

Turkey conducts massive operation in Iraq

Turkey's military says about 10,000 soldiers are taking part in its offensive against Kurdish rebels in Iraq, making it the nation's largest attack on the insurgents in over three years. The campaign follows clashes with PKK fighters that left 24 Turkish soldiers dead

 Provinces attacked by rebels

 Iraq's Kurdistan region

 Mainly Kurdish control



50km
30 miles

Altinova

Guroymak

TURKEY

Yuksekov

Cukurka

DUHOK

Mosul

ARBIL

SULAYMANIYA

Kirkuk

IRAN

Lake Van

Lake Urmia



Turkish forces: 10,000 elite troops trained in guerrilla warfare. **F-16** and **F-4** warplanes, **Cobra** attack helicopters plus surveillance drones



PKK militants
4,000-5,000
based in Iraq

Mount Qandil
PKK stronghold

Oct 19: Turkish troops advance up to 8km into Iraq, aircraft hit rebel camp on **Zab River**

Recent attacks
blamed on Kurdish rebels

1 Oct 18, Bitlis province: Five policemen and three civilians killed by roadside bomb

2 Oct 19, Hakkari province: 24 Turkish soldiers killed, 18 wounded in rebel attack – worst loss for army since 1993

3 Oct 20, Mus province: Three soldiers wounded by suspected roadside bomb

