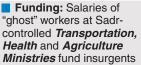


Muqtada al-Sadr: Leads 60,000-strong Mahdi Army, based in Sadr City. Al-Sadr's followers hold 30 of 275 seats in Parliament

## **Violence in Baghdad**

President Bush has given the U.S. military a green light to target leaders of political and religious militias in Iraq who are implicated in sectarian violence and encouraging ethnic cleansing. The insurgency is blamed on the Shia Mahdi Army of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution (SCIRI), and the Sunni Muslim Scholars Association (MSA) and Islamic Party



Facilities Protection
Service: 145,000-strong,
U.S.-created, security
service. FPS is known to be
involved in death squads



Abdel Aziz al-Hakim:
Head of SCIRI. Controls
Interior Ministry and Badr
Brigade which is allegedly
involved in sectarian killings

