

GI SPECIAL 2#C16

NO MORE: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW



American soldier, intensive care unit, 31st Combat Support Hospital, Baghdad, Nov. 7. The soldier was wounded Sunday. The medal was taped to his chest so that it would not be lost during medevac to Landstuhl. (AP Photo/John Moore)

TOMORROW'S ASHES

For Kerry to give in like he did, whether or not he had a chance in Ohio, proves to me that there really was no difference between the two candidates all along.

They were both the same men from the same backgrounds with the same "New World Order" agendas. Neither man wanted to end the war, nor solve the economic and social problems at hand. The only difference between the two men was the difference in rhetoric. I have come to the conclusion that Kerry misled at least half a nation into believing that a vote for him was a vote for change. Had he won, nothing would have changed, the war would still rage on as our economy

and our freedoms slipped away before our eyes. But Kerry lost, and Bush is still president, so in the end, nothing has changed anyways.
----Soldier, Iraq

[The writer has received orders to embark for Falluja from another combat location.]

From: Soldier In Iraq
To: GI Special
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2004 5:44 PM
Subject: TOMORROW'S ASHES

Almost to foreshadow the Judgment Day of November 2, 2004, a three-day rainstorm gruesomely interrupted the searing hot Arabian climate of central Iraq. In all actuality, the rains of late were a welcome change to the ever-monotonous arid heat and blinding summer sun that we have endured for over nine months.

The dry powdery Iraqi "moon-dust" soon churned into soupy chocolate milk looking liquid. Eventually, whole areas of our camp looked like a swampy mud marsh. The cool wind blew in gusts of sprinkled rainwater, and even the few golden weeds seemed to reach up and soak in the moisture from above. The air had a taste of springtime freshness, but the steaming hot air swirled great winds of humidity against sticky skin.

The desert rain was more than welcomed, but its timing was impeccably ironic. Jet black-menacing thunderclouds hung over the southern horizon as convoys of huge diesel trucks, tanks, armored humvees, and diligent soldiers with somber faces prepared to make their way to the battle torn city of Fallujah.

Everyone was geared up and ready to go, just waiting for the order to seek and destroy. For many weeks our brigade's assistance was desperately needed in Fallujah to counter the growing local popularity of the insurgency.

The Pentagon told us to wait patiently for the assault, until after the Presidential elections were over. It was widely rumored that the President did not want to commit to a bloody debacle until he knew for sure he would remain our Commander In Chief. So with forty-eight hours remaining until the vote tally could be counted, the rains continued to soak into the already foreboding anxiety of the approaching combat mission to Fallujah.

Tuesday, November 2, 2004; 8:24pm...I will never forget this dark hour in history when I discovered that democratic candidate John Kerry conceded to defeat. Throughout the last remaining days of the election, I was having a very hard time gathering facts and updates on the progression of vote counts. I was too tied up with missions and combat patrols to actually sit down and read the reports via Internet. All my news came from word of mouth.

At first, everyone said Bush was way ahead, and then they said that Kerry was only a few points down. Then came the news that Ohio was the next Florida, it would either make or break Kerry. I don't know why I would let it bother me so much; something that was completely out of my control, but the anticipation of the Final Word was tying my

stomach in knots. Bush looked like the sure winner, and after all the votes had been counted, Fox News declared Bush our returning champion.

I was immediately skeptical. Just a few short hours prior I heard that Kerry was sneaking up on Bush, could Ohio really be that irrelevant. I managed to find a computer and determine what had happened.

The headlines were bold and clear: John Kerry conceded! I was appalled. I grew dizzy and felt rather sick. Is this true? Would he really give in so easy? Kerry made a statement that he did not want to put our country through a legal fiasco to determine the winner. Very noble, but what if Ohio was as close as we all thought?

I was confused, and felt betrayed. **So many democrats, left wing liberals, non-partisans, socialists, rationalists, pacifists, rank and file workers, journalists and yes, even pop stars had worked so hard for the last two years to put this man in power, if not for personal preferences but simply to remove a lying fascist crook from office; and now at this great hour in humanity he was throwing in the towel, when there was still a bastion of hope left in Ohio.**

Already there were skeptics and critics who were posting headlines. Accusations were screaming about the Secretary of State of Ohio suppressing votes and manipulating voting laws to proliferate George Bush's great victory. If Ohio were indeed this years Florida, it would seem it was no longer the tiebreaker state; it was also the controversy state.

This was madness! Could it be possible that there was more foul play afoot than there was back in 2000? Was the office stolen again? Surely we as Americans have learned our lessons from dealing with the claptrap in Florida only four years prior. Or was it just a bunch of left wing sore losers who could not admit that the people had spoken, and they wanted Bush? I was agitated and perplexed.

If Bush won, I would want him to win honestly, but already there seemed to be mounting evidence against this. Then I read another headline, stating that the electronic voting system, in many states, could have perpetuated more problems than we expected. With no actual paper trail, votes could be tallied and lost, or not even counted at all.

This is insanity. I can honestly say that today, as I write these words, that I do not know all the facts involved in Bush's victory, or Kerry's submission to defeat. I can honestly admit that I do not know all the facts surrounding foul play in this year's election, if there is any.

Of course I aim to investigate into this, but for now, the day after the election of The Losers, I can look anyone in the eyes and tell them it really does not matter either way.

For Kerry to give in like he did, whether or not he had a chance in Ohio, proves to me that there really was no difference between the two candidates all along.

They were both the same men from the same backgrounds with the same "New World Order" agendas. Neither man wanted to end the war, nor solve the

economic and social problems at hand. The only difference between the two men was the difference in rhetoric. I have come to the conclusion that Kerry misled at least half a nation into believing that a vote for him was a vote for change. Had he won, nothing would have changed, the war would still rage on as our economy and our freedoms slipped away before our eyes. But Kerry lost, and Bush is still president, so in the end, nothing has changed anyways.

There is nothing we can do to turn back time, or I think a lot of Americans would have prevented this Bush tirade in the first place. But that is irrelevant now. Bush has somehow managed to slide right in to the easy seat, and through a complicated twist of events, has managed to convince half the world that a war on terrorism is necessary. A large majority of Americans obviously seem to think so.

Even in a country as far away as Iraq, where the war still continues to ravage innocent lives, the local population supports the Bush regime. They hate him and his ways, but what else can they hope for? Statistics have shown that most Iraqis support Bush, if not for the only reason of security. The people there know that if another president suddenly pulled out of Iraq, it would leave the gates wide open for organized crime, civil strife, or even another oppressive dictator. Indeed, through a completely miscreant and incompetent twist of events, Bush has managed to make himself the icon of necessity.

Now some of you out there are probably wondering what the hell is going on here, have I lost my mind? Was the forced anthrax vaccination I took before I came out here perhaps too much and now my brain has set itself into a systematic meltdown? Am I now condoning the acts of the Bush administration?

Not at all.

I still strongly believe that President Bush is a liar and a thief. He is a lowly criminal scumbag that literally inherited the Throne of Washington. G.W.Bush is nothing more than a reincarnated John Wayne/Adolph Hitler hybrid mutant of some sort...a strange and ugly specimen of human creation that will never be forgotten or forgiven.

When considering a divided country, a schism in American logic and rationale, the degradation of morals and decency, the death of so many innocent lives, and to the memory of fallen comrades, I place the blame squarely on GW'. I, in no way shape or form, agree with this gun totting madman or his administration who, I am firmly convinced, will someday be judged for what they are...criminals against humanity.

It surprises me that there are so many good-hearted Americans who support this lunatic, but so be it. He should have been ran out of town a long time ago, but the people have chose their leader, and who am I to criticize their free will to do so? After all, FREEDOM is what we are fighting for out here, isn't it?

Yet I digress. Nothing would have changed either way. Which is why I say it is NOW so important to scrutinize this administration and its goals for our future.

We can no longer turn a cheek when our constitutional rights as Americans become susceptible to violation. No longer can we ignore a super-upgraded version of the US Patriot Act being constructed behind our backs. Never shall we allow a conglomerated media or a fascist police state to control our minds and our way of life.

When war is declared, it should be the people who determine the justification behind it. If we Americans inherently treasure our free way of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, than it is our responsibility to make it so. As Henry David Thoreau once said, "People get exactly the government in which they deserve."

Moments after John Kerry's announcement of defeat, a friend of mine approached me and told me there was no hope anymore. At the time I felt I could agree with him, but as is always the case when the home team loses, tempers flare and desperation sets in. However, there is always hope for the next season.

And I feel that this situation is much of the same. There is always hope for the better, because without it, you have nothing but the acceptance of defeat. **Perhaps Kerry felt the same hopelessness in Ohio, whether or not it would have made a difference, which is why he gave up and accepted his defeat. However, We will not.**

For any antagonist who is reading this, whether you are a politician or a general or a police officer or a judge or a stockbroker or a lawyer or anyone, understand that there is an underground movement of people in action.

You may not be able to see it, but there is a grassroots organization of the independent that will not roll over and die.

We want only what everyone wants, and that is the essence of liberty on which this country was founded. **Every year we play by your rules, and every year the forces of evil overcome. But we shall never give up as long as there is a will to live, and life is the most precious thing we have.**

You label us a threat, and you condemn us to a stereotyped life of heresy, but one day "subverts will become politicians, and finally get the upper hand." We will not prevail through violence or military aggression, but rather through a common understanding of peace, love and understanding.

We are all and none of your common labels for us: peace freaks, beatniks, hippies or punks, rather a collection of sensible people who understand that your ways of suppression through an installation of fear are no longer logical or effective. As the truth of your ways becomes more apparent everyday, we become stronger through solidarity.

One day a revolution will come. A revolution of the mind. A new renaissance will triumph. It may not come in our lifetime, but eventually a reformed way of life will be necessary, as the pillaging of human spirit and the earth on which we live on becomes intolerable. The stock markets and greed machines and mindless consumerism will come crashing down by the decadent hand of your own megaton corporate bombs. The only option after your demise will be ours, that being freedom.

"The Flower of the Dragon is a Vietnamese legend. During the era of the dragon, the worst time for mankind, a small budding flower shall spring up. And it shall spread its petals throughout the world. The spiritual power in man shall overcome the brutal force in himself. Love shall overcome death, peace shall overcome war. Man shall love and be free."

-From Flower Of The Dragon, by Richard Boyle

In these dark times, we *must* see that there is hope for a better tomorrow.

www.ftssoldier.blogspot.com

Comment:

Take comfort:

Two things the army isn't telling you, and does not want you to know:

1. Every poll taken in Iraq by the U.S. Occupation regime has found that the overwhelming majority of Iraqis want all U.S. occupation troops to leave immediately, as in *not stay one more day*. Why do you suppose command isn't letting you know that?

2. George Bush got the votes of less than 28% of the U.S. voting age population. A huge number of people, 40%, overwhelmingly working class people, saw things like you did: two candidates for the rich, powerful and privileged, with Kerry trying to prove he was even more bloodthirsty than Bush, yelling about "victory" in Iraq, and threatening Iran and other assorted countries. **They decided not to vote for either of the predators. Bush got a small majority of the 60% whose votes were actually counted. The American majority certainly did not choose George Bush.**

As long as soldiers are willing to protect the liberties of Americans against the corporate ruling class who have seized the power in Washington, there is indeed hope. Thank you for keeping that hope alive. We need you and your brothers and sisters back here to defend us.

T

"I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is destroyed."

Abraham Lincoln

What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Send to contact@militaryproject.org. Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS:

West Baghdad US Convoy Ambushed; One Soldier Dead

11.8.04 The Associated Press

An attack on a convoy west of Baghdad killed one American soldier and wounded another with the 81st Brigade Combat Team, the US command said.

Secondary explosions at the scene came from the cargo the convoy was carrying.

Car Bomb Gets Two More British Soldiers



British Pipe Major Scott Taylor, 34, from Glasgow. **An a car bomb attack near the Jurf-Al-Sukhr Bridge very seriously injured two men from the Black Watch** near their base at Camp Dogwood, Nov. 7, 2004. **Camp Dogwood is now dubbed 'Camp Incoming'**. (AP Photo/ Pool, Maurice McDonald & Scotland Today/Scottish TV)

Humvee Burned Near Airport Road; One Soldier Dead

11.8.04 The Associated Press

A car bomb hit a US convoy west of Baghdad. **Aljazeera has learned that an unknown number of US soldiers were wounded in the incident on Sunday.**

Other reports say that one US soldier died in the attack.

Residents in western Baghdad reported that a roadside bomb went off as a US Humvee passed on the way to the airport, which lies west of the city. **The Humvee was reportedly burnt.**

Eyewitnesses also reported assailants opening fire at a US convoy passing through a tunnel in the Khadhra district in western Baghdad. US troops sealed off the roads leading to the scene.

Explosions, Fighting In Downtown Baghdad

11.7.04 TINI TRAN, Associated Press Writer



An Iraqi police car burns following a resistance attack along Haifa Street. (AFP/Tauseef Mustafa)

A series of multiple explosions echoed across the capital of Baghdad on Sunday. **Residents reported grenades setting police cars aflame on Haifa Street in the heart of the city.**

Sgt. Major Predicts Iraq War Will Be Disaster For U.S. With Marines Dying By The Hundreds--- He Says Attack On Falluja Will Be Like Tet Offensive & Hue, Vietnam!

**"You're all in the process of making history," Kent boomed in a clarion voice.
"This is another Hue city in the making."**

[THANKS TO B WHO E-MAILED THIS IN: B WRITES: YOU'RE IN THE PROCESS OF REPEATING HISTORY. YOU WILL WIN ALL THE BATTLES AND LOSE THIS WAR. IRAQ IS ARABIC FOR VIETNAM.]

11.7.04 By JIM KRANE, Associated Press Writer & Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)
November 8, 2004

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq - As U.S. forces prepared for what is expected to be the biggest Marine-led urban assault since Vietnam, U.S. commanders pumped up troop spirits Sunday.

Many of the marines circling Falluja have no major combat experience and commanders are pinning their hopes on training and superior firepower.

"About 95 per cent of my men have no major combat experience and many have none at all," said Sergeant Michael Edwards, a tank company master gunner.

Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent, the top enlisted Marine in Iraq, told troops Sunday the coming battle of Fallujah would be "no different" than the historic fights at Inchon in Korea, the flag-raising victory at Iwo Jima, **or the bloody assault to remove North Vietnamese troops who occupied the ancient citadel of Hue in the 1968 Tet Offensive.**

**"You're all in the process of making history," Kent boomed in a clarion voice.
"This is another Hue city in the making.**

[Can it be that the Sgt. Maj. Is completely clueless that the Tet Offensive was the turning point in Vietnam, and after it nobody could believe the U.S. had a chance of winning? Can it be he is clueless that U.S. troops died by the hundreds re-taking Hue from the Vietnamese independence fighters, and that Hue was a slaughterhouse that broke the back of the U.S. Marines in Vietnam? Or he is saying something between the lines, so to speak?]

Be Advised:

Lunatic Col. Operating Near Falluja

Nov 7 By ROBERT H. REID BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)

Col. Gary Brandl voiced his troops' determination:

"The enemy has got a face. He's called Satan. He's in Fallujah and we're going to destroy him." [Col. Brandl frequently receives personal messages from Satan, updating the Col. on his current whereabouts and appearance. The discovery that "Satan" has "a face" has been communicated to Central Command for urgent response and further instructions.]

THIS IS NOT GOOD NEWS



U.S. Army Spc. Chad Running of Cedar Rapids, IA. pushes a cart of empty blood boxes at the 31st Combat Support Hospital in the Green Zone of Baghdad Nov. 8, 2004. **The hospital, considered the busiest American combat trauma hospital in the world, is preparing for the possibility of heavy casualties in this week's expected military operations in Fallujah.** (AP Photo/John Moore)

Marine Col. Politely Says Collaborator Troops Not Worth Shit

Nov 6 by Brian Dominick, The NewStandard

Some 425 Iraqi soldiers will be joining the Marines to form the [Falluja] operation's ground force. *The Times* of London reports the Iraqi troops are being incorporated into the invasion force in order to, in the words of Marine Brigadier General Dennis Hajlik, put an "Iraqi face" on the operation.

But some US Marines are expressing concerns about the inclusion of Iraqi troops, whom they believe are skittish, poorly trained and undisciplined, potentially putting noncombatants or allies at grave risk.

US Marine Major Mike Zachaya, an adviser to the Iraqi attachment, told National Public Radio that the Iraqi troops are prone to "just shoot, whether they have a target or not."

He recounted a recent overnight incident during which the base camp was hit by a rocket propelled grenade. "All night [the Iraqis] were shooting, 'cause they were seeing ghosts out there." Zachaya said American officers are "very, very concerned," but assured NPR they are "working very hard to minimize any kind of friendly-on-friendly incidents. But it happens," Zachaya added. "It happens all the time."

According to Zachaya, the Iraqi unit is the best the Iraqi military has to offer, despite being half its original strength as a result of heavy casualties and massive desertions.

Two Mercenaries Killed Near Basra

November 07 BSKyB

The Foreign Office has confirmed that a British contractor has been killed in a roadside bomb attack in southern Iraq.

The FO would not give further information. However, Danish television reported that a British civilian security employee and a South African colleague were killed near Basra.

TROOP NEWS

NG, Reserves Hit With Discrimination:

**“... would you want to be treated like
a second class citizen and be willing
to die for your country?”**

**From: S [Name with-held to avoid retaliation by command]
To: GI Special**

Sent: Sunday, November 07, 2004 12:26 AM
Subject: Discrimination

After reading your article entitled Army Won't Pay [GI Special 2#C14] I thought I might have something to add.

Could someone please tell me why Active duty soldiers are given preferential treatment over NG and Reservists on base? I was under the impression that they were ALL active duty once activated.

I know that bases all over the country give active army, first dibs on everything from food to medical attention. I know of several Guardsmen with medical problems get "bumped" for active duty soldiers all the time.

In fact on soldier that is getting ready to be deployed very soon has been waiting for over 6 weeks to see a DR for a problem with his ankle, again he has gotten bumped over and over and is still waiting to see someone, he is making arrangements to see his personal DR when he can get a pass to leave base.

This sounds an awful lot like discrimination to me and to many others.

I know that it is not the fault of the GI, but the fault of the Base Commander to let this practice go on.

Again I thought discrimination was illegal but I guess the military makes its own rules.

No wonder enlistment for these two are so low ... would you want to be treated like a second class citizen and be willing to die for your country?

Sign me
Disgusted

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. Send requests to address up top.

Combat Refusal Successful: Unit That Rebelled Gets It's Armor

Nov 06, 2004 AP

BAGHDAD, Iraq - A U.S. Army supply unit whose members refused a dangerous fuel delivery mission last month has now fitted its vehicles with armor to protect against attack, the military said Saturday.

Eighteen soldiers from the 343rd Quartermaster Company, a Reserve unit based in Rock Hill, S.C., refused to drive a fuel convoy last month from Tallil air base near Nasiriyah to Taji north of Baghdad, insisting their vehicles were not properly outfitted and the fuel was contaminated.

The statement said all the unit's M931 Tractors and 5-ton gun trucks have been fitted with fabricated armor. In addition, all Humvees have factory add-on armor, the statement said.

In a statement Saturday, the military said the unit was still carrying out inspection, maintenance and training, and had resumed limited operations. "The 343rd expects to resume fuel delivery missions, with their own vehicles, in the near future."

NEED 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/> And join with Iraq War vets in the call to end the occupation and bring our troops home now! (www.ivaw.net)

Veteran Won't Report For Duty; Sues Government To Stop It

Nov 7 HONOLULU (AP)

A veteran of the first Persian Gulf War is suing the Army after it ordered him to report for duty 13 years after he was honorably discharged from active duty and eight years after he left the reserves.

Kauai resident David Miyasato received word of his reactivation in September, but says he believes he completed his eight-year obligation to the Army long ago.

"I was shocked," Miyasato said Friday. "I never expected to see something like that after being out of the service for 13 years."

His federal lawsuit, filed Friday in Honolulu, seeks a judgment declaring that he has fulfilled his military obligations.

Miyasato, 34, was scheduled to report to a military facility in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Within hours of filing the lawsuit, however, Miyasato received a faxed letter from the Army's Human Resources Command saying his "exemption from active duty had not been finalized at this time" and that he has been given an administrative delay for up to 30 days, said his attorney, Eric Seitz.

Miyasato, his wife, Estelle, and their 7-month-old daughter, Abigail, live in Lihue, where he opened an auto-tinting shop two years ago.

Miyasato enlisted in the Army in 1987 and served in Iraq and Kuwait during the first Persian Gulf War as a petroleum supply specialist and truck driver.

Miyasato said he received an honorable discharge from active duty in 1991, then served in the reserves until 1996 to fulfill his eight-year enlistment commitment.

Miyasato said he never re-enlisted, signed up for any bonuses or was told that he had been transferred to the Individual Ready Reserve or any other Army Reserve unit.

"I fulfilled my contract," Miyasato said. "I just want to move on from this, and I'm optimistic that I'll be successful."

Miyasato speculated that he may have been picked because his skills as a truck driver and refueler are in demand in Iraq. He told reporters he did the same work as that done by a group of Army reservists who refused to deliver fuel along a dangerous route in Iraq last month.

Critically Wounded Soldier Home

[A story that raises more questions than it answers.]

11/6/2004 By GAIL NORHEIM, NEWS NIAGARA BUREAU

WHEATFIELD - Army Spc. John Pirinelli doesn't believe for one minute that he's a hero. And his family is just happy to have him home from Iraq in one piece.

Pirinelli, 23, who was critically injured July 28 in an ambush near Tikrit, is back in his native Bergholz. He arrived Thursday night and spent Friday surrounded by family and friends in the house where he grew up. The family carport was filled with balloons and welcome home signs.

Friday night, he got a taste of just how many folks from his hometown have been pulling for him. **More than 700 people bought tickets for a benefit to help cover his medical costs. [The military isn't covering his medical expenses? He needs money? What the fuck is that? Oh yeah, the thanks of a grateful nation.]**

His older brother Philip wrote a song about him, which he sang as a surprise at the event.

"I appreciate it," said Pirinelli, who spent part of the summer in a coma. **"But it's like so many people are out there getting hurt that don't get this.**

"Why do I deserve this more than anybody else?"

Pirinelli was shot in the back while on patrol. He was brought to a hospital in Germany soon after, where he fell into a coma for more than a week.

His mother, Rise Pirinelli, flew to Germany with other family members, to be by his side. "I just kept saying, 'I know my heart's gonna stop,' " she recalled. "I just thought I would die."

Family members received a grim assessment of Pirinelli's injuries: His colon was severely damaged. He lost a kidney. Nerves in his right hand were damaged. Doctors thought it would take at least a year to recover - if he recovered at all.

Fifty-five pounds lighter, Pirinelli was recently released from Washington's Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where he was transferred in August.

Pirinelli is plainspoken and honest, but doesn't necessarily like to talk about his seven months in Iraq.

"It's day to day," said Pirinelli, who was awarded the Purple Heart. "Sometimes I feel like answering questions, sometimes not," he said. "Sometimes I don't mind spitting it out. **I feel like if I talk about it, people will get the wrong idea.**"

He also said he doesn't want people to think he is greedy for attention.

Now, he just wants to get on with his life. He got married in January and he and his wife just had their first child about two weeks ago.

He also has mixed feelings about the war, and said he has no desire to re-enlist in the Army when his hitch is up.

“Rape Was To Be Expected In The Military”

November 05, 2004 MIKE FRANCIS, The Oregonian

When a military woman, especially an officer, reports a sexual assault, it has "serious career implications," said Anita Sanchez, communications director for the nonprofit Miles Foundation. The Newtown, Conn.,-based organization says it has directly assisted since 1996 in 20,000 cases of domestic violence, sexual assault or child abuse involving the

military. Sanchez said many women choose not to report an assault because of fear that their military careers would be derailed by the charge.

The Miles Foundation has reported that three-fourths of the female veterans who suffer sexual assaults didn't report the assault to a ranking officer. In some cases, the foundation said, women believed "rape was to be expected in the military."

Rally In Scotland Remembers Young Soldier: Opposes The War



Marching along Braidcraft Road, Pollok.

02.11.2004 Paul O'Hanlon, indimed@uk

Saturday 30th October saw a demo organised by the `Campaign for Justice for Gordon Gentle`.

Gordon was a young Scottish Fusilier who was tragically killed in Basra on June 28th this year.

The rally of about 500, which was led by Gordon's mother Rose and his sister Maxine, assembled at Pollok Centre at 12.30pm and marched along Braidcraft Road and Linthaugh Road to Lochar Park for a rally. Invited speakers included Tommy Sheridan MSP, Ewa Jasiewicz of Voices in the Wilderness and Reginald Keys whose son Thomas Richard Keys was killed in Iraq.

On Tuesday 7th December there will be a public meeting of the Campaign for Justice for Gordon Gentle at 7.30pm in the Moir Hall, Mitchell Theatre, Granville St, Charing Cross, Glasgow. Speakers include Rose Gentle, **Michael Hoffman of Iraq veterans against the war**, **Lou Plummer of US Military Families speak** out and Tommy Sheridan MSP.

More from Ewa Jasiewicz:

After the rally, I swear an undercover cop was quizzing me about future plans and was asking me in a roundabout way what format FTA was on.

Very dodgy. I gave away nothing but let him see and know I was wary of him in a causal, 'I think I know your game' way, you know, asking him for a business card, asking him about his work, being friendly, but just a bit guarded.

That's the territory im in though now.

And the JFGG campaign will have a lot of attention from the state, already has.

Rose and co are super strong. Working class communities can smell a rat a mile off, and they're tight, people know each other, understand each other etc.

Rose Gentle Says:

If u can tell the troops in iraq I am thinking of them. RG

Soldiers Get Oiled To Fight Oil War

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq, Nov 6 (AFP)

With US forces massing outside Fallujah, 35 marines swayed to Christian rock music and asked Jesus Christ to protect them in what could be the biggest battle since American troops invaded Iraq last year.

The marines then lined up and **their chaplain blessed them with holy oil** to protect them.

"God's people would be anointed with oil," the chaplain said, as he lightly dabbed oil on the marines' foreheads. [The story does not inform the reader whether the oil is from Shell, Exxon, or straight from the Iraqi oil fields the soldiers are dying for.]

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Falluja Prepares Defense; Morale High

November 7 Samir Hadad, IOL Correspondent & Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)
November 8, 2004

As American and Iraqi troops are gearing up for storming restive Fallujah, the city's religious and clannish character stand as an invincible bastion for the invading troops.

Experts have warned that militants are spilling out of the city, past coalition troops and into an area near Baghdad known as "the triangle of death".

The people of Fallujah see resistance against the occupation troops as part and parcel of their Islamic duties.

"Additionally, the city's people have this great sense of self-esteem, preferring death to bowing to the US troops."

Many side streets off the main east-west road cutting through Fallujah had been barricaded with cement blocks and sandbags to guard the fighters' movements against US snipers.

The fighters had also set up various positions in deserted and destroyed parts of the rubble-strewn city, but they only show up there when US war planes strike or shelling starts.

Sheikh Omar Said, a senior scholar, said the city is basically made up of three religious currents: Sufism, Muslim Brotherhood and the Salafism.

"These currents are working in tandem as they were united by the occupation nightmare."

The city is run by the Mujahedeen Shura Council led by influential imams and mosque preachers, including Abdullah Al-Janabi, Zafir Al-Obeidi and Omar Hadid.

Hailed as the City of minarets and mosques, Fallujah is home to around 100 mosques though it is relatively small in area.

Fallujah is also made up of four main clans: Zawbaa, Al-Jamilat, Bu Eisa and Al-Mahameda in addition to secondary ones like Tamim, Bani Kabis, Al-Fayad, Al-Aneen and Al-Raween.

"Most of these clans are Sunni Muslims who originally hail from the Arab Peninsula," Abdul Malik Mahmoud Al-Ani, a clan leader, told IOL.

According to Sheikh Abdul Majid Al-Tamimi, the city was founded in 1804 and was named Fallujah due to its steeping roads carved by river erosions.

MORE:

Falluja SAM's Ready; Enfilade Plans Set

November 07, 2004 The Sunday Times – World

“We refuse to be turned into refugees by the Americans,” added a neighbour, 55-year-old Haj Jassem Faraj. “It is better to remain and die in one’s home with dignity than to turn into a refugee with nothing.”

SCORES of suicide bombers have been primed to defend Falluja against an imminent onslaught by American and Iraqi forces, according to insurgents’ commanders planning a ferocious counterattack.

More than 100 cars laden with high explosives have been distributed throughout the city to be detonated when US marines mount a long-awaited ground offensive, they claim.

It was impossible to verify such claims, but as the only western newspaper reporter in Falluja last week, I saw thick black cables running across roads to the city centre, indicating the sites of “improvised explosive devices” — home-made bombs intended for American convoys.

A commander pointed out bridges, a railway track and several networks of narrow alleys in three districts of the city, saying they had been mined.

Snipers have been recruited by Falluja’s commanders from other cities and were already in position this weekend.

The insurgents said they had surface-to-air missiles with which to counter attacks by helicopter gunships.

They also claimed that a number of missiles had been tipped with deadly chemicals including cyanide.

One said these would be fired at American forces from their rear. “We have created a rear position, mainly outside Falluja, that will provide assistance to the fighters inside once the battle starts,” the commander said.

My journey to the besieged city last week was therefore not only long and circuitous but also nerve-jangling. I was driven there by the younger brother of one of the insurgents’ commanders who had guaranteed our security as far as possible.

Our contacts warned us to keep a low profile and avoid foreign militants. We needed no encouragement to do so. **The main road to Falluja was strewn here and there with the charred remains of American tanks and other vehicles burnt long ago and**

never cleared away. Long convoys of tanks and troops were moving rapidly towards the city.

“The Shi’ites are not as well trained as our fighters here in Falluja,” said Muhanad, a car mechanic. “Ours are professionals and the Americans will soon learn their lesson.”

A heated discussion ensued about al-Zarqawi when Mohammed, the commander’s brother, claimed that he was not even in Iraq, let alone in Falluja.

“We all know who the Tawheed’s main commander in Falluja is,” he said, to a chorus of “Omar Hadid”.

Hadid, a former electrical engineer, is viewed by the Americans as “a home town hero” who leads a force of 1,000 to 1,500, including many Syrian and Jordanian fighters. Its aim is to evict American forces from Iraq.

According to Mohammed and Alaa, Hadid fled Saddam Hussein’s Iraq after being pursued on murder charges. He went first to Syria, then to Saudi Arabia, returning to Falluja at the end of the war.

When the number of bombs passed the 100 mark, Mohammed mused: “I wonder how the pilots feel when they are bombing Falluja or any city from the skies.”

Uday, a thin man in an American baseball cap, replied: “They feel like they are masters of the skies. All-powerful and strong.”

“My house can be destroyed but I will never leave Falluja and abandon it so that it may be destroyed by the Americans,” he said. “If necessary I, too, will fight as will my wife and daughters to defend our city.”

The family had stocked up on food and water and was ready for anything, he said.

“We refuse to be turned into refugees by the Americans,” added a neighbour, 55-year-old Haj Jassem Faraj. “It is better to remain and die in one’s home with dignity than to turn into a refugee with nothing.”

One insurgent commander was in no doubt that his men would make an implacable enemy. “You will hear of unconventional tactics being used in Falluja,” he said.

“We are very confident of our preparations.”

MORE:

Ramadi Resistance Organizes Fortifications

November 2, 2004 Samir Haddad – IslamOnline.net

Iraqi resistance fighters in Ramadi have been working on the double to reinforce their positions, getting ready for a battle everyone seems sure it would come.

“The resistance has been stockpiling food supplies and taking fortifications as well as planting mines in all routes leading to the city,” Mohamed Elian, a city resident said.

He added the resistance fighters have also been digging trenches and reinforcing positions, poising for die-hard battles against the occupation forces.

According to observers, Ramadi, known for its tribal relations with Iraq’s main resistance bastion Fallujah, has been coming under daily US attacks because of resistance attacks launched from the restive city against US forces.

Insurgent Offensive In Force Overruns Haditha And Haqlaniya: 21 Occupation Cops Executed; Another Attack In Baquaba

November 8, 2004 By Amar Daham in Ramadi, Agence France-Presse

“A large number of attackers, estimated at about 200, ambushed the main police station in Haditha and another smaller one in Haqlaniya,” said the police officer from Haditha, a town 200km west of Baghdad.

TWENTY-ONE policemen were shot dead when gunmen stormed two police stations in neighbouring areas yesterday in the province of Al-Anbar, a police officer said.

In Haditha, 200km north-west of Baghdad, fighters with rocket-propelled grenades and mortars attacked a police station at dawn on Sunday.

After a 90-minute battle in which six policemen were wounded, the attackers took 21 captured policemen to the K-3 oil-pumping station area and shot them dead.

In nearby Haqlaniya, Brigadier Shaher al-Jughaiifi, security chief in western Iraq, died in an attack on a police post.

They captured weapons and vehicles. “They took everything,” the police officer said at the Haditha station, where about 40 policeman are usually based, **noting that about 15 vehicles had disappeared.**

Fighters killed another Iraqi police officer and wounded one in the town of Baquba, north-east of Baghdad, police said.

Car-Bomb Near The House Of Iraqi Financial Minister

7 November 2004 Focus 1 News

A car-bomb has exploded in front of the house of Adel Abdel Mehdi, Financial Minister of Iraq, AFP reported. One of the Minister's guards has died in the incident.

Militants Abduct, Kill Dozen Iraqi National Guards Near Latifiyah

11/7/2004 NAJAF, Iraq (AP)

Twelve Iraqi National Guards were abducted and executed by militants dressed as policemen while traveling home to Najaf, an official with a Shiite party said Sunday.

The 12 men were kidnapped near Latifiyah, an area of frequent violence about 20 miles south of Baghdad, said Abu Ali al-Najafi from the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, known by its acronym SCIRI.

The 12 were seized along with the convoy's driver, though a 13th guardsman escaped.

The assailants, who later identified themselves as members of a group calling itself the al-Furqan Brigade.

They broke the driver's arm and sent him off with a ransom demand to their relatives, for payment of \$1,000 for each.

More U.S. Military Supply Drivers Killed

SAMARRA, Iraq, Nov 7 (AFP)

Two truck drivers, one from Turkey and the other an Iraqi, were found shot dead north of the Iraqi capital Baghdad, local police said Sunday.

Both men had been transporting goods for US soldiers stationed in the area, said Colonel Mizher Khalaf of the Salaheddin province police. On Saturday three Iraqi contractors who worked for the US military were found killed near Balad, police said.

Collaborator Officials Killed On Way To Funeral For Collaborator

2004-11-07 By TINI TRAN, Associated Press Writer

Three Diyala provincial officials were gunned down south of Baghdad while traveling to a funeral in Karbala for a colleague assassinated earlier this week.

Governor's aide Jassim Mohammed was killed along with Diyala provincial council members, Shihab Ahmed and Dureid Mohammed, an Iraqi official said.

Samarra Police Firing On Occupation Guards

November 5 2004 By Dhiya Rasan, Financial Times (London)]

Residents of Samarra complain that neither the National Guard garrison nor the embittered police force can keep order in the town.

Samarrais say that most of the local insurgent leaders slipped away to fight again.

Guardsmen stormed houses without warrants, arrested people at random and fired into the air wherever they went, he said. The police were less abusive but were open to bribes and co-operated with criminal gangs.

Worse, the National Guards claim, former and some serving police officers snipe at them during their night patrols.

"Lots of [the police] are spies working for the terrorists," said one young officer from Baghdad, using a term denoting insurgents who controlled the town until last month.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

BY DEFINITION A TERRORIST IS SOMEONE WHO HAS NO BOMBER, I.E. BOMBER PLANE.

IF S/HE HAS ONE, S/HE'S A PILOT.

MAX WATTS

Command Fights Media War While Resistance Gains & Soldiers Die

2004-11-06 By Pierre Sawaya – BAGHDAD, Middle East Online & 2004-11-07 By TINi TRAN, Associated Press Writer

Political analyst Hussein al-Ukayli said that the government never really reclaimed Samarra from the insurgents.

"Declarations by the United States and the Iraqi government that the Samarra offensive was a success are merely aimed at the media. They refuse to acknowledge the ongoing violence," Ukayli said.

"US troops can easily take Fallujah, but can they restore order? Definitely not, they simply create pockets of insecurity across the country," he said.

"What happened today in Samarra demonstrates perfectly that rebels have the means to reassemble quickly and strike violently," said Abdeljabbar Ahmed, a professor of political science at the University of Baghdad.

"No matter how many troops are massed outside these so-called rebel cities, the American army and Iraqi forces are unable to restore order in the long-term."

| |
|--|
| <p>The experience that occurred in Samarra is now being repeated again in Fallujah, and we can see that nothing was achieved in Samarra," Ayad al-Samaræi of the Sunni-led Iraqi Islamic party told Al-Jazeera television. "The situation is still as it was before" in Samarra.</p> |
|--|

OCCUPATION REPORT

Panic In Baghdad; Bush Stooge Declares Emergency As Explosions Rock Capital

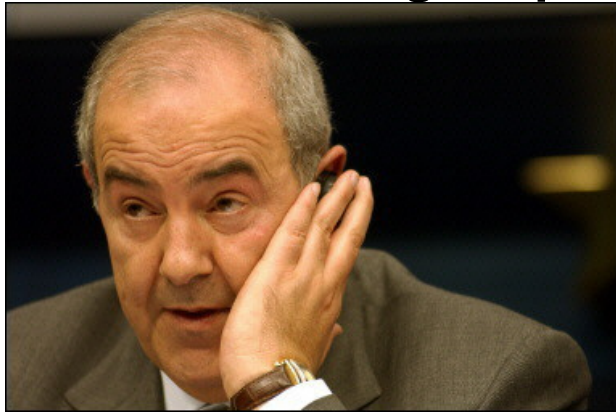
2004-11-07 By TINi TRAN, Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq - The government declared a 60-day state of emergency throughout most of the country Sunday, as U.S. and Iraqi forces prepared for an expected all-out assault on rebels in Fallujah. **Insurgents escalated a wave of violence that has killed more than 50 people the past two days.**

Heavy explosions were heard in Baghdad as government spokesman Thair Hassan al-Naqeeb announced the state of emergency over the entire country except Kurdish areas in the north.

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

Allawi Leaving Iraqi



(Photo: AFP/File/Thierry Monasse)

Iraqi “Prime Minister” Iyad Allawi announced today that he was leaving Baghdad immediately for Santa Clara, California where he will receive treatment for a badly abscessed tooth.

He denied that the rising level of resistance attacks, including fighting in downtown Baghdad, had anything to do with his decision. He said because of the severity of his condition, he might be away for “three or four years.”

Although Allawi does not have health insurance good in the United States, he said that the \$14,875,098 he has received from the Bush Administration for betraying his country would cover his medical expenses, with “a bit left over for the day-to-day requirements of an important person such as myself.”

He is rumored also to have other funds accumulated during his employment as a terrorist working for the CIA during the Hussein regime. His mission was arranging for bombs to explode in Iraq killing women, children, and anyone else who happened to be coming along at the time.

Web Copies

For back issues see: GI Special web site at <http://www.militaryproject.org/>

The following that we know of have also posted issues:

<http://www.notinourname.net/qi-special/> ; www.qifightback.org ;

<http://www.albasrah.net/maqalat/english/qi-special.htm>,

www.williambowles.info/qispecial

GI Special distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupation of Iraq. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for purely educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. Go to: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml>. for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

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