

Al-Qaeda chief al-Zarqawi dead



1966, Oct 30: Abu Musab al-Zarqawi born in Zarqa, Jordan. Son of retired soldier and elder of prominent **Bani Hassan** Bedouin tribe

1980s: Joins Jihad fighting Soviet occupation of Afghanistan

1996: Jailed in Jordan for violent campaign to overthrow monarchy – released under amnesty in 1999 when **King Abdullah** assumes throne

2002: Sentenced to death in absentia for plotting attacks against U.S. and Israeli targets in Jordan. Masterminds killing of U.S. diplomat Laurence Foley in Amman

2003: Allegedly responsible for bombings of UN headquarters in Baghdad – which kills 22 including top UN envoy **Sergio Vieira de Mello** – and **Imam Ali** mosque in Najaf, in which 105 people die

2004, Mar: Zarqawi's Tawhid wal Jihad group blamed for bombing of Shiite shrines in Baghdad and Karbala, killing at least 181 people

May: Identified as killer in video showing beheading of U.S. civilian worker **Nick Berg** – first foreign hostage to be beheaded in Iraq. Slaughter causes revulsion in West

Jul: U.S. raises bounty on his head from \$10 million to \$25 million

Oct: Appointed by **Osama bin Laden** as his deputy in Iraq – Tawhid group now known as **al-Qaeda in Iraq**

Dec: Reportedly captured by Iraqi forces but released because his captors did not realize who he was

2005: Believed to have masterminded bombings at three Amman hotels that killed around 70 people

2006, Apr: Appears unmasked in rare video, praising terrorists in Iraq

May: U.S. Army airs video outtakes, ridiculing Zarqawi's apparent inability to fire captured U.S. machine gun

Jun 8, 2006: Zarqawi and key spiritual advisor killed in U.S. air raid on house north of Baghdad