

## **GI SPECIAL 3C67:**



FTA 1968

# **“Sex Happens”**

**World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam saw soldiers not only drink but have sex. We now have a command structure that frowns upon both, and how do today’s soldiers relieve the stress of combat duty? By eating ice cream and drinking soda pop.**

Letters To The Editor  
September 26, 2005  
Army Times

Let’s get real.

**This is the first war in American history where doing “that” is looked down upon.**

**World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam saw soldiers not only drink but have sex.**

**We now have a command structure that frowns upon both, and how do today’s soldiers relieve the stress of combat duty? By eating ice cream and drinking soda pop.**

**A great concept for Mama to believe in, because her son or daughter doesn’t do “that” outside of marriage. Not too practical in a hard-charging environment such as a combat zone.**

**Faithfulness is a great concept, but people, being human, will continue to have sex and drink alcohol in a war zone and on the home front.**

All (former Spc. Rachel Moyal) did was go public with her actions and not feel ashamed. Good going, girl (“The Real World’ welcomes Iraq vet,” [Army Times] July 18).

**I’m glad to no longer be a part of this squeaky-clean-at-all-costs military.**

Sgt. Alan Griggs (ret.)  
Buckeye, Ariz.

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Letters To The Editor  
September 26, 2005  
Army Times

I have only watched the first episode “Real World: Austin” series.

I am a 10-year serviceman of the Army National Guard and have been a military policeman for my entire career.

I spent a year in Baghdad, at two bases — the former Camp Falcon, under the auspices of the 82nd Airborne Division, and Camp Provider, under the 501st Forward Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division, with my home unit, the 214th Military Police Company from May 29, 2003, to May 21, 2004.

**When I was in Iraq, they told me it was a total hands-off policy for all acts of a sexual nature. I remember the full-bird colonel that we fell under came to us at Camp Falcon and in a big group chat said — I’ll paraphrase — “Keep away from my females.”**

**As we all know, sex is part of human nature, and no matter how much you forbid or monitor it, nature will take its course.**

**We’ve got a coed Defense Department here, folks. Sex happens.**

If Ms. Moyal has acted or said inappropriate things, turn the show off. Don’t watch it if you’re offended.

**Is the establishment going to turn the soldiers into sexually frustrated, angry, depressed time bombs? Or are the big wigs up in the Pentagon going to recognize that soldiers are human, not machines.**

Spc. Leslie B. Kilgore  
Anniston, Ala.

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## IRAQ WAR REPORTS

# ONE SOLDIER KILLED; ONE SOLDIER WOUNDED BY IED ATTACK

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS RELEASE  
Number: 05-09-29C

**LSA ANACONDA, BALAD, Iraq – One 56th BCT Soldier died as a result of his wounds and one Soldier was wounded as a result of an improvised explosive device attack while conducting a combat logistics patrol at about 10:45 a.m. Sept. 28, near Safwan, Iraq.**

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## MARINE KILLED IN AR RAMADI

9.28.05 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS RELEASE  
Number: 05-09-30C

**CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – A Soldier assigned to 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), was killed in action by small arms fire while conducting combat operations in Ar Ramadi, Iraq on Sept. 27.**

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## Army Truck Driver Is Killed By Roadside Bomb

September 21, 2005 By MICHELLE O'DONNELL, The New York Times Company

**An Army truck driver who had lived in the Bronx and Queens after immigrating from Surinam died on Saturday after a roadside bomb exploded near his Humvee during an escort mission in western Iraq, the Department of Defense said yesterday.**

The driver, Staff Sgt. Regilio E. Nelom, was assigned to the 249th Quartermaster Company, I Corps Support Command of Fort Bragg, N.C. He was killed in Al Asad, Iraq.

Sergeant Nelom, 45, who moved to the United States from Surinam in 1987 and settled in the Bronx, had been in Iraq with his company since June. His wife, Cynthia, said her husband, who had also served in the army in Surinam, had tried for years to join the United States military and finally was able to enlist in 1994.

"He loved it, he loved it," Mrs. Nelom said last night, speaking in a soft voice by telephone from the couple's home in Killeen, Tex. "I know my husband liked to be a

driver. He was always driving here and there. He had done all kinds of odd jobs before."

**Those jobs that he took in New York included a stint at McDonald's, delivering mail inside an office building, and another job delivering the newspaper, which required him to awaken before dawn and drag a cart of newspapers, even on winter's coldest and snowiest days, Mrs. Nelom said.**

**"He was so tired," she recalled. "We couldn't afford a car. But he said he was doing it for his family."**

**"I swear, he was the best," she added.**

The couple had known each other as children, but became reacquainted in 1987, when her brother ran into Sergeant Nelom in New York and invited him to a Thanksgiving celebration, where he and Mrs. Nelom talked all night. A friendship blossomed, then love, and the couple married in the Bronx in 1989, and later moved to Woodhaven, Queens.

**Two daughters followed, Megan, now 14, and Briane, 11. It was Megan who answered the door Sunday morning when two Army officials arrived at 6:30 a.m. and asked for her mother, who had already begun her shift at the nursing home where she worked. When Mrs. Nelom arrived home, she found Megan collapsed on the couch, sobbing.**

**"She knew when she saw them," Mrs. Nelom said, adding, "It's just something I don't wish on nobody."**

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## **S.J. Soldier Killed**

September 21, 2005 By GEORGE CLARK, Courier-Post Staff

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael Egan, 36, a 1987 graduate of Pennsauken High School, was one of four soldiers reported killed when their vehicle was blown up by a roadside bomb in Iraq, family members said.**

Egan, who had a wife and 3-year-old daughter in New Castle, Del., was serving in an Army National Guard unit based in Philadelphia and had been deployed to Iraq for less than three months, his family said.

The incident occurred near the insurgent stronghold of Ramadi about 70 miles west of Baghdad, the Associated Press reported.

News of Egan's death came to Pennsauken shortly after 6 a.m. Tuesday, Krista Egan said. His mother, Irene, who lives on Walnut Avenue, was on the telephone when an Army sergeant walked up to the door.

"My mother-in-law was talking on the telephone to Mike's wife, Maria, when he came," Krista Egan said. "Maria had just got the news. The Army sergeant told my mother-in-law it was his first time notifying a family."

Krista Egan, who is married to Egan's brother Patrick, 28, said her brother-in-law served in the Marine Corps for nine years, was a civilian for a year, then joined the National Guard.

"He was well-liked by everyone," Patrick Egan said. "He was a very gentle person," said Anne Frentzen, an aunt from Beach Haven.

Egan worked for Alliance Electric, near Philadelphia International Airport, John Green said.

Egan and his wife and daughter lived in Pennsauken and Philadelphia until moving to New Castle, Del., less than a year ago, he said. Egan is survived by his wife, Maria; a daughter, Samantha; his mother, Irene; and two brothers, Tony and Patrick.

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## Calexico National Guardsman Killed

9.21.05 Milrose Basco, Reporter, kswt

**The fifth member of the military from the Imperial Valley to die in Iraq was killed late last week.**

An Imperial Valley serviceman was reported killed in Iraq at the end of last week. Thirty-five-year old Alfredo Barajas Silva of Calexico was with the First 487th Battalion of the National Guard based in Modesto, California.

A National Guard spokesman says Silva's vehicle struck an explosive device. Three others in the vehicle received minor wounds in the blast.

Silva leaves behind a wife and daughter.

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## Local Soldier Killed



## Specialist William Evans

September 21 By Brandie Meng, WNEP

Family and friends gathered Wednesday to remember Specialist William Evans, 22, of Hallstead. The National Guard soldier was killed while on patrol in Iraq Monday.

His father sat beside the photo of his son Wednesday as members of the National Guard confirmed the explosion that took the life of three Pennsylvania soldiers.

With tears in his eyes and disbelief in his mind, he listened as the details of his son's death were released.

Monday SPC Evans was on routine patrol when his convoy was attacked in Al Ramadi, Al Anbar province. Officials said the explosive device is usually camouflaged and is detonated by remote.

SPC Evans, a Hallstead native, was deployed to Iraq in June with 2,100 other Pennsylvania National Guard members. He had a family history of service to the New Milford 109th Reserve Unit. Several cousins had served before him.

Those who knew Evans best said he was the life of any party, the family clown, the one who went out of his way to make you smile and laugh.

"He had a lot of energy, outgoing. Once he set his mind to do something you couldn't stop him from doing it. That was one of the best things about him," said friend Cadet Andrew Park. "He's going to be sorely missed around here for sure."

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September 26, 2005 By Rowan Scarborough, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

**A senior Pentagon official who monitors daily intelligence reports on Iraq was asked whether the U.S. is winning.**

**"Good question," the official said. "It's open to discussion." The official spoke as the death toll among U.S. troops topped the 1,900 mark.**

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

# **Bomber Kills Nine At Kabul Army Training Center**

28 September 2005 Aljazeera

**A bomber on a motorcycle has blown himself up at an army training centre in the Afghan capital, killing nine people and injuring 28, the Defence Ministry says.**

"Today, just after 4.30 pm (1200 GMT), a man riding on a motorbike carried out a suicide attack in front of the Kabul military training centre," Defence Ministry spokesman Mohammed Zahir Azimi said on Wednesday.

"Our initial reports suggest that nine people have been killed and 28 wounded. Four of the nine killed are Afghan National Army soldiers and the rest are under investigation," he said.

He said the bomber was wearing a military uniform.

**Azimi said most of the dead were army officers. Another ministry official said eight of the dead were soldiers and another was a civilian.**

**Four minibuses that had been carrying soldiers were burned in the attack, witnesses said.**

Major Andy Elmes, a spokesman for the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) peacekeepers, said it had rushed teams to help treat and evacuate casualties.

Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi named the bomber as Kabul resident Sardar Mohammad and warned that the insurgents planned more such attacks.

**Elsewhere in Afghanistan, bomb blasts also killed three people and wounded five, including a Bangladeshi UN worker.**

**Two police officers and a civilian died and four civilians were wounded in a suspected mine blast in the eastern province of Kunar on Wednesday, police said, adding that the device may have been planted by the Taliban.**

**A Bangladeshi engineer working with the UN Office for Project Services was critically wounded by a roadside bomb on Tuesday while travelling in a convoy in adjacent Nangarhar province, a UN official said.**

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## **“Afghan” Interior Minister Resigns: Doesn’t Want To Give Up U.S. Citizenship (!)**

[It’s not a puppet government. Oh, hell no.]

27 September 2005 Aljazeera.

Afghan Interior Minister Ali Ahmad Jalali has resigned, amid widespread reports of disagreements with President Hamid Karzai over the appointment of factional leaders to provincial posts.

**Analysts also say he has been unhappy about a constitutional requirement, barring ministers from holding dual citizenship, that would oblige him to give up his American passport.**

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## **TROOP NEWS**

# **1,783 More Called Up For Imperial Slaughter**

September 28, 2005 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 983-05

**This week, the Army, Air Force and Navy announced an increase in the number of reservists on active duty in support of the partial mobilization. The net collective result is 1,783 more reservists mobilized than last week.**

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## **Get Them Out**

**[This is a message from Rose Gentle. Her son was killed in Iraq. She leads a campaign to bring all the Scots and other troops home from Iraq, now.]**

**From: Rose Gentle  
To: GI Special  
Sent: September 28, 2005  
Subject: get them out**

**the damages my boy had,**

**this is the damages blair gave my boy by sending him to iraq**

**and he would love me to shut up, i dont think so,**

**1,, three minor punctate abrasions over the left cheek.**

**2,, two punctate abrasions over the chin**



3,, abrasion corner of the mouth

4,, bruising over the neck.

5,, abrasion 2,5x0,2cm over the left side of the neck crossing the belly

6,, a deep penetrating laceration of the back left shoulder

7,, left upper back was a deep penetrating laceration

this was associated with a wound track passing from gordon's left to his right entering through the second rib where there was a compound fracture, across the left upper lobe of the lung/ extensive tracking haemorrhage relation to this. approximately 1500 of blood, and blood clot within the left pleural cavity,

8,, abrasions on the back of the hand.

9,, injuries to the 2nd rib,

10,, left lung was collapsed. extensive haemorrhage in the surrounding lung

i have left 10 injuries out, so he had 20 all in,

preliminary conclusions,

the deceased was an apparently adequately nourished and physically

fit young man, so how good is the combat body armour,

did gordon have it on. do our troops have the right armour.,

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## **Military Family Experience Of Deceptive Use Of Stop Loss**

As one returning Iraq veteran told me over the weekend, the troops view these repeat deployments via stop loss as being punished for voluntarily enlisting in the first place and strongly wonder why the load is not being more equitably distributed amongst Americans who claim continued support for the war in Iraq. I would hardly call it the voluntary military, rather involuntary retention; an under-the-radar method of a forced conscription draft.

From: Lietta Ruger  
To: GI Special  
Sent: September 28, 2005  
Subject: Re-enlistment Pressures

By Lietta Ruger, military family

**I am mother-in-law and aunt to two Iraq veterans of 1st Armored, both served extended 15 month tours in Iraq, March 2003 through July 2004.**

The 1st Armored was the first division to be 'extended' at the time of the Sadr City uprising in May 2004. My two were already on their way home when the extension was initiated and required to remain in Iraq with their division and units as there were not enough troops on the ground at that time.

They returned to their bases in Germany in July 2004.

**By Jan 2005, both were required to make re-enlist decisions. What they were told is that they would redeploy to Iraq for second deployments under Stop Loss, regardless of whether they re-enlisted or chose not to re-enlist. This left them both with the limited option of second deployments under stop loss orders less the promised re-enlistment bonus or with the re-enlistment bonus.**

The end result either way would be another deployment to Iraq.

<p><b>I would call this an involuntary deployment, and a strategical use of intimidation of stop loss to force decisions of retention of the existing troops. I would hardly call it the voluntary military, rather involuntary retention; an under-the-radar method of a forced conscription draft.</b></p>
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**My two did decided to re-enlist (how voluntary was their decision is directly related to the forced choice via stop-loss). My son-in-law received bonus of \$4,000.00 which falls far short of the touted amounts of \$15,000 and above being promised as re-enlistment bonus.**

He did not complain, rather reluctantly offered up the information when I asked him if he indeed did receive any amount of 'bonus' once he signed the re-enlist forms.

**His life for \$4,000.00?**

**Hardly seems to me that the military is living up to any promises being made to the troops and has engaged in deceptive practices through use of stop loss to retain a military presence in Iraq, rotating troops through second and third deployments to maintain an appearance of a voluntary military.**

**As one returning Iraq veteran told me over the weekend, the troops view these repeat deployments via stop loss as being punished for voluntarily enlisting in the first place and strongly wonder why the load is not being more equitably distributed amongst Americans who claim continued support for the war in Iraq.**

**When my two Iraq veterans did return alive to their bases, rejoining their families (wives and children) in July 2004, by January 2005 they were told they were stop-lossed for second deployments.**

This hardly allows time to reconnect to their marriages and children.

**Meanwhile while waiting for their redeploy dates, they are in perpetual 'training' being 'downfield' for a month at a time, away from their families yet again, and when home working 10-15 hour days as part of the 'readiness training' (might I suggest direct relationship to too few troops to meet the needs).**

**I know from my own contacts with other military families, and the young spouses, that this situation is not unique to my two, rather is the 'norm' amongst most military families who face second and third deployments to Iraq.**

A few facts;

-- 1 million American children have a deployed parent

-- 304,000 troops have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. (Do the math, and with the standing 150,000 deployed troops, yet the actual 304,000 deployed, it's fairly easy to discern the same troops are being rotated in second and third deployments).

-- This is the first 'war' in which young people with spouses and children (families) have been deployed. Previous engagements and wars consisted more of young people who had not yet begun their families.

-- Divorce rate in military families is at 40%. I would point out that young marriages, young families have difficult enough time maintaining family bonding, and the exasperation of repeat deployments with absent parent serves to further antagonize and destroy the bonds of family.

In my own state, Washington, there have been 3 separate incidents of soldiers returning home to Ft Lewis base and killing their spouses.

**-- Deployment time frame puts soldier and family under an 18-month period of uncertainty with the rules of stop-loss requiring a 3-month window pre-deployment and post-deployment, plus the actual deployment which is subject to 'extensions'. That is one deployment. Repeat deployments subject the soldier and family to repetitious 18-month periods of risk. It hardly makes for a foundation of strengthening family.**

Lastly, I will add the 2 statements I usually make when speaking on behalf of the troops and their families.

The military families carry the disproportionate weight and burden of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

While the troops do their jobs and their families do their jobs, the Commander-in-Chief is expected to do his job on behalf of the troops and their families.

**When this Commander-in-Chief appears to have abandoned responsibility and accountability to the troops, it is the job of the Congress and civilian citizens to hold the Commander-in-Chief accountable on behalf of the troops and their families and have the backs of our troops.**

**It is a relationship of responsibility, accountability and trust that was taught to me as a young military brat.**

**As a military family with background having been raised in military family, a young wife to young husband drafted and sent to Vietnam, and now a mother and aunt to two young Iraq veterans, I continue to be astounded that this model has been broken, violated, abandoned and supplanted with a model that has no basis in integrity, honor or dignity on behalf of our troops and their families.**

**Yet our troops continue to honor their own integrity, honor and dignity, despite the lack of reciprocal respect from this administration.**

Respectfully

Lietta D. Ruger, military family  
Bay Center, WA 98527

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## **“At The Heart Of The Crowd Were Military Families”**

September 26, 2005 By Laura Flanders, AlterNet. [Excerpt]

It's sometimes organizer spin, but on September 24, it was startling just how many people said this demonstration was their first against the Bush administration, or simply their first.

Tag Gornell from Vachon Island near Seattle told the Laura Flanders Show: "I heard about this march from Air America Radio and was thrilled, and made the decision, I'm just gonna come. ... I am part of no group. I just came as me. But I see that I'm apparently bigger than I thought I was. There's 300,000 of us.

"This is my first protest and I am very encouraged," said Pat Kunkell, of Detroit.

"I don't even know where I heard about the protest, but I decided now was the time to come to Washington. I came and I brought my mother, just the two of us," said Karyn Riedell, of Arizona. "It's my mother's first protest ever. She's a Republican but she hates Bush."

**As in Crawford, at Camp Casey, at the heart of the crowd were military families.**

**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.**

## **Gays Mills, Wisconsin (Population 625) Turns Against The War**

September 28, 2005 Via Tom Condit: tomcondit@igc.org  
Subject: Fw: Gays Mills Parade, SW Wisconsin report

*fyi: This report on the reception accorded to a peace/antiwar contingent in a local parade is from a friend who lives near this small town in rural SW Wisconsin. Earl*

Hi,

The peace contingent in the Applefest parade went well despite the gloomy weather. There were about 20 participants ranging in age from 8 and 9 year olds to seniors like myself. The princess of peace and her first attendant were there too. Folks came from as far a field as Boscobel and Viroqua to be in the parade and to applaud from the sidewalks.

**What was more impressive was the response from people on the sidewalks. We had the best reception ever; lots of applause and all the way down the street too, not only from in front of the co-op. I was particularly struck by one experience; as we were passing some of the marching bands, who were still lining up and getting ready to march, we passed the Seneca band and about a dozen of the kids flashed the peace sign at us. I haven't seen anything like that since the sixties.**

**There were a few empty 30.06 shell casings thrown at us from the sidelines, so there is still hostility from some quarters, but the announcer mentioned us twice as we passed his stand, so that makes up for the slight two years ago when they refused to announce our contingent over the microphone.**

I especially enjoyed having Rae Vogeler, Green Party candidate for the U.S. Senate and her husband Mike Wunsch and 8 year old son Carlos out from Oregon, Wisconsin, to campaign for peace as part of the parade.

**It's clear that attitudes towards the war in Iraq are changing at the base of society even if the media can't see it (or down plays it).**

Rae's campaign gives us a chance to politically focus anti-war sentiment over the next year and to express our opposition to the war at the polls in 2006.

# **Occupation Dreamland: “The Best Movie I Can Imagine Being Made About This War”**

27 Sep 2005 By John Welch

*This review of Occupation Dreamland was posted to the MFSO list*

**I saw this movie (while acting as the "garrison unit" here in New York). Whether it's called "Occupation: Dreamland" or "Iraq Uncensored", it is the best movie I can imagine being made about this war.**

**Please go see it soon, because the theater will only show it as long as it draws an audience. The longer the run, the better chance the makers have to get it shown in other places, and to sell DVD's when it is released. It will play on the Sundance Channel in a few months.**

**What is this so special?**

**The movie follows one platoon from Alpha Company, 505th Regiment, 82nd Airborne, as they finish their last few weeks holding a forward base just outside Falluja early in 2004.**

**The filmmakers do no heavy narrative, no "voice of the master" to tell the viewer how to look and what to see.**

**Instead, they just roll their film, letting the Soldiers talk for themselves. During each mission, the films puts a purpose and time at the bottom of the screen, and then the filmmakers just show the people and Soldiers and what happens.**

It is immensely powerful because it interferes so little. The Soldiers comment after a mission, they hit golf balls and explain what they think, but, within certain obvious limits, this is entirely the views of Soldiers and Iraqis.

Such a view.

No, there is no blood, and, I think, a Soldier fires his weapon only once -- into a curb to warn a car to stop. Watch the rest yourself, because the movie is filled.

Think, that a few months later this is the town where the Darkwater contractors were killed and mutilated, and where the Marines, who replaced the 82nd, twice laid siege to the city. To the city that eventually was destroyed, flattened. That's later, and this shows all that led to it.

I'll skip the rest of the great things about this movie.

See it, and then I'll mention what the filmmakers and a Soldier [Joseph Woods] (now discharged and going to art school) have to say about a few incidents that could not be clearly explained.

OK, for instance they could not show a couple of special forces guys who sat in a briefing one day...a very few simple things of that sort.

**Otherwise, the viewer sees as much as it is possible for a camera to see, and hears all of the opinions, minus a few spots when a sergeant says, "Hey, cut it out. No political arguments on camera."**

For Peace and in the Resistance,  
John Welch

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## **A Matter of Honor: “When Did Al Qaeda Become Any Type Of Standard By Which We Measure The Morality Of The United States?”**

**I am certain that this confusion contributed to a wide range of abuses including death threats, beatings, broken bones, murder, exposure to elements, extreme forced physical exertion, hostage-taking, stripping, sleep deprivation and degrading treatment. I and troops under my command witnessed some of these abuses in both Afghanistan and Iraq.**

September 28, 2005 The Washington Post Company

*The following letter was sent to Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) on Sept. 16:*

Dear Senator McCain:

**I am a graduate of West Point currently serving as a Captain in the U.S. Army Infantry. I have served two combat tours with the 82nd Airborne Division, one each in Afghanistan and Iraq.**

While I served in the Global War on Terror, the actions and statements of my leadership led me to believe that United States policy did not require application of the Geneva Conventions in Afghanistan or Iraq.

On 7 May 2004, Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's testimony that the United States followed the Geneva Conventions in Iraq and the "spirit" of the Geneva Conventions in Afghanistan prompted me to begin an approach for clarification.

**For 17 months, I tried to determine what specific standards governed the treatment of detainees** by consulting my chain of command through battalion commander, multiple JAG lawyers, multiple Democrat and Republican Congressmen and their aides, the Ft. Bragg Inspector General's office, multiple government reports, the Secretary of the Army and multiple general officers, a professional interrogator at Guantanamo Bay, the deputy head of the department at West Point responsible for teaching Just War Theory and Law of Land Warfare, and numerous peers who I regard as honorable and intelligent men.

**Instead of resolving my concerns, the approach for clarification process leaves me deeply troubled.**

**Despite my efforts, I have been unable to get clear, consistent answers from my leadership about what constitutes lawful and humane treatment of detainees.**

**I am certain that this confusion contributed to a wide range of abuses including death threats, beatings, broken bones, murder, exposure to elements, extreme forced physical exertion, hostage-taking, stripping, sleep deprivation and degrading treatment. I and troops under my command witnessed some of these abuses in both Afghanistan and Iraq.**

**This is a tragedy. I can remember, as a cadet at West Point, resolving to ensure that my men would never commit a dishonorable act; that I would protect them from that type of burden. It absolutely breaks my heart that I have failed some of them in this regard.**

That is in the past and there is nothing we can do about it now. But, we can learn from our mistakes and ensure that this does not happen again.

Take a major step in that direction; eliminate the confusion. My approach for clarification provides clear evidence that confusion over standards was a major contributor to the prisoner abuse.

**We owe our soldiers better than this. Give them a clear standard that is in accordance with the bedrock principles of our nation.**

Some do not see the need for this work.

**Some argue that since our actions are not as horrifying as Al Qaeda's, we should not be concerned.**

**When did Al Qaeda become any type of standard by which we measure the morality of the United States? We are America, and our actions should be held to a higher standard, the ideals expressed in documents such as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.**



**Others argue that clear standards will limit the President's ability to wage the War on Terror. Since clear standards only limit interrogation techniques, it is reasonable for me to assume that supporters of this argument desire to use coercion to acquire information from detainees. This is morally inconsistent with the Constitution and justice in war. It is unacceptable.**

Both of these arguments stem from the larger question, the most important question that this generation will answer.

Do we sacrifice our ideals in order to preserve security?

Terrorism inspires fear and suppresses ideals like freedom and individual rights. Overcoming the fear posed by terrorist threats is a tremendous test of our courage.

Will we confront danger and adversity in order to preserve our ideals, or will our courage and commitment to individual rights wither at the prospect of sacrifice?

**My response is simple. If we abandon our ideals in the face of adversity and aggression, then those ideals were never really in our possession. I would rather die fighting than give up even the smallest part of the idea that is "America."**

**Once again, I strongly urge you to do justice to your men and women in uniform. Give them clear standards of conduct that reflect the ideals they risk their lives for.**

With the Utmost Respect,

**Capt. Ian Fishback  
1st Battalion,  
504th Parachute Infantry Regiment,  
82nd Airborne Division,  
Fort Bragg, North Carolina**

**MORE:**

## **Pentagon Scum Threaten To Prosecute Capt. Who Reported Torture Of Prisoners; Trying To "Track Down" Others Who Complained**

Captain Fishback said he has refused to disclose the names of the two sergeants - one who has left the Army and another who has been reassigned - because he promised not to disclose their identities if they came forward. But he said his

**command told him Tuesday that he could face criminal prosecution if disobeyed its "lawful order" to disclose.**

September 28, 2005 By ERIC SCHMITT, The New York Times Company & By Dave Moniz, USA Today

**WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 - An Army captain who reported new allegations of detainee abuse in Iraq said Tuesday that Army investigators seemed more concerned about tracking down young soldiers who reported misconduct than in following up the accusations and investigating whether higher-ranking officers knew of the abuses.**

**The officer, Capt. Ian Fishback, said investigators from the Criminal Investigation Command and the 18th Airborne Corps inspector general had pressed him to divulge the names of two sergeants from his former battalion who also gave accounts of abuse, which were made public in a report last Friday by the group Human Rights Watch.**

**Captain Fishback, speaking publicly on the matter for first time, said the investigators who have questioned him in the past 10 days seemed to be less interested in individuals he identified in his chain of command who allegedly committed the abuses.**

**"I'm convinced this is going in a direction that's not consistent with why we came forward," Captain Fishback said in a telephone interview from Fort Bragg, N.C., where he is going through Army Special Forces training.**

**"We came forward because of the larger issue that prisoner abuse is systemic in the Army. I'm concerned this will take a new twist, and they'll try to scapegoat some of the younger soldiers. This is a leadership problem."**

Captain Fishback said that when his command learned about 10 days ago that he was preparing to speak to Senate aides about his concerns, they directed him to talk to criminal investigators, which he said he did for 90 minutes on Sept. 19. But when he refused to divulge the sergeants' names, he said, investigators told him there wasn't much they could do immediately.

But last Thursday, a day after Human Rights Watch notified the 82nd Airborne that it would be releasing a copy of its report outlining the allegations, Captain Fishback said he was summoned back to Fort Bragg from field training for six hours of questioning by investigators.

**The report was made public last Friday, and Captain Fishback said investigators had questioned him for about an hour on Monday and again on Tuesday.**

**"They're asking the same questions over and over again," he said. "They want the names of the sergeants, and they keep asking about my relationship with Human Rights Watch."**

**Captain Fishback said he has refused to disclose the names of the two sergeants - one who has left the Army and another who has been reassigned - because he promised not to disclose their identities if they came forward. But he said his command told him Tuesday that he could face criminal prosecution if disobeyed its "lawful order" to disclose.**

Captain Fishback said he had no regrets about coming forward, adding, "It's the right thing to do."

**He also said he wonders "how many other people have tried and been unable to bring things to light, given how hard it has been for me."**

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## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Assorted Resistance Action**

Sep 28, 2005 Maher al-Thanoon, Reuters & Aljazeera & By JACKIE SPINNER, Washington Post

**A female suicide bomber blew herself up outside an army recruitment centre in the northern Iraqi town of Tal Afar on Wednesday, killing at least seven and wounding 37, police said.**

Many people were waiting to join the army at the recruitment site housed in a former U.S. military base, which had just opened on Wednesday, police said.

**Iraqi and U.S. troops have just ended a joint military operation in Tal Afar, which they say has long been a stronghold of insurgents.** The U.S. military says it has killed or captured over 500 people whom it calls "terrorists or foreign fighters".

**They hailed the full-scale assault on the town as a success and said they had brought Tal Afar back under their control.**

**BAGHDAD - Armed fighters attacked two vehicles belonging to the Jordanian embassy on the Abu Ghraib highway, west of Baghdad when they were heading to the Jordanian hospital in Falluja. There were no casualties reported, police said.**

**BAGHDAD - One policeman was killed by armed fighters in northeastern Baghdad when he was heading to work, police said.**

**BAGHDAD - Two policemen were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near their patrol on the Doura highway in southern Baghdad, police said.**

**A car bomber penetrated the heavily fortified Green Zone in the center of this capital city Tuesday but was stopped by U.S. Marines at an "internal checkpoint" before he was able to detonate the vehicle, the military said.**

U.S. troops destroyed the explosive-rigged car and detained the driver, a military spokesman said.

**Although the breach did not result in any deaths or injuries, it raised alarm about how the suspect was able to enter the most heavily secured compound in Iraq.** The Green Zone houses the U.S. Embassy and the transitional Iraqi government.

**An Iraqi policemen and a civilian were killed when they were caught in gunfire against a Jordanian embassy car in Baghdad on Wednesday,** a government official said.

**In Baquba, east of Baghdad, a car bomber killed a civilian and wounded 13 people at a police checkpoint on Wednesday, police said. Eight of those wounded were policeman.**

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

## **IED's Armed With Motion Sensors And Heat-Sensitive Infrared Detectors**

28 September 2005 By Alisha Ryu, VOA

Adaptive as ever, insurgents have begun deploying much more sophisticated and lethal types of IEDs, called shaped charges. Most of these manufactured bombs, designed to penetrate armored vehicles, are believed to be coming from neighboring Iran. And they are now being fitted with equally sophisticated detonating devices, aimed at bypassing electronic jammers.

**Classified reports show that some of the shaped charges used in recent attacks against American convoys were armed with motion sensors and heat-sensitive infrared detectors to trigger explosions.**

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

### **“Think About It”**

September 28, 2005 by David Franke [Posting did not give source.] [Excerpt]

**Think about it. There isn't a single notable Republican or Democratic leader with the guts or intelligence to take a principled stand against the war that two-thirds of the American people now oppose.**

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## **Signs Of The Times: 9/24**

**Our son was once an embryo –  
Don't send him to Iraq**

**Overthrow Iraq's Brutal Dictator –  
George W. Bush**

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## **The Time Has Come Today**

From: GW  
Sent: September 28, 2005  
Subject: **Time has come today**

**A time will come when a politician who has willfully made war and promoted international dissension will be as sure of the dock and much surer of the noose than a private homicide. It is not reasonable that those who gamble with men's lives should not stake their own.**

H. G. Wells  
Shape of Things to Come

<p><b>What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Send to <a href="mailto:contact@militaryproject.org">contact@militaryproject.org</a>. Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential.</b></p>
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## **OOPS**

[Thanks to Mark S, who sent this in.]

Letter to the Editor  
23.09.05  
Guardian

**“Why all the fuss about the treatment of the British special forces soldiers captured by the Iraqi police?”**

**“According to George Bush a soldier in not in uniform is an illegal combatant and therefore not entitled to the protection of the Geneva Convention.**

**“Tony Blair sees nothing wrong with this and locking people up in Guantanamo Bay, so why shouldn’t the Iraqis turn over such illegal combatants to their own equivalent?”**

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## **OOPS #2: How Did *That* Reporter Get In The Door?**

**September 26, 2005 Transcript, Press Briefing by Scott McClellan, The White House**

MR. McCLELLAN: Well, I think the American people recognize the importance of what we are working to accomplish in the broader Middle East. Iraq is a key part of establishing a foundation for lasting peace and security. What we're working to do is lay a foundation of peace for our children and grandchildren. And the President has made it very clear that his number one priority is the safety and security of the American people. And we are engaged in a global war. It is a war that is -- that continues. The President said after September 11th, that some would tend to forget. He will not. We are going to stay on the offensive until we win this war, and we're going to work to spread freedom and democracy to address the --

**Q How many are you going to kill, in the meantime?**

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## **New Rule**

September 28, 2005, David Honish, Veterans For Peace

Subject: Bill Maher

From his new book: SAVING PRIVATE CRYIN'

New Rule

**Soldiers have to follow orders. In World War II, there was none of this "We're not going because we don't have the right equipment." You want equipment, join the Swiss Army. If your order is to ride a skateboard through a minefield to deliver a Zagnut bar to Donald Rumsfeld, I'm sorry, that's the deal with the army.**

**You know what happens to soldiers who disobey direct orders? That's right--they become president of the United States.**

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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

# ***So Much For That Sovereignty Bullshit: British Dictatorship Decides To Fire Entire South Iraq Police Force***

25 Sep 2005 BRIAN BRADY, WESTMINSTER EDITOR, Scotsman.com

DEFENCE Secretary John Reid is planning to scrap the 25,000-strong police force in southern Iraq and replace it with a new military-style unit capable of maintaining law and order.

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

## **U.S. Occupation Opens Terror Campaign Against Anti-Occupation Shiites**

University of Baghdad political science professor Jinan Ali told Al Ahram Weekly that the "so-called war against Shiites" attributed by Washington and its puppet Iraqi government to Abu Musa al Zarqawi's Al Qaeda in Iraq group "began after Moqtada al Sadr announced his opposition to drafting the constitution. Most of the Shiites targeted are Moqtada's followers intended to force them to cast a 'yes' vote in the coming referendum" on the US-backed constitution.

27 September 2005 Aljazeera

Sheikh Salah al Obeidi said that a few days earlier [before the British attack on the Basra police station] thousands of Mahdi Army members had provided security for a million-strong Shiite pilgrimage to the holy city of Karbala, but this had not been reported by the Western media.

**“We reached an agreement with the interior ministry to guard the roads”, Sadr movement spokesperson Hashim al Hashimi in Baghdad told the September 22 Cairo-based Al Ahram Weekly.**

**But confidence in the agreement was shaken when a member of the Mahdi Army was killed by US troops in Latifiya and another leading member was arrested in Basra, said Hashimi.**

**Following the withdrawal of the Mahdi Army guards from the procession, one pilgrim was killed and 12 wounded by bombs exploding on the road from Baghdad to Karbala on September 19.**

**University of Baghdad political science professor Jinan Ali told Al Ahram Weekly that the “so-called war against Shiites” attributed by Washington and its puppet Iraqi government to Abu Musa al Zarqawi's Al Qaeda in Iraq group “began after Moqtada al Sadr announced his opposition to drafting the constitution.**

**Most of the Shiites targeted are Moqtada's followers intended to force them to cast a 'yes' vote in the coming referendum” on the US-backed constitution.**

Interviewed by Radio Monte Carlo on September 19, Shiite Imam Jawad al Khalissi said the presence of occupation forces was behind the deterioration of the security situation in Iraq.

**“Zarqawi and others who symbolise the violence that pours out, to the benefit of the occupation forces, are unknown characters, and we have no evidence that these characters actually exist, except through the US media”, Khalissi said.**

**“Whoever is behind the violence wants the occupation to continue. This is a tragic game to create clashes among the Iraqi people and to distract them from the real problem, which is the occupation, and push them towards civil war.”**

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## **Bomb Targets Bodyguard Of Iraq Cleric Sadr, Kills 6**

Sep 28, 2005 Reuters

**NAJAF, Iraq - A bomb exploded outside the house of a bodyguard of Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in the southern Iraqi city of Najaf on Wednesday, killing at least six people, said an aide to Sadr.**

Sahib al-Amiree said the blast also wounded eight people. The holy Shi'ite city of Najaf has been relatively calm compared to central Iraq, where a Sunni Arab insurgency is raging.

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# **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

## **Welcome To Occupied Washington D.C.**

(27 September 2005 Truthout Letter)

Tuesday 27 September 2005  
Office of the Chief  
United States Park Police  
Dwight E. Pettiford  
1100 Ohio Drive S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20242  
Dear Chief of Police:

**I am writing to request information regarding the treatment of individuals arrested on September 26, 2005, in front of the White House and processed at the United States Park Police Anacostia Station.**

Yesterday 384 protestors, including peace activist Cindy Sheehan, were arrested outside the White House and were brought to the United States Park Police Anacostia Station.

**I was very surprised to learn that many of those arrested were kept handcuffed in vans and buses for up to 12 hours before they were charged and released.**

Some of those were released at 4:30 in the morning after being arrested at 4:00 the previous afternoon.

**Many of those held captive the longest were grandmothers and senior citizens. Those released after midnight were unfamiliar with Washington, D.C., and had no means to travel back to their hotels once the metro had closed. Anacostia is not frequented by taxicabs after midnight.**

I have the following questions regarding the treatment of those arrested yesterday:

**Why was the Anacostia Station chosen as the sole location to process all 384 arrestees when there were several other Park Police stations in the greater Washington, D.C. area?**

**In what other circumstances have arrestees been detained by U.S. Park Police for periods exceeding twelve hours before being charged with a crime?**

**In what other circumstances have arrestees been detained by U.S. Park Police, and kept handcuffed on buses for periods exceeding ten hours?**

What is the established U.S. Park Police procedure for processing large numbers of arrestees in the Washington, D.C., area?

Please respond to the Judiciary Committee Minority Office at 2142 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515, telephone number 202-225-6504, fax number 202-225-4423.

Sincerely,

John Conyers, Jr.  
Ranking Minority Member

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## **Rumsfeld Says He And Bush Have Failed**

September 27, 2005 U.S. Department of Defense News Transcript  
Presenter: Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld

**“Though the terrorists have been trying to intimidate Iraqis and Afghans from volunteering to defend their new found freedoms, they've failed.”**

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## **Zarqawi Caught At Last! Terrorist Infiltrators Captured In Washington Disguised As Politicians!**



**Shortly after this picture was taken September 22, Abu Musab al Zarqawi was captured at the Pentagon, cleverly disguised as President George W. Bush. Other terrorist infiltrators were disguised as Cheney, Rumsfeld, Rice, Myers, and Edmund Giambastiani, Vice Chairman of the JCS.**

**The arrests and exposure of the terrorist gang shocked the nation's capital. Senator John Kerry told ABC news, "Now we know why this administration has**

been an unparalleled disaster for America. Their fiendish plan to wreck the economy and destroy our armed forces nearly succeeded.”

As Senator Kerry was finishing his remarks to the press, he was also placed under arrest, and subsequently charged with watering ketchup and impersonating a human being. (Photo: REUTERS/Jason Reed)

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

Telling the truth - about the occupation or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance - whether it's in the streets of Baghdad, New York, or inside the armed forces. Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces. If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers.

<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/> And join with Iraq War vets in the call to end the occupation and bring our troops home now! ([www.ivaw.net](http://www.ivaw.net))



**Received:**

## **Courage To Refuse**

From: J L  
To: GI Special

Sent: September 28, 2005  
**Subject: Courage to Refuse**

Dear GI Special,

Thanks for the notice of Israeli anti-warriors "New Profile Tour in the U.S."

I followed up and found an open letter from the Israeli Refusniks at Courage to Refuse  
[http://www.couragetorefuse.org/English/combatants\\_letter.asp](http://www.couragetorefuse.org/English/combatants_letter.asp)

**'We, reserve combat officers and soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces, who were raised upon the principles of Zionism, self-sacrifice and giving to the people of Israel and to the State of Israel, who have always served in the front lines, and who were the first to carry out any mission in order to protect the State of Israel and strengthen it.**

**'We, combat officers and soldiers who have served the State of Israel for long weeks every year, in spite of the dear cost to our personal lives, have been on reserve duty in the Occupied Territories, and were issued commands and directives that had nothing to do with the security of our country, and that had the sole purpose of perpetuating our control over the Palestinian people.**

**'We, whose eyes have seen the bloody toll this Occupation exacts from both sides,**

**'We, who sensed how the commands issued to us in the Occupied Territories destroy all the values that we were raised upon,**

**'We, who understand now that the price of Occupation is the loss of IDF's human character and the corruption of the entire Israeli society,**

**'We, who know that the Territories are not a part of Israel, and that all settlements are bound to be evacuated,**

**'We hereby declare that we shall not continue to fight this War of the Settlements.**

**'We shall not continue to fight beyond the 1967 borders in order to dominate, expel, starve and humiliate an entire people.**

**'We hereby declare that we shall continue serving the Israel Defense Force in any mission that serves Israel's defense.**

**'The missions of occupation and oppression do not serve this purpose – and we shall take no part in them.**

Substitute the USA for Israel and Iraq for Palestine and you have a description with more than just an eerie similarity to the position of American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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