

## **GI SPECIAL 3B77:**

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



The remains of Cpl. Stanley Lapinski of Naples, Fla., Arlington National Cemetery, in Arlington, Va., June 30. Cpl. Lapinski died June 11, when a roadside bomb exploded next to his convoy in Baghdad. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

# **“Hatred For The War Keeps Growing”**

**"This Has To Stop, There Are So  
Many Dying Already," Sister Says:  
Dumont Marine Badly Hurt**

"She was very depressed, and she was having nightmares," Claudia Jimenez said. "Especially Fallujah - you don't sleep, you hear the bombs all night. She always said, 'This is not a war. This is a suicide war.'" And with the recent turn of events, Claudia Jimenez's hatred for the war keeps growing, she said.

**"This has to stop, there are so many dying already," she said. "So many hurt, so many dead. Enough is enough."**

July 1, 2005 By EUNNIE PARK, STAFF WRITER, North Jersey Media Group Inc.

DUMONT - A 20-year-old Marine from Dumont is in critical condition after last week's suicide attack on a convoy of female Marines returning to their base in Iraq, her family said.

Cpl. Angelica Jimenez suffered severe burns to her face and body when the convoy she was riding in was ambushed in Fallujah.

Jimenez is hospitalized in Germany and on a respirator, said Claudia Jimenez, her sister. When she can be taken off the respirator, she will be moved to the burn unit at the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Claudia Jimenez said.

"It's not right," said Claudia Jimenez. "Women shouldn't be in combat, period."

Jimenez joined the Marine Corps after graduating from Dumont High School in 2002. The youngest of eight siblings, Jimenez joined the Marines because she wanted to travel a lot - like her brother Ralph, a staff sergeant, said her sister. She aspired to become a physical therapist later.

The family lived in Dumont for more than 30 years. Jimenez's parents have since moved to Florida, but many still fondly recall the family.

"She was the type of person that anybody would be proud to have as a daughter," said Rich Chiandusse, the high school band director, adding that she is a fine flute player. "There was not a day in the four years that [I had her as a student] that she didn't greet me with a smile."

Jimenez's former supervisor at Holy Name Hospital, where she worked as a part-time dietary aide, describes her as a quiet, bright and goal-oriented woman who had great rapport with everyone in the hospital.

"The patients loved her," said Fontella Scott, the operations manager. "She went the extra mile for them."

Over the past few months, Holy Name has sent several packages to soldiers serving in Fallujah. Upon hearing of Jimenez's injury, the staff also put together a crisis fund for the family.

Jimenez and many of the women who were injured in the bombing trained together at Camp Lejeune, her sister said. They served together in Ramadi, their first stop in Iraq, and had to spend one month in Fallujah. The attack occurred during their second week in Fallujah.

Cpl. Ramona Valdez of the Bronx, who was one of the women killed in the attack, was one of Jimenez's friends, said her sister.

Jimenez's duty was to pat women down at the Fallujah border. Women are used in this role because it is considered insulting to Muslims if a man searches a woman.

Her biggest fear was that she might trigger a bomb while doing her job.

**She was weary of the war and her bright attitude had changed dramatically since arriving in Iraq, her sister said.**

**"She was very depressed, and she was having nightmares," Claudia Jimenez said. "Especially Fallujah - you don't sleep, you hear the bombs all night. She always said, 'This is not a war. This is a suicide war.'"**

**And with the recent turn of events, Claudia Jimenez's hatred for the war keeps growing, she said.**

**"This has to stop, there are so many dying already," she said. "So many hurt, so many dead. Enough is enough."**

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

# **One-Third Increase From Last Year In Rate Of U.S. Troops Being Killed**

6/30/2005 By Rick Jervis, USA TODAY

**BAGHDAD — U.S. military deaths in Iraq increased by about one-third in the past year.**

**At least 882 U.S. troops died in the 12 months through Thursday, up from 657 in the preceding year, according to a USA TODAY analysis of Defense Department numbers.**

The monthly U.S. death tolls increased from 36 in March to 52 in April to 80 in May, according to a USA Today analysis of Defense Department data.

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## **June Is 5th-Deadliest Month For U.S. Troops In Iraq War**

July 1, 2005 Philadelphia Inquirer

June was one of the deadliest months of combat for U.S. troops since the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003. At least 68 U.S. soldiers, Marines and sailors were killed by hostile fire, the fifth-highest monthly total since the war began, according to Iraq Coalition Casualty Count, a Web site that compiles official casualty reports.

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## **GAME OVER: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW!**



U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Anthony Weber, of Columbus, Ohio, walks passed a shuttered storefront during a foot patrol in Hit, 125 miles west of Baghdad July 1. (AP Photo/Jacob Silberberg)

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## **48th Soldier Killed In Iraq Patrol Vehicle Accident**

July 1, 2005 By ANNA VARELA in Atlanta, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**A Georgia Army National Guard soldier was killed in a vehicle accident during a night patrol in Iraq on Thursday, the Waycross Journal-Herald reported Friday.**

**Sgt. Chad Mercer of Waycross was 25. He was a member of 48th Brigade Combat Team's Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 121st Infantry Regiment based out of the Cordele armory. He is survived by his wife, Pam, and three young children.**

Mercer graduated from Ware County High School in 1998.

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## **Local Man Dies**

06/30/2005 BOYS RANCH, KAMR

A hometown hero and Boys Ranch graduate was killed in Iraq Monday. A Boys Ranch spokesman says T.J. Carrillo died Monday during an insurgent attack.

We spoke with Carrillo two years ago after he returned from his first tour of duty. Carrillo said he received support from all over. But he said the Boys Ranch family's love and devotion is what really helped him through.

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## **British Soldier Shoots Himself Dead In Basra**

01/07/2005 Telegraph Group Limited

**A teenage British soldier accidentally shot himself dead at a base in Iraq, the Ministry of Defence has confirmed.**

Signaller Paul William Didsbury, 18, of the Royal Signals, is understood to have discharged his own weapon in an accident at the Basra airport base, close to the southern Iraqi city.

The unmarried soldier is the 89th member of personnel who served in Iraq to die as a result of combat, accident or natural causes and had been on a hand-over, or roulement, tour with the joint helicopter force serving the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force.

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## **Siouxland Soldier Hurt; Loses Both Arms**

06/30/2005 Jolene Loetscher, KTIV

**A Siouxland soldier is in a military hospital after being badly wounded in Iraq. 19-year-old Bart Tucker, of Sioux City, was hurt when a roadside bomb exploded in Baghdad, last Wednesday, June 22nd. He was in a Hum-Vee when the bomb exploded.**

**Tucker lost both his arms in the blast. But, he's back in the states recovering at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C.**

Tucker served with the 3rd Armored Cavalry based in Fort Carson, Colorado. He graduated from Sioux City West High School and has a one-year-old daughter.

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# Olivia Soldier Injured By Bomb; Loses Part Of Left Foot

Jul 1, 2005 (AP)

Olivia, Minn. A National Guard soldier from Olivia, Minn., has contacted his family to let them know he was injured in a bomb explosion in Baghdad.

George Ebbers told his family he lost part of his left foot in Monday's explosion and is recovering in a military hospital in Germany.

Ebbers is with 151st Field Artillery Unit based in Olivia and has been in the guard for seven years.

He told his family that he had just left an Iraqi police station and was approaching his Humvee when the bomb exploded, injuring him and a civilian.

Ebbers is the son of Sue and Gene Ebbers of Olivia and has two sisters and a brother. He told his family that he could be relocated to a military hospital in the United States next week.

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## Six Marines Wounded By Mine In Hit

7/1/2005 HIT, Iraq (AP)

A light armored vehicle struck a mine, injuring six Marines, a company commander said.

The six Marines injured Thursday suffered broken legs and concussions.

Marines have met little resistance in the town. **[That will be news to the six marines fucked up by the mine.]**

**"The enemy looks like they ran away,"** Maj. Steve Lawson, of Columbus Ohio, who commands the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, said. **[You don't think this war is lost? Contemplate a Major in command of a battalion so ignorant about guerrilla warfare and counter-insurgency that he not only draws this silly conclusion, he babbles it to the press.]**

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## Pissing In The Wind

<p><b>"It's been described as the Pillsbury Doughboy phenomenon," Olson said. "You poke hard in one place and cause a ripple effect somewhere else."</b></p>
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Jul. 01, 2005 BY KIRSTEN SCHARNBERG, Chicago Tribune

SINJAR, Iraq - (KRT) - The smuggling route couldn't be more obvious.

The well-worn footpath snakes across the Syrian desert, over a small mound of dirt that serves as the feeble barrier between Iraq and its western neighbor and juts through a wire fence that long ago was slashed to leave a 3-foot gap. The trail then meanders into the Iraqi countryside, toward sun-baked villages that U.S. authorities say are hideouts for Islamic extremists, former members of Saddam Hussein's regime and foreign fighters.

U.S. Army Capt. Eric Fortin shook his head as he surveyed the terrain.

"You need to understand something," he told the dozen Iraqi Border Patrol soldiers gathered around him. "The U.S. forces are currently conducting major operations just south of here, in Al-Anbar province, where the bulk of the foreign fighters and weapons have been coming into Iraq. In the coming weeks, that border will effectively be sealed off. The insurgents are going to be looking for the new weak link in the Iraqi-Syrian border, and we are very afraid it is going to be here."

Yet the Iraqis have many obstacles to overcome.

**Though most smuggling happens after dark, the Iraqi soldiers do not have night-vision goggles. Their forts are so poorly constructed and so widely spaced that they cannot watch most of the border. Each of the forts, spaced about one to four miles apart, has only one large automatic weapon, and most of these are not reliable.**

**On a recent morning, Hector Noriega, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer who recently was brought in to train Iraqi border workers, was skeptical about the possibility of ever sealing the Syrian border.** Some positive steps had been made, such as bringing in technology that remotely X-rays trucks approaching the Rabia checkpoint.

"Look at this place," Noriega said, motioning to the chaotic checkpoint, where people milled over the border freely. "We haven't even begun to deal with teaching them things as advanced as false documents."

Soldiers in Nineveh also worry that if their mission is not synchronized with the Marines in Anbar, it could create a situation in which one region cracks down and the smuggling simply moves to another area. Then a few months later, the situation repeats itself.

**"It's been described as the Pillsbury Doughboy phenomenon," Olson said. "You poke hard in one place and cause a ripple effect somewhere else."**

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

# Bodies From Copter Crash Found; Ground Troops Missing In Action

Jun 30 By David Brunnstrom, Reuters Limited

U.S. forces have recovered the bodies of 16 American troops from a helicopter shot down in Afghanistan but some ground troops were unaccounted for, the Pentagon said on Thursday.

**He said the bodies of all 16 U.S. servicemen who were on board had been recovered, but U.S. forces had not accounted for all the ground troops the helicopter had come to support.**

Earlier the British Broadcasting Corp quoted U.S. military officials as saying that 13 bodies had been recovered from the crash site but seven servicemen, including some who had been fighting on the ground, were unaccounted for.

**The report said some may have been captured.**

**On Wednesday, Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi, whose information has often been unreliable, said the guerrillas killed seven U.S. "spies" in the area before shooting down the helicopter with "a new type of weapon" he did not describe.**

**Lieutenant-Colonel Jerry O'Hara, a U.S. military spokesman in Kabul, said work at the crash site had been hampered by the presence of militants in the area, cloudy weather and mountainous, heavily wooded terrain.**

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## **In The Toilet: "Security Has Been Getting Worse And Worse By The Day"**

July 01, 2005 By Daniel Cooney, Associated Press, KABUL, Afghanistan

**Afghanistan was held up as an example of U.S.-led nation-building just three months ago. But that optimism has succumbed to near-daily ambushes, bombings, execution-style killings and this week's downing of a U.S. military helicopter**

"After the presidential elections last year, everyone was optimistic that we were heading toward a stable, peaceful democracy. But it no longer seems that way," said Malalai Juya, a female candidate in September's upcoming elections.



**“Everyone is scared now. Security has been getting worse and worse by the day.”**

Tuesday’s downing of a special forces helicopter — and the loss of an elite military team still missing Friday — reinforced concerns that while American casualties here are far fewer than in Iraq, the rebellion may be fast becoming a mirror of the insurgency there. **[Once again, for the 4,325<sup>th</sup> time, the death rate for U.S. troops in Afghanistan is *higher* than in Iraq. No wonder nobody trusts the major media. Clueless wonders.]**

Stability also is threatened by a rise in crime, such as gangs kidnapping foreigners in Kabul. Opium and heroin trade is booming and ***resentment is growing toward the presence of U.S. forces, which erupted into deadly riots in May.*** **[Hey, why not tack the important point onto the end of some trivia? The generals will love you for burying the simple fact that the whole country has turned against the U.S. occupation. Which might, just might, have a little something to do with why the whole thing has turned to shit.]**

A purported Taliban spokesman, Mullah Latif Hakimi, who claimed responsibility for shooting down the helicopter this week, vowed rebel attacks will increase.

**“This uprising will rage on until all foreign troops leave Afghanistan. We are going to break the back of these foreign troops,”** he told The Associated Press. “Our fighters are strong and our leader Mullah Omar is in charge.”

In April, the former top U.S. military commander here, Lt. Gen. David Barno, estimated the number of insurgents at 2,000. He also predicted the near-total collapse of the rebel group within a year. **[Maybe his loony bullshit has something to do with why he’s a “former” commander. Unfortunately, it’s more likely he got moved up the career ladder by telling the stupid lies the White House love so well.]**

The rebels have earned the respect of some U.S. troops on the battlefield. Taliban rebels “just keep attacking,” said Jan Mohammed Khan, governor of Uruzgan province.

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## **More U.S. Troops For Afghan Disaster**

July 1, 2005 USA Today

**More U.S. troops could be sent to Afghanistan to secure parts of the country before parliamentary elections planned for September, the chief of operations for the military's Joint Staff said.**

**Marine Lt. Gen. James Conway would not speculate on how many more troops would be involved.**

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## TROOP NEWS

# Bush-Loving Command Scum Punish Soldier For Telling The Truth

**"His crime involved nothing more than expressing his personal political opinion as guaranteed under the Bill of Rights, the very document that he had risked his life defending."**

01 July 2005 By Marjorie Cohn, Truthout Perspective

Charlie C. Carlson II, Command Sergeant-Major USA Ret., also posted on the Military Families Speak Out website. **He wrote: "My son recently returned from the Iraq War, his third war, and, being fed up with Bush lies and back-to-back-deployments, applied to be discharged from his 'indefinite enlistment' status.**

**"Six days later he was under investigation for making 'disloyal comments' about George Bush ... which amounted to saying in general conversation with other soldiers that 'Bush should never have started the war' and 'Bush is no military leader.'"**

Although "his 14 years of military service up to this point was flawless, he was an excellent soldier ... he was demoted and sentenced to 45 days of extra duty.

**"His crime involved nothing more than expressing his personal political opinion as guaranteed under the Bill of Rights, the very document that he had risked his life defending."**

[This is way over the line. Revolutions have been made for less, and rightly so. Example: 1776, when the same kind of Imperial assholes governed the U.S. and had the same kind of contempt for freedom of speech. Revolutionary war to overthrow them is where the Bill of Rights came from. Evidently, their descendents are back in charge. Evidently, the same remedy is called for.]

**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.**

# War And Stop-Loss Midway Through Fiscal Year, Desertions From Army Already Approach Last Year's Total

July 1, 2005 By Lisa Burgess, Stars and Stripes

**ARLINGTON, Va. — Just six months into the government's fiscal year, the Army was carrying almost the same number of deserters on its books as the service registered for all of 2004.**

**War and stop-loss policies, which prevent voluntary separations from the military, are the likely culprits for the increase, according to Army researchers.**

Between Oct. 1, 2004 — the start of fiscal 2005 — and March 30, the Army registered 2,518 desertions, according to figures provided June 28 by an Army spokeswoman, Lt. Col. Pamela Hart.

In all 12 months of fiscal 2004, the total number of Army deserters was 2,723, Hart said.

The apparent rise in Army desertions reverses a reduction in such absences that began soon after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

As far as “deserting from the Iraq war,” Hart pointed out that this is nearly impossible for a soldier in a combat zone. The soldier would have no way of exiting the country, unless they left their uniforms behind and found transport to the border, and few soldiers have the language skills to do this, Hart said. **[Maybe Hart needs a little trip to Iraq, up close and personal, which could help fill the Imperial zero-gravity vacuum between her ears. Huge numbers of Iraqis are fluent in English, Iraq having been part of the British Empire from the end of World War I thru the early 1950's. Get it? *British empire? As in English language? Duh.*]**

“Although there are more desertion cases, I do not believe the raw numbers indicate an epidemic,” Hart wrote. **[That's the *good* news from the Pentagon?]**

**There is another reason for Army desertions to go up, the Army report said: stop loss, the policy that prevents involuntary separations from the military.**

The Army put a “unit” stop loss in place in January 2002 that prevents all soldiers, active and reserve, from leaving the Army not only during their deployments, but for an additional three months after they return to their home stations.

**Desertion “can also increase during times, such as now, when the Army is attempting to restrict the ways that soldiers can exit service through administrative channels,” the report said.**

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# War Profiteer Sold Army Deady Helicopter Warning System; Helps Resistance Shoot Them Down

July 1, 2005 Bloomberg.com

A BAE Systems North America alert system to warn Army helicopter pilots in Iraq and Afghanistan of heat-seeking missiles **is subject to false alarms that trigger decoy flares prematurely and give away chopper locations**, the Army said.

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## IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

### OOPS



Iraqi police in patrol vehicles protest the arrest of the local police chief by the interior ministry in Tikrit June 29, 2005. (Stringer/Iraq/Reuters)

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## Resistance Attack Cuts Off Baghdad Water, Again

July 1, 2005 Mariam Fam, Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A fire broke out today at a power station that supplies a Baghdad waterworks, shutting it down and leaving millions of residents without drinking water, officials said.

Today's fire began at about 7 a.m. local time and it affected the Karkh water station in Tarmiyah, which serves northern and western Baghdad, officials said.

**The water project's director, Jassim Mohammed, said he believed the fire started after insurgents set off a bomb. He said it would take at least three days to get spare parts and repair the damage, which has completely halted all water distribution from the plant.**

**Some complain the water they do get smells bad, and his spokesman, Ameer Ali Hasson, acknowledged in some areas, the water gets mixed with sewage.** "The problem is escalating," said al-Timimi, a Shiite who took office in May 2004.

In addition, Iraq is not able to refine enough oil, so must import gasoline. Convoys carrying fuel are often attacked by insurgents and the ensuing shortage has led to a black market in Baghdad.

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

## **Assorted Resistance Action**

01 July 2005 Agence France Presse & Mariam Fam, Associated Press & (KUNA)

**Two Iraqis were killed and four wounded when guerrillas opened fire on the vehicle of Colonel Shaalan Abdelkhaleq, a senior police chief in Baquba,** hospital and security sources said. He was wounded in the back and neck.

**Attacks in Baghdad, and in and around the restive city of Samarra further north, killed 14 police and soldiers and wounded at least seven,** police and army sources said.

**A roadside bomb struck a police patrol at a checkpoint on Baghdad's outskirts today, wounding two policemen,** 1st Lt. Mohammed al-Hayali said.

**A bomber detonated his car outside the party offices of Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari in Baghdad on Friday, killing one guard and wounding at least one, officials said.** The prime minister was not in the building in Baghdad's Mansour neighborhood at the time, said Ayad al-Nedawi of the Islamic Dawa Party.

He said the bomber detonated the car near a checkpoint about 80 feet from the party's offices, which used to be al-Jaafari's house.

The casualties were armed party members guarding the compound, al-Nedawi said. Following the blast, U.S. troops blocked roads leading to the offices, party officials said.

**Unidentified resistance fighters opened machinegun fire at relative of Iraqi National Security advisor and MP Muwaffaq Al-Rubaye and killed him instantly.**

The Iraqi police said in a statement, this happened last night while Rubaye's relative Ali Taher was at a shop he owns at Amriyah neighborhood, west of here.

**Rubaye was named National Security advisor by head of the dissolved civil administration Paul Bremer in April 2004.**

A journalist for an Iraqi satellite channel escaped an assassination attempt in southern Iraq on Friday, eyewitnesses said.

They told KUNA armed men approached Redha Al-Saedi, a correspondent for Al-Fayha channel while he was leaving his house in Meisan governorate, opened fire and fled the scene.

Al-Saedi was hit by bullets in the leg, they added.

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

# **JULY 2 – ANOTHER NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY “BRING ‘EM ON”**



**Among the exceptions who have not been intimidated by Bush & Co. seem to be veterans themselves and the families of the military. We don't intimidate easily and we do take things very personally. Bush and his cabinet are offensive people, even at a personal level.**

**By Stan Goff**

*Stan Goff is retired from the U.S. Army, where he served with various Special Operations units, and worked in eight conflict areas, beginning with Vietnam.*

**On July 2, 2003, George W. Bush, caught up in his own bluster, uttered the words, "Bring 'em on," in response to a reporter's question about the dismaying frequency of a supposedly vanquished foe in Iraq.**

On that day, only 65 American troops had been killed since May, when George W. Bush was flown onto the deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln to deliver a victory speech, backgrounded by a huge sign that stated, "Mission Accomplished."

A lot has happened since then.

Most significantly, no mission has been accomplished, and the Iraqi resistance apparently accepted his challenge to "Bring 'em on."

Over 1,748 American corpses who used to be fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, grandsons and grand-daughters, nieces and nephews, friends and neighbors, have been flown out of Iraq.

Most estimates are that more than 15,000 Americans have been wounded, many severely.

And the human cost for Iraqis themselves – death, grief, and pain – is currently incalculable but certainly measured in the hundreds of thousands.

**It's easy to talk trash from the White House, where its chief resident has attended one funeral while in office – that of the Pope. No dead soldier's family has had him cross its threshold.**

No one seems inclined to get publicly personal about the President these days. This is a mean, punitive administration, as even its former employees can attest, like Valerie Plame and Paul O'Neill. Many people are intimidated by Bush's vile-tempered coterie, for which John Bolton has almost become a proud icon – though they refer to this kind of viciousness as "strength." Nasty, catty bureaucrats, who kiss-up and kick-down.

**Among the exceptions who have not been intimidated by Bush & Co. seem to be veterans themselves and the families of the military. We don't intimidate easily and we do take things very personally. Bush and his cabinet are offensive people, even at a personal level.**

We are offended by the schoolyard challenge of “Bring ‘em on,” and we grow more offended with each passing day.

**During his publicity stunt at Fort Bragg earlier this week, some of us gathered to call out the names of the dead, and while he said – again from the comfort and security of his presidential office and his privileged private-school upbringing – “We have to stay the course,” a different “we” gave 1,744 names to “the course,” and wondered aloud why anyone would want to stay on it.**

**A former military police Sergeant who served in Iraq, Kelly Dougherty, was asked what she thought about staying the course, and she said, “Staying the course when you are driving home is a fine idea. Staying the course when you are on a runaway train seems like a very bad idea.” She is now a member of a growing organization called Iraq Veterans Against the War.**

The Downing Street memos are just the latest in a trail of evidence (for those who didn’t already know) showing that this administration was bent on the conquest of Iraq – not to destroy weapons or liberate anyone, but to plant permanent bases there – while Bush was still telling the public he’d made no such decision.

But the other evidence is that they were planning it even before they came into office, and that September 11 was just the “Pearl Harbor” they needed to put their plans on fast track.

**The notion that a group this cynical can be compelled to transform the occupation of Iraq into anything except what it is – a mission of bald conquest and a catalyst for social disorder and civil war – is the expectation that a pig will lose its appetite for table scraps.**

Most Iraqis, responding to independent polls, have said that the occupation is the biggest cause of the violence that wracks Iraq, and that they want to see the occupation ended immediately

Many veterans and military families now agree.

**On the anniversary of that offensive remark, “Bring ‘em on,” we say again – and say it clearly – Bring Them Home Now!**

*Stan Goff is retired from the U.S. Army, where he served with various Special Operations units, and worked in eight conflict areas, beginning with Vietnam.*

*He is the author of *Hideous Dream – A Soldier’s Memoir of the US Invasion of Haiti* (Soft Skull Press, 2000), *Full Spectrum Disorder – The Military in the New American Century* (Soft Skull Press, 2004), and *Sex & War* (to be released February 2006, Soft Skull Press). He is a member of Veterans for Peace and Military Families Speak Out, and a consultant with Iraq Veterans Against the War ([www.ivaw.net](http://www.ivaw.net)).*

*He is on the coordinating committee of the Bring Them Home Now! Campaign, [www.bringthemhomenow.org](http://www.bringthemhomenow.org).*

**MORE:**



# **New Zogby Poll: Bush War Speech Flops; Approval Rating Drops**

June 30, 2005 Zogby.com

**Just one week ago, President Bush's job approval stood at a previous low of 44%—but it has now slipped another point to 43%, despite a speech to the nation intended to build support for the Administration and the ongoing Iraq War effort.**

**And, in a sign of continuing polarization, more than two-in-five voters (42%) say they would favor impeachment proceedings if it is found the President misled the nation about his reasons for going to war with Iraq.**

**[We may have reached that magic moment where, when he talks about the war, he loses support, and when he doesn't talk about the war, he loses support.]**

**MORE:**

## **Ft. Bragg Troops Give Bush "Stony, Untelegenic Silence"**

June 30, 2005 By Paul Rogat Loeb, Tomdispatch.com

**Speaking this week at Fort Bragg, the President was, as many have noted, greeted by the troops with a "stony, untelegenic silence," except once when a presidential staffer evidently prompted them to give him an ovation.**

<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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## **Same Old Same-Old**



July 1, 2005 Derrick Z. Jackson, Boston Globe,

**At Fort Bragg, in front of soldiers and their generals, the president of the United States said, "Terrorists can strike and can kill without warning before the forces of order can throw them back. And now he has struck again. At this very hour, a second wave of terrorists is striking the cities. Our forces are ready. I know they will acquit themselves, as they always have, however tough the battle becomes. There has never been a finer fighting force wearing the American uniform than you."**

**The president reasserted that each soldier represents America's will and commitment at a time that our nation's security and the freedom of an oppressed nation "is facing a deadly challenge. Men who have never been elected to anything are threatening an elected government and the painfully achieved institutions of democracy."**

***This was not this week. This was not President Bush at Fort Bragg. It was 37 years ago. This was President Johnson.***

On the weekend of Feb. 17-18, 1968, Johnson went to Fort Bragg, N.C., the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in California, and the flight deck of the USS Constellation.

It was the time of the Tet Offensive, the bloody turning point when tens of thousands of North Vietnamese and Viet Cong soldiers and American support for the bloodshed were simultaneously wiped out. Just a month and a half later, Johnson admitted personal defeat by saying he was deescalating the bombing and not running for reelection.

But in January and February, Johnson spoke as Bush did this week, rattling off successes in the face of rising dissent. Bush bragged about restoring sovereignty to the Iraqi people, the voting of 8 million people in free and fair elections, and the victories of new Iraqi soldiers.

**This was virtually no different than when Johnson said in his State of the Union Message on Jan. 17, 1968 -- again, only two and a half months before his resignation -- "Three elections have been held in Vietnam in the midst of war and**

under the constant threat of violence. A president, a vice president, a House and Senate, and village officials have been chosen by popular, contest ballot. The enemy has been defeated in battle after battle."

Just as noteworthy was how Bush tried to correct the image of chaos in Iraq with claims of clarity. "Our mission is clear. We are hunting down the terrorists," Bush said, even as soldiers grumble that the mission is aimless and Vice President Dick Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld cannot make up their minds whether we are seeing the last throes of the insurgency or face a full decade of massive involvement.

Johnson used the same tactic in his 1968 Fort Bragg speech, saying, "The enemy's answer is clear. . . . Our answer, your answer, must be just as clear: unswerving resolution to resist these ruthless attacks." Later that day at El Toro, Johnson added, "We do not doubt the outcome." The next day on the Constellation, Johnson said, "Quite obviously, the enemy believes -- he thinks -- that our will is vulnerable. Quite clearly, the enemy hopes he can break that will. And quite certainly, we know that the enemy is going to fail."

Two weeks before his visit to Fort Bragg, El Toro, and the Constellation, Johnson was asked by a reporter if the "present rampage" in South Vietnam gave him "any reason to change any assessment" about the war. Johnson answered, "So far as changing our basic strategy, the answer would be no."

In his turn at Fort Bragg, Bush needed no reporter to ask him if there was a reason to change his strategy. He said, "The progress in the past year has been significant, and we have a clear path forward."

The clear path is so much like Johnson's it betrays how deep we are in the fog of war.

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## **“In Death They Are Both Joined In Solidarity”**

July 1, 2005 Felicity Arbuthnot, GlobalResearch.ca

'The sacrifice' is worth it, bragged the bragger, who makes none, attends no funerals and directs that coffins of America's fallen not be photographed, their passing unmarked, unhonoured, except by their own. Their final departure is as invisible as Iraq's sons and daughters. In death they are both joined in solidarity by the lies and betrayal of the world's most powerful nation and the 'coalition' of the coerced.

As Americans celebrate Independence Day, it may be apt to reflect how that independence was won. It was from defeating occupying forces, fighting for freedom, for 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness', just as Iraqis are doing.

Were those who won America 'terrorists', 'insurgents'?

There are, however, 160,000 of the latter on Iraqi soil. Iraqis fighters are largely resistance fighters who want their country and its assets back and as Americas two hundred years ago, are prepared to die for that end.

**Troops are being sold a further lie - that Iraq's army, police, people, are too backward, primitive, stupid, inept, to manage their own affairs and thus troops must remain.**

Two years ago the world was told Iraq's people were so sophisticated that their military and their expertise threatened the entire planet.

### **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))

## **“To Die In Wars Of Empire And Dominion”**

June 30, 2005 By Paul Rogat Loeb, Tomdispatch.com

**If those who die for a worthy cause are indeed heroes to be honored, those who send our brave young men and women to die in wars of empire and dominion squander their courage, their trust, and ultimately their lives.**

**To use their losses to justify further needless deaths is to betray the best of what the soldiers enlist to protect. For not all of America's wars have been worth dying in, nor are those we now fight.**

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## **HISTORY OF THE AIRPLANE**

Lawrence Ferlinghetti, 2001 City Lights Books

And the Wright brothers said they thought they had invented something that could make peace on earth  
(if the wrong brothers didn't get hold of it)

when their wonderful flying machine took off at Kitty Hawk  
into the kingdom of birds but the parliament of birds was freaked out  
by this man-made bird and fled to heaven

And then the famous Spirit of Saint Louis took off eastward and  
flew across the Big Pond with Lindy at the controls in his leather  
helmet and goggles hoping to sight the doves of peace but he did not  
Even though he circled Versailles

And then the famous Yankee Clipper took off in the opposite  
direction and flew across the terrific Pacific but the pacific doves  
were frightened by this strange amphibious bird and hid in the orient sky

And then the famous Flying Fortress took off bristling with guns  
and testosterone to make the world safe for peace and capitalism  
but the birds of peace were nowhere to be found before or after Hiroshima

And so then clever men built bigger and faster flying machines and  
these great man-made birds with jet plumage flew higher than any  
real birds and seemed about to fly into the sun and melt their wings  
and like Icarus crash to earth

And the Wright brothers were long forgotten in the high-flying  
bombers that now began to visit their blessings on various Third  
Worlds all the while claiming they were searching for doves of  
peace

And they kept flying and flying until they flew right into the 21st  
century and then one fine day a Third World struck back and  
stormed the great planes and flew them straight into the beating  
heart of Skyscraper America where there were no aviaries and no  
parliaments of doves and in a blinding flash America became a part  
of the scorched earth of the world

And a wind of ashes blows across the land  
And for one long moment in eternity  
There is chaos and despair

And buried loves and voices  
Cries and whispers  
Fill the air  
Everywhere

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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

***“Rabid, Man-Eating Bunnies”***

# The Bush Speech: A View From Baghdad

July 1, 2005 Riverbend, Baghdad Burning

Not only can they not find WMD in Iraq,” I commented to E. as we listened to the Bush speech, “But they have disappeared from his speeches too!” I was listening to the voiceover on Arabiya, translating his speech to Arabic. He was recycling bits and pieces of various speeches he used over two years.

**He was trying, throughout the speech, to paint a rosy picture of the situation. According to him, Iraq was flourishing under the occupation. In Bush’s Iraq, there is reconstruction, there is freedom (in spite of an occupation) and there is democracy.**

“He’s describing a different country...” I commented to E. and the cousin.

“Yes,” E. replied. “He’s talking about the *\*other\** Iraq... the one with the WMD.”

“So what’s the occasion? Why’s the idiot giving a speech anyway?” The cousin asked, staring at the ceiling fan clicking away above. I reminded him it was the year anniversary marking the mythical handover of power to Allawi’s Vichy government.

**Bush said:**

***“The new Iraqi security forces are proving their courage every day.”***

Indeed they are.

**The forte of the new Iraqi National Guard?**

**Raids and mass detentions. hey have been learning well from the coalition.**

**They sweep into areas, kick down doors, steal money, valuables, harass the females in the household and detain the men. The Iraqi security forces are so effective that a few weeks ago, they managed to kill a high-ranking police major in Falluja when he ran a red light, shooting him in the head as his car drove away.**

**He kept babbling about a “free Iraq” but he mentioned nothing about when the American forces might actually depart and the occupation would end, leaving a “free Iraq”.**

Why aren’t the Americans setting a timetable for withdrawal? Iraqis are constantly wondering why nothing is being done to accelerate the end of the occupation.

Do the Americans continue to believe such speeches? I couldn’t help but wonder.

“They’ll believe anything.” E. sighed. “No matter what sort of absurdity they are fed, they’ll believe it. Think up the most outrageous lie... They have people who’ll believe it.”

The cousin sat up at this, his interest piqued. “The most outrageous lie? How about that Iraq was amassing aliens from Mareekh (Mars) and training them in the battle art of kung-fu to attack America in 2010!”

“They’d believe it.” E. nodded in the affirmative. “Or that Iraq was developing a mutant breed of rabid, man-eating bunnies to unleash upon the Western world. They’d believe that too.”

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## ANOTHER MURDER BY OCCUPATION TERRORISTS



A mourner holds a pistol during the funeral of Iraqi police officer Lieutenant Anmar Yassin Salman in Baghdad July 1, 2005. REUTERS/Thaier Al-Sudani

**Anmar Yassin Salman was arrested with his brother by the Wolf brigade and died in custody, his family said.**

**Bashar Yassin Salman, brother of the dead police officer, said that he and his brother were placed in a room with hundreds of other detainees and tortured without being accused of any crime.**

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## Iraq UN Ambassador Accuses U.S. Troops Of “Cold-Blooded Murder”

02jul05 Advertiser Newspapers Pty Limited

**IRAQ'S UN ambassador today accused US marines of firing at and killing his cousin in cold blood during a house raid near the western town of Haditha on June 25.**

Ambassador Samir Sumaidaie, a supporter of the United States, said Mohammed al-Sumaidaie, the son of his first cousin, was shot by marines during a raid at his father's house in the village of Al-Shaikh Hadid, near a US military base at the Haditha Dam.

**"All indications point to a killing of an unarmed innocent civilian - a cold-blooded murder," Mr Sumaidaie said.**

He called for an investigation into the killing, saying outrage over the incident could jeopardise public support for the US-led reconstruction of Iraq.

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



[Thanks to Z who sent this in.]

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**Received:**

**“A TY For Your Comments!”**

From: L, Military Family  
To: GI Special  
Sent: July 01, 2005  
Subject: Thomas, a TY for Your Comments!

Thank you Thomas! Amen.



**You said it and I agree and have had some experiences with exactly this kind of thing in the work I do as military family speaking out.**

**Alliances with other peace and activist groups is needful, but this kind of moralizing isn't.....countering with some factual truths helps dispel the moralizing. And you said something that needs to be said.**

Respect to you.

L

**Quoting; From GI Special 3B76 [Here L adds the comment she refers to, which ran at the end of an article from Army Times written by a soldier who unintentionally wounded a child in Iraq during a combat situation, and who deeply regretted it.]**

### **Comment:**

**The point?**

**If you're looking for people to blame for the endless evil shit that happens in Iraq in this dishonorable Imperial war, blame the politicians that put troops like the Staff Sgt. downrange, in an impossible situation.**

**Everything flows from the act of invasion and conquest ordered up by the greedy Imperial liars and traitors in Washington DC. The enemy isn't in Iraq.**

**And the enemy is not Staff Sgt. Derek A. Kitts.**

**The man who wrote this is a decent, honorable man. People who shit on and sneer at troops like this, call them ugly names, and blame them for what happens in Iraq might as well be paid agents of George Bush. They're doing his work for him.**

**People who demand that troops stand up in formation and earn a ticket to military prison by denouncing the war and throwing down their weapon might as well be paid agents of George Bush. They're doing his work for him too.**

**Not only are they cowards, standing safety on the sidelines telling somebody else to do a Kamikaze; even worse, if they had their way, every organizer inside the armed forces would be IDd and arrested in a heartbeat. Brilliant way to stop a war.**

**More and more troops are turning against the war. Instead of snotty moralizing about what bad things they do, they need a helping hand.**

**You want something to support, support the GI resistance. It's alive and well.**

**Quit making excuses about how busy you are with "more important" things, get off your ass, and go find some active duty, guard or reserve troops to listen to, talk with about what you think, and learn from, provided you leave the condescending preachy "look how political I am" bullshit at home. Assuming you**

have some sane, responsible associates who don't babble endless stale rhetoric at anybody that comes within range, bring them along.

**REPLY TO L:**

Most people get it, some are clueless, and some derive twisted satisfaction from their sense of moral superiority to the troops on the ground.

We're miles ahead of Vietnam in one respect: military families like yours were few and far between back then, and we're miles ahead in another respect also: there are lots of people against the war who understand that if you want to stop a war, reaching out and giving support to anti-war troops is the most effective way to do that.

Those who practice what Jeff Sharlet of *Vietnam GI* taught, "Love the soldier, hate the war," and who reach out to the troops with love and understanding, are the people who will make a difference.

It's military families like yours who have earned the respect, by your courage and sacrifices, on a very hard road.

T

**Web Copies:**

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

The following that we know of have also posted issues:

<http://qi-special.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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