadside bombs. Secondary explosions caused by hidden mines or bombs were observed. One antipersonnel mine was also discovered during the clearing. The Iraqi commander from 2nd Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division and a local sheikh addressed a group of citizens. The commander and sheikh explained the purpose of the operation and addressed their concerns. Insurgents mounted a brief assault on Ramadi firing mortar rounds and rockets at a U.S. base and local government buildings. In a follow-up session to a meeting begun on November 28 in Ramadi, Anbar province, nine Sunni leaders met to produce a plan acceptable to the U.S. for withdrawing Marines from Ramadi. Adnan Khamis Mihana said he and either other tribal leaders, clerics and former Iraqi army officers agreed to propose the creation of two brigades that would include Anbar Sunnis to secure Ramadi in the absence of U.S. troops, and agreed to ask for a timetable for U.S. withdrawal from the city.

**December 2, 2005:** Approximately 200 Iraqi Army soldiers from 1st Brigade, 7th Division and 300 Marines from 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, assigned to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, launched Operation Harba (Shank) in Ramadi, one day after insurgents staged a show of force in the western city. Operation Shank is the fifth in a series of operations by the Iraqi Army and Coalition Forces conducting combined clearing operations to disrupt the insurgency and set the conditions for a successful Dec. 15 election in the Al Anbar provincial capital of Ramadi. The purpose of the operation was to disrupt an insurgent group that utilizes an area of Ramadi as its base for attacks on local Ramadi citizens, Iraqi and U.S. military. Operations Panthers, Bruins, Lions and Tigers were successful in discovering numerous weapons caches, which collectively contained surface to air missiles, rocket propelled grenades, rockets, mortar and artillery rounds, hand grenades, landmines, small arms and ammunition, and various bomb making equipment.

**December 3, 2005:** 19 Iraqi soldiers were killed in an ambush near Baqubah, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad. A bomb exploded near the army patrol, and gunmen then opened fire, according to Ali Khayam, an Iraqi army spokesman. An Iraqi policeman was killed in Samarra, about 65 miles north of Baghdad, during an hour-long gunfight. Another officer was killed in the northern city of Kirkuk. A roadside bomb was detonated south of Baghdad seriously injuring three policemen.

**December 4, 2005:** Assailants in two cars gunned down Lieutenant Colonel Abdel Razzak Abdel Latif, of the police's criminal department, in the neighborhood of Al-Jamiaa, in east Baghdad. A soldier was shot dead as he left his home in Hay al-Amin, in the southeast of the capital, while another was killed in Al-Bayyaa, in southern Baghdad. In Ahmar village, about 40

km (25 miles) east of Baquba, two Iraqi policemen were killed when gunmen attacked their patrol. Two people were killed, including a policeman, when a bomb planted on the side of the road exploded in Zarkuush, a village 70 km (43 miles) east of Baquba, police said. In Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, five members of the Iraqi security forces were wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol, police said. Reports conflicted about whether they were members of the army or police and one source said one wounded man later died.

**December 5, 2005:** Gunmen killed Ammar Kamil Ashur, a local official working for the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI), in the city of Baquba, north of Baghdad, the head of the IECI in the province said.

**December 6, 2005:** Two men, each wearing a suicide vest, detonated themselves inside Baghdad's main police academy killing 43 police officers and injuring 73 other academy officers and students. In Baghdad, the interior ministry said that police General Hamza Hussein Fadel and a passenger in his car had been shot dead by unknown attackers in the capital's southern Dura district. A policewoman was shot dead in Baghdad's western Amriyah district, according to the same source. An Iraqi army colonel and his driver were found shot dead on the road between Baghdad and Baquba, said police.

**December 7, 2005:** One Iraqi policeman was seriously wounded when a bomb planted on the side of the road exploded and struck a police patrol in Musaiab, an area south of Baghdad known as the Triangle of Death, police said.

**December 8, 2005:** Two Iraqi army servicemen were killed in a street gun battle with unknown militants in western Baghdad, a police source said.

**December 9, 2005:** In the southern Baghdad neighborhood of Dura, a roadside bomb detonated next to an Iraqi patrol, killing an interior ministry commando and wounding two other commandos. Another bomb killed a policeman and a civilian in Saydiya, in southern Baghdad. Iraqi police found nine male bodies, two of them police officers, bound and shot dead in a desert region near Mussayib, south of Baghdad, police in neighboring Hillah said. In Balad, 90 km (55 miles) north of Baghdad, one Iraqi soldier was killed and 10 others, including a civilian, were wounded, in a makeshift bomb attack on their patrol, police said. Also in Balad, Iraqi police found the body of an intelligence officer who was shot dead the previous day after gunmen ambushed his car.

**December 10, 2005:** Gunmen shot two members of the Iraqi Islamic Party as they put up election posters in the northern city of Mosul on Saturday, killing one and wounding the other, police said. Police killed one of the three gunmen and arrested another. Fighting broke out between a joint Iraqi-U.S. patrol and gunmen in the city of Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of

Baghdad. One Iraqi soldier was killed and two suspects were arrested, the Iraqi and U.S. military said.

**December 11, 2005:** U.S. and Iraqi forces battled a Sunni Arab-led insurgency against the Shi'ite and Kurdish-led government in Baghdad. One Iraqi soldier was killed and another wounded when gunmen attacked a checkpoint near Riyadh, a small town 60 km (40 miles) southwest of the northern city of Kirkuk, police said. Two members of the Iraqi army were killed and one wounded when gunmen attacked them as they drove in an unmarked car in Baiji, 180 km (112 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

**December 12, 2005:** An empty minibus loaded with explosives detonated near a hospital in east Baghdad Monday, killing three people and injuring 13, police said. All three killed were Iraqi civilians, while the injured included five police officers, said Lt. Mohammed Khayoun of the Baghdad emergency police. Also in Baghdad, three policemen and a civilian were killed and nine people wounded in clashes between Iraqi police and gunmen in the western Ghazaliya district of Baghdad, police said. In a separate incident, seven Iraqi policemen were wounded in clashes with gunmen in Baghdad's western Amiriya district, police said. A police sergeant was reportedly killed by an American patrol, police Capt. Taleb Thamer said

**December 13, 2005:** Mizhar al-Dulaimi, a leading Sunni Arab politician and head of the Free Progressive Iraqi Party, was killed while campaigning in the center of Ramadi, capital of the restive Anbar province in western Iraq, police said.

**December 14, 2005:** A roadside bomb aimed at an Iraqi security patrol killed a child in Samarra, police said. A Trade Ministry employee was shot dead in the oil refining town of Baiji, and a roadside bomb in Mosul killed two policemen and wounded three.

**December 15, 2005:** Iraqis voted in their first ever parliamentary elections, with strong turnout overall and especially strong turnout in Sunni Arab regions.

**December 16, 2005:** Police said that five bodies had turned up in the predominantly Shiite north Baghdad suburb of Kazimiyah. Police Lt. Col. Riyadh Abdulwahid said four of the bodies had been shot and were wearing Interior Ministry commando uniforms, a force accused by Sunni Arabs of taking part in the abuse and torture of detainees. The fifth body had been decapitated and was dressed in an Iraqi army uniform, Abdulwahid added. In Tikrit, unknown gunmen killed an Iraqi soldier when they attacked an Iraqi Army patrol guarding the transportation of ballot boxes from the town of Balad to Tikrit in Salahhudine Province.

**December 17, 2005:** Iraqi soldiers began Operation Moonlight, which the U.S. military described as the first large-scale operation planned and executed by soldiers of the Iraqi 1st

Brigade. The mission's aim was to disrupt insurgent activity along the Euphrates River near the border with Syria. Marine Capt. Jeffrey S. Pool said that five Iraqi Army companies and one U.S. Marine company took part in the operation. In Kirkuk, police reported that unidentified gunmen opened fire on a squad car killing one police officer and seriously injuring another. In the northern town of Tuz, 110 km south of Kirkuk, a roadside bomb left one policeman dead and two wounded, police said. Four shootings also left a former Iraqi air force officer, a member of a prominent Shiite party and two policemen dead, authorities said.

**December 18, 2005:** In Baghdad, a roadside bomb killed three police officers and wounded two others. Gunmen broke into a barber shop in Baladruz, about 60 kilometres, northeast of Baghdad, killing two policemen and a civilian and wounding the barber Saturday, police said. On Sunday, police also found the body of a former Iraqi Army officer at a fuel station in the centre of the capital. Abbas Abdullah Fadhl had been shot to death in his car, they said. Unidentified gunmen in separate incidents killed a police Lt. Colonel and an Interior Ministry employee as they were driving to work in western Baghdad. In another, four police officers were seriously injured when their squad car was sprayed with gunfire. A police captain and his driver were shot and killed in south Baghdad while two people, including an Interior Ministry driver, were killed in Baghdad's Shiite Sadr City slum. A suicide bomber killed a police officer and injured another two when he blew up a bomb in a mini van at a checkpoint along the highway in eastern Baghdad near the Interior Ministry.

**December 19, 2005:** An Iraqi police colonel escaped assassination when a suicide car bomber detonated his explosives as the colonel's convoy was passing in the Iskan district. Two civilians were killed. The colonel, two of his bodyguards and five civilians were wounded.

**December 20, 2005:** Unidentified gunmen killed three Iraqis including three in the town of Tuz, north of Baghdad. In the western part of Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, two policemen were killed by gunmen while they were leaving for work. Iraqi police also found the bodies of three policemen on the highway near the al-Bakriyah district who had been kidnapped in western Baghdad, Captain Ahmed Abdullah said. According to residents, an unknown car threw out the bullet-riddled bodies, Abdullah said, adding that the victims' jobs were guarding a facility of a Saudi company working in building barricades for US troops and Iraqi security forces.

**December 21, 2005:** An Iraqi guard was killed and an official at the Iraqi ministry of agriculture was injured when gunmen opened fire on their procession in Baghdad, police sources said. Hameed Mohamed Jawad, a general director at the ministry, survived an assassination attempt and was transferred to the hospital while one of his personal guards died.

**December 22, 2005:** In Baghdad's southern Dura neighborhood, gunmen launched an attack against a position held by the law and order brigade (an elite police unit) killing four policemen

and wounding six others. In Samarra, 95 km (60 miles) north of Baghdad, three Iraqi police were killed and four wounded in an attack, a U.S. military official said.

**December 23, 2005:** Gunmen attacked a small army base on the main Baghdad-Kirkuk road near Adhaim, about 70 km (45 miles) north of Baghdad killing 10 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 20, police said.

**December 24, 2005:** Three policemen were killed by a booby-trapped motorcycle in Baquba, northeast of Baghdad. Another policeman was killed in Mosul, in the far north of the country. An Iraqi Army officer and a soldier were killed in two separate attacks in Baghdad. In Falluja, a Lt. colonel in the Iraqi army was shot dead when gunmen broke into his house and opened fire, police said.

**December 25, 2005:** A suicide car bomber slammed into two Iraqi army vehicles in central Baghdad, killing five soldiers and wounding seven police and civilians, police Maj. Mohammed Younis said. Unidentified gunmen killed a police officer in civilian clothes in southern Baghdad, a hospital official said. A mortar round landed on a military base about 30 km south of Baghdad killing two Iraqi soldiers and wounding another six soldiers and three civilians. In eastern Mosul, police Lt. Col. Fawzi Ali Uklaa was killed when a roadside bomb exploded as he was getting out of his car, Police Brig. Saied Ahmed Al-Jubori said. In Mahmudiya, just south of Baghdad, two Iraqi soldiers were killed and six wounded when a mortar round landed on an Iraqi military base, police said.

**December 26, 2005:** Five people were killed and 15 injured in four car bomb attacks in quick succession across Baghdad, the U.S. military said. Police said three of those killed were police officers, and the wounded included seven girls and a teacher from a high school. Guerrillas stormed a police checkpoint near an Interior Ministry commando base in Buhriz, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, killing five policemen and wounding four others. Further north, in the small village of Dhabab, about 100 km (60 miles) north of Baghdad, gunmen shot dead five Iraqi army soldiers in separate, but apparently coordinated attacks as they left for work or went about their morning routine, the army said. In Falluja, a suicide bomber threw grenades at police recruits outside a training centre, killing two, and then detonated his explosive belt, killing himself, police said.

**December 27, 2005:** Clashes erupted between gunmen and Iraqi police in Baghdad, killing two policemen and two bystanders, Capt. Firas Keti said. South of Baghdad, a roadside bomb targeting a police patrol killed two officers, and gunmen in southern Baghdad killed another. Gunmen southeast of Kirkuk, 180 miles north of Baghdad, killed one police officer and wounded two others, Capt. Farhad Talabani said. A policeman was killed and two others wounded when a makeshift bomb went off near their patrol on a highway near Mahawil, 75 km (50 miles) south of Baghdad, police said.

**December 28, 2005:** Gunmen in west Baghdad killed Interior Ministry Brig. Haider Ali Saied, a hospital official said. In Tikrit, northern Iraq, gunmen attacked an Iraqi army patrol west of the city, killing two soldiers and wounding seven, police said. Three policemen were wounded when a car bomb attacked their patrol in the town of Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad, police major Adil Jad'aan said. Gunmen killed two soldiers and wounded seven in an ambush on an Iraqi army patrol in Dhibai village near Dujail. The patrol was struck by a roadside bomb before gunmen fired upon the soldiers, in an apparently well-planned attack.

**December 29, 2005:** A suicide bomber wearing a police uniform blew himself up near an Iraqi Interior Ministry building in central Baghdad, killing six Iraqi police and wounding six others, a police source said. In Balad, 80 km north of Baghdad, two Iraqi soldiers were killed when gunmen opened fire on their vehicle. The U.S. army in Baghdad also stepped up efforts to deploy large numbers of troops with Iraqi special police units to try to curb suspected sectarian militia activity among the police, a senior U.S. military official said. Security in the town of Samarra was handed over to Iraqi Security Forces.

**December 30, 2005:** In Baghdad, a suicide bomber killed a police officer. In Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, a policeman was killed and two others were wounded when their patrol was struck by a roadside bomb, police said. Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr., commander of coalition forces in Baghdad, said that U.S. troops in Baghdad will increasingly focus on training the Shiite-dominated special police forces, reflecting efforts to quell ongoing friction among the country's ethnic factions.

**December 31, 2005:** Two policemen died and six were wounded in a pair of attacks in Baghdad, while two more policemen and two civilians were wounded in a bomb explosion in the north of the capital. A roadside bomb exploded in Baghdad, killing five policemen, 1st Lt. Nadum Nuaman said. Two Iraqi Army captains were gunned down in the town of Dujail, north of Baghdad, as they drove home.

**January 1, 2006:** One Iraqi soldier was killed and three were wounded when their patrol hit a roadside bomb in Ishaki district near Balad, 90 km (55 miles) north of Baghdad, police said. In Fallujah, a roadside bomb struck an Iraqi army patrol killing four soldiers, witnesses and medical sources said. A suicide bomber rushed his explosive-packed minibus into an Iraqi army base on the main road between Samarra, 120 km north of Baghdad, and Balad, 80 km north of the capital, killing a soldier and wounding two others, said a source from the Iraqi-U.S. liaison office.

**January 2, 2006:** A bus filled with new police recruits was struck by a suicide car bomber on a road near Baquba, 65 km northeast of Baghdad, killing 7 recruits and wounding 13 others. Two Iraqi soldiers died when their patrol was hit by a roadside bomb near Dujail, north of Baghdad. Another soldier was killed and an officer wounded in a drive-by shooting on the road between Baiji and Tikrit. A policeman was killed by a car bomb blast in Tikrit. In the western Ghazaliyah



district of Baghdad, two policemen were killed in an exchange of gunfire with. The body of a policeman shot in the head was also found in western Baghdad.

**January 3, 2006:** Three Iraqi policemen were killed and 14 others were wounded when a suicide bomber detonated his vehicle-borne IED alongside a bus in Baquba, 65 km northeast of Baghdad. Five Iraqi policemen were wounded when a makeshift bomb went off near their patrol in Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

**January 4, 2006:** A car bomb in northern Baghdad killed a policeman and 4 civilians and wounded 15 others, said Maj. Mosa Abdelkareem. In western Baghdad, two police commandos were killed and nine others were wounded when mortar rounds landed on their checkpoint, a hospital source said. In Aziziyah, 35 miles southeast of Baghdad, gunmen fired on a police patrol, killing one policeman, Hadi al-Itabi of the Kut morgue said. An Iraqi soldier was killed and two wounded when a bomb went off near their patrol in Latifiya, in an area dubbed the "Triangle of Death" south of Baghdad, an army source said.

**January 5, 2006:** Four policemen were killed and four wounded when rebels attacked two patrols with small arms fire just outside Baquba, 60 kilometres (35 miles) northeast of Baghdad. A suicide bomber detonated a car near a bridge in central Baghdad, killing an Iraqi soldier and a civilian and wounding three other people. Suicide bombers hit a police recruiting station in Ramadi, an insurgent stronghold 70 miles west of Baghdad, killing 80 people and wounding dozens, according to a U.S. Marine news release.

**January 6, 2006:** A suicide car bomber struck a police patrol in Baghdad, killing one officer, Col. Noori Ashur said. Demonstrations in the Iraqi town of Nasiriyah turned violent Friday leaving two dead and two dozen injured.

**January 7, 2006:** Nine Iraqis were injured, including five policemen, in a car bomb explosion targeting an Iraqi police patrol in the New Baghdad district of the capital.

**January 8, 2006:** One Iraqi policeman was killed and 13 wounded during clashes with gunmen in the Adil district of Baghdad, police said.

**January 9, 2006:** Two suicide bombers disguised as police infiltrated the heavily fortified Interior Ministry compound in Baghdad and blew themselves up during celebrations of National Police Day, killing 29 and wounding 25, mostly policemen. Gunmen also killed an Iraqi intelligence officer in western Baghdad, said police Capt. Qassim Hussein.

**January 10, 2006:** Iraqis around the country celebrated the opening of the four-day festival of Eid, during which sheep are slaughtered in the memory of deceased relatives and children are given money for sweets.

**January 11, 2006:** A roadside bomb exploded next to a police patrol outside Samarra, about 60 miles north of Baghdad, killing two policemen, police Capt. Laith Mohammed said.

**January 12, 2006:** Iraqi police conducted a controlled detonation of a car bomb at the park of the Interior Ministry in Baghdad, a ministry source said.

**January 13, 2006:** Two policemen were killed and five wounded when a car bomb struck their patrol in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, police said. In Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, a police patrol found the body of a policeman blindfolded and with his hands tied behind his back; he had been shot in the head, police said.

**January 14, 2006:** In Baghdad's Al-Masjhtal neighborhood, a roadside bomb exploded near an Iraqi police patrol killing two officers and wounding four other policemen and six civilians. In Kirkuk, an insurgent sniper shot a policeman at 10:00 AM while he was standing at the gate of his house killing him immediately, police said. An Iraqi soldier was killed and another wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol in the city of Balad, 90 km (55 miles) north of Baghdad, police said. In the oil refinery city of Baiji, gunmen shot dead a police colonel, the local authorities said. Nine Iraqi coastguardmen were captured by an Iranian Naval vessel during a skirmish in the Gulf near the southern Iraqi city of Basra, Basra Gov. Bohammed al-Waeli told AP. The clash happened after an Iraqi Navy ship spotted a suspicious merchant vessel flying an Iraqi flag. Gov. Al-Waeli claimed the merchant ship radioed Iranian forces for help and an Iranian Navy ship attacked the Iraqi patrol, detaining nine, including three officers.

**January 15, 2006:** Gunmen shot dead a police lieutenant in Baquba, 60 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, police said. In the village of Ulwiya near Hawija, 70 km (43 miles) southwest of Kirkuk, gunmen shot and killed a police brigadier and major after abducting them on January 14th, police said. Gunmen in Baghdad killed five civilians, two police and a former Iraqi army officer in separate incidents. Col Hussein Shiaa, commander of the 2nd Battalion of the Iraqi Army's 4th Brigade, and his brother were abducted when leaving their base in Mahmoudiya, 20 miles (32 km) south of Baghdad, said army intelligence officer Capt Ibrahim Abdullah. They were later found dead in western Baghdad's dangerous al-Baiyaa district riddled with bullet wounds.

**January 16, 2006:** Gunmen opened fire a police convoy in Muqdadiya, 60 miles (96 km) north of Baghdad, killing 5 policemen and a 6-year-old child and wounding 16 civilians and 3 policemen. A roadside bomb detonated and killed 20 Iraqi national guards in the Al Wihda area, 19 miles (30 km) south of Baghdad. In Baghdad, two policemen were shot dead by unknown

insurgents separately in the northern district of Aadhamiyah and in the northwestern district of Shula, Captain Ahmed Abdullah said.

**January 17, 2006:** The Iraqi government said that nine Iraqi coastguards were taken prisoner by Iran after an incident involving a suspected oil smuggling ship in the Gulf on January 14th. "Eight men from the Coast Guard and an officer were taken prisoner by Iranian coastguards," said a spokeswoman in the prime minister's office.

**January 18, 2006:** Fifteen people were killed and, at least, 46 were wounded when a suicide bomber targeted a police patrol near the Baghdad home of Shiite politician Abdul Aziz al-Hakim. Three policemen were among the dead. A roadside bomb struck a patrol in Saadiya, 80 miles north of Baghdad, killing three Iraqi police and an Iraqi civilian and wounding four other police officers, according to a spokesman for the Diyala provincial police. In Iskandariyah, about 30 miles south of Baghdad, a group of gunmen attacked a police station killing two officers and wounding four others in the ensuing firefight, said Capt. Muthanna Ahmed, a spokesman for the Babil provincial police force. Police found the bodies of 11 men shot to death and wearing civilian clothes with Iraqi army and police commando ID cards on a farm in Dujail, 50 miles north of Baghdad, said police Capt. Ali al Hashmawi.

**January 19, 2006:** In Baghdad, a car bomb hit a police patrol and, simultaneously, a suicide bomber walked into a coffee shop next to the patrol and blew himself up. Three policemen and five civilians were killed and 15 wounded, police said.

**January 20, 2006:** Four bombs hit security patrols in Baghdad as the city was all but sealed off ahead of the announcement of final election results and forces hunted kidnappers who are threatening to kill an American journalist, Jill Carol. In Karbala, 68 miles (110 km) southwest of Baghdad, a police commandos lieutenant was gunned down in front of his house. In Miqdadia, north of Baghdad, one policeman was killed and four wounded when their patrol was struck by a roadside bomb.

**January 21, 2006:** In Qadisiyah, 30 miles (48 km) south of Tikrit, Iraqi army Maj. Maamoun Younis Abdullah and Staff Sgt. Salim Athab were killed in a brazen drive-by shooting as they headed to work, police Capt. Hakim al-Azawi said. Two of Abdullah's sons were also wounded in the attack. In Baquba, 40 miles (60 km) north of Baghdad, a car bomb killed two police officers and wounded eight police officers and civilians, an official with Diyala province's Joint Coordination Center said. Police found the bullet-riddled body of Iraqi commando officer Ali Hussein in an open field and former Baath Party member Abdun Hamid in a playground near Karbala, said police Capt. Qais al-Azawi. During the night, U.S. troops opened fire at civilian cars on the main road between Tikrit and Baiji, killing three people and wounding four others, all of whom turned out to be U.S.-trained Iraqi army soldiers, a source from the Iraqi-US liaison office in Tikrit said.

**January 22, 2006:** Four Iraqi policemen were killed and another nine injured when a bomb exploded near their vehicle in Baquba, 40 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, an Iraqi police source said.

**January 23, 2006:** Iraqi police said a suicide car bomber in Baghdad targeted police near the Iranian Embassy, in the Green Zone, killing two policemen and wounding five others. In the southern Dura district of the capital, two policemen were killed and three wounded when a car bomb exploded. In eastern Mosul, an Iraqi army soldier was killed and another wounded when their patrol was struck by a roadside bomb. Two bombs in Kirkuk killed one policeman and injured eight people including two civilian bystanders.

**January 24, 2006:** In Baghdad, gunmen killed two policemen and wounded four in separate ambushes. In the Iraqi industrial town of Baiji, unidentified gunmen killed a policeman, police said.

**January 25, 2006:** In Baghdad's Sadr City, gunmen shot dead a police sergeant as he drove to work, said police Lt. Laith Abdul-Aal. In the Ishaki area on the Baghdad-Mosul highway, about 62 miles (100 km) north of Baghdad, five Iraqi soldiers were killed and two wounded by a roadside bomb, police Lt. Amir al-Ahbab said.

**January 26, 2006:** Gunmen killed a policeman and wounded three civilians in southern Baghdad, police said.

**January 27, 2006:** Two Iraqi Army Soldiers died and four were wounded when an IED exploded in Tall Afar, 32 miles (50 km) west of Mosul.

**January 28, 2006:** U.S. Marines and Iraqi Army soldiers ended an almost two-week military operation after destroying 45 weapons caches and detaining 20 suspected insurgents in western Iraq. Operation Wadi Aljundi started Jan. 15 north of the town of Hit, 85 miles (140 km) west of Baghdad, and ended Jan. 27. No U.S. or Iraqi casualties were sustained, said a statement released by the Marines. In Baghdad's southern Dora neighborhood, a soldier from the Iraqi Army's Lion Brigade was also killed and another wounded in a gun fight with, said police Lt. Maitham Abdul-Razzaq. Two policemen were killed and three wounded when a roadside bomb struck their patrol in Falluja, 32 miles (50 km) west of Baghdad, police said. In Oweija, 6 miles (10 km) south of Tikrit, four Iraqi National Guards were killed and five wounded when a car bomb exploded next to their patrol, police said.

**January 29, 2006:** Iraq's top Sunni Arab political leader accused Shiite-dominated security forces of pursuing a strategy of sectarian "cleansing" in Baghdad and said he opposed giving key Cabinet posts to Shiites—a stance likely to further inflame sectarian tensions. Violence

continued as a roadside bomb in Baghdad's volatile southern Dora neighborhood killed one policeman and wounded another, police said. A car bomb blast killed a policeman in Baghdad's western Amariyah district, while two policemen were gunned down while leaving work following the end of their shift in the same area. Drive-by gunmen killed two more policemen as they left the Khadra police station, also in western Baghdad, after finishing work, police said. An Iraqi medic also was killed after leaving work at western Baghdad's Yarmouk Hospital, said Dr. Muhannad Jawad from the hospital. In Beiji, 155 miles (249 km) north of Baghdad, gunmen shot dead a police captain, while an ambush at a checkpoint in Baqouba, 40 miles (65 km) north of Baghdad, killed one policeman and wounded four others, police said. A massive car bombing killed four Iraqi soldiers and wounded six more in Saddam's birthplace of Uja, about 75 miles (121 km) north of Baghdad, army Capt. Ahmed al-Azawi said. In the restive town of Fallujah, a policeman was killed and another wounded in a roadside bomb attack, police said.

**January 30, 2006:** Two policemen were killed and 20 people were wounded when a suicide bomber in a car attacked a barracks in the southern city of Nassiriya, 233 miles (375 km) south of Baghdad, police said. In Kirkuk, three Iraqi soldiers tasked with securign oil facilities were killed by unknown gunmen, police said.

**January 31, 2006:** Four Iraqi soldiers were killed and one injured in exchange of fire between the army and insurgents in Buhriz, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad.

**February 1, 2006:** A mortar barrage killed two Iraqi soldiers in the northwestern city of Tal Afar, officials said. American commanders said an entire Iraqi brigade, about 2,500 troops, had taken over parts of the nearby city of Khaldiyah and an adjacent agrarian area from U.S. troops. But U.S. military advisers who mentor the Iraqi unit said just over half those assigned Iraqi soldiers were actually present. The Iraqi brigade already was short several hundred soldiers before they deployed to Anbar province from the northern city of Mosul, the advisers said, and about 500 more deserted when they arrived in late August and faced their first insurgent attacks.

**February 2, 2006:** A roadside bomb blast killed three Iraqi army soldiers in eastern Baghdad's Ghazaliyah neighborhood, said army Maj. Moussa Abdul Karim. In the northern city of Mosul, a policeman was killed and five wounded when a roadside bomb hit their patrol, police said.

**February 3, 2006:** Iraqi police and soldiers rounded up nearly 60 people yesterday in security crackdowns in Baghdad and the southern city of Basra. At least 22 people were detained and weapons were seized in raids launched before dawn yesterday in Basra, Iraq's second-largest city, the Iraqi army said. An additional 37 people—including five Palestinians and a Syrian—were arrested in pre-dawn raids in Baghdad's Dora district, the Interior Ministry said. Thousands of Iraqis protested publication of caricatures of Islam's Prophet Muhammad. The caricatures, first published in Denmark and printed elsewhere in a demonstration of press freedom, have enraged many Muslims and prompted calls to boycott products from Denmark and other countries whose media reprint the pictures.

**February 4, 2006:** U.S. commanders have identified the lack of an effective supply chain as a major weakness of Iraq's military, and until one is in place, the United States and its coalition partners cannot fully hand over security responsibilities. The U.S. command has periodically alluded to such concerns. Lt. Gen. John R. Vines, formerly the second-highest ranking general in Iraq, said progress would hinge on whether government ministries could supply the military and cut out corruption. Overall, the U.S. military has deemed only one Iraqi battalion, about 700 men, of being capable of resupplying itself and carrying out independent operations without any U.S. assistance.

**February 5, 2006:** Iraqi authorities set up new checkpoints and warned innkeepers to watch for suspicious people, all part of security measures to protect Shiites marking the holiest day of their calendar this week. The measures were put in place ahead of the feast of Ashoura to prevent a repeat of suicide bombings by al-Qaida in Iraq that killed at least 230 people during the past two years' ceremonies. An Iraqi soldier was killed and two others wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near their patrol in the city of Falluja, 25 miles (50 km) west of Baghdad, police said. Two policemen were killed and seven people wounded, including two other policemen, when a car bomb exploded near a police checkpoint in Salman Pak, about 40 miles (65 km) southeast of Baghdad, police said. Gunmen killed an Iraqi policeman near the oil refinery city of Baiji, 112 miles (180 km) north of Baghdad, police said. In the northern city of Kirkuk, three gunmen shot dead two policemen.

**February 6, 2006:** One Iraqi policeman was killed and his brother, also a policemen, was wounded in an attack by armed men firing from a speeding car in the northern city of Kirkuk, said police Capt. Firhad Talabani. At Latifiya, 25 miles (40 km) south of Baghdad, two Iraqi soldiers were killed and another four wounded when insurgents lobbed a mortar on their guard checkpoint, an Iraqi army source said. An Iraqi policeman, Hussein Ali Lazem, was killed when an armed group opened fire on his house in the Sayf Saad neighborhood of Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said. The U.S. military said that Iraqi forces launched an air assault on insurgent hideouts in the vicinity Bit Shaitin village, near Salman Pak south of Baghdad. Approximately 100 Iraqi soldiers, supported by Coalition Forces, participated in the combined operation designed to disrupt and capture wanted terrorists who were reportedly operating a terrorist training camp and planning to launch attacks against Ashura Pilgrims traveling toward Karbala, the statement added.

**February 7, 2006:** Two successive bomb blasts near Tahrir Square in the bosom of Baghdad killed one policeman and one civilian and injured 5 other policemen and 15 civilians. In Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, a policeman was killed and four by-standing civilians wounded in an exchange of fire with insurgents.

February 8, 2006: Gen. George Casey Jr., said the U.S. command has declared 2006 as the "year of the police," a tacit acknowledgment that the more than 80,000-strong Iraqi force has been hobbled by incompetence, corruption, sectarianism and low morale. The U.S. military wants

more than 130,000 police operating by 2007 as part of the strategy to shift security responsibility to the Iraqis so that American and other international troops can begin to head home. To improve police skills, up to 3,000 U.S. and international personnel are being assigned to Iraqi police units throughout the country. In some of the more peaceful parts of Iraq, plans call for police rather than the Iraqi army to assume the lead role in ensuring security later this year. In other news, a suicide car bomb blew up at a checkpoint in New Obeidi, about 12 miles (20 km) from the Syrian border, killing two Iraqi soldiers and three civilians and wounding three others, including a two Iraqi soldiers and a U.S. marine, the U.S. military said. Iraqi Minister of Higher Education Sami al-Mudhafar survived an assassination when a car bomb blew up near his convoy in central Baghdad killing one policeman and wounding three civilians, an Interior Ministry source said.

**February 9, 2006:** Three members of the National Guards were killed and two others were wounded in a bomb blast that targeted a military patrol in the Al-Mshahedah district of the capital, a security source said.

**February 10, 2006:** A policewoman, Nidthal Mohammad, was killed by gunmen wearing Iraqi army uniforms who broke into her house in Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said. Also in Baquba, gunmen ambushed two policemen, killing one and wounding another as they headed to work, police said. In a separate incident, also in Baquba, one Iraqi soldier was killed and another was wounded when gunmen in a car opened fire on them, police said. In the southeastern Jisr Diyala area of Baghdad, armed men killed police Sgt. Bassem al-Rikabi while he was on patrol, police said.

**February 11, 2006:** In Baghdad's southern Dora neighborhood, gunmen killed traffic policeman Ahmed Majeed Obaid as he left his home at midday, Lt. Maitham Abdul-Razzaq said. In Fallujah 40 miles (64 km) west of Baghdad, gunmen in a red sedan shot dead a policeman as he was heading to work, police said. Iraqi army spokesman Capt. Makram al-Abbasi was killed in a hail of gunfire from a civilian car accompanied by a police vehicle in Basra, army Capt. Firas al-Tamimi said. Gunmen killed two policemen in Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said. The attackers approached their car and shot them in the head. An army officer was killed by a roadside bomb in Dujail, north of Baghdad, police said.

**February 12, 2006:** Ibrahim Jafari, the soft-spoken Shiite Muslim doctor, won his coalition's nomination for the post of prime minister by a single vote, putting him on course to head the country's first full term government since the fall of Saddam Hussein. Three police commandos and a civilian were killed and four commandos wounded when a suicide bomber wearing an explosive belt blew himself up near a check point in southern Baghdad, police said. Gunmen killed four policemen while they were driving in a civilian car in the main road between Kirkuk and Tikrit, 110 miles (175 km) north of Baghdad, police said. A police colonel and a brigadier were killed by gunmen in separate incidents in the volatile city of Ramadi, 68 miles (110 km) west of Baghdad, police said. Two policemen were killed and one was wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol in Iskandariya, 25 miles (40 km) south of Baghdad, police said. Two policemen were killed and another wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their

patrol in Hilla, 62 miles (100 km) south of Baghdad, police said. A policeman was killed and two others wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol in Tuz Khurmatu, police said.

**February 13, 2006:** Gunmen shot dead an Iraqi policeman protecting electricity generating facilities near a hospital in eastern Baghdad's Sadr City, police said. Four policemen were gunned down on their way home from work outside the northern oil refinery town of Baiji.

**February 14, 2006:** According to Col. James Greer, chief of staff for the U.S. military command responsible for training Iraqi troops, 40 of Iraq's 102 battalions have taken over security in the areas where they operate. Armed militants in a red pick-up, opened fire on another car on Al-Abasiya road, which led to the death of a policeman and the injury of two civilians, a Kirkuk police source said. An Iraqi army major and his son were killed when they were fired on by gunmen in the Taji area north of Baghdad, U.S. military said.

**February 15, 2006:** A parked car bomb exploded as a police patrol passed by, killing four policemen and wounding two civilians in northern Baghdad, Lt. Nadhim Nasser said. Gunmen firing from two cars shot and killed a police captain and his driver, also a policeman, in Baghdad's southern Sadiyah neighborhood, said police Lt. Aqil Fadil. In the area of Shatt Al-Arab, east of Basra, three Iraqis were killed and two others were wounded by the explosion of an old mortar shell left behind from the dissolved army.

**February 16, 2006:** The 4th Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division held its official relocation ceremony at Forward Operating Base Summerall in Baiji. Iraq's Interior Ministry opened an investigation into claims that its officers are operating death squads targeting Sunni Arab men, a senior Iraqi official said. The investigation came after months of reports that Sunni Arabs had been abducted by men in police uniforms only to be found dead days or weeks later, handcuffed and shot in the head. A car bomb exploded as an Iraqi patrol passed in Baghdad's Karradah neighborhood, killing one policeman and wounding three bystanders, police said. Gunmen killed two more policemen and two civilians—one Iraqi and the other Egyptian—in an attack on a vehicle in west Baghdad's Amariyah district, and another policeman was shot dead in the Amil area, police said. In the northern city of Kirkuk, gunmen killed an Iraqi Army captain and his driver as they were heading to work, said police Capt. Firhad Talabani.

**February 17, 2006:** A policeman was killed and two were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near their car in Al-Yousifiya, 9 miles (15 km) south of Baghdad, police said.

**February 18, 2006:** The new Iraqi army forces completed preparations to receive over the next few weeks the security responsibilities from the Multi-National Forces (MNF-I) in the provinces of Missan and Al-Mathna in southern Iraq, a security official said. An Iraqi police major was assassinated by drive-by gunmen in the insurgent stronghold of Ramadi, west of Baghdad. A roadside bomb exploded on an eastern Baghdad highway and killed two Iraqi policemen



guarding an oil tanker, Lt. Bilal Ali Majid said. Three other police were wounded and the tanker was not damaged.

**February 19, 2006:** A police general, Hatim Khalaf al-Obaidi, and two of his guards were killed in a roadside bombing outside Iraq's northern city of Kirkuk.

**February 20, 2006:** In the northern city of Mosul, a bomb planted inside a restaurant killed four civilians and one policeman, police said.

**February 21, 2006:** Two police commandos were killed and four people were wounded, including a civilian, when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol in southern Baghdad, police said. A policeman was killed when a roadside bomb went off near his patrol in western Baghdad, police said. In Kirkuk, an Iraqi Army officer and soldier were killed and two soldiers were wounded when they came under attack by unknown gunmen, said Chief of Aqdheya Police Brigadier Sarhad Qader.

**February 22, 2006:** In Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, two police officers were killed in a drive-by shooting. A Shi'ite police officer guarding a Sunni mosque in Diwaniya, 110 miles (180 km) south of Baghdad, was shot down when gunmen opened fire, police said.

**February 23, 2006:** The Interior Ministry canceled all leave for the police and army and placed them on the highest alert as the death toll mounted on in sectarian violence that swept the country after bombs wrecked a major Shi'ite shrine. In Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, a powerful roadside bomb killed 8 Iraqi army soldiers and 4 civilians and wounded 20 other people. One policeman was killed and four wounded by a road side bomb in Iskandariya, 25 miles (40 km) south of Baghdad, police said.

**February 24, 2006:** The Pentagon downgraded the only Iraqi battalion capable of fighting without U.S. support (level one status) to a level requiring them to fight with U.S. troops backing them up (level two status). According to the congressionally mandated Iraqi security report, there are 53 Iraqi battalions at level two status, up from 36 in October. There are 45 battalions at level three—where troops must fight alongside U.S. forces—according to the report. Underscoring fears of an all-out religious civil war, Iraq's government ordered a daytime curfew in Baghdad and nearby provinces. In Samarra, a roadside bomb targeting a police patrol killed two officers 10 minutes after the daytime curfew expired.

**February 25, 2006:** The bodies of 14 police commandos were found near the Qubaisy mosque in Baghdad following a series of clashes with gunmen overnight, police said. In Samarra, a car bomb ripped through an Iraqi military patrol that was escorting mourners returning from the funeral of an Al Arabiya journalist. Two soldiers and one police commando were killed in the

mayhem, police and army officials said. Six people, including civilians, were injured. Unidentified gunmen opened fire that immediately killed a policeman at Al-Khadra suburb, Mosul, an Iraqi police source said. The body of a police officer with gunshot wounds was found near his home east of Tikrit, police said. In a bizarre incident, two police constables posted at the Iraq embassy in south Delhi were found dead after one of them allegedly shot the other and then killed himself, police said.

**February 26, 2006:** Brig. Gen. Hatim Khalaf, head of the operations room of the Kirkuk police, died along with his driver in the blast about 20 miles (35 km) southwest of Kirkuk, according to Capt. Farhad Talabani. A roadside blast killed a police officer and injured two others in Madain, about 14 miles (23 km) southeast of Baghdad, police Lt. Bilal Ali Majid said.

**February 27, 2006:** Police commandos said they killed five suspected Sunni insurgents and captured 25 in an evening battle southeast of the city that also left eight police dead and six wounded.

**February 28, 2006:** Gunmen in Mosul, 224 miles (360 km) northwest of Baghdad, killed four police and a doctor, Dr. Bahaa al-Bakri of the city general hospital said. In northeast Baghdad, a roadside bomb targeting the convoy of a defense ministry adviser killed five soldiers and wounded seven others, ministry spokesman Mohammed al-Askari said. The adviser, Lt. Gen. Daham Radhi al-Assal, was not injured. In Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, gunmen killed two police officers and wounded two civilians in separate attacks, authorities said. Four policemen were killed when their patrol was ambushed by gunmen near Khalis, 40 miles (60 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**March 1, 2006:** At least four police officers were killed and eight wounded when gunmen attacked a police convoy of 50 officers on its way to Tikrit from the Kurdish city of Sulaimaniya. Some 22 officers were seized by the gunmen but later released, and another 16 officers fled at the time of the incident and made their own way to safety, police said. Six Iraqi soldiers and three policemen were killed when gunmen attacked their checkpoint in Dawr, near Tikrit, 110 miles (175 km) north of Baghdad, the U.S military and Iraqi officials said. In Riyadh, 40 miles (60 km) southwest of the northern oil city of Kirkuk, three policemen were killed and five wounded when their patrol was ambushed by gunmen, police Colonel Sarhat Khadir said.

**March 2, 2006:** The 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division assumed battle space responsibility of an area covering western Baghdad and eastern Abu Ghraib from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. Soldiers from the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Divisions, supported by Coalition Soldiers, conducted one of the largest operations of the past six months and took control of the terrorist stronghold town of Sadr-Yusufiyah, south of Baghdad. During the one-week of Operation Glory Light, Iraqi and Coalition soldiers uncovered 15 weapons caches, 26 roadside bombs, and two vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices. In the al-Jihad neighborhood of southwestern Baghdad, an Iraqi police commando was killed and two other commandos wounded in a roadside bomb attack on their patrol. Gunmen attacked a checkpoint in al Dour, about 90 miles (145 km) north of Baghdad, killing 10 Iraqi security forces—six Iraqi

soldiers and four police, an official with the Salaheddin Joint Coordination Center said. In Mosul, 225 miles (360 km) north of Baghdad, gunmen attacked an Iraqi police patrol around midday, killing four officers in the city's al-Suker neighborhood. Local police said a roadside bomb killed one police commando and seriously wounded another in the town of Salman Pak, southeast of Baghdad. In western Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, insurgents gunned down police Lieutenant Abbas Jaleel while he was traveling in his car, a police source said.

**March 3, 2006:** One Iraqi soldier was killed in the northern city of Kirkuk, while two policemen from the same city were found shot to death after being kidnapped yesterday evening while traveling 30 miles (50 km) further south, security officials said.

**March 4, 2006:** Iraqi Interior Minister Bayan JabrSolagh said that the Iraqi government is implementing a plan to dissolve militias. Militias have been banned in Iraq except in the northern Kurdish enclave since June 2003 by Paul Bremer, the then head of U.S. authorities in Iraq. But violence and insecurity led the militias to stay put.

**March 5, 2006:** At least four people—a policeman, a taxi driver and two electricity workers—were killed in scattered gunfire in Baghdad and south of the capital, police said. Two Iraqi soldiers were killed when gunmen fired on their vehicle in Tikrit.

**March 6, 2006:** Snipers assassinated Maj. Gen. Mibder Hatim al-Dulaimi, the Sunni Arab in charge of Iraqi forces protecting the capital. In eastern Baghdad, a suicide car bomber struck a police patrol near al-Mustansiriyah University, killing two policemen and wounding three, said police Capt. Ahmed Qassim. Another bomb exploded as a police patrol drove through Baghdad's northern Azamiyah neighborhood, killing a policeman and a civilian bystander and wounding three others including another policeman, said Interior Ministry official Maj. Falah al-Mohammedawi. A car bomb exploded in the Jadriya neighborhood of central Baghdad, killing one policeman and injuring three others, police said.

**March 7, 2006:** The new Iraqi air force opened the gates of its first air base and announced the "stand-up" of its first operational C-130 transport squadron at the New Al Muthana Air Base at Baghdad International Airport. The entire Iraqi air force comprises between 700 and 800 personnel, including pilots, flight crews, maintenance crews and other personnel, according to Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Smolinsky, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command Air Force—Forward. Three policemen were killed and four were wounded when gunmen attacked their patrol in the oil refinery city of Baiji, 110 miles (180 km) north of Baghdad, police said. A policeman was killed and another wounded in a drive-by shooting on the Kirkuk-Hawija highway, 40 miles (60 km) southwest of Kirkuk, police said.

**March 8, 2006:** A bomb hidden under a parked car near the University of Technology exploded as police from the interior minister's protection force were driving through central Baghdad, killing two officers and injuring another, police Major Abbas Mohammed Salman said. Another bomb hit a police patrol in the northern Bab al-Muadam area, killing two officers and injuring four others, said police captain Muhanand al-Bahadili.

**March 9, 2006:** Iraq hanged 13 insurgents, marking the first time militants have been executed in the country since the U.S.-led invasion ousted Saddam Hussein nearly three years ago, the government said.

**March 10, 2006:** A car bomb went off in the Radhwaniyah area of southwestern Baghdad near an Iraqi army patrol, killing a soldier and wounding three others, an Interior Ministry source said. Two policemen were killed and three wounded when a roadside bomb exploded in the town of Tikrit, 110 miles (175 km) north of Baghdad, a police source said. A suicide truck bomb struck a checkpoint manned by U.S. soldiers and Iraqi security forces in the former Sunni stronghold of Falluja, killing at least 11, including five police, police said.

**March 11, 2006:** When pressed to explain how the U.S. intended to respond should Iraq descend wholesale into internecine strife, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld told the Senate Appropriations Committee that "The plan is to prevent a civil war, and to the extent one were to occur, to have the . . . Iraqi security forces deal with it to the extent they're able to." Three civilians, one Iraqi soldier and a U.S. soldier were killed when a suicide car bomb detonated near the western city of Falluja, the U.S. military said.

**March 12, 2006:** Gunmen killed two police officers in separate incidents in Baghdad, police said. A roadside bomb exploded in a busy west Baghdad street of in the mostly Sunni Qadissiyah neighborhood, killing at least six people, including 3 policeman, and inuring 12, said police Lt Thayer Mahmoud. Two soldiers were killed and four wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol in central Baghdad, police said. Gunmen killed two army officers who worked in the Joint Coordination Centre in Dhuluiya, 25 miles (40 km) north of Baghdad, the Joint Coordination Centre of Dhuluiya said. In Mahmoudiya, about 20 miles (32 km) south of Baghdad, gunmen ambushed and killed a police major as he headed to work, police said. A roadside bomb hit a police convoy in Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, killing one patrolman and wounding four others, police said.

**March 13, 2006:** Four policemen and six civilians were wounded when a roadside bomb hit a police patrol in central Baghdad, police said. A roadside bomb exploded as police responded to a false report of bodies inside a store in Tikrit, Saddam's ancestral hometown. Five policemen were killed and 18 injured in the blast, police Capt. Hakim al-Azawi said. A civilian bystander was also killed. Two police officers were killed and four wounded in two separate car bomb attacks targeting police patrols in Kurdish areas of Kirkuk, the oil capital of northern Iraq, police

said. Police officer Major Abdulrahman Bader was killed when gunmen shot him at Al-Zaafaraniya south Baghdad wounding him seriously. He later died in hospital.

**March 14, 2006:** Unknown gunmen killed intelligence police Captain Mohammed Fadhil in Al-Amirya west Baghdad, the source said.

**March 15, 2006:** A police lieutenant was killed when a roadside bomb exploded near his patrol in Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said.

**March 16, 2006:** Iraqi Security Forces and their Coalition partners launched Operation Swarmer in southern Salah Ad Din province to clear a suspected insurgent operating area northeast of Samarra. In the largest air assault operation since Operation Iraqi Freedom I, soldiers from the Iraqi Army's 1st Brigade, 4th Division, the 101st Airborne Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team and the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade conducted a combined air and ground assault to isolate the objective area. More than 1,500 Iraqi and Coalition troops, over 200 tactical vehicles, and more than 50 aircraft participated in the operation. Initial reports from the objective area indicated that a number of enemy weapons caches were captured, containing artillery shells, explosives, IED-making materials, and military uniforms.

**March 17, 2006:** One policeman was killed and two wounded when a roadside bomb struck a police patrol near Latifiya 32 miles (50 km) south of Baghdad, police said.

**March 18, 2006:** One policeman was killed and a civilian was wounded when gunmen in a speeding car with an unidentified license plate opened fire at the old military recruitment office in the middle of center of Kirkuk in Northern Iraq. A police officer and his brother were killed by gunmen in Baiji, 112 miles (180 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**March 19, 2006:** The bodies of two Iraqi soldiers were found beheaded near a school in al-Huwaija town, 43 miles (65 km) west of the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, Iraqi police announced. Gunmen shot dead four people, including two policemen in civilian clothes, and wounded another policeman in the northern city of Mosul, 240 (390 km) north of Baghdad, police and hospital sources said. A policeman was killed and 12 people were wounded when two roadside bombs exploded in quick succession targeting a police patrol in the city of Baquba, 40 miles (65 km) north of Baghdad, police said. One of the wounded was a police colonel, police added. Gunmen killed a policeman and wounded four civilians when they were driving a civilian car in Latifiya, in an area dubbed the 'Triangle of death' south of Baghdad, police said. The policeman was wearing civilian clothes.

**March 20, 2006:** A roadside bomb exploded in central Baghdad near an Interior Ministry lockup, killing at least three Iraqi police commandos and a prisoner, police Lt. Col. Falah al-

Mohammedawi said. Four policeman and two prisoners were also wounded in the attack. A policeman in a joint American-Iraqi patrol was killed in Baghdad during fighting with insurgents, police said. A roadside bomb in a farming area in the so-called Triangle of Death, south of Baghdad, killed four policemen, police Capt. Muthana Khalid Ali reported. Gunmen killed two security force members protecting oil facilities in Jarf al-Sakkhar, 50 miles (80 km) south of Baghdad. A car bomb targeting a police checkpoint exploded in Baqouba, 40 miles (65 km) northeast of Baghdad, killing one policeman and wounding two others, authorities said. In the northern city of Mosul, gunmen killed a policeman and an oil ministry official, police said. A car bomb wounded two policemen in Gayara, near Mosul, police said.

**March 21, 2006:** As many as 100 insurgents stormed a jail about dawn in the Sunni Muslim city of Muqdadiyah, 62 miles (100 km) northeast of Baghdad, killing at least 18 policemen and a courthouse guard. Authorities said all 33 prisoners in the lockup were freed and 10 attackers were killed in the battle.

**March 22, 2006:** A combined operation involving Iraqi soldiers, Iraqi Police Commandos and Coalition forces concluded with the capture of 104 suspected insurgents and the discovery and seizure of 24 caches northeast of Samarra. The mission began March 16 as Operation Swarmer with the helicopter transport of approximately 1,500 Iraqi and Coalition Soldiers and Iraqi Police Commandos into a 10 square-mile area. Iraqi Army and Coalition forces numbering approximately 1,400 personnel, kicked off Operation Northern Lights to disrupt anti-Iraqi forces and to find and destroy terrorist caches in the Abu Ghraib area west of Baghdad. Rebels blasted an Iraqi police station with grenade and mortar fire before dawn, killing a police commander and three policemen and wounding six in Madaen, 25 miles (40 km) southwest of Baghdad, police said. The body of a man wearing an Iraqi military uniform was delivered to a morgue in the southern city of Kut, a morgue official said. The man had been killed outside Madain, he said. Two policemen were killed and one wounded when gunmen ambushed their patrol in western Baghdad, police said.

**March 23, 2006:** The Iraqi 1st Motorized Truck Regiment completed its first supply delivery mission to the 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division independent of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, its de facto American higher headquarters. A suicide bomber rammed the entrance of the Iraqi Interior Ministry's major crimes unit in the central Baghdad district of Karradah killing 25 people including 10 policemen and wounding 35 others, mostly policemen, the Interior Ministry said. On al-Maghrib street, in the north of the capital, at least three policemen were killed and six people wounded in a remote-detonated car bomb explosion. A suicide car bomber attacked an Iraqi army patrol near the U.S. Al Asad air base and killed nine soldiers in Baghdad near the town of Haditha, 125 miles (200 km) west of Baghdad. A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol exploded in western Baquba, 40 miles (65 km) northeast of Baghdad, killing four policemen, a police source said. One policeman was killed and another three injured when their patrol was struck by a roadside bomb in Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, police said. Police said that one Iraqi army soldier was killed and another wounded when a roadside bomb was detonated near their patrol on a road between Latifiya and Iskandariya, south of Baghdad.

**March 24, 2006:** Soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division, with assistance from soldiers from 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade combat Team, Bastogne, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, detained 52 suspected insurgents during Operation Scorpion, a sequential cordon and search of eight villages in and around Hawijah. Suspected insurgents killed three policemen and wounded another in a drive-by shooting in west Baghdad, police said. A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol in south Baghdad's Saydiyah neighborhood killed one policeman, police 1st Lt. Akeel Fadhil said. The bodies of two Iraqi soldiers who were killed by gunmen were found in Baiji, 110 miles (180 km) north of Baghdad, said a source at a U.S.-Iraqi military coordination center.

**March 25, 2006:** Gunmen killed a traffic policeman in central Baghdad then placed a bomb inside his booth which killed four civilians in a minibus and wounded four, police said.

**March 26, 2006:** American and Iraqi government forces clashed with Shiite militiamen in Baghdad in the most serious confrontation in months, and Iraqi security officials said 17 people were killed in a mosque, including its 80-year-old imam. Gunmen killed two policemen in Wajihya, a small town east of Baquba, 40 miles (65 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said. Three guards of the mayor of Wajihya were wounded by a roadside bomb as they headed to the scene of the attack, police added.

**March 27, 2006:** The first Iraqi army recruiting drive in Sunni-dominated Ramadi yielded only 31 recruits. At least 40 people were killed and 20 others wounded when a suicide bomber blew himself up in the midst of candidates waiting at an army recruitment centre in northwest Iraq, an interior ministry official said.

**March 29, 2006:** Gunmen attacked a highway police patrol in west Baghdad, killing one policeman and wounding four others, including a civilian, police said. In south Baghdad, a sniper killed a policeman on patrol in the Dora neighborhood, police Lt. Maitham Abdul-Razzaq said. One Iraqi army soldier was killed and another two wounded when their patrol was struck by a roadside bomb near Abu Ghraib prison, west of Baghdad, a police source said. Three soldiers were killed by a roadside bomb in Hawija, 40 miles (70 km) southwest of Kirkuk, police said.

**March 30, 2006:** A group of 278 policemen graduated from the six-month Officer Candidate Program at Baghdad Police College. A suicide car bomber rammed a police convoy in west Baghdad's Yarmouk neighborhood, killing one police commando and wounding three others. Two civilians also were hurt. A policeman was killed and three others wounded when a roadside bomb hit their patrol in the northern oil city of Kirkuk, 150 miles (250 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**March 31, 2006:** Soldiers from 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 502 Infantry Regiment discovered a large weapons cache consisting of in

southwestern Baghdad. A policeman was killed when gunmen fired on his patrol in Falluja 30 miles (50 km) west of Baghdad, police said.

**April 1, 2006:** An Iraqi army sergeant major and four militants were killed in fighting when an army patrol stopped several men trying to steal a truck south of Baquba 40 miles (65 km) northeast of Baghdad, the U.S. military said.

**April 2, 2006:** In Baghdad's Sunni neighborhood of Khadra, a policeman was shot dead by unknown gunmen. Three soldiers were killed and another was wounded in the explosion of a roadside bomb planted on the Huweijah-Riyadh road, west of Kirkuk. A second explosion targeted an Iraqi army convoy escorting a group of Iraqi contractors on the Kirkuk-Biji road southwest of Kirkuk. One soldier was killed and five others were wounded in this explosion.

**April 3, 2006:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division began the first phase of assuming responsibility for security operations in Salah ad Din Province. The Iraqi 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade now has the authority to delegate missions to their battalions independent of Coalition forces. Two soldiers were killed and three wounded when gunmen attacked their patrol near Baiji, 112 miles (180 km) north of Baghdad, police said. A policeman was killed and two others wounded when gunmen attacked their patrol in Baiji, police said.

**April 4, 2006:** A policeman who works at a morgue was gunned down as he headed to his Dora home in southern Baghdad. In southern Iraq, gunmen killed a policeman and wounded another as the two were driving in the city of Basra, police said.

**April 5, 2006:** A policeman was killed by gunmen while he was heading to work in Hawija, 45 miles (70 km) southwest of Kirkuk, police said. One traffic policeman was shot dead on in Kirkuk, 155 miles (250 km) north of Baghdad, a police source said.

**April 6, 2006:** A roadside bomb struck an Iraqi army patrol in the AbuKhazeer area in Baquba, killing an army captain and wounding five soldiers, a local police source said. A suicide car bomb exploded near a joint patrol of Iraqi army and U.S. troops in the Amiriyat al-Falluja area southwest of Falluja., killing seven, one of them an Iraqi policeman, the Iraqi army said. Gunmen seriously wounded a Kurdish captain in the Iraqi army in the eastern part of Kirkuk, 155 miles (250 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**April 7, 2006:** In the town of al-Suwaira, south of Baghdad, police discovered the bodies of three members of the security forces, including an Iraqi soldier and a lieutenant-colonel. The bodies were found with their hands cut off. The decapitated body of man wearing a military uniform was found in the town of al-Shahaimiya, 75 miles (120 km) south of Baghdad.



**April 8, 2006:** The number of Iraqi soldiers in the joint forces of the Iraqi army and the Multi-National-Forces exceeded 115,000 ground, airforce and navy troops, who are stationed across Iraq, the Iraqi Interior Ministry said. Police found the bodies of four Iraqi soldiers shot in the head with signs of torture dumped at the side of a road near the Himreen mountains 175 miles (120 km) south of the northern oil city of Kirkuk, police said. Six policemen were wounded when a roadside bomb detonated near their patrol in Riyadh, 40 miles (60 km) southwest of Kirkuk, police said. Gunmen ambushed and killed Iraqi army Lieutenant-Colonel Mohammed Abdullah Jasim with his bodyguard in Baquba, 40 miles (65 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said. Four policemen and four civilians were wounded when gunmen ambushed a police patrol in Baquba, police said. Two Iraqi soldiers were killed and three others wounded in a fierce battle between insurgents and Iraqi security forces in the Nazzal neighborhood in southern Falluja, witnesses said.

**April 9, 2006:** Despite a long-standing commitment to disarm and disband sectarian militias, the Iraqi government quietly dropped plans to take action—at least until a new Cabinet is appointed. Gunmen killed a soldier in the town of Dhuluiya, 25 miles (40 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**April 10, 2006:** Two policemen were killed and several wounded in clashes with gunmen at a checkpoint in Amariyah. Armed insurgents and government forces engaged in fighting in the town of Falluja, west of Baghdad, killing at least 10 people, including six Iraqi soldiers, an Interior Ministry source said.

**April 11, 2006:** A car bomb exploded near a Baghdad restaurant frequented by police killing at least five people, including three policemen, Interior Ministry sources said. The blast also wounded 13 people, including one policeman, the sources said. On the outskirts of Karbala, 50 miles (80 km) south of Baghdad, gunmen killed a policeman on his way to work. The bodies of four Iraqi soldiers who were beheaded were found in Jurf al-Sahkar, 50 miles (80 km) south of Baghdad, police said. Three Iraqi army recruits were killed after coming under fire in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. Two policemen were killed and four others wounded by a roadside bomb in Tuz Khurmatu, 45 miles (70 km) south of Kirkuk, the Joint Co-ordination Centre said. Three Iraqi soldiers were killed during a firefight with insurgents in Ramadi that ended when US troops stepped in and imposed a curfew on the western Iraqi city.

**April 12, 2006:** Four people, including a policeman, were killed and three policemen wounded in Baghdad's northern Al Waziriya neighborhood when a roadside bomb struck a passing police patrol, a security official said. In a separate incident in the capital, 11 people were wounded, including six policemen, when roadside bombs struck two police patrols in the Al Dura neighborhood. A policeman was also shot dead in Baghdad. Gunmen shot dead two Iraqi army soldiers and wounded another while they were traveling in a civilian car in central Baiji, 112 miles (180 km) north of Baghdad, U.S. and Iraqi military officials said.

**April 13, 2006:** Sixty-three Iraqi recruits graduated from the Lulymania Training Center and earned the right to be called police officers following a morning ceremony. In the northern city of Mosul, gunmen killed a policeman who was driving his sons to school. One of the sons was also killed, and the other seriously wounded, police said. Gunmen ambushed an Iraqi convoy of around 10 police vehicles on the road from Taji to Najaf. At least 9 officers were killed, and at least 30 were missing.

**April 14, 2006:** Unknown gunmen opened fire on Lieutenant Marwan Yousef on a road between Kirkuk and Tikrit killing him instantly, Chief of Aqdhiya Police, Brigadier Sahrad Qader said.

**April 15, 2006:** Three Iraqi army soldiers were killed and eight wounded when the convoy in which they were travelling was hit by a roadside bomb in Baghdad's dangerous Dora neighborhood. In Basra, four gunmen killed the director of traffic police as he was driving to work, police said.

**April 16, 2006:** One policeman was killed and three others wounded, including two policemen, when gunmen opened fire on two police stations in Baghdad's Sadr City. Another policeman was killed in similar shoot-out in Al-Sulekh neighborhood in northern Baghdad. In Mosul, an Iraqi soldier was gunned down in his car with his two sons. Police found the body of an Iraqi soldier in Hillah, 60 miles (97 km) south of the capital in Babil province.

**April 17, 2006:** Gunmen killed a soldier while he was heading to work in Hawija, 43 miles (70 km) southwest of Kirkuk. Gunmen killed a policeman and wounded two others in Tikrit, 110 miles (175 km) north of Baghdad, local officials said. The body of a Basra policeman kidnapped three days earlier was found near the Iranian border, Basra police Capt. Mushtaq Khazim said.

**April 18, 2006:** A bomb exploded at a Baghdad cafe frequented by policemen, killing at least seven people, including three policemen, and wounding more than 20, said police Capt. Ali al-Obeidi. In Basra, a policeman was gunned down in a drive-by shooting. In Irbil, an Iraqi policeman was gunned down and six civilians were wounded in a drive-by shooting.

**April 19, 2006:** A police officer was shot dead in Baquba.

**April 20, 2006:** Two policemen were killed in a roadside bombing against a passing patrol in Al-Khalis, 60 miles (80 km) northeast of Baghdad. One policeman was killed and two others wounded in a similar roadside bombing also against a police patrol in the restive city of Baquba, 36 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad. Two policemen were killed and four others wounded when a roadside bomb hit their patrol in Tal Afar, about 260 miles (420 km) northwest of Baghdad, a medical source said.

**April 21, 2006:** Shiite politicians agreed to nominate Nuri al-Maliki as prime minister, replacing the incumbent Ibrahim al-Jaafari, in a bid to clear the way for a long-delayed new government, two Shiite officials said. In Khalis, 50 miles (80 km) north of Baghdad, a drive-by shooting killed a policeman walking on a street of the city, police said. In Baquba, 35 miles (60 km) northeast of the capital, a policeman was shot dead as he was on his way home. In Mosul, 225 miles (360 km) northwest of the capital, four policemen were killed and three others were wounded including a civilian when a patrol hit a roadside bomb, police said. In Tikrit, five police commandos, dressed in civilian clothes, were ambushed and shot dead by gunmen who opened fire on their car, police said. Six off-duty Iraqi soldiers were captured and shot execution-style outside a restaurant in Beiji in northern Iraq, said police Capt. Arkan Ali.

**April 22, 2006:** Iraq's parliament elected incumbent President Jalal Talabani, a Kurd, for a second term as politicians began putting together a national unity government after four months of deadlock. In Baghdad's northern district of Azamiyah, unidentified gunmen shot up a police patrol, killing one officer.

**April 23, 2006:** The Iraqi National Police graduated 1,143 recruits from the Public Order Division Numaniyah Police Academy. An Iraqi soldier was killed and two others wounded when a roadside bomb hit their patrol on the main road between Latifiya and Iskandariya, 25 miles (40 km) south of Baghdad, police said. A roadside bomb targeting a convoy carrying a provincial police commander missed him but killed two policemen and wounded another near Beiji, prompting local officials to impose a curfew.

**April 24, 2006:** Five police officers and 10 other Iraqis died in a car bombing outside a restaurant in the Bab al-Muadham neighborhood of central Baghdad, according to police Col. Salam Muhsin. Thirty-two bodies of Iraqi police and security forces recruits from Ramadi were discovered in two areas of Baghdad, Interior Ministry sources said. Gunmen killed two Iraqi soldiers near Balad, 50 miles (80 km) north of Baghdad, the military said. Four policemen and two insurgents were killed in clashes at a checkpoint between in Tal Qasir, 125 miles (200 km) north of Baghdad on the road between Tikrit and Tuz, an officer said. Gunmen killed a soldier working in the Oil Facility Protection Service on the main road between Tikrit and Kirkuk, police said.

**April 25, 2006:** Gunmen shot dead two soldiers and a policeman who were off duty near Kirkuk, 155 miles (250 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**April 26, 2006:** For only the second time at the Iraqi Military Academy Al Rustamiyah, a class of 158 newly commissioned lieutenants graduated the 12-month Officer Basic Course. Gunmen stormed the house of and killed an Iraqi Army officer in Baghdad. U.S. forces killed four Iraqi police commandos by mistake in Samarra, 62 miles (100 km) north of Baghdad, a joint U.S. and Iraqi military center said.

**April 27, 2006:** A roadside bomb in Baghdad hit an Iraqi Army patrol killing one soldier, police said. At least seven Iraqi policemen and a civilian were killed and at least six police and two civilians were wounded in a series of attacks on police checkpoints in Baquba, 35 miles (56 km) northeast of Baghdad, police said. In Ramadi, 70 miles (113 km) west of Baghdad, an Iraqi soldier was killed in a firefight with insurgents.

**April 28, 2006:** A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi police patrol exploded in southwestern Baghdad killing one policeman and wounding two others, said police Capt. Jamil Hussein. In Fallujah, two policemen were killed by a roadside bomb targeting their patrol.

**April 29, 2006:** Attackers grabbed a Sunni Arab policeman and his brother and shot both of them dead outside their home to the south of Baghdad. One police commando was killed and three others wounded by a roadside bomb targeting their patrol in northwestern Baghdad's Al-Ghazalia neighborhood. Two Iraqi army soldiers were killed and six others wounded when insurgents opened fire on their convoy in Suwera, southeast of Baghdad, an interior ministry official said. Two Iraqi police officers were killed, when a roadside bomb hit a convoy carrying the police chief of the northern oil town of Baiji, police said.

**April 30, 2006:** A policeman was shot on his way to work in the northern town of Samarra. In Ramadi, 70 miles (113 km) west of Baghdad, gunmen attacked three policemen traveling in a car carrying the salaries of police in Fallujah, killing one, wounding another, and kidnapping the third with the bag of money, police said.

**May 2, 2006:** Bastogne Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 327<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division turned over responsibility for much of Kirkuk's battlespace to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division, Nisser Battalion. The bodies of four Iraqi soldiers from Fallujah who graduated from basic training as part of the first all-Sunni class on April 30 were found in Ramadi, officials said.

**May 3, 2006:** Iraqi lawmakers convened the first working session of parliament since it was elected in December. The Iraqi Ground Forces Command—the operational fighting headquarters for the Iraqi Army—opened a new, state-of-the-art Joint Operations Center at Camp Victory. Nearly 1,500 Iraqi soldiers and police officers team together to conduct Operation Lion's Hunt. The goal of the operation was to introduce a strong Iraqi Security Force presence in Tikrit and to clean out pockets of terrorists hiding among the residents. Soldiers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Iraqi Army Division assumed the lead in security operations in and around Sinjar in Western Ninevah Province. In Baquba, 40 miles (65 km) northeast of Baghdad, a police officer was killed and three wounded as they were disarming a bomb when a second bomb exploded nearby in an apparent ambush, police said. Also in Baquba, gunmen attacked a police checkpoint killing a police officer, police said. Police found the bodies of three soldiers from Fallujah who had been shot and dumped in Khaldiya, a city west of their hometown, said Dr. Rafie Mahmoud. A suicide bomber blew himself up while standing in a line of recruits outside

Fallujah's police headquarters, killing 15 people and wounding 30, said police 1st Lt. Omar Ahmed. Thirteen of the dead were recruits and two were policemen, Ahmed said. In Yusufiya, 9 miles (15 km) south of Baghdad, a policeman was killed and two others wounded, including a civilian, when a roadside bomb hit their patrol, police said. Gunmen killed an Iraqi soldier near Tikrit, 175 km (110 miles) north of Baghdad, said the Joint Coordination Centre run by the U.S. and Iraqi militaries.

**May 4, 2006:** Soldiers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division along with 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 320<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, 506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment's Military Transition Team, detained an al-Qaeda in Iraq cell leader and sever other anti-Iraqi forces in two different raids in the Adhamiyah area. In Baghdad, Brigadier General Mohammed Raza Abdellatiff, who was in charge of logistics for the Iraqi army in Baghdad, was shot dead as he was driving to work. Gunmen killed Muhammed Ridha, a brigadier in the Defence Ministry, in the capital's Yarmouk district, police said. A police major was killed by gunmen near his house in Diwaniya, 110 miles (180 km) south of Baghdad, police said. Two Iraqi soldiers were killed by gunmen near Balad, 50 miles (80 km) north of Baghdad, police said. A policeman and a civilian were killed when they tried to rescue a leading businessman in Tikrit, 110 miles (175 km) north of Baghdad, from unidentified gunmen kidnappers.

**May 5, 2006:** In Kadimiyah, a Shiite neighborhood of north Baghdad, gunmen killed an Iraqi army major, an Interior Ministry official said. North of the capital, two policemen were killed when their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb in the town of Mugdadiyah, police said.

**May 6, 2006:** Iraqi National Police from 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> National Police Division and US soldiers conducted Operation United Front in an effort to capture anti-Iraqi forces and seize weapons caches in the neighborhood of Ameriya, in western Baghdad. A suicide bomber wearing an Iraqi army uniform blew himself up on an Iraqi military base in Tikrit, killing at least three Iraqi officers, said Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Abdul-Aziz Mohammed Jassim. Roadside bombs hit two Iraqi police patrol in Baghdad, killing one officer and wounding two policemen six civilians, police said. Two policemen were killed when a roadside bomb struck their vehicle in Samarra, 78 miles (125 km) north of Baghdad. Fighting between an Iraqi military patrol and insurgents killed two soldiers and three militants in Youssifiyah, 12 miles (19 km) south of Baghdad. A bomb in a parked car exploded, killing two policemen and an Iraqi soldier and wounding four civilians about 30 miles (48 km) north of Baquba, police said.

**May 7, 2006:** Nearly 250 Kurdish guards graduated from a Kurdish Correctional Officers Course, completing their first step toward assuming day-to-day operations at the Fort Suse Theater Internment Facility. Authorities in Baghdad said the bodies of at least 28 people, including six policemen, were found in and around the capital as victims of sectarian strife. Many were found tied up, shot and dumped in various neighborhoods. A police sergeant was shot dead as he left home in Baghdad's mainly Shiite neighborhood of Kamaliya. A roadside bomb hit a police patrol in eastern Mosul, killing three policemen and wounding another, said police Maj. Gen. Wathiq Mohammed Abdul-Qadir.

**May 8, 2006:** In Fallujah, a total of 246 Iraqi men from Fallujah and surrounding villages were accepted for recruit training after a three-day recruiting drive. Two policemen died when a car bomb exploded near a police patrol in the northern part of Baghdad. Three Iraqi police commandos kidnapped as they drove to work on May 5th were found shot to death south of Baghdad, Iraqi police said.

**May 9, 2006:** In Al Furat, 14 miles (23 km) northwest of Ramadi, more than 78 Iraqi men were accepted for recruit training in Iraqi Army. A roadside bomb hit a police car in Baghdad, killing one officer and wounding two. Gunmen killed four police officers while they were driving out of police headquarters in the city of Ramadi, 68 miles (110 km) west of Baghdad, police said. Gunmen killed an Iraqi soldier and wounded two others on the main road between Tikrit and Kirkuk, 155 miles (250 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**May 10, 2006:** Soldiers from 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 67<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment, along with elements of 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> National Police Division, found a large weapons cache in eastern Baghdad. Gunmen killed Lieutenant Colonel Kanan Hasan, an aide to the head of Baquba's Criminal Intelligence Directorate, along with two body guards, while he was heading to work, police said. In Yarmouk, unknown gunmen shot dead two traffic policemen, including a first lieutenant. A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol near the central neighborhood of Karrada killed one soldier.

**May 11, 2006:** In Kirkuk, gunmen ambushed and killed a police lieutenant colonel. South of Baghdad, police found the body of a policeman with his hands bound, signs of torture and shot in the head. In the north, two Iraqi soldiers were killed and four wounded when a roadside bomb went off near an army patrol.

**May 12, 2006:** The bodies of four people in military uniform, two of them beheaded, were found in Khan Bani Saad, near Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad. An Iraqi soldier was shot dead in Al-Adel district, eastern Baghdad, after being attacked by militants. Four Iraqi soldiers were killed and seven civilians were wounded in clashes between the Iraqi army and insurgents in the town of Dhuluiya, 25 miles (40 km) north of Baghdad, police said. Clashes erupted between two Iraqi army units following a roadside bombing near Duluiyah, about 45 miles (72 km) north of the capital, and Iraqi police said a Shiite soldier was killed in an exchange of fire with a Kurdish unit.

**May 13, 2006:** The Iraqi Signal School at Taji Military Training Base certified 109 new signal professionals in a graduation ceremony that marked the completion of the school's fifth class since it opened in December 2005. Gunmen ambushed and killed two policemen and wounded two others in the city of Mosul, 240 miles (390 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**May 14, 2006:** Three policemen were killed when their patrol was targeted by a bomb in the traditional Sunni neighbourhood of Adhamiyah in north Baghdad. Ten civilians and three other police officers were injured.

**May 15, 2006:** Members of the Garamsha tribe killed three policemen in an attack near Basra, 342 miles (550 km) south of Baghdad, a local official said. Five other policemen went missing. The attack came after a tribal leader was shot dead near Basra. In Mosul, one policeman was killed and two were wounded when a bomb exploded near a house where gunmen earlier killed six members of the same family, police said. The body of Emad al-Massoudi, a policeman who was abducted by gunmen two days ago, was found with gunshot wounds, bearing signs of torture, on the outskirts of Kerbala, 68 miles (110 km) southwest of Baghdad, police said.

**May 16, 2006:** Iraqi police discovered four corpses in different areas of Baghdad, including the body of a police officer who had been reported kidnapped on May 15th. Gunmen in eastern Baghdad killed police 1st Sgt. Latif Abdullah, who worked in Interior Ministry intelligence. In Kirkuk, two brothers, both of them police officers, were killed by gunmen as they drove to work.

**May 17, 2006:** In Baquba, insurgents killed one man and wounded another at a bakery and subsequently bombed the site killing three policemen and wounding five others. An Iraqi officer was killed and two others injured in an explosion as their patrol vehicle was passing by the Al-Malemeen area in Diyali province, northeast Baghdad, Iraqi police said. Two policemen were killed in a drive-by shooting in the northern city of Mosul, police said. One Iraqi soldier was killed and four wounded when a roadside bomb struck their convoy in Kirkuk, police said.

**May 18, 2006:** In northern Baghdad, seven people, including four policemen, were killed and four other people wounded when a car bomb targeting a police patrol exploded, police said. A policeman was killed and three wounded when a roadside bomb went off near a convoy of U.S. military and Iraqi police vehicles near the Shi'ite city of Najaf, 99 miles (160 km) south of Baghdad, police said. In Fallujah, four policemen were killed in clashes with insurgents, said Dr. Mohammed Ismail of the the western town's hospital.

**May 19, 2006:** One policeman was killed and seven others wounded in three separate attacks on police in the city of Najaf, 100 miles (160 km) south of Baghdad, police said.

**May 20, 2006:** Shi'ite Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki pledged to rein in violence and heal Iraq's sectarian wounds after his unity government was inaugurated in parliament. In the town of Qaim, near the Syrian border, a suicide bomber detonated his explosive-packed vest inside a police station killing five policemen and wounding 10, police said. An Iraqi army captain and his wife were shot dead in their car by unknown gunmen in Baquba, 37 miles (60 km) northeast of Baghdad. Police said the couple's three children were wounded. Police found the body of a

policeman who had been kidnapped hours earlier near Falluja, 31 miles (50 km) west of Baghdad, police said.

**May 21, 2006:** An Iraqi soldier was killed and 10 wounded when gunmen attacked checkpoints around their army base in Dhuluiya, 40 miles (60 km) north of Baghdad, Iraqi officers said. Local police, describing the army unit as made up largely of ethnic Kurds, put the army's casualty toll higher. One Iraqi policeman and one insurgent died in clashes that erupted near the town of Iskandariya, south of Baghdad, when insurgents tried to blow up a pipeline feeding a power station, police said. Gunmen killed two policemen working in the Oil Protection Facilities in the town of Riyadh, 40 miles (60 km) southwest of Kirkuk, police said.

**May 22, 2006:** Four policemen were killed when a roadside bomb went off near a joint U.S. forces/Iraqi police patrol in Jurf al-Sakhar, about 53 miles (85 km) south of Baghdad, police said. One policeman died in hospital after gunmen shot at him in central Hawija, 43 miles (70 km) southwest of Kirkuk, police said. Police Lieutenant Nazem Al-Obaidi, chief of the citizenship and passports department in Kirkuk was gunned dead by a group of unidentified gunmen on the Baghdad road near Al-Mansour Mosque, a senior official at the Kirkuk Police Department said. Gunmen killed Colonel Basheer Qadoori from Samarra police in a drive-by shooting in central Samarra, 62 miles (100 km) north of Baghdad, police said.

**May 23, 2006:** A policeman was gunned down as he was walking to work in the restive Baghdad neighborhood of Amiriya. A roadside bomb went off alongside an Iraqi police patrol that was winding its way through a shopping district in the New Baghdad area of the capital. The blast killed three people, including one policeman, and wounded six.

**May 24, 2006:** In Baghdad, a police officer was killed by unknown assailants in a drive-by shooting, police said. Gunmen shot dead General Ahmed Dawod, a deputy chief of Baghdad municipality's protection units, hospital and municipal officials said. Unidentified gunmen opened fire on an Iraqi military highway checkpoint near the U.S. military base north of Baghdad killing one soldier and wounding two, said Iraqi Army Lt. Abbas Kamil. Four gunmen and two members of the Iraqi security forces were killed in clashes that erupted during a raid and search operation by army and police in the town of Yusufiya, 9 miles (15 km) south of Baghdad, police said. Thirty-eight gunmen were detained in the two-day operation.