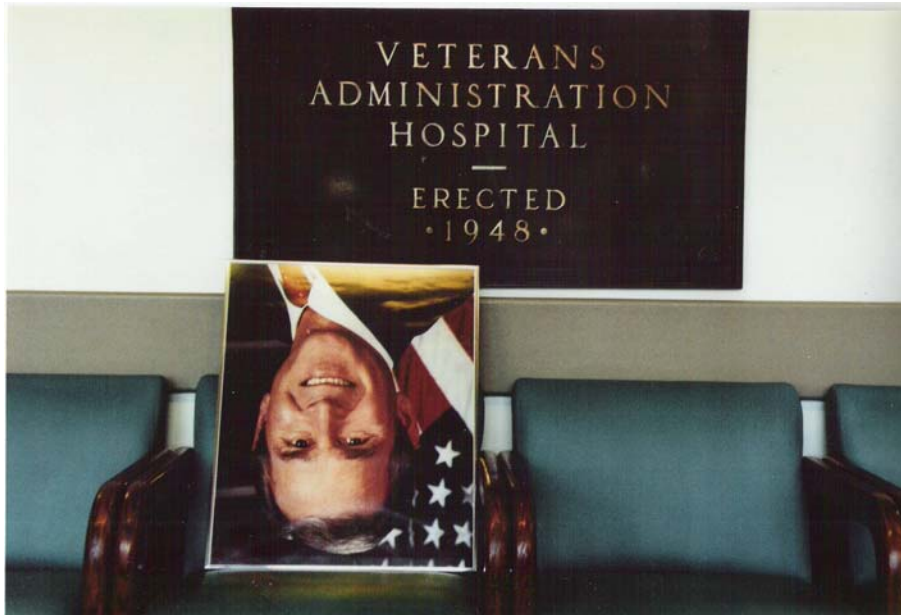


GI SPECIAL 3C1:



V.A. Hospital, Spokane, Washington

Bush's Score Card Tally 7.24.05

<i>American Soldiers Killed In Iraq</i>	<i>1,777</i>
<i>American Soldiers Wounded In Iraq</i>	<i>13,189</i>

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Two Minutes Of Hell

From: K
To: GI Special
Sent: July 24, 2005

This is a pretty amazing flash chart.

Shortcut to: <http://www.obleek.com/iraq/> [Press the red button. Check upper right.]

Solidarity, K

Balad Mortar Attacks Kills One U.S. Soldier, Two Wounded

7.25.04 By SAMEER N. YACOUB, Associated Press Writer

One U.S. soldier was killed and two were wounded in a mortar attack near Balad north of Baghdad, the U.S. military said. The soldiers were assigned to Task Force Liberty.

Marine Killed By Explosive Device Near Ar Rutbah

July 24, 2005 MNF-iraq Release A050724b

CAMP FALLUJAH , Iraq

A Marine assigned to Regimental Combat Team-2, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), was killed in action July 23 when the vehicle he was in was struck by an improvised explosive device.

The incident occurred during combat operations near Ar Rutbah, Iraq .

Two Humvees Destroyed By Ramadi IEDs; Casualties Not Yet Announced

July 24 (Xinhuanet)

Insurgents blew up two roadside bombs in Iraq's flash point western city of Ramadi on Sunday, destroying two US Humvees and causing some casualties, witnesses said.

"A roadside bomb detonated at 8:00 a.m. (0400 GMT) as a US patrol was passing by in the Hasiyba al-Sharqiya area in eastern Ramadi, destroying a Humvee, killing and injuring the soldiers aboard," resident Hindi Muhmoud al-Dulaimi told Xinhua.

"Shortly after, another US patrol was hit by a roadside bomb as it was rushing to the scene for rescue work. Another Humvee was destroyed," Dulaimi said.

It was not clear whether there was any casualty among US soldiers in the second bomb attack, he added.

US troops cordoned off the area and searched for suspects, Dulaimi said.

FALLUJAH UNDER SIEGE AGAIN: “A Group Of Guerrillas Has Established Itself In The City”

20 July (AKI)

US and Iraqi troops have launched another offensive on the city of Fallujah in the volatile Anbar province in western Iraq.

US military leaders believe a group of guerrillas has established itself in the city once more, taking advantage of the last few months of relative calm.

News of the new operation comes from aid workers from the Italian Solidarity Consortium (ICS) in Iraq, who are carrying out monitoring and humanitarian assistance programmes in the area to help the many citizens displaced by the last military offensive on the city, which began in November last year.

In the last few days there have been a number of explosions in Fallujah, a statement from the ICS aid workers says, and the multinational force has closed the city, to comb it house by house.

This has sparked another mass exodus of civilians. Hundreds of families have already abandoned the city, they report, "further worsening the humanitarian emergency."

ICS director Rosita Viola, commenting on the latest news from her workers said: "At the moment in the governorate of Anbar, around 30,000 people are homeless, in a state of total poverty."

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)

**NOT GOOD:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW**



Iraqi and US soldiers along with dozens of locals search for victims in the wreckage of a truck bomber outside of the Rashad police station July 24, 2005, in the eastern neighborhood of Mashtal, Baghdad. A car bomber driving a truck loaded with explosives slammed into the Baghdad police station killing at least 20 people and wounding another 30, police said. (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

Wounded In Action In Iraq: A Chicago Soldier's Story

July 24, 2005 BY MARK BROWN, The Sun-Times Company COLUMNIST

Brian Boers, a 23-year-old Army private from Mayfair Park on the Northwest Side, was wounded in Iraq the week before last. Boers wrote about the incident in a letter to his family. His mother, Dawn, showed it to a friend, who showed it to a friend, who wondered if I'd be interested.

Boers, who is married with no children, joined the Army a year and a half ago. He's with the 3rd Infantry, stationed in a town north of Baghdad. The letter has been slightly edited for space and, at his request, to remove the names of his fellow soldiers.

It's just one soldier's story. There's no political agenda here. Make of it what you will.

"Hi all. I am fine. I'm recuperating here at a base with a swimming pool, movie theater and all kinds of stuff I am not used to.

"On July 12 about 11 a.m., we were doing a PR type mission at a grade school in the heart of the city. I was outside against a wall pulling security on the northern perimeter. Kids were passing by with the common "hello, mista, give me football, mista."

We heard shots snapping above us that sounded like they were coming from the northwest but we had just seen a few Iraqi Army vehicles in that area, so we did not engage.

"After about an hour, we were getting ready to load up in the Bradleys when we took direct small arms fire from the north. I have been carrying the M249 SAW (squad automatic weapon, a belt-fed light machine-gun) for the past week, and when I heard it, I fired in the direction that it was coming for a minute straight.

"We did what we always do when we take contact: we began to maneuver on the enemy on foot. We chose not to move through the intersection but through a large building and an alleyway. My squad leader blew the lock on the door to the building with his shotgun and we moved through it and out to the alley where we began moving closer to the insurgents.

"We were taking fire as we maneuvered, and I opened up with the SAW several times. At one point one of our PFCs spotted two men with weapons and began shooting at them.

"As we moved up a street with little cover, the insurgent stepped around the corner about 75 meters to our north and fired a good burst from his hip with an AK-47. Rounds were snapping past and hitting the wall and ground all around us, kicking up dust at our feet just like in a Rambo movie.

"I felt a sharp burning pain just above my Achilles tendon on the back of my leg and looked down to see a hole in my boot. I yelled 'I'm hit! Holy \$h%# I'm hit!!'

"My platoon leader yelled, 'We need to take this house right here,' and pointed to a gate on the east side of the street. I'm not sure what I was thinking at the time but I was closest to the gate so I kicked it in with the leg that wasn't hit, limped inside and collapsed. I think it was sheer adrenaline pumping through my veins that kept me on my feet and gave me the strength to kick in a steel gate after being shot.

"I then yelled out, 'somebody get the SAW up, pick up the SAW!!' Whenever the SAW gunner goes down, someone carrying an M-4 or M-16 is supposed to pick it up because it is the most powerful weapon in a fire team. My squad leader called up to our Platoon Sergeant and told him we had a casualty.

"As two of our Bradleys came to pick me up with our platoon's medic, they rolled through the traffic circle where 1st platoon had been hit by an IED about a week earlier.

"As the Staff Sergeant's Bradley rolled through, an IED went off right next to his vehicle. He was sticking out of the turret and was knocked out by the concussion of the blast but took no shrapnel. A PFC was treating my leg at the time, and the IED was very close to us when it went off, so he lay on top of me to protect me from falling debris and shrapnel that was falling all around us.

"Finally, the track with our medic pulled up at the back gate to get me out of there and back to the patrol base where I could be Medevac'd. I was in pain; it felt like my leg had been badly burned. When we got to the forward base, they carried me to the aid station where they looked at my wound and gave me morphine.

"My Platoon leader came to talk to me and said, 'Hey Boers, you did an awesome job out there today, but next time you get shot you're supposed to fall down, not kick doors down.' I laughed and said, 'I'll try to remember that, Sir.'

"I was then taken to a hospital via a Blackhawk helicopter. They brought me into the ER, gave me more morphine, took x-rays and said no fragments were in my leg. They called it a 'deep graze.'

"The next morning they put me under for surgery. They said there is a pocket under the stitches where muscle once was, but that I will heal 100% within a month or two. All in all I am fine and my morale is high. They took very good care of me. I've only got a few more months here so be prepared for a party when I get back stateside."

His mother wants you to know she is very proud of him.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Attack; One Other American Wounded

The death of the soldier brought to at least 36 the number of U.S. troops killed in combat this year, the bloodiest period for U.S. forces since they overthrew the Taliban in 2001.

July 24, 2005 Reuters Limited & By DANIEL COONEY, Associated Press Writer

KABUL, Afghanistan - A U.S. soldier was killed and another wounded in an attack by suspected Taliban guerrillas in southern Afghanistan on Sunday, the latest American casualties in a surge of militant violence ahead of September elections.

At least one militant was also killed and two wounded in the clash near the town of Giriskh in Helmand province, Lt. Col. Jerry O'Hara said, adding that an Afghan interpreter for U.S. forces was wounded.

U.S. troops called in air support against a group of up to 20 militants involved in the attack, O'Hara said.

"The enemy fled to the compound and we bombed them. We do not know of any casualties and the operation is going on," he said.

The death of the soldier brought to at least 36 the number of U.S. troops killed in combat this year, the bloodiest period for U.S. forces since they overthrew the Taliban in 2001.

In another incident early on Sunday, suspected Taliban guerrillas blew up a Western-funded hospital Maiwand district of Kandahar province to the north of Spin Boldak, injuring one person, police said.

Taliban officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Suspected rebels fatally shot a district judge in southern Kandahar province Saturday, a day after militants killed a local administrator in the same area. Two Afghan election workers were kidnapped by unidentified assailants in northeastern Nuristan province Friday, but released unharmed the next day, officials said.

U.S. Troops Role In Afghanistan? Dying To Protect Drug Dealers

July 20, 2005 Doug Lorimer, Green Left Weekly

Pierre-Arnaud Chouvy, a research fellow at France's National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) specialising in the geopolitics of illicit drugs with a particular focus on Asia, has pointed out that opium is produced in the areas of Afghanistan that are under the control of local warlords who are unofficial allies of the US occupiers in their war against the remnants of the Taliban regime and al Qaeda.

Writing in the March 25 Terrorism Monitor, Chouvy noted that "Even more official allies of the US 'war on terrorism' also seem to be engaged in, or benefiting from, the drug economy.

"Indeed, as was testified under oath on March 20, 2003, by Wendy Chamberlin, the former US ambassador to Pakistan, before the International Relations Committee's Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, involvement by the ISI in opium trafficking across the Afghanistan-Pakistan border has been 'substantial' over the last six years." (The ISI is the Pakistani military's Inter-Service Intelligence directorate.)

Chouvy pointed out that during the US covert war against the PDPA government and its Soviet ally, the Afghan warlords "received most of the funds supplied by the CIA (and matched by Saudi Arabia) through the ISI, whose National Logistics Cell trucks delivered weapons to Afghanistan and brought opium back to Pakistan".

The Afghan Resistance;

“It Has Nothing To Do Now With Bringing The Taliban Back To Power”

July 24, 2005 Anti-Allawi-group

Che-Leila Interview with Mohamed Hassan Part 2: On Afghanistan

Che-Leila member Takawira interviews Ethiopian Marxist intellectual Mohamed Hassan

Taka: If we can touch upon the situation in Afghanistan. Recently the Afghan forces wanting to liberate their country from the imperialist occupation have increased the number of attacks, the successfulness of their attack.

MH: Yes.

Taka: These are organisations appear to be linked or allied to the Taliban. But also there seems to be developing a wider national liberation movement than just the Taliban.

MH: The resistance in Afghanistan is a combination of the old Taliban and the old mujahideen and nationalist elements.

Taka: There are nationalist elements too?

MH: Yes, they are all based on nationalism. It has nothing to do now with bringing the Taliban back to power.

Taka: It has even been reported in the imperialist press that nationalist elements aside from the Taliban are fighting. There was even a prison escape by two communists recently there.

MH: Yes. There are nationalist elements; even old Maoists are involved in all this. Of course the press doesn't make a serious analysis of Afghanistan.

What happened is that after they have overthrown the Taliban, exactly as in Iraq they came to occupy the country with their protégés.

On the one side they have the Tajiks' Masud, on the other side they have the small group around Dostum and they also have Ismail Khan of the area of Herat. They are all warlords.

The Tajiks, Ismail Khan and Dostum, they survived all this time while the Taliban controlled over eighty percent of the country; they survived by the logistic and financial support of Iran and Russia.

Just after the Taliban took over Kabul they killed six Iranian diplomats. The Iranians believed that the Wahabbists influenced the Taliban. Osama and Zwahiri was not there when the Taliban took power, he came later so you cannot connect him to them at that

time. Anyway, the Iranians and the Russians tried to keep the balance in the country and they subsidized these three warlords.

After September 11th when the US was bombarding the country they utilised these three warlords by giving them weapons with the indirect support of Russia.

US said especially to the Masud group, not to march on Kabul, but they did and killed all the people they wanted to by saying they are all Taliban. You might remember that massacre.

This shifted the balance of power in the country. All these groups, aside from the Taliban, are minorities in the country and they cannot rule as a minority in power in Kabul while there is no serious participation of the majority Pashtun who make up more than fifty percent of the country's population.

So the Pashtuns were not represented, and the US put in their puppet Karzai and others into power that have no serious mass base.

The first conflict started with the old King in Italy when he established his loya jirga, the shura, which means a parliament. The King wanted to be a candidate for the Afghan presidency. The US intervened with their ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, who is now their man in Iraq, a special envoy for the US who is of Afghani Pashtun origin.

So what made all the other groups unify is the marginalisation of the Pashtuns.

Secondly the Pashtuns want an independent Afghanistan, they don't want to be dependent on any imperialist country, at least independent in a visible sense. All the forces that were marginalized are now joining the resistance.

Afghani people have a good quality of resistance. Their resistance character and sense of independence is very strong.

They have also had a lot of experience in resistance.

They have had the Soviet experience and then the civil war.

They can fight easily, and have the weapons and experience. I don't think the Taliban are fighting alone, the local religious chiefs and tribal chiefs are involved too.

The way the US Imperialist soldiers are behaving in the country has itself contributed to a lot of frustration along the masses.

The resistance can even develop into a nation wide resistance gradually. Maybe others will join.

French Imperial Government Wants Occupation Military Command In Central Afghanistan

July 21, 2005 Michele Alliot-Marie, Wall Street Journal

On the eve of her visit to Kabul, France's defense minister reiterates that Paris remains committed to the stabilization and reconstruction of Afghanistan and has proposed that France assume command this fall of the occupation in the central part of the country, for which it already has major responsibility.

TROOP NEWS

Stressed US Troops In Iraq Turning To Drugs

[Thanks to DB, who sent this in.]

23/07/2005 By Thomas Harding in Baghdad, Telegraph Group Limited

Two years into the occupation of Iraq the menace of drug abuse appears to be afflicting American troops.

Aware of the debilitating effect drugs had on the morale and effectiveness of GIs in the Vietnam War, the authorities are attempting to stifle a repeat in Iraq.

Aside from random urine tests and barrack room searches, commanders have asked their troops to inform on colleagues.

In the past month a soldier has been arrested for selling cocaine and two per cent of the troops from one brigade have been charged with drug and alcohol abuse.

According to US army figures, out of the 4,000 men of the 256th Brigade Combat Team, 53 faced alcohol-related charges and 48 were charged with drug offences.

Since the overthrow of Saddam's regime the borders that have been so porous for insurgents have been equally open for heroin and hash smugglers from Afghanistan and Iran providing a cheap market for troops.

With colleagues being killed or wounded on a daily basis, some US soldiers have turned to drugs to escape the horrors of fighting insurgents.

In one case, according to Stars and Stripes, the in-house US forces newspaper, Sgt Michael Boudreaux was found with drugs, four bottles of whiskey and 22 videos of Iraqi pornography. **He received a seven month confinement, was demoted to private and given a bad conduct discharge.** [In that's an appropriate punishment for what he had in his possession, the average Congressperson ought to get about 700 years.]

In another case, Pte Emily Hamilton told a court martial that she used a hashish pipe belonging to a colleague because "it helped me go right to sleep". She was given a year's confinement and a bad conduct discharge. [One year? For that? Rebellion is in order.]

"Some of these young soldiers just can't handle the stress," said Capt Christopher Krafchek, a military defence lawyer.

The majority of drug-users are in their teens or early 20s, and sometimes get their drugs from local Iraqis while on patrol in Baghdad.

Troops caught in possession of illegal substances are either jailed, demoted or discharged from the forces.

How many times do you want to hear "Flowers of the Forest"?

Why not try "Green Fields of France" by Eric Bogle?

**BORED ON BENEFITS?
NO MONEY FOR A HOLIDAY?**

Who cares? London doesn't. The Union may not make your life great but it needs you for something else. 27% of Scots mobilised in World War 1 were killed compared to 12% for the UK. In World War 2 Scots were a third of the UK's dead and in Korea one in four. Forget all that because after taking orders from London you can now "enjoy" the experience of taking orders from Washington. Call below for more info or take back control of Scottish troops from London Regimental cost-cutters to stop it happening again and again.

CANNON FODDER

"No great mischief if all should fall"
- General Wolfe, 1759

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WANT TO BE AN OFFICER? THEN CLICK HERE >> [ETON COLLEGE.COM](#)

0845 600 1485

NEW ARMY
REST IN PEACE

[Thanks to Rose Gentle, who sent this in.]

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Notes From A Lost War:

'There Is Always Another Insurgent'

[Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in.]

"We are capturing or killing a lot of insurgents," a senior Army intelligence officer in a sensitive position said in an interview. "But they're being replaced quicker than we can interdict their operations. There is always another insurgent ready to step up and take charge."

July 24, 2005 Dexter Filkins and David S. Cloud, New York Times, BAGHDAD

They just keep getting stronger.

Despite months of assurances that the forces were on the wane, the guerrillas and terrorists battling the U.S.-backed enterprise in Iraq appear to be growing more violent, more resilient and more sophisticated.

And the guerrillas are choosing their targets with greater precision and executing and dramatizing their attacks with more sophistication than they have in the past.

U.S. commanders say the number of attacks against U.S. and Iraqi forces has held steady over the past year, averaging about 65 a day.

But the Americans concede the growing sophistication of guerrilla attacks and the insurgents' ability to replenish their ranks as fast as they are killed.

"We are capturing or killing a lot of insurgents," a senior Army intelligence officer in a sensitive position said in an interview. "But they're being replaced quicker than we can interdict their operations. There is always another insurgent ready to step up and take charge."

On Tuesday, masked insurgents gunned down two moderate Sunni leaders who had been helping to draft Iraq's permanent constitution. Insurgents have killed moderate Sunni leaders before, but the shootings on Tuesday of Mejbil al-Sheik Isa and Damin al-Obeidi were especially striking: The men were killed after months of coaxing by Iraqi

Shiite leaders, and U.S. officials intended to bring moderate Sunnis like them into the constitutional process.

In Baghdad, it is commonly understood that the recent success of the insurgency lies in part in the weakness of the Iraqi government. The Sunni leaders who were slain, for instance, were traveling with a single guard, whom one of the Sunni leaders had provided at his own expense. Pleas by the two Sunni leaders to the Iraqi government for protection had apparently gone unheeded.

And in the case of the bombing in Musayyib, Iraqi officials said the gas truck, owned by the Oil Ministry, had been hijacked by insurgents on its way from Baghdad to Fallujah several days before the bombing.

To get to Musayyib, the truck probably passed through numerous military and police checkpoints; yet somehow, it made its destination.

Another recent development in the insurgency -- and a possible explanation of its ability to attract recruits from the Arab world -- is the reach and sophistication of its public relations.

Most of the main guerrilla groups -- such as Al-Qaida in Iraq and Ansar al Sunna -- regularly post updates of their exploits on the Internet. Scarcely a day passes when one of the groups has not announced another attack with either a video or printed notice.

A communique released Friday by Ansar al Sunna, for instance, boasted of an attack on a U.S. Humvee in the northern Iraqi city of Samarra. The Humvee, it said, had been destroyed with an "explosive package."

Assorted Resistance Action:



Iraqi soldiers and fireman at scene of a bomb blast in Baghdad July 24, 2005 outside a police station. REUTERS/Namir Noor-Eldeen

July 24, 2005 (AEST) & Aljazeera & (AFP) & CNN & Independent Online & Reuters & By SAMEER N. YACOUB, Associated Press Writer

At least 22 Iraqis were killed and 25 wounded when a truck bomb blew up outside a police station in eastern Baghdad, the Interior Ministry said. The blast destroyed dozens of cars and also damaged stores and a nearby building. The attack on the Rashad police station in the eastern neighborhood of Mashtal came during a blinding sandstorm.

Lieutenant-Colonel Imad Hatim, police chief of Baghdad's mostly Shi'ite Kathimiya district, was assassinated in the al-Huriya neighborhood on his way to work, an Interior Ministry source said.

He was on his way to work about 9:15 a.m. when the guerrillas intercepted his private car and sprayed it with bullets. He is believed to have died instantly, police said.

In the oil centre of Kirkuk in the north, guerrillas killed police Lieutenant-Colonel Nour-al-Din Mohammed, police spokesman Yadgar Mohammed said.

A policeman was killed and another wounded when insurgents fired on their car in the al-Jamia district in western Baghdad, hospital officials said.

An Iraqi policeman was killed Sunday morning and one wounded when a mortar shell was fired at government buildings in the centre of Baghdad, an interior ministry official said.

The shell hit a road closed to traffic between the interior ministry and the police academy, killing the policeman.

Resistance fighter shot to death Saad Kadhim, a captain in the new Iraqi intelligence service, in the western Baghdad neighbourhood of Jihad, according to Captain Talib Thamir of the Amil police station.

The body of an Iraqi policeman was found in the town of Yusufiyah, south of Baghdad, police said.

On Monday, a car bomber detonated a minibus near the Sadeer Hotel, which was once used by American contractors and has been frequently targeted by insurgents. One person was killed in addition to the bomber and at least six injured, police said.

Guerrillas killed the leader of the city council in Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, police said. Council chairman Taha al-Hinderah and a companion were shot as they walked in the Albu Rahman neighborhood Sunday evening, police Capt. Laith Mohammed said.

In Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city, insurgents emptied fuel from two tanker trucks on the Muthanna Bridge across the Tigris River and set it on fire, police said. Two people were wounded in clashes that followed.

Guerrillas in Kirkuk killed an Iraqi soldier and wounded six people, police said.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATION

“Everyone Is Organizing”

July 24, 2005 Anti-Allawi-group

Che-Leila Interview with Mohamed Hassan Part 2: On Iraq. Che-Leila member Takawira interviews Ethiopian Marxist intellectual Mohamed Hassan

Mohamed Hassan:

Iraq is a rich country, to have a well trained (by the US) army with US weapons; they would like to make Iraq an important bastion of their power in the region holding down everyone in the region.

But they haven't succeeded until now to build this Iraqi army. This is a failure.

Secondly, they haven't succeeded in building an Iraqi police force.

They didn't succeed in building an Iraqi administration throughout the regions of Iraq; most of the Iraqi towns have no municipal administration, no mayors, and no structure.

So they are resorting to the terrorist groups like the Peshmergas of the Kurds, the Badr army of the so-called Shia organisations who have been re-organised as a vigilante groups who are attacking and killing and also planting bombs themselves in areas where there are a lot of civilians and then blaming this on al-Qaeda.

Most of the so-called Iraqi government stay in the US army base in Baghdad called the Green Zone, and when they want to travel they have to be heavily guarded.

Importantly the unity between the Shia and Sunni Iraqis is strengthening, because the US Imperialists were trying to use these divisions and build a centralised army.

Since three days ago Moqtada al-Sadr has started a new campaign called the “Million Campaign” that is collecting one million signatures from prominent people of Iraq who are demanding that the occupation armies leave Iraq.

This is bringing all patriotic forces together. Workers are demonstrating, the women's movement is increasing as well as the youth movements, everyone is organising. The Iraqi puppet regime is shooting people on these demonstrations.

There is a new element of the so-called Iraqi Special Forces. Most Iraqis are afraid of these special forces more than they are of the US. They are more brutal; they kill and shoot the people.

Already the army that the US Imperialists want to build is hated by the masses; they see them as terror groups. The masses are happy when these puppet militias are attacked and killed by the resistance, because they see these people as a brutal people who have no connection with the masses.

The Baath learnt to accommodate every other political movement in the resistance and to fight together, because in this situation you cannot be sectarian.

The people who have not learnt this lesson is the Iraqi Communist Party who are involved in the Iraqi puppet regime and who supported the war against Iraq.

The Iraqi Communist Party had a golden opportunity following the imperialist invasion of Iraq to say that before we were in exile, but now we will fight the occupation forces. If they had done this they could have built a massive mass basis, but they have squandered that and gone over to the colonial set-up. They have destroyed and shamed themselves, and people are splitting away from them and joining the resistance.

Yesterday Jaafari who is the leader of the Dawa Party was defending the occupation of Iraq. All the parties who are with the US knew that if the US and British troops leave Iraq they could not last two minutes as a political force.

They have neither the capacity to maintain the country on any level or defend themselves. They have no army and could not build one; this shows they have no mass base in Iraq.

These two so-called Shia parties, Dawa and SCIRI, could not recruit the Shia masses to build their army.

The Iraqi people dislike the man Hakim who leads SCIRI. He spent all his life in Iran, knows very little of Iraq, comes from a very rigid clerical family; the Iraqi people are astonished at this man, they consider someone who is like something out of the middle-ages and has no ability to be a national leader.

The Badr and Hussein Brigades use their names to try and attract the most religious Shia masses.

The answer from the Islamic section of the Iraqi national resistance to counter these movements is that they created an Umr Brigade; it is a very good political answer.

To use "Umr" has a historical meaning, which is that in the time of Umr, Iran came under Islamic rule. Umr was the third caliph.

When the Badr Brigades heard about the Umr Brigades they got frightened, as they know that it is likely that the masses could be mobilised against their puppet position.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

Do It in September: A Weekend to Stop the War

July 18, 2005 By RON JACOBS, CounterPunch

In a little more than two months, a weekend of protest against the war in Iraq is scheduled to take place in Washington, DC, San Francisco, London, and several other cities around the globe. Like other protests against the US war on the world, this weekend is being organized by a wide number of organizations and individuals who are often not in agreement about many related subjects. As a participant in the protests, however, these disagreements should be secondary to our actual presence. With the US military death toll rapidly nearing 2000 and the Iraqi and Afghani cost in lives unknown to the general public, this is no time to debate subtleties of theory and politics.

Sure, the primary sponsors of the DC protest-UFPJ, Troops Out Now Coalition and ANSWER-disagree about many things, not least among them being the role that support for the Palestinian struggle should play in the antiwar movement and the emphasis the antiwar movement should place on demanding an end to the occupation of Afghanistan, but, just as in the past, the positions of the leadership of these two organizations are the positions of the leadership, not the regular folks organizing locally and riding the busses to DC.

Just as the positions of those protesting will range in tenor from a mere desire to lobby the Congress to set a timetable for the US withdrawal from Iraq to those who want to see the defeat of the US empire in that country, so will the approaches taken by the protestors. Many will only attend the Saturday rallies and marches, while others will stick around DC until Monday in order to express their anger at the imperial slaughter in Iraq and Afghanistan via acts of civil disobedience and more militant forms of direct action.

Just like the worldwide protests prior to the US/UK invasion of Iraq in 2003, this weekend of protest is extremely important.

If the resistance to these wars does not intensify and make its presence known to the general public (and the rulers), it will not achieve the popular support needed to end Washington's war on the world.

History proves that massive resistance in the US combined with low troop morale related to their sense of futility can end unpopular wars. And, if one doubts that the war in Iraq is unpopular, they need only look at recent poll numbers, which put US popular opinion against continuing the war there at between 44 and 50 percent. While these numbers do not represent a majority, they are extremely high when compared to similar poll numbers at a similar period during the US war on Vietnam.

Imagine a quarter million, a half million, hell, imagine a million people in the streets of Washington DC over the three days of protest in September. George Bush may be out of town along with his advisors and most of Congress, but the eyes of the world will be watching.

Richard Nixon and his warmakers saw something similar in November 1969, when somewhere between 500,000 and one million US residents filled the streets of Washington, DC to express their opposition to Washington's war in Vietnam.

Some of the protestors took part in militant direct actions, some committed civil disobedience, but most of them marched peacefully through the streets of DC solemnly and joyfully reaffirming their commitment to life and against war.

Mr. Nixon stayed in town watching football-or so he claimed. Later memoirs by Henry Kissinger and others state otherwise. Indeed, then Attorney General John Mitchell described the scene as being "like the Russian Revolution." Kissinger admitted that the protests (along with the previous month's nationwide Moratorium Against the War) convinced Nixon and Kissinger to drop plans they were considering that included using nuclear weapons against the northern Vietnamese capital of Hanoi.

Yes, I know there are those who say that this war is different from the one in Vietnam and, in some ways, it is. However, as far as the role that the residents of the invading countries can play, it is much more similar than it is different. If we gather enough forces and continue our insistence that the occupying troops get out of Iraq (and Afghanistan) immediately and without conditions, we can end the brutality occurring in our name and with our monies.

Despite the hopeful writings in newspapers and journals across the spectrum regarding a new exit strategy from Iraq, we in the antiwar movement would be fools to sit back and expect any such exit to occur, much less on terms that would be fair and to the benefit of the Iraqi people (as opposed to the occupiers). Even then, what does one do about Afghanistan and the rest of the "war on terror?" Let it continue?

The people can make a difference.

We can determine history if only we get out of our homes and do so.

By default, we will also determine history if we don't. The choice is ours.

Don't just decide to go to Washington, San Francisco, or one of the other cities where antiwar protests are being called on September 24th . Don't just decide to go; decide to bring some of your friends along. Hell, bring all of your friends along!

Do it to bring the troops home now!

Do it to give the Iraqis a chance to live normal lives.

Do it to take our government back from the liars and crooks who lead us into wars that benefit only them.

Do it because you think George Bush and his crew suck.

Do it because you think Congress sucks.

Do it because you think war sucks.

Do it because Washington, DC is beautiful in the fall.

Do it for your children, born and unborn.

Do it for the rest of the world's children.

Do it because this war is wrong.

Do it because protesting it is right.

Do it for the future-yours and everyone else's.

For more info, please check out these websites:

<http://troopsoutnow.org/>

<http://www.unitedforpeace.org/>

<http://internationalanswer.org/>

“It Takes Heart To Be A Guerrilla Warrior”

"I'm nonviolent with those who are nonviolent with me. But when you drop that violence on me, then you've made me go insane, and I'm not responsible for what I do. . . . Any time you know you're within the law, within your legal rights, within your moral rights, in accordance with justice, then die for what you believe in.

“But don't die alone. Let your dying be reciprocal. This is what is meant by equality. What's good for the goose is good for the gander.

"It takes heart to be a guerrilla warrior because you're on your own. In conventional warfare you have tanks and a whole lot of other people with you to

back you up, planes overhead and all that kind of stuff. But a guerrilla is on his own. All you have is a rifle, some sneakers and a bowl of rice, and that's all you need -- and a lot of heart."

"There's a new deal coming in. There's new thinking coming in. There's new strategy coming in. It'll be Molotov cocktails this month, hand grenades next month, and something else next month. It'll be ballots, or it'll be bullets, It'll be liberty, or it will be death."

Malcolm X

Famous English Parliamentarian For The Military Defeat Of U.S. Occupation Of Iraq; Calls On Iraqis To Take Arms And Never Lay Them Down

November 18, 1777, By William Pitt

My Lords, this ruinous and ignominious situation, where we cannot act with success, nor suffer with honour, calls upon us to remonstrate in the strongest and loudest language of truth, to rescue the ear of Majesty from the delusions which surround it.

You cannot, I venture to say, you CANNOT conquer America.

What is your present situation there? We do not know the worst; but we know that in three campaigns we have done nothing and suffered much.

You may swell every expense, and strain every effort, still more extravagantly; accumulate every assistance you can beg or borrow; traffic and barter with every pitiful German Prince, that sells and sends his subjects to the shambles of a foreign country: your efforts are forever vain and impotent-doubly so from this mercenary aid on which you rely; for it irritates to an incurable resentment the minds of your enemies, to overrun them with the sordid sons of rapine and of plunder, devoting them and their possessions to the rapacity of hireling cruelty!

If I were an American, as I am an Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my country, I never would lay down my arms! -Never! Never! Never!

<p>What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Send to</p>

**contact@militaryproject.org. Name, I.D., withheld on request.
Replies confidential.**

"No Lie Can Live Forever"

From: Mike Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: July 24, 2005
Subject: "No Lie Can Live Forever." Martin Luther King Jr.

Just a short message to let you know I appreciate everything you do. G.I. Special is a relentless message about telling the truth, and that is what makes it so powerful.

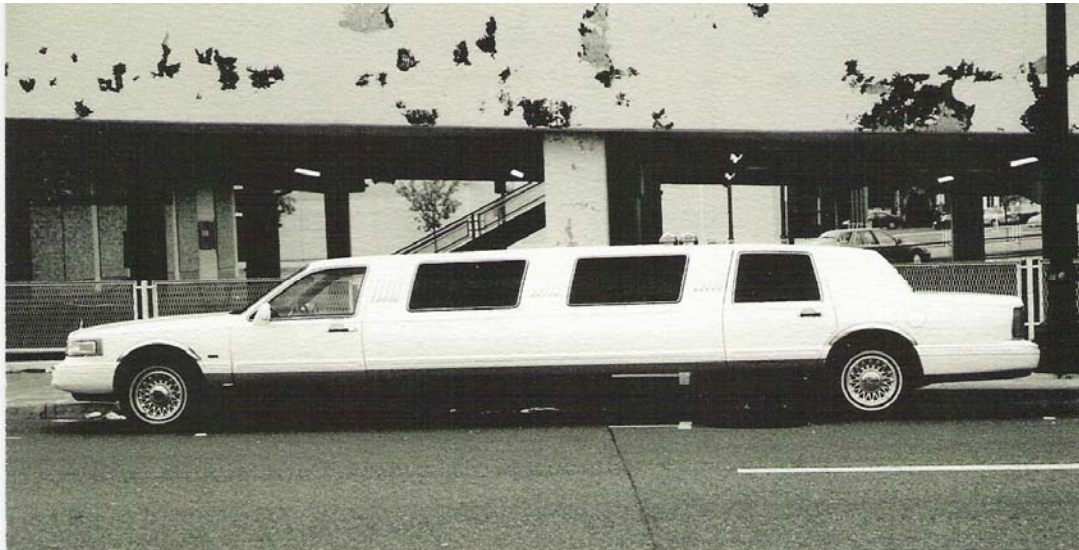
It is a message that never goes away, because it is a voice that never gives up.

As always, it is about saving lives.

"There is no rest for the messenger, until the message has been delivered."

Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran
July 24, 2005

REPLY: GI Special reports. Mike Hastie creates. Check this:



**WAR
Wealthy Are Richer
(Iraq is a cash register)**

Photo and caption from the I-R-A-Q (I Remember Another Quagmire) portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (Contact at: hastiemike@earthlink.net) for more of his outstanding work. T)

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head. The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004

OCCUPATION REPORT

Amazing News! Iraqi Forces Nowhere Near Being Able To Fight Insurgency On Their Own, Senate Told

July 22, 2005 Julian Borger in Washington and agencies in Baghdad, The Guardian

The Iraqi government's forces are nowhere near battle ready and only a small number are capable of fighting the insurgency on their own, according to a newly declassified Pentagon document.

The assessment, provided to the Senate by General Peter Pace, the newly appointed chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, paints a stark picture of Iraqi military readiness that contrasts with the Pentagon's upbeat official tone.

According to excerpts in US newspapers yesterday, Gen Pace said about half of Iraq's new police battalions were still being established and were not in a position to conduct operations. The other half of the police and two-thirds of the new Iraqi army battalions were only "partially capable" of carrying out counter-insurgency missions, and required US help.

"Only a small number of Iraqi security forces are taking on the insurgents and terrorists by themselves," Gen Pace wrote.

George Bush has said that the US will withdraw its troops from Iraq only when Iraqi forces are ready to tackle the insurgency on their own. [The troops will have something to say and do about that.]

Senators subsequently demanded a set of benchmarks for assessing progress, and updates every 90 days.

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

OCCUPATION HAITI

Focused On London; Ignoring The Massacre In Haiti

July 20, 2005 by Kim Petersen, Dissident Voice

The public indifference toward and corporate media insouciance to reporting the massacres that are perpetrated by the West on the black people of Haiti stands in stark contrast to the tragedy in London.

Just the day before the London bombings, the UN lackeys of US empire were slaughtering Haitian civilians.

It was reported that 350 UN troops were sent on a "successful" mission to assassinate "a 31 year-old man and his lieutenants that Haiti's rightwing media and reactionary business community had labeled a bandit and armed supporter of ousted president Jean-Bertrand Aristide."

According to witnesses, the alleged bandit and four others, including a woman and child, were killed in "a hail of gunfire that came from all directions including a circling helicopter."

Hardly the vision conjured up when one contemplates a UN "peacekeeping" operation.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Imperial Democrats Call For More Blood

[Thanks to PB who sent this in. He writes: DEMOCRATS TO COUNTER-RECRUITMENT MOVEMENT: "SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP!" Also AH, who writes: Check out the new family values campaign.]

7.24.05 By MIKE GLOVER, Associated Press Writer

Centrists who contend Democrats cannot retake the White House until voters trust the party to protect them said Sunday the Army should expand by 100,000 soldiers and that colleges should open their campuses to military recruiters.

"A Democrat has to show the toughness to govern," said Al From, founder of the Democratic Leadership Council. "People don't doubt that Republicans will be tough."

Some colleges and universities limit the on-campus activities of military recruiters as a way of protesting military policies. From said schools should open their campuses.

UNARMED MAN PUBLICLY EXECUTED BY BRITISH TERROR COPS; Ghandi Says Blair Has "Forfeited The Right To Govern"



Victor R. Caivano / AP

July 24, 2005 Reuters & AP

Matuzinho Otone is comforted by an unidentified relative as he holds a picture of his son Jean Charles de Menezes at their home near Gonzaga, Brazil, Sunday.

“They had to kill someone to show the whole population they are working and make the country safe,” Alex Pereira, Menezes’ cousin, told the British Broadcasting Corp.

Menezes, 27, was shot and killed July 22, 2005, in London, at the Stockwell subway station. Friday's shooting before horrified commuters prompted criticism of police for overreacting and expressions of fear that Asians and Muslims would be targeted by a 'trigger-happy culture'.

Hours after the shooting, Police Commissioner Ian Blair had said the victim was 'directly linked' to the investigations into attacks Thursday and July 7.

<p>Mohandas Gandhi held, “When a government takes up arms against its unarmed subjects then it has forfeited its right to govern.” July 20, 2005 by Kim Petersen, Dissident Voice</p>
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MORE:

Bomb In London

[This is a message 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. T]

**From: Rose Gentle
To: GI Special
Sent: July 21, 2005
Subject: bomb**

one more bomb has went of in london.

**thank you tony blair, are you so dum, get the troops out
of iraq, and this could stop. you are ok, your kids are ok.**

**well Other people are not. is this man dum, or has george bush
have somthing, on him, how many more killings will we have,**

i just wish he would hear his country speak out,

where are all the mps, that tolld us not to go to iraq
dont shut up. stand up to him, your kids could be next, and to think
it was a bomb that killied them it hurts like hell. as we all know.

how many more bombs will we get, , this man gets me so mad
bring the troops home now, for george bush, well this man is
war nuts, how many more american troops will yous lose,

you know i wish all the american familiys could come to london
stand out side no 10, and give blair, hell. then all the british
people could go over to the u.s. and give bush hell too, sorry for
going on but i have to go where my heart is telling me to go.

bring the troops home, and stop all the killings, [m,f,s,o. in G.B.]

BLAIR YOU LIED MY BOY DIED;

BUSH WE KNOW YOU YOUR DADDY WAS A KILLER TO.

ROSE GENTLE

MORE:

Idiot Blair Thought Brits Were Idiots: Britons Link Iraq War To London Attacks -Poll

7/20/2005 Aljazeera

While Prime Minister Tony Blair warned Tuesday against linking the London bombings to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, latest poll showed that two-thirds of the British people believe there is a link between London bombings and the war in Iraq.

A new poll published by The Guardian newspaper showed that third of the Britons think Blair bears "a lot of responsibility" for the attacks, while nearly a-third think he's at least "a little" responsible, and less than a third say he shouldn't be blamed.

Also according to the poll, 75 percent of those questioned believe further attacks in the UK were likely, while 11 percent said the opposite.

The poll comes after the British government rejected a report by an influential think-tank that says that Britain's decision to join the United States in the Iraq war left it more vulnerable to attacks like the July 7 bombings, in which 56 people lost their lives, and hundreds were wounded.

There was "no doubt" that the invasion of Iraq caused particular difficulties for Britain, said the report.

Received:

“Cheers” Indeed! “Want To Support Unwilling Soldiers”

From: Angela Bunting
To: GI Special
Sent: July 20, 2005
Subject: want to support unwilling soldiers

I got your e-mail from a fta link, hope you don't mind.

I recently met a guy who'd served in Iraq and hated the army and the war.. some of the stories he told really brought home how harrowing it must be out there, especially for those who're against the whole thing..

It's a long shot, but I'd like to offer my support by writing by mail or email to anyone who just wants a friendly ear..

I'm an English girl, not looking for romance or anything, just wanting to do what I can, hope you can help..cheers.

Anj
From: Angela Bunting
E-mail address: Flange27@hotmail.com

<p>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</p>
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resistance to the war, at home and inside the armed services. Send requests to address up top.

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.albasrah.net/magalat/english/qi-special.htm>

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