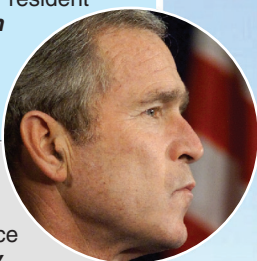


2001

■ **Sep 11:** Hijacked airliners smash into World Trade Center in New York and Pentagon in Washington DC, killing almost three thousand people. Atrocity identified as work of *al-Qaeda*

■ **Sep 16:** U.S. President **George W. Bush** pledges to wage a “*crusade*” to “*rid world of evil-doers*”

■ **Oct:** Bush signs directive authorizing CIA top-secret practice of *extraordinary rendition* – sending suspects to countries where there are few restrictions on prisoner abuse or torture



■ **Oct 7:** U.S. and Britain attack Afghanistan, seeking to oust ruling *Taliban* and find al-Qaeda mastermind **Osama bin Laden**



■ **Oct 26:** *Patriot Act* signed, giving sweeping new powers to FBI and CIA – critics say it violates U.S. Constitution

● **Nov:** Taliban falls. U.S. and British forces march into Afghan capital, Kabul

■ **Dec 22:** During flight from Paris to Miami **Richard Reid** tries to detonate bomb hidden inside his shoe. Passengers overpower him. In 2003 he is jailed for life in U.S.



2002

■ **Jan 29:** Bush names Iraq, Iran, and North Korea as an *axis of evil* in his annual State of the Union address



■ **Feb:** *Guantanamo Bay* prison camp built in Cuba to house al-Qaeda and Taliban detainees. Bush administration brands them as *enemy combatants*, claiming they are not entitled to protections of *Geneva Conventions*. As of Sep 2006 camp holds about 445 detainees

■ **Mar 12:** Five-level, colour-coded U.S. threat system introduced, level set to **YELLOW**

● **Mar 22:** Al-Qaeda's recruiter, **Abu Zubaydah**, captured in Pakistan – handed over to CIA



■ **Apr:** U.S. request for CIA rendition flights to refuel at UK airports – en route to former Soviet interrogation centres – endorsed by British government

■ **Apr 11:** Bomb attack on synagogue in Tunisian resort of Djerba kills 21 people

FIVE YEARS OF TERROR

■ ATTACKS ATTRIBUTED TO AL-QAEDA

● ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE WAR ON TERROR



In the wake of the 9/11 attacks on America, the Bush administration launched a so-called “War on Terror” with the stated goals of ending both international terrorism and the state sponsorship of it. Five years on, fighting rages in Afghanistan and Iraq, Lebanon lies in ruins, while Syria and Iran continue to support militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah

■ **Jun 16:** Car bomb attack against U.S. consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, kills 12

■ **Sep 10:** U.S. threat level raised to **ORANGE** for two weeks in anticipation of attacks on first anniversary of 9/11



● **Sep 11:** **Ramzi Binalshibh**, al-Qaeda member linked to 9/11 attacks, captured in Karachi

■ **Oct 12:** Three bombs go off in Indonesian resort of Bali, killing 202 people, mostly Western tourists. Al-Qaeda-linked *Jemaah Islamiyah* is blamed

■ **Oct 22:** First 9/11 trial opens in Germany



■ **Oct 28:** American diplomat **Laurence Foley** assassinated in Amman, Jordan

■ **Nov 25:** Bush signs *Homeland Security Act*. New department combines 22 federal agencies – with 169,000 employees and \$37.4 billion budget – to become second in size only to Defence Department

■ **Nov 28:** Attack on Israeli-owned hotel in Mombasa, Kenya, leaves 12 dead

2003

■ **Feb 7:** Citing intelligence reports of imminent attacks, U.S. threat level is raised to **ORANGE** for three weeks

● **Mar 1:** **Khalid Sheikh Mohammed**, alleged 9/11 mastermind, captured near Islamabad, Pakistan

■ **Mar 17:** U.S. threat level raised to **ORANGE** for one month

■ **Mar 19:** U.S.-led invasion of Iraq begins. Supporters claim war will bring lasting respect to U.S. and disable terrorist organizations – critics maintain it will create new generation that hates America

■ **May 1:** Bush flies to aircraft carrier *USS Abraham Lincoln* to declare end to major combat operations in Iraq under giant “Mission Accomplished” banner

■ **May 12:** Attacks at expatriate compounds in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, kill more than 30

■ **May 16:** Multiple suicide bombings in Casablanca, Morocco, leave 45 dead

■ **May 20:** U.S. threat level raised to **ORANGE** for 10 days

■ **Jun:** Accounts of abuse and torture by U.S. military and CIA of prisoners held in *Abu Ghraib* prison in Baghdad spark international outrage



● **Jun 17:** **Abu Bakr al-Azdi**, mastermind of Riyadh attacks, detained in Saudi Arabia

■ **Jun 25:** British Prime Minister **Tony Blair** awarded U.S. Congressional Gold Medal – America's highest civilian honour. Eight weeks earlier British government presented General **Tommy Franks**, top U.S. military commander, with honorary knighthood. Award sparked outcry in Britain

■ **Aug 5:** Bomb attack against Marriott Hotel in Jakarta, Indonesia, kills 12, injures 100



■ **Nov 8:** Bomb attack against expatriate compound in Riyadh kills 17, injures 80

■ **Dec 21:** Citing risk of al-Qaeda attacks, U.S. threat level raised to **ORANGE** for three weeks

2004

■ **Feb 9:** U.S. officials identify Jordanian-born militant **Abu Musab al-Zarqawi** as leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq

■ **Mar 11:** Ten backpack bombs rip through four trains in Madrid, Spain, killing 191 people and injuring over 1,200

■ **May 29:** Attacks on commercial and western targets in al-Dammam and al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia, kill 24

■ **Jun 28:** U.S. Supreme Court rules that government must allow access to federal courts to all prisoners at Guantanamo

● **Jul:** Al-Qaeda computer expert **Mohammed Naeem Noor Khan** arrested in Pakistan

■ **Aug 1:** U.S. threat level is raised to **ORANGE** for 15 weeks

■ **Sep 9:** Bomb explodes outside Australian Embassy in Jakarta, nine killed, 100 injured

● **Sep 26:** Pakistani police shoot dead **Amjad Farooqi**, wanted for murder of U.S. journalist **Daniel Pearl** and attempted assassination of President **Pervez Musharraf**

■ **Oct 8:** Explosions at Hilton Hotel in Taba, Egypt, and at two campsites in Sinai kill more than 30 people

■ **Oct 24:** U.S. military deaths in Iraq hit milestone of 2,000

2005

● **Apr 14:** British court jails al-Qaeda suspect **Kamal Bourgass** for his part in ricin mass-poison plot

● **May 4:** Pakistan captures **Abu Faraj al-Libbi**, thought to be third in al-Qaeda hierarchy

■ **Jun 19:** U.S. Supreme Court rules that Guantanamo Bay inmates are entitled to protection under Geneva Conventions



■ **Jul 7:** Four suicide bombers attack London subway and bus systems, killing 52 people and wounding 740. U.S. threat level raised to **ORANGE** for one month

■ **Jul 21:** Attempt to repeat London carnage unsuccessful when bombs fail to detonate. Five men arrested

■ **Jul 23:** Three bombs at Sharm al-Sheikh, Egypt, tourist resort popular with Israelis and Westerners, kill 64 people

2006

■ **Apr 24:** Three bombs explode in resort town of Dahab, Egypt, killing 30 people and injuring 115

● **Jun 7:** Al-Zarqawi killed in U.S. airstrike on safe house in Baqouba, north of Baghdad



■ **Jul 31:** Monthly tally for Iraqi civilian deaths reaches 3,438 – average of 110 people killed every day

■ **Jul 12-Aug 14:** U.S.-backed Israeli war with Hezbollah in Lebanon leaves America more hated and despised than ever in Arab world



Sayyed Hassan Nasrullah, Shia leader of Hezbollah, is embraced as new champion of Arab cause

■ **Aug:** Bloodiest month of fighting in Afghanistan since fall of Taliban in Nov 2001

■ **Aug 10:** British police foil alleged plot to blow up as many as 10 airliners in flight from UK to U.S. High security causes chaos at UK airports. U.S. threat level raised to **RED**

■ **Five years on,** over 3,200 U.S. and coalition troops, and some 45,500 Iraqi civilians have died. Opponents claim the U.S. and its allies have squandered the moral high ground unquestioned after 9/11, and will find it ever harder to claim it back