

GI SPECIAL 2#72

**Enough. Payback Is Overdue.
Bring Them All Home Now So Payback Can Get Rolling.**



A U.S. military hospital staff member holds the hand of an injured U.S. serviceman at Camp Falluja, Iraq May 2, 2004. Nine servicemen were killed in Iraq Sunday. (Adrees Latif/Reuters)

**Pentagon Admits 90% Of
Army Stuck In Iraq;
Sending Thousands Back Again To
Die For Oil And Empire;**

Generals Adopt New Tactic To Kill As Many U.S. Soldiers As Possible

5.4.04 By MATT KELLEY, Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - U.S. commanders plan to keep American troops at the current level in Iraq — about 135,000 — until the end of 2005, Pentagon officials said Tuesday.

The decision acknowledges Iraq is much more unstable and dangerous than generals had hoped earlier this year, when they planned to cut the number of troops occupying Iraq to about 115,000.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld on Tuesday ordered about 10,000 active-duty Army soldiers and Marines to prepare to ship out to Iraq in the next few months.

Another 10,000 active-duty troops will be called up to fill out the replacement forces, Rumsfeld said.

The troops coming into Iraq will be more heavily armed than the forces they replace, with more tanks, armored personnel carriers and armored Humvees, said Lt. Gen. Norton Schwartz of the Pentagon's Joint Staff.

(They've already lost the war. This just confirms it. For about 2500 years, since Rome tried to conquer Spain, every military expert who doesn't have compacted shit between his ears has pointed out the fastest way to lose a guerrilla war and kill the greatest number of your own soldiers is to employ slow, heavy, noisy, unmaneuverable armored columns. Lip-smacking easy-pickings for light, fast resistance irregulars.)

Many of the troops being sent to Iraq have served there or in Afghanistan before.

The active-duty units ordered to Iraq Tuesday include the 2nd Brigade of the 10th Mountain Division, based at Fort Drum, N.Y. The Marine units are the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit from Camp Pendleton, Calif., and the 24th MEU from Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Keeping such high troop levels in Iraq will further strain a military already stretched thin. *All or part of nine of the Army's ten divisions are in Iraq or Afghanistan.*

The 10th Mountain Division has units in both Iraq and Afghanistan. About 25,000 Marines already are in Iraq, many of them in and around the volatile city of Fallujah.

"I think we can handle the tempo," Schwartz said.

“We?” This “joint staff” chairborn careerist would piss his pants if they sent him to Iraq. But it’s a great idea. Tie him on top of the lead clunker in the first armored column to try executing this world-class cluster-fuck idea.

(For several thousand years of history on why this is such hopeless bullshit, check out: War In The Shadows; The Guerrilla In History, by Robert B. Asprey. The utter disasters resulting from fighting guerrilla wars the way the Pentagon has now decided to do it are only exceeded by the arrogant stupidity of the Imperial political and military commanders who never learn, and obviously still haven’t. They always know better.

(There was the occasional Roman, French, or British commander, like Lawrence during WW I, who understood, but they usually got fired or betrayed by the assholes in charge. The best parts are reading about the countless times the guerrillas not only won, but killed off the opposing generals who didn’t get it. The worst parts are the staggering numbers of soldiers sent to their deaths by imperial greed and stupidity, a truly lethal combination.)

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:

Prisoner Abuse Last Nail But Not Last Coffin: “Pentagon Contact” Says Iraq War “Lost”

(THANKS TO B WHO E-MAILED THIS IN: B WRITES: 'Six morons who lost the war'? WRONG - THE MORONS ARE BUSH, CHENEY, RICE, RUMSFELD, WOLFOWITZ, BREMER, AND POWELL. NOT NECESSARILY IN THAT ORDER.)

5.4.04 Tom Regan, Christian Science Monitor

Regardless of the outcome of the now multiple investigations into prisoner abuse at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison, politicians and media around the world say the United States' image has suffered a serious blow.

Officials at the Defense Department are also said to be "livid," and well aware of the damage that has been done by the incident, according to NBC News' Pentagon reporter Jim Miklaszewski.

Speaking on the Imus in the Morning radio/MSNBC program Tuesday , Mr. Miklaszewski said he asked a Pentagon contact about the soldiers alleged to be involved, to which the Pentagon official replied, "You mean the six morons who lost the war?"

Rashid Khalidi, director of the Middle East Institute at Columbia University, echoes this view.

"I think the United States is less respected at the end of these 13 months than it has ever been," he said. ***"Never has a country with such unlimited power been so pitifully unable to affect outcomes. Ruthless, murderous terrorists can strike at will in the United States and the US can't take Fallujah?"***

The Miami Herald, in an editorial, writes that the exposure of abuse at Abu Gharaib can "seriously damage" the success of US operations, both militarily and otherwise, in Iraq. "It is too bad that the response so far, from President Bush's perfunctory indignation to General Myers' blaming a few wayward soldiers, badly misses the mark.

Yet in the end, The Christian Science Monitor reported Monday, this latest incident may not have made all that much difference to many in the Arab world because their opinion of the US had already sunk as low as it could.

24 Bulgarian Soldiers Choose To Go Home From Iraq NOW

Bulgarian news network SOFIA (bnn) May 3, 2004

A group of 24 Bulgarian soldiers returned from Iraq on Monday after filing to be relieved from service in the Arab country, an official said.

The group landed by a flight early Monday, defense ministry spokeswoman Romyana Strugarova said. A part of the soldiers have asked to return home because of suffering shell shock, **others have cited safety** or health reasons. **(Like not being killed by the resistance. That's a real good "safety reason.")**

Although it is made of professional soldiers, the Bulgarian infantry battalion in the Iraqi city of Karbala is recruited on a voluntary basis and soldiers may ask to be dismissed if they find the service too hard for them.

In that case they are required to pay back the money spent on their training and equipment. **(How much is *your* life worth?)**

The 450-soldier Bulgarian unit is part of 9,500-strong multinational force under Polish command in charge of central southern Iraq. **(Formerly 450, now 425 and shrinking fast.)**

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/gi-special/>**

Totally Fucked Now: Time To Get Out & Go Home Alive



Marines from the 3rd Battalion 24th Marines ride past a guard tower at the Abu Ghraib Prison on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq May 4, 2004. (AP Photo/John Moore)

Four 1st ID Soldiers Die in Vehicle Accident Near Khalis

Combined Joint Task Force Seven, Release #040504a

TIKRIT, IRAQ - Four 1st Infantry Division soldiers died from injuries sustained when their humvee rolled over during a combat patrol near Khalis. The accident occurred around 6:20 p.m., May 3.

U.S. Marine Killed In W. Iraq

03 May 2004

BAGHDAD, May 3 (Reuters) - A U.S. Marine was killed in western Iraq on Monday, the U.S. military said in a statement.

The Marine from the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force was killed in action in al-Anbar province, west of Baghdad, an area that includes the besieged city of Falluja.

FIRST ARMORED DIVISION SOLDIER DEAD, TWO WOUNDED IN ATTACK

May 3, 2004 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
Release Number: 04-05-06C & AFP 5.4.04

BAGHDAD, Iraq - One 1st Armored Division Soldier was killed and two others wounded when they were attacked with small arms fire south of here May 3.

The Soldiers were providing security at a weapons cache found in a raid the previous night.

The wounded Soldiers were transported to the 31st Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad.

Oregon Soldier Wounded

May 3, 2004 The Associated Press

FLORENCE — An Oregon soldier has been badly wounded in combat in Iraq.

Former Florence resident Beverly Elliott, who now lives in Louisiana, said a single bullet passed through the legs of her son, 24-year-old Jason Mehlhoff, breaking both leg bones.

Elliott said he is being treated at a British hospital in Iraq. **An army spokeswoman said the Department of Defense could confirm only deaths, not injuries.**

Mehlhoff is a sergeant with the 84th Engineer Battalion based out of Hawaii, said his mother. He grew up in Florence, where he attended Siuslaw High School.

He left for basic training one week after graduation in 1998.

Mehlhoff was based at Camp Anaconda, in the Iraqi city of Balad, north of Baghdad.

His wife and daughter have recently moved to North Carolina, where he will be stationed upon his return.

Intense Clash Leaves Six Wounded In Najaf; 30 Mortar Rounds Fired At US Military

May 03 2004 Independent Online & AFP 5.4.04

Najaf - An Iraqi policeman was killed and six people were hurt on Monday after an attack on a United States base outside the holy Shi'a city of Najaf, witnesses and a hospital doctor said.

Smoke was seen rising after militiamen traded fire with American troops at the base between Najaf and nearby Kufa, 130km south of Baghdad.

One Iraqi policeman was killed and six civilians were injured, two of them seriously, said Sadr Jader Hussein, from Najaf's Hakeem General Hospital.

News network CNN reported that up to 30 mortar rounds were fired at the base where US troops had recently replaced Spanish and Latin American troops.

A CNN correspondent on the scene said there had been intense and almost constant fire on the US positions in Najaf for some three hours, with light arms and mortars.

US forces were returning selected fire and no US casualties so far, she said, adding that it was the most intense clash since the US forces moved there two weeks ago.

"I heard the exchange of fire between the people at a checkpoint and the militiamen," said local resident Yaff Abdul Khoder.

"I saw a burning vehicle in the neighbourhood and took two wounded people to the hospital."

US soldiers manning the checkpoint near the base said Sadr militiamen were trying to smuggle more weapons into Kufa.

"The Mehdi Army is trying to get men and weapons into Kufa," said one soldier at the checkpoint which lies on the road leading from Najaf to Kufa.

The checkpoint was being guarded by heavy weaponry, including two US tanks and two armoured vehicles.

The soldiers searched the inside of vehicles and frisked young men entering Kufa.

He said that US troops were "now running regular patrols inside Najaf" and that their main concern was that Sadr was moving forces into Kufa.

But inside Kufa's grand mosque, a Mehdi Army official denied that arms were being stockpiled inside and that fresh forces were being brought in.

"We have received orders to take defensive positions in Kufa and to only attack the Americans if they enter the town," said Abu Ahmed.

Shiite Fighters Launch Another Attack On US Base

04/05/2004 IOL

Iraqi Shiite militiamen fired several mortar shells at a US base in Najaf early today and at a city hall guarded by Bulgarian troops in another Shiite city.

The overnight shelling of the US base in Najaf followed intense attacks yesterday by militiamen loyal to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who pounded the base with mortars and fired rifles and machine guns.

In Karbala, 50 miles north of Najaf, the city hall and the police headquarters, which are guarded by Bulgarian soldiers, came under mortar fire before dawn today, Bulgarian Defence Ministry spokeswoman Romyana Strugareva said.

No casualties or damage were reported after that attack which lasted about ten minutes.

In Najaf, US commanders said they were holding back fire to avoid serious clashes in the city, which is home to one of the most holy Shiite Muslim shrines.

Najaf Coalition Base And Water Purification Plant Attacked

5.4.04 Najaf, Iraq-AP

A base for multinational forces near the Iraqi holy city of Najaf came under mortar fire overnight. No reports of casualties.

The base had been under Spanish control, but with Spain's withdrawal it's not clear who's in command there. The multinational force in the region has been under the overall command of Polish forces.

In another incident, a water purification plant near another area city has been attacked by small-arms fire. Coalition and Iraqi forces returned fire and forced the attackers to flee.

Armed Resistance Troops Move Freely In Faluja; New Iraqi General Takes Over

04/05/2004 IOL

In Fallujah, Major General Mohammed Abdul-Latif, who opposed Saddam Hussein, took over as head of a new force that will replace US Marines in the city, subject to a final background check by US officials.

Abdul-Latif would replace another general who may have been involved in Saddam-era repression.

During a brief news conference in Fallujah, Abdul-Latif condemned the brutal killing and mutilation of four American contractors there last month, which triggered the three-week siege of the city.

However, Abdul-Latif said the people of Fallujah collectively were not to blame.

Fallujah residents have been celebrating what many see as a victory over the US Marines, who are lifting a month long siege and pulling back from positions.

The Marines are being replaced by an Iraqi force that is largely made up of former soldiers.

US officials say the Fallujah Brigade will crack down on hard-core guerrillas in the city **even though the force itself will likely include some of the gunmen involved in fighting against the Marines.**

<p>Since Friday, masked and armed insurgents have moved freely in the city's streets, sometimes standing alongside Iraqi policemen.</p>
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Attacks Close Baghdad Airport Road Following Warning

May 4, 2004 By DEXTER FILKINS

On Monday morning, a Baghdad neighborhood was papered with leaflets warning people to stay off the main road to Baghdad International Airport, which is heavily traveled by American soldiers and civilians.

By Monday evening, heavy fighting had broken out near the airport between American soldiers and guerrillas, with the Americans calling in heavy artillery,

which could be heard from miles away. The road to the airport was closed, at least temporarily.

Polish Troops Raid Political Meeting, Kill Students

AFP 5.4.04

Two Iraqi students were killed when police and coalition forces opened fire as they arrested a senior associate of rebel cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, according to a professor at their university.

Professor Fares Al-Sharif said students Maitham al-Hashemi and Sajed Hasnawi were killed in the raid on a political meeting at the university in Hilla, 100 kilometres (60 miles) south of Baghdad.

He said Sheikh Adnan Onaibi was arrested during the raid.

A spokesman for Polish forces based here denied that coalition forces were involved in the operation, saying arrests of Iraqis were the responsibility of the local police.

Canadian Businessman Taken Hostage

May 03, 2004 Canadian Press

OTTAWA -- A Toronto businessman has been taken hostage in Iraq, the minister responsible for Canadians abroad said Monday as he advised all Canadians to leave the country.

Dan McTeague said that Naji al Kuwaiti was taken hostage by an undisclosed group in Baghdad on Wednesday.

The capture emphasizes the need for all Canadians currently in Iraq to get out of the country, McTeague said in an interview.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Iraq Shi'ites Political Leaders Try to Contain Sadr

Hey Preacher, You Want The Weapon? Come Get It!



An Iraqi Shi'ite militiaman stands next to a poster of the resistance Mehdi Army leader Moqtada Al-Sadr as he patrols the center of the Holy city of Najaf, May 4, 2004. Iraqi Shi'ite political leaders called on al-Sadr to disarm. (Zohra Bensemra/Reuters)

May 4, 2004 BAGHDAD (Reuters)

Iraqi Shi'ite political leaders called on Moqtada al-Sadr to disarm Tuesday and vowed to forge an Iraqi solution to the brewing crisis involving the anti-American cleric and the country's holiest cities.

The move is the first collective effort by Sadr's political rivals to try to avoid further violence in Najaf and Karbala, **and regain political ground lost to the cleric, whose nationalist brand of Islam has gained him support.**

"It is a shame to ask the occupation forces to solve this problem. We are taking a clear stand: Najaf and Karbala must be disarmed. **These are holy cities that must have a Vatican like status,**" Shi'ite leader Mohammad Bahr al-Uloum told a meeting of Shi'ite parties, including those on the Iraqi Governing Council.

(Now there we got some truth. Vatican City, Najaf, or Texas, the first priority of church CEOs is keeping their power and privileges, and stuffing their own pockets and bank accounts with every cent they can lay their hands on.

(For sheer hypocrisy, and utter lack of anything resembling principles, there's nothing like a top bureaucrat in an established church to slit your throat while waving God in your face.

(Having done the work of first creating God in their own image, the religious businesses all over the world got their priorities straight: Keep 'em down, keep 'em dumb and superstitious, tell them to love their masters, and relieve them of their money so God's chosen ministers can live like pigs in clover. These guys don't want Sadr ending up on top with his hands on the oil money. They want that for themselves and the rich Iraqis they represent and serve.)

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

Americans won't take casualties for the credibility of the Bush administration. That's not a good enough reason for people to die. (MAUREEN DOWD)

Saving Face In Fallujah

May 4, 2004, By Fred Feldman, from Campus Antiwar Network

The US military in Iraq, which seems to have initiated for the moment a kind of de facto "separate peace" by retreating from Fallujah in favor of a basically PROSPECTIVE Iraqi force which is not on the ground yet, is putting a new face on the deal to please the Pentagon and White House.

Will this change the current situation on the ground – which today, in Fallujah, is controlled by the various rebel groups? Are they still counting on Saleh, who seems to have influence and even a following among some of the militias, to help them control the situation behind the more acceptable front man? Or does this represent a break with Saleh and the prospect of more conflict with his militias and others, which the local military brass seem to strongly wish to avoid?

Of course, the fact that the US forces have pulled back from Fallujah and are not, apparently, presently attacking the city represents an enormous pullback, and also seems to reflect strains or possibly even a partial breakdown in the chain of command running from Bush's (or Cheney's) and Rumsfeld's offices. If this is what is happening at the top, what is the mood in the military rank and file?

It's Time For A Mutiny

May 17, 2004 by Naomi Klein, The Nation

(For the full article, go to: [//www.occupationwatch.org/article.php?id=4509](http://www.occupationwatch.org/article.php?id=4509))

Can we please stop calling it a quagmire? The United States isn't mired in a bog or a marsh in Iraq (quagmire's literal meaning); it is free-falling off a cliff. The only question now is: Who will follow the Bush clan off this precipice, and who will refuse to jump?

More and more are, thankfully, choosing the second option. **The last month of inflammatory US aggression in Iraq has inspired what can only be described as a mutiny: Waves of soldiers, workers and politicians under the command of the US occupation authority are suddenly refusing to follow orders and abandoning their posts. First Spain announced it would withdraw its troops, then Honduras, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Kazakhstan. South Korean and Bulgarian troops were pulled back to their bases, while New Zealand is withdrawing its engineers. El Salvador, Norway, the Netherlands and Thailand will likely be next.**

And then there are the mutinous members of the US-controlled Iraqi army. Since the latest wave of fighting began, they've been donating their weapons to resistance fighters in the South and refusing to fight in Falluja, saying that they didn't join the army to kill other Iraqis.

And it's not just Iraq's soldiers who have been deserting the occupation. Four ministers of the Iraqi Governing Council have resigned their posts in protest. Half the Iraqis with jobs in the secured "green zone"--as translators, drivers, cleaners--are not showing up for work.

Corporate trade shows have been canceled across Iraq, investors are relocating to Amman and Iraq's housing minister estimates that more than 1,500 foreign contractors have fled the country.

The UN's greatest betrayal of all comes in the way it is re-entering Iraq: not as an independent broker but as a glorified US subcontractor, the political arm of the continued US occupation. The post-June 30 caretaker government being set up by UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi will be subject to all the restraints on Iraqi sovereignty that sparked the current uprising in the first place. The United States will maintain full control over "security" in Iraq, including over Iraq's army. It will keep control over the reconstruction funds. And, worst of all, the caretaker government will be subject to the laws laid out in the interim constitution, including the clause that states that it must enforce the orders written by the US occupiers. The UN should be defending Iraq against this illegal attempt to undermine its independence. Instead it is disgracefully helping Washington to convince the world that a country under continued military occupation by a foreign power is actually sovereign.

The invasion of Iraq began with a call to mutiny--a call made by the United States. In the weeks leading up to last year's invasion, US Central Command bombarded Iraqi military and political officials with phone calls and e-mails urging them to defect from Saddam's ranks. Fighter planes dropped 8 million leaflets urging Iraqi soldiers to abandon their posts and assuring that no harm would come to them.

Of course, these soldiers were promptly fired when Paul Bremer took over and are now being frantically rehired as part of the reversal of the de-Baathification policy. It's just one more example of lethal incompetence that should lead all remaining

supporters of US policy in Iraq to one inescapable conclusion: It's time for a mutiny.

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

OCCUPATION REPORT

5 Iraqi Governorates Lost To Occupation Control; UN Scum “Hope For Better”

May 4, 2004 By DEXTER FILKINS

On Monday, a United Nations official outlined a process by which Iraqis would nominate members of an Iraqi electoral commission,

But because of the violence, only 13 of the country's 18 governorates are currently able to nominate members of the commission.

The official said his team would push ahead with the process anyway, *and hope that the security situation improved.* (Tooth fairy anyone?)

(For more, see the article centerfold “They War They Wanted, The Disaster They Got” at www.socialistworker.org.)

Collaborator “Human Rights” Minister Bails Out Over Prisoner Abuse Scandal

May 4, 2004 By ROBERT BURNS, WASHINGTON (AP)

In Baghdad, Iraq's U.S.-appointed Human Rights Minister Abdul-Basat al-Turki said Tuesday he had resigned to protest abuses by American guards, and Interior Minister Samir Shaker Mahmoud al-Sumeidi demanded that Iraqi officials be allowed to help run the prisons.

Al-Turki said he resigned "not only because I believe that the use of violence is a violation of human rights but also because these methods in the prisons means that the violations are a common act."

An attorney for a military police officer being investigated in the abuse probe, said on NBC's "Today" show that the photographs of the Iraq prisoners "were obviously staged" in order to manipulate the prisoners into cooperating with intelligence officials.

"It was being controlled and devised by the military intelligence community and other governmental agencies, including the CIA," said Guy Womack, attorney for Charles A. Graner, Jr., a Greene County, Pa. corrections officer who was activated to the military in March 2003 and served at Abu Ghraib.

Reporter For Sale, Cheap

5.3.04 Rory McCarthy, The Guardian

(Note the way asshole McCarthy twists the story. The General says there are no "foreign fighters" but the "reporter" says the General is "refusing" to give them up.)

The Iraqi general chosen to run a new security force in Falluja yesterday distanced himself from the US military.

As a flood of civilians returned home after four weeks of a ferocious assault on the city by American marines, Major General Jasim Mohammed Saleh said the US had provoked a backlash from ordinary Iraqis.

"The reasons for the resistance go back to the American provocations, the raids and abolishing the army, which made Iraqis join the resistance," he said.

American commanders say 200 foreign fighters are holed up in Falluja and have demanded that the city hands them over. But Gen Saleh, an ex-Republican Guard officer who has been mooted to run a 1,000-strong local security force, **has refused.** **"There are no foreign fighters in Falluja and the local tribal leaders have told me the same," he said.**

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Rumsfeld Condemns Himself, Bush For Invasion Of Iraq

5.4.04 By ROBERT BURNS, AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Tuesday condemned the abuse of Iraqi prisoners as "totally unacceptable and un-American."

He said "The world has seen problems of this type before...People do things that they ought not to do and that are harmful and that are disappointing and in many instances are disgraceful."

Free Prosser; Secret Service Strikes Blow Against 15- Year-Old's Artwork

April 26, 2004 KOMO 1000 News, By Ken Schram

SEATTLE - Art students at Prosser High School were told to keep a notebook of drawings depicting the war in Iraq.

One 15-year-old turned in a sketch showing President Bush, dressed as a devil, launching a missile.

Another of his drawings was of a Middle Eastern-looking guy holding a rifle in one hand, while in the other hand was a pole with an oversized head of President Bush stuck on it.

The art teacher found the drawings troubling.

Maybe it was the caption that said: "End the War."

Anyway, the drawings were turned over to school administrators.

School administrators took a look and tossed this political hot potato to police, who took one look at the "Vote For Ralph Nader" slogan and called in the Secret Service.

Last week, Secret Service agents trekked out to Prosser and grilled the 15-year-old artist.

They left without charging him with anything, but that didn't stop the school district from punishing the kid anyway.

So, here's my question: When U.S. forces get finished bringing freedom to the people of Iraq, would it be possible for them to do the same thing for the people of Prosser?

I'm pretty sure there's at least one 15 year old over there who'd appreciate it.

(Schram has it right more than he knows. One reason we need our troops home, among many, is to protect us against the corrupt thugs who have taken over the government.)

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.

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