

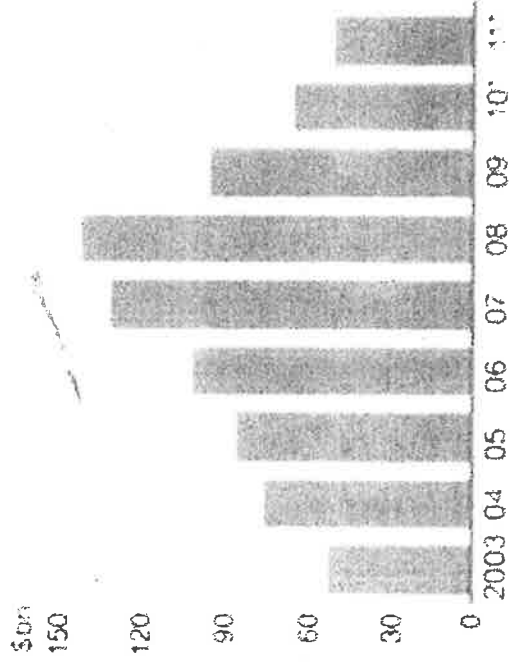
## Station 2 Iraq War

Define the term before the ( ) using context clues. What do you think non-partisan and appropriated mean?

### COST

The financial scale of the war is another area in which figures vary widely. The respected and non-partisan ( ) Congressional Research Service estimates that the US will have spent almost \$802bn on funding the war by the end of fiscal year 2011, with \$747.6 billion already appropriated ( ).

### US funding of operation in Iraq



Includes pending requests

Source: Congressional Research Service estimates, July 2010

3. What year was the most money spent on the Iraq War? How much money was spent in that year?

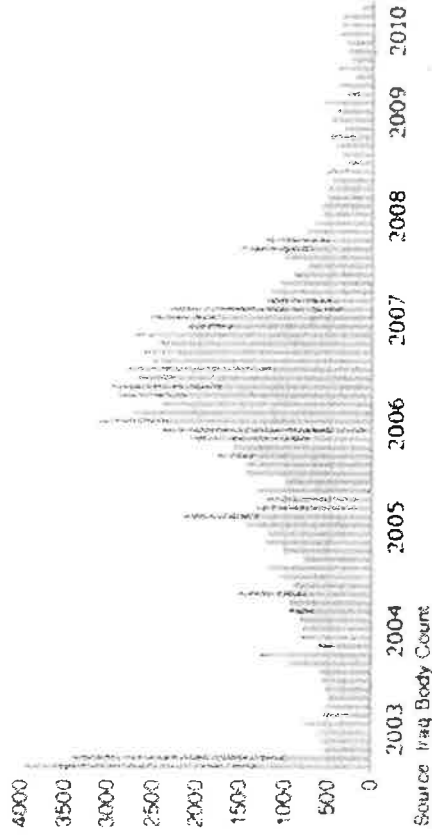
4. What year was the least amount of money spent on the Iraq War? About how much money was spent?

# Station 3 Iraq War in Numbers

At August 26, 2010 the latest figure from the US Department of Defense stood at 4,421 of which 3,492 were killed in action. Almost 32,000 have been wounded in action...

While coalition troop fatalities are reasonably well documented, deaths of Iraqi civilians and combatants are more difficult to track because of a lack of reliable official figures. All counts and estimates of Iraqi deaths are highly disputed. The organization Iraq Body Count has been collating civilian deaths using cross-checked media reports and other figures such as morgue records.

Iraqi civilian deaths March 2003 - July 2010



1. According to the graph, what was the worst month and year for Iraqi deaths?

According to IBC there have been between **97,461 and 106,348 civilian deaths** up to July 2010. The group says the difference between its higher and lower total figures is caused by discrepancies ( 2. ) in reports about how many deaths resulted from an incident and whether they were civilians or combatants. Other reports and surveys have resulted in a wide range of estimates of Iraqi deaths: anywhere from 151,000 to 650,000...

## CASUALTIES

Over 4,000 US service personnel have been killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom since the invasion started on 19 March 2003. **US military deaths, Iraq, March 2003 - July 2010**



3. Which years were the worst for US casualties in Iraq?

4. In each of the 3 years- what were the highest months for US casualties? (HINT the war STARTED in MARCH)

# Cartoon 1

Sent by [MidEastTruth.com](http://MidEastTruth.com)

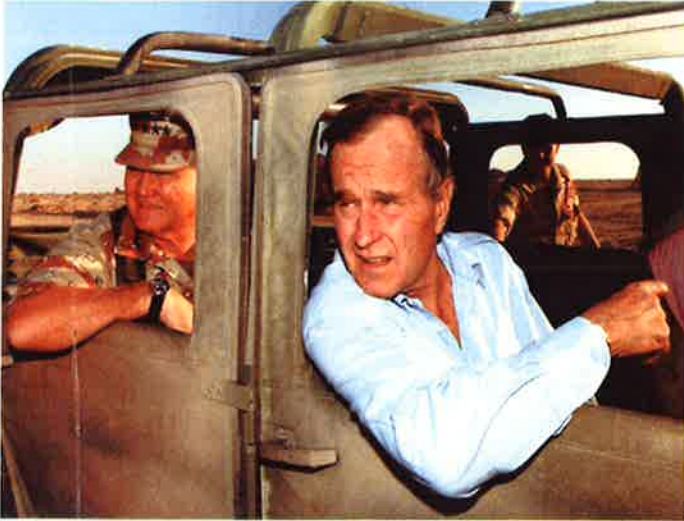


- 1) What does Iran claim their nuclear program is for?
- 2) What does the U.S./other groups think the nuclear program is for?
- 3) How is the point of view biased?

## Station 5: Persian Gulf War- Operation Desert Storm

Iran- Iraq war ends in 1988 with HUGE losses to both sides and the Iraqi people are very upset with the unrest in the country. Saddam Hussein was looking for a “quick fix” to build up public support. Saddam announces to the world that Kuwait “belongs” to Iraq, knowing Kuwait has vast oil reserves. Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait on **August 2, 1990**.

The global community reacts by imposing trade embargos



against Iraq. Soon the US



and UN put together a coalition of forces( US, Europe and Arab nations) to attack. On **January 16-17, 1991**- collation forces move against Iraq by land and air. The key players in this event are President George H. Bush and General Norman Schwarzkopf, leader of the collation forces. The Iraqi army used a “scorched earth” technique when dealing Kuwait- they continued to set fire to 600 oil wells. Many Iraqi troops surrender with ease due to the terrible conditions ( lack of food, non-payment, lack of supplies).

## Results

After the war, several Iraqi groups compete for power- Saddam continued to hold power and the UN maintains trade sanctions against Iraq. Throughout the **1990's** UN weapons inspectors found a variety of weapons and banned technology. The world learns that Saddam had committed horrific crimes against the Kurds and is concerned he is still in power. The UN decides it will lift sanctions **ONLY** if the Iraq weapons programs will be dismantled. Iraq continues to break UN bans and in **1993** President Bill Clinton orders more air strikes, but Iraq continues to refuse to let in UN inspectors. Slowly, we see trade between Iraq and other Arab nations opens.





## Operation Iraqi Freedom

After the events of **September 11, 2001**, President George W. Bush refers to Iraq as part of the "Axis of Evil", believing that Iraq was harboring terrorists and that they still held weapons of mass destruction. On **November 8, 2002**- UN demands that Iraq allow in inspectors but it takes until **early 2003** for President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair to declared that Iraq was actually



continuing to hinder UN inspections and that it still retained proscribed weapons. While Iraq appears to comply and stop interfering with the UN inspectors, many other UN nations asked to give Iraq more time to comply ( France, Germany, Russia). On **March 17, 2003**-George W. Bush gave an ultimatum to Saddam, giving him 48 hours to leave Iraq. The leaders of France, Germany, Russia, and other countries objected to this buildup towards war. **March 20, 2003**- the Allied Forces launch an attack on Iraq. Saddam Hussein was captured on **Dec. 13, 2003**. In **June 2004**, he stood trial for various crimes and was convicted of crimes against humanity and was executed on **Dec. 30, 2006**. In **January 31,**

**2005**, Provisional elections held in Iraq and by **May 2005** is the bloodiest month seen in Iraq since the invasion. As the war looms on, public opinion for the war decreases. Despite public opinion in **2007, 20,000** more U.S. troops added to Iraq.

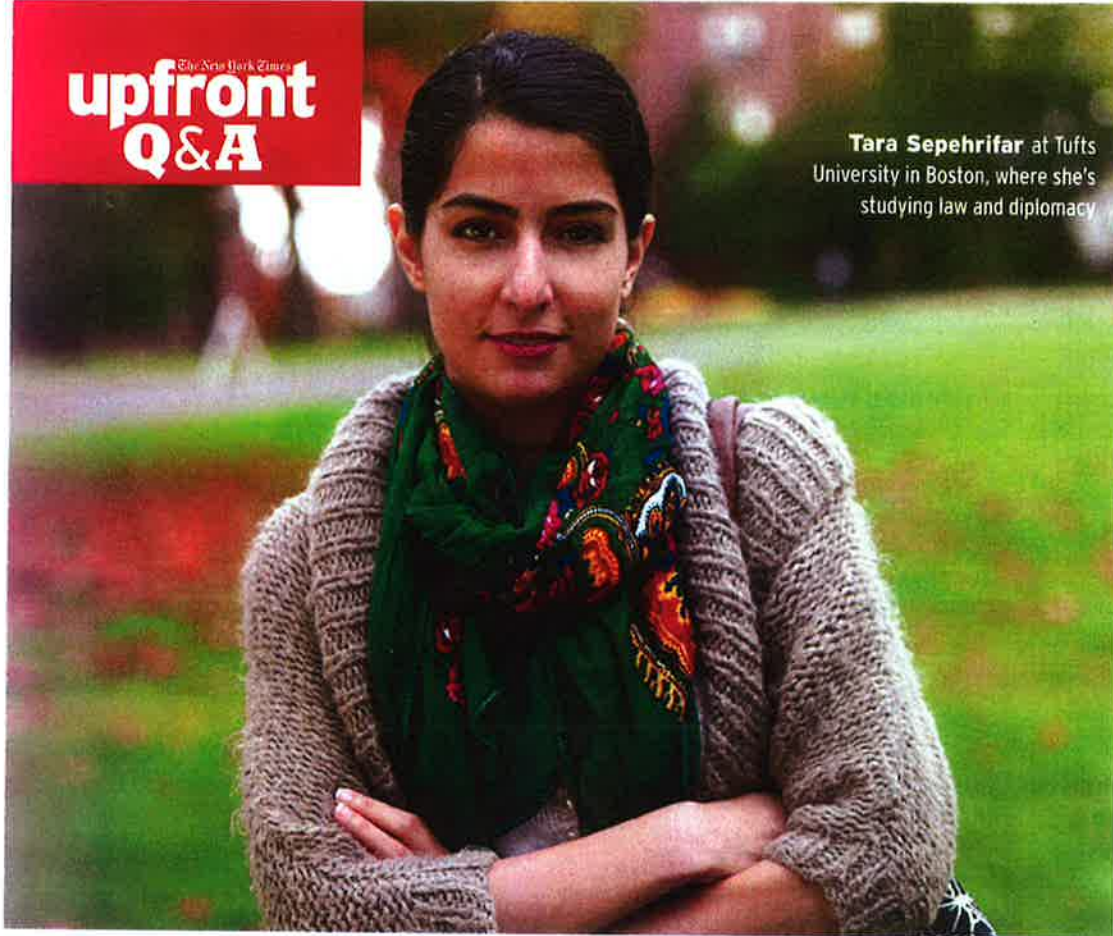


## Operation New Dawn

In **November 2008** an agreement for a timetable for withdrawal of U.S. forces. U.S. troops were scheduled to leave the cities by mid-2009, and withdrawal from the country was set to be completed in early 2012. In **February 2009** President Barack Obama announced that U.S. combat forces would be withdrawn from Iraq by **August 2010**, with the remaining troops due to pull out by December 2011. **January 31, 2009** provincial ( state) elections held and 50,000 troops will remain for training. The last troops leave Iraq on **December 15, 2011**



Tara Sepehrifar at Tufts University in Boston, where she's studying law and diplomacy



**Upfront:** How was your experience in an Iranian prison?

**TS:** The experience of being kept in solitary confinement [for a month] is difficult. And the most frustrating point is the fact that you never know what will happen. But at the same time, it's an experience that will help you know more about yourself and how committed you could be.

**Upfront:** Why did you decide to leave Iran?

**TS:** Because I did not want to spend that time in prison, although I respect all my friends who did that and stood up and decided to stay there. I thought, "I'm in my 20s and there is a lot more to learn. And I want to be able to be influential and make a change, and I could use my time to learn more about the world."

**Upfront:** What was your reaction when you found out that you'd been sentenced to prison and a lashing?

**TS:** As I found out I was, "That's impossible." That was a sad moment, figuring out, OK, maybe

there's no way back. But I tried to stay optimistic. If you only think about the negative aspects of it, it's obviously very painful.

**Upfront:** What do you think of President Hassan Rouhani?

**TS:** I think what happened in the elections was definitely a positive change for the country. But I also think we have to be realistic about what he can achieve in this four-year period. I think he will face a lot of resistance from the conservative part of the regime.

**Upfront:** What do young people in Iran hope for?

**TS:** For younger generations, more important

than anything is what they would call their basic freedoms. They don't want interference by the government in multiple aspects of their lives—for example, having the morals police telling them what to wear or not, or interfering with their personal relationships.

**Upfront:** What are your hopes for the future of Iran?

**TS:** I don't think the situation is sustainable in Iran because I think people at this moment are very different from the ones in power. If we can break the isolation, it will ultimately help democracy in the country. That's what I'm hoping for. I'm hoping for a more reformist government in power that could bring more change gradually. •

# Escape From Tehran

A young Iranian talks about why she fled to the United States and the 74 lashes that await her back home

BY ALESSANDRA POTENZA

**T**ara Sepehrifar, 26, fled to the U.S. from Iran in 2010 after taking part in student protests over the disputed 2009 election that kept then-President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in power. She was arrested and spent more than a month in a Tehran prison, fleeing Iran after her family bailed her out. Now a graduate student in Boston, she's been sentenced in absentia to seven years in prison and 74 lashes. *Upfront* spoke with Sepehrifar about her life in Iran and her take on the new president, Hassan Rouhani, who has portrayed himself as a moderate ready to improve relations with the West.

**Upfront:** Why did you decide to join Iran's student movement?

**Tara Sepehrifar:** When I was in high school, we had a reformist government in power [President Mohamed Khatami, 1997-2005]. But things changed after Mr. Ahmadinejad became the president. We [in the student movement] were clearly after reform. But gradually, more than trying to make a change, we were trying to stop things from getting worse.

**'If you only think about the negative aspects of it, it's ... very painful.'**

**LISTEN TO THE INTERVIEW**

More from Tara Sepehrifar  
[WWW.UPFRONTMAGAZINE.COM](http://WWW.UPFRONTMAGAZINE.COM)