

New wave of hostage-taking in Iraq

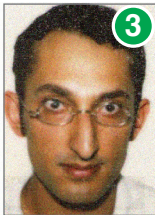
Insurgents have renewed their campaign of abducting foreigners in Iraq by kidnapping five Westerners and four Iranian pilgrims, as well as three Iraqis. More than 200 foreigners have been seized since the U.S-led invasion in 2003, with 53 executed between April 2004 and July 2005



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1 Nov 25: Susanne Osthoff, Germany. Archaeologist and activist kidnapped with her Iraqi driver. Osthoff, 43, was documenting archaeological sites looted following invasion and working for German medical charity

2 Nov 27: James Loney, Canada. Leader of **Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT)** in Iraq before being abducted. 41-year-old peace activist was arrested in 1991 for protesting against Canada's role in Gulf War

3 Nov 27: Harmeet Singh Sooden, Canada. 32-year-old electrical engineer studied literature at University of Auckland, New Zealand, before joining **CPT** in Iraq

4 Nov 27: Tom Fox, United States. 54-year-old father-of-two returned to Iraq to work with **CPT** in September. Longtime Quaker – strongly opposed to war – worked with young people

5 Nov 27: Norman Kember, Britain. Retired professor of medical physics, 74-year-old pacifist and **CPT** worker was investigating human rights abuses

OTHER ABDUCTIONS

Nov 28: Four Iranians returning from Shi'ite holy site at Balad – released next day. Two prominent Iraqis: **Saad Albana**, senior official in Housing Ministry, seized in Baghdad. **Thafer Migwil Hazza**, relative of Saddam Hussein, kidnapped in Tikrit