

# Day 22 – Fighting flares up in Baghdad

Marines and special forces came under attack from Special Republican Guard units when they searched a mosque where Saddam Hussein was believed to be hiding



**1. Baghdad:** Former U.S. general **Jay Garner** – who will head civil administration of Iraq – is due to set up HQ once U.S. forces consolidate positions in capital. Continued fighting reported in west and northeast Baghdad between **1st Marine Expeditionary Force** and remnants of Saddam's militias



**2. Najaf:** Reports that **Ayatollah Baqer al-Hakim** – leader of Iran-based **Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI)** – and his Iranian-trained, 5,000-strong **Badr Brigade** plans to piggyback on U.S. invasion to return to holy Shia city. **Badr Brigade has bases in PUK territory**



**3. Nasiriyah:** **Ahmad Chalabi**, leader of **Iraqi National Congress**, returns to his home base with 700 followers. Chalabi – who wants to lead interim government – is supported by Pentagon and Vice-President **Dick Cheney**. In contrast, State Department and CIA think he is too controversial to win acceptance in wider Arab world



**4. Hillah:** Soldiers from U.S. **101st Airborne Division** secure city – site of ancient **Hanging Gardens of Babylon**

**6. Amarah:** U.S. Marines – assisted by local citizens – capture HQ of Iraq's **10th Armored Division** without firing a shot

**7. Basra:** British forces say they still need to restore law and order and eliminate last remnants of Iraqi resistance



**KDP (Kurdistan Democratic Party) controlled**

**PUK (Patriotic Union of Kurdistan) controlled**

**Area remaining under Saddam's control**



**9. Tikrit:** Coalition warplanes continue heavy attacks on Saddam's hometown

**10. Northern Iraq:** U.S. and British aircraft launch heaviest wave of bombing runs to date – designed to soften up Iraqi positions. **U.S. special operations forces** with two heavily armed Kurdish factions – **KDP and PUK Peshmerga fighters** – moving towards oil cities of **Kirkuk and Mosul** in preparation for final battle

**8. Umm Qasr:** Former U.S. general **Buck Walters** and team of 40 begin work to provide schools, jobs, running water and healthcare