

## **GI SPECIAL 2#50**

**HOW MANY MORE FOR IMPERIAL WAR?  
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE!**



**Army Spc. Michael G. Karr, Jr., 23, of San Antonio, Texas, one of five Fort Riley soldiers killed March 31, 2004 in Habbaniyah, Iraq (AP Photo)**

# **BE ADVISED: BODY ARMOR DEFECTIVE!**

**(GI Special 2#47 reported that the corporation with the monopoly contract to supply body armor was run by a self-admitted securities fraud crook and union buster.**

**(Now we learn this corporation, DBH Industries, has been caught *supplying defective body armor to the New York City Police Department!*)**

**(Not only have the soldier-killers who run the U.S. government failed to supply all U.S. troops in Iraq with body armor by November 15, 2003 as they promised, because they gave only one corporation the contract----now we find that the one defense contractor supplies worthless shit.)**

Prison Legal News, March 2004

DBH Industries' subsidiary Point Blank Body Armor Co. has settled a dispute with the New York Police Department

The dispute started when a NYPD officer noticed weakening of his vest at the folds. **Tests then showed penetration of some of the vests by .357 Magnum rounds. Initially, 1,000 vests were believed defective.**

**Later figures were as high as 5,000 defective vests.**

**Former Point Blank employees have also alleged that they were ordered to place updated labels on out-of-date body armor, vest sizes were mislabeled, and vest shells were mismatched with their ballistic liners. Each of these defects could compromise its effectiveness.**

Sources *DBH Industries news release; Law Enforcement News*

## **BEST CHECK THAT BODY ARMOR**



## **BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW**

A US soldier keeps watch while patrolling the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. (AFP/Ahmad al-Rubaye)

**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/>

# A Letter Better Than All The Speeches Of All The Politicians In Congress

From <http://www.bringthemhomenow.org/sound/main.html> Check it out.

March 2, 2004

My name is Laura and I want to say I think this site is great. It's comforting knowing that other people feel the exact same way I do about this war. Our soldiers need to come home now! This is outrageous!

My husband and I met four years ago, we worked together. It was love at first sight. We fell madly in love with each other. Unfortunately, he lost his job through no fault of his own, and we both decided it would be a good idea to join the military full time.

We did realize that it would be hard at times but we would work through it. He joined in March of last year. After 8 months of both basic training and AIT he came home for 2 weeks and we married. A short time later we moved here to TX where he would be stationed. He was recently deployed to Iraq. I miss him so much. I just don't know what i would do if, God forbid, anything happened to him.

It hasn't even been long since he left but I miss him terribly.... **someone else wrote that it's not right the troops have to buy their own supplies-and it is wrong. What if they don't have the money? Then what?... My husband spent almost our whole tax return on things he would need.**

**The people in Iraq do not want us there! And most of us don't want to be there... they have been doing their own thing for years and who are we to come busting in on their country?**

**We wonder why so many soldiers are being killed. How would we react if soldiers from other countries came in and lined our streets with guns and tanks? We would do the same thing as they are doing... how would we react if someone came in and told us how to run our government?**

**These good men and women are losing their lives for nothing,... BRING OUR TROOPS HOME!!!**

Laura  
Killeen, Texas  
posted 23 march 2004

**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 WAR REPORTS:

### **U.S. Soldier & Marine Killed**

4/2/2004 Content Provided By A.P.

**A roadside bomb killed an American soldier and wounded another in Baghdad on Friday, and a U.S. Marine died as a result of hostile action west of the capital a day earlier, the military said.**

The soldier who was killed in Baghdad belonged to the U.S. Army's 1st Armored Division, the military said in a statement. The attack occurred at around 6 a.m. in the Mansour neighborhood.

The injured soldier was in stable condition at a combat support hospital, the military said.

Separately, a U.S. Marine was killed "as a result of enemy action" in Anbar province (**Falujah**) on Thursday, according to a statement from Camp Fallujah, the Marine base in the area.

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### **Three Marines Wounded, Vehicle Burned Near Fallujah**

April 2, 2004 By Peter Cave in Baghdad, ABC News Online

A United States military patrol outside Fallujah, west of Baghdad, was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

**Three marines were injured and their abandoned vehicle was looted, then set alight.**

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# **Major Attack On Kirkuk Airport And Another U.S. Base: Nine Schofield Soldiers Wounded In Three Waves Of Rockets**

By Gregg K. Kakesako, April 1, 2004, Honolulu Star-Bulletin & Middle East Online

**KIRKUK, Iraq-US base at Kirkuk airport hit by five rockets in three successive waves wounding nine US soldiers.**

Nine soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division are still being treated for injuries they received Tuesday night in a rocket attack on their housing complex in Kirkuk Air Base in Iraq.

**Maj. Neil O'Brien, Army spokesman in Tikrit, said last night that the rocket attack occurred at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday** Iraqi time at Forward Operating Base Warrior near the Kirkuk Air Base.

**Major Hols Houser of the 2nd Airborne Division said there was a Katyusha rocket attack at 1:00 am (2200 GMT Wednesday).**

He said one of them was hit in the head and the two others wounded in the legs but that their injuries were moderate. O'Brien said all of the wounds were from shrapnel

He said the injured soldiers were all members of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team from the 25th Division.

One soldier is a member of the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery; seven were from the 65th Engineer Battalion; and one is from the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry (Wolfhounds). All nine soldiers were sent to the 67th Combat Support Hospital at Forward Operating Base Speicher near Tikrit.

The soldiers were part of the 4,000-member task force from Schofield Barracks that left here in late January for a year-long deployment in Iraq.

On March 15 the 1st Infantry Division assumed command of northern Iraq as Task Force Danger. Members include the 4,000 soldiers of the 25th Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team, who were previously assigned to the 4th Infantry Division.

**Kirkuk police chief Turhan Yussef said the base was hit by five rockets "in three successive waves" that started at 9:30 pm Wednesday and the last one at 3:00 am Thursday (0000 GMT).**

**Three US soldiers were also wounded early Thursday in a rocket attack on their base at the Kirkuk hospital west of the city, a US officer said.**

**MORE:**

## **Another Schofield Soldier Hit**

April 2, 2004 Honolulu Star-Bulletin, By Gregg Kakesako

Another Schofield Barracks soldier was wounded last night in Iraq when his unit responded to small arms fire and an explosion near the town of Huwija.

The identity of the wounded soldier was not released, but he was listed in stable condition.

On Monday, 11 Schofield soldiers were wounded during a rocket attack where they live at Kirkuk Air Base.

The Army said the soldier injured last night, a member of the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry (Wolfhounds) is at a medical facility at Forward Operating Base McHenry.

The Wolfhounds were reacting to an explosion at 10:15 p.m. at an Iraqi town located near Kirkuk where one insurgent was killed.

Responding to small arms fire and an explosion, ***another Wolfhound unit wounded an enemy soldier***, captured four insurgents and confiscated two AK-47 rifles.

**(A first: reporter says U.S. Occupation is facing "soldiers." Took long enough.)**

## **"Several" Soldiers Wounded By Baquba IED**

4/3/2004 Yemeni News Agency, [www.sabanews.net](http://www.sabanews.net) By EM

BAQUBA, Apr 3 (Saba) - A car bomb exploded near a U.S. military patrol north of Baghdad on Saturday, wounding several people, official sources reported.

One Iraqi civilian was wounded in the blast. He said a car parked on the side of the street in al-Aswad, a village just north of Baquba, exploded as American soldiers were passing by.

**The sources said two U.S. vehicles were damaged and several soldiers wounded.** The U.S. military in Baghdad had no immediate confirmation of the incident.

"The U.S. patrol passed in front of me," said Abdulkarim Faris, injured in the explosion. "I saw a Fiat car parked on the street, then I heard a big blast. **I saw some wounded troops.**"

**Insurgents have struck in Baquba, 65 km north of the Iraqi capital, regularly in recent weeks. Both occupation soldiers and police have been targeted by those fighting the occupation.**

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## **Convoy Ambushed Near Khalis**

Apr. 3, 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers Limited

An explosion near a U.S. military convoy near Khalis, 64 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, wounded a civilian and damaged a Humvee vehicle, Iraqi officials said. A policeman who witnessed the blast said on condition of anonymity that it came from within a car left on the roadside.

It was not clear if any Americans suffered casualties. A U.S. official in Baghdad could not confirm the bombing.

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## **El Salvador Troops Attacked In Najaf; Three Wounded**

Apr. 3, 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers Limited

A convoy of Salvadoran soldiers was attacked in the southern city of Najaf late Friday and three troops were wounded, Salvadoran Capt. Roberto Abrigo said. El Salvador has about 380 troops in Iraq, serving as part of the Spanish-led Plus Ultra brigade.

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## **Resistance Attack OVERRUNS Checkpoint At Suleiman Bek**

2004-04-01 Middle East Online,

**The resistance abducted an Iraqi policeman and shot and wounded a colleague early Thursday in an unprecedented incident at a checkpoint** near this northern city, a senior paramilitary officer said.

"It's the first time that a policeman has been abducted in Kirkuk," Major General Anwan Amin, head of the paramilitary Iraqi Civil Defence Corps (ICDC) in Kirkuk, said.

**The pre-dawn attack took place in Suleiman Bek, 90 kilometers (56 miles) south of Kirkuk, when eight gunmen opened fire on an Iraqi police checkpoint, he said.**

**"The gunmen opened fire, wounding a policeman. Then they overran the checkpoint and abducted another one, seized a police car and fled the scene," the officer said.**

Kirkuk hospital director Hashem Mohammed named the injured policeman as Abdullah Hussein and listed him in "critical" condition.

"He was shot in the leg and chest and underwent surgery to remove the bullets, but he is still in critical condition," he added.

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## **IED Wounds One In Convoy**

April 01 2004, By Karim Saheb, lol.co.za

Thursday one US soldier was wounded when his convoy hit a roadside bomb in northwest Baghdad, an Iraqi police officer said. The US military did not immediately confirm the report.

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## **Ft. Hood Soldiers Dies In Wreck**

March 31, 2004 United States Department of Defense News Release No. 239-04

The Department of Defense announced today the death of a soldier who was supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Pfc. Sean M. Schneider, 22, of Janesville, Wis., died March 29 as the result of a vehicle accident near Baghdad. Pfc. Schneider was assigned to the 115<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas.

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## **Special Forces Soldier Dies In Wreck**

April 1, 2004 News Release, No. 247-04, United States Department of Defense

The Department of Defense announced today the death of a soldier.

Master Sgt. Richard L. Ferguson, 45, of Conway, N.H., died March 30, in Samara, Iraq, when the military vehicle he was riding in rolled over. Ferguson was assigned to the Army's 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, Fort Carson, Colo.

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## **Basra Area IED Blast Gets Three British Soldiers**



March 31, 2004 Reuters

Three British soldiers have been injured in an explosion in southern Iraq, Britain's Ministry of Defence said on Wednesday.

A ministry spokesman said an improvised explosive device had gone off near a vehicle south of Basra.

He had no further details on the extent of the injuries or the explosion itself.

**(So much for the “peaceful south.”)**

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## Fuel Convoy Ambush

By SAMEER N. YACOUB, April 1, 2004

Thursday, two explosions near a U.S.-escorted fuel convoy in northern Baghdad wounded at least one Iraqi. APTN footage showed U.S. soldiers putting a wounded person on a stretcher inside an armored vehicle.

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## Resistance Attacks In Ramadi, Baqouba

3/31/2004, By Sameer N. Yacoub, Associated Press

**In nearby Ramadi, insurgents threw a grenade at a government building** and Iraqi security forces returned fire Wednesday, witnesses said. It was not clear if there were casualties.

**Also in Ramadi, a roadside bomb exploded near a U.S. convoy**, witnesses said. U.S. officials in Baghdad could not confirm the attack.

**Northeast of Baghdad, in the city of Baqouba on Wednesday, a bomber blew up explosives in his car when he was near a convoy of government vehicles, wounding 14 Iraqis and killing himself, officials said.**

The attacked convoy is normally used to transport the Diala provincial governor, Abdullah al-Joubori, but he was elsewhere at the time, said police Col. Ali Hossein.

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## Ukrainian Soldiers Avert Explosion Of U.S. Hummer

Kyiv, April 1 (Interfax-Ukraine) - Ukrainian peacekeepers in Iraq on March 31 prevented the destruction of a U.S. army Hummer vehicle, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry press service said.

The incident occurred at Al Kut airport, where Ukraine's peacekeepers are based in Iraq, the press service reported.

**Ukrainian repair platoon commander Andriy Nikolsky spotted flames coming from below the Hummer, which was loaded with fuel jerry cans.** He stopped the vehicle, to find that it was not carrying a fire extinguisher. He flagged down a Ukrainian UAZ jeep and used its extinguisher to put out the fire.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

# **Shit-Mouth Gen. Kimmitts' Biggest Stupid Lie To Date; Calls 4 U.S. Armed Mercenaries Killed In Faluja "Innocents"**

Apr. 3, 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers Limited

There was no sign of any U.S. military activity in the Fallujah area today to suggest retaliatory action was imminent; U.S. administrator Paul Bremer has said those who killed the four civilians and burned their bodies "will not go unpunished."

**Residents braced for retaliation.**

<b>A Muslim cleric in the city used weekly prayers yesterday to condemn the mutilation of the corpses - but not their slayings.</b>
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**In Baghdad, Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt, deputy chief of US military operations in Iraq, said** condemning the mutilation of the bodies - but not the killings - was not enough.

"While the condemnation of the mutilation was helpful, that is only a partial answer," Kimmitt said in an email to The Associated Press.

**"Murder of innocents should be condemned."**

**(These "innocents" get over \$100,000 a year tax free for guarding Bremer and the rest of the occupation scum, while soldiers get shit pay that leaves many of their families on food stamps. Enough whining.)**

## **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 Military Service Tied To Fatal Parasite Disease**

Apr 1, 2004 NEW YORK (Reuters Health)

Between 2002 and 2004, Department of Defense staff identified 522 cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis, a parasite infection of the skin, in US military personnel deployed in Iraq and elsewhere, according to a report released Thursday.

In a related report, researchers describe two case of visceral leishmaniasis, a gastrointestinal form of the disease, involving Army soldiers who had served in Afghanistan.

Both types of leishmaniasis are spread through the bite of sand flies carrying the parasite. If not treated with appropriate drugs, the skin form can lead to permanent scars, **while the visceral type can be fatal.** *(If untreated, the skin form can develop into the visceral type, something neither this article nor the Army is telling people about.)*

People traveling to regions where leishmaniasis is common, such as Southwest/Central Asia, are advised to wear clothes and use chemical repellants that keep sand flies at bay.

Almost all of the infections were acquired in Iraq with just a few acquired in Afghanistan and Kuwait.

The visceral leishmaniasis cases involved two previously healthy men in their 30s who had served in the same Special Forces unit of the Army and had traveled extensively throughout Afghanistan. In both cases, symptoms did not begin until several months after leaving the country. **Although both had taken measures to prevent sand fly contact, multiple insect bites were noted in each case.**

Both men developed classic signs and symptoms of visceral leishmaniasis, although these findings can be seen with other diseases. After ruling out other causes, visceral leishmaniasis was diagnosed and then confirmed with a biopsy of the liver.

Anti-leishmaniasis treatment was successful in one patient, whereas the other had a recurrence of symptoms and is currently receiving a 28-day course of stibogluconate, an investigational drug for the disease.

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## **18,000 Medical Evacs In Iraq War; Up From 11,200 In February; “Nine Months Of Hell We Have Been Through”**

By Mark Benjamin. United Press International, Published 3/31/2004

WASHINGTON, March 31 (UPI) -- In the first year of war in Iraq, the military has made 18,004 medical evacuations during Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Pentagon's top health official told Congress Tuesday.

The new data, through March 13, is nearly two-thirds higher than the 11,200 evacuations through Feb. 5 cited just last month to Congress by the same official, William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

In both cases, Winkenwerder described the evacuations as "total evacuations out of theater," and he said both times that the majority of evacuations represented routine medical treatment and not life-threatening injuries.

**"As of March 13, 2004, data from the Transportation Command shows 18,004 total evacuations out of theater," Winkenwerder said Tuesday.**

**"As of February 5, 2004, data from the Transportation Command shows 11,200 total evacuations out of theater," he told a separate House panel Feb. 25.**

Winkenwerder appeared Tuesday before a House Government Reform panel with four Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers.

**Those soldiers offered a litany of complaints about poor health care for reserve and guard troops -- problems they said have been widespread during the war on terror, particularly on return to the United States.**

**Soldiers described being deployed to war with serious medical conditions and then getting poor and erratic health care upon return -- including months-long waits for doctors, surgeries or treatments. United Press International first reported that problem last October.**

Two soldiers said better access to mental health services might have prevented two suicide attempts at two separate bases, and asserted that **soldiers are sometimes prescribed powerful drugs by military health professionals in place of medical**

**care.** The soldiers also described widespread concern about being put out of the military without fair compensation for wounds and illnesses they received during service.

***"Is it a question of incompetent medical care or a question of a well-organized government system that achieves just what it is supposed to achieve?" Retired Army Reserve First Sgt. Gerry Mosley, who served in Iraq, asked the panel.***

**"Use people, strip them of all human dignity, disrespect them, wear them down, and be pleased when soldiers no longer have the physical and mental capacities to continue to fight to have the same rights and respect as those American citizens for whom we have fought to preserve those entitlements."**

Mosley said that after returning from Iraq last summer, he has had to drive 195 miles each way at his own expense to see a specialist. He said the Army put him out of service without compensating him for a neck injury or vertigo apparently triggered from mortar explosions. He can no longer work his civilian job. Since being put out of the Army, he has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

The wives of two soldiers also testified. **Laura Ramsey, wife of Florida Army National Guard Spc. John A. Ramsey, said through tears that she did not want her husband to serve in the guard anymore, after fighting for nine months to get surgery on his shoulders that were injured in Iraq. "Not after the nine months of hell that we have been through," Ramsey said.**

Pentagon data and interviews with soldiers at six bases in the United States and Europe show combat wounds represent a minority of casualties during wartime. The Pentagon "Operation Iraqi Freedom U.S. Casualty Update" on Tuesday listed a total of 2,998 soldiers wounded in action, in comparison to the 18,004 medical evacuations described by Winkenwerder.

The Pentagon defines a casualty as "any person who is lost to the organization by having been declared dead, duty status-whereabouts unknown, missing, ill, or injured." More mundane wartime injuries seem more prevalent: back and neck injuries, torn knees and elbows, heart and lung problems and mental problems like post-traumatic stress disorder that may not be diagnosed for months after returning from combat.

Soldiers say acute care for the wounded at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany and at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., is excellent. But ill and injured troops -- particularly National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers -- sprinkled across the United States describe widespread concern for medical care and benefits described by the panel Tuesday. Some are in "medical hold" at U.S. bases while they wait for treatment.

"I have spoken probably with hundreds of soldiers since I was placed in med hold," Spc. Timothy M. McMichael told the panel Tuesday. He is on medical hold at Fort Knox, Ky. **"I can only say that the uniform consensus is one of frustration, disappointment and anger. I have had soldiers with 15, 20, even 25 years in the military tell me they are disgusted,"** McMichael said. "The Army cannot afford to lose the number of senior non-commissioned officers it is losing every day."

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## IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

# Arrest Of A Leader Fails To Stop Baghdad Demonstration By 5,000 Anti-Occupation Shia Soldiers; They Position Sharpshooters To Guard Their Line Of March

Apr. 3, 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers Limited & 4/3/2004 By Daniel Cooney,  
Associated Press

About 5,000 members of radical Shiite Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's self-styled militia, the al-Mahdi army, paraded in Sadr City, a mainly Shiite district in eastern Baghdad, today.

The unarmed black-clad militiamen carried portraits of the cleric. **They marched past a reviewing stand where Muslim clerics acknowledged their salute.** Hundreds of Iraqis lined the march route.

**Sharpshooters from the militia were stationed on rooftops. Al-Sadr has been an outspoken critic of the U.S.-led occupation,** but has not called for attacking the occupying forces. **(Yet.)**

Spanish forces arrested Mustafa al-Yaqoubi, a senior aide to al-Sadr, in a raid on his house in the southern city of Najaf before dawn Saturday, said Sheik Haider al-Mousawi, another one of his followers. It was not clear why he was detained. **(Gee, could it be that one of the assortment of fools running the occupation though they might intimidate the 5,000 armed troops? What a pack of hopeless losers.)**

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

**Oh-oh, guess what; these *aren't* Sunnis.**



**Iraqi Shiite men shout at U.S. soldiers as they walk past the Republican Palace, now a U.S. Army base, in Baghdad April 2, 2004, following Friday prayers. (AP Photo/Murad Sezer)**

### **Thousands Of Pissed Off Shias Marching “Through Coalition Headquarters”!**



**Iraqi Shiite men march through the Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters to gather for Friday prayers in Baghdad April 2, 2004. (AP Photo/Murad Sezer)**

**Thousands of followers of radical Shiite Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr gathered outside of the CPA, Coalition Provisional Authority, for Friday prayers instead of**

mosques to protest the closure of weekly Al-Hawza newspaper. (“Radical” means anti-Occupation. There are currently about 20 million “radicals” in Iraq)

The U.S.-led coalition on Sunday shut down the newspaper, run by followers of Muqtada al-Sadr, saying its articles were increasing the threat of violence against the coalition. (Shutting down the paper, of course, led to love, peace and harmony.)

(For more, see the article “Do The Iraqis Want The U.S. To Stay,” by Sharon Smith at [www.socialistworker.org](http://www.socialistworker.org).)

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## **IT'S THE WEEKLY PIPELINE SPECIAL, RIGHT ON SCHEDULE, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE IRAQI RESISTANCE SINCE JULY 2003**



Iraqi shepherds lead a herd of sheep next to a burning oil pipeline that was sabotaged by insurgents in Tikrit, 180 kilometers northwest of Baghdad April 2, 2004. (AP Photo/Muhammed Muheisen)

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## **Occupation Cops Attacked, Collaborator Police Chief Killed**

Apr. 3, 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers Limited

BAGHDAD (AP) - Two attacks on Iraqi police south of Baghdad today left four people dead, officers said, in the latest of a string of attacks on local authorities linked to the U.S.-led occupation.



**Gunmen fired on a vehicle carrying Col. Wisam Hussein, the police chief of Mahmoudiya, 32 kilometres south of Baghdad, killing both him and his driver, police said.**

The police chief was killed as he was returning home from a trip to the capital, Lt. Ala'a Hussein said.

Later today, six unidentified assailants attacked a four-member police patrol in the town, killing one officer and wounding three others, one seriously, police officer Khaldoon al-Gurairi said.

**The killings came a day after a police commander in the southern city of Kufa was shot to death while driving.**

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## **Three Iraqi Police Killed In Baquba**

April 2, 2004 By Peter Cave in Baghdad, ABC News Online

Three Iraqi police officers have been killed and three others wounded north and west of Baghdad.

The policemen were attacked at Baquba, north of Baghdad, by resistance fighters stationed at a key intersection with automatic weapons and hand grenades.

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## **Another Baquba Bomb Blast Gets More Cops**

2004/03/31 IRIB News, Baquba, Iraq, March 31

Four policemen and six civilians were injured Wednesday when a car bomb exploded in this restive town north of Baghdad, a police officer and one of the injured said.

"We had gone to the gas station to fill up our car with petrol and were driving back to the governor's building when a car, parked on the side of the road, blew up," said policeman Ghassan Ismail, 28, who was hit in the shoulder.

**Police officer Abbas Mahmud told reporters that four policemen and six pedestrians were wounded in the attack** which occurred at 8:30 am. "The explosion was the result of a car bomb," Mahmud said, adding that a search of the vehicle yielded explosives but no human remains.

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

# U.S. Command Recognizes Resistance As “Insurgents”; And It's Not Just A "Spike" Or An "Uptick"

Robert Fisk, April 01, 2004 "The Independent"

What has happened to the Coalition Provisional Authority, also known as the occupying power?

**Things are getting worse, much worse in Iraq. Yesterday's horrors proved that. Yet just a day earlier, Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt, America's deputy director of military operations, assured us that there was only an "uptick" in violence in Iraq.**

**Not a sudden wave of violence, mark you, not a down-to-earth increase, not even a "spike" in violence - another of the general's favourite expressions. No, just a teeny-weeny, ever-so small, innocent little "uptick". In fact, he said it was a "slight uptick".**

Our hands were numb, recording all this, so swiftly did General Kimmitt take us through the little uptick.

A marine vehicle blown off the road near Fallujah, a marine killed, a second attack with small-arms fire on the same troops, an attack on an Iraqi paramilitary recruiting station on the 14th July Road, a soldier killed near Ramadi, two Britons hurt in Basra violence, a suicide bombing against the home of the Hillah police chief, an Iraqi shot at a checkpoint, US soldiers wounded in Mosul ... All this was just 17 hours before Fallujah civilians dragged the cremated remains of a Westerner through the streets of their city.

When you go to the manicured lawns and villas of the so-called "Green Zone" in Baghdad, you get this odd, weird feeling; that here is a place so isolated, so ostentatiously secure - it is not secure of course, since mortars are regularly fired into the compound - that it has no contact with the outside world.

And so within the palace walls, the occupying power believes in optimism, progress and political development.

**When someone asked - just a few hours before yesterday's horror - about the deteriorating security in Mosul, General Kimmitt snapped back that this was only "an assessment that you may be making".**

Every week, it is like this. From the hot, dangerous streets of Baghdad with their electricity cuts and gunfire - and an awful lot of "upticks" which never get recorded - we

make our way through palisades of concrete drums, US Army checkpoints and searches, into a vast, air-conditioned conference centre,

Next to General Kimmitt often stands Dan Senor, spokesman for the Coalition Provisional Authority who, with his frameless glasses, unsmiling demeanor and his occasional, fearful glances at the general when the latter faces a dodgy question, resembles the kind of doctor who clears his throat and quietly advises his patients to settle their affairs.

**He almost smiled when General Kimmitt announced his army's intention to conduct "precision operations" against "anti-Coalition elements and enemies of the Iraqi people". But wasn't this all a bit Soviet? Didn't the Red Army conduct operations against "anti-socialist elements and enemies of the Afghan people"?**

**But there was an interesting twist - horribly ironic in the face of yesterday's butchery - in General Kimmitt's narrative. Why, I asked him, did he refer sometimes to "terrorists" and at other times to "insurgents"? Surely if you could leap from being a terrorist to being an insurgent, then with the next little hop, skip and jump, you become a "freedom-fighter".**

Mr Senor gave the general one of his fearful looks. He needn't have bothered. General Kimmitt is a much smoother operator than his civilian counterpart. **There were, the general explained, the Fallujah version who were insurgents, and then the al-Qa'ida version who attack mosques, hotels, religious festivals and who were terrorists.**

At Wednesday's Five o'Clock Follies, two armed American soldiers stood guard at both doors - watching us, not the approach to the doors - while a backdrop carried a vast shield with the words "Equality, Security, Liberty, Justice". Did I detect, among my colleagues, a quickening of our step as we headed back through the thousands of tons of concrete to the smog and fear of the streets outside? Baghdad may be dangerous. But at least it's on Planet Earth.

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## **We've Seen This War Before**

**"Seeking the truth about that involvement requires the construction of a painful jig-saw puzzle from a welter of conflicting fact and opinions: Presidential decisions based on reasons which had to be withheld not only from the American people but from the Congress as well; State Department and Pentagon statements which were deliberately deceptive, pacification evaluations which challenged belief....and the application of the limitless energies and resources of dynamic Americans confident in their ability to "build a new nation" and "train a fighting army" as had been done in so many other lands and times.**

"As Americans we have moved from relative isolation to world dominance within the lifetimes of our elected leaders. We have had to adjust to the shock of our younger generation, the best educated in our history, expressing their anger and rebellion against what we conceived to be the most basic of our principles.

“That younger generation has finally gotten through to its elders that there may be something incredibly immoral when the greatest nation on earth deliberately lashes out against one of the smaller countries of the world with the most proficient products of our proud achievements in science and technology.”

Introduction by Paul N. McCloskey to *Flower Of The Dragon, The Breakdown Of The U.S. Army In Vietnam*, 1972, Ramparts Press

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## OCCUPATION REPORT

### Baghdad Occupation Propaganda Trashed



Trashed billboard with Occupation lies about the role of Iraqi police in Baghdad April 3, 2004. On the billboard a slogan reads: “I risk my life everyday to rebuild my country, restablish order and law and provide security for Baghdad's citizens.” (So much for that bullshit. Join the collaborator cops and get dead in a hurry.) (AP Photo/Murad Sezer)

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### Payback: Basra Demonstrators Overrun Police Headquarters

4/3/2004 By Daniel Cooney, Associated Press

In the southern city of Basra, unemployed men demanding jobs as policemen clashed with Iraqi security forces Saturday, police Col. Ali Kahdum said. **He said the protesters raided and looted the city's central police office**, and three protesters were hurt.

**The Day Before:**

## **Basra Police Fire On Protesters Who Want Basra Police Jobs**

April 01, 2004, BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)

**Iraqi security forces fired on protesters demanding jobs as policemen** in the southern city of Basra on Thursday, killing one demonstrator and wounding two others, officials said.

A British military vehicle that was in the area at the time was hit by some stones thrown by the protesters, but it later left the area.

The clash occurred outside the local Customs building in Basra. Hospital official Khaled Abdullah said the wounded were in serious condition.



Iraqi protesters evacuate an injured man during clashes outside a police station in Basra. Some 200 jobless men gathered outside the station to demand work when Iraqi police opened fire.(AFP/Str)

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

## THIS IS HOW BUSH BRINGS THE TROOPS HOME



A U.S. soldier receive medical assistance after being shot near the village of Zunchorah, near the Pakistani border, April 1, about 156 miles southwest of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. U.S. troops are sweeping through the hardscrabble villages in this porous and mountainous border region, searching for weapons and information. (AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti)

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## The Disaster In Afghanistan: Airport Restaurant Attacked, June Election Cancelled

New York Times, 3.29.04

KABUL, Afghanistan March 28 (Reuters) — **After president Hamid Karzai formally postponed Afghanistan's presidential and parliamentary elections, from June to September, new violence on Sunday underlined the security concerns behind the delay.**

As he spoke, news was reaching Kabul from a remote central province of a raid by soldiers suspected of being Taliban fighters that killed at least two Karzai soldiers, while blasts in a southeastern town killed a bomber and wounded six people.

Under the 2001 Bonn agreement that led to the establishment of Mr. Karzai's government, elections were planned for June, but the United Nations says **only 1.46 million voters were registered by March 15, far short of the target of 10.5 million. (Why bother to register in a bullshit election already rigged by the U.S. Occupation? Afghans aren't stupid.)**

Poor security is a main reason for the slow registration.

**Security worries were heightened by recent fighting between pro-government factions in the western city of Herat, until then one of the most peaceful parts of the country.**

The Taliban, driven from power by American-led forces in 2001, have threatened to disrupt the election. (**"Threatened"? Looks like mission accomplished.**)

A Taliban spokesman said in a statement late Saturday that a delay in the elections was an embarrassment for the United States and Mr. Karzai, and that the election was intended to distract Afghans from the Muslim holy war.

**In the latest violence, Taliban fighters raided an army post in Uruzgan Province, killing two soldiers, an official said. Three soldiers were wounded and 10 were missing. A Taliban spokesman said 11 soldiers had been killed.**

**Six civilians were hurt in a rocket attack on a restaurant near the town's airport, where American forces are based. In a third attack in Khost on Saturday, three grenades were thrown at homes of soldiers, some working with American forces. No one was hurt.**

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