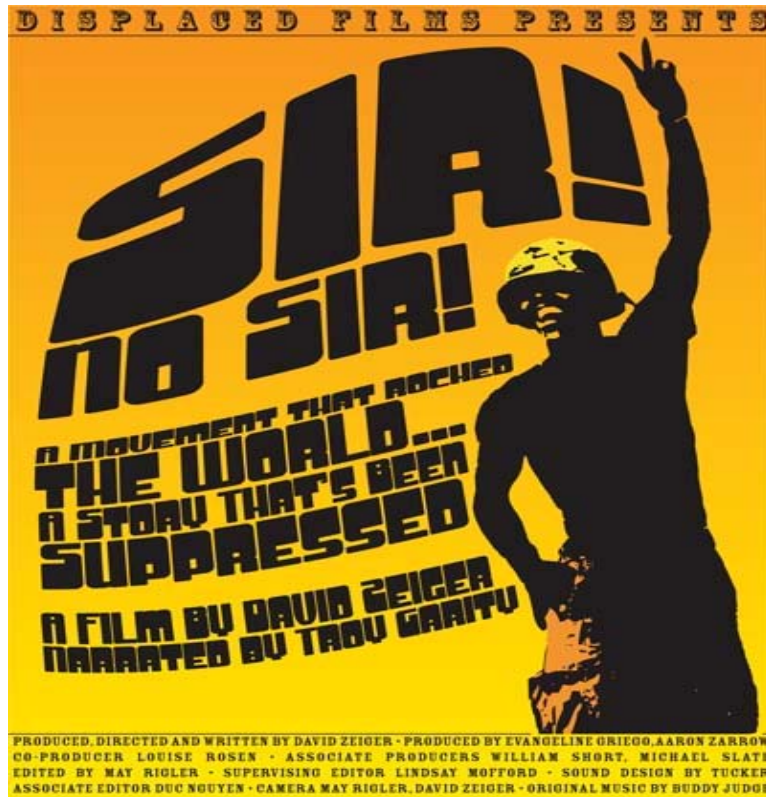


GI SPECIAL 3C71:



Help Turn This Film Loose On The World: Vietnam: When And How Soldiers Rebelled And Stopped A War

September 29, 2005 From: David Zeiger

Dear friends of "Sir! No Sir!"

A lot has happened since "Sir! No Sir!" won the Audience Award at the Los Angeles Film Festival premiere in June, and we are working hard to get the film into theaters and into your hands as quickly as possible.

You can read an extensive interview with David Zeiger on the Mother Jones web site, http://www.motherjones.com/news/qa/2005/09/david_zeiger.html

In the coming weeks there are several things you can do to help us get "Sir! No Sir!" into the world:

HOLD A FUNDRAISING PARTY AT YOUR HOUSE. Over the last month, with the help of Jane Fonda and an incredible group of supporters, we raised enough money to complete the film. Now the task is to fund a large, dynamic distribution campaign--in theaters, on campuses, in high schools, and in the military itself, groups like Iraq Veterans Against the War plan on using the film broadly. You can help fund that work with a party to show the 10-minute trailer and raise the needed funds. Contact us for more info.

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION YOURSELF. No contribution is too small; no contribution is too big. All are tax-deductible. Checks can be made out to Pangea Productions and sent to Displaced Films:

CATCH THE FILM AT A FESTIVAL. "Sir! No Sir!" is in several festivals this fall. David Zeiger will be attending most, and many people from the film will be there as well. Check the following list, and if you are in the vicinity please make sure to attend and spread the word:

Mill Valley Film Festival
Saturday, October 8, 5:15 pm
Tuesday, October 11, 7 pm
www.mvff.com

There will be a fundraising reception with Country Joe McDonald following the October 8 screening. Contact David Mathison at david@bethemedia.org for more information.

Vermont Film Festival
Opening Film
Friday, October 13, 7 pm
Sunday, October 16, 1:55 pm
Panel on "Voices of Dissent" Sunday, October 16, 3:30 pm
www.vtiff.org

FilmFest Kansas City
Monday, October 17, 7 pm
www.filmkc.org

Hamptons Film Festival
Documentary Competition
Thursday, October 20, 8 pm
Friday, October 21, 11:30 am
www.hamptonsfilmfest.org

Viennale Vienna International Film Festival
Monday, October 24, 6 pm
Wednesday, October 26, 11 pm
www.viennale.at

Leeds International Film Festival
Leeds, England
November 3-13
Exact dates to be announced
www.leedsfilm.com

Get Real: City Pages Documentary Film Festival
Minneapolis, MN
November 4-10
Exact dates to be announced
www.citypages.com/getreal

High Falls Film Festival
Rochester, New York
November 9-13
Exact dates to be announced
"Sir! No Sir!" producer Vangie Griego will attend
www.highfallsfilmfestival.com

Starz Denver International Film Festival
November 10-20
Exact dates to be announced
www.denverfilm.org

Thank you, and see you at the festival!
David Zeiger
Director, "Sir! No Sir!"

www.sirnosir.com
Displaced Films
3421 Fernwood Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90039
323-906-9249
323-913-0683 fax
www.displacedfilms.com

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Three US Soldiers Wounded By Dhuluiyah IED

October 02, 2005 People's Daily Online

A roadside bomb struck a US military convoy in the flashpoint town of Dhuluiyah north of Baghdad, the US military said on Sunday.

"Three US soldiers were wounded when an improvised explosive device IED detonated near the US patrol in Dhuluiyah on Saturday," an officer from the 42nd US Infantry Division based in Tikrit told reporters.

Occupation Command Orders A Bold Move: A Concentrated Attack On A Village Of 2000 People

2 October (IRIN)

The current military operation is code-named "Operation Iron Fist."

Reuters and the Associated Press (AP) quoted US military officials as saying the offensive was focused on the nearby village of Sadah a village of about 2,000 people, and involved about 1,000 US troops backed by attack helicopters.

[Well, if that one doesn't work, maybe they can find a village of 1,000, or 500. There is just no stopping these mighty occupation commanders in their endless pursuit of dishonorable missions.]

MORE:

The Death Throes U.S. Occupation

October 2, 2005 Juan Cole, Informed Comment. [Excerpt]

Let's see.

AP also reports that One thousand US troops go into the small town of Sadah, block it off, bomb it, displace its inhabitants, comb through it looking for foreign jihadis.

Since there are only 2,000 inhabitants of Sadah on a good day (it is a tiny border settlement near Syria northwest of Baghdad), the Marines have a certain advantage.

You figure half of Sadah is women. Some further proportion is boys too young to fight and old men. Could they muster 300 local fighters (would all of them be in the guerrilla movement)?

And how many foreign jihadis could live in a town of 2,000?

Would you guess 50? So have we thrown 1,000 Marines at between 50 and 300 local fighters, who are poorly armed and lack real organization?

Meanwhile entire districts of Baghdad, a city of 5 or 6 million, are controlled by the guerrillas.

TROOP NEWS

Mercenaries “Are The Worst Threat Against U.S. Personnel Here”

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

September 30, 2005
Letters to the Editor,
Stars and Stripes

The writer of “Different rules for civilians?” (letter, Sept. 26), about the Iraqi civilian being killed by the personal security detail cowboys in Iraq, is absolutely correct in what he has stated.

I see these PSD people every day in Baghdad and they are out of control. They run the highways at extreme high speed, almost crash their vehicles, run people off the road, shoot at everyone — Iraqis, Americans, it just does not matter. There is nothing professional about the services they perform.

If they are trying to impress the “principle” of the mission, then their “principle” is also guilty of this gross misconduct.

I am surprised the command sanctions these “compound commandos” and their extremely aggressive behavior.

They are the worst threat against U.S. personnel here, not the terrorists.

Henry Mungle
Baghdad

Pa. Towns Try To Cope With Iraq War Deaths

October 2, 2005 By NANCY DOOLING, Star-Gazette

MONTROSE, Pa. - The war in Iraq came brutally home this week to the Pennsylvania communities whose loved ones are there.

It came with the news on Friday that five men, all from the same New Milford-based Pennsylvania National Guard unit, died Wednesday evening in a single deadly attack on their Bradley vehicle in Ramadi.

On a sunny Saturday afternoon, you could drive from one end of Montrose to the other and find plenty of people, from teenagers to Vietnam War veterans, who had some link either to those who were killed recently in Iraq or others who are there now.

Staff Sgt. Daniel Arnold, 27, is Montrose's first Iraq war casualty. His death, along with that of the men he led in Iraq, drove students at Montrose Area High School - Arnold's alma mater - to think about the war Friday, students said.

"It brought everyone to attention," said Angelica West, 16, a junior. "It did make the war more real."

Not that the war hadn't been real before. West began reeling off the names of Montrose residents she knows who have gone to Iraq with the military.

She named at least four. She also said there are several students whose parents have been deployed to Iraq.

The war had already been made real to Amanda Lass. The 17-year-old Montrose senior last week went to calling hours for William Evans, the 22-year-old Hallstead soldier who died Sept. 19 in Iraq.

It was at Evans' funeral Friday that word began to spread about the newer tragedy - that five more men from Evans' National Guard unit, including Arnold, had been killed Wednesday night in the same kind of roadside attack.

The death of Spc. Lee A. Weigand, the 20-year-old driver of the Bradley vehicle Arnold was riding in, brought Hallstead's casualties to two.

Also killed in the attack were Spc. Oliver J. Brown, 19, of Athens, and Spc. Eric W. Slebodnik, 21, of Greenfield Township, and Staff Sgt. George A. Pugliese, 39, of Carbondale, both in Lackawanna County.

Guardsman Jason Jemmott of Friendsville was injured in a separate incident, but has since returned to his unit, according to his family.

On Friday night at the Athens-Towanda football game, Kyle Ball talked of Brown, his friends and fellow member of the National Guard.

The met in shop class and immediately the two, along with classmate Brandon Johnson, became fast friends.

In fact, shortly after Brown joined the Army National Guard in October 2003, Ball and Johnson also signed up.

The three traveled together to New Milford to drill with the National Guard before the Brown and Johnson left for Iraq.

Ball said being in the National Guard was something Brown always wanted to do.

"It was just one of those things when he decided to do it, he did it," Ball said. "Oliver definitely helped me make my decision to join the Guard."

Lass said Billy Evans was a friend of her mother's. She also knew him and went with her mother to his calling hours.

"I took it hard, especially seeing his parents," she said.

Like the rest of Pennsylvania, the area has given its share to death in war.

Pennsylvania war casualties in Vietnam were 3,142, less than New York's 4,117 casualties, but proportionately higher at 26.6 per 100,000 people. New York's proportion was 22.5 per 100,000, government statistics show.

The American flag was flying at half-staff at the Gardner-Warner Post of the American Legion, several miles south of Montrose, where a small group of Vietnam veterans had just finished serving as an honor guard at a fellow veteran's funeral.

They are the self-described "old guys" now, they said later over a few drinks at the Legion hall, just south of Montrose.

All are in their mid to late 50s. And they, too, had links to the National Guardsmen who died Wednesday.

John Krayeski is a former member of the 109th Infantry and used to be a unit leader until he retired. The former Army Ranger, who lives in Springville, knew several who were killed or wounded in Wednesday's attack.

He, along with others in the community, is coming to terms with the tragedy.

"I have known these people," he said. "Now they aren't here."

HOW MANY MORE FOR BUSH'S WAR?

BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW!



(AP Photo/Christopher Toland)

Marine Lance Cpl. Edward Schroeder, left, and Lance Cpl. Christopher Dyer, far right, and unidentified Marines patrol through the city of Kubaysah in 2005 in western Iraq.

Dyer and Schroder, members of 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Regiment, were killed, along with nine other members of 1st Squad, in a roadside bombing near the city of Haditha on Aug. 3, 2005. This picture was provided by Capt. Christopher Toland, 3rd platoon commander. (AP

Lima Company Marine Moms Joined Bring Them Home Now Tour In Ohio

October 01, 2005 By participant Lietta Ruger, Military Families Speak Out. [Excerpt]

I'm mindful too of our experience of two Marine Moms with deployed sons in the Lima unit which experienced 22 killed in August, 1/3rd of that Marine unit killed.

They shared the usual concerns of keeping their silence on behalf of feared repercussions to their deployed sons if they did speak out.

Most all our military families have this concern and fear and it can be a very real consequence to our active and deployed loved ones.

They followed along with our tour through the rest of Ohio, and were resolved to speak out in their own communities. By the next stop, one of the Marine Moms spoke on our panel, and before we left Ohio, had sent along her own written article speaking out on her experience which has been published online.

I'm fairly positive, we left these two Marine Moms feeling more empowered to act in their and their loved ones own best interest than before we arrived.

And that is what we found true throughout our tour.

People felt more empowered to not only speak out, but to act and in action, often times, the feelings of helplessness in the face of great odds begins to dissipate.

Our ongoing message at all of our stops was to thank the people who turned out as the real power lies with the people and to encourage them take an action today and tomorrow that they didn't take yesterday to end the war and bring out troops home, now. It was a well-received encouragement, I think, gauging by reactions of the people we encountered.

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.

Alliance Mother Finally Speaks To Son Injured In Iraq: Family Must Ask For Charity To Visit Him In D.C.

[Here it is again. Same old story. Last week comes news reports that the Iraqi traitors helping Bush occupy their country stole over \$1 billion from funds that were supposed to buy arms and fix things like water and electricity. Bush's buddies have pocketed more billions in war-profiteering contracts. And this family can't get the Pentagon to pay their expenses to go visit their severely wounded son.

[The troops, their families, and the occupied Iraqis have a common enemy: the Imperial political scum running the government in Washington DC. Getting rid of them is the only war worth fighting now. Bring *that* on. T]

9/30/2005 WKYC-TV

ALLIANCE -- A sigh of relief tonight for an Alliance mother waiting to hear from her son who was injured in Iraq.

Sheila Fisk was finally able to speak to her son.

Sgt. Benjamin Chacon from his hospital bed in Germany.

His condition has been upgraded from critical to serious. Fisk says her son is supposed to come back to the U.S. on Sunday.

A travel fund has been set up for the family so they can visit him in Washington D.C. That fund is set up for the family at Charter One Bank in Alliance under the mother's name: Sheila Fisk.

“Guilty By Association” Top General Says Iraq War Turns Public Against British Army

02 October 2005 Aljazeera

Army morale and recruitment are suffering because troops are seen as "guilty by association" with Prime Minister Tony's Blair's decision to invade Iraq, Britain's top soldier has said.

"There was an understanding by members of the armed services that this was not an all-hands-up, popular event across the country," General Sir Michael Walker, chief of the defence staff, said.

"But I think at that stage they were able to decouple in their own minds, as I was, the fact that the country was not necessarily behind the strategic decision to go to war, but once our boys and girls were out there, doing their various things, they would support them in that role," Walker said.

"Now I think that's shifted a bit, if I am absolutely honest. Some of the opprobrium attached to the war is also attached to the fact that the armed services are taking part in it. We are, if you like, guilty by association with a decision to go to war that not the whole of this country enjoined."

Un-Holyoak:

Spread The Word About This Cesspool Of Ignorance And Mob Rule That Pretends To Be College



Campus security officer grabs a student during a non-violent protest against military recruitment at Holyoke Community College in Massachusetts (Sept 29, 2005)

**Student Who Was Maced By
Police Is Now Banned From
Campus!
Has His Education And His Job
Taken Away With No Opportunity
To Appeal**

[Thanks to D, who sent this in. He writes: Please show you solidarity.]

FORWARD WIDELY

Please express your solidarity with the Anti War Coalition at HCC (HCC AWC students are under a lot of pressure, let them know that you stand in solidarity with them.)

Emails can be sent to: info.hcc-awc@hotmail.com

October 1st, 2005 Traprockpeace.org

At approximately 1pm on Sept 30, Sgt. Richard H. Wheeler and State Trooper Vasquez delivered a notice to Charles T. Peterson at the doorstep of his home in Springfield, MA.

Charles was the student who was sprayed in the face with mace by Officer Scott Landry at the protest against military recruiters at Holyoke Community College on September 29.

The notice read: "Because of your conduct on the property of Holyoke Community College, your presence is no longer desired at Holyoke Community College, its property or buildings. Your failure to abide by said trespass notice will result in your arrest and court prosecution for trespassing. This notice will remain in effect untill [sic] revoked in writing by the Holyoke Community College Police Department."

This is in clear violation of the College's own stated policy that students, "have the right to procedural due process in grievance and disciplinary hearings." [Right #6, p22, HCC Policy Guide 05/06]

As Charles is employed on campus, this restraining order will keep him not only from getting an education, but also from working.

Thus far, Charles has not been contacted by any member of the Administration, besides the campus police. So he has had his education and his job taken away from him with no explanation and no opportunity to appeal.

It's worth repeating here that Officer Scott Landry, the officer who put Charles in a headlock and sprayed mace in his face, is also the Advisor to the College Republicans at HCC. The College Republicans were also present at the protest, chanting behind the police line to incite the police to attack students.

On campus, the student body has become frighteningly polarized, and many students who were at the protest opted out of attending classes today for fear of harassment.

Professor Mark Clinton, the faculty advisor to the Anti War Coalition has been summoned to see the Vice President of Academic Affairs on Monday afternoon. The Office of the Vice President would not inform Clinton's dean of the agenda for the meeting.

Yesterday, Professor Mark Clinton's daughter was called an "ugly communist bitch" by a fellow student.

Cindy Sheehan is scheduled to visit HCC in November. We will be trying to contact her to notify her of the recent police brutality and to ask her to make a statement in support of students. If anyone reading this can help us get in touch with her, please let us know (our email is at the bottom of this statement).

In Wisconsin, students at UW Madison were threatened with arrest and forced to dismantle their protest against the presence of the Air Force, CIA, and Marines at the College's career fair. They were told that they were violating the Administration's codes for protesting when in fact they were in no way breaching any part of it.

We are sticking with our former demands (see statement of September 29 on campusantiwar.net) but we would like to add the following:

—That the restraining order against Charles T. Peterson be lifted immediately so he can continue his education and return to his job.

—That an impartial investigation be conducted into Officer Scott Landry's role in the battery at the September 29 protest— given Officer Landry's dual role as armed police officer AND student advisor to the College Republicans.

For the over 700 of you who have already called the school THANK YOU! Please keep the pressure on. Please keep calling. We are hoping to flood the school with calls on Monday.

Sincerely,

Members of the Anti War Coalition at Holyoke Community College

Please call Holyoke Community College to register you concerns.

President Messner 1-413-552-2222

Officer Scott Landry, Campus Police/ Advisor to the College Republicans 1-413-552-2048

Vivian Ostrowsky, Student Activities Coordinator 1-413-552-2418

One leading member of the AWC, whose brother was permanently injured in Iraq last year, stated:

"I was there to speak for my brother. He was wounded in Iraq. He's a different person since he came back, it's a different person looking at me, more like my little brother than my big brother.

"He may never be the same, and he may never open up and tell me what happened in Iraq. But I believe he fought for lies, and I believe he was lied to when he joined the

military. He was promised money for college and a chance to see the world. But he went to Iraq, and he wasn't the same when he came back."

Shinah Santiago, an AWC Steering Committee member stated, "I think it's absolutely ridiculous. It's totally unjust to ban him from campus without any kind of hearing or anything. And to have one of the officers who assaulted us serve the papers was part of their effort to intimidate us. They think he's our leader, but everyone in the AWC is a leader, and none of us is going to be intimidated."

Emails of support and solidarity can be sent to: info.hcc-awc@hotmail.com



Students from Holyoke Community College Anti-war Coalition protest military recruitment on their campus (Sept 29, 2005)

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Assorted Resistance Action

10.2.05 Reuters & Aljazeera & FOCUS News Agency

RAMADI - A policeman was killed by armed fighters in Ramadi, 110 km (68 miles) west of Baghdad, police and medical sources said.

Baghdad. Unknown armed fighters shot dead a senior official in Iraq's Public Works Ministry on Sunday in an upscale district of western Baghdad, AFP reported, citing sources of Iraqi Ministry of Interior.

THE VICTORY SIGN



Local kids flash the victory signs near a Danish military vehicle which was destroyed by a roadside bomb near the southern Iraqi town of Basra October 1, 2005. A Danish soldier was killed and two others wounded. (Atef Hassan/Reuters)

“And All Of Iraq Shall Once More Be Shiny, Free, And Independent”

My sons and grandsons will one day laugh when they read history... some tens of years ahead... as I read it today, and found out how my father, mother, and ancestors lived, may GOD bless their souls.... Like I laughed at the failure of the occupiers and imperialists, and their defeat....

September 25th, 2005 Faiza Jarrar, afamilyinbaghdad.blogspot.com. [Excerpt]

At the time of the British imperialism, they wanted to limit the activities of the Shia'at clergy to the religious rituals only, so they wouldn't have to interfere in politics, and directing people's wills... but now, the presence of these Shia'at clergy is being used to beautify the occupation policy, and the attempt to control people's minds, politically and religiously...

At the times of the British, they used to banish some of the Shia'at clergy to Iran, under the claim that their origins were Iranian... but now, the Shia'at clergy of the Iranian origins are the ones who encourage the remaining of the occupation, advising people to say "yes" to the new constitution!

While the Sunni leaders are playing the role of the opposition now, after they were marginalized and accused of being troublesome, Ba'athists, Saddamists, ...etc...of the silly phony accusations, which made them choose to be the religious opposition leaders against the occupation, and thus always subjected to being killed or imprisoned.....

And that means the reputation of the Shia'ats now in the Islamic world is that of being traitors, and collaborators with the occupation, except for the emergence of some Shia'at clergy leaders against the occupation, like Al-Sadder, Al-Khalisi, and some others...

Praise be to GOD, the family names of those latest were repeated honorably, just as was the case with their forefathers at the times of the British imperialism, when they were the leaders of the religious national opposition.....

Even though I am from a very well-known Shia'at family in Iraq, the lineage of which goes back to our grandfather, Al-Hussein (Peace be upon him), to Ali Bin Abi Talib (May GOD be pleased with him), to Muhammad (May the prayers of GOD be upon him, and His Peace)... but **I am against telling the Shia'ats: let us be separated from Iraq, or let us have revenge upon the Sunnies, or that they are our enemies.**

This is all empty talk that benefits no one but the occupier, flowing back into his advantage, and justifying his existence...

We are Muslims, this is how I understand our identity....

Sunnies or Shia'ats...we are Muslims, and brothers, and no Muslim is allowed to kill, or make an enemy of his Muslim brother, or make a friend of the foreigner, putting his hand into the foreigner's hand to kill his brother...

This is a simple truth we all know, which doesn't need the legal advisory of a clergy.....

And simply enough: our enemy is common; the occupation, we should join our hands together to push him out of Iraq....

And may the curse fall upon any who might separate the Iraqis, and thus wasting away their unity, and strength.....

I have a great hope that the occupation will be defeated....

And all who collaborated with him shall fall...

History shall write again...that Baghdad fell, and rose again...as she has fallen before by the hands of the Moguls, then the Ottomans, then the British....then rose, and we saw her beautiful, golden days, before sinful fingers tampered with her again, from inside the country, and outside...

They say that when the Khalif Abu Ja'afar Al-Mansoor intended to build Baghdad, and to make her the capital of the Abbasid state, he called upon scientists and astrologists, and asked them to look upon the fate of this city for him...

They told him she will witness some grave days, and some beautiful, glorious days, and every time she might fall and crash, she will rise up all over again.....

Oh Baghdad, my sweet

You shall rise again...and brush off the dust of the occupiers, the invaders, and their monkeys some day....

And all of Iraq shall once more be shiny, free, and independent... its people united, and his land one...

Peace shall reign on Tigris, the Euphrates, and the high palm trees of Iraq

My sons and grandsons will one day laugh when they read history... some tens of years ahead... as I read it today, and found out how my father, mother, and ancestors lived, may GOD bless their souls.... Like I laughed at the failure of the occupiers and imperialists, and their defeat....

And how I smiled at the strength, the courage, and the patience of the honest Iraqis...

How I felt sorry for the meanness of the collaborators, the traitors, and those who sell their homelands cheaply...

They all went into another world...

The good and the bad....

The nationalists and the traitors.....

But history remained, talking, telling all kinds of stories.....

And the wise is that who understands the lesson well..... and smiles.

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)

How Big Is The Insurgency In Iraq?

ESTIMATE: THE SIZE OF THE IRAQI INSURGENCY

		BEST	WORST	LIKELY	W AVERAGE
Fedayeen	40,000	2,000	20,000	6,000	8,000
Sr. Baathists	50,000	2,500	25,000	7,500	10,000
Sr/Mid Military	175,000	8,750	87,500	26,250	35,000
Foreign	N/A	1,000	6,000	4,000	3,800
Special Police	175,000	8,750	87,500	26,250	35,000
		(5 percent)	(50 percent)	(15 percent)	
Sunni Adult Men	1,500,000	15,000	225,000	75,000	93,000
		(1 percent)	(15 percent)	(5 percent)	
TOTAL		38,000	451,000	145,000	184,800



The number we should be planning against

October 2, 2005 By John Robb, /multigraphic.dk

Can the US win in Iraq?

One of the most important factors is the size of the Iraqi insurgency. However, the numbers presented by the US military on its size are less than compelling. They have ranged from 12,000 to 20,000.

These numbers do not mesh with the reality of the situation:

- The frequency, dispersion, and depth of attacks indicates a large force.
- The resiliency of the insurgency despite substantial casualties and arrests (estimated at 1-2,000 a month) suggests a larger force.

- The number of men who have become effectively “stateless” and “jobless” is very large.

A good place to start with an analysis of the correct size of the insurgency was accomplished in a report by an associate (likely DIA) of Pat Lang). This report completes its analysis with an estimate of the size of the insurgency based on likely participants.

This list of participants falls into the following groups:

- Saddam Fedayeen.
- Senior and mid-level Republican Guard and Army officers.
- Secret police and other agencies.
- Foreign Jihadis.
- Senior Baathists.

Given the size of these groups before the war, and the relatively light casualties they suffered during the short campaign, these groups represent a large pool of unscathed participants.

Additionally, the ongoing actions of the current government of Iraq to exclude these men from civil life has left them effectively “stateless” and therefore likely very resentful due to falling standards of living and power.

I have taken the numbers in the analysis and did some light corrections and additional analysis. The table above shows a weighted average of the likely participation of these men in ongoing guerrilla activities.

Also, I’ve added an estimate of the number of Sunni men outside these groups (in tribes and gangs) that are also likely participants.

The net result is that we are likely facing an insurgency of 184,800 men.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

Justice In Washington, D.C.

From: Mike Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: Sunday, October 02, 2005 5:56 PM
Subject: Justice In Washington, D.C.

This was the first thing I wrote when I got back from D.C.

I am still vibrating from it all.

I had a verbal hand-to-hand encounter with a group of about ten Bush supporters. I had my vet jacket on with some trimmings, and they accused me of getting everything off of E-bay. They told me I could take my Bronze Star off, throw it in the toilet, and piss on it.

At that point, 58,000 dead American soldiers came out of me, and I gave them a history lesson about what Their Government did to civilian populations in Vietnam. I felt like an artist with a finely tuned verbal pen. When I got through, I am sure some of them had shit in their pants.

When I walked away, some other guy over heard our conversation, and accused me of supporting the terrorists. I got into his face, and said, " Have you ever seen a dead American soldier?" As we walked side by side, I kept repeating what I said over and over again. Finally, he ran up to a cop, and said, " This guy is crazy."

The cop said nothing to me.

I can't believe how ignorant Bush supporters can be. When this guy got confronted by the genuine item, who was there, he folded like a chicken hawk.

As veterans, we have far more power than we think.

People who support this insane war, have no idea where we come from.

Once they get into the lions den with us, they fold like an envelope.

Justice, ladies and gentlemen, JUSTICE.

Before I left Washington, D.C., I went over to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and touched a few names who I saw die in Vietnam.

Those names spoke to me through my fingers, and they said, "Tell The Truth."

And, that is what I did the whole time I was in Washington, D.C."

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

**Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran
October 2, 2005**

P.S. While I was there, I took 1,600 pictures, 2 hours of digital video, and 2 hours on a tape recorder. Just in case someone says I was never there.

MORE:

Stand By Me

From: Mike Hastie

To: GI Special
Sent: October 02, 2005
Subject: Stand By Me

To G.I. Special:

What I enjoyed the most about demonstrating in front of the White House on September 26, 2005, was the total disrespect we all showed toward the highest political office in America.

There was a high emotional sense of freedom about it all. I could feel the powerful energy, as the anti-war movement dug in to make a stand. It was so obvious who the Bad Guy was. And, as far as I could see, the corporate media missed it all.

**Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran
Oct. 2, 2005**

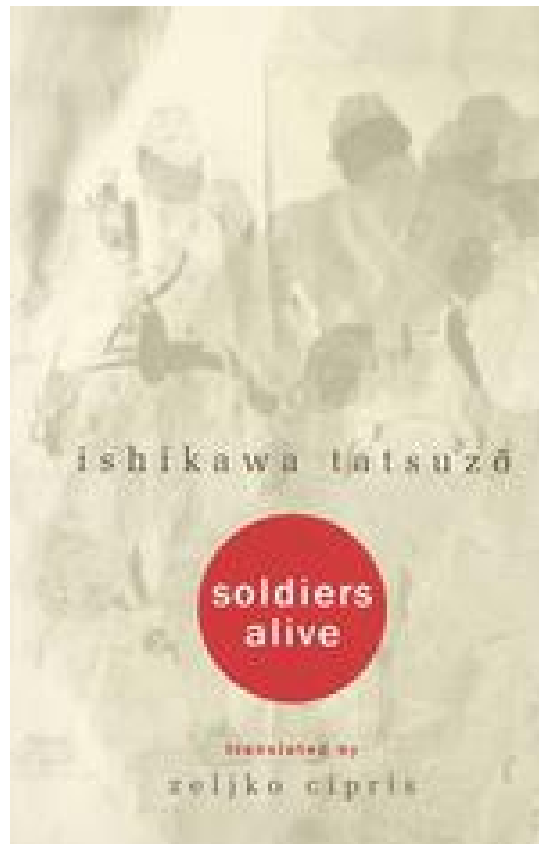
NO FLOWERS TODAY



[Thanks to PB, who sent this in. He writes: These people don't look like they want American "help."]

Iraqi youngsters celebrate, holding the remains of an US military vehicle destroyed by a road side bomb in Ramadi Oct. 1 2005. (AP Photo/Bilal Hussein)

Soldiers Alive



Cover art: "Brothers-in-Arms" by Iwata Sentarō, 1939.

Despite the censorship exercised by both author and publisher that had resulted in major changes in which phrases, sentences and even entire sections were deleted, the Japanese authorities moved quickly to prohibit distribution of the original.

Together with his editor and publisher, Ishikawa was prosecuted under the Newspaper Law (Shinbunshiho).

Ishikawa Tatsuzo, *Soldiers Alive* (translated by Zeljko Cipris), Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-1888; 2003. [www.uhpress.hawaii.edu]

Zeljko Cipris is Assistant Professor of Japanese at the University of the Pacific, Stockton, California

"Soldiers Alive, its context, and aftermath resonate far beyond the time of its writing and subsequent banning in 1938. This work raises crucial questions about writers' relationships with governments and readers in wartime; and about official assertions, like those of the Japanese government in the late 1930s, that a war is being waged for the sake of 'liberation,' 'reform,' or 'peace.'"

Steve Rabson, Brown University

“In a bright and vivid translation Professor Cipris has brought to English-speaking audiences an important (and for Americans, timely) work of the early fascist period in Japan, when the State required writers to glorify Japanese military action.

Banned when written for its cinema verité exposé of the inhumanity of the Imperial Army’s China War, the novel was published in Japan in 1945. Professor Cipris’ extensive introduction is a pedagogically useful review of some main moments in early twentieth-century Japanese history, a reminder of how unexceptional Japan really was (and is).”

Moss Roberts, New York University

Review By David Askew, Japan Focus [Excerpt]

Ikiteiru heitai (Living soldiers or Soldiers alive) by Ishikawa Tatsuzo (1905-1985) is arguably the best piece of war literature to emerge from the Sino-Japanese War of 1937 to 1945. Providing a strong indictment not only of the conduct of the Japanese military in China but also of war itself, Ikiteiru heitai is a powerful, deeply disturbing work.

In 1937-38, when the novella was written and published, Ishikawa was a young man of 32. On 29 December 1937, he was sent by the editors of the liberal journal Chuo Koron to chronicle Japanese military exploits in China. The obvious place to go was Nanjing, the recently taken capital city of Nationalist China. Arriving in Nanjing via Shanghai on or about 8 January 1938, Ishikawa spent eight days in the city, talking to Japanese infantry soldiers rather than officers, before returning to Japan and completing the manuscript of Ikiteiru heitai in just eleven days.

Ikiteiru heitai begins with Japanese infantry in Northern China who have just been in combat and will soon march off to an unknown destination, and it ends with the infantry leaving occupied Nanjing after fierce fighting. The narrative follows the fortunes of a small group of soldiers in the “Kurata Platoon” of the “Nishizawa Regiment”, “Takashima Division”, as they are transferred from North to Central China to take part in the battle for Greater Shanghai, the push to Nanjing, and finally the fight for and capture of that city.

Thus the story unfolds against a background of steady movement and almost constant battle, sandwiched between identical situations where a group of soldiers who have finished one battle are marching to the next, and depicts in detail what war does to the psyche of the individual soldier.

One of Ishikawa’s major themes is the human cost of war.

The battlefield acts as a forge, turning individuals into fighting machines, and dehumanizing them in the process. A second (and related) theme is suggested by the Japanese title – life. A number of aspects of the concept life are examined, including how the individual survives, and the ways in which the value of human life is undermined by, the brutal realities of battle.

Ishikawa examines how the individual copes with an inhuman environment. The living and dying soldiers of the battlefield as depicted by Ishikawa have the frailties of real people: his Japanese soldiers are anything but idealized.

Furthermore, the battlefield is a place where ambiguity is introduced into the stark differences between life and death.

The human cost of war is discussed in terms of death and injury, a cost paid in Ikiteiru heitai in explicit and graphic terms by both Japanese and Chinese, civilian and soldier, young and old, men and women. It is also discussed in terms of the psychological changes forced on the survivors of the battlefield.

Ikiteiru heitai triggered a controversy when originally published in Chuo Koron in 1938.

Despite the censorship exercised by both author and publisher that had resulted in major changes in which phrases, sentences and even entire sections were deleted, the Japanese authorities moved quickly to prohibit distribution of the original.

Given the nature of this novella, this is not surprising. As Donald Keene says, “it is hard to imagine the military in any country tolerating the (wartime) publication of a book that describes soldiers of their side as murdering, raping, pillaging maniacs”

Together with his editor and publisher, Ishikawa was prosecuted under the Newspaper Law (Shinbunshiho). Because of this repression, Ishikawa’s novella has an important place in discussions of wartime censorship.

Ballots And Bullets

Tony Karon, tonykaron.com. [undated] Excerpt]

Successful elections may in the minds of the Bush administration be a moral repudiation of the insurgency, but they’re unlikely to constitute even a tactical, never mind a strategic setback.

The Bush spin relies on the public and/or gullible journalists accepting the idea of a basic opposition between people engaging in a political process and people engaging in low-intensity warfare.

Instead, what you have in Iraq is a contest over the distribution of political power, which is being waged with ballots and with bullets.

“The American Street”

9.29.05 By Juan Cole, Salon.com. [Excerpt]

The American movement to withdraw from Iraq is being called "the American street" on the Arabic satellite news networks.

There may be an increasing convergence of opinion on the prospect of the US troops staying in Iraq, between the Iraqi public and the American.



12-1-04 THE AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE JOURNAL FROM SYDNEY.

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

OCCUPATION REPORT

Deadly Theatre Of The Absurd

October 2, 2005 Juan Cole, Informed Comment. [Excerpt]

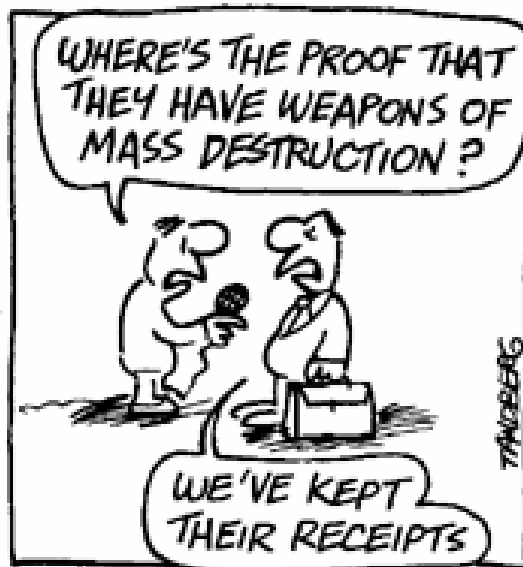
Let me now risk some more flack and say that given that it is two weeks before the referendum and no ordinary Iraqis have seen the text of the new constitution, and given that the Sunni Arabs reject it to a person even just from the little they know of it, this constitution is another sick joke played by the Bush administration, which keeps forcing Iraq to jump through hoops made in Washington as "milestones" and "tipping points" to which the Republican Party can point as progress.

Not to mention that the draft we have all seen of the constitution is riddled with fatal contradictions that will tie up the energies of parliament and the courts for decades trying

to resolve them. [Not to worry. The odds the collaborator government will be around “for decades” are about 1 in 1 billion. And all this silly shit written on little pieces of paper will make a nice warm fire in those chilly Iraqi winters.]]

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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

Condoleezza Rice Condemns Bush For “Empire Of Terror And Oppression”

[Thanks to Z, who sent this in.]

01 October 2005 Aljazeera.Net

"These are merciless killers who want to provoke nothing less than a full-scale civil war among Muslims across the entire Middle East. And having done so, they would build an empire of terror and oppression," she said. [US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice speech at Princeton University.]

“Merciless Killer”



(AFP/Tim Sloan)

DeLAY, FRIST TO WED: Embattled Republicans Seek Legal Protection As Gay Married Couple

September 29, 2005 The Borowitz Report

In what some skeptics saw as a calculated move to protect themselves from impending prosecution and ethics probes, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and former Speaker of the House Tom DeLay announced today that they were engaged to be married.

Holding hands on the steps of the Capitol, Sen. Frist and Rep. DeLay denied that there were any ulterior motives for their stunning decision to wed.

"Let our critics say what they want," Rep. DeLay said. "Bill and I have never been more in love."

But before reporters could question the two smitten lawmakers, Sen. Frist added, "And as a gay married couple, we expect to be protected from harassment by the government, including prosecution for conspiracy and investigation of insider stock sales."

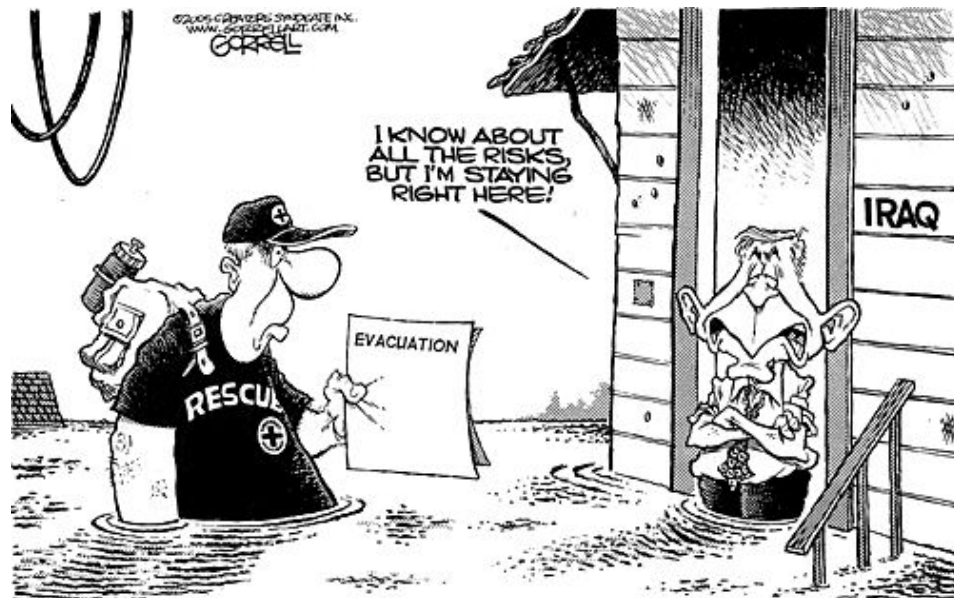
Rep. DeLay, seemingly fighting back tears, concurred: "We refuse to be attacked by those who won't accept our love."

The two men said they would go on a brief honeymoon to Hawaii and then would start working on legislation that would classify them as an endangered species.

As outspoken opponents of gay marriage, the two conservative Republicans' decision to wed surprised many in official Washington.

Even Rep. Barney Frank, an openly gay lawmaker from Massachusetts, said that while he embraced the union between the two men, "I'm still having a hard time getting my brain around it."

"I know politics makes strange bedfellows, but those two are the strangest bedfellows I've ever seen," Rep. Frank said.



[Thanks to Katherine G. who sent this in.]

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.

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