



Victory In Iraq Update

IRAQIS IN THE FIGHT

A Three-Track Approach

- ➔ **Political:** *Isolate* the terrorists, *engage* those outside the process, *build* stable and pluralistic national institutions that can represent all Iraqis.
 - 🇮🇶 In January, 8.5 million Iraqis defied terrorist threats and voted for Iraq's first democratically elected government. In October's referendum, turnout neared 10 million and election day violence decreased.
 - 🇮🇶 More than 300 parties and coalitions are registered for the December elections. Even those who opposed the constitution have organized for the December vote.
- ➔ **Security:** *Clear* areas of enemy control, *hold* those areas with Iraqi forces, and *build* capacity of local institutions to deliver services and advance the rule of law.
 - 🇮🇶 In March 2005, U.S. and Iraqi forces received 483 tips from Iraqi citizens; in August they received 3,300; and in September, more than 4,700.
 - 🇮🇶 In June 2004, no Iraqi Security Force unit controlled territory; today much of Baghdad Province is under the control of Iraqi forces and the cities of Najaf and Karbala are controlled by Iraqi forces.
- ➔ **Economic:** *Restore* neglected infrastructure, *reform* stifling Saddam-era regulations, *build* government capacity and human capital to reach full economic potential.
 - 🇮🇶 GDP is expected to grow in real terms by 3.7 % in 2005 and nearly 17% in 2006.
 - 🇮🇶 Since April 2003, Iraq has registered 30,529 new businesses.

Missions formerly the sole responsibility of Coalition Forces	Iraqi Partial Support	Iraqis in the Lead
Secure the city of Najaf		✓
Secure the city of Karbala		✓
Secure dangerous airport road in Baghdad		✓
Secure Saddam's palace in Tikrit		✓
Planning and executing operations against terrorists in assigned battle space		✓
Guarding Iraqi off-shore oil platforms		✓
Provide instructors to professional schools	40% Iraqi	
Maintain functioning national depot and supply system		✓
Provide life support to Iraqi Forward Operating Bases	30% Iraqi	
Man 900 police stations with 120,000 police across 18 provinces		✓
Recruit police		✓
Man 170 forts with 18,000 border police		✓
Provide aerial lift, and transport cargo by air in support of Iraqi Security Forces		✓
Maintain functioning Ministry of Defense operations center		✓
Maintain functioning Ministry of Interior operations center		✓

- ➔ In August 2004, five Iraqi Army battalions were in the fight.
 - 🇮🇶 **Today there are 97 Iraqi Army battalions in the fight.**
- ➔ In July 2004, there were no ready, operational Army division or brigade headquarters.
 - 🇮🇶 **Today there are at least 7 operational division headquarters and 31 operational brigade headquarters.**
- ➔ In July 2004, there were no ready special police commando, public order or mechanized police battalions under the Ministry of the Interior.
 - 🇮🇶 **Today there are 28 such battalions conducting operations.**
- ➔ In November 2004, there were about 110,000 fully trained and equipped Iraqi Security Forces.
 - 🇮🇶 **Today there are over 214,000 trained and equipped security forces.**
- ➔ The experience and ability of the Iraqi forces has also increased, allowing them to:
 - 🇮🇶 **Take over 87 square miles of Baghdad Province.**
 - 🇮🇶 **Take over an entire Iraqi Province.**
 - 🇮🇶 **Take over 450 square miles of territory in other provinces.**
- ➔ Last March there were just under 500 tips to the Iraqi armed forces.
 - 🇮🇶 **In September 2005, there were 4,700 tips by Iraqi citizens to Iraqi and Coalition forces.**
 - 🇮🇶 **One tip resulted in the disruption of an IED factory and the capture of 4,000 lbs of explosives and about a dozen 500 pound bombs.**

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Progress: Iraqi Security Forces

Last year there were only a handful of combat-ready Iraqi battalions. Today...

- ➔ 97 battalions of Iraqi Army soldiers are conducting security operations throughout the country.
- ➔ 8 battalions of special police are distributed around the country, providing a bridge between combat operations and civil police operations.
- ➔ The Iraqi Navy is guarding its coastline and protecting the offshore oil platforms.
- ➔ The Iraqi Air Force is moving supplies throughout the country, including some of the materials necessary for the upcoming elections.
- ➔ Iraqi Border Police are manning 170 border forts and 22 ports of entry.
- ➔ 75,000 Iraqi policemen are patrolling Iraqi cities. Another 5,700 are in training.
- ➔ At this moment, Iraqi and Coalition instructors are training:
 - 🇮🇶 2,700 Iraqi soldiers
 - 🇮🇶 500 Iraqi Army officer cadets
 - 🇮🇶 286 police officer cadets
- ➔ In the January '05 elections, approximately 130,000 Iraqi Security Forces secured the polling sites. When the December 15, '05 elections occur, 225,000 Iraqi Security Forces will secure the polling sites.
- ➔ Over 30 Iraqi Army battalions have assumed primary control of their own areas of responsibility. These include some of Baghdad's toughest neighborhoods.
- ➔ 30 bases have been handed over to the Iraqi government or military, including Saddam's former palace in Tikrit.

Iraqi Security Forces in the Fight

- ➔ 33 Iraqi Army battalions have assumed their own areas of operation- last year at this time the ISF did not have responsibility for any of their areas of operation.
- ➔ In November Iraqi Security Forces conducted:
 - 🇮🇶 1,080 (61% of total operations) combined operations with Coalition forces; and
 - 🇮🇶 448 (26%) independent operations.
 - 🇮🇶 Only 227 (13%) operations were conducted without Iraqi forces.
- ➔ 11 Iraqi battalions participated in Operation Restoring Rights in Tal Afar, outnumbering Coalition forces for the first time in a major offensive.

Suicide Bombings in Iraq at 7-Month Low

- ➔ There were 23 suicide bombings in Iraq in November. That is the lowest level in the past seven months.
- ➔ Commanders on the ground attribute the decline to U.S. and Iraqi forces overrunning enemy strongholds in the Euphrates River valley.

Rather than thinking in terms of an exit strategy, we should be focused on our strategy for victory. That is the President's strategy, to succeed in passing responsibility to the Iraqi people and in helping them to further develop the capabilities needed to assume that responsibility. The strategy is working and we should stick to it, and those who do will be proud of the accomplishment that we will see.

*-Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
November 30, 2005*

Who is the Enemy in Iraq?

A strategy for victory begins with an understanding of the enemy. The enemy is a combination of rejectionists, Saddamists, and terrorists.

Rejectionists: Rejectionists make up the largest part of the insurgency. They are mostly Sunni Arabs who miss their privileged status under Saddam Hussein. They reject an Iraq in which they are no longer the dominant group.

- 🇮🇶 Sunnis who advocate violent opposition are being increasingly isolated by Sunnis who choose to participate in the democratic process. Over time, most rejectionists will be persuaded to support a democratic Iraqi government that protects minority rights.

Saddamists or Former Regime Loyalists:

This is a smaller, more determined group that includes people who held positions of power under Saddam.

- 🇮🇶 The hard-core Saddamists are trying to foment anti-democratic sentiment among the larger Sunni community. Over time they will be marginalized and defeated by the Iraqi people and ISF.

Terrorists affiliated with / inspired by Al-Qaida:

This is the smallest but most lethal part of the enemy. Many are foreign fighters believed to be responsible for most of the suicide bombings, beheadings, and other atrocities. They are led by Zarqawi, al-Qaida's chief of operations in Iraq.

- 🇮🇶 If the United States was not fighting and destroying this enemy in Iraq, these terrorists would not be idle, but still plotting and killing in the name of their ideology. In Iraq, America's military is defeating a direct threat to the American people.