Barack Obama factfile

- Aug 4, 1961: Born Barack Hussein Obama in Honolulu, Hawaii son of white mother from Kansas and black father from Kenva
- 1967: Moves with his mother to live in Jakarta. Indonesia
- 1971-79: Returns to Hawaii to attend high school. As a teenager, Obama

experiments with marijuana and cocaine

- 1983: Graduates from Columbia College, New York, after studying political science with specialization in international relations
- 1985: Moves to Chicago works to help residents of poor neighbourhoods
- 1988-92: Studies at Harvard Law School. Marries fellow lawyer Michelle couple now has two daughters



- 1992-94: Works as civil rights lawyer in Chicago
- 1996: Elected as Democrat to Illinois State Senate
- 2003: Speaks out against invasion of Iraq in months leading up to war
- Jul 2004: Makes keynote speech at Democratic National Convention

His speech attacking Bush administration's conduct of Iraq war raises his national profile

- Nov: Elected to Senate.

 Only African-American currently serving in Senate fifth in U.S. history
- Feb 10, 2007: Will make formal announcement as to whether or not he will run for president in 2008

Picture: Associated Press/Manuel Balce Ceneta

© GRAPHIC NEWS