

GI SPECIAL 2#B22

REAL BAD PLACE TO BE:
TIME TO GET OUT AND COME HOME ALIVE



“Disaster Now”

This Is What Military Defeat Looks Like

01 August 2004 By Robert Fisk The Independent UK

Much of Iraq has fallen outside the control of America's puppet government in Baghdad but we are not told. Hundreds of attacks are made against US troops every month. But unless an American dies, we are not told. This month's death toll of Iraqis in Baghdad alone has now reached 700 - the worst month since the invasion ended. But we are not told.

Living in Iraq these past few weeks is a weird as well as dangerous experience. I drive down to Najaf. Highway 8 is one of the worst in Iraq. Westerners are murdered there. It is littered with burnt-out police vehicles and American trucks. Every police post for 70 miles has been abandoned.

Indeed, watching any Western television station in Baghdad these days is like tuning in to Planet Mars. Doesn't Blair realise that Iraq is about to implode? Doesn't Bush realise this?

The American-appointed "government" controls only parts of Baghdad - and even there its ministers and civil servants are car-bombed and assassinated.

Baquba, Samara, Kut, Mahmoudiya, Hilla, Fallujah, Ramadi, all are outside government authority. Iyad Allawi, the "Prime Minister", is little more than mayor of Baghdad. "Some journalists," Blair announces, "almost want there to be a disaster in Iraq." He doesn't get it. The disaster exists now.

Even the National Conference to appoint those who will arrange elections has been twice postponed.

And looking back through my notebooks over the past five weeks, I find that not a single Iraqi, not a single American soldier I have spoken to, not a single mercenary - be he American, British or South African - believes that there will be elections in January. All said that Iraq is deteriorating by the day. And most asked why we journalists weren't saying so.

Each day, the papers here list another construction company pulling out of the country. And I go down to visit the friendly, tragically sad staff of the Baghdad mortuary and there, each day, are dozens of those Iraqis we supposedly came to liberate, screaming and weeping and cursing as they carry their loved ones on their shoulders in cheap coffins.

What, indeed, are we to make of a war which is turned into a fantasy by those who started it?

As foreign workers pour out of Iraq for fear of their lives, US Secretary of State Colin Powell tells a press conference that hostage-taking is having an "effect" on reconstruction. Effect! Oil pipeline explosions are now as regular as power cuts.

In parts of Baghdad now, they have only four hours of electricity a day; the streets swarm with foreign mercenaries, guns poking from windows, shouting abusively at Iraqis who don't clear the way for them. This is the "safer" Iraq which Mr Blair was boasting of the other day. What world does the British Government exist in?

GET SOME TRUTH: CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

Telling the truth - about the occupation, the cuts to veterans' benefits, or the dangers of depleted uranium - is the first reason Traveling Soldier is necessary. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance - whether it's in the streets of Baghdad, New York, or inside the armed forces. Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces. If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers.
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/>

IRAQ WAR REPORTS:

Pendleton Marine Killed, Six Wounded Near Falluja

August 3, 2004 By Rick Rogers, UNION-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

FALLUJAH, Iraq – A Marine was killed and six others were wounded yesterday in two attacks by insurgents outside the city.

All of the casualties belong to 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment from Camp Pendleton.

Four Marines were wounded and another was killed when mortars struck their bunkered position just north of Fallujah about 8 p.m. Two of those Marines were in surgery late yesterday.

A few hours earlier, a roadside bomb wounded two Marines while they were on patrol near Saqlawiyah, a town just outside Fallujah. Those injuries were described as "moderate" by a Marine spokesman.

The battalion is part of the 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force that arrived in Anbar province in March to relieve the Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

The Marines are expected to complete their seven-month rotation and return home in October. They are among 25,000 Marines – 19,000 from bases in San Diego County – in Iraq.

SECOND MARINE DIES OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION MONDAY

August 3, 2004 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND Release
Number: 04-08-04C

FALLUJAH, Iraq - An additional Marine assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force died of wounds received in action Aug. 2 in the Al Anbar Province while conducting security and stability operations. This brings the total to two.

BLAST KILLS TWO SOLDIERS IN BAGHDAD

August 3, 2004 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND Release
Number: 04-08-03C

BAGHDAD - Two Task Force Baghdad Soldiers were killed and two were wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated around 11 p.m. Aug. 2.

The wounded were evacuated to a military medical facility for treatment.

SOLDIER DIES IN NON-COMBAT RELATED INCIDENT

August 3, 2004 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND Release
Number: 04-08-06C

BAGHDAD - A Task Force Baghdad Soldier died in a vehicle accident today. The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of the next of kin.

MARINE DIES OF NON-HOSTILE GUNSHOT WOUND

August 3, 2004 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND Release
Number: 04-08-05C

FOB DUKE - A Marine assigned to the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit died today as a result of a non-hostile gunshot wound.

N.J. Soldier Killed Just Like Close Friend

August 3, 2004 The Associated Press

LINDENWOLD, N.J. -- A southern New Jersey soldier whose best Army buddy was killed in March by a roadside bomb in Iraq died in a similar attack over the weekend.

Army Spc. Anthony J. Dixon, 20, of Lindenwold, was killed Sunday by a bomb that exploded near his guard post in Samarra. He had enlisted at the same time as his longtime friend, Adam Froehlich, 21, of Pine Hill. Froehlich, who was serving in a different unit in Iraq, was killed in March.

Dixon's family said he and Froehlich met when they were in junior high school and remained close.

"Isn't that ironic?" said Dixon's brother, Alexander Dixon Jr.

Family members were waiting to hear when Dixon's body would be brought home for burial.

Four 1st ID Troops Wounded In Samarra

01/08/2004 Thomas Crosbie Media

Northwest of Baghdad, insurgents detonated a bomb late on Saturday that wounded four U.S. troops, who shot dead one attacker, the military said.

The four US 1st Infantry Division soldiers were wounded when guerrillas attacked their patrol in Samarra, northwest of Baghdad, with an improvised explosive device just before midnight on Saturday, said military spokesman Maj. Neal O'Brien.

National Guard Base Trashed

Aug. 03, 2004 Associated Press

MADISON, S.D. - Soldiers from Company B of the South Dakota National Guard's 153rd Engineer Battalion are doing well two weeks after their motor pool was attacked in Iraq, a family member said.

"They have since moved on to a different camp, they have a little better living facilities and they are doing good," said Christie Finck, of Madison, who is married to Sgt. 1st Class Terry Finck.

"Their morale is back up and they continue to support each other every day, just like we do back here."

Company B, which includes soldiers from Madison and De Smet, lost vehicles, fuel pods and individual items in the attack, National Guard officials said.

Since news of the attack, Finck said she has received many calls from businesses asking how they can help. **"All of the Army-issued things have been replaced, and all of the personal things are on the way** - boxes and boxes of them," said Finck.

TROOP NEWS

Danish Soldiers Bring Down Commanders; Top Officers Relieved Of Duties After Complaints Of Prisoner Abuse

8/3/2004 By Jan M. Olsen

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) **The defense minister dismissed the two top Danish military commanders in Iraq on Tuesday as an inquiry widened into charges that a Danish officer denied water to Iraqi detainees and made them sit in uncomfortable positions for long periods of time.**

Defense Minister Soeren Gade said he relieved Col. Henrik Flach, the head of the country's 496-person unit in southern Iraq, from command "because of lack of judgment." Gade said the unit's executive officer, Lt. Col. Poul Erik Andersen, also was dismissed.

Several Danish soldiers complained to their superiors about the officer's methods.

Korea Troops Deploy To Iraq, Spouses “In Limbo” “It’s Not A Good Feeling”



The son of a U.S. soldier from the 2nd Infantry Division, who will remain in South Korea, watches marching troops of the 2nd infantry division during farewell ceremony at U.S. Camp Casey in Dongducheon, north of Seoul Aug. 2. **The 3,600 soldiers of the United States Forces Korea will move to Iraq within one week.** (AP Photo/ Lee Jin-man)

August 02, 2004 by Karen Jowers, Army Times staff writer

When Lauren Huston found out her husband had orders to Korea for an unaccompanied tour, she was not happy.

“He said, ‘It could be worse, baby. I could be going to Iraq.’” Huston said.

For the Hustons and thousands of other families of troops on tours to Korea, it just got worse. Historically, troops on tours in Korea have never deployed off the peninsula. But now, some are indeed deploying to Iraq — and soon.

The troops of the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division have been in the field preparing for their deployment, which makes communication more difficult. But Lauren Huston, Marsha DeFelice and other family members spread out across the country have been grasping for information and reaching out to find each other, as the brigade gets ready to go.

“We’ve got a group of wives here at Fort Benning [Ga.], and others are scattered around the country,” Huston said. “I can only imagine how people are feeling who are out there alone.”

Extended Tour Leaves Family In Limbo

Shannettia Pickett had resigned from her job as a middle school teacher in Fayetteville, N.C., at the end of the school year and was going on job interviews with schools in Florida, where she and her husband were due to move.

But in late May, just before he started packing up to return home from his yearlong unaccompanied tour, he found out he would not be going to Florida, but deploying to Iraq.

On May 11, he got orders to report to Camp Blanding, Fla. On May 18, his unit was alerted it would deploy to Iraq.

But although he found a soldier who was willing to replace him and also deploy to Iraq, he’ll still be deploying.

Instead of returning in July 2004, he’ll be coming home in November 2005.

“This means he will be away from our family for 28 months,” said Shanettia, mother to three children, ages 8 months, 21 months, and 8 years. “It’s not fair to the people who have been gone from their families for a year, and some longer,” she said.

And they, like other families in the 2nd Infantry Division, don’t know where the unit will end up when they come back from Iraq. All they know is they won’t go back to Korea.

“After he got his orders, I resigned from my position here, so I’m unemployed. I’ve applied to the school system in Florida, but can’t take a job there. Now we’re short my income,” she said.

She’s also asked her former employer to rehire her, but that’s an uncertainty, since they had filled her position.

“My income is critical to our household,” she said.

On July 20, the day he was supposed to report to his new duty station, Sgt. 1st Class Ezzell Pickett instead talked on his cell phone in an interview from the field in Korea.

“Over the past year, I’ve been looking forward to this time. Now I’m in the field getting ready to go to Iraq,” he said.

“It’s not a good feeling.”

Ukraine Planning Troop Withdrawal; War Making Stay Unsafe

August 04, 2004 GEO news

Ukraine has said it was considering withdrawal of its troops from Iraq due to deteriorating law and order situation.

Ukraine Prime Minister said they were aiming talking to Security Council for withdrawal of their 1600 troops from Iraq.

(For more, see the article “The Case For Withdrawal” by Eric Ruder at www.isreview.org.)

National Guard Recruiting Short 12 Percent; 2/3rds Of Indiana Battalion Leave Service

August 09, 2004 By Jane McHugh, Army Times staff writer

Recruiting for the National Guard is 12 percent behind goal with just two months left in the fiscal year, officials said.

The Guard set a goal of recruiting 41,131 soldiers through June 30 — the first three quarters of fiscal 2004 — but managed to sign up only 35,990, said Lt. Col. Mike Jones, deputy division chief for recruiting and retention for the National Guard Bureau.

The news comes as the Guard prepares to nearly double the number of its combat brigades to serve in Iraq in the next troop rotation.

Almost two thirds of soldiers in an Indiana National Guard battalion that spent a year in Iraq chose not to re-up. Typically, said leaders of the 1st Battalion, 152nd Regiment, about 85 percent of unit members choose to stay in service.

Army Broke: \$9.4B In The Hole; Cutting Equipment Repairs

August 02, 2004 by Rick Maze, Army Times staff writer

The services are feeling tightly squeezed by the costs of the global war on terrorism, according to congressional auditors.

In a July 21 report, the Government Accountability Office — the recently renamed investigative arm of Congress — says the services are going to extraordinary lengths to cover costs of the ongoing occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan because the emergency \$54.9 billion provided last year isn't enough.

Looking at expenses through June, auditors said the services are in the hole for \$12.3 billion — \$9.4 billion for the Army, \$1.4 billion for the Air Force, \$1 billion for the Navy and \$500 million for the Marine Corps — and the shortfall is likely to worsen by October, the start of the new fiscal year.

All the services are deferring maintenance on equipment, which could especially hurt the Army and Marine Corps. Those services are amassing large amounts of vehicles and gear in need of refurbishing after seeing heavy use in Iraq. The Air Force and Navy also are reducing flying hours.

In some cases, the services are cutting back on maintenance and repair of bases, eliminating or shortening training exercises, slowing civilian hiring and reducing expenses for travel, supplies and equipment not related to deployments.

Pfc. Stomps Stupid Bigot

Letters To The Editor, Army Times 8.9.04

I would like to bring to your attention the contradiction in Mark C. Brinkley's two stories "A look back at badness" and "Try, try again" in the July 19 issue.

In the first story, Mr. Brinkley makes the point that the most heroic and thus badass of all people in our history are the men and women of doomed Flight 93 on Sept. 1, 2001. He is correct.

On the same page, under the header “Try, try again,” Mr. Brinkley makes stereotypical homophobic statements.

A little research would have revealed to him that one of those Sept. 11 badass heroes was Mark K. Bingham, a successful businessman who was gay.

I guess being a badass and a hero doesn't matter in your writer's eyes, but he should try to have some respect for a fallen hero — even if he was gay.

Pfc. Shaun E. Elexendere
San Jose, Calif.

What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Send to the E-mail address up top. Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Bomb Kills Six US Allies

Aug. 03, 2004 Associated Press & By Dean Yates, Reuters

BAGHDAD, Iraq - A car bomb exploded Tuesday at an Iraqi National Guard checkpoint outside the city of Baqouba, killing six guardsmen and wounding six others, Iraqi authorities said.

The blast occurred about 2:30 p.m. in the Kharnabat region just north of Baqouba. The attack killed at least four guardsmen, said police Capt. Ahmed Shaker. National Guard Lt. Mohammed al-Duleimi said six died and six were wounded.

U.S. troops cordoned off the area of the blast.

Same Old Same Old: As Usual, Attack Halts Oil Exports Through Northern Pipeline

BAGHDAD, Aug. 3 (Xinhuanet) -- **A major bomb attack happened Tuesday on the main northern pipeline from the oil fields of Kirkuk to the Turkish port of Ceyhan stopped oil exports in northern Iraq, Qatar-based al-Jazeera TV reported.**

Huge fires, caused by an improvised explosion device in al-Fateha area west of Kirkuk, damaged the main pipeline running to Ceyhan and halted exports, the channel said.

The attack occurred at about 6:00 am (1400 GMT) and the fire fighters were still battling the raging flames, it added.

Iraq's oil pipelines have been frequently (**read “constantly, continually, and unremittingly”**) attacked and sabotaged by insurgents, which badly limited the country's oil exports and undermined the interim Iraqi government.



Iraqi police officers walk past former police car in the northern city of Mosul Aug. 1, 2004. A car bomb exploded outside a police station in Mosul Sunday (Namir Noor-Eldeen/Reuters)

Baghdad Police Chief Killed In Resistance Attack

3 August 2004 (AFP)

BAGHDAD - A Baghdad police chief was killed and two policemen wounded Tuesday when their car hit a roadside bomb in the capital, said police and hospital sources.

Colonel Moyad Bashar al-Shamari was travelling to work with two sergeants when their car hit a roadside bomb at around 7:40 am (0340 GMT) close to the Abu Jafaar al-Mansour square west of the city centre, according to Omar Moyad, second lieutenant at

the Al-Mamoun police station. Shamari died of his wounds shortly after he was taken to Yarmouk hospital, according to doctors there.

"After I heard a loud explosion, I rushed outside and saw the damaged police car with three bloodied people inside," said Mohammed Abdulqader, a resident in the area of the attack.

OCCUPATION REPORT

“Liberation” Bush Style: Occupation Arrests Leading Iraqi Editor After TV Interview

8.2.04 matamat.com

US occupation forces in Iraq have arrested Dr Muthana Harith al-Dhari the editor of al-Basaer newspaper (Insight) and media officer for the influential Association of Muslim Scholars.

"US forces arrested Muthana Harith al-Dhari this morning as he turned up at the Um al-Quraa mosque, the headquarters of the committee," Ahmad Abd Al-Ghafur al-Sammarai of the AMS, Iraq's leading Sunni authority, said.

"This is the work of the occupation forces. They're here to intimidate and terrorise people not to rebuild our country," he added.

Al-Sammarai said he had no idea why al-Dhari had been arrested and called for all detainees of the occupation forces in Iraq to be released.

Aljazeera interviewed Amar Abd Al-Karim, who was accompanying al-Dhari when he was arrested, and he says the US forces stopped Dr al-Dhari's convoy and took him into custody.

"We were on our way to the headquarters of the AMS, going out from the studio of the LBC (Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation), where Dr al-Dhari had given an interview.

"A US patrol emerged suddenly and stopped our convoy. They searched the cars, and then asked us to step aside and called for reinforcements.

"A number of Humvees arrived with detecting devices. They gave us body scans, and told us that Dr Muthana and two of his companions were to be arrested because the device detected remains of explosives on Dr al-Dhari's hands." **(In New York City,**

we're still backwards in comparison. The cops just throw some crack on the ground and "find" that.)

Abd Al-Karim said the group was enraged at the US's allegations and stressed that Dr al-Dhari was a guest in a TV interview.

"The US soldiers at the scene told us either we shut up, or we would be arrested with Dr al-Dhari," he said. (Now that IS New York City cop style.)

Sabah Ahmad, the technical manager of the al-Basaer newspaper, told Aljazeera.net the staff condemned the arrest of their editor which they considered an illegal act.

"Journalists in Iraq condemn the arrest of Dr Muthana and we will ask media unions inside and outside Iraq to interfere and call on the US to free him.

"It appears that he was arrested for saying something in a broadcast interview that the US occupation authorities did not like," Ahmad said.

**OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION
BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME NOW!**

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Saluting a Myth: Kerry's Hypocrisy On The Vietnam War

August 2, 2004 By ROBERT JENSEN, CounterPunch

In a hyper-patriotic country, it can be difficult to tell the truth about the barbarism of one's own leaders. But in 1971, John Kerry was among the Vietnam War veterans who did that, telling the Senate Foreign Relations Committee:

"[T]here is nothing in South Vietnam which could happen that realistically threatens the United States of America. And to attempt to justify the loss of one American life in Vietnam, Cambodia or Laos by linking such loss to the preservation of freedom is to us the height of criminal hypocrisy, and it is that kind of hypocrisy which we feel has torn this country apart."

If hypocrisy from those seeking high office is inevitable, then we should not be surprised that candidate Kerry ignored his own critique of that war when at the Democratic convention he proudly proclaimed, "I defended this country as a young man and I will defend it as president."

Kerry's actions while he was in the Navy in Vietnam may have been reprehensible and his critique when he returned may have been too cautious, but in 1971 he stated clearly that the war had nothing to do with defending the United States. Yet **to position himself today as tough on "national security," Kerry is conveniently forgetting what he once knew.**

This is not merely an academic debate; how we understand the United States' attempts to dominate the world in the last half of the 20th century affects how we understand similar attempts going on today.

The standard story in the United States is that in our quest to guarantee peace and freedom for Vietnam, we misunderstood its history, politics and culture, leading to mistakes that doomed our effort. Some argue we should have gotten out sooner than we did; others suggest we should have fought harder. But the common ground in mainstream opinion is that our motives were noble.

The truth, unfortunately, is less pleasant. After World War II, the United States supported and financed France's attempt to retake its former colony. After the Vietnamese defeated the French in 1954, the Geneva Conference called for free elections in 1956, which the United States and its South Vietnamese client regime blocked. In his memoirs, President Eisenhower explained why: In free elections, the communists would have won by an overwhelming margin, which was unacceptable to the United States.

To prevent the spread of the virus, we dropped 6.5 million tons of bombs and 400,000 tons of napalm on the people of Southeast Asia. Saturation bombing of civilian areas, counterterrorism programs and political assassination, routine killings of civilians and 11.2 million gallons of Agent Orange to destroy crops and ground cover -- all were part of the U.S. terror war in Vietnam, as well as Laos and Cambodia.

This interpretation is taken as obvious in much of the world, yet it is virtually unspeakable in polite and respectable circles in this country, which says much about the moral quality of polite and respectable people here. In many ways, the Vietnam War was the defining act of the United States as empire, an aggression that was condemned around the world and at home, but pursued even as the body count went into the millions. Lying about that is crucial to our mythology.

George W. Bush, the Republican Party, and conservatives are deeply invested in that mythology. Sadly, so are many liberals. Perhaps some believe it. Perhaps others feel they must pretend to believe it to position themselves as centrists in elections. Whatever the case, telling the lie over and over again keeps people not only from understanding history, but also from seeing the present and our future choices honestly.

When Kerry began his acceptance speech with a crisp salute, he was "reporting for duty," of a certain kind. **Instead of the honorable duty of leaders -- to tell the truth, no matter how painful, and help people come to terms with the consequences of that truth -- he has chosen the more common approach of those who lie, distort and obfuscate to gain power.**

In 1971, Kerry said he hoped that in 30 years Americans would look back and appreciate the courage of vets who opposed the war as a moment when "America finally turned" away from the lies and toward justice.

More than 30 years later, candidate Kerry has chosen the hypocrisy he once condemned over the courage he once called for.

NEW TERRORISM ALERT GETS RESULTS!



As a direct result of the government's warning to the nation that a group of terrorists were loose in the USA, planning evil deeds of mass destruction, an alert news photographer snapped this photo Aug. 2 of the deadly plotters meeting in Washington DC, fiendishly disguised as corporate executives. This photo is circulated so all Americans can be on the lookout for them. Warning: Do not approach, they are armed and dangerous.

Missing from the photo is the operational mastermind of the network, Rashid Bin-Cheney, who is believed to be responsible for hundreds of bombings in Iraq involving the deaths of thousands of Iraqi civilians, and is reported to be in hiding in an undisclosed location.

Belonging to the conspiratorial Al-Bushit network, these men they have killed nearly 1000 American soldiers, and wounded thousands more.

Security consultants have identified the individuals caught in this photo as:

From L-R: Acting Director of the CIA John McLaughlin, Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge, Secretary of State Colin Powell, George W. Bush (spiritual leader and fanatic fundamentalist), Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of the Justice Department John Ashcroft and FBI Director Robert Mueller. (Larry Downing/Reuters)

Do you have a friend or relative in the service? Forward this E-MAIL along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly. Whether in Iraq or stuck on a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the

war, at home and in Iraq, and information about other social protest movements here in the USA. **Send requests to address up top. For copies on web site see:** <http://www.notinourname.net/qi-special/>

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Insurgents Attack

August 02, 2004 Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Insurgents attacked an Afghan military post on the frontier with Pakistan on Monday, injuring four soldiers in a skirmish that saw American helicopters scramble in response, an Afghan commander said.

Two of the soldiers were seriously hurt when they came under fire at 2:30 a.m. (2200 GMT Sunday) near Zhawara, about 60 kilometers (40 miles) south of Khost city, Gen. Khial Baz told The Associated Press.

All four were taken to American military bases for treatment, he said.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

The Slaughter In Rafah

From: [Mohammed Al Moghayer](#)

To: GI Special

Sent: August 03, 2004

Dear all:

Many people were killed , human beings shreds are spreaded everywhere in the streets, many injured and killed people are everywhere, still so many people are in the streets bleeding, the situations are getting worst now..

One of my friends, Bassam gets injured from the apaches rockets while he was photographing near me..

Please see the website of Rafah and publish to your friends about what is happening here, www.rafahtoday.org

I have taken many many photos for injured and killed people everywhere, and feeling very sad because I have many graphic photos and don't know if I can publish them or not... I can't open them, because I get shocked when I open them,...

Anyhow please let your friends know about what is happening here, we need more people to know about what is happening here..

Thank you for your time and best regards

Mohammed

PS. I want to go to US, UK and all over the world, explain, talk and educate people about what is GOING on here in Palestine.. they slaughtering people every minute.

(To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation by a foreign power, go to: www.rafahtoday.org. The foreign army is Israeli; the occupied nation is Palestine.)

Received:

Individual Being Reactivated For Iraq Needs Help

To: Veterans for Common Sense
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2004 9:48 PM
Subject: individual being reactivated for Iraq/

Please be aware that the Army has reactivated a young veteran, informed him that he is to report for duty in 3 weeks for duty in Iraq. polito101@hotmail.com needs encouragement, support and legal counsel.

Please call me at 727-341-1957 for support and contact info. I am also sending this out to vets for common sense as they are compiling contacts with veterans who are being reactivated against their will for combat in Iraq, and a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times who has been writing about this issue. Lenore LaPeter.<lapeter@sptimes.com>

XX, you are essentially still anonymous. I want you to know this is a small portion of people who could be interested in you and supporting you through this resistance effort.

It is really a matter of you having choices. If you realize that and understand the options as well as the risks, then you can make an informed choice that is right for you. Nobody will condemn you if you ultimately choose to go back into the Army, but based upon your words to me, you don't want to and it is more out of a conviction that you are against this war than it being an inconvenience to you. So you need some information and fast.

Anybody have info on the Army being aggressive with call-ups? Also the legal procedures and expected actions by the military with individuals who are refusing a return to active duty specifically to be sent to Iraq?

XX I suggest that you call the GI Rights Hotline and also contact with Scott Camil in Gainesville who is a veteran and GI Rights counselor.s.camil@att.net

The GI Rights Hotline (800) 394-9544<http://www.objector.org/girights/>

Jim Willingham, RN cancer care, St. Joseph's Hospital
Tampa, Florida
veteran for peace and common sense
Veterans for Common Sense

THANK YOU #1:

Thanks to the following who helped raise the funds for a new computer for GI Special after the old one blew up, making it possible to come back. Each of these good comrades in arms helped circulate appeals to their lists. For security, only initials will be used for individuals.

MW

MS

DS

EJ

JP

New York City Labor Against The War

(If any have been omitted, please email and correction will be made. A lot of emails were lost during the down time.)

Thanks to individuals will come next, but there are so many it will take longer to compile.

T.

If printed out, this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.