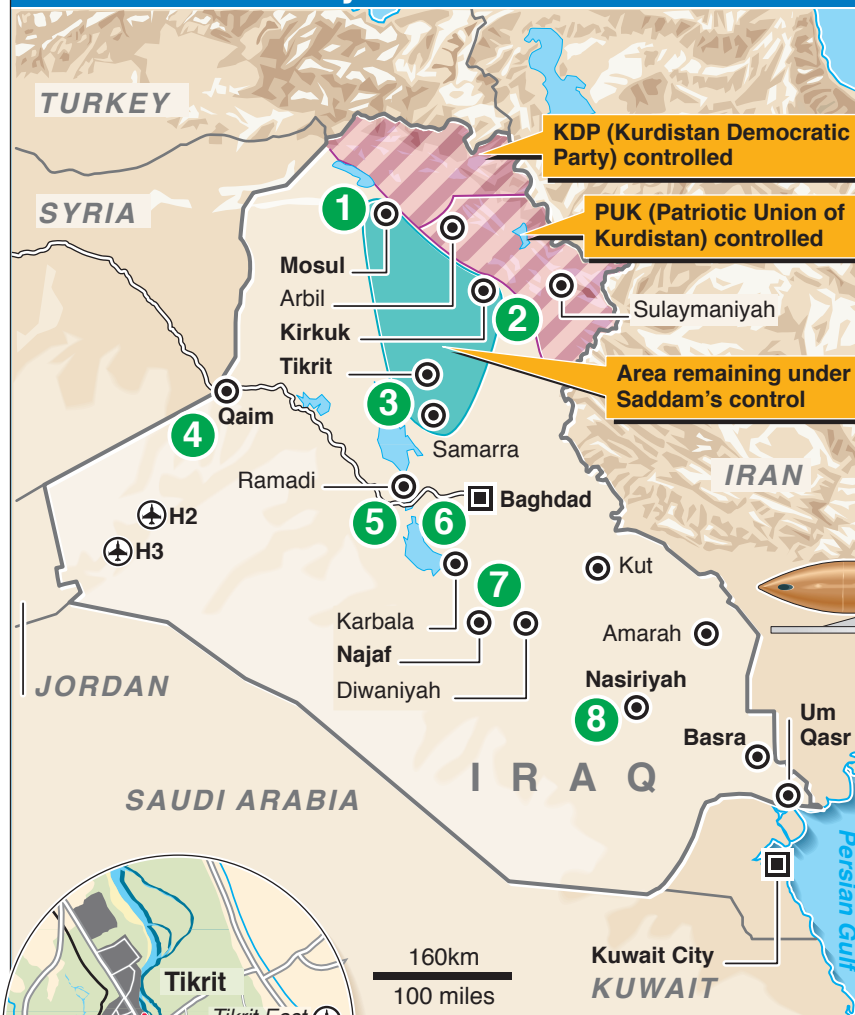


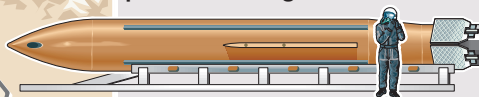
Day 23 – Mosul falls to Kurdish forces



1. Mosul: Thousands of Iraqi soldiers flee south as Iraq's third city falls to Kurdish *Peshmerga* forces. Commander of Iraqi Army's *5th Corps* and governor-general surrender to U.S. special operations forces

2. Kirkuk: Kurdish leaders prepare to pull out from oil-rich city in attempt to stop Turkey entering war. U.S. *173rd Airborne Brigade* reinforce special forces to enable *Peshmerga* withdrawal

3. Tikrit: U.S. war planners prepare for last stand by Iraqi forces at Saddam's home town. A 21,000-pound *MOAB bomb* – "*Mother Of All Bombs*" – has been moved to forward base for possible use against Tikrit



4. Qaim: Fighting between U.S. *Green Berets* and Iraqi militias. U.S. and British special forces seal Syrian border to prevent Saddam loyalists from escaping and fresh fighters from entering

5. Ramadi: U.S. warplanes drop six JDAM "smart bombs" on home of Saddam's half brother *Barzan Ibrahim Hasan al-Tikriti* – head of secret police

6. Baghdad: Capital descends into lawlessness, hospitals looted. U.S. troops meet sporadic resistance

7. Najaf: Crowd hacks to death two Muslim clerics – *Haider al-Kadar* (pro Saddam) and *Abdul Majid al-Khoei* (prominent Saddam opponent) – at sacred *Imam Ali* mosque

8. Nasiriyah: Two Iraqi children shot dead by U.S. marines, nine other Iraqis injured

Propaganda war: U.S. turns to TV to win hearts and minds with videotaped messages from *President Bush* and British Prime Minister *Tony Blair*. Pentagon-published newspaper to be distributed in Iraq from Saturday