

## GI SPECIAL 2#B3



An Iraqi boy holds a grenade launcher as he marches with Madhi Army holding an anti-USA armed demonstration in the Sadr City district of Baghdad, June 15. (AP Photo/Hussein Malla)

# **Poll of Iraqis Reveals They Want Occupation Troops Out Now; Al-Sadr & Shia Resistance Win Majority Support**

6.15.04 By JOHN SOLOMON, Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - **A poll of Iraqis commissioned by the U.S.-backed government has provided the Bush administration a stark picture of anti-American sentiment — more than half of Iraqis believe they would be safer if U.S. troops simply left.**

**The poll, commissioned by the Coalition Provisional Government last month but not released to the American public,** also found radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr is surging in popularity, 92 percent of Iraqis consider the United States an occupying force and more than half believe all Americans behave like those portrayed in the Abu Ghraib prison abuse photos.

"If you are sitting here as part of the coalition, it (the poll) is pretty grim," said Donald Hamilton, a career foreign service officer who is working for Ambassador Paul Bremer's interim government and helps oversee the CPA's polling of Iraqis.

**The coalition's confidence rating in May stood at 11 percent, down from 47 percent in November,** while coalition forces had just 10 percent support. Nearly half of Iraqis said they felt unsafe in their neighborhoods.

**And 55 percent of Iraqis reported to the pollsters they would feel safer if U.S. troops immediately left,** nearly double the 28 percent who felt that way in January.

Anger at Americans was evident in other aspects of the poll, including a rapid rise in popularity for al-Sadr, the Muslim cleric who has been leading insurgents fighting U.S.-led coalition forces.

**The poll reported that 81 percent of Iraqis said they had an improved opinion of al-Sadr in May from three months earlier, and 64 percent said the acts of his insurgents had made Iraq more unified.**

Refusals to answer were the highest seen to date, a trend noted by other pollsters.

**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/>

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS:**

### **Killed Soldier Was From Salem**

June 14, 2004 DAN DE CARBONEL, Statesman Journal

The Oregon National Guard identified Spec. Eric McKinley, as the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry soldier killed during a bomb attack in Iraq over the weekend.

McKinley was born in Salem and lived in Corvallis before his unit shipped out. He is survived by his father, Tom McKinley, and mother Karen Hilsendager.

**Four other members of the unit were injured in the attack on their Humvee on Sunday. Staff Sgt. Phillip Davis, 31, was born in Salem and resides in Albany. Davis suffered shrapnel wounds and a broken right arm and bruising to his right knee and thigh.**

**Sgt. Matthew Zedwick, 23, was born in Portland and lives in Bend. Zedwick was treated for shrapnel wounds and returned to duty.**

**Cpl. Shane Ward, 23, was born in Forest Grove and lived in Corvallis. Ward was injured as he rushed to the aid of soldiers injured by the initial blast. He suffered a compound shoulder fracture.**

**Pvt. 1st Class Richard Olsen, 23, was born in Portland and lives in Independence. Olsen suffered shrapnel wounds to his left arm but was treated and returned to duty.**

McKinley is the fourth member of the Cottage Grove based unit killed in combat and the fifth Guard soldier to die serving in Iraq.

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## **Another Helicopter Down, Both Pilots Broke Backs**

June 15, 2004 Albany Democrat-Herald

A helicopter crashed in Iraq on Sunday. The crew survived the crash, and it wasn't immediately clear if it was tied to the fighting.

The pilot of the OH-58 helicopter was 25-year-old Lt. Dwight Mears of Corvallis. According to Mears' father, George, both the younger Mears and his co-pilot broke their backs.

Mears, who was stationed in Hawaii before his deployment in January, was flown to Germany for surgery.

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## **New Convoy Attack Kills More Contractors**

6.15.04 Thomas Crosbie Media

Gunmen opened fire on a three vehicle convoy of contractors working for the coalition near Baghdad today, killing some of them, a US military spokesman said.

They attacked from a road overpass west of the Iraqi capital, disabling two of the vehicles and killing an unknown number of people, said deputy operations chief Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt.

A third vehicle – hit by small arms fire – made it safely to a coalition base, Kimmitt said.

“I got those reports first hand from some shaken-up contractors,” Kimmitt said.

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## US Base At Hillah Car Bombed

Jun 15 By DANICA KIRKA, Associated Press Writer, BAGHDAD, Iraq

A car bomb exploded Tuesday outside a coalition base near Hillah south of Baghdad, killing one Iraqi and wounding another, the U.S. military said. **And gunmen killed an Iraqi police official in a town near Hillah as he went to work, the military said.**

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## Insurgents Attacks On Pipelines Out Of Control; Too Numerous To Count

June 15, 2004 By Danica Kirka, Associated Press & KIRKUK, Iraq (Reuters)

**Iraqi insurgents stepped up their campaign against the country's infrastructure on Tuesday, blasting two oil pipelines, cutting the country's oil exports and driving up world oil prices.**

**Early Tuesday, saboteurs blasted two oil pipelines on the Faw peninsula of southern Iraq, forcing authorities to curb exports through the Gulf by half — from an average of 1.85 million barrels per day to more than 800,000 barrels.**

**An explosion also ripped through a crude oil pipeline linking northern Iraqi fields on Tuesday, a North Oil company official said.**

"It was probably sabotage," said the official, who asked not to be named.

**Witnesses said fire was still raging in the pipeline running from Disi to a pumping station around the city of Kirkuk, 30 miles to the west.**

Sabotage attacks on the main export pipeline from the northern Kirkuk fields to Turkey forced pumping to stop earlier this month. **Saboteurs also blew up two oil wells in April.**

Iraqi officials told Dow Jones Newswires they expected to have the damage repaired within a few days. However, petroleum analyst Paul Horsnell, the head of energy research at Barclays Capital in London, said that as a result of the blasts, Iraq would probably fail to meet its export target of 2 million barrels a day for June.



Iraqi firefighters try to extinguish a smouldering oil pipeline north of Faw, June 15, 2004. (AP Photo/Nabeel al-Jurani)

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## **Two Britons Killed In Bomb Blast Identified As Mercenaries**

15 Jun 2004 Edinburgh Evening News

One of the victims was former paratrooper Keith Butler, who fought in the Falklands and completed tours of duty in Northern Ireland, it was confirmed today.

The former colour sergeant, aged 46, died with his colleague, John Poole, as they acted as security guards for three foreign workers involved in the reconstruction of the Iraqi electricity industry.

Both men were working for London-based Olive Security, which employs former members of the UK Special Forces and has around 300 members of staff in Iraq.

Mr Butler is understood to have served with 3 Para Battalion of the Parachute Regiment.

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## **British Battalion 'Attacked Every Day For Six Weeks'**

June 14, 2004 -Sean Rayment [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)

**An infantry battalion serving in Iraq has been awarded the dubious distinction of having been attacked more times than any British Army unit since the Korean War.**

**The officers and men of the 1st battalion of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment have been "in contact" with enemy forces on more than 250 separate occasions since they arrived in Iraq six weeks ago.**

The regiment, which recruits troops from the southern Home Counties, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands, has sustained more than 40 casualties - 21 of whom have been evacuated back to Britain, where they are being treated for gunshot or shrapnel wounds in civilian hospitals.

**Despite the number and ferocity of the attacks there have been no fatalities. The battalion of 700, which is based in a bombed-out former Iraqi army camp at Abu Naji, south of Al Amarah, in the Maysan province of southern Iraq, has been under daily mortar attack for the past six weeks.**

**The unit has also been ambushed, attacked with rockets and home-made bombs and has been repeatedly sniped at by Iraqi gunmen.**

<p><b>The Ministry of Defence has been unwilling to release details of the frequency and intensity of the attacks because of fears that the news could increase calls for troops to be withdrawn from Iraq.</b></p>
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The level of anti-terrorist activity directed against British forces in the area has led to an additional 370 members of the 1st battalion of the Black Watch and Royal Engineers being deployed to help secure Route 6. Announcements on further troop deployments are expected in the next few weeks.

The last time a British regiment sustained such a high level of attacks was, according to military officials, during the Korean War, between 1950 and 1953, when British Army units were under sustained attack from Chinese and North Korean forces for weeks on end.

In military campaigns since the Korean War, such as the Falklands War, battles may have been bloodier with higher casualty levels but most lasted less than 24 hours. **No Army unit since the Korean War has been under continuous daily attack for six weeks. In Iraq, after hostilities were officially declared to be "over" last May, the number of attacks against British units fell sharply.**

Most units were told to expect between five and 10 "contacts" in a five-month tour, although that could rise to several a week

A "contact" is defined by the military as an encounter with the enemy and can include anything from a single round fired to a unit coming under artillery fire.

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## TROOP NEWS

### **Pentagon Fights Plan To Reimburse Military Families Who Bought Body Armor And Supplies For Soldiers**

**(First they send the troops off to battle without protection. Then, when families buy body armor and other supplies, they don't want to cough up the money the families had to spend. Rumsfeld, Bush and the rest of these scum are unfit for continued existence.)**

June 15, 2004 By Rich Maze, Army Times staff writer

The Senate adopted a plan that would reimburse troops deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan up to \$1,100 in expenses for safety, protective or health equipment sponsored by Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn.

**Dodd says he knows of one family that spent \$1,100 just for body armor and that last year the Army estimated soldiers were spending \$300 per person on gear before deploying for war.**

**The Pentagon opposed Dodd's amendment, arguing it was too broad and potentially too costly.**

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### **Bush Buddies At Halliburton Looted The Treasury While Soldiers Families Had To Buy Their Supplies**

Jun. 15, 2004 SETH BORENSTEIN, Knight Ridder

WASHINGTON - Halliburton Inc. paid high-priced bills for common items, such as soda, laundry and hotels, in Iraq and Kuwait and then passed the inflated costs along to taxpayers, according to several former Halliburton employees and a Pentagon internal audit.

Those former employees contend that the politically connected firm: **(What a shy reporter. The "political connection" is to Dirtbag Cheney.)**

- **Lodged 100 workers at a five-star hotel in Kuwait for a total of \$10,000 a day while the Pentagon wanted them to stay in tents, like soldiers, at \$139 a night.**
- **Abandoned \$85,000 trucks because of flat tires and minor problems.**

- Paid \$100 to have a 15-pound bag of laundry cleaned as part of a million-dollar laundry contract in peaceful Kuwait. The price for cleaning the same amount of laundry in war-torn Iraq was \$28.
- Spent \$1.50 a can to buy 37,200 cans of soda in Kuwait, about 24 times higher than the contract price.
- Knowingly paid subcontractors twice for the same bill.

**Halliburton is already under fire for allegations of overcharging the Pentagon for fuel and soldiers' meals.**

One former Halliburton subcontracting manager, Marie deYoung, said in her signed statement that she had seen "significant waste and overpricing."

"Halliburton rarely collected adequate information from subcontractors to justify payment of invoices. **When I attempted to properly verify invoice terms before setting up payment authorization, I was chastised,**" said deYoung, a former Army captain and chaplain who resigned from the company last month.

According to deYoung, Halliburton's financial staff lives at the five-star Kempinski Julai'a Hotel and Resort in Kuwait.

**"For a three-month period, the Kempinski hotel charged almost \$1 million to house 100 Halliburton employees. By comparison, it costs less than \$200,000 a year to lease tents that could house 400 soldiers. ... The military requested that Halliburton move into tents, but Halliburton refused."**

So far, the Army has agreed to pay KBR up to \$4.55 billion for Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Dickwad Cheney runs away from Iraq war veterans and military family members chasing his worthless ass over the South Lawn of the White House, June 15. Unfortunately, his pacemaker did not malfunction. Better luck next time. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

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# Iraq “Ripping Apart” Armed Forces; 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Fucked Again

(Thanks to LS, who sent this story.)

June 15, 2004 By Esther Schrader, Times Staff Writer

**"The Iraq war is a vortex that is ripping apart the American armed forces and it is ripping up the ground forces," said Donald Abenheim, a professor at the Pentagon-run Naval Postgraduate School.**

"The problem the leadership has is that it has this grand strategic plan that involves moving chess pieces around the globe. But its strategy does not seem to be working very well," he said.

Over the past month, the U.S. has announced two historic movements of troops out of South Korea, a shift that had been considered unthinkable for decades because of the North Korean threat. But with at least 3,500 troops — and possibly more — heading directly to Iraq from their bases in South Korea, anticipated opposition to the move has been muted.

**One of the German-based divisions, the 1st Armored, already has been sent to join the fight in Iraq. Moreover, 14,000 members of the division have been ordered to remain, after a year of service there and dozens of casualties.**

**Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has said it was not out of the question that the 1st Armored would be asked to remain in the fight still longer, although other military officials expect the division to leave Iraq next month.**

A senior defense official involved in the review of forces acknowledged last week that Iraq has the potential to throw some of the long-range planning out of whack.

**"I would say that Iraq specifically, and exactly what the endgame there is, is a piece of the puzzle that has not totally been defined." (The “endgame” is getting the fuck out now, regardless of what the politicians and the generals want. When the army in Vietnam rebelled against an imperial war, that stopped it and the troops went home.)**

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## Poems of Blood and Anger

By Nicholas D. Kristof, The New York Times, 09 June 2004

**An embittered second lieutenant who asks not to be named wrote:**

Knock the dust off your boots, my boy,  
It's time to ride again.  
The frontier has gone restless now  
And we must crush this rebellion. . . .  
These people understand only violence,  
So let's give it to 'em now.  
We'll ride 'em down like Cherokee;  
We'll trample 'em like Pueblo.  
These savages are ruthless;  
They understand no law.  
So we'll pick up our Peacemakers,  
And shoot 'em like Choctaw. . . .  
Rally round the flag, my boy,  
And grab your rifle, too.  
The Red Man's turned Brown, my boy,  
And there's a lot of peacemaking to do.

**Tim Johnson of Northville, Minn., wrote:**

Outside the city, shivering with dread,  
We're Falluja bound.  
Can hear the explosions when I raise my head. . . .  
Foreign soldiers, invaders from another land;  
When I look through the hatred in their eyes,  
I almost understand.  
R.P.G.'s, mortars, and friends dead on the road.  
My youth is gone,  
Crushed from sensory overload.  
Assaulted yesterday up an Iraqi street.  
RPG. explosion, a scream,  
Seared my face with the heat.  
Dragged him through the blood-streaked dust and dirt,  
His screams in my ears,  
His blood type tagged to his shirt.  
Covered with blood, he cried, Don't leave me alone.  
Died in my arms;  
Now I just want to go home.  
Officers yelling, Get out of your holes!  
We're Falluja bound;  
Please pray for our souls.

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## **No Tracking System For Wounded Troops; Frantic Families Kept In The Dark**

6.15.04 Arkansas News Bureau

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Mark Pryor, D-Ark., introduced legislation Monday he said would improve the system that allows worried families to track service members wounded overseas.

**"I have continuously received calls from their families who are distraught and worried because of failures in the current family notification system," he said in a speech unveiling the bill.**

**The Pentagon's current computer tracking system has glitches, Pryor said. For instance, the Army closes the case of a soldier who has been upgraded to the status of "not seriously injured," making it difficult for their families to find them, Pryor said.**

### **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 RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Commander of Iraqi Border Forces Seriously Wounded In Assassination Attempt**

KUWAIT, June 12 (KUNA) -- Iraqi Prime Ministers Council source said that Colonel Hussien Mustapha Abdelhamid, Commander of the Border Forces, survived an assassination attempt in Al-Ameriyah, west of Baghdad Radio SAWA, monitored here, said that Colonel Hussein was seriously injured and was transported to Ibn Sina Hospital to receive medical treatment, while his medical condition remains unconfirmed.

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

### **General Says How It Is**

June 15, 2004 By Matthew Cos, Army Times staff writer

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker ended by responding to a reporter who asked if the Army was winning in Iraq.

**“This war we are in cannot be won militarily,” he said.**

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## Makes Sense

The bourgeoisie cannot exist without constantly revolutionizing the instruments of production, and thereby the relations of production, and with them the whole relations of society.

Conservation of the old modes of production in unaltered form, was, on the contrary, the first condition of existence for all earlier industrial classes. Constant revolutionizing of production, uninterrupted disturbance of all social conditions, everlasting uncertainty and agitation distinguish the bourgeois epoch from all earlier ones.

All fixed, fast frozen relations, with their train of ancient and venerable prejudices and opinions, are swept away, all new-formed ones become antiquated before they can ossify. All that is solid melts into air, all that is holy is profaned, and man is at last compelled to face with sober senses his real condition of life and his relations with his kind.

The need of a constantly expanding market for its products chases the bourgeoisie over the entire surface of the globe. It must nestle everywhere, settle everywhere, establish connections everywhere.

The bourgeoisie has, through its exploitation of the world market, given a cosmopolitan character to production and consumption in every country.

To the great chagrin of reactionaries, it has drawn from under the feet of industry the national ground on which it stood. All old-established national industries have been destroyed or are daily being destroyed. They are dislodged by new industries, whose introduction becomes a life and death question for all civilized nations, by industries that no longer work up indigenous raw material, but raw material drawn from the remotest zones; industries whose products are consumed, not only at home, but in every quarter of the globe.

In place of the old wants, satisfied by the production of the country, we find new wants, requiring for their satisfaction the products of distant lands and climes. In place of the old local and national seclusion and self-sufficiency, we have intercourse in every direction, universal inter-dependence of nations.

And as in material, so also in intellectual production. The intellectual creations of individual nations become common property. National one-sidedness and narrow-mindedness become more and more impossible, and from the numerous national and local literatures, there arises a world literature.

The bourgeoisie, by the rapid improvement of all instruments of production, by the immensely facilitated means of communication, draws all, even the most barbarian, nations into civilization.

The cheap prices of commodities are the heavy artillery with which it forces the barbarians' intensely obstinate hatred of foreigners to capitulate. It compels all nations, on pain of extinction, to adopt the bourgeois mode of production; it compels them to introduce what it calls civilization into their midst, i.e., to become bourgeois themselves. In one word, it creates a world after its own image.

Karl Marx

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## The Trap Of Colonial War

June 2004 by Ignacio Ramonet, Le Monde diplomatique

**THE trap of colonial war is closing on the invading forces in Iraq.**

**Like French troops bogged down in an earlier era in Algeria, the British in Kenya, the Belgians in the Congo, the Portuguese in Guinea-Bissau and the Israelis today in Gaza, US armed forces are now realising that crushing military superiority is not enough to save them from hostage-taking, ambushes and other deadly assaults**

**For soldiers on the ground the occupation of Iraq is fast becoming a descent into hell.**

The characteristics of colonial war are usually arrogance on the part of the occupiers, who believe that they belong to a superior race (more civilised, more advanced), are contemptuous of the colonised and sometimes refuse to admit that the colonised are even human.

**This colonial sense of superiority all too easily leads occupying forces, in the name of some higher sacred mission - defending good against evil, protecting civilisation, defending democracy - into disproportionate use of force.**

**In Falluja in April, for example, US forces were intent on punishing those who had mutilated the bodies of four security guards killed in an attack. The forces bombarded civilian residential areas and killed 600 people, including many children.**

**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.**

## OCCUPATION REPORT

### Treat Prisoners 'Like Dogs,' Karpinski Was Told

June 15, 2004 By Jill Lawless, Associated Press

LONDON — The general who was in charge of Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison claimed she was being made a scapegoat for the abuse of detainees, and said her successor once told her that prisoners should be treated "like dogs."

**In an interview with British Broadcasting Corp. radio broadcast Tuesday, Brig. Gen. Janis Karpinski said Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Miller told her last autumn that prisoners "are like dogs, and if you allow them to believe at any point that they are more than a dog then you've lost control of them."**

Miller was in charge of Guantanamo Bay Naval Station detention camp and now oversees U.S. prisons in Iraq. He could not immediately be reached for comment.

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### "Sovereignty," A Farce In One Act, Closing Soon By Armed Resistance

14/06/2004 By Firas Al-Atraqchi, Freelance Columnist, Middle East Online

One could be forgiven for thinking the Iraq plan has gone rather well.

Nothing could be farther from the truth.

**The track record is pretty abysmal, particularly when it comes to hiring foreign-trained, foreign-influenced, and foreign-financed Iraqi stooges to take senior positions in the new interim government in Iraq.**

**There are no more Iraqis left in Iraq, is the message most are getting.**

At least not the contemplating, enunciating, and mechanically adept kind.

**That's why the troubled film company Coalition Provisional Authority productions and its affiliate the Iraqi Governing Council have pooled their resources for a blockbuster that many believe may not do well at the box office: *Iraqi Government 2004*. And the stars are all imported from various locales like the UK , US and Canada , because they can really act.**

Indigenous Iraqis can't act.

**Come Oscar time, the Academy Awards will seem like a pipe dream for this new film, which is yet to be played at Arab cinemas near you, or us, or whatever.**

**Humor aside, the political situation in Iraq is going from dire to hysterical, from depressing to convoluted, and from unrealistic to the banal bizarre.**

**"I want YOU!" says the advert calling on members of Iraq 's educated and political elite to chip in and form the new Iraqi government.**

**So, the call goes out to former Ba'thists, Saddam's thugs, crooked businessmen, senile clergymen and the ragtag non-Arab militia who support them.**

**A handbook "How to Become a Senior Iraqi Leader" is put out by the NSA, CIA, FBI, MI5, MI6, Pentagon, and the State Department, and distributed to Iraq 's future leaders.**

**Step 1: Spend more than a minimum of 25 years as an Iraqi exile.** When you publicly decry Iraqi torture and publicly declare you want to bring Saddam down, we will erase your bloody, tainted, and horrible track record. No one will know you raped and plundered as a former Saddam lackey.

**Iyad Allawi is now considered the prime minister of the "new" and interim Iraqi government. But consider his history: he was a Ba'thist from 1961 to 1971, and very close to Saddam—so close that he walked with a sidearm firing it in the air when he didn't get his way. He was the typical Ba'thist brute.**

Dr. Haifa al-Azawi, a California-based gynecologist and US citizen who went to school with Allawi, wrote a column on February 12 in the London-based *al-Arab* newspaper in which she questioned Allawi's moral authority as an Iraqi leader.

"The Baath party union leader, who carried a gun on his belt and frequently brandished it terrorising the medical students, was a poor student and chose to spend his time standing in the school courtyard or chasing female students to their homes," she wrote.

**According to al-Azawi, while in England studying, Allawi "spent his time dealing with assassins, doing the dirty work for the Iraqi government, until his time was up and he became their target."**

**Step 2: Concoct evidence of Iraqi WMD. Hint: Make it spectacular. Remember the 45-minute claim which UK Prime Minister Tony Blair heralded as the God's truth?** You know, the one that Iraqi field commanders could within 45 minutes launch a chemical weapons counterstrike? Blair had in September 2002 claimed that senior Iraqi security officer had supplied the information to the UK government. Since then, that source has not been identified.

**The "source" was actually the fabrication of the Iraqi National Accord, an opposition party headed by—oh, this is good—none other than Iyad Allawi. Are you starting to get the picture yet?**

The London-based *The Times* quoted an Allawi spokesperson in New York who asserted in January 2004 that the 45-minute claim was essentially a “crock of s\*\*t,” indicating that the claim was indeed defunct and baseless.

**Politeness aside, Allawi lied. His people lied. Thousands have died and continued to die. And for being a US puppet, our man in Baghdad is appointed—not elected—prime minister.**

Step 3: Wax rhetorical: talk of democracy, pluralism, and Iraqi unity while you pay US PR firms and lobbying groups tens of thousands of dollars a month to push your agenda with influential US Congress members and high-ranking officials in the Pentagon.

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## **So Much For “Sovereignty” Bullshit: Occupation Prison Stays In Business**

June 13, 2004 By DANICA KIRKA, The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq - As many as 1,400 detainees will either be released or transferred to Iraqi authorities by the June 30 handover of power, the U.S. military said Sunday.

**The Americans will continue to hold between 4,000 and 5,000 prisoners deemed a threat to the coalition, a U.S. official said.**

**The U.S. command will also continue operating the Abu Ghraib prison, focus of the scandal over U.S. abuse of Iraqi prisoners, Lt. Col. Barry Johnson said.**

<p><b>OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME <u>NOW!</u></b></p>
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**DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

**Bush To Announce Iraq Victory:  
Fatal Arms Dump Blast Near Baghdad;  
DEVASTATION BLAMED ON THE AMERICANS  
(Notes From Another World)**

MSNBC.com Saturday 26 April 2003



Scores of Iraqis angered by the explosions [at a U.S. ammunition storage area] held an anti-American demonstration near the Palestine hotel, which is the base for much of the international media.

U.S. troops around the Palestine Hotel looked on.

**Local people blamed the devastation on the Americans, shooting at soldiers** trying to treat the injured and recover bodies from the rubble, driving American forces from the area.

**“It’s too dangerous for my soldiers to be there right now,” U.S. Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Coker said.**

Earlier, hundreds of men from the Zafaraniyah suburb drove out in trucks and buses chanting anti-U.S. slogans and bearing six coffins, apparently containing the bodies of some of the dead from the explosions, which wrecked homes in the district.

At one point, the coffins were brought to the victims’ home, where crowds shouted anti-U.S. slogans and women ululated. When the coffins were carried out for burials, women collapsed on them.

Among banners in the crowd one, in English, read: “No Bombs Between Houses.” In Arabic beneath was written: “Yes, Yes to Freedom.” Another banner, in Islamic green, read in Arabic: “U.S. forces kill innocents with Saddam’s weapons.”

**Many Iraqis have welcomed the overthrow of Saddam Hussein by the U.S.-led invasion but, two weeks after Baghdad fell to U.S. forces, many are voicing their impatience with the U.S. presence and say they want to run their own country.**

**The incident underlined how far Baghdad is from being pacified 17 days after U.S. troops took the city.**

<p>The explosions came after aides said President Bush would <a href="#">declare an end</a> to hostilities next week and hail the success of U.S.-led combat operations.</p>
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## **PRESIDENT'S ARMED FORCES RADIO ADDRESS TO AMERICA'S TROOPS ON THE GLORIOUS OCCASION OF THEIR RETROACTIVE INDUCTION INTO ETERNAL MARTIAL SLAVERY**

www.whitehouse.org

Radio Address by the President

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning, Armed Forces Radio listeners! What a pleasure it is to be addressing all you brave, disposable fighting men and women of the United States military from here in the safety and luxury of the Executive Mansion. First, let me begin by saying, "HOO-AHHH!!" That's how it goes, right? I just love how you meathead

bullet sponges all cheer wildly every time anyone says that. And it's certainly going to make what I have to say a little easier. Not for you, but for me! HOO-AHHH!!

Today, after three straight years of me stretching America's military thin, the Pentagon tells me that you grunts over in Iraqistan actually expect to go back to your old lives! They say that just because your enlistments are legally expiring, you think you have the right to get your asses out of Dodge before they get ripped up in an unarmored Humvee. HOO-AHHH!!

Well guess what, Gomer Pyle? Don't go packing your duffle bag just yet, because as soon as I heard that, I told Rummy to cook up a new policy that immediately suspends all discharges from military service. After all, just because I said you're fighting to defend FREEDOM® doesn't mean I want you to actually experience it. HOO-AHHH!!

Now I know this might seem like a major bummer, but believe me, I'm doing all you all a favor. If you think you're dangerously depressed now, wait until you get back home. Filling up the tank costs about what you make in a week.

That's right, short of getting shot in the face or blown into Alpo, you soldiers are in for the long haul. Which reminds me - lest this news tempt the more homesick among you to suddenly develop an appetite for the engorged sweetmeats in your bunkmate's boxers, I have another announcement: effective immediately, the longstanding "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is null and void. We're not happy about it, but we didn't have a choice. HOO-AHHH!!

In closing, as much as I'm flattered by anyone trying to emulate me, I must strongly advise against even trying to pull the old "I want to go to Harvard Business School" excuse to get out of active duty. It won't work. And that goes double for "transferring" to the Alabama Air National Guard and then disappearing. Why? Because I already shipped those sorry suckers over to Iraq late last year! HOO-AHHH!!

So see you next Thanksgiving. HOO-AHHH!!

This has been your Commander in Chief. Over and out!

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## Alligators Serving A Useful Purpose

Two alligators were sitting at the side of the swamp near Washington, DC. The smaller one turned to the bigger one and said, "I can't understand how you can be so much bigger 'n me. We're the same age, we was the same size as kids. I just don't get it."

"Well," said the big 'gator, "What you been eatin'?"

"Them Senators, same as you," replied the small 'gator.

"Hmm. Well, where do y'all catch 'em?"

"Down at the other side of the swamp near the parkin' lot by the capitol."

"Same here. Hmm. How do you catch 'em?"

"Well, I crawl up under one of those Lexus and wait for one to unlock the car door. Then I jump out, grab 'em on the leg, shake the shit out of 'em, and eat 'em!"

"Ah!" says the big alligator, "I think I see your problem. You ain't! gettin' any real nourishment. See, by the time you get done shakin' the shit out of a Senator, there ain't nothin' left but an asshole and a briefcase."



**Received:**

From: "Exx  
To: GI Special  
June 14, 2004

Heya. ahlan wa sahlan ayni,

I spoke to a friend of mine in Basra the other day, on the phone, a young, brilliant woman. I asked her what she thought of the handover and the governing council and she just said 'no everything's great', 'everything's fine' and I was like, 'but how? These people aren't representative, you know that' and she said, 'Exx, I can't say any more than that. I can't say any more than that'.

She was in regime-mode, she was in total self-neutering, back to the social psychosis and era-of-fear mode that I think many Iraqis are finding themselves switching back into as the old Baathi security apparatus swings back into force.

**Iyyad Alawi - Prime Minister and former head of Baathist intelligence forces Youth Section - he was really high up, not just someone 'with links to MI6' I mean the fucker was responsible for the torturing of teenagers and students, he's a source of trauma for people in Iraq at the moment and a major warning symbol of things to come.**

**He and Negroponte make a fierce and murderous and highly experienced duo in the counter-insurgency stakes. Anyway, that moment of self censorship from my friend upset me and made me realise that those old forces were re-aligning.**

It's so fucked up.  
Take care  
E

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