

GI SPECIAL 3C14:

**ENOUGH:
NO MORE EXCUSES:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW!**



U.S. Marine Sgt. Dennis Osborne of Cincinnati, Ohio, from the 3rd Platoon from Lima Company of the 3rd Battalion, 25th Regiment from Ohio, during operations in Parwana, near Haditha, Iraq, Aug. 6, 2005. **A roadside bomb nearby killed 14 Marines, many from this platoon in the deadliest roadside bombing suffered by American forces in the Iraq war.** (AP Photo/Jacob Silberberg)

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Mosul

06 Aug 2005 Reuters

A U.S. soldier, Private First Class Nils Thompson, was killed by insurgents in the northern city of Mosul on Thursday, the U.S. military said.

Car Bomb Hits Humvee: Casualties Not Announced



U.S. troops prepare to tow away a damaged Humvee from the side of the road after a car bomb attack, Aug. 6, 2005. There was no information on U.S. casualties. (AP Photo/Samir Mizban)

**The Resistance Dominates The
Technological Battlefield, Military
Experts Say:
Role Reversal Leaves U.S. Forces
Floundering:
“Nobody Trained Us To Get Blown
Up Like This”**

"We're seeing the automated battlefield, but we're not the ones who are in technological control. The enemy is. They're killing us with remote-detonated

IEDs," Hoffman said. "It's like they're fighting a war by technological proxy. But that's what we're supposed to be doing."

[Thanks to John Gingerich, Veterans For Peace, who sent this in.]

8.6.05 Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Bombs like the titanic roadside blast that killed 14 Marines last week are becoming the biggest killers of U.S. troops in Iraq, surpassing bullets, rockets and mortars, as insurgents wage an unconventional war that has boosted the American death toll beyond 1,820.

Surprise blasts - when the road erupts without warning or an explosives-packed car disintegrates into a fireball - have become the hallmarks of the Iraq war.

The insurgent bomb strategy is frustrating for American troops, who watch their comrades die without being able to retaliate as they've been trained: with punishing return fire.

Instead, the bombs are either piloted to their target by a suicide driver or detonated remotely by an attacker who can disappear into a crowd of civilians.

"That's the insurgent strategy, this pervasive insecurity. You can't fight against an unseen enemy," said RAND Corp. counterinsurgency expert Bruce Hoffman.

Iraq has turned into a struggle that pits Americans' conventional arms against gritty rebel innovation.

As Americans have added armor, the insurgent bombs - which the U.S. military refers to as Improvised Explosive Devices or IEDs - have gotten bigger.

Guerrillas have learned in more than two years of fighting how to make their bombs invisible and far more deadly, while taking fewer casualties themselves.

In the early days of the occupation, American soldiers would find rudimentary bombs hidden in trash bins, buried along the side of roads and hidden in drink cans and even roadkill carcasses.

The U.S. military picked up on these techniques and began cleaning roadsides, chopping down trees and clearing brush. The insurgents responded by burying bombs under gravel or asphalt.

One new bomb design features a steel plate underneath that directs the blast up into a passing vehicle. **Another fires a solid steel penetrator that can pierce the armor on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle, officers and analysts say.**

In January, IEDs destroyed a Bradley Fighting Vehicle and an Abrams tank - two of the most heavily armored vehicles in the U.S. arsenal.

In some cases, the detonations have been so huge that American vehicles are ripped apart as thoroughly as a suicide bomber's car. On Wednesday, a gargantuan blast from a bomb hidden by rebels who tunneled under a road outside Haditha engulfed a 25-ton troop carrier, throwing it 30 feet and killing 14 Marines and their civilian translator.

That bomb was invisible to passing troops. Some who'd heard about the investigation said there weren't even any marks on the road to offer clues that explosives lay under the pavement.

The bomb was probably triggered by a hidden observer, who detonated it under the second-to-last vehicle in the convoy - a packed troop carrier.

"I've lost eight buddies in a week," Army Spc. William "Shane" Parham, a sheriff's deputy from Walton County, Ga., serving in a Baghdad-based unit, told an embedded reporter for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "Nobody trained us to get blown up like this."

"You're watching the insurgents develop more sophisticated methods of attack, and more sophisticated IEDs," said Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"They're using shaped charges and anti-tank mines stacked together. They're using 500-pound bombs that can destroy any armored vehicle. **They're using these so-called swarming attacks, firing several RPG rounds at one lightly armored vehicle.**"

The Iraq war has brought a curious reversal of roles. The insurgents have adopted advanced American warfare concepts of attacking from beyond visual range and using remote control to keep fighters out of harm's way, RAND Corp.'s Hoffman said.

At the same time, the insurgents blend so well into the population that American technology is ineffective, leaving U.S. troops to fight the old way, with boots on the ground.

"We're seeing the automated battlefield, but we're not the ones who are in technological control. The enemy is. They're killing us with remote-detonated IEDs," Hoffman said. "It's like they're fighting a war by technological proxy. But that's what we're supposed to be doing."

The number of U.S. dead is essentially under the control of U.S. commanders: Send out more patrols and more troops will get killed.

"We are largely setting the pace of battle with our patrols and raids," said the Brookings Institution's Michael O'Hanlon. [Checkmate. Time to come home.]

British Soldier Wounded



Iraqi children smash with bars a burnt out British military vehicle caught in an explosion in the southern city of Basra. (AFP/Nawfal Hashim)

6 August 2005 BBC

A British soldier is in a critical condition after a suspected roadside bomb targeted a military convoy near Basra, the Army has said.

"The soldier is in surgery and is very seriously ill," a spokesman said. He is being treated at a field hospital

Two Army Land Rovers were targeted in the attack, the cause of which is being investigated. Saturday's attack is the third in the region in three weeks.



A happy Iraqi boy flashes Churchill's famous V For Victory sign at scene of attack on British forces, Aug. 6, on the outskirts of Basra. (AP Photo/Nabil al-Jurani)

Columbus Marine Killed



In a photo provided by his family Marine Cpl. Andre L. Williams is shown. Williams, 23, was killed July 28 along with another marine in a gun battle in Iraq. The funeral for Williams was held Aug. 6, 2005, in Columbus, Ohio, the first in what will be a string of services following a week of heavy casualties for Ohio Marines. (AP Photo/Family Photo via The Columbus Dispatch)

Attacks On U.S. Troops Higher Than A Year Ago

8.2.05 San Diego Union-Tribune

Civilian deaths in Iraq are running high, and U.S. troops face more attacks than they did a year ago.

“Soldiers Squatting In The Dust”

August 01, 2005 By Matthew Cox, Army Times staff writer

RAWAH, Iraq — Living is hard here at this fledgling combat outpost near the Syrian border.

The soldiers of B Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, arrived at their new home July 16 to find none of the comforts they left behind at Forward Operating Base Courage in Mosul.

No air-conditioned housing units, no showers, no flush toilets, no running water, no phones and no chow hall — just a barren but defensible stretch of desert sand on the north side of the Euphrates River.

B Company, 3-21, is the infantry portion of 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment's task force sent here to crack down on insurgent forces coming across the Syrian border about 60 kilometers to the west.

Spartan living for B Company and the other 2-14 units began right after they left Mosul on July 13.

B Company's 21 Strykers had no problem traveling the 230 kilometers on the country's less than perfect roads. But they did have problems when some of the other vehicles in the convoy suffered from overheating, mechanical problems and equipment damage.

The hours of delays resulted in the trip taking more than a day to complete.

"The Strykers can go everywhere, but the heavy equipment trucks and fuelers can't," said Col. Robert Brown, commander of 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (SBCT), parent to the 2-14.

The weather took its toll, too. Back-to-back dust storms took visibility down to less than 50 feet at times.

"We didn't expect the dust storms to be as bad," Davis said.

Leaders actually abandoned the original site they had picked for the outpost because the open desert offered no protection from dust storms. The current location is surrounded by several pieces of high ground that provide wind buffers in addition to making the terrain easily defensible.

When they aren't running day and night combat patrols into the nearby city of about 20,000, soldiers fill their time here cleaning off the ultra-fine dust that constantly covers their weapons; refueling their Stryker combat vehicles; and seeking shade from the blistering sun.

For the most part, they try to take the radical changes to their living conditions in stride, trying to stay focused on the still-deadly mission before them.

During the first week of their stay here, insurgents in the city have attacked patrols every day with homemade bombs, suicide car bombs and small-arms fire.

"I think everyone was ready for a change," said B Company commander Capt. Mark Ivezaj. "It keeps everyone fresh. If complacency was an issue, now it's not because everyone is back up on it." **[Typical. The officer thinks it's really marvelous to have pissed off Iraqis trying to kill his troops. It will keep them "fresh." It's a cure for**

“complacency.” Hundreds of over-eager brass-kissers like this never made it home from Vietnam. Guess why not?]

Still, “I could really use a shower,” 2nd Lt. Richard Shin, fire-support officer for B Company, said with a chuckle. “It’s only a couple of months, though.”

Life is slowly improving. Combat engineers here are working to transform the perimeter into a fully equipped combat outpost that will one day be handed over to Iraqi forces.

Bulldozers are pushing tons of earth to form a dirt security berm around the entire camp. Prefabricated helicopter landing pads have been put into place for medevac helicopters. And a forward air refueling point is being built to handle four helicopters at a time.

There is also a plan for wooden “T” huts for living quarters that are supposed to include wiring for some type of air conditioning.

“When you run 24-hour operations, you have people that need to sleep, even when it’s 120 degrees,” said Lt. Col. Cecil Nance, team chief for Construction Management Team 3 of the North Carolina National Guard’s 30th Engineer Brigade.

A big improvement came July 19 when the first eight wooden outhouses opened for business. Before that, soldiers were squatting in the dust.

Don’t They Have Mirrors?

August 01, 2005 By Matthew Cox, Army Times staff writer

Senior commanders are working to develop the intelligence needed to avoid these chance-contact fights and go after specific insurgent targets believed to be infiltrating Iraq across the Syrian border.

“I want to go after specific targets. I want to know where they are before we go,” said Lt. Gen. John Vines, head of combat operations in Iraq.

A key challenge in identifying threats will be developing local sources willing to work with U.S. forces despite the risk of insurgent reprisals.

Task force soldiers have been talking to locals, trying to make it clear to the residents that they need their help finding foreign fighters operating here.

Some at least.

Confirmation: The Resistance Has Infiltrated The U.S. Command In Iraq:

Occupation Forces Making War On “Suspected” Houses And Schools



Aug. 6, 2005, in the Al-Khadra neighborhood of Baghdad, Iraq. **Local residents say that U.S. troops placed explosives in the house to bring it down as it was *suspected* to be used by insurgents for planning strikes against U.S. and Iraqi troops in the area.** (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

Winning More Friends: For The Armed Resistance That Is;



U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Brian Hamilton of Columbus, Ohio, from Lima Company of the 3rd Battalion, 25th Regiment exits after searching a school where fellow Marines used explosives to blow open the door in Parwana, near Haditha, Iraq, Aug. 6, 2005. (AP Photo/Jacob Silberberg)

[Right. Everybody knows the way you get in the door is blow up the fucking school. Brilliant. And the idiot who gave the orders to do this succeeds in recruiting more fighters for the armed resistance, who will kill and maim more U.S. troops, but the idiot will probably live.

[This is called “motivating the enemy.” In counter-insurgency warfare, everybody knows that the occupying army needs to motivate the local resistance soldiers as much as possible. After the U.S. gets out, the resistance government should give medals honoring the U.S. officers who were so helpful to them in building up their forces so they could kill more U.S. soldiers. This fits right in with the other wonderful tactic shown above, blowing up “suspected” houses. Perhaps we have here definitive confirmation that the resistance has infiltrated the U.S. command in Iraq, and is giving the orders to do this. Nobody could be this blind and stupid otherwise.]

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)

Dog Bombs Vs. Dogs

[Thanks to Rose Gentle for sending this in. Her son was killed in Iraq, and she leads a fight in Scotland to bring all the troops home *now*. She writes: the dogs are in GB. AND THE U.S. we have to destroy them, rose gentle]

August 2, 2005 By Brendan Nicholson via Families of UK Forces in Iraq

Coalition troops in Iraq have been warned not to run over or shoot stray dogs they see watching them from the roadside because they may be cut-out shapes hiding a home-made bomb.

Explosives experts say insurgents have created bombs with the trigger mechanisms hidden behind these fake dogs.

The terrorists [translation: patriotic Iraqis fighting the occupation of their country] have apparently used florescent tape to create eyes in their canine cut-outs to make them look more realistic in a vehicle's headlights.

The device includes two metal plates that, when hit by a bullet or the wheel of a truck, are jammed together, closing an electric circuit and setting off the bomb.

Coalition soldiers say the dog bombs are the biggest threat they face in Iraq. **[Wrong. Bush and Blair are the biggest threat they face in Iraq. Those are the murderous scum that sent them there for oil and Empire, and are trying to keep them there, provided they are not dead or maimed. Then they get to come home.]**

A bomb specialist told *The Age* that Iraq had a vast number of trained engineers and many specialised in electrical or chemical engineering, making them well qualified to make bombs out of left-over munitions. [What, they're not just religious nuts?]

TROOP NEWS

Benefit Set For Injured Soldier

August 05, 2005 The Daily Gate City

SALEM - A benefit is being held at 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, in Salem for former Keokuk resident Sgt. Bobby Briggs of the 224th Engineer Battalion. The son of Sandy and Robert Briggs of Keokuk, he is a graduate of Keokuk High School.

Briggs plans on attending the benefit.

He was injured on April 16 in Iraq by a nearby mortar explosion, suffering a major trauma to his head that resulted in paralysis to his left side and loss of his right eye. Briggs was transferred from Iraq to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., and is in rehab at the VA hospital in Minneapolis, Minn.

"Bobby is improving a little every day," Sandy said. "He can move his left arm, see some out of his left eye and he's walking with a cane."

Briggs' co-workers at IDOT are sponsoring the benefit, including musical entertainment, supper and raffles.

Two half hogs and 22 riffles are among the many items being raffled.

Briggs is married and has two children.

“The Streets Of A Small Town In Maine On The Fourth Of July”

Politicians in Washington D.C., don't need expensive opinion polls to see how deep the erosion of public support for the war in Iraq has gone.

All they needed to do Monday was to watch events unfold on the streets of a small town in Maine on the Fourth of July.

[Referenced August 3, 2005, by Tom Engelhardt & Chris Christensen]

From: The Mount Desert Islander, Maine

It ran through the crowd, a spontaneous, rolling wave of solidarity more than two miles long. In total it lasted for more than an hour.

While Fourth of July parade entries with a decidedly political bent are nothing new in Bar Harbor, the reaction Monday to a group protesting the loss of life in Iraq was different.

In the past, peace activists usually were greeted with stony silence.

As they marched Monday, carrying banners adorned with scores of small American flags and the names of more than 1,400 Americans who have died in combat, several dozen protesters were instead greeted by a wave of applause from crowds of spectators on both sides of the street. It followed the group for most of the route.

When people talk politics, they often dismiss minority opposition by saying it may be broad but “it is only an inch deep.” In Bar Harbor on Monday, a broad cross section of people from all over the country made a profound statement of unity with those audacious enough to publicly question whether or not the price we are paying for the war in Iraq is worth it.

On America's most nationalistic holiday, this public push for peace, and the solid support it received, was a decidedly patriotic act.

In recent months, many of the same leaders who pushed this country into war by fanning the fires of fear about Saddam Hussein's non-existent weapons of mass destruction and ties to terrorism have been grumbling that those who opposed the war are not supporting the troops.

But unlike the Vietnam era, the people of today know all too well it is our leaders, not the men and women on the front lines, who bear the responsibility for the present situation. Support for the war may be weakening, but support for our men and women in uniform has been, and will continue to be, unswerving.

Politicians in Washington D.C., don't need expensive opinion polls to see how deep the erosion of public support for the war in Iraq has gone.

All they needed to do Monday was to watch events unfold on the streets of a small town in Maine on the Fourth of July.

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.

Local Trash Force Gold Star Mother To Walk In Rattlesnake Ditch In Texas Bush Protest



Alex Ryabov, 22, of Brooklyn N.Y. sits with a group of protestors who attempted to march to President Bush's ranch outside Crawford Texas Aug. 6, 2005. Ryabov,

who is on ready reserve with the Marine Corps and served in Iraq in 2003, came to Texas to oppose Bush's Iraq policy. (AP Photo/Waco Tribune Herald, Rod Aydelotte)

[Thanks to James Starowicz & PB, who sent this in.]

August 06, 2005 Debbie Reichman (AP) & (Reuters)

About 70 anti-war protesters marched toward President George W. Bush's ranch on Saturday shouting "bring the troops home now" from Iraq, led by a California mother whose son was killed in combat in Baghdad.

The protest coincided with release of a Newsweek poll that said 61 percent of Americans disapproved of the way Bush was handling the situation in Iraq. The poll came after more than two dozen Americans were killed in the past week in Iraq.

Newsweek said it was Bush's lowest rating on Iraq and the first time it had dropped below 40 percent in its poll. Pentagon officials have said maintaining public support for the war is key to the troops' morale.

Cindy Sheehan, 48, told reporters, "I want to ask the president, `Why did you kill my son? What did my son die for?" she said, her voice cracking with emotion.

Sheehan, 48, didn't get to see Bush, but did talk about 45 minutes with national security adviser Steve Hadley and deputy White House chief of staff Joe Hagin, who went out to hear her concerns.

"W. killed her son! W. killed her son!" the crowd shouted. They also shouted "Bring the troops home now" and held up signs with slogans such as "Impeach the Chicken-Hawk-in-Chief."

Sheehan arrived in Crawford aboard a bus painted red, white and blue and emblazoned with the words, "Impeachment Tour."

Her son, Casey, 24, was killed in Sadr City, Iraq, on April 4, 2004. He was an Army specialist, a Humvee mechanic.

Sheehan, from Vacaville, Calif., had been attending a Veterans for Peace Convention in Dallas. She vowed she would camp out as close as she could get to the president's ranch until Bush comes out and talks to her.

Local law enforcement officials were keeping Sheehan four to five miles away from the ranch's entrance.

Flanked by miles of pasture, Sheehan spoke with reporters while clutching two photographs, one of her son in uniform, and the other, a baby picture, when he was seven months old.

Sheehan said she decided to come to Crawford a few days ago after Bush said that fallen U.S. troops had died for a noble cause and that the mission must be completed.

"I don't want him to use my son's name or my family name to justify any more killing," she said.

Sheehan said Bush administration officials "don't have a mission and they don't even ever plan on completing it." She said she fears that the United States plans to keep a U.S. military presence in Iraq indefinitely.

Sheehan's bus pulled up at a house run by peace activists a few hundred feet from the town's only stoplight. There, she met up with other demonstrators and then led a caravan of about 20 vehicles down a winding road toward Bush's ranch.

The group stopped along the way and sheriff's deputies in McLennan County advised them that if they wanted to go farther toward the ranch, *they would have to walk in a ditch along the road.*

[A ditch in rattlesnake country, the reporter forgot to mention. Asshole deputies, asshole sheriff, asshole law, meaning no law at all, just assholes wearing uniforms and carrying guns, just what Bush likes to call "terrorists," who have only contempt for the liberties of Americans, and are unfit to associate with decent people. These scum also repeatedly threatened to arrest a group of U.S. war veterans who wanted to get off their bus in the public parking area of a public school in the area later in the day.

[Thanks to Alex Ryabov and Soldier X for passing this information on by phone tonight from Texas. Both were there.

[And some of the previously referenced asshole scum said the veterans were lying when they said they were veterans. They better pray to God, the Devil, and their mommas they never come upon them in full battle rattle. In Texas, it is lawful to bear arms publicly, and lawful to use those firearms if necessary upon persons acting unlawfully who are themselves armed. Good for Texas. Bad for individuals impersonating law enforcement officers who are in the process of committing unlawful acts while bearing deadly weapons. Wonder how a jury of Texas Americans would feel about a combat veteran of the Iraq war who was called a fore flushing liar about his combat service to his face by a man with a gun who is also fucking with him and depriving him of his common law right to get off a bus in a public area? T]

The marchers walked about half a mile until the deputies stopped them, saying that they had violated their instructions by walking on the road itself instead of staying in the adjacent ditch.

Sheehan protested, saying she had not walked on the road. The deputies refused to let her go farther.

The protesters then began chanting, "W killed her son."

Cindy Sheehan: More:

“Resistance To Tyrants Is Obedience To God” -- John Brown Had It Right

03 August 2005 **By Cindy Sheehan**, Truthout Perspective

One very positive aspect of my public anti-war, pro-peace stance is that it has put me in contact with so many people all over the world.

I believe that my willingness to share my heart and tragic story (and in the process, tell the truth) helps people open up to me in ways that they cannot do with others. In the past few days, I have been bombarded with horror stories about what our government is doing to innocent Americans.

I was driving from one event to another the other day, and I got a call from an Iranian woman who is now a citizen of the United States and who has been in the US for 30 years, is married to an American, and has a 5 year old son and a brother who has been in prison for 9 months for wanting to serve America.

My new Iranian/American friend, I will call her Susie since her family is in danger of reprisal, told me that her brother signed up for the National Guard to give something back to the country that he has adopted as his own.

He was lied to by his recruiter, who said he could have his student loans paid off and become an American citizen within a year. He also has severe learning disabilities, and his recruiter falsified his test scores and his application. Susie's brother was told that the mistakes would be "corrected" before the application was turned in.

Like my KIA son Casey, Susie's brother naïvely trusted his recruiter.

One day, Susie's brother, who was at that time in training as a chemical specialist, was sitting in class when FBI agents came in and hauled him off to prison.

He was told it was because he went to Iran twice after 9/11 (his country of birth and his family's country), and because he falsified his application to get in the National Guard.

Susie's brother thought going into the National Guard was going to be a good and admirable thing, and he was deceived and betrayed. He didn't get his student loans paid off, he didn't get citizenship, but he did get thrown in jail without proper legal representation. Susie called her state's senators to see if they could help her and her brother, and she was told to quit making trouble or her entire family would be investigated.

Then yesterday when I was traveling from event to event again, I got another phone call from a hysterical mom, Summer, whose son had been killed in Iraq in April of this year.

Her medic son was found face down on his bunk with some morphine bottles around him. Summer was told that he died of a drug overdose, and the report stated that her daughter-in-law and her son's battle buddies all said that he abused drugs in Iraq.

Summer was devastated. She knew her boy. She knew her son didn't take drugs.

She finally got a hold of the reports that contradicted what she was told by the military. All of the people interviewed said her son DID NOT abuse drugs. She received the toxicology report 2 months after her son died and he DID NOT have any drugs in his system.

How did Summer's son die, and why is the Army trying to cover it up? Wasn't it bad enough that this government took Summer's son and killed him in an unjust, immoral, and illegal war? They had to lie to her, too?

This weekend, I also spent time at Kevin and Monica Benderman's house at Ft. Stewart, Georgia.

Kevin, a conscientious objector who refused to go back to Iraq with the 3rd Infantry Division and kill innocent people and participate in other war crimes, was convicted in his court-martial on July 28th of "missing movement" and was sentenced to 15 months in federal prison. Kevin was obviously made an example to other soldiers who are also thinking of protesting this obscene occupation by refusing to kill blameless people, or die themselves.

From the testimony that was given by the prosecution at the court-martial, it is clear that witnesses lied about Kevin and documents were falsified.

I hate to see a brave, honorable, and patriotic American like Kevin railroaded to federal prison for standing up for what he knows is moral and correct.

What makes Kevin's treatment even worse is that those who are responsible for killing and maiming tens of thousands of innocent people and for the destruction of an innocent country are roaming around the world free to unleash more death and pandemonium.

For my effort in trying to awaken America to the dirty tricks and fraud of our government and for trying to call attention to the fact that thousands of people are dying and in harm's way in Iraq for the lies, I am often called a traitor, terrorist supporter, Jane Fonda, unpatriotic, etc. I am called names that contain words that good Christian supporters of George should not even know, let alone use. I am accused of not supporting the troops, and people tell me that Casey would be spinning in his grave on which I am alternately: spitting, pissing, or s*itting.

What has happened to America? What has happened to our freedoms? Where did sanity go? Where is the due process that we have always been entitled to? Why do people feel free to castigate the mother of a "war hero" for exercising her freedom of speech, and why does our leadership feel free to lie to mothers of "war heroes?"

Why aren't the liars being held to the same standards as the people who are trying to expose them?

Stories like those above are becoming more and more common in the USA. The un-Patriot Act and the total disregard for the Constitution by nearly everyone who holds an elected or appointed position in our federal government is starting to hit too close to home for many people. When will the rest of America finally come out of its coma? When, God forbid, the jack-booted thugs come pounding on their door some midnight?

People like the Benders, Summer, Susie, and her brother should be defended and supported by every true American. The injustice of what is happening to some good, hard working and honest Americans is overwhelming, unfair, and un-American.

Ben Franklin said: "Those who would sacrifice essential liberties for a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

We are rapidly becoming a nation with neither.

We should demand both, and refuse to give up any of our liberties or our security. These things are our birthrights.

Please don't give up yours. I am not giving up mine.

“Kids Say They Don't Want To Fight For A Country That's Pickin' On Other Countries”

August 2, 2005 By RICHARD WHITTLE, The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON - The Iraq war is drying up at least part of a pool of recruits the Army has relied upon for decades: black Americans.

"A lot of black kids, they don't want to be in it," said DeTorrian Rhone, 18, a 2005 graduate of Bryan Adams High School in East Dallas. He talked to Army recruiters but decided to go to Texas Southern University instead.

"Most of the kids say they don't want to fight for a country that's pickin' on other countries," he said.

"I don't want to fight because this war was stupid, it wasted money. Army people are getting killed for nothing, and we should have stayed in our own business."

Better Luck Next Time

8.3.05 Dallas Morning News

Secretary Rumsfeld was unable to make it to Dallas to deliver a scheduled speech before the Dallas Chamber of Commerce due to mechanical difficulties with his aircraft,

California Guard Officer Suspended; Mafia-Style Blackmail Op Revealed

August 5, 2005 By Scott Gold, L.A. Times Staff Writer

California Army National Guard troops charged unauthorized, off-the-books "rent" to Iraqi-owned businesses inside Baghdad's Green Zone in Iraq to raise money for a "soldier's fund," military officials and sources within the troops' battalion said Friday.

Military officials had confirmed previously that the battalion's commander, Lt. Col. Patrick Frey, had been suspended and that one of the battalion's companies, based in Fullerton, Calif., had been removed from patrol duties and restricted to an Army base south of Baghdad, the capital.

According to military officials and members of the battalion, soldiers from the battalion's Bravo Company, which is based in Dublin, an East Bay suburb of San Francisco, approached several businesses earlier this year that were owned and operated by Iraqi nationals.

The businesses -- a dry cleaner, a convenience store and the like -- catered to U.S. soldiers and were located on the fringe of the U.S. military's operating base inside the Green Zone, the fortified hub of the Iraqi government, U.S. occupation officials, embassies and contractor headquarters.

The businesses were asked to pay the soldiers "rent."

Army officials say the total amount was \$4,000, but troops in the battalion have said the scheme raised more than \$30,000.

The investigation resulted in disciplinary action against one officer from the battalion's Bravo Company.

Several soldiers have called the rental arrangement "extortion," but Army officials insist that the word is not an accurate description of the relationship between the soldiers and the vendors. [Pimping for Bush's Imperial invasion probably gives them a different way of looking at blackmail and running a protection racket.]

Army officials declined to disclose the officer's name, and his identity could not be confirmed independently.

Prosecutors Deliberately Let Military Rape Defendant Off The Hook

01 August 2005 The Associated Press

Denver - A high-profile rape case stemming from the Air Force Academy's sex assault scandal appeared to have reached a dead end Monday after a military court refused to grant prosecutors more time to appeal.

Prosecutors said they needed more time because of the large number of documents. *Two of the appeals judges, however, responded that prosecutors didn't explain why they missed the deadline to request an extension.*

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

The Resistance Is Everywhere

July 31, 2005 ERIC MARGOLIS, The Toronto Sun

Iraq's former intelligence services have gone underground. They have infiltrated the U.S.-led Iraqi regime and its security forces. As in Vietnam, every U.S. military operation is telegraphed well in advance to the resistance by double agents.

As anti-war sentiment grows in America, Iraqis serving the U.S. occupation are hedging their bets by collaborating with the resistance -- a pattern common in all recent colonial wars.

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

Assorted Resistance Action

06 Aug 2005 Reuters & AP

A car bomb killed two policemen and wounded seven near the town of Iskandiriya, south of Baghdad.

Insurgents killed two Iraqis including a senior official in the Iraqi National Congress party in southern Baghdad late on Friday, a party spokesman and hospital officials said.

Khalid al-Saaidi was the second senior official in the party led by Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Chalabi, a secular Shi'ite, to be killed by insurgents in the last few days. It was the third attack on party officials in a week.

One policeman was killed and another wounded when insurgents in two cars sprayed a police checkpoint with machinegun fire near the town of Baquba, police said.

A car bomber detonated his vehicle at a police checkpoint north of Hillah, in Babil province south of the capital, killing two policemen and wounding two others, provincial police reported.

An Baghdad attacker drove a truck loaded with explosives into a nearby Iraqi army checkpoint, killing an Iraqi soldier.

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

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

BRING THEM HOME NOW!

From: D
To: GI Special
Sent: August 06, 2005
Subject: Re: GI Special 3C13: Above And Beyond

I agree with the public that the higher chain of command George Bush and Chaney should send their children over there to ride in a hummer get caught up in a roadside bomb and they can go through the VA oh the wait is a year and half???

Well, George Bush send your girls over there and Chaney with all the Senators, and well send Rumsfeld himself since he things he so knowledgeable about the war - let them come home wounded see how it feels or if they make it home - like so many aren't -

BRING THEM HOME NOW

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

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

“Infidel, Traitor”

Write on my gravestone: "Infidel, Traitor." --infidel to every church that compromises with wrong; traitor to every government that oppresses the people.

Wendell Phillips [Thanks to Tom Baxter USAV 1967-69, Tallahassee, Florida]

Of Pirates And Emperors

[Thanks to Phil Gasper, who sent this in. He writes: My favorite quotation from St. Augustine:]

For it was a witty and a truthful rejoinder which was given by a captured pirate to Alexander the Great.

The king asked the fellow, “What is your idea in infesting the sea?”

And the pirate answered, with uninhibited insolence, “The same as yours, in infesting the earth!

“But because I do it with a tiny craft, I'm called a pirate: because you have a mighty navy, you're called an emperor.”

(Augustine, Concerning the City of God against the Pagans, Henry Bettenson, tr., [Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1972], 139.)

**THE DROPPING OF ATOMIC BOMBS
ON HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI
WERE THE SINGLE GREATEST
BARBARIC ACTS EVER COMMITTED
IN WORLD HISTORY!!!**

From: Mike Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: August 06, 2005

"The water in a vessel is sparkling, the water in the sea is dark. The small truth has words that are clear, the great truth has great silence" Tagore

Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran
August 6, 2005

**As a military dependent, I arrived in Tokyo, Japan on Feb. 16, 1947. For 2 years, I was raised by a then 16 year old Japanese nanny. "No Lie Can Live Forever."
Martin Luther King Jr.**

Lawrence Of Arabia Explains

July 31, 2005 Xymphora

The Carl von Clausewitz of insurgency is T. E. Lawrence. From an article by James J. Schneider, professor of military theory at the School of Advanced Military Studies, U.S. Command and Gen. Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas:

". . . Lawrence distilled six fundamental principles of insurgency that even today have remarkable relevance.

First, a successful guerrilla movement must have an unassailable base - a base secure not only from direct physical assault, but from attack in other forms as well, including psychological attack

Second, the guerrilla must have a technologically sophisticated enemy. The greater this sophistication, the greater this alien force would rely on forms of communications and logistics that must necessarily present vulnerabilities to the irregular.

Third, the enemy must be sufficiently weak in numbers so as to be unable to occupy the disputed territory in depth with a system of interlocking fortified posts.

Fourth, the guerrilla must have at least the passive support of the populace, if not its full involvement. By Lawrence's calculation, 'Rebellions can be made by 2 percent active in striking force and 98 percent passively sympathetic.'

Fifth, the irregular force must have the fundamental qualities of speed, endurance, presence and logistical independence.

Sixth, the irregular must be sufficiently advanced in weaponry to strike at the enemy's logistics and signals vulnerabilities."

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

**Bush Takes His 49th Vacation Trip To
Crawford;
Asshole Gets \$1,123 A Day And
Lives;
Troops Get \$49.81 A Day And Die:
What's Wrong With This Picture?**



[Thanks to John Gingerich, Veterans For Peace, who sent this in.]

8.6.05 from Thoughtcrimes.org

Precious Leader has so far spent 319 days "on vacation" in Crawford. Compare this to the average of 70 days peons like you or I get, and you really begin to wonder about all this "hard work" Bush complains about.

Bush makes \$400,000 a year, or \$1,123.60 a DAY. So far, we have paid him \$347,192.40 to clear brush at his fake ranch.

Meanwhile, 14 Marines were killed by an "improvised" anti-tank mine and 7 Marines and an Army soldier were killed in ambushes and a car bombing near the Syrian border.

These men, when they were alive, raked in a princely salary of \$15,480 a year, plus \$225 a month combat pay. All told, they got \$49.81 a day (or \$3.11 an hour for your standard 16 hour combat day).

Where do I sign up?

Here's a thought.

What if we brought home 22 soldiers and let them clear brush on the "Lazy W Ranch"? That's how many soldiers we could pay for with Bush's daily salary. At the same time, we could send George over to see how his war is going and give him an opportunity to see what REAL hard work is like.

If he gets hurt, he'll be treated at the finest underfunded VA hospitals in the world. And if, God forbid, he were killed, Laura can collect that generous \$100,000 "death gratuity" her husband supported

SATAN



(Graphic: Editor@thepeoplesvoice.org)

Rumsfeld Still Defying Congress: Ninnies Do Nothing About It

8.4.05 David S. Broder, Washington Post

Congress inserted a clause in last spring's defense spending bill the ordered Secretary Rumsfeld to deliver a detailed report by last month on measures gauging Iraq's economic and political stability, the extent of the insurgency, and the capacity of Iraqis forces to provide security for their country.

That report has yet to emerge.

The public would be well served if Rumsfeld took this obligation seriously. [Now there's a powerful demand. Maybe Broder can just crawl and beg, and skip the mealy-mouthed rhetoric.]

New Documents Show FBI Targeting Peaceful Protesters In Colorado As Potential Terrorists

August 2, 2005 ACLU.org

DENVER -- The American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado today released new documents that it says confirm that the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) is inappropriately treating people who engage in peaceful protest as potential terrorists.

The ACLU obtained the documents in response to a Freedom of Information Act request filed last December on behalf of 16 organizations and ten individuals.

The files released today contain information on the Colorado American Indian Movement and the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center.

"These documents underscore the ACLU's concern that the JTTF inappropriately regards public protest as potential 'domestic terrorism,' and investigates and builds files on the political activities of peaceful dissenters because of the mere possibility that their activities will attract participants who may violate the law," said Mark Silverstein, ACLU of Colorado Legal Director.

"By casting its net so unjustifiably wide, the FBI wastes taxpayers' money and threatens to chill legitimate dissent."

Silverstein said that the new files show that JTTF agents opened "domestic terrorism" investigations after they read notices on Web sites announcing an antiwar protest in Colorado Springs in 2003 and a protest against Columbus Day in Denver in 2002.

They also reveal that the JTTF monitored the peaceful protest activities of law-abiding groups that formed the Coalition to Stop Vail Expansion in the late 1990s and that it investigated the Boulder-based Activist Media Project for videotaping a Lockheed Martin facility from a public street.

The ACLU said that these documents should raise particular concern from state officials because the Denver Police Department contributes the services of two full-time detectives to the JTTF.

In May, the ACLU asked Denver to withdraw from the FBI task force, stating that a settlement agreement that resolved the "Spy Files" case forbids Denver detectives to target individuals or organizations for investigation because of their First Amendment activities.

Schwarzenegger Covering Up Spying On Civilians By Cal. National Guard

Aug. 04, 2005 By Aaron C. Davis, Mercury News Sacramento Bureau

The Schwarzenegger administration and California National Guard are refusing to make public a series of 20 e-mails between two of the governor's spokesmen and a Guard official regarding a Mercury News story in June that revealed the existence of an intelligence-gathering unit.

Sen. Joe Dunn, D-Garden Grove, who is heading a probe into the unit, said the refusal only furthers suspicion the Guard unit may have engaged in domestic spying.

The Guard also acknowledged Wednesday that seven of its computers went missing around the time the story was published and just recently reappeared.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's administration had previously pledged full cooperation in the investigation but is standing behind the Guard's decision to assert "executive privilege" in not releasing the e-mails.

"Given the evasive position that the governor's office has taken, it raises one critical question: 'Governor, what are you hiding?'" Dunn said.

"Knowing that invoking executive privilege is a very serious consideration and that the governor could take a big political hit for this, I have to believe there is something more in play here."

Received:

YES!

From: AH
To: GI Special
Sent: August 06, 2005
Subject: Justice

I've been reading in the paper lately about a lot of peace veterans speaking out on specific war crimes that they witnessed.

I think it would probably be real effective, if they could point out their "superiors" who were involved with making these things happen; and maybe even team up with some attorneys to bring a little justice to the table.

Military Intelligence?

From: NB
To: GI Special
Sent: August 06, 2005
Subject: Military Intelligence?

Brig. Gen. Carter Ham, deputy director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said U.S. forces are trying to clear the area of insurgents who have been using the [An Anbar] region as a route for people, weapons and "possibly ideology." [That puts them one up on the Ham, who obviously has air between his ears.]

Really? I thought it was something else - and I don't mean sawdust!

NB
Portsmouth UK

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://gi-special.iraq-news.de>, <http://www.notinourname.net/gi-special/>,
www.williambowles.info/gispecial,
<http://www.albasrah.net/magalat/english/qi-special.htm>

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