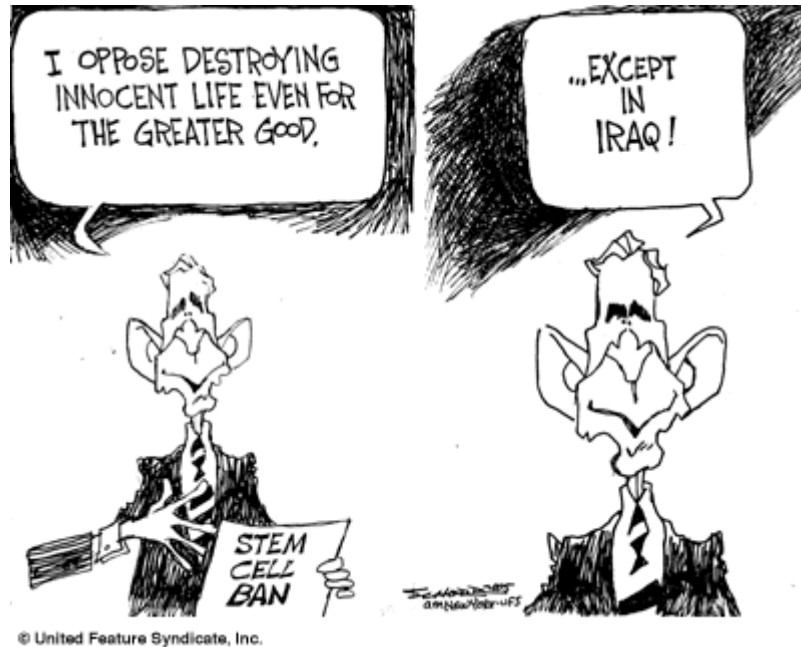


GI SPECIAL 3C30:



IRAQ WAR REPORTS

TWO TASK FORCE LIBERTY SOLDIERS KILLED, TWO WOUNDED BY SAMARRA IED

August 22, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
Release Number: 05-08-33C

TIKRIT, Iraq – One Task Force Liberty Soldier was killed and three were wounded by the detonation of an improvised explosive device on a combat patrol southwest of Samarra at about 12:40 p.m. Aug. 22.

The three wounded Soldiers were taken to a Coalition Forces medical treatment facility, where one later died of wounds.

Two Soldiers Killed By Tall Afar Vehicle Roll-Over

Aug. 22, 2005 MNF Release A050822a

LSA ANACONDA, BALAD, Iraq – **Two 1st Corps Support Command Soldiers were killed when their vehicle rolled over while conducting a combat logistics patrol near Tall Afar about 11:00 p.m. Aug. 21.**

20TH ENGINEER BRIGADE SOLDIER KILLED BY IED AT AD DWAR

August 22, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
Release Number: 05-08-32C

BAGHDAD, Iraq – A 20th Engineer Brigade (Combat) (Airborne) Soldier was killed Aug. 21 in Ad Dwar when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

Miss. Soldier Killed

August 22, 2005 By Lora Hines, Clarion Ledger

Only days after receiving medical clearance to return to duty, Army Sgt. Todd Partridge was killed over the weekend by a roadside bomb in Iraq.

The Natchez native was a great man who loved his family, said his sister, Darlene Moon.

Partridge, 35, was looking forward to January, when he was scheduled to come home from his second tour of duty in Iraq, Moon said.

The Humvee Partridge was driving hit a roadside bomb, Moon said. He had been based somewhere near Baghdad, she said.

He is at least the 38th Mississippian to die in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Moon, 41, of Vidalia, La., said two Army officials on Saturday arrived at her mother's Natchez home and waited for her to arrive. They wouldn't tell Moon's stepfather, Phil McKinney, why they were there.

Moon's mother, Camille McKinney, immediately knew what had happened when she entered her house and the two men stood, Moon said. "She was very shook up," Moon said.

Partridge had just been released to return to duty Wednesday after recuperating from a knee injury, Moon said. He had come home in June for two weeks. Partridge had been stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., where his wife, Rhonda, and their daughters, Kelsee, 11, and Kymberlee, 9, live. The couple had been married 14 years.

"I think (Rhonda) is still in shock as well," Moon said.

Despite their age difference, Moon said she and her younger brother were very close.

"A lot of times growing up, it kind of felt like he was my son," she said as she chuckled. Partridge was 13 when his sister married.

As children, Moon said she and her brother enjoyed hunting and fishing together. Partridge also became close to Moon's husband, Darryl.

A 1988 South Natchez High School graduate, Partridge attended Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson and worked several years. He joined the Army two years ago.

One of her lasting memories of her brother will be the smile that never left his face, Moon said.

She said several people had come by to offer condolences. Michael Williams, 38, of Vidalia, said he and two of Partridges' other childhood friends stopped by to remember their buddy.

"We got to see him a few times when he came in," Williams said. The last time they visited was about a year ago.

He recalled how he and Partridge enjoyed hunting and fishing together. Williams said Sunday it was difficult to visit Partridge's grieving family.

"We can always remember the good things," he said. "I can't remember a bad one."

Moon said plans were being made for her, her husband and her mother to fly to Fort Lewis for a Friday memorial service. Funeral arrangements haven't yet been made.

Guerrillas Ambush Ukrainian Diplomats

August 22, 2005 The China Post

Guerrillas ambushed a small convoy carrying two senior Ukrainian diplomats and their security guards in Iraq, but there were no injuries, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

Ukraine's defense attache, the charge d' affairs and their security team were on their way to a U.S. military base in Baghdad on Saturday when attackers fired from a passenger car with machine guns, the ministry said in a statement.

The attackers fled after security guards returned fire. There were no injuries, the statement said.

This is the first such incident involving Ukrainian diplomats in Iraq.

Interrogation Supervisor Killed

August 22, 2005 By The Associated Press

WILLIAMSTOWN -- A Dauphin County man working in Iraq for a military contractor was killed early Saturday when his convoy was hit by a roadside bomb, a family spokesman said today.

Carl Carroll, 47, of Williamstown, was heading north toward Baghdad when the bomb went off, according to the spokesman, Clint Senter. Several others were injured in the blast.

Carroll was in the Army for 20 years before going to work as a supervisor for Titan Corp., a San Diego-based company that supplies translators and interrogators to the military. He had previously worked in Iraq for another military contractor.

REALLY BAD PLACE TO BE: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW



Private David Stanislawski (R) from Pocatello, Idaho, of the Lighting Troops 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and First Lieutenant Mike Smith from Kansas, watch a military convoy passing along a highway from the top of a Bradley Fighting Vehicle on the outskirts of Baghdad. (AFP/Liu Jin)

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

More Troops “Rushed” In As More U.S. Soldiers Killed

August 22, 2005 By Daniel Cooney, Associated Press

Some 187 U.S. service members have been killed in and around Afghanistan since the start of Operation Enduring Freedom in late 2001 — including 64 during a rash of insurgent attacks in the last six months, which have left about 1,000 other people dead as well.

The bloodshed has led the military to rush in an airborne infantry battalion of about 700 troops on standby in Fort Bragg, N.C., boosting the number of American troops in Afghanistan to about 20,000. Some 3,100 soldiers from 19 other nations also are members of the U.S.-led coalition.

A separate NATO-led peacekeeping force also has brought in reinforcements and now numbers about 10,500.

TROOP NEWS

“Are You OK?” “Alive”

August 18, 2005 by Ralph Ranalli, Boston Globe

"I think she [Cindy Sheehan] has really inspired people with the idea that one person can make a difference," said Rose Gonzalez, 30, of Somerville, who attended the Davis Square protest with her 2-month-old son, Marcos, in a baby sling across her chest and her 2-year-old daughter, Talia, alongside.

'People think, 'Wow, it is OK to speak up about this,' " she said.

Gonzalez, a member of the group Military Families Speak Out, said her 47-year-old mother has been stationed north of Baghdad since January with the Massachusetts National Guard.

A few weeks ago, Gonzalez sent her mother an e-mail message with the subject, "Are you OK?"

Her mother replied a couple of days later; the subject was "Alive," and there were only a few terse sentences in the e-mail reply.

Iraq Vet Says: “If You Want To Find A Terrorist, Look At 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue”



Crawford, Texas: Gold Star Families for Peace continue to await Bush meeting, by Jeff Paterson, Not in Our Name Monday, Aug. 22, 2005 at 1:24 PM: jeff@paterson.net

August 22, 2005 By GREG MOSES, CounterPunch [Excerpt] Greg Moses is editor of the Texas Civil Rights Review.

On stage Saturday night [at Camp Casey, Crawford, Texas] under the listening tent, although I can't find news of it anywhere, not even in the so-called alternative press, there was a long line of emissaries from military families, including Iraq veterans themselves, all of them bringing open messages from within the ranks of the military.

Fight like hell to end this war! That's what they want us to do for them. That's what we have to do anyway. So there are a lot of people, them and us included, who we cannot afford to let down.

My personal favorite was Eddie Boyd who on Friday flew all the way down from Baltimore and who Sunday would be flying all the way back in order to try and keep his job. When they asked if anybody wanted to speak from stage he said hell yes I do, and he said it plain. He said:

"I was one of those guys who fell for the con. I was one of those guys who believed we were out to defend democracy and bring freedom to Iraq. Besides in the neighborhood where I come from, there were not too many options. Eight out of ten of my best friends back home died from a life of crime." Eddie was at Camp Casey to support Sister Sheehan and he wanted us to know that there are lots of honest, hard working people who feel this war is insane.

"And do you want to know what terrorism is?" asked Eddie. "Terrorism is being the richest nation on earth and letting 43 million people go without health care. Terrorism is giving money to large corporations for contracts in Iraq while refusing to put money into schools and hospitals. In Baltimore cameras are watching you 24 hours a day, and they say they are protecting our rights. They say they're fighting for your right to speak. But ever since this war started I got less and less rights. I'm pissed off at this administration."

"Right over there," says Eddie pointing next door. "Is a president on Va-Ca-Tion! We've got wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, not to mention the Philippines and other places. And this man," says Eddie pointing, "decides to go on vacation! Today the line must be drawn."

"When I came back from Iraq my mom could not understand where I was. Yes, physically I was all right. But mentally and spiritually I was dead. If we love our kids so much why don't we keep them from putting on uniforms?"

"And what about the female soldiers who get into the military and face sexual harassment and assault. Don't they too deserve every right to live in peace? **If you want to find a terrorist, look at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, that's where the terrorist lives! And we need to do something about it!**"

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)

STRAWS IN THE WIND;

Dallas Postal Workers Applaud Crawford Action

8.21.05 Greg Moses, peacefile

Speaking from her home in Moody, about 25 miles south of Crawford, Kay Lucas says she doesn't know how many letters her colleague Johnny Wolf picked up at the Dallas Post Office recently, but she does know that when the postal workers there found out that the Crawford Peace House was in the building, they spontaneously came out and applauded.

A Voice From Healdsburg, Calif. - Population July 2002; 11,101:

“Lies Standing In The Way Of Truth”

“Bring Our Soldiers Home Now”

[Thanks to Shonnie Brown, who sent this in. She writes:

[Thought you might be interested in seeing/publishing an editorial written by the publisher of our small town weekly newspaper on August 17, 2005.

[This is the first time any of us can remember seeing him even write an editorial. We are so proud that our publisher would take such a strong stance.]

August 17, 2005 By Rollie Atkinson, The Healdsburg Tribune of Healdsburg, California.

The Bush Administration's War on Iraq was never this nation's war. It is a war of lies and deceit. It is a war that is making us more enemies around the world, not fewer. It is too costly in soldiers' lives and civilian casualties. Our public tax funds are more needed at home.

Bring our soldiers home now so we can begin on new roads to expanded international understandings.

Let's replace the bombings with multi-cultural exchanges and discussions about peace and reconciliation. We can begin this here at home, among ourselves.

The time is now for citizen action to end the killings, the tortures, the lies and the illegal policies being carried out in our names.

We can be a lone war mother like Vacaville's Cindy Sheehan, camped outside President Bush's ranch waiting for an answer to why this war is so "noble." We can be a single young woman like Lakeport's Marla Ruzicka, killed in Baghdad while helping innocent war victims. We could be among the hundreds of local civic club members or church members who pray for peace and actively reach out to other cultures.

But we can not be silent any longer.

All of us lived through the horrible tragedy of September 11, 2001. The images of the World Trade Center bombings remain vivid and devastating.

But September 11, 2001 was not the most tragic day any of us have ever witnessed or endured. That day came a few days later when all the nations and peoples of the world came together in bell ringing, ecumenical prayer and public outpourings of love. All the world's humanity, save for the invisible Islamic terrorists, seemed to pause together in silent prayer. With one voice we asked how can this unimaginable act of hatred be stopped and never repeated again - anywhere.

And, on that day (or very soon after) what was the response of the United States? What did our President Bush do and say?

He declared war on two innocent Muslim nations.

He ignored the advice and violated the counsel of the United Nations. He created a new enemy in our minds that looked Islam, was anti-Christian and hated our freedoms.

He spread fear and hatred among the same people who days before had reached out and prayed together.

The world's civilization was, perhaps, never more poised to affirm a universal message of peace than in that aftermath of September 11, 2001.

That is our most painful tragedy and President Bush's most shameful legacy.

But we can - and must - come back together to reaffirm our willingness to build understanding among all people and to make binding pledges for peace.

We can do this in our churches and in our town halls. We do not have to consider this a political or religious argument. It is an argument about humanity. This is not an anti-war or non-patriotic action. Democrats, Republicans, Christians, Jews and all others can make equal and important contributions. It will require looking within ourselves as much as it will include reaching out to others. Dialogue is a powerful tool.

Why does our society seem so isolated and protected from the consequences of our military actions? Can we deny that our affluent lifestyle and sense of material security is not linked to the need to go to war where there are massive oil deposits? Are there sacrifices we could make so that others may not live with war or Third World poverty?

If we erased the lies of the Iraq War, what truths would we then see?

The Talk In Indianapolis: **“I Think It's Time To Bring 'Em Home. I Do, Really”**

Aug 9, 2005 WISH-TV

Sue Drew and her daughter Roxanna Henzman spent more than \$450 at Sam's Club to send some non-perishable groceries to Iraq. “My son sent us an e-mail and told us stuff that they did not have over there and couldn't get,” said Drew, whose son is stationed at Camp Anaconda, 30 miles north of Baghdad.

Drew and her daughter say they don't like hearing about polls showing Americans may be souring on the war. At the same time, they'd love to see the soldiers in Iraq come home. "I think it's time to bring 'em home. I do, really. I think it's time to bring 'em home," said Drew.

They hope those whose view the war disapprovingly don't blame America's soldiers. "There's a lot of people that are mad at the troops for being over there and I hope they realize one day that it's not the troops fault. And that's what all this is for. It's not for anyone but those troops," said Drew.

Drew hopes to mail her sizable care package to her son and his unit by the end of the week.

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.

“The Only Link Between 9/11 And Iraq Is You” **“You Have Absolutely No Idea What Honor And Bravery Are”**

Jeremy reported back from training in Ft. Hood his concerns about the lack of equipment, especially protective equipment, for his unit. At first I thought he was exaggerating because I couldn't believe my country, my President, would send

thousands upon thousands of soldiers into a war zone without the proper equipment to protect them.

Sir, we do not go to war with the military we have, we go to war with the military we have built up.

August 21, 2005 by Amy Branham, A BUZZFLASH GUEST CONTRIBUTION

President George W. Bush
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC

Re: Sgt. Jeremy R. Smith, U.S. Army Reserves, Deceased

Mr. President,

On February 13, 2004, I lost my son, Sgt. Jeremy R. Smith, U.S. Army Reserves, while he was on active duty preparing for deployment to Iraq. Jeremy was killed on Highway 36, just outside of Gatesville, TX on the way back to Ft. Hood after renting a car so he and his buddies could have one last night out on the town before their departure to Iraq five days later.

Jeremy was not killed in action, but he died a hero just the same, a hero formed from the standards of the United States Army that helped to shape him.

On the way back to the base, Jeremy attempted to pass a car in order to get ahead of it. Too late, he saw a truck coming from the opposite direction. Jeremy could not get back into his lane without causing an accident. So, he drove off the road and straight into a stand of trees going 80 mph. The location of my son's death is about 27 miles from your ranch, where you are currently vacationing.

Jeremy chose not to harm another person because of a stupid mistake he made. He paid the price of that mistake with his life.

It's too bad Jeremy's Commander in Chief doesn't have even close the amount of honor my son had. Jeremy was promoted to Sergeant posthumously and at his funeral I was presented with an Army Commendation Award and Medal for heroism and bravery.

You, on the other hand, have absolutely no idea what honor and bravery are.

I want to take a few minutes and tell you about Jeremy and how his loss has affected my family.

First of all, Jeremy was my first-born child and only son. When he died, Jeremy was only 22 years old. He left behind two younger sisters, Danielle and Jaime, who loved their brother with all their hearts and who, to this day, are heartbroken with the knowledge they will never see their big brother again. This past week Jaime gave birth to a beautiful little baby boy that she named after her big brother to honor him. My grandson, Aiden, will never know his Uncle Jeremy, who would have been thrilled to be an Uncle. My son loved his family and was very protective of his sisters and me.

Jeremy had big, dark eyes and a strange sense of humor. He was quick to laugh, but hid his smile in a shy kind of way that was endearing to all who loved him. Before being called to active duty, Jeremy was a good student at ITT in Houston, TX, where he was studying computer science. He left behind two computers he had built at home by himself that he used to run an internet server. He had techie friends from all across the globe who still mourn his loss.

Jeremy will never marry and he will never have children of his own that I can bounce on me knee, a proud Grandma. I will never again hear his laugh, caress his face or hug him. Day after day I imagine Jeremy walking through my back door, calling out "Mother, I'm home!" as I awaken from a terrible nightmare that never ends.

I have spent the last eighteen months pacing the floor, sleepless, night after night wondering why this war had to happen and why you were so driven to do it. I have been in the deepest, darkest pit of hell where depression grips you to your soul.

Jeremy entered the Army several months before 9/11, fulfilling a dream he had had since he was in high school to serve his country. At the same time, Jeremy wanted to see the world and be able to go to college, all of which service in the Army would be able to provide. On 9/11 my family gathered together in fear, knowing that Jeremy would eventually be sent into a war zone. As a family, we were supportive of this and of Jeremy's desire to protect our country.

Mr. President, my son loved his country and all that it stands for. He believed you and your administration when you said there were weapons of mass destruction, that the 9/11 terrorists were linked to Saddam Hussein and Iraq and that America's invasion of Iraq would only help the Iraqi people.

For the record, I was supportive, in the beginning, of America's invasion of Iraq and the liberation of the Iraqi people from an oppressive, inhumane dictator.

On November 29, 2003, my husband and I drove Jeremy to report for active duty in Huntsville, TX. It was two days after Jeremy's 22nd birthday. How can I put into words that you could ever possibly understand what it's like to spend two decades of my life protecting my precious son from all harm, only to be the one to take him to report to go to war? It was heartbreaking, to say the least. I knew I was sending my son into harm's way, yet I was helpless to do anything about it. Is there any way that you can find it within your heart to understand this?

Even before Jeremy's untimely death, I began to have nagging doubts about this invasion. At one time I tried to get my son to leave the Army because I felt you and your administration were sending Jeremy into an unwinnable situation, a situation that would, at the very least, cost Jeremy his humanity and, at worst, cost Jeremy his life.

Jeremy reported back from training in Ft. Hood his concerns about the lack of equipment, especially protective equipment, for his unit. At first I thought he was exaggerating because I couldn't believe my country, my President, would send

thousands upon thousands of soldiers into a war zone without the proper equipment to protect them.

Sir, we do not go to war with the military we have, we go to war with the military we have built up.

If you are going to take a country to war, to pull America's sons and daughters away from their homes, their families and their lives, you had better make darn sure you have properly equipped them and that it's for a damn good reason.

In your zeal to get into Iraq, you didn't care about these things and neither did the people who orchestrated this whole thing for you. You, as their leader, should have protected these men and women, but you didn't. You didn't care and couldn't take the time out of your busy vacation schedule to make sure these needs were met. As a result, many thousands of soldiers have been wounded or are dead.

How does it feel to have their blood on your hands? Do you dream of this at night?

Your callousness and distasteful jokes about the war are offensive to me. One instance that instantly comes to mind is when you were jokingly looking under your desk and other places for WMD's when they weren't found in Iraq. The day you stood on the deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln and declared Victory and that the war in Iraq was over was another offensive moment. It was only a few short weeks after the invasion began and our soldiers were still being killed.

How could you declare victory in an invasion that was still going on? You were a fool that day and you are a fool today.

Still you continue to run your mouth as you try to gain support for your illegal war and invasion of Iraq.

You do not acknowledge the thousands upon thousands of innocent Iraqi citizens who have died because of this war. You continue to insist that there is a link between 9/11 and Iraq when it is very common knowledge that this is not true.

The only link between 9/11 and Iraq is you and your continued insistence on lying to the American people, and the world, that this is true.

Sure, you are fooling a few people, but more and more people are waking up, doing their own homework and feeling betrayed by you.

Furthermore, you can't decide what the justification for continuing to be in Iraq is. That justification changes from week to week, I guess in response to how well the American people are accepting your excuses to stay there.

So, Mr. President, exactly what is the "noble cause" that my son and the other sons and daughters are dying for?

It's not the liberation of Iraq and it's not for Democracy, because most of the people of the Middle East don't want democracy.

It's not to fight terrorism because we are only fanning the flames of terrorists every day that American troops are in Iraq. It is not to make America safer because you have done nothing to make America safer.

Your "noble cause" couldn't possibly have anything to do with giving the Iraqi people a better life, because their lives are worse now, not better. Our borders are wide open for terrorists to come across, but you insist on keeping them open to make your pal, Vincente Fox, happy. Your "noble cause" changes from week to week.

I believe your "noble cause" is oil and blood money for those good buddies of yours who are making money off this war.

Your "noble cause" is to go down in history as a War President, something you are proud of and have worked very hard to accomplish. While you sit in your nice, comfortable home, work out for two hours a day and get on with your life so you can maintain balance, you need to think long and hard about what a truly noble cause is. You have no idea.

Our soldiers are out there daily, putting their lives on the line for you while you have been on vacation almost 365 days during your Presidency.

These guys don't get vacations. Their families don't ever get a chance to maintain balance in their lives as they live in daily fear for their loved ones.

The tide is turning, Mr. President.

The mothers and fathers of America are saying "not my child", just as they said during Viet Nam "hell no we won't go".

You had better start listening and talking with us because we are the ones who are paying the price for your war, and we aren't going to take it anymore.

Sincerely,

Amy Branham
Houston, TX
Proud Mother of Sgt. Jeremy R. Smith
Nov. 1981 – Feb. 2004
Gold Star Families for Peace

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.

SECNAV Nominee A Multi-Millionaire: Got His Blood Money From War Profits

August 18, 2005 Defense Daily

Donald Winter, the White House's pick for Navy Secretary, received a "special bonus" of \$4.4 million when Northrop Grumman closed its acquisition of his former company, TRW Systems, in late 2002 and has made about \$2.4 million from the sale of Northrop stock over the past two years.

Winter's sales could catch the attention of some lawmakers because Northrop has been struggling as of late to keep shipbuilding costs in check as Navy budgets have been cut.

Marines Admit Shortage Of Cargo Helicopters: "I Know We've Got Great Minds Working On It" Antiques Brought Back From Desert Junkyard

Aug 21, 2005 The Associated Press

CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, N.C. -- The Marine Corps is coping with a shortage of heavy cargo helicopters by dusting off choppers that have been mothballed in the Arizona desert for a decade and retrofitting them for service.

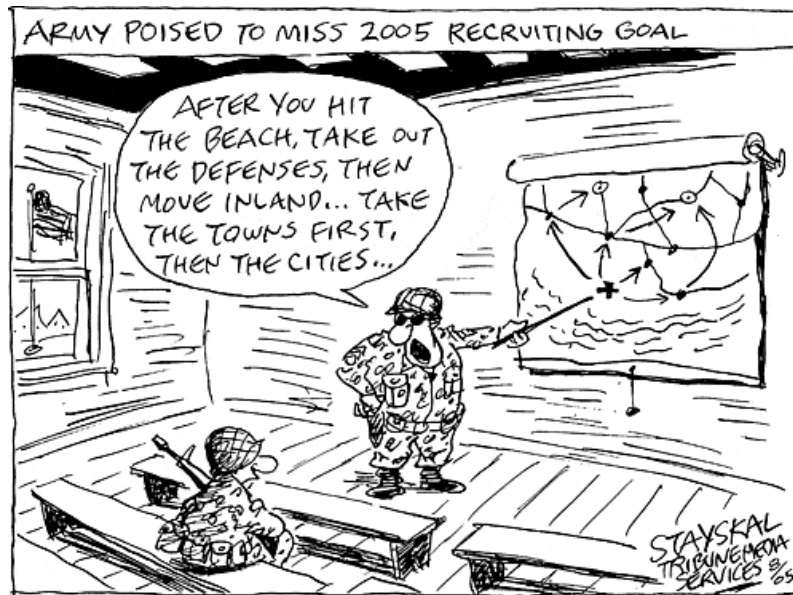
Civilian maintenance workers at the Naval Air Depot at the Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station this week will start cleaning and updating three shelved Navy MH-53E Sea Dragons. It could take 20 months to transform them into the Marine version of the aircraft, the Super Stallion.

The Marines have been forced into taking the extraordinary step because they have only 150 of their only heavy-lift workhorses left in their fleet. Six Super Stallions have been destroyed in crashes since 2001 and the rest are logging long hours in the air in war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"They're coasting on legacy fleets," said Richard Aboulafia, an analyst with the Teal Group, an aerospace and defense consulting company in Fairfax, Va. "They planned to coast indefinitely ... and it would have worked just fine if it hadn't been for Afghanistan and Iraq."

A replacement helicopter, designated the CH-53X, is in the works but it will probably be at least a decade before the new choppers are deployed, said John Milliman, a helicopter acquisition programs spokesman at Patuxent River Marine Air Station in Maryland.

"We will cover it somehow. I know we've got great minds working on it." Milliman said.



Recruiter Says: “I Have Never Had So Many People Treat Me With Such Disrespect”

Letters To The Editor
August 22, 2005
Army Times

Regarding a letter written by an active-duty recruiter (“Help or get out of the way,” July 18), I recently started recruiting for the National Guard and I have never had so many people treat me with such disrespect simply for calling their house and asking to talk to their son or daughter.

I have recruited before for the active-duty Army, and I know that rejection as well as disrespect come with the territory, but I would say that three out of five contacts end in a negative way.

It is not the young men and women who are typically scared to serve their country.

It is the parents who are preventing them from doing it.

Instead of pumping billions of dollars of federal money into bonuses and enlistment incentives, the Army should start targeting the parents of these kids and spending money on ad campaigns to combat the negativity that the media is portraying.

Maybe it's the parents whom we should be offering the bonuses to.

Tom R. Renteria
Olympia, Wash.

Groups Aim To Stop Recruiting At Schools In U.S. Colony

August 22, 2005 Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — A coalition of non-governmental groups launched a new campaign Sunday aimed at stopping high schools in Puerto Rico from giving student information to U.S. military recruiters.

The Citizen Coalition Against Militarism will visit high schools around the U.S. Caribbean territory this week to urge students and parents not to allow schools to release students' names, addresses, phone numbers and other data to military recruiters, the group said in a statement.

The group plans to distribute forms that students and parents can send to schools asking them to withhold personal data from military recruiters, as allowed under the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act, the group said.

Puerto Rico's 4 million residents cannot vote for U.S. president and have no vote in Congress. They were made American citizens in 1917 during World War I and have served in the U.S. military since then.

About 1,800 Puerto Rican soldiers are stationed in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Bosnia, according to the U.S. military.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Assorted Resistance Action

August 22, 2005 Times Of Oman & Reuters

TARMIYA - Ten Iraqis, eight of them policemen, were shot dead by gunmen north of Baghdad on Monday, police and hospital sources said.

The men, who had left their police station wearing civilian clothes, were travelling in a minivan along with three other civilians when gunmen followed them in three cars and sprayed them with gunfire, police captain Karim al-Salmani said.

Three policemen were badly injured when a roadside bomb blew up near their patrol in central Kirkuk, police Captain Ahmed Abdullah said.

A police commando who headed an anti-terrorist unit in the northern city of Kirkuk was killed when masked armed fighters sprayed his car with bullets. His wife was also killed in the attack.

In a separate attack, armed fighters shot dead two truck drivers 50 kilometres (31 miles) north of Baquba, and killed a guard with the special Facility Protection Security Force, police said.

One Iraqi policeman was killed when insurgents sprayed his vehicle with gunfire in the northern city of Samarra, police said.

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

Resistance Attack On Power Lines Cripples Southern Oil Exports; Exports From North Permanently Cut Off

08.22.2005 Associated Press & Aljazeera.Net

Exports resumed at Iraq's only functioning oil terminals Monday afternoon following a shut down for much of the day because of a power cut that darkened parts of central and southern Iraq, an official of the South Oil Co. said.

Other officials said waiting tankers were being serviced by pumps on auxillary power at a rate much reduced from normal.

Iraqi officials said sabotage was a sabotage-induced electricity shortage was responsible for Monday's blackout, which prevented oil from being pumped into tankers waiting at berths.

A port official and an employee at the South Oil Company, which runs Iraq's southern oilfields, said pumping stopped at 7 am on Monday.

They gave no further details. But an official with a shipping company in Dubai confirmed that exports from southern Iraq had ceased because of the power cut.

"Oil terminals have completely stopped exports from Basra and Khor al-Amaya," said Mohammed Hadi, head of Iraq Operation for Norton Lilly International. "Both terminals use the same power source."

Exports through the country's other main route, the northern export pipeline to Turkey, have long been halted by incessant sabotage.

No shipments are being made to Ceyhan, the officials said.

Resistance Attack On Power Lines Cut Baghdad Electricity Supply "Two Days Ago"

8.15.05 ALJAZEERA

Electricity was cut through Baghdad and many parts of Iraq early on Monday after an attack on a major electricity feeder line between Beiji and the capital.

Government spokesman Laith Kubba said on Sunday that the attack occurred two days ago, "and this will, of course, affect the power supply in Baghdad".

He said repairs were under way.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

New Use For Ancient Curse

From: Z
To: GI Special
Sent: August 22, 2005
Subject: new use for ancient curse

A curse upon the chickenhawks!

**May the bleeding piles assail you
from your heads down to your feet,
may the crabs the size of lobsters
crawl on your balls and eat!**

**And when you're old and withered,
greedy chicken-hearted wrecks,
may you fall down your own assholes
and break your fucking necks!**

Note: The only hope of mitigating this dreadful curse--and worse!—is by bringing the troops home immediately.

Bless the troops, damn the warmongers!
Solidarity
Z

Liberals/Conservatives

From: Alan S
To: GI Special
Sent: August 20, 2005
Subject: Liberals/Conservatives

The difference between a liberal and a conservative is not nearly as vast as some would think.

For example, let's assume Ayatollah Khomeini decided you were to be executed at 3pm the next day; you make no plans for 3:05.

On the other hand, if a liberal overheard this he would put his arm around a doomed shoulder and say what a nasty person that conservative is; then he would hire someone else to do it.

The Desecration Of KIA Memorial At Camp Casey: Bush Followers Spit On KIA Monument

August 8, 2005 By Ward Reilly, Veterans For Peace, From Crawford, Texas

In the late 60's, the Nixon regime went to great lengths to spread rumors and lies about the returning troops being spat upon by protestors, claiming that the soldiers were treated like criminals when they returned from Viet Nam. Don Rumsfeld and Dick Cheney worked in that administration, remember?

Almost every one of those claims were discredited, and not a single case has been actually documented, but today the dis-honoring of the KIA from Iraq has come full circle.

This morning, a crazed Bush-Cheney supporter ran over the crosses and stars that made up the "Arlington West" KIA monument at "Camp Casey", a non-partisan monument that had been built by war veterans to honor every soldier, sailor, and marine that has been killed in Iraq, and named after KIA soldier Casey Sheehan, a soldier who was told to his face that he would "never see war or combat because of his great army test scores."

I'll bet that Casey and the others that died with him thought they were in combat.

Every one of those memorial markers had the name of a KIA troop on it, a soldier that has given his or her life for the very man that ran them over.

In this case the driver of the truck actually built an apparatus on his truck to insure maximum destruction to the shrine. Larry Northern of Waco, Texas stopped his truck, hooked a metal bar to a chain trailing behind his pickup truck, and proceeded to drive the length of the site, trying to destroy the memorial, which had taken several days for veterans to set up.

He knocked down about 75% of the markers, and completely destroyed about 100 of the almost 2000 markers that had been meticulously placed.

War veterans quickly got back to work in the 100 degree sun to remake the memorial site.

Ironically, it was one of the destroyed markers that was the downfall of the Bush supporter who was caught shortly after, as a broken marker punctured his tire, leading to his capture, and he was charged with destruction of property, a felony.

In my opinion, if this is not a hate crime, directed at veterans and anti-war citizens, I don't know what is, and that is what this neocon-lover should be charged with. He has spit on the troops coming home in the worst possible and cowardly way.

This was no drunken teenager, rather it was a grown man who planned this destructive and disrespectful act. The Camp Casey memorial site should be considered as nothing less than any other war memorial, and it reflects the complete reversal of what the republicans' mantra was during Viet Nam, that being that the anti-war crowd were disrespectful to our troops upon return.

Now who is being disrespectful, Mr. President? One of your followers, that's who. This time we now have PROOF of who "spits on the troops."

I am happy to report that Arlington West's' memorial will be in tip-top shape shortly, and even the rampant hate by the Bush crowd has not dampened the spirit at Camp Casey.

In this case the act of hatred has had a reverse affect, that being that more people than ever are flocking to Crawford, Texas, and that "Camp Casey's" are popping up all over the nation, as are vigils in honor of our KIA soldiers. One woman

showed up at the site, proclaiming that she did not support the anti-war folk, but that she was ashamed of the actions of her fellow war supporter.

A local landowner has now donated an acre of his property to make the lives of the anti-war folk even nicer than it has been, if that is possible, and if you ever wanted to see what pure love looked like, just travel out to Crawford and be a part of Camp Casey. Cindy Sheehan isn't going anywhere, and a huge gathering of citizens trying to save our nation will not be denied..

I spent 4 days there, and I am heading back. It is unlike anything in United States history, and I will stand with all my fellow vets squarely behind Cindy and the KIA soldiers we are honoring.

Everyone is welcome here, and I feel sorry for anyone that doesn't get to be a part of "Camp Casey".

OCCUPATION REPORT

Winning More Friends: For The Armed Resistance That Is



U.S. Army Spc. Johnny Rodriguez with the 1st Armored Division stands watch next to an Iraqi woman as members of his squad search her farm in the northern Iraq town of Samarra August 12, 2005. REUTERS/USAF/Tech. Sgt. Russell E. Cooley IV/Handout

There's nothing quite like invading somebody else's country and busting into their houses by force to arouse an intense desire to kill you in the patriotic, self-respecting civilians who live there.

But your commanders know that, don't they? Don't they?

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

Officer In U.S. Command Found Committing Criminal Acts: Scumbag Takes Kids As Hostages In Violation Of Law Of Land Warfare

August 16, 2005 Xinhua

US troops held five children as hostages to demand handover of insurgents near a northern Iraqi town on Tuesday, police said.

"The US forces surrounded the village of Mazraa near Baiji and detained five children under 10 years old, calling on the residents by loudspeakers to hand over several other children showed on TV channels celebrating the killing of US soldiers after roadside blast last week," a police source from Baiji told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The US troops threatened to sweep the village by Wednesday morning to detain the other children and suspected insurgents, he said.

[Should the U.S. command fail to place the officer or officers responsible under arrest, by the rules of war, the belligerent party opposed may try the officer or officers by court-martial upon capture, and impose such punishment as they may see fit. Since there is no honorable society that condones the taking of child hostages, the punishment is likely to be and should be severe.]

More:

Instruction on the Law of Land Warfare:

is required in all Army's Initial Entry Training, including Basic Combat Training and the Officer Basic Course.

The warfare guide is the basis for the one-hour class new soldiers receive in Basic Combat Training. Drill sergeants must cover humane treatment of POWs,

detainees and civilians on the battlefield, as well as how to deal with criminal or unlawful orders, said Lt. Col. Ralph Tremaglio, deputy Staff Judge Advocate General for Fort Benning, Ga.

The training guide stresses that “certain acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever.” These include:

B “Violation to the life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment torture.”

“Taking of hostages.”

Matthew Cox, ARMY TIMES STAFF WRITER 5.24.04

WELCOME TO LIBERATED IRAQ



Oleg Papor / Reuters

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Zionist Soldiers Bully A Student At Checkpoint To Death

8.15.05 (IPC)

Resident, from Qulqelia was killed Sunday at an Israeli military checkpoint nearby Beit Ebia town of Nablus.

Bashar Fakgri al Kadri, 23, was held in a hole dug by the Israeli soldiers manning the checkpoint, with handcuffed for two hours under the scorching summer sun

heat, leading to his fatal death, while he was in his way back home from Al Najah University, relatives of Al Kadri accounted on.

They also added that the Israeli officer at the checkpoint had held Al Kadri in a hole with handcuffed and left him for two hours under the sweltering August's heat.

The occupation soldiers had thrown Al Kadri out the hole nearby the checkpoint after the deterioration of his health and had been through repeated faints.

One of the drivers passing through the checkpoint transferred him to a hospital in Tulkarem but he pronounced dead a few days of the abusive attack.



[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation by a foreign power, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The foreign army is Israeli; the occupied nation is Palestine.]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

14 More Terrorist Babies Reported

[Thanks to JM, who sent this in.]

August 16, 2005 By LESLIE MILLER - Associated Press Writer

Infants have been stopped from boarding planes at airports throughout the U.S. because their names are the same as or similar to those of possible terrorists on the government's "no-fly list."

It sounds like a joke, but it's not funny to parents who miss flights while scrambling to have babies' passports and other documents faxed.

Ingrid Sanden's 1-year-old daughter was stopped in Phoenix before boarding a flight home to Washington at Thanksgiving.

"I completely understand the war on terrorism, and I completely understand people wanting to be safe when they fly," Sanden said. "But focusing the target a little bit is probably a better use of resources."

Innocent passengers can be caught up in the security sweep if they happen to have the same name as someone on the lists.

That can happen even if the person happens to be an infant like Sanden's daughter. (Children under 2 don't need tickets but Sanden purchased one for her daughter to ensure she had a seat.)

"It was bizarre," Sanden said. "I was hugely pregnant, and I was like, 'We look really threatening.'"

Sarah Zapolsky and her husband had a similar experience last month while departing from Dulles International Airport outside Washington. An airline ticket agent told them their 11-month-old son was on the government list.

They were able to board their flight after ticket agents took a half-hour to fax her son's passport and fill out paperwork.

"I understand that security is important," Zapolsky said. "But if they're just guessing, and we have to give up our passport to prove that our 11-month-old is not a terrorist, it's a waste of their time."

Well-known people like Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., and David Nelson, who starred in the sitcom "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet," also have been stopped at airports because their names match those on the lists.

ACLU lawyer Tim Sparapani said the problem of babies stopped by the no-fly list illustrates some of the reasons the lists don't work.

"There's no oversight over the names," Sparapani said. "We know names are added hastily, and when you have a name-based system you don't focus on solid intelligence leads. You focus on names that are similar to those that might be suspicious."

The Transportation Security Administration, which administers the lists, instructs airlines not to deny boarding to children under 12 - or select them for extra security checks - even if their names match those on a list.

But it happens anyway. Debby McElroy, president of the Regional Airline Association, said: "Our information indicates it happens at every major airport."

The TSA has a "passenger ombudsman" who will investigate individual claims from passengers who say they are mistakenly on the lists.

TSA spokeswoman Yolanda Clark said 89 children have submitted their names to the ombudsman. Of those, 14 are under the age of 2.

CLASS WAR REPORTS

Chinese Workers Fight Back Against Cops & Corporation Bosses

21 August 2005 By Audra Ang, The Associated Press

BEIJING - Protesters demanding the closure of an eastern China battery factory they say is spewing lead into the environment clashed with police, and dozens of people were injured, witnesses and hospital officials said Sunday.

After the initial melee with police, thousands of demonstrators torched police cars and broke into government offices, witnesses reported.

Saturday's violence began after a large crowd gathered outside the Tian Neng Battery Factory in Meishan, a town in Zhejiang province, to demonstrate against lead pollution, said a villager, who refused to give his name for fear of retribution.

"Police fired tear gas into the crowd and beat innocent bystanders," the man said in a telephone interview. "I also saw some ambulances go through the area to pick up injured people."

He could not give an estimate of how many demonstrators were involved except to say there were "many, many people."

Another man, who did not want to give his name for fear of retaliation against his family, said about 1,000 police officers later went to villages and harassed and beat the participants, injuring at least 10 people. The police were holding shields and wearing helmets, he said.

The man, who said he was told about the incident by witnesses, said up to 5,000 residents retaliated later that night by "breaking into government offices and burning police cars."

He said the protesters wanted the factory to shut down or move, but company officials refused.

Received:

End It Already

From: JL
To: GI Special
Sent: August 22, 2005
Subject: End it Already

Dear GI Special,

In These Times August 21, 2005 "End it Already" by Joel Bleifuss 'Standing between the American public and the war's grim reality are the news organizations that, in exchange for embedded status, have accepted White House rules for journalistic engagement.

In effect the major media organizations are telling soldiers: Showing your blood and toil is less important than securing our front-row seats on the battlefield.'

During Viet Nam we saw the war on TV every night. Now it's anything but the war. That's why GI Special's coverage is so important. And why the stand in Crawford begun by Cindy Sheehan is so valuable.

It's more than gasoline at three bucks a gallon. It's 1864 Americans who are not coming home and 13,887 maimed and wounded.

And it's only God knows how many tens of thousands of innocent Iraqis murdered for their nation's oil.

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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