

# Day 12 – America intensifies air war



**1. Baghdad:** U.S. Air Force steps up airstrikes making a total of about 1,800 sorties – 75 attacks an hour – up from 1,000 sorties a day. More than 60% of missions aimed at Republican Guards – *Medina, Hammurabi, Nida* and *Baghdad* divisions

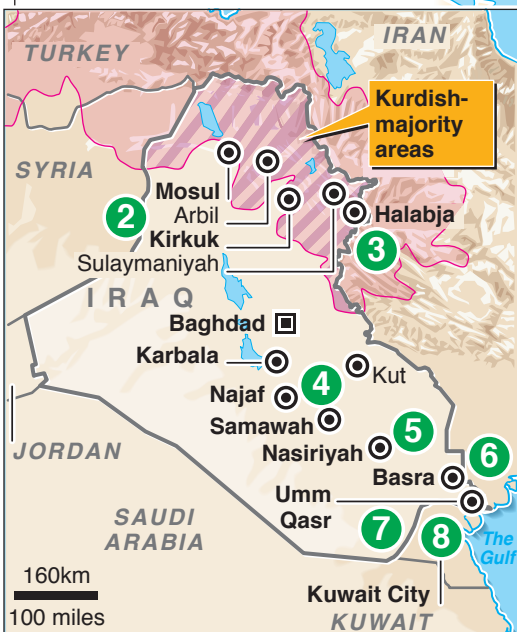
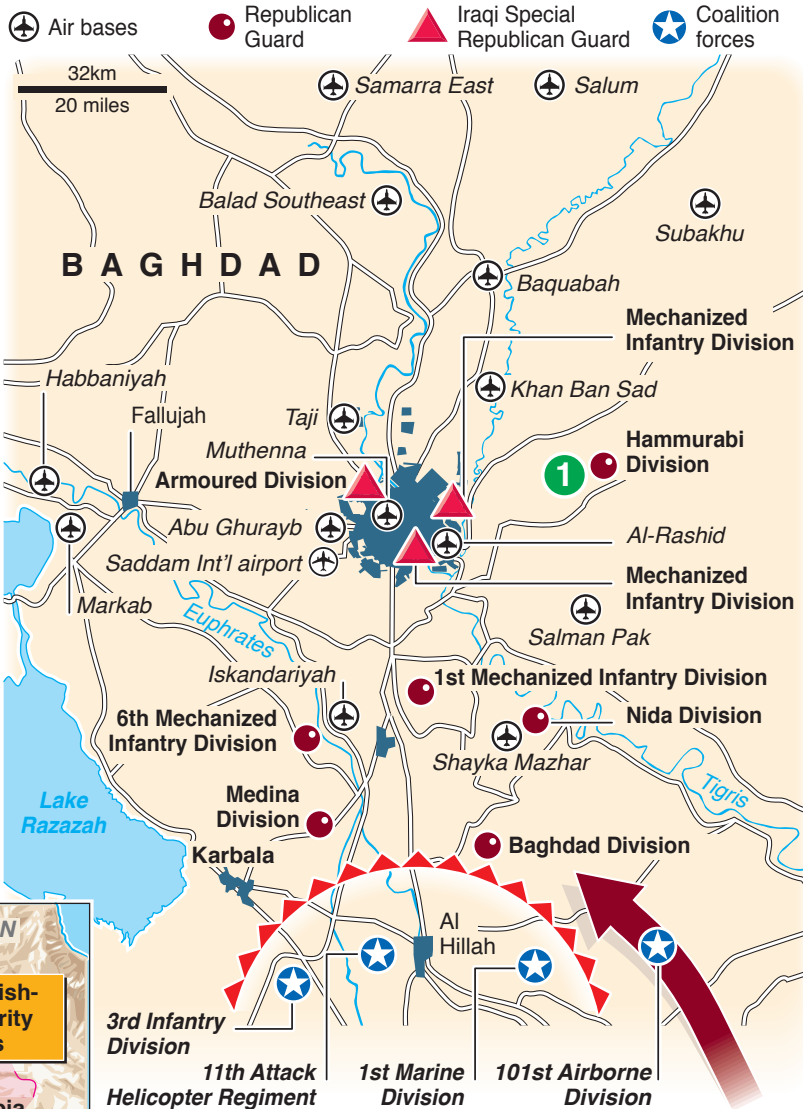


**2. Mosul, Kirkuk:** B-52 bombers pound Iraqi positions

**3. Halabja:** U.S. says it has destroyed “massive terrorist facility” used by militant groups *Ansar al-Islam* and *al-Qaeda* to make chemical weapons, including ricin

**4. Najaf:** U.S. *101st Airborne Division* surrounds town. Soldiers from *82nd Airborne Division* kill about 100 “terror squad members,” near *Najaf* and *Samawah*, 50 Iraqis taken prisoner

**5. Nasiriyah:** Extra 5,000 troops deployed to reinforce three infantry battalions – 7,000 Marines – under attack from *Fedayeen* and Iraqi troops for control of strategic bridges. *82nd Airborne Division* placed near town to protect supply lines. U.S. says Islamic militants, including Yemenis, Palestinians and Chechens, have joined fighting



**6. Basra:** Royal Marines from *3 Commando* move into village of *Abu al-Qassib* after day-long battle against hundreds of Iraqi troops. Marines say they captured 200 Iraqi soldiers and five officers during hardest fighting seen so far. British take two fatalities

**7. Rumaila oilfield:** British *16th Air Assault Brigade* destroys more than 16 Iraqi tanks and armoured vehicles

**8. Kuwait:** Work begins Monday on pipeline that will deliver 600,000 gallons (2.7 million litres) of fresh water a day from Kuwait to the Iraqi port city of *Umm Qasr*

**Casualties:** U.S. – At least 45 killed, 17 missing  
 Britain – 26 killed  
 Iraqi military – no confirmed figures  
 Iraqi civilians (Iraqi figures) – 589 killed, 4,582 injured