

Withering coalition in Iraq

Britain's decision to bring half of its 5,000 troops home from Iraq by next spring is the latest blow to the U.S.-led "coalition of the willing". The alliance is crumbling, and fast: excluding Americans, the multinational force, which was once 50,000 strong, will be down to 7,000 by mid-2008

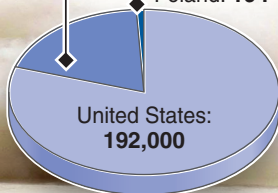
Mar 2003: Invasion of Iraq. Total troops: 240,194. Participating nations: 4



UK: 46,000

Australia: 2,000

Poland: 194

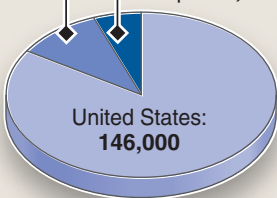


May 2003: Troops: 174,000

UK: 18,000

Other nations: 36

Troops: 10,000

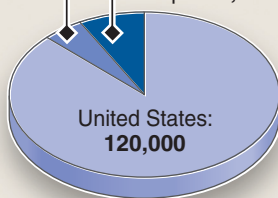


Mar 2004: Troops: 147,560

UK: 11,000

Other nations: 32

Troops: 16,560

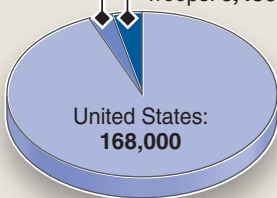


Oct 2007: Troops: 179,450

UK: 5,000

Other nations: 20

Troops: 6,450



Summer 2008: Troops: 137,000

UK: 2,500

Other nations: 15

Troops: 4,500

