

# GLOBAL



Goran Tomasevic/Rutgers/Landov



Bob Gellat/AP/Wide World Photos



Frank Pravel/AP/Wide World Photos

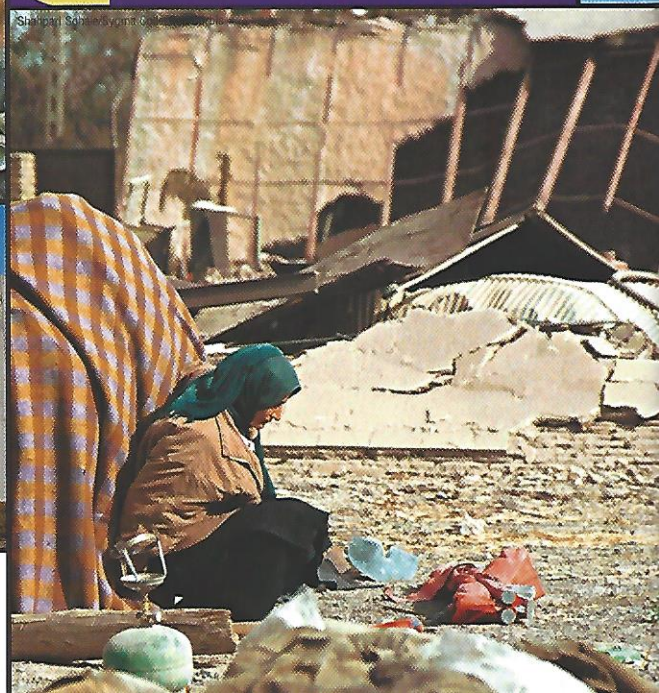
Bazuki Muhammad Reuters/Landov



Ben Curtis/AP/Wide World Photos



On December 26, a devastating earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale strikes the Iranian city of Bam, killing more than 41,000 people.

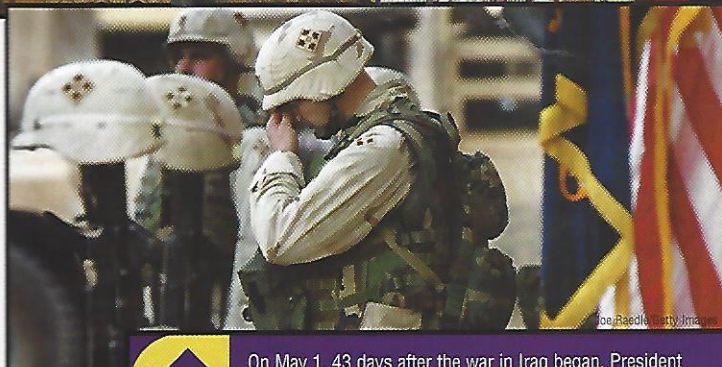


Shahin Soltanpour/AP/Wide World Photos

← A European heat wave in August claims more than 19,000 lives, making it one of the world's deadliest hot-weather disasters.

← The World Health Organization reports that severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) infected more than 8,000 people in over 25 countries, killing 700.

← An Economic Community of West African States peacekeeping coalition ends 14 years of fighting between Liberian rebels and government forces, sending tyrant Charles Taylor into exile.

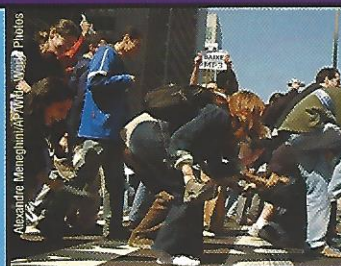


Joe Raedeli/Getty Images



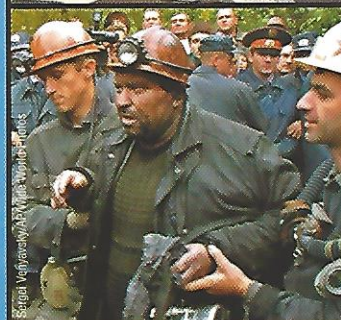
On May 1, 43 days after the war in Iraq began, President Bush declares "major combat operations in Iraq have ended." As hundreds of thousands of U.S. and British forces remain to restore peace and deliver aid to Iraqi citizens, more soldiers are killed in the months after the war than during it.

→ Around the world, "flash mobs" — large groups of people recruited by anonymous organizers via the Internet — gather, perform a wild act and quickly disperse.



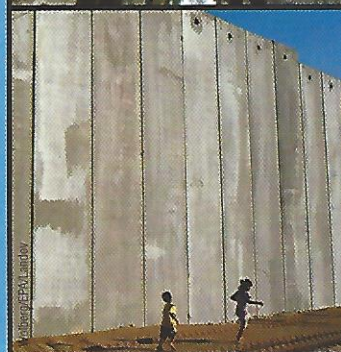
Monique Maneghini/AP/Wide World Photos

→ In a dramatic six-day ordeal, rescue workers save 44 of 46 Russian miners trapped in a water-filled coal mine.



Sergei Verbynskiy/AP/Wide World Photos

→ Tens of thousands of Palestinians are cut off from family and livelihoods when Israel builds a concrete barrier beyond the cease-fire line in an effort to curtail Palestinian terrorist activities.



AP/Wide World Photos

# global