

Fierce resistance blunts U.S. advance



1. Baghdad: Iraqi capital suffers some of biggest blasts to date, as planes pound a single target in

west of city. Iraqi forces set ablaze oil-filled trenches in bid to create smokescreen. Iraqi SAM missile shoots down plane or missile

2. Western desert: Special forces find documents relating to weapons of mass destruction

3. Northern Iraq: Explosions rock Mosul on Sunday night

4. Turkey: 2,000-4,000 Turkish troops reported in Northern Iraq. 30,000 troops with tanks and heavy artillery massed north of Iraqi border. Turkey fears Iraqi Kurds may create an independent state which could threaten its own southeastern borders

5. Kirkuk: U.S. warplanes bomb Iraqi front-line positions to west of city

American commanders say they have encountered their toughest day of fighting as U.S.-led forces advancing on Baghdad find stubborn resistance

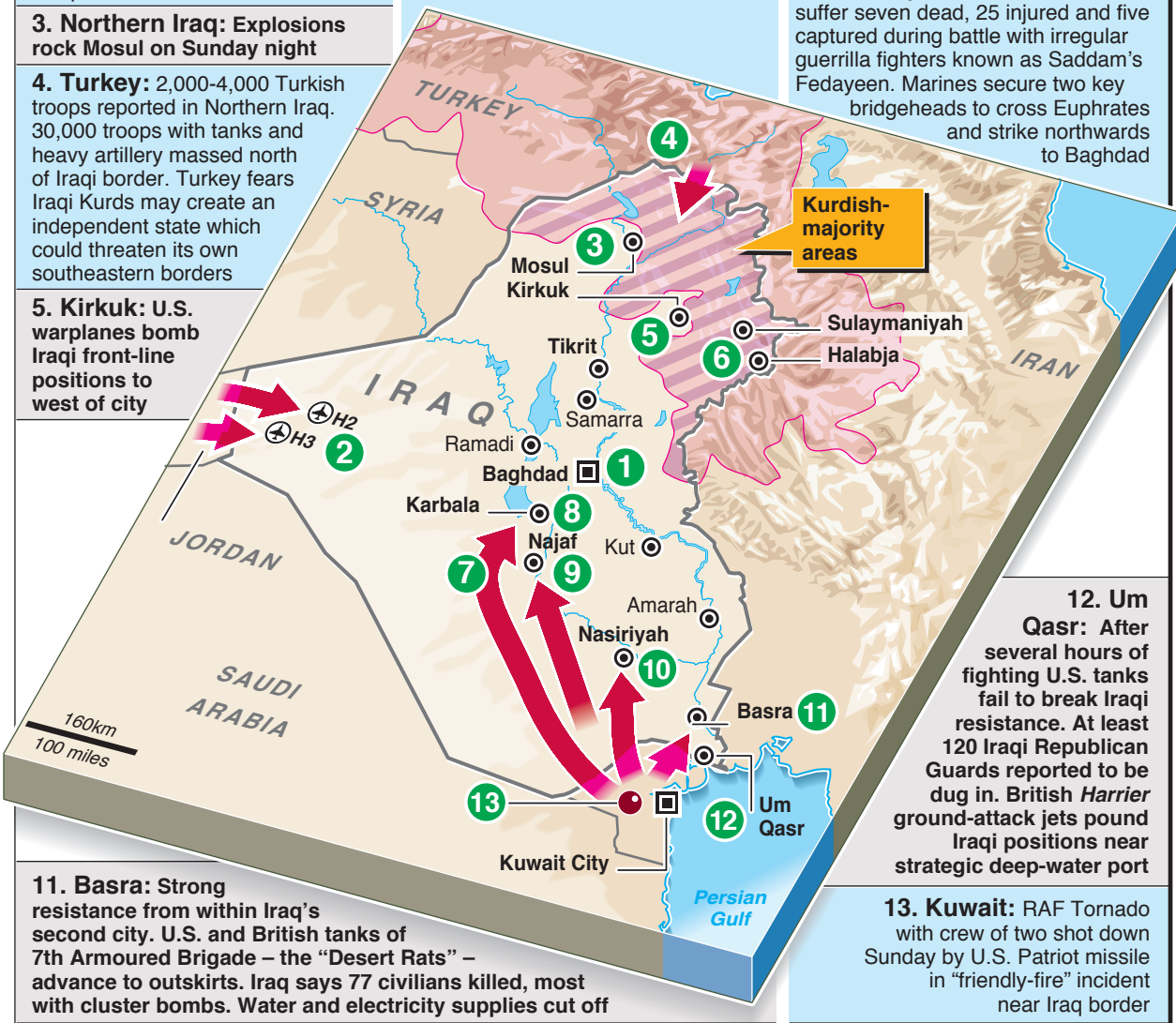
6. Iranian border: Road between *Halabja* and *Sulaymaniyah* closed. U.S. special forces launch second day of attacks against *Ansar al-Islam* positions near border. The radical Islamist group is accused by Washington of links to *al Qaeda*

7. Central Iraq: 101st Airborne Division moves towards Baghdad

8. Karbala: Three-hour battle as U.S. helicopter gunships attack elite Republican Guard units

9. Najaf: U.S. 3rd Infantry and 7th Cavalry meet strong resistance to south east from Medina Division of Republican Guard. Reports that U.S. forces have found a suspected chemical weapons factory to south

10. Nasiriyah: U.S. Marines suffer seven dead, 25 injured and five captured during battle with irregular guerrilla fighters known as Saddam's Fedayeen. Marines secure two key bridgeheads to cross Euphrates and strike northwards to Baghdad



11. Basra: Strong resistance from within Iraq's second city. U.S. and British tanks of 7th Armoured Brigade – the "Desert Rats" – advance to outskirts. Iraq says 77 civilians killed, most with cluster bombs. Water and electricity supplies cut off

12. Um Qasr: After several hours of fighting U.S. tanks fail to break Iraqi resistance. At least 120 Iraqi Republican Guards reported to be dug in. British *Harrier* ground-attack jets pound Iraqi positions near strategic deep-water port

13. Kuwait: RAF Tornado with crew of two shot down Sunday by U.S. Patriot missile in "friendly-fire" incident near Iraq border