

## GI SPECIAL 3B37:



# Target The Predators: Military Recruiting Liars Recorded Spewing More Stupid Bullshit

[Thanks to Phil G who sent this in.]

Fisher: "Conduct unbecoming a non-commissioned officer is what those statements are. I don't know where he came up with it. It's just insane. Yea, yea, he could be your car salesman of the Isuzu."

May 18, 2005 WLWT, ChannelCincinnati.com

Announcer: "An explosive Target 5 investigation. Our hidden cameras catch military recruiters making the Tri-state sound more dangerous than Iraq."

Recruiter: "You've got more chance of dying over here than you do over there."

Announcer: "So, why are Tri-state recruits ready to risk their lives not getting honest answers?"

Anchor: "The problem is so bad the military is planning a nationwide stand-down day. That means this Friday the Army won't do any recruiting. Why? Recruiters using outrageous tactics to get your son or daughter to enlist."

**"You won't believe how bad the problem is. [Yeah, we will.]"**

"Dave Wagner has the shocking Target 5 investigation."

Dave Wagner: "Each day, thousands of American teenagers consider the merits of military service, young men and women willing to wear a uniform and put their lives on the line. Tonight, a revealing look at what goes on when teenagers go behind closed doors with Tri-state military recruiters. In a startling number of cases, it's high pressure, false statements and 'Conduct Unbecoming.'"

Bill Fisher, retired Army recruiter: "Their job is to call you and try to get your interest sparked."

Recruiter: "I'm not trying to do a sales pitch."

Wagner: "In the world of sale, every pitch has a price." "In the land of a free-market economy, facts can get in the way of a good prospect."

**Recruiter: "You have more chance of dying here in the United States."**

Wagner: "Even when the pitchman is in uniform."

**Fisher: "It's insane. That's ludicrous. You just don't do that."**

Larry Clock: "My name is Larry Clock and I'm a senior."

Adrienne Morrison. "I'm a senior."

Morrison: "I've received phone calls, letters in the mail."

**Wagner: "Kids in the crosshairs of U.S. military recruiters."**

Fisher: "In recruiting throughout all the branches, they're looking for the good students, the ones that you consider the good students in high school."

Fisher: "I'm Bill Fisher. I'm a retired master sergeant with the United States Army. I recruited for 13 years. Yea, I'll talk to anybody."

Wagner: "These days, it's a lot easier talking to high school students because military recruiters have easier access to your kids. As part of the No Child Left Behind Act, all schools that receive federal funding, and nearly all of them do, are required to give military recruiters access to your child's name, address and phone number."

Fisher: "From a recruiting standpoint, that's a great thing because a lot of people we couldn't get numbers to actually tell the Army story or the armed forces story we now can."

Recruiter: "I'm not trying to do a sales pitch."

**Wagner: "But as Target 5 discovered, those military pitches can turn from fact to fiction in a matter of seconds. Target 5 sent four young men, with hidden cameras, into every Tri-state armed forces recruiting center. The conversations began with talk of job security."**

Recruiter: "We guarantee you a job."

Wagner: "Signing bonuses."

Recruiter: "Up to \$20,000." "Up to \$70,000 for college."

**Wagner: "But when the questions turn to safety, some Tri-state recruiters make Iraq sound more like a trip to Tahiti than a journey to war."**

**Recruiter: "You have more chance of dying here in the United States at, what is it, 36-percent die, kill rate here in the United States, people here just dying left and right, you have more chance of dying over here than you do over there."**

**Wagner: "The U.S. does not have a 36-percent kill rate. If that were true, more than 100 million people, one-third of the U.S. population, would be killed each year."**

Fisher: "To just openly not tell the truth, to push it aside, that's just wrong."

Wagner: "Back at the recruiting center."

Recruiter: "The way I am, I'm a no-bull type of guy."

Wagner: "But you'd never know that based upon what he tells our young recruit."

**Recruiter: "If you get on the Internet and look up how many deaths are in Columbia, S.C., in the past year, year and a half, and then compare that to how many deaths there are in Iraq, there's more deaths going on in Columbia, S.C., for no reason, none, over a pair of Nikes, over a jacket, people stealing people's wallets, shooting people. There's more deaths going on in Columbia, S.C. — I know, I just got back from there — than there was in the whole time when I was in Iraq."**

**Wagner: "So Target 5 called the Columbia, S.C., police department, and despite the words of our Tri-state recruit, this city is hardly a hotbed for crime."**

**Sgt. Thomas Thomas of Columbia, S.C., police department: "There were 16 homicides in the city of Columbia in 2004. This year to date we have five in the city."**

**Wagner: "And if that recruiter thinks Columbia, S.C., listen to what this GI Joe Isuzu says about the danger of driving around Dayton, Ohio."**

**Recruiter: "Dayton area alone, which is about four or five counties, Dayton area alone, 1,500 people died in two weeks. You know what that was from? Car wrecks. Those numbers that we get, we get from the actual highway patrol. So, I mean, all that stuff's factual. So, you look at that way. We've lost 1,500 soldiers so far over in Iraq. We've been over there for three years. If you add it together, 1,500 people died in five counties alone within two weeks, just from car wrecks."**

**Wagner: "The truth is, there aren't 1,500 deaths from car wrecks in the entire state of Ohio for an entire year."**

**Fisher: "Conduct unbecoming a non-commissioned officer is what those statements are. I don't know where he came up with it. It's just insane. Yea, yea, he could be your car salesman of the Isuzu."**

Wagner: "The national spokesman for the Army recruiting command at Fort Knox tells Target 5: "I don't know why anybody would even let that phrase even come out of their mouth. For whatever reasons, these recruiters must have found these talking points somewhere on their own. I don't know."

**Wagner: "Do you think that in the private conversations they're having with recruits here, that they're thinking, no one will ever check this, no one will ever know?"**

**Fisher: "I'm sure that anyone who could tell that, I'm sure that's exactly what they're thinking."**

*"Now, more of our Target 5 investigation into Tri-state military recruiters offering big bonuses and tall tales to Tri-state teenagers."*

*"Since the war began, about 1,500 U.S. servicemen and women have been killed in Iraq. The violence has made military recruiting more difficult, often because parents worry about their kids' safety. But recruiters are tracking down teens when parents aren't around, and the pressure can be immense."*

Wagner (in Milford High School classroom): "How many of you have been approached by a military recruiter in the past year?"

(Several students raise hands).

Wagner: "In Mr. Jewell's American government class ..."

Student: "I think they're really biased."

Wagner: "Students are talking about military recruiters."

Student: "A recruiter called me up and told me they got a new deal going on, \$5,000 to enlist now for the Army."

Student: "I was told that if I signed up for the Marines they'd give me a \$10,000 signing bonus on the spot. I didn't believe that one."

Wagner: When this high school senior says his parents are concerned about his safety in the military, this recruiter puts on the full-court press."

Recruiter: "Don't hesitate. Don't leave me hanging. Even if they really don't want to talk about it, we can still sit down and talk, all right? Because by you walking in here, that shows that you're interested, and I'd hate for you to be denied this United States Army opportunity. Honestly."

Recruiter: "Of course, the news media is going to blow it way out of proportion."

Recruiter: "I was watching the news the other day. In Cincinnati alone, as of April, there were 867 deaths in Cincinnati."

Wagner: "While some recruiters play it loose with the facts."

Recruiter: "Eighty-eight people over there have died from gunshot wounds."

Recruiter: ***"I can at least provide you with honest answers. OK? I can be the Honest Abe around the corner."***

**Wagner: "Tonight the spokesman for the U.S. Army recruiting command at Fort Knox say he believes the recruiters aren't deliberately making false statements.**

**[Meaning Wagner is part of the cover-up. Yeah, "recruiters are soldiers too." So were the MPs who routinely tormented anti-war troops and frequently beat the shit out of them during Vietnam. So was Lt. William Calley, My Lai, Vietnam. So what?**

**[The scum being exposed in story after story deserve no defense whatsoever. They merit only condemnation. We're supposed to feel all warm and fuzzy about some piece of shit recruiter that kidnaps a borderline retarded Hispanic immigrants' kid and ships him off to war while his mother is kept in the dark about what's going on because "he's a soldier too"? Bullshit.**

**[How fortunate that our movement against this war has so many people in it who can do two things at once: fight to end the war *and* fight these disgusting predators. T]**

**Each step was so small, so inconsequential, so well explained or, on occasion, 'regretted,' that unless one understood what the whole thing was in principle, what all these 'little measures'. . . must some day lead to, one no more saw it developing from day to day than a farmer in his field sees the corn growing. . . Each act. . . is worse than the last, but only a little worse. From Milton Mayer, They Thought They Were Free, The Germans, 1938-45 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1955)**

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

# Two North Louisiana Soldiers Killed

5/21/2005 SHREVEPORT, La. (AP)

**Snipers killed two north Louisiana national guardsmen with the 256th Brigade Combat Team, family members said.**

**Both men were also the first-born sons of their families.**

Spc. Bernard L. Sembly, 25, of Bossier City, and Sgt. Robin V. Fell, 22, of Shreveport, were killed Thursday in Baghdad, the Department of Defense said. They were with the Army National Guard's Shreveport-based 1st Battalion, 156th Armor Regiment, 256th Brigade Combat Team.

"He had just dismounted from the tank and was on his way to an observation post when he was shot in the chest," said Frederick Britton, Sembly's father.

**Sembly was the oldest of three children and graduated from Huntington High School in 1999. He had an 18-month-old son, Tyler Sembly. He visited his family while on leave in December and he was due to return home for leave in June, his father said.**

Fell was the oldest of six children and graduated from Captain Shreve High School in 2000. He was a freshman at Centenary College studying business administration.

**"It could be five to 10 days before he'll be home, and it could be longer," Britton said. "Until then, we'll try to make the best of a bad situation. It's something we'll never get over. But we'll try to have closure and try to get on with our lives."**

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## ***Who Controls Iraq?*** **Occupation Command Admits** **Kirkuk Cut Off:** **Unable To Transport One Turbine** **“Until September”**

May 21, 2005 By Michael Georgy, Reuters

Boosting the national electricity grid would help raise the spirits of Iraqis who have spent three straight summers battling stifling heat with erratic power for air conditioners.

But bloodshed has put a U.S. plan to improve the electricity grid on hold, William Taylor, the U.S. official overseeing American rebuilding work in Iraq, said.

Trying to transport a huge turbine and 400 tonnes of equipment in a convoy to the northern city of Kirkuk proved too risky in a country where guerrillas can strike on any road, let alone a slow desert route.

"Now we are planning to get it there by September," Taylor said.

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## **Rocket Attack On British Troops Base In Basra**

May 21 (KUNA)

The British military base in the southern province of Mesan came under a rocket attack on Saturday, eyewitnesses said.

The attack is the first in four months in Mesan.

After the attack, British troops stormed a company affiliated with the Iraqi Ministry of Trade, claiming the rockets were launched from its compound. A number of guards were arrested, said the eyewitnesses.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **U.S. Soldier Killed, Three Wounded**

May 21 AP

A bomb exploded near a U.S. military patrol in southern Afghanistan on Saturday, killing one American soldier and wounding three others, the military said.

The attack occurred as the troops were traveling in an armored vehicle in Zabul province's Shinkay district, U.S. military spokesman Lt. Col. Jerry O'Hara said. A purported Taliban spokesman, Mullah Latif Hakimi, claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to The Associated Press.

Two of the wounded soldiers were taken to a U.S.-led coalition base near the town of Qalat for treatment, a military statement said. The third was taken to a base near the southern city of Kandahar and was expected to be flown to Landstuhl, Germany, for further treatment.

"There will be considerable efforts made to find out who is behind these attacks and prevent more like it," O'Hara said. "This incident will not prevent us from accomplishing our mission." [Lunacy. 18,000 occupation troops, thirty million

pissed off Afghans. Save the trash talk for a basketball court, nobody believes it in a real war.]

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## **Six Afghans Killed In Attack On U.S. Project**

May 20, 2005 Washington Post & L.A. Times

Guerillas shot and killed seven Afghans in an ambush on a major highway in the country's troubled south, the second fatal attack in two days on employees of a U.S.-funded anti-drugs project, officials said.

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## **Secret UK Troops Plan For Afghan Crisis: Occupation Facing "Complete Strategic Failure"**

<p>"There is not enough Coalition power, or Afghan government power, to extend their writ into the areas that have proved impossible to control. This is going to be a very difficult period.</p>
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22 May 2005 BRIAN BRADY, WESTMINSTER EDITOR, Scotsman

DEFENCE chiefs are planning to rush thousands of British troops to Afghanistan, Scotland on Sunday can reveal.

**Ministers have been warned they face a "complete strategic failure" of the effort to rebuild Afghanistan and that 5,500 extra troops will be needed within months if the situation continues to deteriorate.**

An explosive cocktail of feuding tribal warlords, insurgents, the remnants of the Taliban, and under-performing Afghan institutions has left the fledgling democracy **[translation: occupation]** on the verge of disintegration, according to analysts and senior officers.

**The looming crisis in Afghanistan is a serious setback for the US-led 'War on Terror.'**

**Defence analysts say UK forces are already so over-stretched that any operation to restore order in Afghanistan can only succeed if substantial numbers of troops are redeployed from Iraq, itself in the grip of insurgency.**



Planners at the UK military's Northolt headquarters have drawn up emergency proposals to send up to 5,500 troops to Afghanistan.

As well as increasing the British presence in Afghanistan 10-fold, it would require additional funding of almost £500m.

MoD sources confirmed last night that the secret plans have been firmed up in response to persistent concerns that the notorious rebel commander Gulbadeen Hikmatyar has teamed up with Taliban fighters in the south.

"People within the MoD are now saying we will have to deal with this and go into the south of the country. What they are saying is, don't do it piecemeal. We will have to do it properly."

**Senior army and navy officers, along with officials from the Treasury, were in the region last week to survey the options.**

***But American military experts last night claimed an increase in the British presence in Afghanistan would inevitably threaten the numbers committed to Iraq.***

Charles Heyman, a senior analyst with the defence information group Jane's, told Scotland on Sunday: "There's no doubt whatsoever that Afghanistan is caught in a very difficult position, where it is very hard to progress without committing more forces.

**"There is not enough Coalition power, or Afghan government power, to extend their writ into the areas that have proved impossible to control. This is going to be a very difficult period.**

**"They might struggle to cover their commitment to Iraq, but even if they do that, it would mean that the UK could not take on any further military commitments anywhere else."**

### **NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER**

Telling the truth - about the occupation or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. 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](http://www.ivaw.net))

## **TROOP NEWS**

# Injured De Soto Soldier Says He's Fine

May 20, 2005 BY CALEB HALE, THE SOUTHERN

DE SOTO - Army Spc. Jose "Joey" Mendoza Jr., of De Soto, says he is recovering after a run-in with a car bomb in Iraq May 11.

Two days after Mendoza's parents, Judy and Jose Mendoza Sr., talked about their son's close call with The Southern Illinoisan, Joey chimed in with an e-mail saying he wants his friends and family in to know he is fine.

Mendoza, 24, received second-degree burns to his face after a car bomb exploded next to his vehicle. He has spent nearly a year in Iraq as part of the 10th Mountain Division, 2nd Battalion, 15th Artillery, of Fort Drum, N.Y.

Mendoza described his condition:

"I am doing just fine. The wounds have healed up extremely fast. Everyone is surprised how quick they have healed up, but still, at the areas where my face was burned it is still very sensitive, especially to the sun."

The bomb attack frightened his parents, but Mendoza said such incidents are a part of life in Iraq.

**"I have seen good things and I've seen the bad," he continued in his e-mail. "That is why every day that you are outside the wire you've got to stay alert at all times. Here there is no front line, and you don't know who the enemy is.**

**"Some days you don't see anything happen, and people will say, 'Hey, it's been pretty quiet lately.' Then, the next day you are being blown up by a car bomb."**

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## Maine Native, 24, Injured

May 20, 2005 By DAVID HENCH, Portland Press Herald Writer

A Maine native was recovering from injuries at a U.S. military hospital after his Marine platoon was decimated during a campaign to root out insurgents in western Iraq.

Lance Cpl. Mark Camp, 24, was injured when the armored amphibious personnel carrier he was riding in was blown up last week.

"He had shrapnel and he had burns, but as time went on, he was lucky," said his grandmother Virginia Camp of Cape Elizabeth. She spoke with her grandson on Thursday by telephone. He is at Brooke Army Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

"He's coming along nicely, thank God. Each day it's been a better report. A lot of them weren't so lucky."

Mark Camp is the son of Wally Camp Jr., owner of the Rowe Westbrook automobile dealerships. He was raised in Windham and is attending Ohio State University while serving in the Marine Reserve. Both parents traveled to Texas to be with him, his grandmother said.

Camp was fortunate that the severe shrapnel wounds he suffered in his leg and abdomen missed major arteries and organs, she said. He has second-degree burns on his face and third-degree burns on his hands, she said.

Family members feared for his life when they first learned that he had been severely wounded, she said.

Camp's grandmother said he deployed to Iraq around the end of February.

"He would go out on missions and come back. We would get e-mails and phone calls, but we didn't know too much of what they were doing," she said. "They obviously got in the thick of it up there."

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**HE DOES NOT WANT TO GO OVER  
OLD GROUND AGEN.  
WELL MR BLAIR, THATS WHERE MY  
BOY IS, UNDER GROUND.  
HE COULD BE ON THIS GROUND IF  
YOU HAD NOT LIED.**

[This is a message to Americans from Rose Gentle. Her son was killed in Iraq. She leads a campaign to bring all the Scots and other troops home from Iraq, now. Her words carry more weight, and contain more truth, than 5000 pages of bullshit from the politicians. T]

**From:** Rose Gentle  
**To:** GI Special  
**Sent:** May 21, 2005  
**Subject:** Re: GI Special 3B36: "We Shouldn't Be There"

***MR BLAIR: NO TO PUBLIC INQUIRY***

***HE HAD ALREADY REJECTED A PUBLIC INQUIRY, SAYING IT WAS NOT NECESSARY, TO GO OVER THIS AGEN,***

***THE MILITARY ACTION WAS FULLY JUSTIFIED,***

(BY WHO, HIM)

HE SAID OUR TROOPS WERE KILLIED IN A VARIETY.  
OF CIRCUMSTANCES,

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGEN,

BUT THE BIG ONE THAT OUR BOYS WERE NOT KILLIED WITH .  
WAS WMD.

HOW IS THIS MAN RUNNING SCEARD, OF THE FAMILIES,

WILL IT CUM OUT, ALL THE LIES WE NO,

AND THE GOVOURMENT DID LIE, .

HE DOES NOT WANT TO GO OVER OLD GROUND AGEN.

WELL MR BLAIR, THATS WHERE MY BOY IS, UNDER GROUND  
HE COULD BE ON THIS GROUND IF YOU HAD NOT LIED.

YOU SAID, THAT THE ACCIDENTS, INCLOUDE. A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

DO YOU CALL A ROAD SIDE BOMB, ACCIDENT,, WELL I DONT.

DO YOU THINK TROOPS NOT HAVING THE ENUF AMMINISHON  
A ACCIDENT,

DO YOU THINK NOT HAVING THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT ACCIDENT,

I WOULD NOT LIKE TO HAVE ACCIDENT IN HIS HOUSE,

WE WILL GET IT,

ROSE GENTLE

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## **Veterans Declare War On Recruiters' Lies; "This Is The Way Back From PTSD"**

May. 20, 2005 Robert C. Koehler, TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

**The Army's - the whole military's - desperation is showing. None of the four branches is meeting recruitment goals as a brutal, unpopular war drags on, and the recruiters, who are all under heavy pressure to snare two warm bodies a**

month for this lost cause, are getting outed in the media for appallingly unethical and illegal practices.

**These include advising potential (bottom of the barrel) enlistees about how to circumvent drug-screening tests and create fake high-school diplomas, how to pass the physical (one overweight young man was given laxatives and the advice, "Don't tell your parents"), along with blatant threats and even, apparently, abduction.**

We're fighting a war the "support our troops" crowd wants no part of, personally - any more than does anyone else of sound mind and the least claim on a future - so the recruiters are battling rationality itself as they struggle to sell inner-city teenagers on the glory of serving in occupied Iraq and signing themselves over to an organization that will essentially own them, body and soul, for the duration of their hitch or longer. Small wonder the recruiters are forced to bend, break and occasionally shatter the rules to get anybody to sign up.

**However much ethical restraint they'll now be temporarily forced to incorporate into their basic spiel (no laxatives!), one thing's for sure: They won't begin telling prospective recruits the truth.**

"We have to understand that one of the things that happens in war is, truth dies," said Ray Parrish, a Chicago-based counselor for Vietnam Veterans Against the War, who left a well-paying job with full benefits to work with GIs returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

And he's hearing the same expressions of disillusionment, anger and betrayal that he heard when he counseled Vietnam vets and battled the VA to get them their rights. He's seeing the same shattered psyches, the same wrecked lives, the same post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Values stand-down or no values stand-down, the recruiters will not begin telling teenagers anytime soon about PTSD; high vet suicide rates (among Vietnam vets, it's triple the number of names on The Wall, and counting); or today's equivalent of Agent Orange, depleted uranium, which, when breathed in, can devastate health over the long term and, especially cruel to young couples, cause birth defects.**

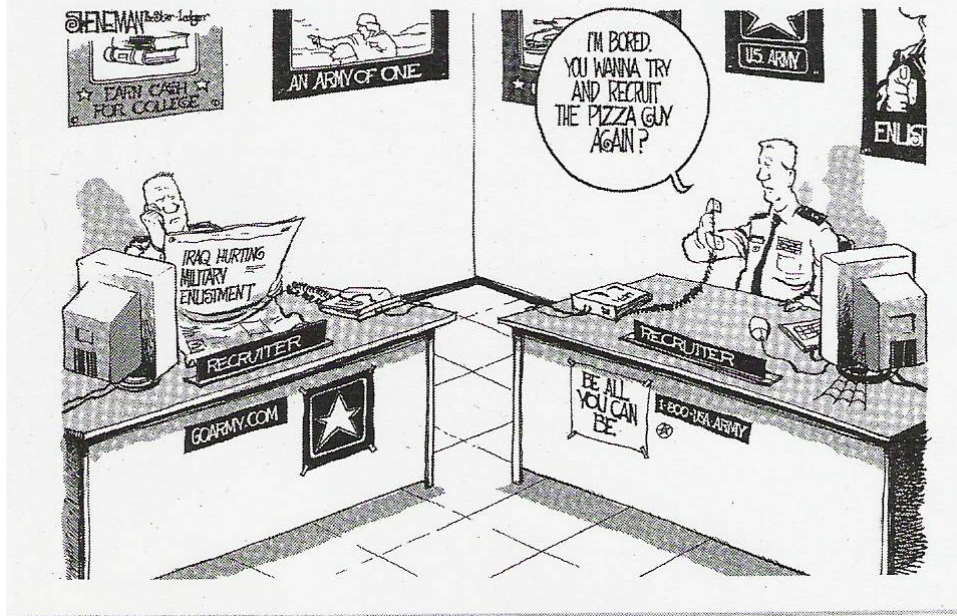
**Supplying this information is the job of the counter-recruiters, and the fact that they're out there is one of the most important stories of the war. The vets themselves are the counter-recruiters, telling the truth to high school students.**

**This is the way back from PTSD - the way for shattered men and women to redeem themselves and rejoin the human race. "It's part of the healing," Parrish said. "That's what the vets are doing - making sure the recruiters don't sell at all."**

Suppose they gave a war and nobody came? This is what we're witnessing, slowly, one wised-up teenager at a time.

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This cartoon first appeared in the Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger.



Army Times 5.23.05

## Seattle High School PTA Votes To Bar Recruiters

May 18, 2005 By Dean Paton, Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

**SEATTLE –** While most Parent Teacher Student Association meetings might center on finding funding for better math books or the best way to chaperon a school dance, a recent meeting here at Garfield High School grappled with something much larger - the war in Iraq.

The school is perhaps one of the first in the nation to debate and vote against military recruiting on high school campuses - a topic already simmering at the college level. In fact, the Supreme Court recently agreed to decide whether the federal government can withhold funds from colleges that bar military recruiters.

**Garfield High School took a decisive step last week with a vote of 25 to 5 to adopt a resolution that says "public schools are not a place for military recruiters."**

During discussion at the PTSA's meeting last week, Ted Inkley argued against the resolution because he thought it dangerous to deny free speech to organizations simply because their philosophies or intentions disagreed with the PTSA.

Mr. Inkley, an attorney whose daughter is a senior, told the crowded library he could "easily" see a resolution by some other PTA that banned Planned Parenthood representatives from campus because of their views on contraception and abortion.

**Steve Ludwig, whose son is a senior and whose daughter will enter as a freshman next fall, made a point shared by many in attendance: Garfield does not allow organizations that promote illegal activities to recruit students to perform those activities, nor does it allow organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation to recruit on campus.**

**"Planned Parenthood, as far as I know, does not advocate or perform illegal acts. The US military does," Mr. Ludwig continued. The soft-spoken carpenter said he would not object if Army representatives came to Garfield to debate their ideas on torture or aggressive war. "What I object to is their coming here to recruit students to perform those acts," he said. "It's not about free speech."**

The resolution by Garfield's PTSA is more symbol than policy, for Seattle, like virtually all school districts, requires high schools to give recruiters access to students - or risk losing federal funding under Section 9528 of the act. School districts also are required to notify parents and students that they may "opt out" by signing a letter preventing recruiters from getting their names.

**In response to Garfield's resolution, Seattle's district issued a statement reinforcing its policy of allowing recruiters to work on high school campuses, but also said it would increase efforts next fall to make it easier for parents and students to opt out.**

"Nothing in this resolution prevents students desirous of joining the military from doing so," said Sasha Riser-Kositsky, a Garfield sophomore from a written statement during last week's meeting. "Indeed, there is a recruiting center within a five-minute walking distance of Garfield."

#### **MORE ABOUT GARFIELD:**

## **Lying Predator Recruiter At Garfield Says Truck Driving In Iraq "Less Risky" Job**

[Thanks to D, who sent this in.]

**Yesterday recruiter Porter told two students that, while there's always a chance of going to Iraq, a lot of Army Reserve jobs are "less risky ... like truck drivers."**

**U.S. military transportation units have suffered significant casualties in Iraq in random roadside bombings.**

May 19, 2005 By M.L. Lyke, SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER REPORTER

Sgt. Melisa Porter had just spread out the freebies yesterday on her Army of One table -- give-away pens, pencils, computer games, slick brochures -- when the anti-recruiting leader arrived ready to do battle.

**"Do you understand that we don't want you here?" said PTSA co-Chairwoman Amy Hagopian, who came to the Garfield High School lunchroom carrying pictures of Iraq vets maimed in war.**

**Yesterday was the first day military recruiters have been on campus since the Garfield High School PTSA passed a resolution seeking to oust them from public-school campuses. The resolution, first of its kind in the state, passed May 9.**

"Given the seriousness of what they are requesting people to participate in, we'd just prefer they not be on school grounds, which are supposed to be protected space for students," said Hagopian.

Seattle School District officials responded to the resolution with a statement that it is illegal to ban only military recruiters. Under the Bush administration's No Child Left Behind Act, military recruiters must be granted the same access to students as college recruiters or job recruiters at schools that get federal money.

Students watching yesterday's confrontation had a mix of opinions. **Sophomore Ismail Hamza, sipping water from Marine recruiters' give-away bottle, said it was OK by him if they were there. But he had no intention of signing up. "You're just going to Iraq. That's all you're going to do."**

**Local career counselors have received numerous complaints that recruiters are soft-pedaling combat in Iraq in their pitches. "They're trying to assure students they won't be sent overseas," Garfield career counselor Karin Engstrom said. "You can't do that."**

**Yesterday recruiter Porter told two students that, while there's always a chance of going to Iraq, a lot of Army Reserve jobs are "less risky ... like truck drivers."**

**U.S. military transportation units have suffered significant casualties in Iraq in random roadside bombings.**

Engstrom has told Porter and other recruiters that they can be on campus only one day a month, and all must come on the same day -- the better to monitor them. She makes sure to pass out sheets describing "Ten Points to Consider Before You Sign a Military Enlistment Agreement" when they are there.

**In Boston, activists dumped 5 gallons of fake blood on the doorstep of a recruiting center.**

**Earlier this month, a student at Foss High School in Tacoma sent e-mails to thousands of activists across the country, urging them to call school officials after plans for an anti-recruitment "teach-in" hit administrative roadblocks.**

**Some students at Garfield are planning a walkout Monday and a march on Army recruiting headquarters down the street.**

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# Army Recruiting A "Near Disastrous" "Death Spiral"

May 13, 2005 By Damien Cave, The New York Times

The Army's top recruiter, already struggling to meet his quotas this year, said yesterday that 2006 would be even harder, and perhaps the toughest year for recruiting since the all-volunteer force began in 1973.

Maj. Gen. Michael D. Rochelle, in a telephone interview, said the Army would most likely start its fiscal year this October with the smallest pool of recruits ready for boot camp in at least a decade. He said that by then, only 9.9 percent of the roughly 80,000 new active-duty soldiers the Army needs next year to replenish the ranks in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere were expected to be in the pipeline.

Most recruits, he said, typically enlist during the summer as new high school graduates make future plans.

**But some former Army recruiting officials and outside military analysts said the Army appeared to be entering what some of them call a "death spiral," a cycle of shortfalls that can take years to overcome.**

**Beth J. Asch, a senior economist specializing in military personnel at the RAND Corporation, a military-financed research organization, described the general's prediction as "near disastrous."**

"This has ramifications and ripple effects throughout the entire Army," said Col. Greg Parlier, who oversaw the Army's internal recruiting strategy and research unit from 1998 to 2002 before retiring in 2003.

"It means the training base becomes very inefficient because you have underused capacity - a bunch of drill sergeants sitting around."

**The last major recruiting shortfall, in the late 1990's, he said, forced 2 of the Army's 10 active divisions to be listed at the military's lowest level of combat readiness. He predicted that similar problems would occur if the recruiting lag continued.**

"It means positions in combat units cannot be filled in a timely manner," he said.

## IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

**In Baghdad, a senior officer said Wednesday in a background briefing that the 21 car bombings in Baghdad so far this month almost matched the total of 25 in all of last year. 19 May 2005 By John F. Burns and Eric Schmitt, The New York Times**

# Collaborator Troop Convoy Repeatedly Attacked, Vietnam Style

May 21 (Xinhuanet) & AP

**Insurgents attacked an 20 vehicle Iraqi army convoy early Saturday, killing six soldiers and wounding six others** as their convoy passed through the northern Iraqi city of Baiji, about 200 km north of Baghdad, police said.

**"Insurgents attacked an Iraqi army convoy of more than 100 soldiers aboard in central Baiji city as they were on their way from Mosul to Baghdad, killing six soldiers and wounding six others," Tikrit US-Iraqi liaison office said in a statement.**

**Two military vehicles were also charred in the attack and the soldiers fled the scene to nearby police and military bases, the statement said.**

"The soldiers gathered again as they tried to withdraw from the city, but they opened fire randomly at about 6:30 a.m. (0230 GMT) in the city streets, killing a civilian and wounding five others," said the statement.

**It said the convoy was ambushed again in Samarra, some 110 km north of Baghdad, but the convoy continued travelling to Baghdad after fierce clashes with another group of insurgents.**

The clashes in Samarra caused several casualties among civilians, but it was not clear whether the Iraqi soldiers sustained any casualties, the statement added.

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

## Iraqi Christian Leader Rejects U.S. Occupation

**"Frankly, I try to avoid meeting them as much as possible," he said. "They are the occupiers. The occupied don't want to be occupied. That's human nature."**

May 19 Tom Heneghan, (Reuters)

**The head of Iraq's largest Christian community denounced American evangelical missionaries in his country on Thursday for what he said were attempts to convert poor Muslims by flashing money and smart cars.**

Patriarch Emmanuel Delly, head of the Chaldean Catholic Church, told journalists that many Protestant activists had come to Iraq after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein in 2003 and set up what he called "boutiques" to attract converts.

Delly said Iraq did not need missionaries as its Christian churches dated back long before Protestantism.

Christians make up 3 percent of Iraq's 26 million mostly Muslim population, the largest group being the 600,000 Chaldeans who are Eastern rite Catholics linked to the Vatican.

Saying the evangelicals were not real missionaries, Delly said they attracted poor youths with displays of money and taking them "out riding in cars to have fun".

**"Then they take photos and send them here, to Germany, to the United States and say 'look how many Muslims have become Christian'," he said. [Of course. That's how they get the suckers to send in their \$: one of the oldest con games in the world.]**

The patriarch, who vigorously opposed the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and met French President Jacques Chirac — who also opposed it — on Wednesday, declined to comment on Washington's policy there or whether he had contacts with U.S. authorities.

**"Frankly, I try to avoid meeting them as much as possible," he said. "They are the occupiers. The occupied don't want to be occupied. That's human nature."**

<p><b>OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME <u>NOW!</u></b></p>
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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**Vietnam Vet Has The Answer:  
Newsweek, Rather, Responsible For  
Iraq Disaster!  
EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!  
Way To End War Found!**



**Ward Reilly is the SE National Contact For Vietnam Veterans Against The War, and Veterans For Peace. He was a gunner in the First Infantry Division for 3 years, from 1971-1974, and is in the anti-war groups, the Coalition Against War & Injustice of Baton Rouge, and C3 of New Orleans**

5-18-2005 By Ward Reilly

Isn't it nice to know...

That it was NOT the 12 years of economic sanctions to Iraq, nor the 40,000 bombing runs into Iraq (in 2003 alone) , nor the total lack of WMDs in Iraq, OR our own WMDs, (called "depleted uranium", cluster bombs, and Napalm) IN Iraq, that have Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, and Uzbekistan all fuming? (no pun intended between napalm and fuming)

It's not lies about Iraq's direct ties to al Qaeda, or the slaughter of 100,000 innocent people (and the ruining of tens of thousands of our own citizen-soldiers, and THEIR families, also), nor the invasion of Afghanistan, or even the propping-up of puppet's in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, that is killing all these people.

It's not the U.S.-sanctioned slaughter of protestors (I mean "terrorists"), in all 3 of those countries this week, which has Islam "all abuzz" about freedom (and bullets) flying EVERYWHERE, that has them upset.

**It was an article in Newsweek that is really driving the Islamic world nuts.**

**Isn't it nice to know what REALLY has the Middle East up in arms?**

**It is SO comforting to know that it was Newsweek, and NOT Guantanamo torture, Abu Ghraib torture, the CIA's flying of POW's to "neutral" countries for even more torture, (women and children in all these lots), or the complete oppression of**

**indigenous Islamic people by an Occupation Army, that is responsible for this mess.**

It's good to know that it is NOT the above listed things that have us on the verge of losing our nation, it's awesome, rather, to LEARN THE TRUTH...that truth being that NEWSWEEK is responsible for the tragedy unfolding before our eyes. (No pun intended using the word "rather", BTW).

**Just because our army is being lead by a christian-fundamentalist-bible-thumping-CIC, and a like Administration, and that their independent actions have our troops, and local peoples, being slaughtered like sheep, is no reason to lose focus when something as important as "Newsweek abusing the press" pops up.**

No, it is not THOSE things that have the Islamic kingdom enraged, and us at "war", a "religious war" by the way, in case you have missed THAT news, because of the un-holy lying by Newsweek.

**It's all THEIR fault. And Dan Rather's.**

**It wasn't women guards with dog-chains, pointing at naked, stacked pyramids of (proud) Islamic men in prison, that has the Middle East angry.**

**It isn't teenaged children held in complete isolation in prison for YEARS, with no charges, and with no legal representation, that has Islam angry. And it's NOT the funerals of 25,000 children under the age of 10 that have them pissed off.**

**Hell, they have "democracy" and "freedom" now, and many of those still living are being taught what those words mean, as we speak, RIGHT NOW!**

Ha Ha.

**It wasn't using our (loyal) troops as a police-force, instead of a military force, or having them going nation-wide, kicking in every door in Iraq, in support of 30,000 mercenaries now being used in Iraq to protect pipelines and other "vital" interests, that has the locals mad.**

**The pipelines of "life" are important....I mean the pipelines of "freedom"...uhhhh... I mean the pipelines full of "democracy"....yeah, that's the ticket...no.....the pipelines full of "votes". That's even better! I'm sure that's what's in those pipelines. It's votes, yeah. And freedom and democracy....all mixed together, all flowing like a giant Smoothie, or at least they would be, except for the dastardly deeds of Newsweek and Dan Rather. OK, AND those "insurgents".**

"Newsweek" is the WMD! Yeah...that's it! We have found the WMDs, hidden in the pages of "Newsweek"!!! We knew they were somewhere, and it took the "free press" to hide them from us.

**Our troops don't really mind getting blown to hell and back, with nobody safe at any time, in a 125 degree sand-hell...now that we found the WMDs in Newsweek, for goodness sake. VINDICATION and FAULT!**

**Of course, this IS the exact opposite of what CIC-Jr. "Little Dick" Cheney told them...that they would be "greeted as liberators"...He meant to say that they would be "liberated to death, when greeted". All those words get jumbled up in "war". Don't blame "Little Dick".**

**The soldiers really don't mind being used as pawns, with their very presence being the cause of the "insurgency". Who wouldn't want to do what they're doing? They get medals for doing god's work.**

**I was a grunt (infantryman) overseas for three years...so I know our troops don't mind being stuck in a land where they are the enemy...I did the same thing...our troops "dig it", so to speak...or "dig in"...something like that.**

George and Dick would be there in Iraq if they weren't so old. They lived through Viet Nam, for goodness sake...If only they could do more now, like they did back then. Shucks and gee whiz.

**I was in the military the same time as George, and he was so busy that you couldn't find him anywhere. Now THAT's experienced leadership! You could find me anytime...the only time you couldn't find me was when I was AWOL.**

Heck, "Condi" Rice was there in Iraq just the other day, walking around in Fallujah, talking to the locals, and asking them how THEY are enjoying "democracy" and "freedom"...giving "high-fives" all around. At least that's what I heard. Something like that.

**She also asked the locals how they enjoyed having those painless "eye scans" when they enter town....is that high-tech OR WHAT?, she asked. Where else but Fallujah can you get FREE DIGITAL EYE SCANNING? And "we" are doing that at NO CHARGE, because WE LOVE THEM! And of course, it is NOBODY in the current U.S. Administration that all of the Islamic kingdom now HATE.**

No, first Dan Rather says "Bush was AWOL from T.A.N.G." and now Newsweek says "a book was in the toilet" near one of our torture rooms. Dan is the enemy. Newsweek is the enemy. Got it?

How low can the "free press" sink?

**FINALLY we know why we are at "war", and why the Islamic Kingdom is outraged, and tens and tens of thousands are dead....Dan Rather and Newsweek, that's why! It was that low-down, evil, Newsweek magazine....and their incorrect-reports about pages of the Koran being flushed down the toilet at "Gitmo", which has caused the rioting in the entire Middle East, and nothing else.**

I bet that "Gitmo" doesn't even exist. "In some near by (commie) country called Cuba", CBS once reported...yeah, right! That's funny. More press lies, I bet. Where's your story about THAT, Newsweek?

And Rather's accusing GOD's CHOSEN Commander In Chief of being A.W.O.L. last year..... well that is the blasphemy that started it all.

The "rumors" about "oil" in the region are completely false, by the way. If there was oil there, we would see it on TV. All they have over there are pipelines on fire, and stuff like that. And if things were "bad" in Iraq, we would see it on TV channels, with REAL reporters, like Wolf or Geraldo.

**I'm glad we got the TRUTH about the Middle East, finally.**

**So, now that we have identified the problems, the solution is EASY. Hang Dan Rather, and BURN "Newsweek", LEAVE IRAQ, and the problem is solved!**

**Hell, I have just found a way to end the war. I HAVE FOUND A WAY TO END THE KILLING!**

**Hang Dan Rather, burn Newsweek, and BRING THE TROOPS HOME NOW!**

**Sorry Dan, sorry Newsweek, but we had to find a way to STOP THIS "WAR". I have done just that with this revelation/article of TRUTH.**

**I am sooooo excited. No more demonstrating, no more anti-war writing, and 150 less emails a day. Ahhhhhh...PEACE AT LAST. I think I'll go on vacation to our 53rd state. Iraq. First new state since #51 Germany, and #52 Japan. It's funny how there were ZERO casualties in post-war-occupied Germany and Japan, isn't it? Better pack my summer body armor.**

**Damn you Newsweek! Damn you Dan Rather! Thank God the "war" is over!**

**I'm outa here.**

<p><b>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 inside the armed services. Send requests to address up top.</b></p>
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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

# **More Iraqi Families Taken Hostage:**

# Commands' Criminal Violations Of U.S. Army Law Of Land Warfare Continue

[“Certain acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever:” “Taking of hostages.” United States Army, Law of Land Warfare.

[Every member of the United States army, without exception, is required to learn this material, whether in Initial Entry Training, Basic Combat Training, and or Officer Basic Course.

[That means every violation is a knowing, deliberate criminal act, and the officer(s) in command subject to arrest and court-martial. And that goes double for the assholes at the top of the chain of command who know it's being done, and give their explicit approval by overt act or, having guilty knowledge of the crime, fail to act.]

May 16 Egypt Election News

**The American occupation forces resort to the arrest of Iraqi women to have pressure on their husbands or brothers in the resistance to surrender to the occupation after the war machine failed in confronting resistance.**

The “Association of Muslim Scholars” calls the occupation to stop such practices.

**The American occupation forces resorted to the arrest of Iraqi women to force their husbands and brothers to surrender to the occupation**, which is a weapon that no one could imagine that the American occupation forces, with all it possesses of huge military abilities, would resort to. But it actually did resort to it after the war machine failed in confronting the resistance.

On its behalf, the Association of Muslim Scholars, the highest Sunni authority in Iraq has condemned the continuation of the occupation forces' arrest of Iraqi women. It called for ending such practices and refraining from raids and arrests, especially of women.

Yesterday, in its statement, the association said, **“Last Wednesday, the occupation forces, together with National Guard have committed a fatal crime, underestimating the Islamic feelings and the Arab morals of the unarmed Iraqi citizens”**. It added, **“These forces raided the house of Sheikh Mohamed Saleh Al Zakam, in Al Taji region, north of Baghdad, at 1.30 am, upon malicious rumors by some biased persons, with the claim of searching some wanted persons. They arrested him and all in the house of men and women, who were 14 persons.”**

The association clarified, **“The arrested were 7 women, his wife, four daughters and his two daughters in law, in addition to five of his sons and a guest.”**



“The association condemns such criminal acts and calls the occupation forces and the Iraqi government to release the members of the family and all the detained and considers them responsible for the safety and security of the detained, “it pointed out.

“Meanwhile, the association requests to stop such practices and refraining from raids and arrests, especially of women, “it added.

In a separate statement, the association said, **“In the city of Al Ramadi, the American occupation forces arrested the wife of a wanted person, to force him to surrender. Last Thursday, the residents of Al Ramadi went on a demonstration that spread all over the city protesting the arrest of the wife of a wanted person by the American forces, so as to force him to surrender.”**

The statement added, **“Atmospheres of tension has prevailed the city and rage against the occupation forces has filled up all the residents due to such criminal acts and not respecting the feelings of Iraqis,”** the statement added.

The association said, **“Afterwards, the American forces, after making sure of the seriousness of the demonstration and the insistence of demonstrators to achieve their demands, they released the woman.”**

## **So Much For That Sovereignty Bullshit: U.S. Refusing To Return Presidential Palace**

May 19, 2005 Philadelphia Inquirer

A Baghdad landmark building is again facing an uncertain future.

American administrators spent at least \$15 million turning the opulent sandstone structure, shaded by date palms along the western bank of the Tigris River, into a state-of-the-art command center for the rapidly growing Iraqi Defense Ministry.

**Now the Iraqi National Assembly wants it, and the U.S. military is struggling to hang on. [How can that be? Isn't Iraq “sovereign?”]**

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

**DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

# Public Thinks Congress For Shit

May 19, 2005 Wall Street Journal

A new Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll shows that disapproval of Congress's performance is higher than it has been since 1994, the year voters swept Democrats out of power on Capitol Hill. Americans have grown gloomier about the nation's direction, the economy and Iraq, and by 65-to-17 percent they say Congress doesn't share their priorities.

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

## **BUSH VOWS REVENGE AGAINST SITH Bashes Fictitious Foes In Nationally Televised Address**

5.19.05 The Borowitz Report

**Amid reports that the new "Star Wars" film contains not-so-subtle anti-Bush messages, President George W. Bush today took to the national airwaves to vow revenge against the Sith.**

Speaking from the Oval Office in the nationally televised address, the president portrayed the U.S.'s conflict with the Sith as a classic struggle between good and evil.

"Now is the time for all of the nations of the world to ask themselves," the president said. "Are you with us, or are you with the Sith?"

At a time when the U.S. military is considering dozens of base closings across the country, the president's decision to declare a new war, especially one that would presumably take place in outer space, took many by surprise.

**But according to Ret. General Crandall Wheatley of the University of Minnesota's Defense Institute, there may be a method to the president's madness: "At a time when the U.S. military is stretched thin, it may make sense to declare war against a fictitious enemy."**

Furthermore, declaring war against an enemy that it not really there is not completely without precedent in U.S. history, Gen. Wheatley says: "There was the invasion of Iraq, for example."

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## **Received:**

# **“This Is Incredible”**

From: AD, The Military Project  
To: GI Special  
Sent: May 19, 2005 9:34 AM  
Subject: Lawmakers Revisit Debate Over Women in Combat

This is incredible. **[See the story below]**

**You have the Republicans playing the somewhat chivalrous role and Dems saying we can't tie the hands of the military.**

**No arguments about equality (although I don't think anyone should be in combat), how women are already in combat - getting serious injuries and dying in combat.**

**And I doubt receive the same benefits (paid, rank) because technically they are not supposed to be in combat. It's being hidden just like the coffins coming back the states. USA Today did a great story on this a couple of weeks ago.**

Female amputees make clear that all troops are on front lines --  
[http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-04-28-female-amputees-combat\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-04-28-female-amputees-combat_x.htm)

Peace

### **Lawmakers Revisit Debate Over Women in Combat**

(May 19) By LIZ SIDOTI, AP

Women in the military would be barred from serving in direct ground combat roles, under a House bill that sets Defense Department policy and spending plans for the upcoming budget year.

The language would put into law a Pentagon policy from 1994 that prohibits female troops in all four service branches from serving in units below brigade level whose primary mission is direct ground combat.

"Many Americans feel that women in combat or combat support positions is not a bridge we want to cross at this point," said Rep. John McHugh, R-N.Y., who sponsored the amendment.

It also allows the Pentagon to further exclude women from units in other instances, while requiring defense officials to notify Congress when opening up positions to women. The amendment replaced narrower language in the bill that applied only to the Army and banned women from some combat support positions.

Democrats opposed the amendment, saying it would tie the hands of commanders who need flexibility during wartime.

**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 inside the armed services. Send requests to address up top.**

**Web Copies:**

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The following that we know of have also posted issues:  
<http://www.iraq-news.de/>, <http://www.notinourname.net/qi-special/>,  
[www.williambowles.info/qispecial](http://www.williambowles.info/qispecial),  
<http://www.albasrah.net/magalat/english/qi-special.htm>

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