

# Iraq Study Group urges shift to support role

The bipartisan Iraq Study Group has called for a dramatic shift in U.S. policy in the Middle East, outlining an exit strategy from the increasingly unpopular war in Iraq and warning of mission failure unless the Bush Administration and newly-elected Democratic Congress work together

## THE IRAQ

### STUDY GROUP

#### **1 Gradual withdrawal:**

Of most U.S. troops from combat role by early 2008, but no specific timetable

#### **2 Mission:**

Would shift to one of supporting Iraqi forces, even if it required initial increase in troops

#### **3 Security:**

Benchmarks set for Iraqi government to demonstrate progress

#### **4 Peace plan:**

For whole of Middle East to stabilize Iraq and resolve Israeli-Palestinian conflict

#### **5 Diplomacy:**

Work with Iran and Syria to help end insurgency – a move U.S. has repeatedly resisted

