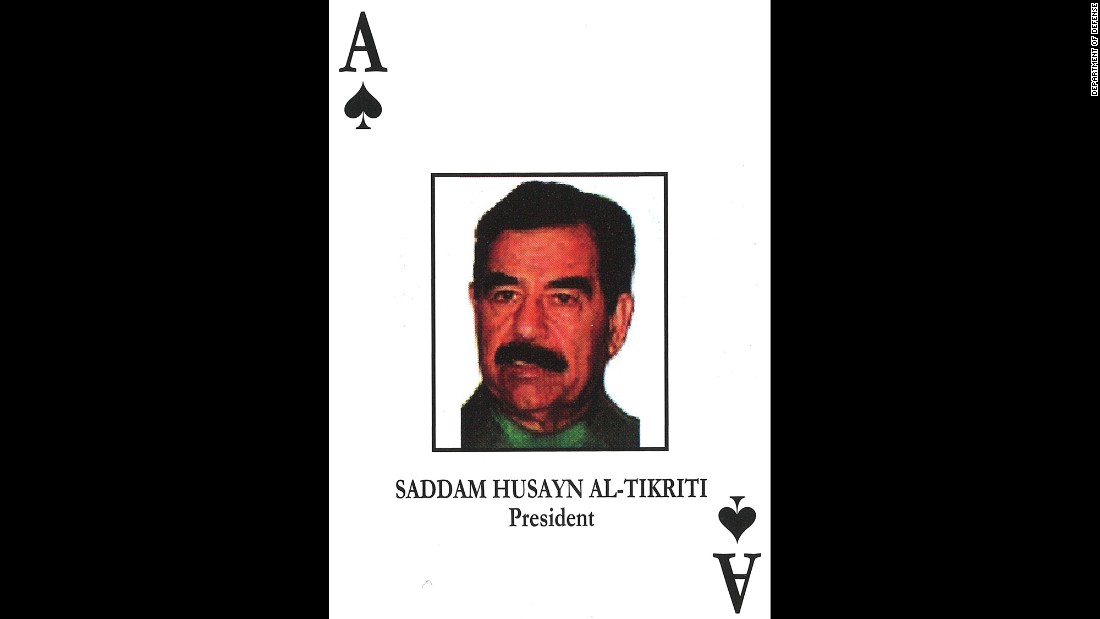
**The 2nd War in Iraq**

* The overall goal was to fight terrorism
* Consists of 2 major phases
* First phase was to remove Saddam Hussein’s Ba’athist government from power

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjF3IWJ357MAhVHPiYKHR75D2oQjRwIBw&url=http://www.cnn.com/2015/04/17/middleeast/iraq-al-douri-killed/&bvm=bv.119745492,d.eWE&psig=AFQjCNGlrH9R7z2251RD0ZblZ8R08HAb-A&ust=1461294145237646)

* Second phase was fighting the insurgency that opposed the new gov’t
* Two sects of Islam (Shia and Sunni) would make the second phase difficult

Reasons for Invasion

* US and British officials believed that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction
* Iraq was said to have an active biological weapons program

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* Hussein had allegedly used poison gas on civilians
* Hussein was thought to be an al-Qaeda supporter
* France and other nations were opposed to invading Iraq

The Invasion

* March 20,2003 the surprise invasion started
* War was never declared
* Coalition forces were met with opposition
* April 24, Baghdad, Iraq’s capital, fell to coalition forces

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjSt8qt-JjMAhUjk4MKHXxLD5YQjRwIBw&url=http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/did-the-iraq-war-bring-the-arab-spring&bvm=bv.119745492,d.amc&psig=AFQjCNFVcf4CehRNS60qlWoj1jd2FNvQsw&ust=1461094768185801)

* Hussein’s 24 year reign was over
* Widespread crime and looting followed the fall of the regime

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* 17,000 Iraqis died during the invasion, compared to 139 Americans
* Bush delivered a “Mission Accomplished” speech

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwic8d_F-JjMAhUmt4MKHavuBXoQjRwIBw&url=http://www.historycommons.org/timeline.jsp?military_analysts_tmln_general_events=military_analysts_tmln__mission_accomplished_&timeline=military_analysts_tmln&bvm=bv.119745492,d.amc&psig=AFQjCNEVjjvfxIDrr9xP5k350jivGbAfJw&ust=1461094828679465)

Beginnings of Insurgency

* Nation building proved to be impossible
* Fall of 2003 it became clear that US troops would have to remain for years
* Insurgents used guerrilla tactics, IEDs, and roadside bombs against US forces

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwih0-Ti-ZjMAhUHuoMKHXolCV8QjRwIBw&url=http://www.murdoconline.net/archives/2424.html&bvm=bv.119745492,d.amc&psig=AFQjCNEJRyYcmM8WONUE6iFxVsPufY359g&ust=1461094987626821)

* Suicide bombs wreaked havoc on Iraqi citizens and coalition forces

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwji9Ou33Z7MAhUMKCYKHWgdAacQjRwIBw&url=http://www.thehindu.com/news/80-killed-in-car-bomb-blast-in-iraq/article7438065.ece&psig=AFQjCNG49dBENpHrRvQ5-odpJdVsgFZDNA&ust=1461293702876830)

* US forces focused on capturing former gov’t officials
* Saddam Hussein was eventually captured



Second Battle of Fallujah

* Fallujah was a known stronghold of insurgents
* March 2004 four US military contractors were ambushed and killed by insurgents
* Their corpses were burned and then hung from a bridge

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjum_b3-ZjMAhUlnoMKHeiGBKwQjRwIBw&url=http://www.gettyimages.com/detail/news-photo/iraqis-chant-anti-american-slogans-as-a-charred-body-hang-news-photo/3177716&psig=AFQjCNGZb0hDqR_zhrUkjPIqwPZBXKgB3g&ust=1461095199341362)

* Photos surfaced enraging Americans
* 46 day battle
* Bloodiest battle of the war, with over 1,300 insurgents killed and almost 100 Americans
* Later released that the coalition may have used chemical weapons

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiv-Nzp-pjMAhVqnoMKHdYyAvsQjRwIBw&url=https://marxistleninist.wordpress.com/2009/01/15/white-phosphorus-from-fallujah-to-gaza/&psig=AFQjCNHyuJ3CBTbDM3uCuNCbjZs1YKTTjw&ust=1461095411624794)

* By Sept. 2004 US deaths in Iraq reached 1,000

Building a New Government

* Elections were held in 2005

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjFq722-5jMAhUlk4MKHWaqAjgQjRwIBw&url=http://www.globalresearch.ca/the-drama-of-the-iraqi-elections/17946&bvm=bv.119745492,d.amc&psig=AFQjCNGHWwG1z3SrrOcnSoijA6SP34nvSg&ust=1461095598526881)

* Elected gov’t took office in May 2006
* Hussein was executed December 2006 for crimes against humanity

The “Surge” of 2007

* From 2007 a civil war was being fought between Sunni and Shia insurgents
* Led to a US troop surge in Jan. 2007
* Total would be almost 170,000

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjj9crC3p7MAhWFKCYKHcFoAvgQjRwIBw&url=http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/1538910/Bush-attacked-over-rolling-surge-of-20000-more-troops-for-Iraq.html&bvm=bv.119745492,d.eWE&psig=AFQjCNE2XutHXRrMUTVhq3yUS9BHN03Epg&ust=1461293918691154)

* Successful from a military perspective
* Surge failed in its political objectives
* In 2008, US deaths passed 4,000
* Bush said the conflict was “longer and harder and more costly than anticipated”

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjftunR-5jMAhUEuoMKHWRsDggQjRwIBw&url=http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/31/washington/31military.html&bvm=bv.119745492,d.amc&psig=AFQjCNG2VX-Sm0x3OrphOKsovBK016eNZg&ust=1461095641260215)

Withdrawal from Iraq

* August 2010 US announced plans to withdraw combat troops
* All combat troops were gone after December 2011

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjej6r5-5jMAhUhuYMKHeu9C_IQjRwIBw&url=http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/world_now/2011/10/us-iraq-obama-troop-departure.html&bvm=bv.119745492,d.amc&psig=AFQjCNF0SHPuZPo3U2NnNO9sAiuMG0aOoQ&ust=1461095727118313)

* Iraqi insurgency increased after the US’s departure
* 4,500 Americans killed and 25,000 wounded
* 190,000 Iraqis killed with 130,000 being civilians
* Cost the US almost $2 trillion
* Iraq is still unstable today