

GI SPECIAL 2#C21

HOW MANY MORE FOR BUSH'S WAR?



U.S. Marines evacuate an injured comrade after a mortar explosion near Falluja November 10. (Eliana Aponte/Reuters)

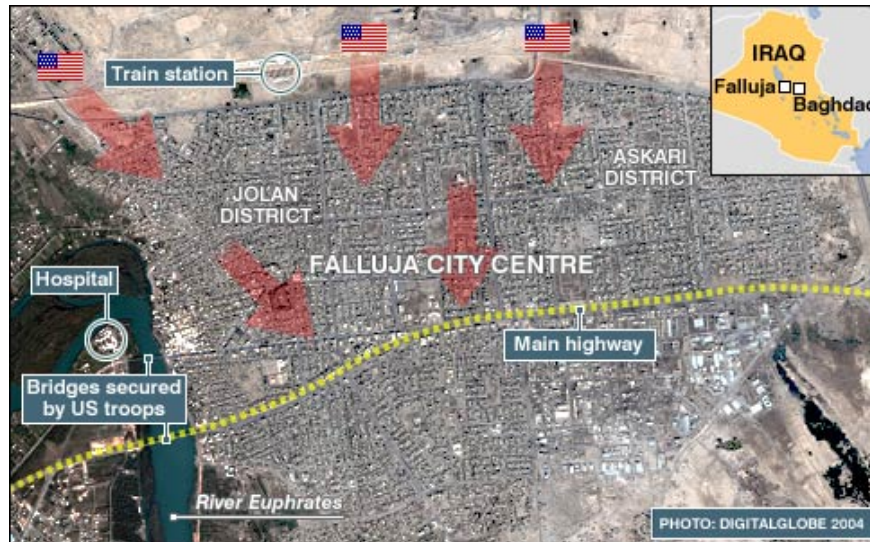
Fighting Fierce In Falluja: Resistance Launches Fresh Attacks After Marine Officers Claim They Are “Bottled Up”

Nov 12, 2004 By Michael Georgy and Fadel al-Badrani, FALLUJA, Iraq (Reuters)

U.S.-led troops battling to take control of Falluja ran into pockets of fierce resistance Friday.

A battle erupted near a mosque in northwest Fallujah on Friday just hours after US Marines said insurgents were now trapped in the south of the city.

Heavy clashes resumed in Fallujah's northwestern Jolan district, where resistance had dwindled in the previous 24 hours.



BBC News

Partisans emerged on a rooftop beside a mosque as Marine tanks headed for the area. Troops evacuated two US casualties. Smoke rose from an ice factory on the edge of Jolan after rebels fired three rockets at US forces there, residents said.

The Iraqi Red Crescent Society urged U.S. forces and the Iraqi government to let it deliver food, medicine and water, as soon as possible, describing conditions in Fallujah as a disaster.

In Fallujah, the U.S. military says those who remain are bottled up. Hours after he spoke, fighting broke out in the Jolan district in the northwest of the city. A huge explosion shook Jolan later.

Time magazine's Michael Ware, embedded with U.S. forces, said troops of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment who spearheaded the first push into the city early Monday found entire houses that were booby-trapped.

Fighting was so fierce that, on one occasion, U.S. troops fought insurgents room to room, just a few feet away from each other in the same house.

In the city's north, U.S. forces reported roving squads of three to five militants shooting small-arms fire and moving easily through narrow alleyways.

U.S. Troops Run A Maze In Fallujah

November 13, 2004 By Dexter Filkins, The New York Times

The stars began to glimmer through a wan yellow-gray sunset over Falluja. The floury dust in the air and a skyline of broken minarets and smashed buildings combined for the only genuine postcard image this city has to offer for now.

Sitting on a third-story roof on Thursday, Staff Sergeant Eric Brown, his lip bleeding, peered through the scope of his rifle into the haze. Moments before, a lone bullet had whizzed past his face and smashed a window behind him. "God, I hate this place, the way the sun sets," Brown said.

"I wish I could see down the street," said Sergeant Sam Williams.

But these marines did see a black flag pop up all at once above a water tower about 100 meters, or 330 feet, away, then a second flag somewhere in the gloaming above a rooftop. And the shots began, in a wave this time, as men bobbed and weaved through alleyways and sprinted across the street. "He's in the road, he's in the road, shoot him!" Brown shouted. "Black shirt!" someone else yelled. "Due south!"

The flags are the insurgents' answer to two-way radios, their way of massing the troops and - in a tactic that goes back at least as far as Napoleon - concentrating fire on an enemy. Compared with radio waves, the flags have one distinct advantage: They are terrifying.

At night, they [the insurgents] are setting up deadly ambushes in the moonless pitch blackness of Falluja's labyrinthine streets.

Going straight up the gut in the center of the American advance on Thursday was Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Regiment of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. Those marines, including Brown and Williams, started their day by getting mortared in a building they had captured at Highway 10 and Thurthar Street.

The windows were blown out. Parts of the ceiling had collapsed. The mortars drew closer and closer and then stopped, as if the insurgents were temporarily short of ammo. "I thought, 'This is it,'" said Senior Corpsman Kevin Markley.

At about 2 p.m., the company walked 100 meters east along the highway, then turned south into the Sinai neighborhood, with its car garages and fix-it shops as well as concealed weapons caches and bomb-making factories.

Immediately, shooting broke out, pinning down the marines for an hour. Finally they moved south to a mosque with the stub of a blasted minaret.

Meanwhile, the marines went to the rooftop, saw the flags and got into a firefight. It was silenced when they called in a 500-pound, or 225-kilogram, bomb from above onto a house where some of the insurgents had concentrated.

The strike was so close that the marines had to leave the roof or risk being killed by shrapnel.

Soon the marines were headed south again, through a narrow alley between deserted houses.

"Enemy personnel approaching your position in white vehicle with RPGs," someone said over a radio, referring to rocket-propelled grenades.

The alley exploded with gunfire and RPG rounds. Somehow the company commander, Captain Read Omohundro, got two tanks in place to fire down the alley. They let loose with a volley and a building crumbled.

Omohundro turned to a lieutenant and said, "Are they dead?"

"They must be, sir," came the reply.

But the insurgents had fired an RPG round and disabled one tank; the other tank mysteriously stopped working.

The company had moved 500 meters south. They regrouped in the pitch blackness and pushed on at about 11:30 p.m. without the tanks, trying to keep up with the rest of the front, but after moving seven meters they were attacked again in what appeared to be a well-organized ambush.

Two more tanks came in, but one had a problem with its global positioning system unit. There was an hour's delay. The 50 or so men of the 1st Platoon, which had taken casualties, started bickering. Then they moved forward.

At 1:30 a.m., now roughly 700 meters south of Highway 10, they stopped and entered a house, intending to find a place to sleep. There was a huge boom inside. "Oh no! Oh no!" someone shouted. "My leg!" someone else screamed. "My leg!"

They looked further around the house and found tunnels underneath.

They retreated, and a tank fired into the house, which caught fire. They looked for another place to sleep.

MORE:

Eyewitness: Defiance Amid Carnage

10 November, 2004 By Fadhil Badrani, BBC NEWS

I went for a walk around the city last night after the Americans pulled back.

It was very quiet - often the only sounds coming from the movement of fighters along streets and rooftops.

In places, it was also very dark, with only the occasional rocket or flare lighting the way.

Wherever I went, I found broken buildings and bodies - local people and fighters killed on the streets.

I also saw four crippled US tanks and three abandoned Humvees. In the Hasbiyyah area, I counted the bodies of at least six US soldiers lying on the ground.

Some of them were badly mangled with various bits blown off. Others were in better condition, as if they had taken small-arms fire.

I noticed two of the US soldiers were still clutching their guns tightly across their chests. But most of their weapons were missing.

Some of the dead are beginning to rot in the streets.

There is no real rest here, day or night.

The fighters are constantly on the move. They go from street to street, attacking the army in some places, letting them through elsewhere so that they can attack them later.

The fighters have told me they are prepared to resist the Americans until the death.

They say they are fighting not just for Falluja, but for all Iraq. They express confidence that they will win in the end.

They say the idea is to inflict enough casualties on the American troops to force them to reconsider their mission.

MORE:

“Like You Are Surrounded”

10 November, 2004 Michael Georgy (Reuters)

Running along Falluja's streets in groups of four or five, the guerrillas appeared in black pajamas and headscarves *or dressed in uniforms worn by Iraqi government forces*, said Tank platoon commander Lieutenant Joe Cash

"Some take off their fighting clothes, walk to a weapons cache and next thing you know they are shooting at you," he said.

"You see a guy walking in the street with normal clothes and he gives you a hard look and you just know he is one of them."

Falluja's built-up centre and narrow streets make it difficult for 70-tonne tanks to maneuver quickly.

"It is so congested in there. When they fire at you it feels like it is just coming from every direction, like you are surrounded," said Cash.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS:

Tanker Killed In Ramadi

November 12, 2004 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 1142-04

Pfc. Dennis J. Miller, Jr., 21, of La Salle, Mich., died Nov. 10 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when his unit came under enemy attack and a rocket-propelled grenade struck his M1A1 Abrams tank. Miller was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 72nd Armor Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea.

Stryker Soldier Dead In Mosul

November 12, 2004 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 1148-04

Spc. Thomas K. Doerflinger, 20, of Silver Spring, Md., died Nov. 11 in Mosul, Iraq, when his unit received small arms fire while conducting combat operations. Doerflinger was assigned to 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

Car Bomb Kills Soldier In Habbaniyah

November 12, 2004 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 1150-04

Staff Sgt. Sean P. Huey, 28, of Fredericktown, Pa., died Nov. 11 in Habbaniyah, Iraq, when his unit was on patrol and a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV. Huey was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Greaves, Korea.

Soldier Killed In Baghdad, 3 Wounded

11.12.04 By Michael Georgy and Fadel al-Badrani (Reuters) & HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS RELEASE Number: 04-11-13C

A soldier was killed in Baghdad as clashes erupted Friday in at least four neighborhoods of the capital.

Insurgents attacked a Task Force Baghdad patrol in southern Baghdad at about 12:50 p.m. Nov. 12, killing one Soldier and wounding three others.

The unit came under attack by improvised explosive devices, small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades. Two of the wounded were Task Force Baghdad Soldiers,

the third was an Iraqi interpreter working with the patrol. The wounded were evacuated to a military medical treatment facility.

Machinegun fire and grenade blasts echoed across northern Baghdad's Sunni Adhamiya district Friday as rebels fought national guards, witnesses said. The clashes subsided later.

Machinegun fire and grenade blasts echoed across northern Baghdad's Sunni Muslim Adhamiya district as insurgents fought Iraqi national guards, witnesses said.

MORE:

Fighting In Baghdad: First Hand Report

Posted by: Raed Jarrar / 8:17 PM Thursday, November 11, 2004

My family said that many districts in the west of Baghdad are blocked, the streets leading to the areas near the airport (Al-Jihad, Al-Amryya, Al-Ghazalyya, Al-khadraa, and others) are closed due to street fighting. The airport highway is closed too. They said that the sound of explosions and bullets is continuous. My uncle lives in Ad-Dora in southern Baghdad, and they are having similar street clashes there too.

MORE:

Snipers Get Two Soldiers During Raid On Baghdad Mosque; Brain-Dead Lt. Col. Says Illegal Weapons OK Outside City

November 12, 2004 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
Release Number: 04-11-41

Elements of an Iraqi National Guard Battalion conducted a cordon and search of a western Baghdad mosque at 2 p.m., Nov. 12. The 90-minute operation uncovered 13 AK-47 assault rifles, one RPK machine gun, 1,000 AK-47 rounds, four rocket-propelled grenade launchers, 10 RPG rounds and eight RPG boosters.

"What insurgents must understand is illegal weapons will not be tolerated anywhere *inside* the city," said Lt. Col. James Hutton, the chief spokesman for the 1st Cavalry Division.

During the cordon and search operation, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers came under sniper fire. Two were wounded and evacuated to a military medical treatment facility.

Six Illinois Marines Slaughtered In Falluja This Week

November 12th, 2004 By Associated Press

A Marine from Naperville was killed in Iraq this week, **the sixth Marine from Illinois to die since the U.S. launched an offensive to capture the city of Fallujah from Islamic insurgents, family and military officials said Friday.**

Sgt. David Caruso died in a firefight Tuesday that injured two other Marines, said his parents, Joseph and Gloria Caruso.

Gloria Caruso said her 25-year-old son had called at least once a week since joining the Marines in 1999, and had called last Friday to tell his parents in the suburb west of Chicago that they wouldn't hear from him for a while because ``we're going to do some stuff."

``He told me not to worry about him. I told him that's like telling me not to breathe," his mother said.

Joseph Caruso said he first noticed his son's drive when he was three or four years old and he was giving him a ride on the back of a bicycle.

``He said he wanted to get out and run. I figured he'd run a little bit then get back on. He ran at least a half a mile. He just always strived to do more," Joseph Caruso said.

Five other Marines from Illinois also died this week in Iraq:

— Cpl. Peter Giannopoulos, 22, of Inverness died Thursday in action in Babil province, his family said.

— Lance Cpl. Aaron Pickering, 20, of Harrisburg, was killed Wednesday in fighting near Fallujah, according to his family and military officials.

— Lance Cpl. Nicholas Larson, 19, of Wheaton was killed Tuesday as U.S. forces pushed toward Fallujah, family and military officials said.

— Lance Cpl. Branden Ramey, 22, of Belvidere died Monday, also in the push toward Fallujah, family and military officials said.

— Cpl. Joshua Palmer, 24, of Blandinsville died Monday when his bulldozer fell into the Euphrates River on the Fallujah peninsula, military officials said.

REMIND ME, WHAT THE FUCK IS IT WE'RE DOING HERE?



US soldiers, Fallujah, Nov. 10. (AP Photo / APTN / Pool)

Local Soldier Injured

November 12, 2004 By HERB MEEKER, Staff Writer Journal Gazette and Times-Courier

MATTOON -- A soldier from Coles County was seriously injured this week in Iraq and her parents and young daughters are praying for her recovery.

Heather (Livingston) Knox, 24, will be transported to a military hospital in Germany for treatment of injuries she suffered when thrown from a Humvee at Kirkuk in northern Iraq. The accident reportedly happened at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday, Iraq time

Knox had been serving with the U.S. Army since January in Iraq. She attended Charleston High School and has two daughters, ages 5 and 6, living with her parents, Bob and Karen Butler of Mattoon.

"We know she was hurt, but we're not sure how it happened," said Bob Butler, Heather's stepfather.

Jonathan Knox, Heather's husband, is also serving with the same Army unit.

"They're definitely giving it their all," Butler said of the couple. "And we've told the girls that 'Mommy got hurt.' That's all we can tell them now."

Butler said the family is just "sitting and waiting" for calls from military authorities or relatives.

NEWS FLASH: THIS IS *THEIR* COUNTRY



US Marines of the fifth division guard prisoners in Fallujah Nov. 11, 2004. (AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

Local Marine Loses Arm & Leg in Rocket Blast

11/11/2004 Julie Wolfe, Reporter, WGRZ.com

A local Marine wounded in Iraq will soon join his family for recovery.

Those close to the family say Mark P. O'Brien was seriously wounded while on patrol in Iraq. The 21-year-old lost his right arm and right leg when a rocket slammed into his vehicle. He is from the Marilla/Wales area and school officials there say he is an Iroquois High School graduate.

Mark is being transferred to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. His family is expected to meet him there.

"It was a shock, an absolute shock," said Patti Pierce, the E.C.S.D. Chief of Police Services. "And of course, the devastation and tragedy of the particular injuries are just mind boggling to us. It just has to be an awful situation for the O'Brien family right now."

Resistance Attacks From North To Central Areas

Nov 12, 2004 By ROBERT H. REID, Associated Press Writer

Clashes broke out from Hawija and Tal Afar in the north to Samarra — where the police chief was fired — and Ramadi in central Iraq.

**IF THESE FUCKING IRAQIS DON'T LIKE THE OCCUPATION,
WHY DON'T THEY GO BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM?**



A US Marines leads a prisoner in the center of Fallujah, Nov. 12, 2004. (AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

Skilled Warriors At Work: Rebel Rockets Hit Black Watch Base From 20 Miles Away

11/12/04 eveningtimes

Black Watch soldiers at Camp Dogwood braced themselves today for another barrage of rocket attacks from Iraqi insurgents.

The base came under fire again just hours after a remembrance service held to honour the casualties already suffered in the deployment in central Iraq.

Missiles were launched from up to 20 miles away, with the base's helicopter pad once again the apparent target.

Black Hawk Shot Down Near Taji;

Three Wounded

11.12.04 Reuters

Insurgents shot down a U.S. Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter near Taji, 12 miles north of Baghdad, wounding three crew members, the military said. **It was the third downed helicopter this week after two Marine Super Cobras succumbed to ground fire in the Fallujah operation.**

Occupation Loses Control of Mosul; General Calls Loss Of Third Largest City In Iraq “Some Reaction;” Command Orders Futile Airstrikes

11.12.04 By Michael Georgy and Fadel al-Badrani (Reuters) & By ROBERT H. REID, Associated Press Writer & By Maher al-Thanoon (Reuters)

BAGHDAD, Iraq - The Iraqi government rushed reinforcements Friday to the country's third-largest city, Mosul, seeking to quell a deadly militant uprising that U.S. officials suspected may be in support of the resistance in Fallujah.

Most of the reinforcements are ethnic Kurds who fought alongside American forces during the 2003 invasion — a move which could inflame ethnic rivalries with Mosul's Sunni Arab population. Nevertheless, it appeared Iraqi authorities had no choice given the apparent failure of the city's police force to maintain order. [They had “no choice” because nobody but the Kurds will fight for the Occupation dictatorship.]

One resident who drove around several districts of the city on Friday said he saw no presence whatsoever of Iraqi police or other security forces, and saw only one convoy of U.S. troops, moving rapidly through a northern area.

He said insurgents remained in charge of at least one of the nine police stations attacked and set ablaze on Wednesday and Thursday. Some residents suggested that many police had taken off their uniforms and decided to join the insurgents.

U.S. planes staged air strikes on Mosul after dark on Thursday to try to restore order, bombing rebel positions. [Wrong. Bombing a city is what you do when you have no immediate prospects of “restoring order.”]

In Mosul, a city of about 1 million people, where fighting raged for a second day. Gunmen attacked the headquarters of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan party in an hourlong battle that a party official said left six assailants dead.

Five Iraqi National Guards were blown up in a rocket-propelled grenade attack on their vehicles. Thursday the governor's home was also attacked by militants.

Militants also killed the head of the city's anti-crime task force, Brig. Gen. Mowaffaq Mohammed Dahham, and set fire to his home.

"With the start of operations in Fallujah a few days ago, we expected that there would be some reaction here in Mosul," Brig. Gen. Carter Ham, commander of U.S. forces in the city, told CNN from Mosul.

Ham said he doubted the Mosul attackers were insurgents who fled Fallujah and said most "were from the northern part of Iraq, in and around Mosul and the Tigris River valley that's south of the city."

At prayers on Friday, some imams called on worshippers to unite with the militants and battle to rid the city of American troops.

261 Severely Wounded Arrive In Germany As Of Friday; Number Of Wounded Still In Iraq Not Reported

LANDSTUHL, Germany, Nov 12 (AFP)

Thirty-four wounded were flown in on Friday. **[Making a total of 261 so far this week, since the battle of Falluja opened. Less seriously wounded are not sent to Germany.]**

A few of the wounded were from US operations in Afghanistan or other parts of Iraq, but "most are coming from Fallujah," said spokeswoman Marie Shaw.

"We are very busy. Another plane is expected on Saturday morning.

"Most of the injuries are gunshot wounds but there are also a lot of injuries from explosions or burns," Shaw added.

As of Friday, the hospital was treating a total of 315 soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan, of which 107 were confined to beds while 208 were classed as walking wounded.

Twenty-Two US Troops Killed In Fallujah So Far: Military Faking Wounded Totals; Lieutenant General John Sattler Lies And Lies And Lies And Lies

BAGHDAD, NOV 12 (AFP)

Twenty-two US troops and five Iraqi soldiers have been killed in the fight for Fallujah.

Sattler said 170 US troops have been wounded in the fighting, of whom 40 have returned to duty. [Sattler is a lying stinking sack of shit. The hospital in Germany says 261 wounded have arrived from Iraq so far, and NONE, of course, have "returned to duty," since they don't get sent to Germany unless really fucked up.]

[Why is General Sattler lying? Was he ordered to lie? By who? Since the hospital in Germany gives accurate reports, what fool thought the lie could succeed? Can anybody possibly believe the totals being given for the dead if they lie so stupidly about the wounded?]

[The lies are too much even for the normally ass-kissing media. Check this:

[1. A paragraph from a Reuters story 11.12.04 By Michael Georgy and Fadel al-Badrani:

["The U.S. military says 22 U.S. and 5 Iraqi troops have been killed and 170 American soldiers wounded in Falluja."]

[So, the liars say 170. Go on. Go down three paragraphs in the same story and read this:

["Two planes ferried 102 seriously wounded soldiers from Iraq to the main U.S. military hospital in Germany Thursday, joining 125 who arrived earlier in the week." That makes 227 right there, and the hospital reported many more than that for the week. And this doesn't even include the wounded who stayed in Iraq!]

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)

TROOP NEWS

Dead Soldiers Father Says He Will Cut Defense Minister's Throat

November 11, 2004 Audrey Gillan, The Guardian

The father of two Black Watch soldiers serving at Camp Dogwood in Iraq threatened to kill the defence secretary, Geoff Hoon, yesterday because he was a "two-faced lying git".

James Buchanan, whose sons Gary, 27, and Craig, 24, both corporals, were due to return home but then redeployed north to reinforce the American assault on Falluja, said: "This man has got me so angry. If I see him in the street I would kill him. I would kill that man. I would cut his throat."

The former RAF warrant officer's outburst came at the launch of Families Against the War, a group of families who will campaign for British troops to be pulled out of Iraq. They include parents of sons who were killed in Iraq as well as parents of those currently serving.

The launch, on the eve of Armistice day, coincided with an announcement from the Ministry of Defence that two more soldiers had been injured at or near Camp Dogwood, the Black Watch base.

After yesterday's campaign launch, the families walked the short distance to Downing Street to lay a wreath of poppies in remembrance of those killed in Iraq, as well as photographs of their dead sons and a letter to Tony Blair.

Reg Keys, father of Lance Corporal Thomas Keys, one of six Royal Military Policemen killed in Iraq last year, Rose Gentle, mother of Fusilier Gordon Gentle, killed this year, and Theresa Evans, mother of Lance Bombardier Llewellyn Evans, the first British military fatality during the war last year, held each other as they stood in front of the door to No 10.

Mrs Evans had earlier broken down at the press conference when Mr Keys told how her son had died in a helicopter crash which was witnessed by her other son.

She wept as Mr Keys told how she had held two funerals for her son - one for his body and another for further body parts sent to her from America. She wept again

when the families passed the Cenotaph on Whitehall which remembers the country's war dead.

In their letter to the prime minister, the families said: **"When enlisting, service men and women sign an oath of allegiance to Her Majesty's government.**

"All these people ask in return is that their government act in an honourable, truthful and honest manner and only deploy troops into the theatre of war to risk their lives when absolutely necessary, when all avenues of diplomacy have been exhausted.

"To deploy troops based on deceit of WMD is totally morally unacceptable. The blame lies firmly at your doorstep. This was a contrived war, a war of option not of necessity."

The laying of the wreath at Downing Street was a contentious issue, with the families initially being told that they wouldn't be able to do so.

Officials finally relented and after observing a minute's silence on the No 10 doorstep, Mr Keys and Mrs Gentle knocked on the door and went inside for just under a minute.

Their earlier request to meet Mr Blair was dismissed. The families then went to a private meeting with 40 cross-party MPs before taking part in an anti-war demonstration in Parliament Square.

During his outburst, Mr Buchanan explained that none of the families involved with the group were anti-military and that fighting was his sons' job. He added, however, that his sons had not signed up to fight for the Americans or for lies.

He said that Mr Hoon had lied to the Black Watch families for three weeks over what was happening to the soldiers.

Mr Buchanan's son Craig, a Warrior driver, had been close friends with Private Piti Tukutukuwaqa, a Fijian member of the Black Watch who was killed in a suicide bomb attack on Monday. His best man had been killed earlier in the conflict.

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.

Two Marine Corps Buddies Inseparable In Life, Death

(Los Angeles Times, November 12, 2004)

As the nation observed Veterans Day, **two hometown boys were buried side by side in a cemetery just down the road from where they grew up in the old rodeo town of Clovis, Calif. Once grammar school rivals on the wrestling mat, Jeremiah Baro and Jared Hubbard had become best friends who, on the eve of battle in Iraq, made a pact to watch each other's back. A sniper-spotter team, they were killed by a roadside bomb Nov. 4 west of Baghdad.**

Vet Who Refused To Go To Iraq Wins; Orders Canceled

(Honolulu Star-Bulletin, November 11, 2004)

A Kauai resident who was ordered back into the Army for a tour in Iraq 13 years after his honorable discharge will stay home after all. The former soldier, David M. Miyasato, said Sen. Daniel Inouye's office notified him that his mobilization orders had been revoked **and that it was all due "an internal computer discrepancy."** [Bullshit. If he hadn't fought it, he'd be on his way right now.]

Soldier Asks Court To Stop Deployment: Enlistment Extensions Are A "Backdoor Draft"

(San Diego Union-Tribune, November 12, 2004)

Scheduled to be shipped out to Iraq in less than 10 days, an unidentified Sacramento, Calif., soldier continues to pursue his legal challenge to the military's stop-loss policy that involuntarily extends enlistment periods. A judge last week refused to issue an injunction in the case but asked for additional briefs before issuing a final ruling.

Myers Suffers Blinding Flashes Of The Obvious: Occupation War Is Chasing Shadows

11.12.04 WASHINGTON (Reuters)

"That's the nature of an insurgency, you know, where people can fight one minute and then blend into the surroundings the next minute," said Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the U.S. military's Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"If anybody thinks that Falluja's going to be the end of the insurgency in Iraq, that was never the objective, never our intention and even never our hope," Myers told NBC's "Today Show." [If he really focuses his "mind," he might even figure out that the war has been lost for a year, and every soldier who dies is dying in vain. There is no way an Imperial government can hold down a nation of 22 million that wants to be free and independent. King George found that out in 1776, but Imperial assholes never learn. The soldiers pay the price. Myers will have a very wealthy, very comfortable retirement, regardless of how many troops he kills. And he'll never look back. And neither will any of the other pukers who brought on this war for Empire. And they think soldiers are too stupid to figure it out, and too scared of them to do anything about it if they do. Fatal errors in judgment. But then, the whole fucked up insanity in Iraq is a very fatal error in judgment, for the troops. Time to come home, alive, with all body parts in place.]

Analysts saw a mixed bag for the U.S. military even if it took control of Falluja.

The harder job might be maintaining control and preventing re- infiltration -- a task that will fall largely to untested U.S.- trained Iraqi security forces, analysts said.

U.S. troops might find themselves chasing shadows if they go city to city to track down elusive insurgents who can nimbly relocate without detection, they added.

"This was too easy," said analyst Daniel Goure of the Lexington Institute, adding there was no doubt many insurgents escaped Falluja before the offensive, perhaps armed with inside knowledge from moles in Iraqi security forces.

British Soldiers Sue Pentagon For \$2.3 Million

November 13, 2004 Suzanne Goldenberg in Washington, The Guardian

Three British soldiers and an army interpreter are suing the American military after their vehicle was rammed by a US tank transporter in Iraq.

The \$2.3m (£1.2m) suit is the first against the US army from coalition troops since the invasion of Iraq. It seeks to exploit provisions normally reserved for Iraqis claiming compensation for family members wrongfully killed in US raids.

The Britons, members of a Royal Military Police unit on duty with their Kuwaiti interpreter, suffered serious injuries on May 7 last year when their Land Rover was struck twice from behind by the hulking transporter.

The vehicle spun out of control and off the road, somersaulting into a sand dune. All four passengers were hurled out of the vehicle, and the Land Rover was wrecked.

Two of the Britons - the driver, Corporal Jane Mc-Lauchlan of Hartlepool, and her commanding officer and front seat passenger, Staff Sergeant James Rogerson - received lasting injuries.

Cpl McLauchlan suffered multiple skull fractures, and a punctured lung and liver. She still has some degree of permanent brain damage, including memory loss.

Sgt Rogerson, a veteran in the RMP who has served in Northern Ireland and the Middle East, received head and spinal injuries.

Corporal Stephen Smith and Khalid Allahou, an engineer with the Kuwaiti oil company who had volunteered as a translator, were sitting in the rear of the vehicle. They were also wounded.

Michael Doyle, who is representing the four, said: "They are looking at ended careers, or continuing years of medical treatment, and still unanswered questions about exactly what happened.

"They have got some harms that are real and serious and are not going away."

There was no immediate comment from the Pentagon yesterday. Although British military police turned over their investigation of the incident to the American authorities, the US army said last April it had no record of the collision.

In court documents filed on Wednesday, a Ministry of Defence traffic accident report suggests that the driver of the American tank transporter failed to notice Cpl McLauchlan and another vehicle as they entered a main highway near the southern Iraqi town of Safwan.

According to the British troops, Cpl McLauchlan turned on to the road after indicating to a passing convoy from the 647th transport company. The convoy moved over to the centre, allowing the two British vehicles to use the righthand lane.

But, to the horror of Cpl Smith and Mr Allahou, who were watching from the back of the vehicle, one of the transporters in the middle of the convoy began moving towards the right, perilously close to the back of their Land Rover.

"I looked up at the windscreen of the American vehicle, and I could see the passenger, who appeared to be instructing the driver to look at where he was going," Cpl Smith told the British army investigation. "He looked to be in a panic and waving as his driver to move to the left. At this time I saw the front right of the American vehicle drive straight into the rear left bumper of our vehicle."

The tank transporter crashed into the back of the vehicle a second time, defying Cpl McLauchlan's efforts to regain control, and the vehicle tumbled off the road.

In the court documents, Mr Allahou said: "I know now what it feels like inside a tumble dryer. It spun like nothing before I've seen in my life. I mean we were spinning."

Someday You Can Vote For President!

“Hey, so you got a dead husband. These pieces of tin and pretty ribbons us generals hand out will make it all better. You natives like little bright things, don’t you? And don’t even think about throwing them over the White House fence like those asshole Vietnam veterans did. Just shut up, go away, and in a couple hundred years you can even vote for President of the United States, if we superior people who run America decide to let you. You’ll be civilized by then---maybe.”



Tania Rondon, left, widow of U.S. Army Sgt. Carlos Camacho Rivera receives medals from Maj. Gen. Brian Geehan during funeral in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Nov. 12, 2004. Camacho Rivera, 24, of Carolina, Puerto Rico, was killed Nov. 5 in a rocket attack in Fallujah. He was assigned to the 386th Transportation Company, 11th Transportation Battalion at Fort Eustis, Virginia Beach, Va. **[Because Puerto Rico is a U.S. Imperial colony, neither Rivera, nor any other Puerto Rican living there, was allowed to vote in U.S. presidential elections.]** (AP Photo/Carlos H. Ramos)



**Basta! No mas!
Abajo Con Todas Imperialistas!**

Viva Puerto Rico Libre!
Viva La Revolution!

U.S. Captain Wins Trip To Guantanamo

Nov 12, 2004 By ROBERT H. REID, Associated Press Writer

Capt. Angela Bowman, a spokeswoman at the U.S. Mosul headquarters, said "**some of these attacks are in support of the resistance in Fallujah.**"

[We may never hear from Capt. Bowman again. She used the "R" word. No no, Capt., there is no "resistance." There are "anti-Iraqi forces," or "foreign fighters" or "terrorists," but there is no "resistance."

[Have a nice trip to Guantanamo. Command understands when soldiers start using the term "resistance," they are one step away from deciding the enemy is in Washington and in Central Command headquarters, *not* Iraqis fighting for their national liberation and independence. Of course, that would represent an appreciation of reality, as distinct from the lies that the scum who run the U.S. government are peddling.]

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

It Seems Resistance Now Has A "Political Office" That Talks To Reporters: This Reporter Doesn't Get It: *That's The Story!*

Nov 12, 2004 By ROBERT H. REID, Associated Press Writer

In a telephone interview with Al-Jazeera television, Saif al-Deen al-Baghdadi, an official of the insurgents' political office, urged militants to fight U.S. forces outside Fallujah.

"I call upon the scores or hundreds of the brothers from the mujahedeen ... to press the American forces outside" Fallujah, al-Baghdadi said.

"We chose the path of armed jihad and say clearly that ridding Iraq of the occupation will not be done by ballots. Ayad Allawi's government ... represents the fundamentalist right-wing of the White House and not the Iraqi people," he continued — a reference to the interim Iraqi prime minister, who gave to the go-ahead for the Fallujah invasion. [He got that right.]

U.S. Boss At Baghdad Airport Captured

BEIJING, Nov. 13 (Xinhuanet)

An Islamic militant group in Iraq has captured a US national of Lebanese origin who works as a manager at Baghdad airport.

The Qatar-based al-Jazeera satellite channel reported on Friday the 1920 Revolution Brigades and previously captured foreigners working with US forces, China Radio International reported on Saturday.

The Arabic television aired the video tape showing the man holding up his passport and identity card identifying himself as Dean Sadek.

It said the man worked at Baghdad airport for a company called Skylink and called on foreign contractors to stop working for his employer.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

The Lessons Of The 343rd Quartermaster Company

By Lou Plummer, Bring Them Home Now (Check it out:
<http://www.bringthemhomenow.com/>)

In the daily stories reaching us from the war zone in Iraq, we seldom hear much about the men and women actually serving in that continually troubled country. If a local soldier is killed or wounded, perhaps our local paper will attach a name and rank to its report. Still, there are a limited number of ways to die in this war, and our minds quickly numb as we learn of yet another young person killed by a roadside bomb or sniper fire.

Recently, for the second time since the U.S. invaded Iraq, we heard much about a group of soldiers serving there. These real people, mostly from the South, some

teenagers, others with twenty-plus years of military service, are in a unit based in Rock Hill, SC. We heard about them because they refused an order in a combat zone.

When the photos from Abu Ghraib prison surfaced earlier this year, defenders of U.S. policy in Iraq were quick to point out that the soldiers shown were not ordered to commit the acts depicted. Even if they were ordered to soften up prisoners, however, those soldiers were entitled to refuse to obey such orders, since, obviously committing atrocities is against the Geneva convention. The problems at that hellish prison were the fault of poorly trained reservists. That was the story we got from generals and Donald Rumsfeld. The bad apples who made bad decisions would be punished we were promised.

On my daily commute through Ft. Bragg, NC, I saw the crowd of TV trucks covering the recent public hearings for Private Lindy England. We can all watch her being held to account for her bad decisions. Her court martial convenes in January.

Someone in the chain of command of the 343rd Quartermaster Company recently made some bad decisions as well. Someone decided to ask a platoon of reservists, citizen soldiers, to deliver a load of contaminated helicopter fuel to an aviation unit in an area full of insurgents. A unit flying from a base in a safer area had already rejected this load of fuel.

Someone made a decision to compel the drivers to operate trucks that the Army's own records and standards judged to be not safely operable under any conditions. Deadlined is the term the military uses to describe such vehicles.

Someone decided that providing armor for cargo transporters in a hostile zone wasn't a priority, 18 months into a mission that seemingly has no end.

Someone even decided that it was OK to send the 343rd Quartermaster alone into a dangerously hostile area without the accompanying firepower and air support that is customary on such missions.

Will anyone be punished for the decisions that created the circumstances that compelled a group of soldiers, all of whom volunteered for military service, to refuse a lawful order?

Will anyone be punished for allowing fuel to become contaminated or for deciding to enter the fuel into the supply chain? Will anyone be punished for failing to provide equipment that's both operable and protected as much as possible from attack?

Although military spokesmen promise to conduct an investigation into the allegations made by the soldiers who refused the mission, they seem more concerned with stressing that this is an isolated incident. One can only assume that the rebellion is what is isolated, not the conditions that caused it.

Recently we learned that Lt. General Ricardo Sanchez wrote to the Pentagon to inform officials there that combat operations could not be sustained with the low rates of supplies he was receiving. This letter was written during the summer fighting in Iraq, when casualties were lower than they have been the past two months. **Things are**

getting worse, not better in Iraq and the cracks are showing in the attitudes of the soldiers serving there.

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.

George Bush, Thief: Why Iraqis Resist

If a thief breaks into my house, burns and destroys my property, and kills or threatens to kill me, or those that are in it, and to "bind me in all cases whatsoever" to his absolute will, am I to suffer it? : The American Crisis by Thomas Paine.

OCCUPATION REPORT

“Iraqi Army” Just Another Bush Lie: It’s Really A Kurdish Militia

November 9, 2004 Scott Ritter. Aljazeera.net

The battle for Falluja is supposed to be the proving ground of the new Iraq Army. Instead, it may well prove to be a fatal pill. The reality is there is no Iraqi Army. Of the tens of thousands recruited into its ranks, there is today only one effective unit, the 36th Battalion.

This unit has fought side by side with the Americans in Falluja, Najaf, and Samara. By all accounts, it has performed well. **But this unit can only prevail when it operates alongside overwhelming American military support. Left to fend for itself, it would be slaughtered by the resistance fighters.** Worse, this unit which stands as a symbol of the ideal for the new Iraqi Army is actually the antithesis of what the new Iraqi Army should be.

While the Bush administration has suppressed the formation of militia units organized along ethnic and religious lines, **the 36th Battalion should be recognized for what it really is -- a Kurdish militia, retained by the US military because the rest of the Iraqi Army is unwilling or unable to carry the fight to the Iraqi resistance fighters.**

MORE:

Desperation Time: Occupation Sends Kurds To Attack Mosul; Nobody Else Available

Nov. 12, 2004 Associated Press

Four brigades from the Iraqi National Guard have been ordered to Mosul from their bases near Syria, Gouran said. **The units consist of Kurds who used to be in the Kurdish peshmerga militia before being incorporated into the government's security force.**

[Might as well hang up a big “We Surrender” sign. This means there aren’t enough Iraqi traitors left willing to fight for Bush.]

Journalists Ordered To Lie About War

11.12.04 By Michael Georgy and Fadel al-Badrani (Reuters)

In New York, the Committee to Protect Journalists said it was deeply disturbed by a new directive from Iraqi authorities warning news organizations to stick to the government line on the U.S.-led offensive in Falluja.

"It damages the government's credibility in establishing a free and democratic society," committee executive director Ann Cooper said in a statement. **[Silly fucks don’t get it, Bush has no interest whatever in a “free and democratic society,” in Iraq, or anywhere else. Get real.]**

<p>OCCUPATION ISN’T LIBERATION BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME <u>NOW!</u></p>

OCCUPATION HAITI

Happy Junior Partners In U.S. Empire:

Chinese, Brazilian Ruling Class Scum Hold Hands While Their Troops Kill Haitians



Chinese President Hu Jintao, right, and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, in Brasilia, Nov. 12. **Brazil and China have both sent armed forces to act as stooges for Bush in occupying Haiti. Their job is to kill Haitians who object to being occupied.** (AP Photo/Adriano Machado).

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Order pizza by phone in accordance with provisions of the Patriot Act:
<http://www.aclu.org/pizza/index.html?orgid=EA071904&MX=1414&H=0>

Received:

VCS Releases Redeployment Guide on Veterans Day

Availability of readjustment benefits for returning Iraq War veterans is still a problem, said a national veterans' organization today. Veterans for Common Sense, a non-partisan veterans' organization focused on national security, veterans' care, civil liberties and energy policy, released its Resource Guide for Veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom on Veterans' Day. The guide is intended to provide a comprehensive directory of services and programs available to returning veterans.

In particular, the group focused on the need for better availability of treatment for war-related trauma. According to a recent study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, as many as one in seven returning soldiers from the first rotation of troops to

Iraq in 2002-03 (OIF I) suffer from psychiatric conditions, including post-traumatic stress and depression. Further, according to the studies, only one in four symptomatic veterans actually sought treatment for their conditions due to fear of a negative impact on their careers. Matthew J. Friedman, MD, PhD., director of the National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, notes in the same issue of NEJM that this estimate may be conservative, both because of the methodology of the study, as well as the delay sometimes seen before onset of PTSD symptoms after returning from combat.

"Twenty-five years after the recognition of PTSD as a serious consequence of war, a stigma still exists within the military for those who seek medical care for this condition," said Charles Sheehan-Miles, the organization's executive director and a 1991 Gulf War veteran. "Returning Iraq War veterans have reported difficulty seeking care, and in at least two cases have been subjected to court-martial in response to their seeking assistance."

The organization notes that reports of suicides, both among deployed veterans and those recently returned, are on the rise. Sheehan-Miles said, "It's an absolutely tragedy that military service-members who served honorably in combat are coming home and unable to get help."

"The cost of untreated post-traumatic stress disorder is high for the veteran, their families and for society as a whole," Sheehan-Miles said. "Our country needs to do better taking care of the men and women we ask to fight in our wars."

The Resource Guide for Veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom is available for free download at <http://www.veteransforcommonsense.org/guide.cfm>

You Can Help!

Veterans for Common Sense is taking the lead in bringing the concerns of veterans to the public in the areas of national security, veterans health care, civil liberties, and energy policy. We need your contribution to help us print thousands of the guides to distribute to returning veterans and their families. You can make your contribution here: <https://secure.groundspring.org/dn/index.php?aid=3422> or send a check to: Veterans for Common Sense
1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

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/gi-special/> ; www.qifightback.org ;

<http://www.albasrah.net/magalat/english/gi-special.htm>,

www.williambowles.info/qispecial

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