

## TIME

May 24, 2004 Vol. 163, No. 21

10 QUESTIONS: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on Patton, war and writing history.....8

LETTERS .....9

**MILESTONES:** A legendary funnyman; a girl who was a boy; a royal wedding......**24** 

IN THE ARENA: Joe Klein on Kerry's calculated silence on Iraq.....25

COVER: Photomontage by Arthur Hochstein

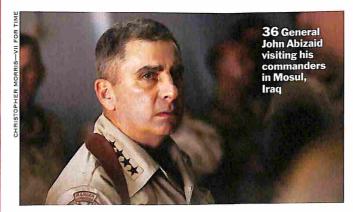
BUSH, BROOKS KRAFT; WITMER SISTERS, MICHAEL SEARS-POOL—GETTY IMAGES; MICHAEL SEARS-POOL—GETTY IMAGES; MYERS, JASON REED—REUTERS; IRAOI WOMAN, KHAMPHA BOUAPHANH—ABACA PRESS; BREMER, ROBERTO SCHMIDT—AFP/GETTY IMAGES; PRISONER, AP; SOLDIER, AKRAM SALEH—REUTERS; TAGUBA, ALEX WONG—GETTY IMAGES, HUMYEE, ALI ABBAS—EPA; BERG, AP; ENGLAND, AP; RUMSFELD, JIM MACMILLAN—EPA

## COVER STORY MATICON

War Torn As the Iraq war drags on, a growing number of voters are having second thoughts about Bush's instinctive brand of leadership. Can he improve the Iraq situation enough by November to save his job?.....30

Inside the Occupation The U.S. has a mess on its hands, a long-shot strategy and only six weeks in which to make it all work.......36

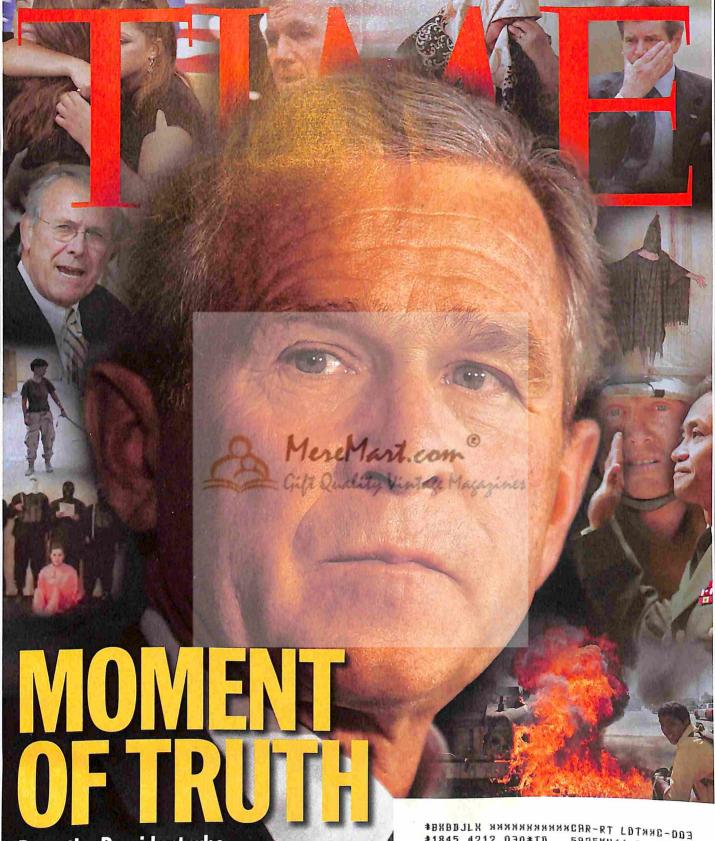
**Chain of Blame** Was Abu Ghraib free-lance madness, or was it part of a larger plan? The trail leads to some disturbing places \_\_\_\_\_44





42 ▲ Nick Berg, the young American beheaded by terrorists in Iraq, traveled the country with little fear

TIME (ISSN 0040-781X) is published weekly, except for two issues combined at year-end by Time Inc. Principal Office: Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, N.Y. 10020-1393. Ann S. Moore, Chairman, CEO; Richard Alkinson, Treasurer, John S. Redpath Jr., Secretary. Periodicals postage paid at New York, New York, and at additional mailing offices. © 2004 Time Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. TIME and the Red Border Design are protected through trademark registration in the United States and in the foreign countries where TIME magazine circulates. A one-year subscription to TIME is 56 issues for \$72.24 per year. Subscribers: If the Postal Service alerts us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to TIME, P.O. Box 30601, year. Subscribers: If the Postal Service alerts us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to TIME, P.O. Box 30601, and all the provided address of the Postal Service alerts us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to TIME, P.O. Box 30601, and all the postal Service alerts us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to TIME in Postal Service along the provided address of the postal Service and the postal Service along the provided address of the postal Service along the provided address of the postal Service along the provided address of the postal Service and the postal Service along the provided address of the postal Service and the postal Service along the provided address of the postal Service and the postal Service and the postal Service and the postal Service



Does the President who led us into Iraq know how to lead us out? George W. Bush's re-election hinges on the answer

#1845 4212 030#TD 5925HN44 A HOVOS FLORENCE I HILLIS

#61152 203 3RD ST SW RPT 1 86E004

.HN 56482-1423