

GI SPECIAL 2#94

PERFECT HELL ON EARTH



BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW!

IRAQ WAR REPORTS:

Rocket Attacks Devastate U.S. Base In Kirkuk;

Ammunition Dumps Exploding;
“Rockets Flying And Landing All
Over The Base”--

KIRKUK, Iraq (Reuters) & June 03, 2004 By Mariam Fam, Associated Press

Massive explosions rocked a major U.S. military base outside the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk on Wednesday, shrouding the city in smoke, after what police said was a rocket strike on an arms store.

Shells and rockets screamed into the night sky over the base at Kirkuk's main airport and thick smoke rolled across the whole area, a Reuters reporter said from the scene.

The initial blast around 10 p.m. (2 p.m. EDT) was followed by sirens on the base and *mayhem that was continuing an hour and half later.*

"You can see rockets flying and landing all over the base," reporter Adnan Hadi said from a vantage point some 500 meters from the base perimeter. "The windows of buildings close to the base have all been shattered."

Loudspeaker announcements could be heard on the base warning troops to stay under cover.

U.S. military spokesmen in Baghdad said they were unaware of the incident. (What utter lying bullshit. That's giving them the benefit of the doubt. If they really are unaware of an entire base being blow sky high, they're too brain dead to command a school crossing guard.)

"A Katyusha rocket hit an arms store," district police chief Borhan Taeb Taheb told Reuters.

Taheb said he knew of no casualties among civilians outside the base, which covers a very wide area. No ambulances or fire trucks were seen moving in the city, which was under curfew. U.S. officials said no one was killed or seriously injured.

Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, is the industrial hub of Iraq's vital northern oilfields.

Marine Killed In Attack On Falluja Police Station; Bad Karma

June 2, 2004 By MARIAM FAM, Associated Press Writer & "PA" News

West of the capital, insurgents fired mortars at a police stations near the guerrilla stronghold of Fallujah, killing an Iraqi civilian and wounding three people, including a U.S. Marine. The mortar rounds hit the station.

The station was hit by 60mm mortar rounds in the two attacks, said Marine Captain Jason Smith, of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, which controls the area.

Marines and Iraqi security forces are stationed at the police compound in Kharma, a suburb of Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad

Army Captain From Shamokin Township Killed By Stop-Loss; Mother Says Bring The Troops Home

6/2/04 The Associated Press

PAXINOS, Pa. (AP) -- An intelligence officer from eastern Pennsylvania, a 10-year Army veteran who planned to make it a career, died Monday of wounds from a bomb attack in Iraq.

Capt. Robert C. Scheetz Jr., 31, who served in Iraq for more than a year, was pronounced dead at 11:58 a.m. on Memorial Day in an Iraqi infirmary, defense officials told relatives.

"He was a lifer who really enjoyed the military," said Scheetz' father, Robert Scheetz Sr. **"He was determined to become a general."**

Scheetz, a battalion intelligence officer with the 1st Armored Division, apparently was sleeping in a tent with members of his unit when an explosion destroyed a Humvee at their campsite Sunday, injuring Scheetz and killing another soldier.

At one point, Scheetz had been scheduled to return home on May 4, but his orders changed, extending his duty in Iraq by at least three months.

Scheetz was a University of Alabama graduate. He joined the Army in 1994, was a member of the special forces and had been stationed in Germany since 2001, his father said.

Though respecting his dedication, Scheetz' parents questioned the need to keep U.S. troops in Iraq. "We need to bring the servicemen and servicewomen home and let the Iraqis fight their own battles," Joyce Scheetz said.

Scheetz was a 1990 graduate of Shamokin Area High School, where Principal Eugene Boughner recalled him as a "wonderful kid," active in the jazz band, chess, Bible, speech and drama clubs and a performer in the school musical.

A 1997 Shamokin Area High graduate, Sgt. Matthew J. Sandri, 24, died March 20 of injuries from a rocket attack in Fallujah, and Army Spc. Christopher K. Bingaman, 22, of Frackville, was killed April 26 in a helicopter crash during a training flight out of Fort Bragg, N.C.

Two Northumberland County natives, Staff Sgt. Michael B. Quinn, 37, a 1984 graduate of Line Mountain High School, and Army Spc. Zachariah Long, 20, from Milton, were killed in Iraq last year.

Scheetz is survived by his parents, two sisters, and his wife, Jennifer, who lives in Baumholder, Germany. Family members said his body was scheduled to be flown Thursday to Baumholder, where a memorial service was to be held, and after that to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

"Rob's death is another blow to the heart of the community," Boughner said. "It's very sad. You think it's not going to happen again. But it did."

Pfc. Dead In Avenger Rollover

June 2, 2004 United States Department of Defense News Release No. 537-04

Pfc. Markus J. Johnson, 20, of Springfield, Mass., died June 1 in Al Anbar Province, Iraq, when an Avenger rolled over.

Johnson was assigned to D Battery, 4th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery, 1st Infantry Division, Kitzingen, Germany.

Fighting In Kufa; Four U.S. Soldiers Wounded As Shia Support For Al-Sadr Grows

June 03 & 04, 2004 By Mariam Fam, Associated Press

NAJAF, Iraq — Fighting broke out Thursday between soldiers and Shiite militiamen in Kufa — the eighth straight day of clashes that have all but ruined a deal signed last week aimed at ending violence in the holy city.

Smoke rose over the dun-colored, flat-roofed houses of the city 100 miles south of Baghdad. Explosions rocked the industrial sections.

Gunfire reverberated through the largely deserted streets as fighters loyal to al-Sadr took positions near the mosque, where gunbattles have raged in past days. Tanks and Humvees rolled into the center of the city at midmorning, prompting terrified civilians to scramble for cover.

In skirmishes lasting about an hour, two militiamen were injured, fighters said.

The U.S. military called a halt to its offensive operations, but it has retained the right to mount armed patrols, which al-Sadr's militia, the al-Mahdi Army, considers a provocation.

The Americans are reluctant to stop patrols until an Iraqi force is ready to assume security responsibility. Most of the police deserted after al-Sadr launched his rebellion in April.

CNN, which has a correspondent embedded with the 1st Armored Division in the area, said the fighting began after about 100 U.S. soldiers rolled into the center of Kufa early Thursday in search of militiamen who had fired mortar rounds at an American base between Najaf and Kufa.

Four soldiers were lightly wounded. CNN said troops found several rounds of mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and rifles hidden in a school in Kufa.

Following Thursday's initial clashes, residents of Kufa ventured carefully into the streets, examining charred market stalls and other signs of battle damage. At least one large crater pocked a dirt road. Merchants showed twisted piles of molten debris which had once been their sources of livelihood.

Others picked up shattered belongings amid the remains of their dwellings damaged in the exchange. One older man picked up the tail of a mortar round that had landed nearby and shook his head as he showed it to reporters.

"America attacks us and destroys our homes," said Ali Yasser, 21, who was guarding his house after sending his family out of the city. "It's a country of nonbelievers that hates Islam."

Senior Shiite clerics oppose al-Sadr but have refrained from trying to silence him for fear of worsening communal divisions and losing influence at a time when the young firebrand's anti-U.S. rhetoric is finding greater resonance among Iraqis.

Al-Sadr's forces and U.S. troops also exchanged gunfire in the Shiite district of Baghdad known as Sadr City, killing one fighter and injured three, officials in al-Sadr's office said.

Fighters threatened to conduct suicide operations if talks meant to calm the situation failed. "We will use explosive belts to attack the U.S. tanks," said one fighter, Ali Hussein.

Denver Ex-Cop Mercenary Killed In Ambush; Was Training Collaborator Cops

June 02, 2004 By Sean Kelly, The Denver Post

A highly decorated former Denver police SWAT officer working as a contractor in Iraq was killed over the weekend in an ambush.

Bruce Tow, 54, spent 29 years with the Denver police before retiring in 1999. He went to war-torn Iraq in February to train civilian police officers.

"He was a great guy," said Denver police Capt. Dave Abrams, Tow's former partner. "He was a man's man. **He was a cop's cop.**"

Denver police said details on the ambush were sketchy. **Abrams said Tow was part of a convoy going from downtown Baghdad to the city's airport when it was ambushed at an overpass.**

A spokesman for DynCorp, the military contractor that police said employed Tow, said the company would issue more information today.

Army Chaplain Wounded On Ordination Anniversary

06-02-2004 MINNEAPOLIS (AP)

An Army chaplain from Minnesota was seriously wounded in Iraq when a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle as he returned to camp after Sunday Mass, said Archbishop Harry J. Flynn of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The Rev. Timothy Vakoc, a 1978 graduate of Benilde-St. Margaret's, lost an eye and sustained brain damage and possible paralysis of his right side in the blast, Flynn said.

Vakoc served at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Eagan from 1993 to 1996. He left that post for the Army and served at least a short time at Fort Carson, Colo., where he was one of two chaplains for 15,000 soldiers.

Vakoc is one of 100 Catholic priests assigned to the Army. He was injured on the 12th anniversary of his ordination.

Janesville Marine Injured

6.1.04 Internet Broadcasting Systems, Inc.

Pfc. Gregg A. Arneson, 18, of Janesville, was seriously wounded in an explosion in Ramadi, Iraq, according to the Marine Corps.

He was taking part in a raid with eight other Marines, searching for illegal weapons. A parked car exploded as the Humvee in which he was riding drove by.

Gregg and Pam Arneson of Janesville learned from the Marines Tuesday that their son is in stable condition.

3 Filipino Troops Injured

2004-06-02 MANILA, June 2 (Xinhuanet)

The Philippine government confirmed Wednesday that three members of the country's military contingent to Iraq had been injured in a resistance attack there.

Roy Cimatu, Philippine special envoy to the Middle East, told the Department of Foreign Affairs that a seven-vehicle convoy with 14 Filipino personnel were on their way to Talayyi Village in Babil province when fired upon by resistance soldiers on Tuesday afternoon.

He also said that the injured had been already out of danger after receiving treatment in a US military hospital in Karbala, north of Babil.

Despite the incident, the special envoy maintained that the 51-strong Filipino troops, including 43 soldiers and eight policemen, would still stay in Iraq.

The Armed Forces of the Philippine (AFP) announced last month to send at least 45 military and police to Iraq as reinforcement to the government's contingent there.

The AFP's vice chief of staff and spokesman Rodolfo Garcia said that the reinforcement of 27 soldiers and 18 policemen would replace health and social workers, who had returned several months ago because the unstable Iraqi situation.

TROOP NEWS

Army & Red Cross Scum Refuse To Help Mom Visit Wounded Son; She Has To Beg For Money

June 02, 2004 By Chuck Crumbo, The (Columbia, S.C.) State

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Paulette Giannetti wanted to be at her son's side after learning he had been wounded in the war in Iraq.

But she didn't have money for plane tickets. So Giannetti turned to the military and relief agencies for help. No luck.

"If my son was dead or had suffered critical, life-threatening injuries, they said they could do something," Giannetti said.

But the Columbia woman's son was not injured seriously enough to qualify her for a free flight, despite the fact he was evacuated from Iraq to Germany to Washington and finally to Texas.

A friend stepped in to help Giannetti. **But members of military support groups believe other families of wounded South Carolina troops are in the same fix.**

"I think there's a large need for providing help to military families," said Janet Parsons, whose Lexington church has established a fund to help people like Giannetti.

Added Ann Smith of Blue Star Families, "We're still getting calls for help. We talk to people, several of them of are near bankruptcy, who need help."

Giannetti's 29-year-old son, Army Spc. Travis Brown, was wounded April 14 when an improvised explosive device blew up beneath the Humvee he was driving.

The first report Giannetti received said her son had been treated and returned to his unit, the 7th Cavalry Regiment.

Two days later, she learned the injury was more serious. Shrapnel had ripped into his lower left leg and her son had been flown to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany for treatment.

A few days later, he was flown to Andrews Air Force Base near Washington, D.C., and then was returned to Fort Hood, Texas, where the 7th Cavalry is based, to receive further treatment at a military hospital.

An accounting clerk who makes \$12.50 an hour, Giannetti said she was strapped for money to pay for a trip to her son's bedside.

If Brown's doctors had determined it was in the "medical interests" of her son, the Army would have paid for the plane ticket, said Col. Greg Mason, a spokesman for the Army Emergency Relief. **(Yeah, it's really good for his recovery to find out these assholes are making his mother go around begging friends and neighbors.)**

Giannetti, though, could not qualify for aid because she is not a dependent, Mason said.

The Army offered to lend her son the money, Giannetti said, but she did not want him to be strapped with repaying the loan.

The Red Cross, which helps families and soldiers stay in touch, does not have money for emergencies such as Giannetti's, spokeswoman Catherine Faris said. (Remember that the next time they come around with their hands out.)

Eventually, Parsons came up with a solution and bought nearly \$1,000 in plane tickets. Last Wednesday, Giannetti, her son's fiancée, Christine Greenwaldt, and his 2-year-old son, Justin, flew to Fort Hood.

Giannetti depended on faith and the generosity of others to pay for the tickets. **Her Lexington church, The Harvest, established a fund to cover Giannetti's expenses and is seeking donations.**

The 800-member church hopes to raise enough money to help other military families, said Cindi Stone, who oversees the fund.

"Paulette got the phone call that we all feared we'd get," Parsons said. "I know how she feels. If something had happened to my daughter, I would have been over there in a second."

Parsons' daughter, Jennie, served a year in Iraq with an Army Reserve unit. Giannetti hopes that by telling her story others can get help.

"I really believe I'm being given an opportunity to help other people," she said. "Yes, I need help. But I want something done so that other people don't have to go through what I've had to go through." (Damn right. How about a picket line at your unfriendly local Red Cross office?)

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/>

Army Escalates Stop-Loss For Thousands Of Troops; Maimed Or In Body Bag Only Way To Get Home From War; Soldier Protests Expected

June 3, 2004 By ERIC SCHMITT, New York Times & By Esther Schrader, L.A. Times Staff Writer & June 02, 2004 By Jane McHuge, Army Times staff writer

WASHINGTON, June 2 — **The Army announced Wednesday that it would require all soldiers bound for Iraq and Afghanistan to extend their active duty at least until their units have returned home from duty there, a move that could keep thousands of troops in the service for months longer than they expected over the next several years.**

The announcement, which expands an existing program that applies to many troops already in the two countries, means that soldiers who had planned to retire, move to other Army jobs or leave the military when their enlistments expired will be required to stay for the length of their units' deployment in either of the two combat zones. That could range from a few extra weeks to more than a year.

The use of the stop-loss program is particularly controversial within the military, where many soldiers have complained it amounts to a reinstatement of the draft.

The Army has repeatedly blocked certain soldiers in heavily used specialties from retiring or leaving.

The move will affect active-duty and Reserve units that are within 90 days of deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan, in what are now typically one-year assignments, and will last up to 90 days after the unit returns home, Army officials said. **The officials did not give a precise time frame for how long the policy would remain in force or exactly how many troops it would affect, saying it depends on how operations go in Iraq and Afghanistan. (Since the imperial politicians are losing their imperial war, guess what that means? "Operations" are "going" into the toilet, and the lives of the soldiers are going the same place.)**

Military analysts and some lawmakers say the widening of the so-called stop-loss policy is the latest indication that the Army is stretched dangerously thin as it struggles to maintain more than 115,000 soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as smaller deployments elsewhere.

Without the new program, an average Army division would have to replace more than 4,000 soldiers, roughly one-quarter to one-fifth of its total force, before or during a deployment, the Army said in a statement. There are the equivalent of roughly five divisions deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Also, for the first time in more than a decade, the Army is combing through the Individual Ready Reserve, the nation's pool of former soldiers, looking for specialists with critically needed skills. So far, 618 soldiers have been called back to duty under the program.

"The Army is just running out of creative ideas for coping with the level of commitment that Iraq requires," said Loren Thompson, a military analyst at the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va. "It's clear there was a fundamental miscalculation about how protracted and how intense the ground commitment in Iraq would be."

Since the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the Army has extended the tours of 45,000 soldiers, using the policy on an ad hoc basis depending on its needs.

But now, any unit designated to go to Iraq or Afghanistan will automatically fall under the new, widened policy.

The Army's move is expected to draw criticism from some soldiers, their families and possibly employers. "It's playing havoc with people's plans," said Joyce Raezer, director of government relations for the National Military Family Association, an advocacy group in Alexandria, Va. "It affects people who made plans that didn't involve the Army."

Other critics of the policy, while stopping short of comparing it to the draft, say it has elements of forced conscription that violate the spirit of the all-volunteer armed forces.

In an Op-Ed article in Wednesday's New York Times, Andrew Exum, a former Army captain who served in Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division, called the stop-loss policy "a gross breach of contract." "Many if not most of the soldiers in this latest Iraq-bound wave are already veterans of several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan," Mr. Exum wrote. "They have honorably completed their active-duty obligations. But like draftees, they have been conscripted to meet the additional needs in Iraq."

With virtually all of the Army's 10 active-duty divisions either serving in, preparing for or returning from Iraq or Afghanistan, there are fewer pools of active-duty troops from which to fill out deploying units.

They realized they cannot mix and match from other units," said Andrew Krepinevich, a retired Army lieutenant colonel who is executive director of the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments here. "*At the same time, they don't want to lose the best people they have going into a dangerous situation.*" (There's some really good news.)

The Army is anxiously watching to ensure history not repeat itself with a steady exodus of veteran soldiers after several combat tours, as happened during the Vietnam conflict, the G1 (Human Resources) said today.

As of today, recruiting for the Regular Army is at 100 percent; at 96 percent for the Army Reserve; and 90 percent for the National Guard.

But those victories will come because of a stop-loss policy implemented to help keep the Army's ranks filled during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Stop-loss is affecting all of the Army, active and reserve, and prevents soldiers from separating or retiring during designated deployment periods.

Those include soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y. and the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea who will be leaving for the OIF theater this summer, he said.

Previously, stop-loss kicked in weeks after deployment orders; they were two different issues that were not linked, said Lt. Col. Franklin Childress, spokesman for the G1.

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.

Increase In Army Sexual Assaults

June 03, 2004 Associated Press

DENVER — The number of alleged sexual assaults in the Army has increased nearly 25 percent during the past five years, The Denver Post reported Thursday, citing an internal report.

Cases of rape and other sex offenses investigated by military police climbed from 658 in 1999 to 822 last year, according to the documents from an Army task force formed to look into the problem.

Liar General In Abuse Probe Investigating Himself; More Typical High Command Fraud And Back-Scratching

Jun 2, By TED BRIDIS, Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - The Army general who reported last fall there was no mistreatment at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq also commands the criminal investigators now pursuing the abuse cases, raising concerns about a potential conflict of interest. (No shit?)

As provost marshal general, Ryder helps set policy for the MPs who guard Iraq prisons. He also retains the command he has had since January 2002 over the Army Criminal Investigation Division, whose agents are leading investigations into the activities at Abu Ghraib.

"It's a real complicating factor in my mind," said Walter Huffman, the Army's judge advocate general from 1997 until 2001.

"It's obviously unfair to ask a CID agent who has his career and advancement opportunities in the hands of his commanding general to make a finding adverse to General Ryder."

The Army said it is confident Ryder does not need to withdraw from any role in the investigation and that investigators will not be inhibited from reaching conclusions that might affect their boss. **(What utter bullshit, as if anybody is going to believe this ass-kissing nonsense.)**

Army field investigators typically are promoted by local superiors, not their overall commanding general.

Ryder concluded that military police were not asked to help prepare prisoners for interrogations. That determination was contradicted later during a broad investigation into prison abuses by Maj. Gen. Antonio Taguba, who said that "it is obvious ... that this was done at lower levels."

Grant Lattin, a retired Marine lawyer and former chairman of the military law committee of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, described Ryder's roles in the prison investigation as "one of the inherent problems with military investigations."

"You oftentimes have the same commander who is in charge of investigators is over the people being investigated, and potentially even himself being investigated," Lattin said.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Collaborator Killed In Mosul

June 03, 2004 By Mariam Fam, Associated Press

In the northern city of Mosul, a woman working as a translator for the Americans was killed by four unknown attackers, according to an official at a city hospital. Iraqis working for the occupation authority have long been targeted by insurgents.

Occupation Army Supply Truck Drivers Captured

June 2, 2004 By KATARINA KRATOVAC, Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Masked resistance fighters displayed a Turkish and an Egyptian truck drivers said to have been kidnapped in Iraq, according to videotape obtained Wednesday by Associated Press Television News.

The resistance fighters said the drivers were delivering supplies from Kuwait to Iraq and were seized because they were working for U.S. occupation forces.

The tape was obtained in Ramadi. The camera zoomed in on a document reading "ESS company vehicle list."

One of the resistance fighters read a statement saying "our Jihad brothers" had captured the two drivers "while they were providing the American army with supplies and goods."

"We are going to treat them in accordance with Islamic law, and we warn everyone who is assisting the Americans that they will meet the same fate," the speaker added. "Also, we hold their governments responsible for their actions."

Both the Turkish and the Egyptian man appeared unharmed and were eating food from plates on a carpet on the floor.

OCCUPATION REPORT

Brahimi Calls Bremer U.S. "Dictator"

June 3, 2004 UnWire

U.N. envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, tasked with selecting the 31 members of Iraq's interim government, issued a lukewarm endorsement of the new leadership yesterday in comments that seemed to suggest that his role had been constrained by U.S. officials, and referred to U.S. administrator in Iraq Paul Bremer as a "dictator."

Brahimi hinted that he had not been given complete authority in the selection process. "The government of Iraq, I sometimes say - I'm sure he doesn't mind my saying it - Bremer is the dictator of Iraq," Brahimi said. "He has the money. He has the signature. Nothing happens without his agreement in this country."

Brahimi also said the U.S. strategy in Iraq relied too much on the use of force.

"I think it's a little bit too easy to call everybody a terrorist," he said. "And I think if you find out there are people who are not terrorists who are respectable, genuine Iraqi patriots, you must find a way of talking to them."

More Sadistic Command Bullshit



An Iraqi man sits on the ground, upset that he was not allowed by the U.S. military to visit his relative held inside the Abu Ghraib prison June 3. **The man said that the U.S. military told him that he must first put in a request 15 days in advance of any visit to the prison.** (AP Photo/Hussein Malla)

Check out the name some twisted religious freak has given this camp. **Camp Run-By-The-Ass-Kissers-Of-The-Antichrist** would be more like it.



Detainees at Abu Ghraib prison reach through the fence at a new section of the prison named **Camp Redemption**, May 2004. (AFP/Pool/File/Pauline Lubens)

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Democrats, Republicans Unanimous: Keep The War Going And Kill More Soldiers For Oil And Empire

June 03, 2004 Associated Press, By Alan Fram

White House officials are accepting limits the Senate has voted to clamp on President Bush's request for \$25 billion for Iraq and Afghanistan, but say House restrictions go too far.

The Senate voted 95-0 Wednesday to provide the money, which Bush says is needed for this fall's U.S. military operations in the two countries.'

(Amazing how many people fall for the bullshit that Democrats are less committed to killing more soldiers to prop up the empire than Republicans are. One enemy with two faces.)

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/>

Big Rat Leaves Stinking Ship

June 03, 2004 By Pete Yost, Associated Press

CIA Director George Tenet, who weathered storms over intelligence lapses about suspected weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, has resigned, President Bush said Thursday.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

U.S. Troops Dead And Wounded In Clashes With Afghan Resistance

June 03, 2004 Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S. and Afghan troops backed by American warplanes fought Taliban militants in the mountains of southern Afghanistan,

Two U.S. troops and one Afghan soldier were wounded in the fighting in Miana Shien district of Kandahar province, 150 miles southwest of Kabul, said Khalid Pashtun, spokesman for the provincial government.

Earlier this week, U.S. special operations troops killed several militants in neighboring Zabul province. **Three soldiers and a Navy SEAL died last Saturday in the same province when a mine exploded under their Humvee.**

RECEIVED:

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEWS

From: "Lyke, M.L." <M.L.Lyke@seattlepi.com>
To: GI Special
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2004 7:11 PM
Subject: reporter query

I am a reporter with the P-I in Seattle, and am trying to find returning soldiers from Iraq who are suffering (or beginning to suffer) from PTSD and other "hidden wounds of war."

Do you know of anyone who might talk with a reporter?

Thank you,
Mary Lynn Lyke

M.L. Lyke/Reporter
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