


IRAQ: THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

Introduction

Focus

This *News in Review* feature examines the ongoing struggle of the United States and its coalition partners to bring stability to Iraq. While the U.S. and British armies were able to end formal military operations within two months of entering Iraq, attempts to restore the country's government and infrastructure have proven to be far more challenging. Combine this with ongoing attacks from a difficult-to-determine enemy, and it is likely that there will be no easy solutions to the problems in Iraq.

 Sections marked with this symbol indicate content suitable for younger viewers.

The swift conquest of Iraq by U.S. and British forces left many in awe of the powerful efficiency of two of the world's pre-eminent military powers. Within two months, the conquering armies managed to smash the Iraqi army, including the elite Republican Guard, and send Saddam Hussein into hiding. Both armies proved their expertise in military assault, invasion, and occupation. However, in the months that followed it became clear that, while the conquering armies were proficient in terms of military planning and execution, their skills in the area of nation-building were highly suspect.

It was a chaotic summer for the U.S. administrator of Iraq, Paul Bremer. With the establishment of the Iraq Governing Council, Bremer hoped to see the Iraqi people rally around the democratic initiatives introduced by U.S. authorities. Instead, authorities experienced a lack of co-operation from the Iraqi people and faced acts of sabotage that thwarted U.S. efforts to put Iraq back on its feet. One notable act of sabotage was the bombing of an export oil pipeline between Iraq and Turkey one day after it was put online. There were also a number of attacks on U.S. and coalition forces. With military operations ending on May 1, the occupying army became the target of a new and vigorous guerrilla war. Ambushes on U.S. soldiers became a daily occurrence in the summer of 2003. The American death toll rose to over 170 between May and October. Most of the ambushes took place in an area north and west of Baghdad known as the Sunni Triangle.

While the attacks on soldiers were

taking place, enemies of the new Iraq selected other targets. On August 7, the Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad was levelled by a car bomb, killing 19 people and injuring scores of others. On August 19, a suicide bomber crashed a flatbed truck loaded with explosives into the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, killing 23 people, including Sergio Vieira de Mello, the top U.N. diplomat in Iraq.

Ten days later, in the holy city of Najaf, a pair of car bombs exploded at the Shrine of Imam Ali, the holiest site for Shiite Muslims outside of Mecca. The bombs were detonated just after Friday prayers when the area outside the mosque was packed with worshippers. Over 100 people died, including a prominent ayatollah (religious leader and scholar). Then, on September 20, Aqila al-Hashimi, one of three females on Iraq's 25 member Governing Council, was attacked by gunmen outside her home. Five days later, she died from her injuries.

Despite some arrests, authorities are still in a quandary as to who exactly is responsible for the violence. While the U.S. government has consistently blamed the likes of Al Qaeda and Saddam loyalists, the fact remains that the precise identity of the real enemy has yet to be determined. Amid the chaos of post-war Iraq, the search for stability is giving way to a growing sense of unease. Citizens are wondering where and when the next attacks will occur.

Combine the trend of chaotic violence with the inability of U.S. and coalition forces to restore basic infrastructure to the Iraqi people and one

Definition

Guerrilla war means “little war” and refers to a war waged by irregular forces emphasizing speed and secrecy. This type of warfare can be very destructive and difficult for larger, better-equipped regular military forces to combat.

Did you know . . .

Sunni and Shi'a refer to the two largest branches of Islam? In many nations the sects get along, but in others there is considerable tension and violence.

cannot help but wonder if disaster is looming. Modern necessities like electricity and water have not been completely restored to all of the people of Iraq. Doctors talk of a lack of medical supplies. Business people complain of restricted movement of goods. The overall mood of many Iraqis can be summed up in one word: disappointment. While the majority are glad to see the end of Saddam Hussein’s regime, they long for stability. They want food, medicine, water, and electricity. Until the United States and its coalition partners can provide these things for the people of Iraq, there will be no stability.

In an effort to come to terms with this growing sense of discontent, U.S. President George W. Bush has made two gestures that could change the course of events. First, Bush has asked Congress for \$87-billion for the “The War on Terror.” U.S. Administrator Paul Bremer hopes that a good portion of this money will be put into the

reconstruction of Iraq. Second, Bush has proposed a United Nations Security Council resolution that would see the U.N. play an active role in the new Iraq. On September 23, Bush addressed the U.N. General Assembly, saying, “Now the nation of Iraq needs and deserves our aid, and all nations of goodwill should step forward and provide that support” (*Toronto Star*, September 24).

The bottom line is this: Iraq is in desperate need of reconstruction, otherwise the unknown enemy—groups like those responsible for the bombings of the Jordanian embassy, U.N. headquarters, the Shrine of Imam Ali, and the assassination of Aqila al-Hashimi—will continue to grow and destabilize the nation. Despite the tepid response of some U.N. members to Bush’s appeal for aid, it would be hard to imagine that the world’s greatest nation-building agency would let squabbling with the U.S. get in the way of helping the people of Iraq.

Questions

1. What evidence is there that the U.S. and the coalition are struggling to bring stability to Iraq? Please give two examples.
2. One of the main complaints of the U.S. administrators in Iraq is a lack of co-operation from the Iraqi people. Some think that co-operation will not come until the authorities put Iraq back on its feet. What steps do the administrators need to take in order to restore Iraq to a reasonable footing with other nations?
3. What is U.S. President Bush’s plan to improve the situation in Iraq?
4. Should the U.N. play a more active role in the rebuilding of Iraq? Explain your answer.
5. At this stage, do you see any role for Canada in Iraq? Explain.

IRAQ: THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

Video Review

Carefully respond to the questions while viewing the video.

1. How many weeks did it take for the U.S. to defeat Saddam Hussein?

2. What success has the U.S. had in finding weapons of mass destruction?

3. What was the fate of Saddam's sons Uday and Qusay?

4. What evidence is there that the war in Iraq is not really over?

5. What organizations have been targets of terrorist bombings in Iraq?

6. What groups appear to make up the resistance to U.S. forces?

7. Why does the U.S. fear Sunni-Shi'a conflict?

8. How does the U.S. view the role of the U.N. in Iraq?

9. Briefly describe current conditions in Baghdad.

IRAQ: THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

Many Enemies, Any Target

Further Research

Useful maps on Iraq and the military situation may be found at www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2003/iraq/maps.

Maintaining order in Iraq has been a tremendous challenge for the U.S. and their coalition partners. Besides fundamental problems in infrastructure repair and reconstruction, military and civilian groups have been targeted by an elusive enemy within Iraq. In fact, the U.S. military, working with the Iraqi police, is puzzled as to who is actually responsible for the acts of aggression and sabotage that continue to destabilize the nation. What is clear is that some groups are staging daily ambushes on U.S. and coalition targets as well as destroying water mains and oil pipelines. According to some sources, the ambushes and acts of sabotage are extremely well organized, suggesting that those participating in the attacks may have military training. Couple this with the intensely well organized suicide bombings of the Jordanian Embassy, U.N. headquarters in Baghdad, and the Shrine of Imam Ali, and one can see the colossal task facing the U.S. administration and the Iraqi police. The bombings are of particular concern because the targets—a diplomatic headquarters, a humanitarian agency, and a sacred religious site—demonstrate the desire to attack any target, in order to destabilize Iraq. The following is a brief list of some of the enemies of the new Iraq.

Former Ba'ath Party Members

The Ba'ath Party came to power in 1968, with Saddam Hussein eventually rising through the ranks and becoming the president of Iraq in 1979. Despite the fact that the majority of the members of this party were Sunnis, in a nation with a majority of Shi'ites,

Ba'athists were able to stay in power until the U.S. and British invasion of 2003. While it would be difficult for U.S. forces to identify many Ba'ath Party members, others are easier to spot. Early in the war effort, the U.S. military produced a deck of 55 playing cards depicting the most-wanted members of Saddam's government. With the arrest of ex-Iraqi defence minister Sultan Hashim Ahmad on September 20, 2003, 38 of the 55 most-wanted were either in custody or dead. Saddam Hussein, the ace of spades in the deck, remains at large.

Ba'athists have not only been identified as enemies to the occupying armies. They are also the prime suspects in the bombing of the Shrine of Imam Ali. In late August, Iraqi police rounded up about 80 people suspected in the bombing. Authorities believe the suspects were part of a conspiracy to assassinate Ayatollah Mohammad Bakr al-Hakim, who some feel had been too co-operative with the U.S.

Former Members of the Iraqi Army

While U.S. and British forces managed to defeat Iraqi forces in under two months, many members of the army avoided capture and are currently being protected by citizens in Iraq; particularly in an area north and west of Baghdad known as the Sunni Triangle. Authorities believe that the ambushes against U.S. and coalition forces are being carried out by disenfranchised members of the military. This would explain the apparent organization, skill, and execution evident in the attacks. Some groups involved in specific

ambushes are as large as 50. U.S. forces have reported as many as a dozen attacks on their troops on any given day.

Other Groups Operating in the Sunni Triangle

As mentioned above, there is an area in Iraq called the Sunni Triangle, which stretches from Baghdad, west to Ramadi, and north to Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit. This is the region where U.S. troops have had to deal with remote-control-detonated bombs, ambushes, and hit-and-run attacks. The region in question is predominantly Sunni, surrounded by a majority of Shi'ites in the rest of Iraq. Those attacking U.S. troops in the Sunni Triangle may be religious zealots, ex-Iraqi army, former Ba'athists, people who are generally opposed to the U.S. army presence, or a mix of all of these groups.

Outside the Sunni triangle, the most well known Sunni extremist group is Ansar-al-Islam. This group operates in the northern provinces of Iraq and is vehemently opposed to human rights for Kurds and the U.S. military presence in the region.

Rival Shi'ite Factions

The Shi'ite majority have been at odds with each other over the future of Iraq. While some are promoting co-operation with the occupying forces, others are violently opposed to any kind of co-operation with the U.S. or its coalition partners.

Al Qaeda

Pinpointing the presence of the infamous terrorist organization known as Al Qaeda has been difficult for U.S. authorities in Iraq. However, in just about every incidence of small- or large-scale terrorist activity, the Americans have been quick to point to Al Qaeda involvement. If this is the case, Al Qaeda is working with other Iraqi groups to push forward its agenda of terrorizing the U.S. army and citizens who choose to co-operate with the U.S.

Foreign Terrorists

Some believe that foreign terrorists have crossed the porous Iraqi border to "wage war against the infidel." These foreign groups—if they are in fact in Iraq—may be getting into Iraq via Syria or Iran. News reports in the summer of 2003 spoke of 3000 "missing" Saudis who allegedly made their way to Iraq to join in the guerrilla war against the U.S. While authorities have not been able to confirm or refute this claim, the evidence, mainly the daily guerrilla attacks on the occupying forces, suggests that these groups may be in Iraq.

Despite the ambiguity surrounding the enemy in Iraq, one thing is clear: some groups are seeking to destabilize Iraq in order to drive the U.S. and the coalition out of the region. U.S. Administrator Paul Bremer has made it clear that the U.S. is in Iraq for the long haul. Most of all, the United States will not leave Iraq until the Governing Council writes a constitution and democratic elections can be held. When this task will be accomplished is still a matter of speculation.

Questions

1. What is particularly disturbing about the attacks against the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad and the Shrine of Imam Ali?

2. Make a chart in your notebook that looks like the one below. Based on your reading, fill in the chart:

Name of Group	Target of Attacks	Activities

3. What democratic reforms does the U.S. hope will bring stability to Iraq?

IRAQ: THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

A Tribute to Those Who Died

Did you know . . .

After the bombing of the U.N. headquarters, the U.N. reduced its workers in Iraq from 600 to under 50? Do you agree with this move? Explain.

At around 4:00 p.m. on August 19, 2003, a flatbed truck loaded with munitions crashed into the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad. It set off an explosion that brought devastation to the Canal Hotel, which housed the U.N., and to the efforts of the humanitarian mission of the world body. The truck bombing caused the deaths of 23 people. Many of the dead were distinguished humanitarians, including the lead envoy for the Iraq mission, Sergio Vieira de Mello, and two Canadian aid workers, Christopher Klein-Beekman and Gillian Clark. A brief look at their lives indicates their intense commitment to humanity.

Sergio Vieira de Mello

Age: 55

Nationality: Brazilian

Occupation: United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Special envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello was on a four-month leave of absence from his job as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. He was asked by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to go to Iraq to help rebuild the nation in the post-Saddam era. He had made inroads early into his mission—shuttling around the Middle East, drumming up support for the new Governing Council and using his diplomatic skills to set the stage for local stability. On August 19, while he was meeting with three of his top aides, a truck bomb slammed into the brick and stucco wall just below his office, triggering a massive explosion. It levelled a good portion of the Canal Hotel—the home of the United Nations in

Baghdad. So ended the life of a man who had consistently demonstrated his commitment to the common good—killed in an act of brutal violence by a mysterious enemy who picked a humanitarian agency as its target.

Sergio Vieira de Mello had a distinguished career with the United Nations. After joining the U.N. in 1969, he assumed a position with the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. He served in humanitarian and peace-keeping missions in Bangladesh, Sudan, Cyprus, Mozambique, and Peru before earning his first high-profile job as the Senior Political Adviser to U.N. forces in Lebanon. Vieira de Mello proved his value as a seasoned diplomat and was later posted to global hot spots like Cambodia, Kosovo, and East Timor. It was his work in Kosovo and East Timor in particular that demonstrated his competence in the field of humanitarian aid and diplomacy. Based on his exceptional skill in the field of diplomatic relations, Vieira de Mello was appointed U.N. High Commissioner of Human Rights in 2002.

What made Vieira de Mello such a valued member of the U.N. staff wherever he went was his fearlessness in the face of complex problems in areas that were experiencing tremendous strife. His calm demeanour and keen problem-solving sense proved invaluable throughout his career. In the face of tremendous adversity, Vieira de Mello accomplished what seemed to be the impossible. Some of his greatest accomplishments: he put together a refugee protection and resettlement scheme for Vietnamese refugees; he established a U.N. civil administration

Further Research

To learn more about the aid organizations mentioned in this story, consider a visit to UNICEF (www.unicef.org), U.N. High Commission for Human Rights (www.unhcr.ch/), and the Christian Children's Fund of Canada (www.ccfcanada.ca).

in Kosovo; he oversaw the transition of political power in East Timor.

Vieira de Mello was viewed as a true leader and the United Nations turned to him in times of crisis. He used his strengths and experience to help end humanitarian crises in several parts of the world. As a diplomat he was used to bringing different sides together to solve problems. To many in the U.N. the world lost an important leader and humanitarian on August 19, 2003.

Perhaps his legacy is best summarized by a note posted on the Web site of the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights that states, "His friends and colleagues at the United Nations and elsewhere will best honour his memory by persevering in the humanitarian and human rights work to which Sergio was so committed."

Christopher Klein-Beekman

Age: 31

Nationality: Canadian

Occupation: UNICEF Programme Co-ordinator in Iraq

At the funeral of Chris Klein-Beekman in Courtenay, B.C., UNICEF Iraq's director of operations, Carel De Rooy, announced that, besides the evident grief of Klein-Beekman's family and friends, "... the children of Iraq have also lost someone very precious to them." UNICEF is the United Nations Children's Fund, whose objective is to advance the rights of children in the areas of health, education, equality, and protection around the world. Klein-Beekman started as a UNICEF volunteer before becoming a staff member in 1997. He was posted to Ethiopia, Kosovo, and, in May 2002, he was made UNICEF programme co-ordinator in Iraq. Klein-Beekman was directing his energy toward major projects dealing with water, sanitation, health,

immunization, education, and child protection at the time of his death. His family, friends, and colleagues expressed their tremendous pride in his work with children around the world. This feeling was captured by UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy, who said, "We can do no more to honour the memories of those who died than rededicate ourselves to the cause to which they gave their lives. We will miss you, Chris." (Source: Canada News Wire - www.newswire.ca/releases/August2003/31/c6222)

Chris Klein-Beekman made tremendous sacrifices in his short life. He selflessly fought for the rights of children who needed an advocate. On the day he died, it is likely that he, along with a slew of other aid workers, was preparing for an evening at the office. He was trying to work with his team to put effective programs in place for the children of Iraq. Now, based on the grisly attack on the U.N. in Baghdad, the children of Iraq will have to wait.

Gillian Clark

Age: 47

Nationality: Dual Citizen - Canada and the United Kingdom

Occupation: Aid Worker for Christian Children's Fund (CCF)

Jill Clark was attending a meeting of non-governmental organizations at the U.N. headquarters in Iraq on August 19, 2003. She was called on by the Christian Children's Fund (CCF) to join a UNICEF-funded project to assess the needs of the children of Baghdad. Her experience as a long-time child-protection worker promised to make her observations important to the programming efforts of UNICEF. Unfortunately, while attending a meeting to help those who needed help the most, Jill Clark lost her life.

Clark established a strong career in working with children. She worked with projects like Save the Children, International Rescue Committee, and Oxfam. Shortly after Clark's death, CCF Vice President Betty J. Forbes announced, "The CCF family is deeply

saddened by the death of Jill Clark, a talented, dedicated, and experienced child-protection specialist. Her death is a great loss to the humanitarian aid community." (Source: [www.ccfcanada.ca/ Iraq/ CCF_WORKER_KILLED_IN_IRAQ](http://www.ccfcanada.ca/Iraq/CCF_WORKER_KILLED_IN_IRAQ))

Responding

1. A previously unknown group called The Armed Vanguard of Mohammad's Second Army claimed responsibility for the bombing of the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad. Authorities have not been able to confirm the existence of the group and the authenticity of their claim. For Sergio Vieira de Mello, Chris Klein-Beekman, and Jill Clark, a terrorist attack on the U.N. building was the furthest thing from their minds. Why weren't they more worried? (Hint: review the type of work they were involved in.)

2. Some reports identified the U.N. building as a "soft target" for terrorists, indicating that the humanitarian headquarters was lightly guarded and easy for terrorists to attack. Why didn't the U.N. ensure that their headquarters was more heavily guarded? (Hint: once again, review the nature of the U.N.'s work in Iraq.)

3. Given the nature of the work and the danger that accompanies it, why are so many people willing to dedicate their lives to improving life in poorer, war-torn nations? Does this kind of challenge appeal to you? Explain.

IRAQ: THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

Tony Blair and the Hutton Inquiry

Further Research

In order to keep up with the changing events around this story, you might consider visiting the Web site of the British Prime Minister, where you can e-mail Prime Minister Blair (www.pm.gov.uk) or the BBC (www.bbc.co.uk).

The final draft of the dossier outlining the rationale of British Prime Minister Tony Blair's government for going to war with Iraq was released in September 2002. While subject to a great deal of public scrutiny immediately after its release, it wasn't until the following spring that the content of the dossier was really put into question. Andrew Gilligan of the BBC aired a report that claimed that the Blair government "sexed up" the dossier to make the case for war more believable. Citing an anonymous government source, Gilligan reported that the people who drafted the report included information that was probably false—most notably the claim that Saddam Hussein's forces could launch short-range chemical and biological weapons within 45 minutes.

Concerned by the controversy following the BBC report, David Kelly, a weapons expert for the Ministry of Defence, acknowledged to his supervisors that he had met with Andrew Gilligan. In a letter to one of his superiors, Kelly admitted to meeting with Gilligan but not to discussing the dossier. However, Kelly's name was in play and the Blair government was furious with "the anonymous source" that threw the government's war effort into disrepute. Kelly became the subject of intense suspicion, with the government eventually taking the unusual step of leaking his name to the media and identifying him as the source for Gilligan's story. Based on a slew of new accusations, Kelly was called to testify before the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Intelligence and Security Committee. He admitted that he had talked to the BBC but insisted that he was not the primary source for

Gilligan's report. Two days later, a disheartened Kelly walked to a park, sat on a bench, took a high dose of prescription painkillers, and slit his left wrist. He was found dead the next morning.

David Kelly's death set off a political firestorm in Britain. Immediately after Kelly's death, Prime Minister Tony Blair called a public inquiry into the affair. The Hutton Inquiry investigated in August and September 2003. Lord Hutton called a number of high-profile witnesses, including Tony Blair himself. The highlights of the inquiry can be summarized as follows:

- David Kelly was confirmed as the source for the BBC story.
- The inquiry closely examined the workings of government agencies and the BBC. The inquiry gave the public a rare glimpse at how the British government deals with the media and how the media deal with government.
- The decision to leak Kelly's name to the media was revealed in meticulous detail. Many wondered if the decision made Kelly the scapegoat for a British invasion that yielded no weapons of mass destruction at all, let alone weapons that could hit their target within 45 minutes. People also wondered if the treatment of Kelly by the government, and then by the media, drove him to his death.
- Andrew Gilligan agreed that his report contained one inaccuracy; namely the suggestion that the British government wilfully published a dossier with information that they knew to be false.
- In a dramatic day of testimony, Blair defended the government's dossier and the actions of his staff regarding

the Iraq war effort. Blair said that if he knowingly agreed to a dossier that was factually incorrect, the British people should expect his resignation.

- In the final days of the inquiry, lawyers representing Kelly's family testified that Britain had lost its greatest weapons expert. They referred to the affair as a "cynical abuse of power which deserves the strongest possible condemnation." In their eyes, Kelly became a government pawn forced to

take the fall for a decision to enter a war for which proper grounds were never established.

Hutton began compiling his report after six weeks of testimony with a release date set for fall 2003. The inquiry contributed to the resignation of Blair's media chief, Alistair Campbell, and many wonder, once the final draft of the report is released, if more heads will roll.

Activity

The death of David Kelly and the Hutton Inquiry highlight some important ethical issues. Work with a partner and try to come up with some answers to the following questions. Use the blank space to record your ideas. Be prepared to share your responses.

1. Was it misleading for the government to publish a dossier that claimed that Saddam Hussein's government could launch weapons of mass destruction within 45 minutes on short-range targets?

2. Did Kelly act inappropriately in speaking with Andrew Gilligan in the first place?

3. Should the government have released Kelly's name to the media?

4. What responsibility does the British government hold in the death of David Kelly?

IRAQ: THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

Final Activity: The Cost of War

Review the facts listed below and complete the activities listed at the end of each section. Perhaps the facts and figures may put the true cost of the war with Iraq in perspective.

Section 1:

Armed Forces

- U.S. – approximately 145 000
- Britain – approximately 50 000
- Australia – approximately 2000

Casualties

- U.S. soldiers killed: 317*
- U.S. soldiers killed since the end of formal military operations on May 1: 179*
- U.S. soldiers killed by Iraqi resistance since May 1: 90**
- British soldiers killed: 50*
- Other coalition soldiers killed: 2 (one from Denmark and one from Ukraine)*
- U.S. soldiers wounded in action: 1380*

Sources: **The Cincinnati Post* citing U.S. Defense Department statistics, October 2, 2003: ***New York Newsday*, October 2, 2003

Activity #1: An Exercise in Empathy

Read the following letter written by U.S. President Abraham Lincoln to Lydia Bixby, who lost five of her sons in the American Civil War.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours, to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of Freedom.

Sincerely, A. Lincoln

— U.S. President Abraham Lincoln's handwritten letter to Lydia Bixby, dated November 21, 1864

Pretend you are a member of the military who has to inform a family of the death of their daughter or son. Write a letter to the family that reflects some of the sensitivity shown by Lincoln in 1864. Length of letter: 200-300 words

Section 2:

Money

- The U.S. government estimate of the cost of the war from March 19 to April 17, 2003: \$34-billion
- The occupation of Iraq is costing the U.S. approximately \$3.9-billion per month according to U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld (July 13, 2003, ABC's *This Week*).
- Some put the total cost of the war and occupation at \$77-billion as of October 4, 2003 (www.costofwar.com).
- U.S. President George W. Bush asked Congress for \$87-billion for "The War on Terror" in August 2003.
- Amount of money needed to rebuild Iraq over the next few years: \$55-billion (The World Bank)

Activity #2: How Do the Numbers Compare?

1. Calculate the U.S. government's projected cost of the war and occupation by completing the following equation:
 $\$34\text{-billion}^* + (\$3.9\text{-billion} \times \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ # of months to date}^{**}) = ???$
*The cost of war up to April 17, 2003.
**The number of months since formal military operations ended on May 1.
2. How does the number you calculated compare with: a) the \$77-billion price tag provided by some; b) the \$87-billion that Bush has asked Congress to provide; c) the \$55-billion needed to rebuild Iraq. How do you explain the difference in the total dollar amounts provided by each source?
3. If you have access to the Internet, visit www.costofwar.com and report the total cost of war indicated on the Web site. How did the people organizing the Web site determine the total monetary cost of war?

Section 3:

Acts of Terror

- August 7 – car bombing of the Jordanian Embassy: 19 killed
- August 19 – truck bombing of U.N. headquarters in Baghdad: 23 killed
- August – dual car bombing outside of the Shrine of Imam Ali: over 100 killed, including the apparent target of the attack, Ayatollah Mohammad Bakr al-Hakim
- September 20 – attempted assassination of Iraq Governing Council member Aqila al-Hashimi. She died on September 25.
- September 22 – a suicide bomber detonated his bomb while trying to enter the U.N. compound in Baghdad. The bomber and a checkpoint guard were killed.
- September 25 – car bombing near a hotel housing members of the media in Baghdad; one person killed and an NBC audio technician injured

Ambushes – occurring daily. Two ambushes on U.S. troops on September 30 are typical of the guerrilla war being waged against occupying forces. At around 9:00 a.m., two separate U.S. military convoys, moving about 10 kilometres from one

another, were simultaneously attacked by resistance fighters hiding behind shrubs and in trees. The fighters set off bombs and used rocket-grenade launchers on the convoys. An eight-hour battle ensued, as the U.S. called in jets, helicopters, and tanks, leaving extensive property damage in their wake. One Iraqi man complained, “Is this the freedom we were promised? I had to get my family out. . . . The helicopters were firing almost non-stop. My seven-year-old is too young to hate but how can he not hate (the Americans) after this?” (*Chicago Sun-Times*, September 30, 2003)

News reports indicated the death of one U.S. soldier and the wounding of three others. No mention was made of Iraqi casualties or arrests.

Activity #3: Research

1. Research one of the “Acts of Terror” listed above. Retell the story of what happened that day in a 200-300 word report. Your teacher may decide to have you tell the story to the class instead of writing a report.

OR

2. Research an ambush by Iraqi insurgents on U.S. or British forces. Retell the story in the words of one of the soldiers being attacked in the ambush. Your story should be 200-300 words in length.

Section 4:

The Words of a U.S. President

“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.” — Former army general and president Dwight D. Eisenhower, April 16, 1953

Activity #4

Write an opinion paper that either challenges or supports the words of Eisenhower. Is he naïve to think that war is theft from those in need or is he acknowledging a failure in the human condition? Length of opinion paper: 200-300 words

Notes
