

GI SPECIAL 2#C36

....A THOUSAND WORDS



House-to-house searches in Ramadi. US soldiers are trying to convince the population of Ramadi to cooperate in their hunt, but stumble on the residents' respect for the local patriots fighting the occupation of their country by George W. Bush. (11.30.04 AFP/Ahmad Al-Rubaye) [Thanks to D who sent this photo along. It really says it all. Time to go home.]

Counterattack In Falluja; Command Admits City Can't Be Sealed Off; One Marine Killed, 3 Wounded

November 30, 2004 (Fallujah, Iraq-AP)

Insurgents who escaped the Fallujah offensive are mounting daily attacks against U.S. Marines and Iraqi troops Marine officers said Tuesday.

On Monday, one Marine was killed and three were wounded in an attack from a house in Fallujah that the military thought had been cleared of insurgents.

"It's still a very dangerous environment," Wilson said of this city 40 miles west of Baghdad. **"Just when you think you have an area cleared, someone comes out of a tunnel, a spider hole and starts shooting."**

The U.S. military considers the battle for Fallujah a success. **But Marines continue to fight sporadic gunbattles with insurgents as they clear the streets, homes and buildings. [One more success like this and the Marines in Iraq won't just be crippled, they'll be out of combat for a long, long time. 25% casualties are officially reported, including wounded.]**

"It's a dense city, easy to conceal in and move about," Wilson said. "They move sometimes from buildings with ladders across rooftops."

"We are seeing tunnel and sewage system out into the river that the insurgents are using as a rat line, from those pipes along the river to come back into the city," Wilson added.

He said it was impossible for the Marines to "maintain an air-tight cordon" around Fallujah and that there were "a lot of places to come back in."
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IRAQ WAR REPORTS:

Soldier Dies In Alazu IED Attack

November 30, 2004 **Associated Press**

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A soldier died from injuries sustained after a roadside bomb exploded next to his patrol north of Baghdad, the military said Tuesday.

The attack on the 1st Infantry Division patrol occurred near the town of Alazu at about 10 p.m., the statement said. The injured soldier was evacuated to a field hospital for treatment, where he later died of his wounds.

U.S. Forces Under Attack In Baiji; Three Wounded, Tank Knocked Out

Nov 30, 2004 BAIJI, Iraq (Reuters) & Aljazeera

A car bomb has exploded near a US military patrol in the town of Baiji, north of Baghdad, killing four Iraqi civilians and wounding 19 people, including two US soldiers.

A US military spokesman said the car exploded in the northern section of the city, 180km north of Baghdad, on Tuesday. He said the 17 civilian casualties were taken to hospital and the US soldiers were evacuated.

In a separate attack in the town, an insurgent fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a U.S. tank, wounding a U.S. soldier and damaging the tank, a spokesman from the US 1st Infantry Division said.

The military statement said the two attacks occurred about 9:10 a.m., but it did not give the condition of the wounded.

Baiji, site of a major oil refinery, has seen a surge in violence over the past three weeks, since U.S. forces launched their offensive on the rebel town of Falluja, west of Baghdad.

A group calling itself Martyr Abd Allah Azzam Brigades has claimed responsibility for targeting the US military patrol.

U.S. Convoy Ambushed In Al-Ridwaniya; Vehicle Destroyed

11.30.04 Aljazeera

Aljazeera received a videotape showing an explosive device detonating near a US military convoy in al-Ridwaniya district, southwest of Baghdad, **destroying a vehicle.**

The fate of the soldiers is unknown.

Soldier Dies Of Wounds

11.30.04 Aljazeera

The military announced that a U.S. Army soldier died from injuries suffered after a roadside bomb exploded late Monday next to his patrol north of Baghdad, bringing to 134 the number of American troops killed in Iraq this month, according to an unofficial count.

Pfc. Killed In Ramadi

November 30, 2004 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 1226-04

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

Pfc. Stephen C. Benish, 20, of Clark, N.J., died Nov. 28 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when he received enemy fire while on a dismounted patrol. Benish was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Howze, Korea.

**THIS IS HOW BUSH BRINGS THE TROOPS HOME:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.**



An honour guard carries the casket of US Marine Corps Corporal Dale A. Burger Junior before services at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Burger, from Bel Air, Maryland, died in combat 14 November in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. ***Insurgent bomb attacks killed four Iraqi national guardsmen, four civilians and two US soldiers even as Prime Minister Iyad Allawi claimed violence was receding in the aftermath of the Fallujah assault*** (11.30.04 AFP/Getty Images/Win McNamee)

Baghdad Airport Road Cut; Brits Tells Citizens To Cancel “Essential Travel”

11/30/2004 By ROBERT H. REID, The Day Publishing Co & Patrick Cockburn, The Independent

The British Embassy announced Monday that its staff would no longer be permitted to travel on the airport road, which the U.S. State Department has identified as one of the most dangerous routes in Iraq.

The British Embassy said in a statement: "We urge all British nationals in Iraq to consider whether their presence in Iraq is essential at this time. **Even essential travel to Iraq should be delayed, if possible.**"

Disintegrating security in Baghdad was underlined in the somber warning yesterday from the British embassy against using the airport road or taking a plane out of Iraq.

The warning is in sharp contrast to more optimistic statements from US military commanders after the capture of Fallujah in which they have spoken of "breaking the back of the insurgency".

The embassy says that the road between Baghdad and the international airport, perhaps the most important highway in the country, is now too dangerous to use. The advice says starkly: "With effect from 28 November, the British embassy ceased all movements on the Baghdad International airport road."

The airport road is littered with evidence of previous attacks: the twisted cars used by suicide bombers and craters from roadside bombs.

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)

Resistance Improves IED Capabilities

Patrick Cockburn, The Independent, 11.30.04

Hitherto, roadside bombs have consisted of several artillery shells detonated by a command wire or by remote control. **But the US military say the insurgents have started using shaped charges which direct the blast towards a target.**

Mosul: "We're Here, And We're Watching."

New York Times, November 29, 2004 & USA Today, November 29, 2004, Pg. 10 & 11/28/2004 By C. Mark Brinkley, Army Times

Iraqi insurgents in Mosul, apparently having learned that direct attacks on American troops and their heavily armored vehicles are a difficult if not suicidal approach, often keep to the confines of sympathetic neighborhoods.

They come out to try to pick off American troops patrolling the city or to launch mortars at American bases.

About 40 dead bodies turned up across Mosul last week. Most of them had been bound and shot in the head in hit-man fashion, then left in public for local residents to see. Nearly a dozen of the dead were identified as members of Iraq's fragile security forces. Some of the others were contract workers for the U.S.-led coalition. Many are still unidentified.

The message from insurgents to the public was simple: We're here, and we're watching.

It's a shadowy war that U.S. military officers say is difficult to fight.

Many Iraqis "don't believe in the new government," says Botan Nadir, 28, an Iraqi-born contract translator for coalition forces. **"They think the United States is after the oil and the new government works for the United States." [Imagine that! How could they even suspect such a thing? The U.S. Empire loves everybody, and certainly has no interest in grabbing Iraqi oil for Bush's oil industry buddies. And the "new government works for the United States!" Outrageous. Just because Allawi is a CIA professional terrorist asset, and the top people are Iraqi exiles with U.S. citizenship, appointed by George Bush! Why that don't mean shit! How could they get it so wrong!]**

Police forces in Mosul are spread thin. About 75% of Mosul's 4,000 officers fled their posts during the attacks two weeks ago. Many police stations are in ruins, and others take random gunfire from unseen assailants.

Considering that officers who remain on duty are targets for assassination, coalition forces **[Translation: U.S. forces]** have little choice but to step up their own policing role around the city while helping rebuild Iraqi forces.

The militants here spread out at night. They store weapons and gear in many small caches outside the city before retrieving them and returning to Mosul the next day to continue their work.

"I've heard it called 'commuter terrorism,'" says Lt. Col. Ed Morgan, 44, commander of the 276th Engineer Battalion (Combat) from Richmond, Va. **"They move and hit, then move and hit." [That's how it goes when the whole country hates your guts and want you gone yesterday.]**

"In the villages, they keep secrets," translator Nadir says. "Even if they don't like it, they won't talk about it."

There are endless hiding places outside Mosul.

"That's one of the reasons we've started doing the sweeps of these little villages and looking for these caches," says 2nd Lt. Mike Stock, 23, a platoon leader from Cleveland. His unit was in a village 10 miles outside Mosul. "They might use it in the city, but they bury it out here," Stock says.

After a few hours of house-to-house searches with newly trained Iraqi troops, the day's outing appeared to be a bust. No one claimed to have seen or heard a thing. Then an Iraqi soldier found a green ski mask inside a home, which piqued his curiosity.

A second sweep of the grounds, and those next door, uncovered a small cache stored by insurgents: two shotguns, two AK-47s, two sets of homemade rocket-launcher tubes. More disturbing was the discovery of more than a dozen empty canisters for proximity fuses, intricate devices used to detonate explosives when people or vehicles pass by.

"Unfortunately, these are all empty," says Staff Sgt. Jose Casillas, 26, a platoon scout from San Jose, Calif. "That means they're out there already."

The discovery resulted in the arrest of only four local villagers, the owners of the homes, who lied to interrogators repeatedly during the search of the farms. When asked about two old gas masks found hidden among bags of junk, the men claimed to wear them while hunting for food.

Meanwhile, the city remains on edge, a fact evidenced by the wide berth that traffic gives to the military convoys rolling through town. People fear the convoys will be targeted by insurgents.

A few months ago, soldiers and locals crowded together in the urban congestion, says Staff Sgt. David Stone, 34, an Army National Guard rifleman and civilian architect from Foxboro, Mass., who's helping conduct damage estimates of Mosul's police stations.

**IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE
END THE OCCUPATION**

Mason City Soldier Injured In Baghdad

November 29 MASON CITY, Iowa (AP)

An Iowa soldier was injured in Baghdad when he was shot in the face, his mother said.

Army Sgt. John Bakehouse, 30, of Mason City, suffered a broken jaw, his mother, Penny Bakehouse said Friday.

She said she was getting ready for work Wednesday morning when the phone rang. She said the connection was bad and she had a hard time understanding what was being said. Then she heard it clearly: "Mom, this is Josh. I'm calling to tell you I've been shot."

She didn't know the details of her son's shooting, but said he reassured her he was OK.

Bakehouse had one surgery, and was scheduled to undergo another surgery Saturday.

Car Bomb Hits U.S. Convoy On Airport Road; # Of Casualties Not Yet Reported



The site where a car bomb exploded near a US military convoy on the perilous road to Baghdad airport. A US soldier and four Iraqi civilians died in a spate of attacks, capping one of the deadliest months since the war. (11.30.04 AFP/Tauseef Mustafa)

11.30.04 Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A car bomb exploded Tuesday next to a U.S. military convoy on Baghdad's dangerous airport highway, authorities and witnesses said.

Several casualties were seen lying next to a damaged vehicle, according to an eyewitness who arrived on the scene before troops sealed off the stretch of road where the blast occurred . A military ambulance drove up minutes later to evacuate the casualties.

Iraqi police Capt. Talib al-Alawani said the attack was carried out by a bomber who drove his car into the convoy.

The highway linking the Baghdad to the city's international airport is considered one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq. **Multinational troops use it daily to commute between the huge military base at the airport and the city center.**



A military vehicle damaged after a car bomb exploded near a US military convoy on the perilous road to Baghdad airport. (11.30.04 AFP/Tauseef Mustafa)

TROOP NEWS

Avoiding Scams

Letter To The Editor
Army Times
Nov. 29, 2004

Great article Oct. 18 on investing and insurance scams (“House passes bill tightening oversight of insurance sales”). I sincerely hope readers will be very cautious before they spend their hard-earned money on some of the insurance plans and investments mentioned in the article.

At virtually all military bases, service members are targets of many scams and rip-off artists; some, sadly, are even retired military. The problem is particularly bad with the payday and car-title loan offices, as the interest charged often can top 1,000 percent.

The Navy has been in the forefront of the services by implementing a two-day class in personal financial management for all new sailors. Topics such as scams and rip-offs, car buying, investing, insurance, credit/debit cards, checkbook balancing and preparing for deployment are a sampling of subjects taught by mostly retired military Navy contract instructors employed by San Diego City College.

I urge your readers to be careful in signing any contract and always first to have it reviewed by the chain of command, the command financial specialist or legal. It may very well avoid future financial difficulties.

Navy Capt. Ron Jaeh (ret.)
Pensacola, Fla.

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.

Suffering From Adrenaline Withdrawal? Consider These Low-Risk Alternatives

November 29, 2004 By Mark A. Chevalier, Army Times 11.29.04

The writer is a retired Air Force master sergeant who lives in Lancaster, Pa.

A recent Army Times article made mention of the peculiar phenomenon service members experience when returning to the states from war zones ("On the edge: Returning troops crave rush of war-zone adrenaline," Oct. 18).

There appears to be almost an addiction to the adrenaline rush troops felt while under fire. The theory goes that spending months in a state of hypervigilance, facing danger at every turn, can cause one to want to re-create that adrenaline boost when one returns home.

One individual — Sgt. Joshua Chitwood — even went so far as to purchase a motorcycle and ride it at 170 mph.

I have a number of issues with that. One: that anyone, civilian or military, would put himself and innocent bystanders in such danger by traveling at such excessive speeds.

Two: Where does one purchase a motorcycle with a speedometer that even *registers* 170 mph?

Picture yourself driving your Pinto down the interstate and having a crotch rocket crash into your rear hatch at such a high rate of speed. The motorcyclist would split your car in two and probably would not even be aware that he had hit anything until he got home and pried the Ford emblem out of his forehead. You, on the other hand, would now be piloting home a mint-green bicycle with windows.

Clearly, there are dangers aplenty to taking such drastic measures to re-create the adrenaline rush of combat here at home. Allow me to offer a few suggestions for recently returned warriors who crave that adrenaline fix.

- Travel to Pennsylvania Dutch Country. Schedule an appointment for a root canal. Leave your house with precisely the amount of time needed to make it to your appointment under ideal conditions, and not a second more. Now, pull out onto the two-lane road and find yourself traveling behind an Amish buggy. Wave at the tow-headed tykes in the back as steam spurts from your ears and your head rotates on its axis.

- Go to any neighborhood grocery that's equipped with those do-it-yourself scanner check-outs. Make sure you have a mountain of groceries. Try to check yourself out. No matter how many times you try to scan an item, your blood pressure will soar each time that little light on the pole begins to flash and you have to wait for a store employee to "clear" your machine.

- Contract a bad case of the flu. That should be easy enough this season with the vaccine all but nonexistent. Travel to our nation's capital during rush hour. Try to make a complete tour of the Beltway without having an "accident." Add points to your score if you manage to time it so the drawbridge at the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge is up. Add even more points if you're traveling with a small child who *also* has to go to the bathroom.

- Travel to any large city and seek out the site of the worst urban blight. Stuff your pockets with \$10 bills so that they're clearly visible. Sit in a wheelchair and sing Broadway show tunes at the top of your lungs at 4 a.m. If anyone complains, tell them you're not budging until Kenneth gives you the frequency.

- Read the latest press reports of yet another uniform change. The Air Force is doing a wear test for a new battle dress uniform that's distinctive, resilient and yet staggeringly ugly; incorporating zippered "sleeper feet" for warmth, suspenders, a mandarin collar, a Taiwanese waist, two Singapore slings and a Japanese regatta; and featuring a camouflage pattern of red-and-yellow pixelated bull's-eyes.

- Go to your local laser tag facility. Gather a team of pimple-faced 12-year-olds and lead an assault on the concession stand. When the police come, tell them you were searching for weapons of mass consumption.

Clearly, there are other more constructive methods of dealing with adrenaline withdrawal. Your mental well-being as well as that of your family demands that you acclimate yourself to life that is slightly less dangerous than being shot at by angry Iraqis.

If nothing else, just think of the massive jump in your insurance bill if you're caught racing along the highway at 170 mph. If *that* doesn't cause an adrenaline rush, you need to immediately check into rehab.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Attacks Kill Occupation Cops, Guards, Capture Police Station

Nov. 30, 2004 By ROBERT H. REID, The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Insurgents stepped up attacks on Iraq's fledgling security forces, killing seven Iraqi police and guardsmen Monday in a bombing hours after storming a police station north of the capital.

Monday's attack occurred in Baghdadi, a Euphrates River town about 120 miles northwest of the capital, where a driver detonated his vehicle near a police checkpoint, police Lt. Mohammed al-Fehdawi said. **A hospital official, Hatim Ahmed, confirmed seven police and Iraqi National Guard members were killed and nine were wounded.**

Late Sunday, resistance soldiers stormed a police station west of Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, captured the armory, commandeered several police cars and fled after encountering no resistance, Iraqi officials said.

U.S. troops went to the police station Monday morning and arrested two dozen people, police said. American officials had no comment. U.S. and Iraqi troops recaptured Samarra from insurgents in September, but the city remains tense.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

The Last Word:

11.30.04 agitproperties.com

from Michael Herr, Vietnam war correspondent, author of Dispatches and co-screenwriter of Francis Coppola's Apocalypse Now. **19 December 1967 Can Tho RSVN**

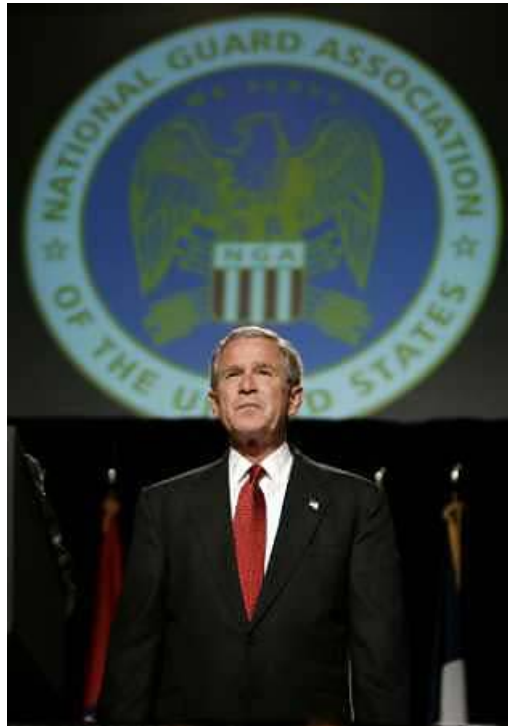
"...once I heard a chaplain from the 9th Division starting up, 'Oh Gawd, help us to learn to live with Thee in a more dynamic way in these perilous times, that we may better serve Thee in the struggle against Thine enemies...'

"Holy war, long-nose jihad like a face-off between one god who would hold the coonskin to the wall while we nailed it up, and another whose detachment would see the blood run through ten generations, if that was how long it took for the wheel to go around."

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.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

SATAN



A U.S. commander, Gareth Brandl, was even more emphatic. “The enemy has got a face. He’s called Satan.” (Jason Reed/Reuters)

Dear Satan

[Because it is well known that “the devil can quote Scripture,” this has been forwarded to the White House for a reply.]

11/26/04 "ICH"

Congratulations on your election victory and for doing so much to educate people regarding God's Law.

I have learned a great deal from you and understand why you would propose and support a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

As you said, "in the eyes of God marriage is based between a man and a woman." I try to share that knowledge with as many people as I can. When someone tries to defend the homosexual lifestyle, for example, I simply remind them that Leviticus 18.22 clearly states it to be an abomination. End of debate.

However, I do need some advice from you regarding some other elements of God's Laws and how best to follow them.

1. Leviticus 25.44 states that I may possess slaves, both male and female, provided they are purchased from neighboring nations. A friend of mine claims that this applies to Mexicans but not to Canadians. Can you clarify? Why can't I own Canadians?

2. I would like to sell my daughter into slavery, as sanctioned in Exodus 21.7. In this day and age, what do you think would be a fair price for her?

3. I know that I am allowed no contact with a woman while she is in her period of menstrual uncleanness (Leviticus 15.19-24). The problem is how do I tell? I have tried asking, but most women take offense.

4. When I burn a bull on the altar as a sacrifice, I know it creates a pleasing odor for the Lord. (Leviticus 1.9) The problem is my neighbors. They claim the odor is not pleasing to them. Should I smite them?

5. I have a neighbor who insists on working on the Sabbath. Exodus 35.2 clearly states he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself, or should I ask the police to do it?

6. A friend of mine feels that even though eating shellfish is an abomination (Leviticus 11.10), it is a lesser abomination than homosexuality. I don't agree. Can you settle this? Are there degrees of abomination?

7. Leviticus 21.20 states that I may not approach the altar of God if I have a defect in my sight. I have to admit that I wear reading glasses. Does my vision have to be 20/20, or is there some wiggle-room here?

8. Most of my male friends get their hair trimmed, including the hair around their temples, even though this is expressly forbidden by Leviticus 19.27. How should they die?

9. I know from Leviticus 11.6-8 that touching the skin of a dead pig makes me unclean. May I still play football if I wear gloves?

10. My uncle has a farm. He violates Leviticus 19.19 by planting two different crops in the same field, as does his wife by wearing garments made of two different kinds of thread (cotton/polyester blend). He also tends to curse and blaspheme a lot. Is it really necessary that we go to all the trouble of getting the whole town together to stone them? (Leviticus 24.10-16) Couldn't we just burn them to death at a private family affair, as we do with people who sleep with their in-laws? (Leviticus 20.14)

I know you have studied these things extensively and thus enjoy considerable expertise in such matters, so I am confident you can help. Thank you again for reminding us that God's word is eternal and unchanging.

Yours truly, An Inquiring Supporter

P.S. I look forward to your answers because there are a number of other issues that I'd like to get settled as soon as you've enlightened me on these. Thanks again.



AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Six From U.S. Occupation Force Dead In Plane Crash

November 30, 2004 By Stephen Graham, KABUL, Afghanistan

Rescuers found the wreckage of a missing plane used by the Air Force and recovered the bodies of several Americans who were aboard when it crashed in snow-covered mountains over the weekend, Afghan police said Tuesday.

The transport plane, which was carrying three soldiers and three American crew members, was located southeast of Bamiyan in the heart of the Hindu Kush mountains, said Ghulam Mohammed, a senior police official in Bamiyan.

“They found pieces of the engine and the wheels scattered on top of Baba Mountain,” which rises to 16,600 feet and was covered in fresh snow, Mohammed said.

He said several bodies were recovered and taken to the main U.S. military base at Bagram, north of the capital, Kabul, from where the plane departed Saturday.

The CASA 112 transport plane was operated by Florida-based Presidential Airways and was contracted to the Air Force in Afghanistan, U.S. military spokesman Mark McCann said.

OK FOR TROOPS TO GROW BEARDS!!



[Either that, or this guy is faking it for the photographer, which means he's CIA, or.....?] “US soldiers have their Thanksgiving meal at the US military base in Kabul.” (AFP/Shah Marai)

Marine Wounded In Paktika

30 Nov 2004 (Reuters)

A U.S. Marine with the 18,000-strong U.S.-led force pursuing Islamic militants was wounded in a clash with insurgents in the southern province of Paktika. **McCann said the Marine had been evacuated for treatment, but his condition was not known.**

Received:

Praise For Soldier Who Wrote *Holiday In Falluja*

From: JM

To: GI Special

Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2004 10:01 PM

Subject: Comment on two messages from troops in Iraq.

In reference to GI Special Nov 19/ 21 :-

1) From: Soldier, Iraq - "falluja was the most awesome display of mass destruction i have ever witnessed. this aint war, its genocide"

2) "Holiday In Falluja" by - hEkLe

I've just re-read these two message and I am deeply affected.

Two things spring to mind - Firstly Hitler saying "what luck for rulers that men do not think."

These men do think and if they are killed their country will be made less -by their loss.

They can see the truth that is hidden, from most of their countrymen, by biased reporting and official lies.

I would like to meet to meet both because I admire them.

Many reservists, sent to Iraq, are young people who joined the military, to earn extra money, whilst at university. Their deployment could be seen as an effort to reduce the number of people with good brains, or eyes, who see beneath the lies.

My second thought is that to understand the reality of war one has to experience it.

People at home watch war films, on TV, like children.." It is fantasy - a game - enjoyment. Who can imagine their county occupied by an enemy force, their street demolished by bombs, their children killed by snipers.

If they could -they would see the Iraqi resistance, and their government's policy, with new eyes. Maybe everyone, especially politicians, should be forced to spend a mandatory month, in a war zone.

If this could happen I think the world would have peace and war-zones would become a thing of the past.

The Alice's Restaurant Anti-Massacre Movement

[THANKS TO J WHO E-MAILED THIS:

By Arlo Guthrie ©1966, 1967 (Renewed) by Appleseed Music Inc. All Rights Reserved.

This song is called Alice's Restaurant, and it's about Alice, and the restaurant, but Alice's Restaurant is not the name of the restaurant, that's just the name of the song, and that's why I called the song Alice's Restaurant.

You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant
You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant
Walk right in it's around the back
Just a half a mile from the railroad track
You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant

Now it all started two Thanksgivings ago, was on - two years ago on Thanksgiving, when my friend and I went up to visit Alice at the restaurant, but Alice doesn't live in the restaurant, she lives in the church nearby the restaurant, in the bell-tower, with her husband Ray and Fasha the dog.

And livin' in the bell tower like that, they got a lot of room downstairs where the pews used to be in.

Havin' all that room, seein' as how they took out all the pews, they decided that they didn't have to take out their garbage for a long time. We got up there, we found all the garbage in there, and we decided it'd be a friendly gesture for us to take the garbage down to the city dump. So we took the half a ton of garbage, put it in the back of a red VW microbus, took shovels and rakes and implements of destruction and headed on toward the city dump.

Well we got there and there was a big sign and a chain across across the dump saying, "Closed on Thanksgiving."

And we had never heard of a dump closed on Thanksgiving before, and with tears in our eyes we drove off into the sunset looking for another place to put the garbage. We didn't find one. Until we came to a side road, and off the side of the side road there was another fifteen foot cliff and at the bottom of the cliff there was another pile of garbage.

And we decided that one big pile is better than two little piles, and rather than bring that one up we decided to throw our's down.

That's what we did, and drove back to the church, had a thanksgiving dinner that couldn't be beat, went to sleep and didn't get up until the next morning, when we got a phone call from officer Obie.

He said, "Kid, we found your name on an envelope at the bottom of a half a ton of garbage, and just wanted to know if you had any information about it." And I said, "Yes, sir, Officer Obie, I cannot tell a lie, I put that envelope under that garbage."

After speaking to Obie for about forty-five minutes on the telephone we finally arrived at the truth of the matter and said that we had to go down and pick up the garbage, and also had to go down and speak to him at the police officer's station. So we got in the red VW microbus with the shovels and rakes and implements of destruction and headed on toward the police officer's station.

Now friends, there was only one or two things that Obie coulda done at the police station, and the first was he could have given us a medal for being so brave and honest on the telephone, which wasn't very likely, and we didn't expect it, and the other thing was he could have bawled us out and told us never to be see driving garbage around the vicinity again, which is what we expected, but when we got to the police officer's station there was a third possibility that we hadn't even counted upon, and we was both immediately arrested. Handcuffed.

And I said "Obie, I don't think I can pick up the garbage with these handcuffs on." He said, "Shut up, kid. Get in the back of the patrol car."

And that's what we did, sat in the back of the patrol car and drove to the quote Scene of the Crime unquote.

I want tell you about the town of Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where this happened here, they got three stop signs, two police officers, and one police car, but when we got to the Scene of the Crime there was five police officers and three police cars, being the biggest crime of the last fifty years, and everybody wanted to get in the newspaper story about it.

And they was using up all kinds of cop equipment that they had hanging around the police officer's station. They was taking plaster tire tracks, foot prints, dog smelling prints, and they took twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy photographs with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one explaining what each one was to be used as evidence against us.

Took pictures of the approach, the getaway, the northwest corner the southwest corner and that's not to mention the aerial photography.

After the ordeal, we went back to the jail.

Obie said he was going to put us in the cell. Said, "Kid, I'm going to put you in the cell, I want your wallet and your belt."

And I said, "Obie, I can understand you wanting my wallet so I don't have any money to spend in the cell, but what do you want my belt for?" And he said, "Kid, we don't want any hangings." I said, "Obie, did you think I was going to hang myself for littering?"

Obie said he was making sure, and friends Obie was, cause he took out the toilet seat so I couldn't hit myself over the head and drown, and he took out the toilet paper so I couldn't bend the bars roll out the - roll the toilet paper out the window, slide down the roll and have an escape.

Obie was making sure, and it was about four or five hours later that Alice (remember Alice? It's a song about Alice), Alice came by and with a few nasty words to Obie on the side, bailed us out of jail, and we went back to the church, had a another thanksgiving dinner that couldn't be beat, and didn't get up until the next morning, when we all had to go to court.

We walked in, sat down, Obie came in with the twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy pictures with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one, sat down.

Man came in said, "All rise."

We all stood up, and Obie stood up with the twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy pictures, and the judge walked in sat down with a seeing eye dog, and he sat down, we sat down. Obie looked at the seeing eye dog, and then at the twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy pictures with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one, and looked at the seeing eye dog.

And then at twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy pictures with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one and began to cry, 'cause Obie came to the realization that it was a typical case of American blind justice, and there wasn't nothing he could do about it, and the judge wasn't going to look at the twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy pictures with the circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one explaining what each one was to be used as evidence against us. And we was fined \$50 and had to pick up the garbage in the snow, but that's not what I came to tell you about.

Came to talk about the draft.

They got a building down New York City, it's called Whitehall Street, where you walk in, you get injected, inspected, detected, infected, neglected and selected.

I went down to get my physical examination one day, and I walked in, I sat down, got good and drunk the night before, so I looked and felt my best when I went in that morning. `Cause I wanted to look like the all-American kid from New York City, man I wanted, I wanted to feel like the all-, I wanted to be the all American kid from New York, and I walked in, sat down, I was hung down, brung down, hung up, and all kinds o' mean nasty ugly things.

And I waked in and sat down and they gave me a piece of paper, said, "Kid, see the psychiatrist, room 604."

And I went up there, I said, "Shrink, I want to kill. I mean, I wanna, I wanna kill. Kill. I wanna, I wanna see, I wanna see blood and gore and guts and veins in my teeth. Eat dead burnt bodies. I mean kill, Kill, KILL, KILL." And I started jumpin up and down yelling, "KILL, KILL," and he started jumpin up and down with me and we was both jumping up and down yelling, "KILL, KILL." And the sergeant came over, pinned a medal on me, sent me down the hall, said, "You're our boy."

Didn't feel too good about it.

Proceeded on down the hall gettin more injections, inspections, detections, neglections and all kinds of stuff that they was doin' to me at the thing there, and I was there for two hours, three hours, four hours, I was there for a long time going through all kinds of mean nasty ugly things and I was just having a tough time there, and they was inspecting, injecting every single part of me, and they was leaving no part untouched.

Proceeded through, and when I finally came to the see the last man, I walked in, walked in sat down after a whole big thing there, and I walked up and said, "What do you want?" He said, "Kid, we only got one question. Have you ever been arrested?"

And I proceeded to tell him the story of the Alice's Restaurant Massacre, with full orchestration and five part harmony and stuff like that and all the phenom... - and he stopped me right there and said, "Kid, did you ever go to court?"

And I proceeded to tell him the story of the twenty seven eight-by-ten color glossy pictures with the circles and arrows and the paragraph on the back of each one, and he stopped me right there and said, "Kid, I want you to go and sit down on that bench that says Group W NOW kid!!!"

And I, I walked over to the, to the bench there, and there is, Group W's where they put you if you may not be moral enough to join the army after committing your special crime, and there was all kinds of mean nasty ugly looking people on the bench there. Mother rapers. Father stabbers. Father rapers!

Father rapers sitting right there on the bench next to me!

And they was mean and nasty and ugly and horrible crime-type guys sitting on the bench next to me.

And the meanest, ugliest, nastiest one, the meanest father raper of them all, was coming over to me and he was mean 'n' ugly 'n' nasty 'n' horrible and all kind of things and he sat down next to me and said, "Kid, whad'ya get?" I said, "I didn't get nothing, I had to pay \$50 and pick up the garbage."

He said, "What were you arrested for, kid?"

And I said, "Littering."

And they all moved away from me on the bench there, and the hairy eyeball and all kinds of mean nasty things, till I said, "And creating a nuisance." And they all came back, shook my hand, and we had a great time on the bench, talkin about crime, mother stabbing, father raping, all kinds of groovy things that we was talking about on the

bench. And everything was fine, we was smoking cigarettes and all kinds of things, until the Sergeant came over, had some paper in his hand, held it up and said:

"Kids, this-piece-of-paper's-got-47-words-37-sentences-58-words-we-wanna-know-details-of-the-crime-time-of-the-crime-and-any-other-kind-of-thing-you-gotta-say-pertaining-to-and-about-the-crime-I-want-to-know-arresting-officer's-name-and-any-other-kind-of-thing-you-gotta-say", and talked for forty-five minutes and nobody understood a word that he said, but we had fun filling out the forms and playing with the pencils on the bench there, and I filled out the massacre with the four part harmony, and wrote it down there, just like it was, and everything was fine and I put down the pencil, and I turned over the piece of paper, and there, there on the other side, in the middle of the other side, away from everything else on the other side, in parentheses, capital letters, quoted, read the following words: ("KID, HAVE YOU REHABILITATED YOURSELF?")

I went over to the sergeant, said, "Sergeant, you got a lot a damn gall to ask me if I've rehabilitated myself, I mean, I mean, I mean that just, I'm sittin' here on the bench, I mean I'm sittin here on the Group W bench 'cause you want to know if I'm moral enough join the army, burn women, kids, houses and villages after bein' a litterbug."

He looked at me and said, "Kid, we don't like your kind, and we're gonna send you fingerprints off to Washington."

And friends, somewhere in Washington enshrined in some little folder, is a study in black and white of my fingerprints.

And the only reason I'm singing you this song now is cause you may know somebody in a similar situation, or you may be in a similar situation, and if your in a situation like that there's only one thing you can do and that's walk into the shrink wherever you are ,just walk in say "Shrink, You can get anything you want, at Alice's restaurant."

And walk out.

You know, if one person, just one person does it they may think he's really sick and they won't take him.

And if two people, two people do it, in harmony, they may think they're both faggots and they won't take either of them.

And three people do it, three, can you imagine, three people walking in singin a bar of Alice's Restaurant and walking out. They may think it's an organization.

And can you, can you imagine fifty people a day, I said fifty people a day walking in singin a bar of Alice's Restaurant and walking out. And friends they may thinks it's a movement.

And that's what it is , the Alice's Restaurant Anti-Massacre Movement, and all you got to do to join is sing it the next time it comes around on the guitar. With feeling.

So we'll wait for it to come around on the guitar, here and sing it when it does. Here it comes.

If you want to end war and stuff you got to sing loud.
I've been singing this song now for twenty five minutes.
I could sing it for another twenty five minutes. I'm not proud... or tired.

So we'll wait till it comes around again, and this time with four part harmony and feeling.

We're just waitin' for it to come around is what we're doing. All right now.

You can get anything you want, at Alice's Restaurant
Excepting Alice
You can get anything you want, at Alice's Restaurant
Walk right in it's around the back
Just a half a mile from the railroad track
You can get anything you want, at Alice's Restaurant
Da da da da da da dum
At Alice's Restaurant

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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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