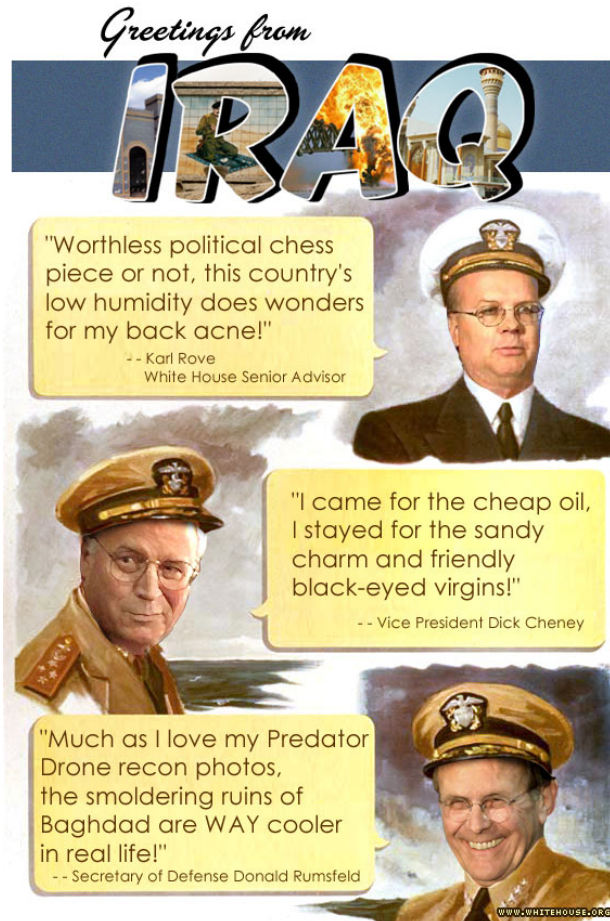


GI SPECIAL 3C73:



THE ENEMY FROM WITHIN:

**“The Outcry Of These Soldiers
Has Been Turned Off With
Rhetoric”**

Many in America want to know why more soldiers don't speak out against war, and the atrocities from it, if indeed they exist. They do exist, and soldiers are speaking. Their actions are telling us so much more than their words ever could.

But no one can hear because their voices are being muffled by those who claim to lead them. No one can hear because the outcry of these soldiers has been turned off with rhetoric, documents lost and access to the installations cut off for civilians who could make a difference if they knew the truth.

September 21, 2005 BY DAVID FRIEDMAN, Oraculo.blog.com. [Excerpts]

The 3rd Infantry Division has a history of ensuring that every soldier is "in the fight" regardless of what the fight does to the soldier.

The popular creed these days seems to be "Mission First. Take care of the soldiers by completing the mission, at all cost.

We'll get more soldiers. They're just kids, a dime a dozen. They're just fathers, mothers, sons, and daughters. We can throw them away. Oil matters, egos matter, the illusion of leadership matters, POWER, CONTROL, not letting anyone see the incompetence, all matter more than the humanity of our soldiers."

THIS. is leadership?????

At Ft. Stewart, soldiers must go to war, no matter what their humanity says differently.

One soldier requested compassionate reassignment because a brother, their only sibling, was dying. The command of Ft. Stewart turned down this request, citing that "105% of all military personnel were needed in Iraq, so no compassionate reassignments were being considered."

It took months of letters, hounding the administration, and this soldier deployed. Finally, months into the deployment this soldier received word that they had been given their reassignment. By this time, it was not much longer before they redeployed home. Why do we have to apply that much pressure to get a "leader" to do the right thing?

Soldiers on medical profile were treated as "malingering," or came face to face with a physician who was willing to tear up medical profiles and re-write them to show that soldiers who had never received treatment for their conditions had miraculously become deployable.

One of the soldiers at Ft. Stewart was on medical profile for a condition that caused him to be deaf. He had his records, and was scheduled to report for treatment and a medical discharge. One night, this young soldier was wakened by his sergeant barreling into his barracks room ordering him to get up and get his equipment. He would be deploying with his unit, or he would face 11 years in jail. In the night, hearing impaired, and young, what is a soldier to do?

A soldier attempted suicide on the morning of deployment. For months after his return from Iraq, this soldier requested treatment from the mental health counselors. His commanders refused to listen, saying that he was "malingering."

Rather than give him the help he needed, and asked for, they threatened him, abused him emotionally, and the abuse took its toll.

He was taken to a local hospital, but the command didn't want his story to be told, so they hastily moved him to the Army hospital, refusing entry to his spouse.

He went AWOL, and then returned after his Rear Detachment commander made promises of help. When the mental health counselors informed his commander that this soldier required treatment under their care for at least 5 weeks, the commander ignored the recommendation and sent this soldier to Iraq, back to the same command that disregarded his health to begin with.

On the night before his deployment, another Ft. Stewart soldier grabbed a bottle of prescription medication and a gun. He got into his vehicle, drove off post to a highway not far away, pulled over to the side of the road and swallowed the pills in the bottle. As the pills began to take effect, this soldier, a veteran of the invasion, then got out of his vehicle with his gun and walked along the edge of the highway away from his car. The medication worked, in more ways than one, and he passed out along the side of the road before he could use the gun.

This soldier was placed in the Psych unit of the Army hospital, where he was observed throughout the following week. Doctors in the Psych unit told him that he was "malingering" and threatened with jail time. He was ordered to deploy, and was sent to Iraq less than two weeks after he had attempted suicide.

Why did he take the pills? He was scheduled to leave the military that same month, but the Army stop/lossed him, and rather than getting out, he was looking forward to another year and 4 months in combat, never having had his emotional condition addressed.

There are uncounted cases of these stories on Ft. Stewart. Doctors and commanders, self-proclaimed leaders who care about their soldiers, give the illusion, but actions present a different perspective. Soldiers have gone AWOL, 12 from one unit, and have stayed away for so long they were dropped from the rolls. Where is the accounting? How many more have suffered that will never be known, because leaders chose to hide the truth, to cover the facts, to distort reality?

Many in America want to know why more soldiers don't speak out against war, and the atrocities from it, if indeed they exist. They do exist, and soldiers are speaking. Their actions are telling us so much more than their words ever could.

But no one can hear because their voices are being muffled by those who claim to lead them.

No one can hear because the outcry of these soldiers has been turned off with rhetoric, documents lost and access to the installations cut off for civilians who could make a difference if they knew the truth.

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.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

II MEF MARINE KILLED IN ACTION AT KARABILAH

October 4, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
RELEASE Number: 05-10-07C

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – A Marine assigned to 2nd Regimental Combat Team, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), was killed in action by an improvised explosive device during Operation Iron Fist in Karabilah, Iraq on Oct. 3.

II MEF SOLDIER DIES FROM HAQLANIYAH IED

October 4, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
RELEASE Number: 05-10-06C

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq –A Soldier assigned to 2nd Regimental Combat Team, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), died of wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations in Haqlaniyah, Iraq Oct. 3.

ONE SOLDIER IS DEAD AS A RESULT OF GUNSHOT WOUND AT TAQADDUM

October 4, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
RELEASE Number: 05-10-04C

LSA ANACONDA, BALAD, Iraq – A 56th Brigade Combat Team Soldier is dead as a result of injuries sustained from a gunshot wound at about 8:45 a.m., Oct. 3, 2005, near Taqaddum, Iraq.

TWO SOLDIERS KILLED IN HAQLANIYAH

October 4, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
RELEASE Number: 05-10-05C

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – Two Soldiers assigned to 2nd Regimental Combat Team, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), were killed in action by an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations in Haqlaniyah, Iraq Oct. 3.

Area Soldier Hurt At Ramadi

October 4, 2005 By Karen Blackledge, The Daily Item

PORT TREVORTON — An Army National Guard member from Snyder County was injured Friday by a roadside bomb in Iraq.

Sgt. Shawn M. Brubaker, 33, who is from Port Trevorton, suffered a severe left foot injury while driving an armored vehicle Friday night, his mother Nancy reported Monday.

She said her son was injured several places by shrapnel. The truck was badly damaged. No one else in the truck was injured in the bombing that occurred at Ar Ramadi, she said.

Sgt. Brubaker was airlifted to Baghdad and then flown to Germany. Today, she expects him to undergo surgery to repair tendons and muscles.

"A large square of his skin will have to be replaced by grafting," she said, referring to the top of his foot.

"He e-mailed me, his wife and his brother," she said. His brother, Todd, 45, is serving with the Air National Guard in Kuwait. Shawn and his wife live in Lewisberry. Shawn has been in Iraq since June. His unit is based in Williamsport and originally was from Lewisburg.

Bomb Burns U.S. Army Oil Truck At Biji

04 October 2005 Aljazeera

A US army oil truck has been burnt in a bomb explosion in Biji city, south of Mosul. The truck was among a convoy of US trucks transferring oil to a nearby US military base.

Militants Shoot Down US Drone At Falluja

04 October 2005 RTÉ 2005

The US military confirmed the loss of an unmanned plane which crashed into a house in Fallujah.

An Islamist militant group has claimed it shot down the US drone west of the Iraqi capital Baghdad.

The group calls itself The Earthquakes Brigades of the 1920 Revolution, the military wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement in Iraq.

TROOP NEWS

D.C. 9/24: What The Media Ignored; Iraq Veterans Marching Against The War

03 October 2005 Scott Galindez; Truthout Interview

One impressive contingent was the Iraq Veterans Against the War; they had dozens of veterans of the current Iraq war marching. There hundreds of family members of fallen or deployed soldiers from this war.

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)

General Abizaid Says His Commanders In The Field Are Blind, Stupid, And Unfit For Command

October 3, 2005 By Tyler Marshall, Los Angeles Times

On NBC's "Meet the Press," Gen. John P. Abizaid, the commander of U.S. forces in the Middle East, said the doubts and frustration that permeated much of the questioning the generals faced during Thursday's high-profile hearing before the House and Senate armed services committees was not matched by his commanders close to battle.

"I go up on (Capitol) Hill and everybody's wringing their hands and everybody's worried, but *when I talk to my commanders in the field*, when I talk to Iraqi commanders in the field, *people are confident*," Abizaid said.

"They don't think it's going to be easy. They know that there's a lot of fighting ahead, but *they're confident that they're moving in a good direction*."

Brigadier General Michael D Barbero; World-Class Piece Of Shit:

Denied Water To Hurricane Survivors; Troops Had To Sneak Off Base To Help Them

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

October 3, 2005 by Kim Sengupta, Independent News & Media (UK) Ltd.

Relief efforts to combat Hurricane Katrina suffered near catastrophic failures due to endemic corruption, divisions within the military and troop shortages caused by the Iraq war, an official American inquiry into the disaster has revealed.

The confidential report, which has been seen by The Independent, details how funds for flood control were diverted to other projects, desperately needed National Guards were stuck in Iraq and how military personnel had to "sneak off post" to help with relief efforts because their commander had refused permission.

The report was commissioned by the Office of Secretary of Defence as an "independent and critical review" of what went so wrong. In a hard-hitting analysis, it says: "The US military has long planned for war on two fronts. This is as close as we have come to (that) reality since the Second World War; the results have been disastrous."

The document was compiled by Stephen Henthorne, a former professor of the US Army's War College and an adviser to the Pentagon who was a deputy-director in the Louisiana relief efforts.

The report states that Brigadier General Michael D Barbero, commander of the Joint Readiness Training Centre at Fort Polk, Louisiana, refused permission for special forces units who volunteered to join relief efforts, to do so. General Barbero also refused to release other troops.

"The same general did take in some families from Hurricane Katrina, but only military families living off the base," the report says. "He has done a similar thing for military families displaced by Hurricane Rita.

However, he declined to share water with the citizens of Leesville, who are out of water, and his civil affairs staff have to sneak off post in civilian clothes to help coordinate relief efforts."

The report says deployment in the Iraq war led to serious problems. "Another major factor in the delayed response to the hurricane aftermath was that the bulk of the Louisiana and Mississippi National Guard was deployed in Iraq.

US Army Fails To Reach 2005 Recruiting Goal

04oct05 news.com.au network & Voices Magazine Newswire

THE US Army has fallen more than 8 per cent short of its recruitment goal for the year, army officials said.

The service fell 6,000 to 8,000 soldiers short of its enlistment goals last fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30.

They acknowledged a setback for plans to enlarge a force strained by combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"It does have an impact," General Richard Cody, the army's vice chief of staff, said of the recruiting shortfall.

General Cody said the army ended the 2005 fiscal year September 30 with a little more than 73,000 new recruits, well short of its goal of 80,000 new recruits.

Army Lowering Recruitment Standards

4 October 2005 Voices Magazine Newswire

The Army's top official says the service will revise its recruitment qualifications to allow enlistment of more high school drop-outs and those who scored lower on mental qualification tests, but denied the move was a lowering of standards.

Army Secretary Noel Harvey, along with Gen. Richard Cody, vice chief of staff, told a gathering of the annual Association of the U.S. Army the service would revert to lower Department of Defense entrance requirements. The Army had been using higher recruiting standards, but has faced chronic enlistment shortfalls - the worst since 1979, the early years following the Vietnam War.

DoD "standards on qualification tests call for at least 60 percent Category 1 to 3 [the higher end of testing] and 4 percent Category 4," the lowest end, Harvey said. "The other services follow that standard and the Army National Guard always followed it as well. But the active Army chose a standard of 67 percent in Categories 1-3, and 2 percent Category 4."

Now, however, the Army will adopt the lower Pentagon standards.

Punishment Harsher For Scavenging Truck Parts Than For Violent Crime Against Iraqis

10.2. 05 Dayton Daily News

Six members of the Army Reserve's 656th Transportation Company, including company commander Maj. Catherine Kaus, were court-martialed last year for stealing abandoned Army vehicles in Iraq. The vehicle parts were taken in order for Maj. Kaus's unit to complete a mission. **The individuals in this case received sentences that were harsher than those handed out to soldiers convicted of more violent acts against Iraqis.**

General Asks: What's Wrong With Cutting And Running?

[Thanks to Don Bacon, Smedley Butler Society, who sent this in.]

There is no question the insurgents and other anti-American parties will take over the government once we leave. But that will happen no matter how long we stay.

Any government capable of holding power in Iraq will be anti-American because the Iraqi people are increasingly becoming anti-American.

October 3, 2005 by Gen. (ret.) William E. Odom, antiwar.com/orig. [Excerpt]

If I were a journalist, I would list all the arguments that you hear against pulling U.S. troops out of Iraq, the horrible things that people say would happen, and then ask: Aren't they happening already? Would a pullout really make things worse? Maybe it would make things better.

On civil war. Iraqis are already fighting Iraqis. We created the civil war when we invaded; we can't prevent a civil war by staying.

On credibility: Ask the president if he really worries about U.S. credibility.

Or, what will happen to our credibility if the course he is pursuing proves to be a major strategic disaster? Would it not be better for our long-term credibility to withdraw earlier than later in this event?

On the insurgency and democracy.

There is no question the insurgents and other anti-American parties will take over the government once we leave. But that will happen no matter how long we stay.

Any government capable of holding power in Iraq will be anti-American because the Iraqi people are increasingly becoming anti-American.

President Bush's statements about progress in Iraq are increasingly resembling LBJ's statements during the Vietnam War. For instance, Johnson's comments about the 1968 election are very similar to what Bush said in February 2005 after the election of a provisional parliament.

Ask the president: Why should we expect a different outcome in Iraq than in Vietnam?

On training the Iraq military and police.

The insurgents are fighting very effectively without U.S. or European military advisers to train them. Why don't the soldiers and police in the present Iraqi regime's service do their duty as well?

Because they are uncertain about committing their lives to this regime. They are being asked to take a political stand, just as the insurgents are. Political consolidation, not military-technical consolidation, is the issue.

So why is almost nobody advocating a pullout? I can only speculate.

We face a strange situation today where few if any voices among Democrats in Congress will mention early withdrawal from Iraq, and even the one or two who do will not make a comprehensive case for withdrawal now.

Look at John Kerry's utterly absurd position during the presidential campaign. He said, "It's the wrong war, in the wrong place, at the wrong time," but then went on to explain how he expected to win it anyway. Even the voter with no interest in foreign affairs was able to recognize it as an absurdity. If it was the wrong war at the wrong place and time, then it was never in our interests to fight. If that is true, what has changed to make it in our interests? Nothing, absolutely nothing.

The wisest course for journalists might be to begin sustained investigations of why leading Democrats have failed so miserably to challenge the U.S. occupation of Iraq.

The first step, of course, is to establish as conventional wisdom the fact that the war was never in the U.S.' interests and has not become so.

It is such an obvious case to make that I find it difficult to believe many pundits and political leaders have not already made it repeatedly.

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.

SOLIDARITY MARCH WITH HOLYOKE ANTI-WAR STUDENTS:

**Thursday, October 6, 11 am
Starts at G Building, Holyoke Community College, Holyoke,
Massachusetts**

**March for Free Speech!
March Against the War in Iraq!
March for College, Not Combat!**

The UMass-Amherst Anti-War coalition, in solidarity with HCC counter-recruitment students, has called for a peaceful mass march at Holyoke Community College in Holyoke, on Thursday, October 6 at 11am, to demonstrate our determination to preserve freedom of speech on our university and college campuses and resist police repression of anti-war students.

On Thursday, September 29, a peaceful group of approximately 30 counter-recruitment activists were attacked by members of the HCC College Republican Club and the Holyoke campus police. [The maggot, Landry, who led the mob was the faculty advisor for the college Republicans and a copy who escalated to violence with breaking a sweat.]

One anti-war activist, Charles Peterson, was maced by police and has since been banned from the HCC campus where he is a student and works.

For more information on the attack, see Campus Anti-War Network:
www.campusantiwar.net

For more information, contact Justin (UMass) at (413) 320-9108 or jfjln@yahoo.com or HCC Anti-War Coalition at info.hcc-awc@hotmail.com

MORE:

Desperation At Holyoke

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

October 3, 2005, By VIJAY PRASHAD, CounterPunch [Excerpt]

At Holyoke Community College (HCC), in Holyoke, Massachusetts, one of the many educational institutions that cater mainly to the working-class, the iron fist flew through the velvet glove.

On Thursday, September 29, 2005, the Army National Guard sent its recruiters to the campus, where the student Anti-War Coalition met them.

According to a statement by the college authorities, the altercation between the recruiters and the anti-war protestors created a disruption in the cafeteria and led to "an escalating display of emotions."

Campus security intervened, and, again according to the college authorities, "the anti-war group chose to ignore (a student code of conduct) we had established to ensure the safety of all, and endangered the safety of the recruiters, students and others present."

The campus cops hit a student with pepper spray, and the state police showed up. Arrests followed, as did the subsequent retaliatory punishment against one student, sophomore Charles Peterson.

The college conveniently avoided any mention of the Campus Republicans, who came in force to back the recruiters, and according to Peterson, who was sprayed by the cops, the Republican Youth went berserk and started to assault the anti-war protestors.

The authorities also did not mention that one of the campus cops (Officer Scott Landry) is an advisor to the Young Republicans. When the state cops appeared, they came in full battle gear, ready to create Falluja in Holyoke. Some students report that the state police pointed guns at them.

Keep in mind that in June 2003, an HCC student, James Lacey committed suicide after he returned from his "tour of duty" in Iraq. At the memorial service for Lacey, his friend from HCC and fellow veteran, Sean Lamory pointed out that the reservists and National Guard are bearing the burden of the Iraq War.

Lamory went on, "I see it right here at HCC, a school where a lot of students struggle financially and come out of class to see a fancy Hummer, surrounded by Marines in full-dress uniforms making all sorts of promises." This is the context for the animosity among many students at places like HCC against the military recruiters.

The violence is a sign of desperation: a similar incident occurred the same day at George Washington University, when the police went after Tariq Khan, an air force veteran, who stood before the army recruiting station with a sign, "Recruiters tell Lies." He was violently removed from the scene.

The Anti-War Coalition, at HCC, has produced four unimpeachable demands:

- (1) An immediate, unconditional public apology from the college.
- (2) A pledge of non-retaliation against the activists involved.

(3) A thorough and impartial investigation into these incidents.

(4) That the military recruiters not be allowed back to our college, as their actions and those of the military discriminate against people based on their sexual orientation, in violation of Massachusetts law and college policy. Furthermore, the military is engaging in an economic draft against working class and poor people in an attempt to buttress this nation's illegal war against Iraq.

Call Dr. William Messner, President of HCC at 413-552-2222. Show him that we can put as much pressure on him as the establishment has already done.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

WELCOME TO RAMADI: HAVE A NICE DAY



Armed insurgents keep watch on a street in Ramadi October 3. REUTERS/Stringer

Assorted Resistance Action; Car Bomber Penetrates First Green Zone Checkpoint

04 October 2005 Aljazeera & CNN & Reuters & People's Daily Online



Smoke billows from the site where a car bomb exploded inside the first checkpoint of high-security 'Green Zone' in Baghdad. (AFP/Ali al-Saadi)

A bomber detonated his booby-trapped vehicle at a checkpoint at the main entrance of Baghdad's Green Zone on Tuesday.

The car bomber drove into Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone complex with a convoy of other vehicles on Tuesday

It was not immediately clear what sort of convoy was entering the area at the time.

The high-security area is home to Iraq's parliament and the US embassy.

The explosion, which sent plumes of black smoke up over the Green Zone, occurred at about 1.20pm at the gate that many Iraqi employees use to enter and leave the area where they work for Iraq's government or for the US and British embassies.

The powerful blast killed two Iraqi policemen and wounded six, said police Lieutenant Mohammed Kheyon. The sound of gunfire was heard after the explosion, but Kheyon said he had no immediate information about that.

People entering the main Green Zone gate have to pass through several checkpoints, and a guard who works there said the bomber raced past the first one, was chased by Iraqi guards and rammed his car into a barrier at the second checkpoint.

The guard spoke on condition of anonymity out of concern for his own safety.

In Kirkuk, two Iraqi officers have been killed and three others injured after fighters, armed with machine guns, attacked their patrol in al-Askari neighbourhood

in **Kirkuk city**, Iraqi police sources said.

In a separate incident, an Iraqi army officer has been killed after armed assailants attacked his house in Kirkuk.

Four police commandos were killed and 14 others wounded on Tuesday in clashes with insurgents in Yousfiyah town, south of Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

"Fierce clashes broke out before noon between Iraqi police commandos from al-Hussein Brigade and unknown insurgents. Four commandos including an officer were killed and 14 others wounded in the violence," the source told Xinhua.

The wounded were transferred to Yarmouk Hospital in Baghdad, the source said, adding that there was no information on the casualties of the insurgents.

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

HOW IT REALLY IS



Iraqis celebrate a resistance victory, holding Iraqi uniform items they took from a burning truck in Ramadi, Oct. 3, 2005, following fighting between resistance soldiers and Iraqi occupation forces in the early morning hours. Two Iraqi army trucks were destroyed. (AP Photo/Bilal Hussein)



Iraqis mock collaborator troops by putting a helmets taken from a burning army truck on a donkey's head in Ramadi Oct. 3, 2005. Two Iraqi army trucks were destroyed. (AP Photo/Bilal Hussein)

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

“A Legitimate Act Of Self-Defence”

10.2.05 By Ghali Hassan, www.globalresearch.ca. [Excerpt]

Resistance to illegal act of aggression and foreign occupation is not terrorism; it is a legitimate act of self-defence.

Terrorism is the act of unprovoked aggression. People should be not intimidated or afraid to support a legitimate act of self-defence. The success of the Iraqi Resistance to liberate Iraq from US Occupation and achieve national independence is also a success for world resistance to imperialism.

The historic judgement by the Italian judge Clementina Forleo, Judge for the Preliminary Hearing in Milan on 24 January 2005 adds legitimacy to the Iraqi struggle against US Occupation.

Judge Forleo ruled that the accused (five North African citizens) "cannot be classified as terrorists", but resistance fighters.

She said: "(T)hat resistance (to) US occupation forces in Iraq by sending fighters does not amount to terror".

The judgement was supported by an overwhelming majority of the Italian Legal Community.

This historic judgement is supported recently by the German Federal Administrative Court which ruled that the attack launched by the US and its allies against the nation of Iraq was a clear war of aggression "as specified in Article 4, Paragraph 4 of the UN Charter" that violated international law.

OCCUPATION REPORT

NOTES FROM A LOST WAR:

The Outstanding Quote Of The Whole War, So Far

[During the war in Vietnam, a quote summed up for people all over the world how futile and barbaric the U.S. occupation of Vietnam really was:

["We had to destroy the village in order to save it."]

[Now, thanks to a brain-dead U.S. officer, the war on Iraq has it's very own, just as good, maybe even better. At least one might have hoped the Vietnam quote was spoken in irony. Not this one. Let the whole world know about it.

[Read on. T]

October 3, 2005 By CRAIG S. SMITH, The New York Times Company. [Excerpt]

RAWA, Iraq

"You can go through these towns again and again, but you can't get results unless you are there to stay," said Col. Stephen Davis, commander of Marine Regimental Combat Team 2, which is responsible for a vast area of western Iraq south of the Euphrates. "As Iraqis are getting trained, we're going back to take these towns back and build bases inside for both Iraqi and American forces."

Officers say they have received little cooperation from the town's residents, many of whom are convinced the Americans will pull out when the rains come and turn their desert outpost into a lake of viscous mud.

In fact, there is only a sporadic American military presence outside the few towns now occupied.

The Marines and the Army rely on periodic checkpoints to catch drivers by surprise. Four of six such operations in a two-week period in August stopped vehicles apparently carrying insurgents, suggesting that men and matériel continue to move despite the American presence. One car turned up guns, grenades, ammunition and a computer storage device filled with files dealing with the insurgency. One of the guns was an M-16 assault rifle taken from a dead marine.

But each of the temporary checkpoints lasts only a few hours and the searches are cursory.

Part of the problem is the size of the force. The Army has about 800 soldiers on the base but only about 300 leave the outpost on operations and never all at the same time. They must cover an expanse of desert, north of the river to the Syrian border, that is the size of Vermont. The Marines, with 3,000 troops covering an even larger area, suffer from the same problem south of the river.

The United States Army is running daily patrols through the narrow, hilly streets of Rawa and westward to the Syrian border, along with 500 Iraqi soldiers who are based in an unfinished water treatment plant.

The insurgents continue to operate in the town, residents say, planting roadside bombs like the one that breached the armor of a Stryker vehicle recently, slightly wounding some soldiers inside.

Two days after the Iraqi Army's sweep, the American Army commander, Colonel Davis, and his Iraqi counterpart, a Colonel Yasser who did not give his first name, faced a crowd of 300 people angered by the house-to-house searches and summary detentions.

"The Iraqi Army will be in every city," Colonel Yasser, a Sunni, told the crowd, urging them to vote in the constitutional referendum, scheduled for Oct. 15, and the national elections, scheduled for December.

Colonel Davis delivered a blunter message. "We're not going anywhere," he told the murmuring crowd, adding that as long as there were attacks against Iraqi or American troops the house searches and roadblocks and bridge closings would continue.

"Some of you are concerned about the attack helicopters and mortar fire from the base," he said. "I will tell you this: those are the sounds of peace."

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

ONLY ABOUT 5,827,005 MORE TO GO



US soldiers from Delta company 2/7 infantries division guard arrested suspected insurgents during an overnight raid in Tikrit. (AFP/Tauseef Mustafa)

Burned Into Their Memories

10.3.05 Dayton Daily News

U.S. troops killed two unarmed Iraqi civilians in incidents 10 days apart. Killings like these rarely make American headlines. In Iraq, the details are burned into the memories of people across the country, helping fuel the hatred that drives the insurgency and putting U.S. forces at greater risk.

MORE:

U.S. Attack Kills Eight Women, Kids In Near Sada

10/03/05 By Doctors For Iraq

Doctors for Iraq has received eyewitness reports from medical staff and residents around the town of Sada on the Iraqi, Syrian border that at least eight civilians have been killed in the latest US/ Iraqi military attack in the west of Iraq.

Doctors and residents report that all of the dead are women and children who were trying to escape the town when the vehicle they were travelling in was targeted by US soldiers.

The total civilian casualties figure is unknown as is the number of injured.

The Mother's Agony

Written on Oct 1st, the woman i wasblog.blogspot.com

All the Iraqis are terrorists until the occupation authorities will prove it!! Every Iraqi mother could not sleep the night; she stays worrying until the morning; fearing of the after midnight unwelcomed visitors.

There are continuous raids, especially at nights, every where in Iraq. American forces and Iraqi National Guards have the right to enter any house without asking permission. We are being ruling by the American Terrorism Act.

I heard that my friend Amel Kadhim Swadi was arrested with her younger son Safa, 17 years old. The both stayed in custody the whole night in Baghdad air port.

By the way one of the American giant achievements in Iraq we should admit is that they converted the all Iraq civilian and military air ports to jails; then by the cooperation with the Iraqi authorities they managed to make the whole Iraq a prison; the largest prison in the world which is worthy to genius book; a prison with 26 million prisoners capacity.

Amel, a well known lawyer who used to defend the Iraqi detainees, lives in Al-Khadhra neighborhood west Baghdad. Last Saturday, at 8pm, she was driving to the near supermarket with her daughter and two sons; the elder Zaid is a lawyer too.

As soon as she left the garage; she was astonished by an American patrol and a strong spot light on her face. She decided to return home but a loudspeaker ordered her to stop.

She did.

Many American soldiers came to check. They searched them. Then they used detector pads and deciding that they suspected the younger son whom they will arrest. Amel tried to protect her son asking them to arrest her with him because she knew that her son did nothing.

They blocked the area; cuffed the hands of the son and the mother. About 10pm, many humvees came to the location. Ten of the Americans created a human shield beginning another round of searching. Then they decided to detain the son and the mother. Amel was put in a humvee blind folded while her hands cuffed behind her back. The son, Safa, was taken by another humvee; again he was blind folded and his hands cuffed behind.

They were taken to Baghdad air port to be investigated. They were asked many questions.

"Are you Shiite or Sunni?" they asked. "I am a Moslem", she answered. "You should answer Shiite or Sunni?" A Moslem, Amel insisted. "From where you

are?" they asked. "I am from Misan, Emarah", Amel said. "So you are a Shiite". "We are Moslems, my husband is from Mosul, and we live in Baghdad", Amel told them adding, "You are trying to separate Sunnis and Shiites to destroy my country".

Then one of them recognized her. "As if I saw you before" told her. "Sure because I am the layer of the detainees and visit all your prisons", she said adding, "In your country you could not meet a lawyer without a previous date; but here you are insisting on humiliating the Iraqis".

Then they opened her eyes began behaving politely.. Amel and son were freed at 5am.

While leaving the gate, a female American soldier put her hand in Amel's pocket!! At home she discovered that she put \$20 in her pocket.. She did not know how to explain this \$20! Did the American soldier was trying to apologize and finding no other way? Was she trying to give her the rent of a taxi back to home? Or she was trying to humiliate her again?

Amel has no clue.

Now she is looking for a house close to her family to feel safe.

Amel told me," Now I will intensive my work more and more. I know that most of the Iraqi detainees are being detained for doing nothing. They arrest any body then they forget him in the jail".

Last March, at 4.30 am, the curfew ends at 5am, my door was knocked strongly. I opened the door. 18 ING with their officer asked me to allow them in. "with whom are you living here?" the officer asked politely. "With my son", I answered. "do you let us to search the house?". "Yes".

Then the officer asked again, "Is Your son?". "yes". "where is he?" " Sleeping in his room."

I felt as if he will go to awake him. So I asked him to let me awake him. As soon as I entered my 22 years old son room; the officer radioed his commander," Sir we arrested the TARGET".

I was astonished telling them," My son did nothing. You could not take him alone. I will come with him."

They refused. My son asked them to let him change his clothes. "We are not taking you to a picnic", one of the soldiers told him.

The officer felt my agony; he asked the soldiers to not cuff his hands in front of my hands.

I will never ever forget my son looking at me asking by his eyes if I am going let them to take him alone.

Written on Oct. 1st

As soon as they took my son, I began praying. I do not what to do, whom to call.

With the dawn call of prayer I begged AL-MIGHTY ALLAH to bring my son back.

My phone began ringing. The porter of our building asked me down to "receive" my son.

There was no power. I went 13 floors down. The officer apologized saying that they had a report accusing my son; but they discovered that he is a university student who did nothing; still he should take care of his behavior!!

I had nothing to say but alhamdulillah "thank to Allhah"

It is easy to write now but then only Allah knows how much I cried; how many bad thoughts I had. Till now, whenever my door being knocked I become afraid.

The Great Iraqi Collaborator Army Training Fiasco: 750 Out Of 200,000 Ready To Defend The Occupation



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

But the generals' testimony meant that after two and a half years of U.S. efforts, only 750 men out of 200,000 can be relied upon to operate and obey orders independently in combat situations.

03 October 2005 By Martin Sieff, United Press International

U.S. politicians and policymakers' perceptions towards the Iraq war have reached another tipping point:

There is now a widespread recognition shared among senior uniformed U.S. military officers and Washington foreign policy analysts that plans to rapidly build up the Iraqi army as a new, independent effective fighting force have failed disastrously.

The Senate heard testimony last week from some of America's top generals that the war in Iraq is going worse than ever and that only 1 out of 119 Iraqi army and security battalions can operate by itself in combat situations without U.S. military backup.

The Iraqi army consists of 119 battalions.

But the generals' testimony meant that after two and a half years of U.S. efforts, only 750 men out of 200,000 can be relied upon to operate and obey orders independently in combat situations.

Still No Oil For Blood

03 October 2005 By David R. Francis, The Christian Science Monitor

As long as Iraq is wracked by insurgents and political uncertainty, no major oil company will risk billions of dollars to find and develop new oil resources there.

"Everything depends on political developments," says A.F. Alhajji, an oil economist at Ohio Northern University in Ada.

British Civilian Arrested For Terrorism

October 4, 2005 (CNN)

A British civilian and nine Iraqis have been arrested by Iraq's border security force, a British military spokesman in the southern city of Basra told CNN Tuesday.

The spokesman could not confirm the time, location or circumstances of the arrest, but an Iraqi police official in the central city of Najaf told CNN that "10 suspected terrorists" were arrested near the Saudi border on Monday, noting that among them was a British national.

Col. Thamer Kamel with the Iraqi border guard in Najaf said a British national by the name of Colin Peter was arrested around 8 p.m. (12 noon ET) Monday along with nine Iraqis on a highway between Anbar and Najaf.

Peter claimed to be a contractor, but his passport did not support his claim, Kamel said. The group, traveling in three GMC Suburbans, was carrying machine guns and GPS satellite technology.

According to Kamel, Peter is being held by the border guard, pending a response from the British embassy.

The Governing Council in Basra cut ties with Multinational Forces after British troops freed two men that the council alleges were British undercover troops who killed an Iraqi civilian and beat a policeman.

MORE:

Britain Arrested For Terrorism Set Free

4 October 2005 BBC

A Briton arrested in southern Iraq has been released after appearing in court.

Colin Peter Wanley was held in Najaf on Monday, along with 10 Iraqis, because he had entered Iraq without the correct visa, according to local authorities.

The engineer was freed, along with three Iraqi guards, after the court reviewed his documents, say reports.

Mr Wanley's group were carrying surveillance equipment, say police.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

**“They Hate Our Freedom” Bush
Says:
What Freedom?
“Our So-Called Democracy Is A
Sham”**

That our opponents have to resort to such heavy-handed tactics shows that while they are tactically strong in the sense that they can keep divestment off the ballot, they are strategically weak in the sense that they are becoming more and more isolated from, and unable to control the thinking of, ordinary people.

September 23, 2005 John Spritzler, Anti-Allawi-group

Dear Friends,

The Somerville Divestment Project collected 4,400 signatures (more than the 3966 required, which is 10% of registered voters in Somerville) on a petition to place a non-binding Question on the November municipal ballot that would let people vote whether or not Somerville should divest from Israel and from corporations that supply military equipment to Israel.

According to state law (which trumps municipal law), and according to prior verbal assurances from both state and city election officials in March, the petition form is fine and there is no limit as to when signatures could start to be collected before the deadline of September 26.

But a few weeks ago Somerville city officials told the SDP that the petition form was not valid and that signatures collected before August 10 were not valid.

Not coincidentally, Somerville's Mayor Curtatone was one of eleven mayors across the U.S. whom the Israeli government paid to visit Israel. Mayor Curtatone was selected because of his strong opposition to the divestment campaign.

The Mayor, for example, barred the SDP from setting up a table to collect signatures at the city's Arts Festival this summer on the grounds that divestment was "political" even though the Festival has always been a venue for such activity in the past and the Mayor allowed another group to have a table at this year's Festival to collect signatures for a different ballot question.

Yesterday the SDP filed a motion in Superior Court asking that the city accept the petitions since they are valid according to the state law and even the state elections department guidelines. Our lawyers believed we had a strong case and would win.

The city made a weak argument and complained that the Question was inflammatory and would sully the reputation of the City.

The Superior Court Judge ruled against us in a grossly unfair decision. The Judge thereby killed the 2005 ballot initiative aspect of the divestment project. Our so-called democracy is a sham.

One thing the Judge cannot kill is the fact that 4,400 Somerville voters want a democratic vote on divestment from Israel.

Nor can the Judge kill the fact that Somerville residents -- as a result of SDP's mass leafletting, door-to-door discussions with people, film showings and a

stream of letters to the editor -- are far more knowledgeable now about the Palestine/Israel conflict than they were two years ago.

Pro-Zionist propaganda (about Israel being the "only democracy in the Middle East" or about it being anti-Semitic to "single out Israel" or that Israel "works for peace" while Palestinians reject peace) is effective when unchallenged, but in Somerville these lies have been challenged in thousands of conversations on the street and in people's homes and as a result this propaganda has lost so much of its power to influence people that now the pro-Zionists have to resort to the naked power of city officials making up the rules as they go and a Judge ignoring the law to kill a referendum question.

That our opponents have to resort to such heavy-handed tactics shows that while they are tactically strong in the sense that they can keep divestment off the ballot, they are strategically weak in the sense that they are becoming more and more isolated from, and unable to control the thinking of, ordinary people.

We may have lost a battle but we will win the war.

Blair Regime Detains 600 As “Terrorists” To Protect His Political Meeting

3 Oct 2005 By RAYMOND HAINEY, The Scotsman

MORE than 600 people were detained under the Terrorism Act during the Labour party conference, it was reported yesterday.

Anti-Iraq war protesters, anti-Blairite OAPs and conference delegates were all detained by police under legislation that was designed to combat violent fanatics and bombers - even though none of them was suspected of terrorist links.

None of those detained under Section 44 stop-and-search rules in the 2000 Terrorism Act was arrested and no-one was charged under the terrorism laws.

But the Home Office has refused to apologise for heavy-handed tactics used at this year's conference.

A spokesman insisted: "Stop and search under Section 44 is an important tool in the on-going fight against terrorism.

"The powers help to deter terrorist activity by creating a hostile environment for terrorists."

He added that the justification for authorising the use of the powers was "intelligence-led and based on an assessment of the threat against the UK."

The shadow home secretary, David Davis, said: "Laws that are designed to fight terrorism should only be used against terrorism."

CLASS WAR REPORTS

A FLOOD OF FRAUD

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

03 Oct 2005 By Russell Mokhiber and Robert Weissman, worldcantwait.com

There's no question that post-hurricane relief and reconstruction in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast are going to pose many genuinely difficult challenges.

But some things seem pretty simple.

For example, it's a dumb idea to have cruise ships house evacuees and then pay the cruise lines as four times what they would charge vacationers.

As it happens, however, that's exactly what the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is doing.

An investigation by Senators Tom Coburn, R-Oklahoma, and Barack Obama, D-Illinois, found that what should have been a short-term FEMA emergency deal is turning into a six-month boondoggle.

FEMA has contracted with Carnival Cruise Lines, to the tune of \$192 million, to house hurricane evacuees on three cruise ships.

The result, according to the senators: "Taxpayers are paying, per evacuee, four times the amount a vacation cruise passenger would have to pay.

"Three Carnival ships are only half full and mostly occupied by relief workers. Carnival's overhead costs in the FEMA operation are far lower than during normal cruises. The Carnival ships are docked. No fuel is being used and no entertainment is being provided to the relief workers.

"Yet, taxpayers are paying \$2,550 per guest per week, which is four times the cost of a \$599 per person '7 Day Western Caribbean' Cruise from Galveston, Texas."

GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out

All GI Special issues achieved at website <http://www.militaryproject.org/> .

The following have also posted issues; there may be others:

<http://qi-special.iraq-news.de>, <http://www.notinourname.net/qi-special/>,
www.williambowles.info/qispecial,

<http://www.albasrah.net/maqalat/english/qi-special.htm>

GI Special distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupation of Iraq. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **GI Special has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is GI Special endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice** Go to: www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

If printed out, this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.