

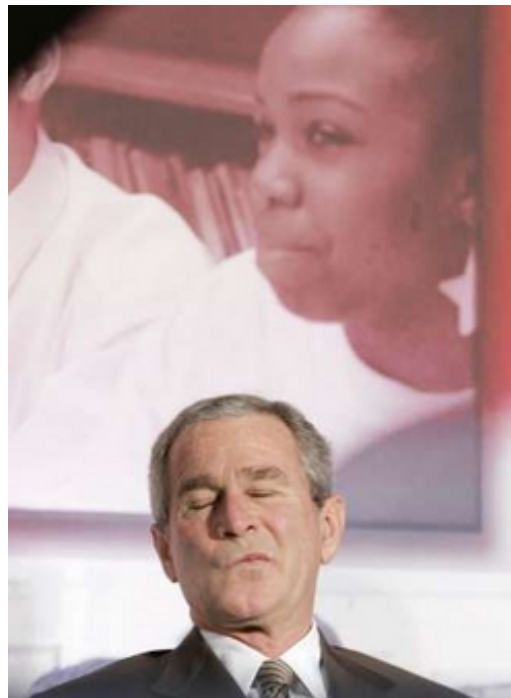
## GI SPECIAL 3C96:

# WHAT IS THIS THING?



Bush gestures as he addresses the Economic Club of Washington, DC. (AFP/Jim Watson)

## NOTE: 2 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS:



Bush at the White House Conference on Helping Americas Youth at Howard University in Washington, October 27, 2005. REUTERS/Larry Downing

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# **Army Wife Fired For Seeing Husband Off To War: Benefit Management Administrators Inc. Is The Enemy Personified: Clark Galloway Is The Enemies' Name**

**[After reading this, it may be tempting to visit Benefit Management Administrators to have a word with Asshole Galloway. No need. The phone number is 616.891.1984. Perhaps troops and veterans and military family members may feel moved to call and express an opinion about this way of treating a deployed soldier's wife. T]**

October 27, 2005 Associated Press

**CALEDONIA, Mich. — A woman who took an unpaid leave of absence from work to see her husband off to war has been fired after failing to show up for her part-time receptionist job the day following his departure.**

**“It was a shock,” said Suzette Boler, a 40-year-old mother of three and grandmother of three. “I was hurt. I felt abandoned by people I thought cared for me. I sat down on the floor and cried for probably two hours.”**

Officials at her former workplace, Benefit Management Administrators Inc., confirmed that Boler was dismissed when she didn't report to work the day after she said goodbye to her husband of 22 years.

**“We gave her sufficient time to get back to work,” Clark Galloway, vice president of operations for Benefit Management, told The Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press for a story published Wednesday.**

He added that other factors were involved in the decision but he declined to elaborate.

On Oct. 16, Boler went with her husband, Army Spc. Jerry Boler, 45, to an Indianapolis-area airfield, where he and others in his National Guard unit gathered to be transported to Fort Dix, N.J. The unit soon will be deployed to Iraq, where he will help guard convoys from insurgent attacks.

**Suzette Boler had received permission to take off work the week leading up to her husband's departure. As a part-time employee at Benefit Management, she did not receive vacation pay and was not compensated for her time off.**

When Boler returned home from Indiana on the night of Oct. 16, a few hours after leaving her husband at the airfield, she said she felt drained by the emotional ordeal.

**She said she had told her bosses that she would try to return on Oct. 17 but if she could not, she would definitely be back Oct. 18, she said.**

**But on the afternoon of Oct. 17, she received a call from work telling her to come in the following day and get her things because she was being fired. Her pink slip said the reason was she failed to show up for work Oct. 17, a Monday, she said.**

**"If I had even an inkling that I would be fired for not coming in Monday, I would have been there," she said.**

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **2 U.S. SOLDIERS KILLED IN BAGHDAD BOMB ATTACK**

October 27, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS  
RELEASE Number: 05-10-36C

**BAGHDAD, Iraq — Two Task Force Baghdad Soldiers were killed Oct. 26 when their convoy struck an improvised explosive device in east Baghdad.**

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### **ONE U.S. SOLDIER KILLED, 4 WOUNDED BY SMALL-ARMS FIRE, IED ATTACK AT ASHRAF**

October 27, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS  
RELEASE Number: 05-10-37C

**LSA ANACONDA, BALAD, Iraq – One 1st COSCOM Soldier died as a result of his wounds and four Soldiers were wounded as a result of an improvised explosive device and small arms fire attack while conducting a combat logistics patrol at about 11:15 a.m. Oct. 26, near Ashraf, Iraq.**

The Soldiers were taken to a Coalition Forces medical treatment facility.

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## **Three Ukrainian Soldiers Wounded**

10.27.05 Deutsche Presse-Agentur & MULTINATIONAL DIVISION CENTRAL-SOUTH

**Three Ukrainian soldiers were injured in a bomb blast 100 kilometres south-east of Baghdad, Ukrainian ministry of defence officials said Thursday.**

**The patrol was attacked by improvise explosive device and then came under small arms fire on the road 1 km south of An Numaniya city.**

In result of this combined attack 3 Ukrainian soldiers were slightly wounded. The wounded soldiers were taken to a Coalition Forces medical treatment facility. Their condition is stable.

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## **Marine Was 'Old Soul' Who Loved To Sing**

Sept. 19, 2005 Charles Kelly, The Arizona Republic

Marine Lance Cpl. Christopher M. Poston, 20, a former Valley resident who died Monday in Iraq, was remembered Wednesday as a loving young man who touched many lives.

"He was a beautiful spirit," said his mother, Tracey Walker of Oceanside, Calif. "Everyone who knew him said he had an old soul."

His fiancée, Lisa Campos, 20, of Chandler, who was to marry Poston next June, said he was family-oriented and romantic.

"He was a very sensitive person, very caring," she said. "He cared about my feelings."

Poston was killed in Hit, Iraq, in a vehicle accident not related to hostile action.

Poston moved with his family from California to Ahwatukee in 2001 and attended Mountain Pointe High School in Phoenix. He played on the defensive line on the football team, wearing No. 71.

In 2002, his family moved to Glendale, near Luke Air Force Base, and lived there until September 2004, moving back to California. After graduating from Mountain Pointe in

2003, Poston attended Mesa Community College for a time before enlisting in the Marine Corps.

He loved to sing, Campos said, and favored slow, romantic songs, sometimes making up lyrics just for her. On her last birthday, he sang for her in front of a group of friends and family, then gave her a 6-foot teddy bear.

Poston's mother said he liked playing video games, watching sports and listening to a variety of music, not only contemporary songs, but also jazz, '80s music and blues artists like B.B. King.

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## **REAL BAD PLACE TO BE: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW**



Two US soldiers during a night patrol in Iraq. (10.25.05 AFP/File/Jewel Samad)

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## **How Many More For Bush's War?**

October 27, 2005 By Gordon Trowbridge, Army Times staff writer. [Excerpt]

SADAH, Iraq — “Lance Corporal Anderson?”

Three times, Staff Sgt. John Knight made the call.

“Lance Corporal Anderson? Lance Corporal Anderson?”

Lance Cpl. Norman W. Anderson would not answer. As his platoon mates stood at attention, a small pedestal adorned with an upturned rifle, empty boots, helmet and dog tags marked his absence.

Five days before, on Oct. 19, the blast of a suicide car bomb had taken the life of the 21-year-old newlywed from Parkton, Md.

Fifty or so of his fellow Marines had gathered in the bright sunlight and dust of Battle Position Iwo Jima — nearly within sight of the spot where he lost his life — to remember him, in a scene played out hundreds of times over the last two and a half years as the U.S. military toll in Iraq has climbed past 2,000.

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## AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

### **Vicenza Service Remembers Soldier Killed In Afghanistan Incident**

October 20, 2005 By Kent Harris, Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — When Pfc. Joseph Cruz talked, you listened.

That's one of the things Staff Sgt. Jonathan Brooks remembered about his friend Wednesday at a memorial service at Caserma Ederle, who died Monday at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan following an accident.

Sometimes, Brooks said, you had to think about the words a bit. Other times, they were pretty obvious: "He had you laughing so hard it hurt."

He said Cruz had had some hard times in the Army "and got into a little trouble and went from an E-4 to an E-1." He said Cruz responded to the demotion not by getting out of the military or taking it out on others. Instead, he appeared to be determined to get back that rank and "work his way back up through the ranks on his way to becoming an NCO."

He said he learned a lesson from Cruz that he won't forget: "Smile, work through it and soon you'll get past it."

According to a Department of Defense news release, Cruz died following an accident that was not combat-related Sunday at Orgun-E.

**Cruz is the 15th member of the Southern European Task Force (Airborne) to die in Afghanistan since the unit took over the leadership role of the mission in country in March. He was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry Regiment.**

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## TROOP NEWS

# Active Duty Soldier Speaks Against The War At San Francisco State

October 27, 2005 By -Kristin Anderson, SFSU Students Against War, Via PB

About 200 students at San Francisco State University rallied yesterday to protest military recruitment on our campus. The protest was organized by a coalition of student organizations including Students Against War, MechA, the General Union of Palestinian Students, the College Democrats, VOX (Voices for Sexual Freedom), The International Socialist Organization, and Speak Out.

Speakers spoke about the complicity of the administration in the war and its support of the military, about the tradition of student power and protest on our campus, about the racism that permeates american policy from targeted recruitment of minorities to the practices of the IMF and WTO, among many other things.

**Aimee Alison of the Oakland Green Party spoke about her experience being recruited, and a current active duty soldier under the condition of anonymity spoke about his opposition to the war.**

The rally was held without amplified sound in Malcolm X plaza due to the rules of the university which specify amplified sound is only allowed in the plaza (which is our free speech zone) only between 12 and 2.

The event was covered by the press.

The recruiters were not on campus due to the coordination of the administration with the Marines. The recruiters are expected instead today. Students plan to attend the job fair and form a line to ask questions and occupy the recruiters time.

**Our administration has obviously gone on the defensive due to the actions of students last semester and the actions of students across the country.**

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**New Yorkers Take To The Streets To  
Protest The War:  
“It's A Bogus Mission. There Is No  
Ability To Win This War”**



**Bill Steyere, center, with Veterans for Peace, stands outside the Armed Forces Recruitment Center in New York's Times Square to honor the 2000 U.S. military service men and women who have died in Iraq, Oct. 26, 2005. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)**

**"My husband's unit lost 19 members when they were in Baghdad," added Anderson. "I'm very grateful that he's home and he's safe, but he will never be the same. We're forever changed by this."**

October 27th, 2005 by Sarah Ferguson, Village Voice

With angry chants of "Bush lied, 2,000 died!" several hundred New Yorkers jammed the traffic island that's home to the Armed Forces Recruiting Station in Times Square to protest on the day after the Pentagon announced the death of the 2,000th American soldier in Iraq.

That grim milestone brought out an eclectic mix of demonstrators, here and across the nation. In Manhattan, Grandmothers Against the War jostled alongside young anarchists with bandanas masking their faces, Green Party stalwarts, veterans, students, office workers bearing flowers, and a group carrying a dozen large coffins draped in American flags.

**They were crammed up against about a half dozen counterprotesters, who came brandishing a remarkable assortment of their own American, British, Israeli, and Iraqi flags.**



And yet just about everyone piped down for a moment of silence led by the members of Veterans For Peace, who came bearing a large banner printed with the image of empty boots and rifles planted barrel down into the ground, in honor of the fallen soldiers.

Behind them, the digital screen on top of the recruiting station flashed jazzy images of young recruits training in fighter planes and on submarines with the pitch line "Prepare for life."

"It's a bogus mission. There is no ability to win this war," said Vietnam vet David Cline. "It's only a matter of time and bodies before the U.S. does what is inevitable, pull out."

Cline also took issue with supporters of the war's efforts to minimize the casualties in Iraq relative to past wars. "I could look at the 2,000 and say it's nothing compared to the 58,000 who died in Vietnam. But I think the people are out here now because they learned something from Vietnam and now they see that same slow slide into hell. The 2,000 matters today because we know if we don't do something, it will be 58,000."

The New York events were among some 1,500 demonstrations and memorials that took place across the country, from Anchorage, Alaska, to Washington, D.C., where Cindy Sheehan and about two dozen others were arrested for staging a die-in in front of the White House.

Debra Anderson of Staten Island, whose husband returned home a month ago after spending 18 months in Iraq with the National Guard, said she felt a bit uncomfortable commemorating the 2,000th death, as if the soldiers who died before were somehow less important. Still, she said, the message needs to get out.

"My husband's unit lost 19 members when they were in Baghdad," added Anderson. "I'm very grateful that he's home and he's safe, but he will never be the same. We're forever changed by this."

**MORE:**

## **“She Joined The Crowd, Saying, ‘I Support This Message 100 Percent’”**

October 27, 2005 By TEVAH PLATT, Staten Island Advance

Staten Islanders formed one link in the chain of more than a thousand vigils across the country last night, as they mourned the deaths of 2,000 American soldiers in the war in Iraq during a somber candlelit vigil in Eltingville.

Holding signs that both honored U.S. soldiers and protested the war in Iraq, they stood in a row, candles flickering in a chilly wind, in front of Rep. Vito Fossella's office on Amboy Road, Eltingville.

"We're not lobbying Vito Fossella, but we would like him to vote against further spending," said Sue McAnanama, one of the vigil's organizers.

Teresa Harmolin of Great Kills was parking her car to go shopping across the street when she noticed the vigil. She joined the crowd, saying, "I support this message 100 percent."

**Last night's event, sponsored by Military Families Speak Out, Iraq Veterans Against the War and Gold Star Families for Peace, was held in lieu of the weekly vigil that takes place Wednesdays outside Borough Hall in St. George. More than 100,000 people registered with MoveOn.org to participate in similar gatherings organized nationally.**

**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.**

## **Three Months After Her Husband, Was Killed In Mosul, Elaina Picked Up A Gun And Shot Herself**

[Thanks to soldiers' mom, Alycia A. Barr, who sent this in.]

**"I don't expect the army to coddle me for the rest of my life, but at the same time we should not be thrown to the wind," she says.**

October 26 2005 Jamie Wilson Washington, The Guardian

**Elaina Morton is not listed as one of the 2,000 Americans now confirmed killed in Iraq since the start of the war, but she might as well be.**

**In US military parlance the 23-year-old lab technician from Kansas would have been referred to as a "surviving spouse". But three months after her husband, Staff Sergeant Benjamin Morton, was killed by insurgents in Mosul, Elaina picked up a gun and shot herself.**

**The fact that the military did not issue a press release to announce the death of the former college student who loved her cat, Stinky, and enjoyed hiking, photography and camping, does not make her any less a casualty of the war. Hers is thought to be the first confirmed case of a war widow committing suicide, and as the US toll in Iraq yesterday hit the grim 2,000 landmark her death is proof of the**

immeasurable emotional toll that the conflict has put on families of servicemen and women.

George Bush yesterday spoke to wives of servicemen at Bollings air force base in Washington, as part of a strategy to confront the death toll head on by portraying the sacrifice in the Iraq war as the best way to keep terrorists from striking the US again.

But for many bereaved families the bigger picture the president highlighted has been consumed by the day-to-day struggle of coping with their grief.

Deedy Salie knows the feelings of isolation and desperation that Elaina Morton must have gone through before she took her life.

Deedy's husband, David, was killed on Valentine's Day last year when his Humvee was blown up by an improvised explosive device in the restive city of Baquba, north-east of Baghdad. "I was an army wife for nine years, and the army way is 'suck it up and drive on'," she says. But no matter how hard she tried she couldn't just suck it up, and she couldn't just drive on. The pressures put on a family by a very public death, she says, are extreme.

"I don't want to say that any death is normal, but my husband's death was all over the television and in the papers," she says. "People recognised my children in the store. It has been a rollercoaster. One day we all seem OK, but the next one of us just bottoms out.

**"Everybody keeps saying it is going to get easier, but when that happens I'll call and let you know, because it is actually getting harder and harder."**

Deedy says her daughter, Chyna, 12, was so angry with her father for going to Iraq and getting killed that she has only just begun to grieve. Lucas, six, had nightmares about insurgents hiding in the flowerbeds. She doesn't know what Hunter, three, is thinking. When the family was living near the army base, support groups were available.

**But Deedy, like Elaina Morton and countless other bereaved spouses, moved away to be closer to friends and family. And that was the last she heard from the army.**

**"I don't expect the army to coddle me for the rest of my life, but at the same time we should not be thrown to the wind," she says.**

**"There should be somebody who calls, a professional who can pick up on things. I keep thinking about that poor girl who killed herself. Who is to say that if a grief counsellor had been calling her just once a month they wouldn't have picked up on those subtle little hints?"**

Deedy sought out grief counselling for herself and her family but, still a proud army wife, it took her months to do so. "I don't want this to be about being for or against the war," she tells the Guardian. "My husband still has lots of friends and colleagues over there. But I don't want what happened to that girl to happen to anyone else."

Inge Colton is another widow who wishes she could escape Iraq, but every day when she turns on the television, listens to the radio, picks up a newspaper, it is right there in her face. "It is not like he died of cancer or something, I see it every day and I am confronted with it every day."

Her husband, Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence Colton, was killed on Easter Day last year when his Apache helicopter was shot down by a surface-to-air missile while responding to a distress call from a fuel convoy under attack. Inge had heard from a friend that an Apache from Fort Hood, Texas, had been downed in Baghdad, and when she opened the door of their home to find the uniformed men on the doorstep she knew instantly why they were there. "But I still closed the door on them; I did not want to hear what they were going to tell me. When they knocked again I just said, 'Can you give me a second?'"

**For Inge, 41, life will never be the same. "Our country wants you to move on, but that is impossible because I live with it every day of my life. I get up in the morning and I put on makeup and make myself presentable, and people think I am getting back to normal. But it's a different kind of normal. I still cry every day."**

According to Karen Spears Zacharias, who has set up a grassroots network linked to the website heromama.org for widows and the 1,200 children who have lost parents in Iraq, there is better support from the military than there was during the Vietnam era, when her father was killed. But too many widows unable or unwilling to ask for help are falling through the cracks.

**"What 23-year-old girl is going to feel comfortable walking into a veterans centre or military hospital for counselling? That's like telling someone who lives 10 miles outside of town and who doesn't own a car that there's milk at the store - if they just go get it.**

**"People have said that suicide was Elaina's choice and we should respect that. But I don't buy that. When you're 23 years old and commit suicide it is not about choice but about being in an unhealthy place. We have a responsibility to go beyond just saying that we will be there for them and really be there for them."**

She adds: "No one wants to talk about suicide because there is a feeling that we failed that person. But we need to talk about it, we can't wait to have 10 more widows kill themselves before we address it. Because right now it doesn't feel like we are anywhere near the end of this war."

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## **4,173 More Reservists Off To Bush's Imperial Slaughterhouse**

October 27, 2005 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 1100-05

This week, the Army announced an increase in the number of reservists on active duty in support of the partial mobilization, while the Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps had a decrease.

**The net collective result is 4,173 more reservists mobilized than last week.**

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# **URGENT SOLIDARITY APPEAL: Tell Kent State To Respect Free Speech: Kent State Cowards Threaten Iraq Veteran With Expulsion And Ignore Scum Who Attacked Him**

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

27 October 2005 by Nikki Robinson, Campus Action Network

IRAQ WAR veteran and Kent State student, Dave Airhart, is under attack for opposing the war he considers “unjust” and attempting to stop any more students from being used as “cannon fodder.”

On October 19, the Kent State Anti-War Committee (KSAWC) stood around the Army recruiters, who had brought a rock-climbing wall to entice students over to talk with them.

**A member of KSAWC and former Afghanistan and Iraq War veteran, David Airhart decided to show his opposition against the war by exercising his rights of free speech. After filling out liability forms Airhart climbed the rock wall.**

**Once he reached the top he took out a banner, which he held under his jacket, and draped it over the wall. The banner read: Kent, Ohio for Peace.**

**Airhart was forced to climb down the back of the wall because a recruiter was coming up the front, yelling at him. As he was climbing down another recruiter came up the back and proceeded to assault Airhart both verbally and physically by pulling his shirt, forcing him off the wall.**

Airhart was fined \$105 by city police for disorderly conduct and told that he will have to go to judicial affairs at the university where he will face probation or expulsion.

When asked why he wanted to counter-recruit against the military Airhart responded, "I do not feel that the administration should allow the military to recruit their students for an unjust war that is taking the lives of innocent people. They should be protecting their students, not using them for cannon fodder."

**The recruiter who assaulted Airhart was never charged with disorderly conduct; nor was the bigot who came by screaming profanities and spitting at KSAWC members fined for being disorderly.**

**Somehow an Iraq War veteran hanging a banner, which called for peace, was disorderly and the others were not.**

Even after the atrocities of the May 4, 1970 massacre at Kent State University the military has the audacity to come to campus and attempt to recruit students for their illegal war. However, KSAWC, which is a member of the national grassroots organization, Campus Antiwar Network (CAN), counter-recruits against the military every time they are on campus. We stand around the table of the military, hold signs, chant and pass out literature exposing the lies of recruiters.

The administration's blatant attack against the antiwar movement will not be tolerated. We can clearly see that the administration does not want its students and veterans practicing free speech on this campus, especially if we are taking a stand against the war in Iraq. However, we will continue to fight.

**We believe in getting troops out of Iraq now, as well as assuring that they have a voice to stand in opposition to the war when they return.**

**It is obvious that the Kent State administration does not care about Iraq Veterans who attend their school.**

**After everything Airhart had to go through and see as a soldier, after viewing thousands of innocent Iraqi lives being taken, he has every right to exercise his opposition to this war.**

The administration may have the audacity to punish an Iraq Veteran for speaking out against the war, but the Kent State Anti-War Committee will continue to fight back for all Veterans and students right to exercise free speech against the war. We will continue to challenge our administration's role in recruiting for the war and demand our right to a 'recruiter-free' school.

**Call and e-mail the Kent State University administration and let them know how you feel.**

**Carol Cartwright- University President: 330.672.2210 [Carol.cartwright@kent.edu](mailto:Carol.cartwright@kent.edu)**

**Greg Jarvie- Dean of Undergraduate Students: 330.672.9494 [Gjarvie@kent.edu](mailto:Gjarvie@kent.edu)**

**William Ross Executive Director of the Undergraduate Student Senate:  
[wross@kent.edu](mailto:wross@kent.edu)**

## **MORE:**

From: "Karen Sackett" rksrc2001@yahoo.com

Last Wed., Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, one of our Kent State Anti-war Committee members (Dave Airhart-Iraq Veteran) decided to sign the liability forms from the ARMY to climb their rock wall. They did not realize that Dave was a counter □ recruiter.

When he reached the top he took out a sheet (which he had tucked under his jacket) and draped it over the rock wall. It read "KENT STATE 4 PEACE!"

**After hanging the sheet Dave climbed down, while a recruiter climbed right next to him yelling and screaming as though Dave were back in boot camp.**

Six police officers showed up as well as the administration—giving Dave a fine of \$105 for 'disorderly conduct'.

**(I should also mention that an hour later a right wing bigot came by the counter recruiters and ripped a sign out of a woman's hand and spit. This young man however was NOT ticketed for 'disorderly conduct'—though the police were still there.)**

**We need your help!**

**We do have a press conference scheduled for Wed. Oct. 26 but we also need phone calls and e-mails from all over this country so that we can show the administration that we are everywhere and strong.**

Above is a list of phone number and e-mails that you can call/write expressing your disgust with the treatment of anti-war activist on the KENT STATE campus.

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# **Bush Traitors Disrespect The Dead At Arlington: Gold Star Families Forbidden To Show Sons' Photos**

27 October 2005 By Cindy Sheehan, Truthout Perspective. [Excerpt]

*If you believe in what you are doing, give me your stiffest sentence. If you don't, then resign.*

*- Gandhi*

Yesterday started off with a "bang" when we went to Arlington Cemetery to lay a wreath in the section where the Iraq War dead are buried. In our group yesterday morning were three other members of Gold Star Families for Peace. Juan Torres was with us and his son, Juan, was murdered in Afghanistan.

**First of all, I was followed all morning by the Park Police. I guess because I am a very dangerous subversive. I would never hurt a flea, but what I am dangerous to is the lies and corruption of our government.**

**Secondly, Juan, Beatriz Saldivar and Julie Cuniglio, who have all had loved ones killed in this war, had brought pictures of their dead loved ones with them to Arlington.**

**We were told by the administration of the cemetery that they couldn't take the pictures into the cemetery because they were "political statements!!"**

**We were stunned that pictures of our children who have been killed for lies and betrayals and for purely political reasons can't be shown in a cemetery that supposedly honors those who have served, some making the ultimate sacrifice in war.**

**We are living in a state that kills our children then calls them political statements. That speaks volumes to the chicken hawks who we are allowing to ruin our country.**

We headed to the vigil at the White House for our hours-long wait in the freezing cold.

**There was a man there who had several signs, among them one which said: "Saddam loves Cindy." This man didn't care that Rumsfeld (or Rumsfailed as I accidentally called him in an interview yesterday) was buddy, buddy with Saddam and gave him or sold him tons of WMDs before he became our enemy.**

**I told this man that he didn't bother me, and he told me I don't bother him either. Well, if I don't bother him, why did he come down and make signs and march for hours screaming that I kill our soldiers? We found out why.**

***He was making 60 dollars an hour to do so from some non-profit, right wing group. He said he would switch signs if we gave him more money.***

At 7:30 p.m. about 100 patriots symbolically died in front of the White House. Then 26 of us refused to get up and were arrested.

**As usual, the Park Police were very polite and efficient and many whisper words of support and encouragement to us. We are planning another die-in tonight at 7 p.m.**

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# BMCC Students Kick Recruiter Ass On Short Notice



October 27, 2005 By Patrick Collins, BMCC-Campus Action Network via Anita Job

So I have some exciting news for the counter-recruitment movement in New York:

Acting on information sent to me by Dave Florey (NYU-CAN) last night, namely that there would be military recruiters from three branches of the Armed Services (Army, ANG, and Marines) on the BMCC (Borough of Manhattan Community College – Chambers St.) campus today, Wednesday Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, I prepared several posters, printed copies of the *College Not Combat* flyer, and the flyer for Saturday's city-wide meeting, to pass out during the Career Fair which the recruiters were invited to.

**Since this action was on short notice, I did not come with the expectation that anything large and very meaningful would occur.**

Failing to contact the Muslim Students Association, I went immediately to the Student Government's offices to gather at least some minimal support for a small protest next the recruiter's tables.

**The SGA President, Jason Negron, was shocked at the news that they had tables in BMCC, and quickly tried to get to the bottom of the matter by finding the answers to the reasons they were there.**

**Note: Currently at BMCC, recruiters are not allowed on campus except by invitation, and even then only for this one day – Career Day. Unfortunately, someone in the Office of Student Activities had invited them (quite secretly and without the knowledge of most of the Administration).**

After standing next to the Marines table for about an hour and a half, passing out literature and interrupting the few conversations the recruiters were having with students, I began to feel a bit demoralized by the fact that there had not been any mobilization against their presence.

**It was at this point that the Vice President, Laraby Bishop, came with several supporters (about 15-20) and angrily demanded that the recruiters leave, that they were not allowed to be in the hallway, and that their discriminatory policies were not acceptable on our campus.**

I passed out several posters (reading things like: "Resist the Poverty Draft: Say NO to Military Recruiters!", "Towards An Army of None – Help Build the Counter-Recruitment Movement"), and many began to make their own, with personalized messages.

A couple professors showed up in solidarity with our protest and helped organize the demonstration by suggesting several chants and slogans. Furthermore two Deans came to show their support, with Dean Marva Craig demanding that the recruiters either leave or move into their designated room.

**The demo began to grow in size as more and more students expressed their anger (BMCC is a working-class minority school – making it a prime target for recruiters), until at the high point of the protest, after the Marines had given up and left, there were fifty or so students chanting and making their demands.**

The campus security (which at BMCC is the NYPD) formed a line, but never took any actions against us – thankfully.

**The Army recruiters, who stayed about ten minutes longer only out of contempt, also realized the hopelessness of their situation and left campus as well.**

**All that remained were the Army Nat'l Guard, who after several arguments with members of the SGA and the Deans, were forced into the Richard Harris Terrace (their originally designated place to table) where they hung around for about another ten minutes before giving up and leaving.**

At this point, the student protesters, who numbered around twenty-five, gave cries of success, sang 'Wade to the Water', and clapped until the last recruiter was out the door. According to the SGA and Dean Marva Craig, this is probably the last time they'll be allowed to set foot on campus – never again.

This demo fostered a relationship with several students who expressed interest in CAN, and an interest in furthering counter-recruitment efforts at BMCC. One student, who has planned a panel in November on the War in Iraq, plans to contact CAN to promote this event and get us on board.

Besides booting the recruiters off campus, this day has probably proved invaluable in expressing CAN's integrity and efforts to rid colleges of the military forces that prey on our students. Hopefully many will come to this weekend's meeting at City College – many expressed strong interest.

This is a strong victory for BMCC and colleges across the city, it is a step in the right direction. But it doesn't stop on campus grounds, because right at BMCC's doorstep, on Chambers St., are recruiting offices for three branches of the military. Until students never have to pass recruiters on the prowl again, our work is not done at BMCC.

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# **“The United States Has Been Forced To Back Down” “We Will Protest Until This Plan Is Scrapped And The Military Is Gone From Here”**

[Thanks to Z who sent this in. **He writes: Okinawa is economically colonized by Japan, and militarily by the US. No people wants to be dominated. There'd be even more protesters today if the US and Japan hadn't killed so many Okinawans in 1945--a quarter of the civilian population... Solidarity, Z]**

27 October 2005 By David McNeill in Tokyo, Independent News & Media (UK) Ltd.

**The United States has been forced to back down over its plan to build a large offshore military base on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa after local protests stalled construction.**

Washington and Tokyo had wanted to build a heliport and 1.5-mile runway over pristine coral reef more than a mile offshore, near Heneko village.

**But the plan enraged many locals on the small island, which already hosts around half of the 37,000 American troops stationed in Japan. Environmentalists joined the opposition to the planned base, saying it would destroy the reef, which is home to the dugong, an endangered species of sea mammal.**

Richard Lawless of the US Defence Department said yesterday that a compromise, which will entail moving the new base to nearby Camp Schwab, had been agreed after considering "the importance of the Japan-US alliance".

Tokyo is an important ally in America's "war on terror" and Washington considers Okinawa, which is close to China and North Korea, a vital military lynchpin amid a major realignment of US forces worldwide. Japan contributes more than \$1bn (£560m) a year and leases thousands of acres of land to US forces stationed in the country.

Washington and Tokyo agreed in 1996 to build a new heliport to replace Futenma base, which sits in the heart of Okinawa's densely populated Ginowan City.

The agreement had been forced on the two governments by the largest anti-US protests in Okinawa's modern history. The protests followed the kidnap and rape of a 12-year-old girl by two US Marines and a sailor.

But the Henoko plan, announced after years of tortuous negotiations, then proved deeply unpopular: a survey by the Okinawa Times-Asahi Shimbun newspaper last year found that 81 per cent of local people opposed it and dozens of mainly elderly protesters began blocking test drilling for the site 18 months ago.

The stalling of the plan angered Washington and is widely blamed for the cancellation of a scheduled visit to Japan this month by the Defence Secretary, Donald Rumsfeld. Tokyo was keen to resolve the dispute before President George Bush's visit next month; a relieved Japanese Secretary of Defence, Yoshinori Ono, said last night that the talks had been "long and difficult".

Despite the climb-down, however, protesters said last night that they were angry that the base was going to be built in Okinawa at all. Many said that the move to Camp Schwab would still mean construction would take place up to the shoreline.

"Tokyo and America just completely take us for granted. If they want a new base, why don't they build it on the mainland or outside Japan altogether?" asked one of the protest leaders, Osamu Taira.

"The only reason that they foist it on us is because they know we are small and powerless. We will protest until this plan is scrapped and the military is gone from here."

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## **Rumsfeld At It Again: Union-Busting Rat Acting To Turn Pentagon Into A Combination Political Whorehouse And Slave Ship**

October 27, 2005 By Tim Kauffman, Federal Times staff writer

Capping 18 months of work, the Defense Department unveiled new rules Oct. 27 that will overhaul how it pays and manages 650,000 civilian employees.

Affected unions are vowing a court fight, saying the plan illegally curbs collective bargaining and was developed without their involvement. In August, a federal judge struck down the Homeland Security Department's attempts to alter how it bargains with unions, resolves labor disputes and disciplines workers. The Pentagon's system includes similar changes.

Under the new system, pay raises will be based primarily on performance ratings employees receive from their supervisors. **[Meaning ass-kissers, office rats, and similar garbage will be rewarded. Meaning also the supervisors can heap up the work endlessly, holding the threat of no pay raise over every workers' head.]**

The new rules also curtail union involvement in workplace decisions. **[Meaning however brutal and stupid the boss is, Rumsfeld wants the union powerless to help the worker out.]**

“Managers no longer need to bargain with unions before reassigning or relocating an employee or when introducing new technologies in the workplace. **[Meaning they can engage in punitive transfers wholesale, tell the worker to handle three of four pieces of equipment instead of one, and do whatever else the fuck they please, and the union can't do shit about it.]**

And the new rules make it easier for managers to discipline or fire poor performers. **[Meaning the managers will have unlimited power to harass, torment and fire any workers they take a dislike to, or who stands up for workers' rights, or who won't bow down and kiss their ass.]**

They give good performance more weight than tenure when managers decide who stays or goes during a layoff. **[Meaning the boss will have unlimited power to decide who stays, and who gets laid off. Gee, now what do you suppose that kid of unlimited power leads to?]**

And they allow managers to hire people faster in certain cases by bypassing traditional competitive procedures.

**[Meaning managers can ignore civil service completely and bring on their political friends. So, wrap up the whole package: managers can get rid of workers in unlimited numbers for any excuse they please, and in their place bring on their political cronies, and give them raises and privileges any time they wish, provided they work like slaves if ordered to do so, and never, ever speak up about anything. Now why on earth would Rumsfeld be for a system like that? Duh.]**

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## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

# **Assorted Resistance Action; 25 Occupation Cops Slaughtered At Nahrawan**

October 27, 2005 By THOMAS WAGNER, Associated Press Writer & BBC & Deutsche Presse-Agentur & Reuters

**At least 27 people, most of them police, were killed in clashes with civilians in Nahrawan township, 30 kilometres south of Baghdad, Thursday, said Iraqi army sources.**

**Captain Ahmed Jassin of the Iraqi army told Deutsche Presse- Agentur dpa that forces belonging to two brigades of the Interior Ministry launched a raid in Al-Haj village of Nahrawan to release a kidnapped person.**

**He said the police were in civilian uniform, prompting the villagers to open fire thinking that the police were terrorists. Jassin's army brigade intervened to end the fighting.**

**He said the severe clashes which took place killed 25 policemen and two civilians. Four villagers were arrested.**

**In Dora, one of the capital's most violent areas, a drive-by shooting by insurgents killed police Lt. Colonel Mahdi Hussein in his car, officials said.**

**In Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, insurgents fired a mortar round at the Iraqi army headquarters, leading soldiers to return fire randomly and hit a nearby car carrying three teachers to a local school, said police 1st Lt. Assad Hussein Al-Jumaili. One of teachers was killed and two wounded, he said.**

**The AFP news agency reports Iraqi police saying that the bodies of three Iraqis have been discovered near the town of Baqouba. The three men, engineers who had been working at an Iraqi army base, had been kidnapped recently, police said.**

**Three Iraqi soldiers were killed and at least 11 others, mostly civilians, were wounded in an attack by insurgents on an Iraqi army checkpoint south of Baghdad.**

**The attack on the Iraqi soldiers happened at al-Madain, 15 kilometres south of Baghdad. Witnesses said insurgents threw a hand grenade from a passing car at an Iraqi army checkpoint.**

**Besides the three soldiers killed, four other soldiers were wounded, along with seven civilians standing nearby.**

**In further bloodshed, a police lieutenant colonel in the northern city of Kirkuk was shot dead by insurgents outside his home late Wednesday.**

**Police identified the victim as Ardjman Abdullah, who last month had escaped an assassination attempt with slight injuries. Abdullah's brother, who worked for the Iraqi army, was killed last month.**

**Abdullah was a member of the Turkoman People's Party and had maintained strong contacts with all the various ethnic groups in Kirkuk.**

**In Amara, south of Baghdad, a Shiite party leader was assassinated late Wednesday. Wasif Lazim Shawka, secretary general of the Islamic [collaborator]**

**Movement in Iraq, was killed by armed fighters as he was driving his car with electoral commission official Ahmed Barzan in Amara.**

**BAQUBA - One policeman was killed and five others wounded when clashes broke out between insurgents and Iraqi police in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.**

**In Tikrit, the police said police officer Ali Jassin was kidnapped Wednesday and his body was found Thursday in Tuz Khurmatu, 170 kilometres north of Baghdad.**

**Four Iraqis, one of them a soldier, were seriously injured in a remote-controlled car bomb that was apparently targeting an Iraqi army patrol in Hawija, 260 kilometres north of Baghdad.**

**One policeman was found shot dead in his car south of Baquba, police said.**

**KIRKUK - One policeman from an elite unit was killed and two wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near their patrol in the northern city of Kirkuk, police said.**

**HAWIJA - Two policemen were wounded when a car bomb exploded near a police patrol in Hawija, 70 km (43.50 miles) southwest of Kirkuk, police said.**

**HAWIJA - The head of the Hawija city council escaped death when gunmen attacked him near Hawija, police said. He is seriously wounded in a hospital.**

**BAGHDAD - A police major was killed by gunmen in the southern district of the capital, police said.**

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

## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**Thousands upon thousands are suffering and dying in Iraq while, in Washington, incompetence continues its macabre marathon dance with incoherence. Bob Herbert, The New York Times, 27 October 2005**

# **Out Of Iraq, Now**

Oct 27, 2005 By STAN GOFF, The News & Observer Publishing Company. **(Stan Goff is a retired Special Forces master sergeant whose son has been to Iraq with the Army twice. He is the author of "Full Spectrum Disorder -- The Military in the New American Century" (2004) and a member of Veterans for Peace and Military Families Speak Out.)**

RALEIGH -- George W. Bush doesn't read many memos and he apparently doesn't read history. He should. Then he'd know more about the Pentagon Papers.

In 1971, Daniel Ellsberg, a former Defense Department employee then working at the Rand Corporation, had grown so restive over reports he had seen that proved a pattern of systematic lying to the public about America's war in Vietnam that he could no longer in good conscience remain silent. He leaked what would become "the Pentagon Papers" to the press. They showed that the government had lied about the war, and that many experts believed by 1968 that the war itself was unwinnable. More than 20,000 of our war deaths -- which eventually totaled 58,000 Americans (plus millions of Southeast Asians) -- occurred after 1968. After military and political experts told two administrations that the war would be lost.

We have now passed the much smaller empirical milestone in Iraq of 2,000 American dead. This figure does not include Afghanistan, it does not include more than 15,000 troops wounded, nor over 400 who have lost limbs, nor does it include the tens of thousands of Iraqi dead.

**There is nothing special about the number 2,000, except what was special about each of the numerical increments along the way. Two thousand times now, a military sedan with two or three uniformed service members has pulled up in front of some home in the United States or Puerto Rico to deliver news that tore the hearts out of people and shattered their lives.**

So this round number is just an opportunity to remind ourselves of what is going on -- and what is not.

The rate of terror attacks worldwide has tripled since 9/11, so the world is no safer. No one has "won the war but lost the peace" in Iraq -- one of the most Orwellian phrases imaginable, repeated like a drunken mantra to sustain denial about the reality of Iraq. The war has never been won. All that was accomplished was a bloody occupation.

**According to every poll, the majority of Iraqis want the occupation out, so the majority will is not being respected in this alleged attempt to build democracy at gunpoint.**

The military is suffering such a profound retention and recruitment crisis that it has lowered standards and even resorted to recruiting among hurricane survivors at the Astrodome. Taxpayers are footing a \$6 billion a month bill for the war in Iraq; and future taxpayers will get the bill for billions more in national debt, 40 percent of which is debt now owned by foreign investors and central banks. So we aren't just sacrificing schools and health care and housing but the futures of our children -- who will be approachable by more recruiters for more wars if something doesn't change.

Two thousand is not just a number to reflect on, then go about our business.

This is the equivalent of slapping one of those yellow ribbon magnets on a car that says "Support The Troops." It's easy, and it makes people feel better about their lack of action. It really is time to take note.



The U.S. military occupation of Iraq is the single greatest catalyst for the violence there. Fewer than 4 percent of the insurgent fighters are foreign, and they are there because of the U.S. presence. Most of the daily attacks are directed at Americans, though more vulnerable civilians bear the brunt of these attacks. There are around 500 attacks per week, and electoral gymnastics have not changed this one whit -- in fact, these U.S.-managed affairs may actually make things much worse.

**It's time to face these facts head-on and to get out of Iraq now. Immediately.** As quickly as the plans can be drawn up for redeployment.

The Iraqis have coped with far more chaos from the occupation than they will without it, and, however painfully, they will find their way better when it is their way, not what the Bush administration says is their way.

**The argument that those who have died will have died in vain is sophistry of the cruelest kind. We do not say when children are killed by drunken drivers that they died in vain. We honor their memories by organizing to ensure that the same thing doesn't happen to others. The way we support the troops -- as human beings, not occupiers -- and honor the memories of those who have already died is to bring them all home, and do it now.**

**What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Send to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org). Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential.**

## **“An Appeal In A Special Way To The Men In The Army”**

[Thanks to AH, who sent this in.]

**Archbishop Oscar Romero, El Salvador: (1989)**

**I'd like to make an appeal in a special way to the men in the army.**

**Brothers, each one of you is one of us. We are the same People.**

**The farmers and peasants that you kill are your own brothers and sisters.**

**When you hear the words of a man telling you to kill, think instead in the words of God, "Thou shalt not kill!"**

**No soldier is obliged to obey an order contrary to the Law of God. In His name and in the name of our tormented people who have suffered so much, and whose laments cry out to heaven: I implore you! I beg you! I “order” you!**

[shouts]

Stop the repressions!

[Romero was assassinated in his Cathedral by a death squad sniper, funded, and sent to kill him, by well paid agents of the government of the United States, Jimmy Carter, President. <http://us.imdb.com/title/tt0098219/quotes> ]

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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

### **“There Was Fraud Everywhere, But It Is Mosul That Matters”**

26 October 2005 By Maki Al-Nazzal in Baghdad, Aljazeera

While the passage of the constitution has been welcomed by many, an equally vocal section is crying foul, alleging large-scale fraud.

Mahmud al-Azzawi, also a prominent member of the National Dialogue Congress claimed the entire electoral process was rigged.

**"Fraud occurred, especially in regard to the Mosul vote. It is too big to have any dispute about."**

He added: **"Eighty-six per cent of Mosul's residents voted NO and that was according to accurate statistics made by over 300 independent supervisors in the province."**

Salih al-Mutlag, the spokesman for the National Dialogue Congress, said a recount in Mosul will possibly be demanded.

**"There was fraud everywhere, but it is Mosul that matters, because it was pivotal to defeating this unaccepted constitution," he said.**

<p><b>OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME <u>NOW!</u></b></p>
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**U.S. OCCUPATION RECRUITING DRIVE  
UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL;**

# RECRUITING FOR THE ARMED RESISTANCE THAT IS.



A U.S. Marine smokes while sitting on an Iraqi's bed while another Marine holds up a doll found in a house in Parwana, near Haditha, Iraq, on Aug. 6, 2005. The Marines call it a necessary evil, taking over houses and buildings for military use. For the Iraqis who become unwilling hosts, it can be anything from a mild inconvenience to a disruption that tears apart lives. (AP Photo/Jacob Silberberg)

[Fair is fair. Let's bring 150,000 Iraqis over here to the USA. They can kill people at checkpoints, or just bust into their houses with force and violence, throw them out into the street while rummaging through their most personal belongings, get into their beds with dirty boots on, overthrow their government, put a new one in office and call it "sovereign," and "detain" anybody who doesn't like it in some prison without any changes being filed against them, or any trial.]

[Those Iraqis are sure a bunch of backward primitives. They resent this help, and consider it their patriotic duty to fight and kill the soldiers sent to trash their houses and occupy their country. What a bunch of silly people. How fortunate they are to live under a military dictatorship run by George Bush. Why, how could anybody not love that?]

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## Received:

## "Dear NY Times"

From: JL  
To: GI Special  
Sent: October 27, 2005  
Subject: "Grieve Little And Move On," He Counseled Her.

Dear NY Times,

*'Sergeant Jones's tale may be unusual in its heartbreaking juxtaposition of birth and death, but it has become increasingly common among the war dead in one important way: one in five of the troops who have been killed were in their second, third, fourth or fifth tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.'*

**You must be especially proud of the war that your newspaper and Judith Miller were so instrumental in bringing about. You have murdered 2000 Americans, maimed or wounded 16,000 more and killed anywhere from 30,000 to 100,000 innocent Iraqis.**

**Whose interests did you think you were pursuing when you helped manufacture and disseminate the false "intelligence" that made this war possible?**

**The Oil lobby's? The War lobby's? The Likud lobby's? All three?**

**You are liars, murderers, war criminals.**

**You will be tried. You can run but you cannot hide.**

**[THANKS TO B FOR SENDING THIS IN. B WRITES:**

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**Received:**

## **Italian Journalist Wants To Interview Falluja Troops**

From: portanova@diario.it

To: GI Special

Sent: October 27, 2005

**Subject: from Mario Portanova - Italy**

**I am Mario Portanova, journalist for the Italian weekly magazine *Diario*. I'm going to write on Falluja, especially focused on the November 2004 battle. I need to contact a soldier or an officer who took part in the battle in the city, for a long interview: a day by day story of the battle.**

**Since it will be not easy to find what I need, I ask you to place this notice in GI Special.**

Thank you in advance, I hope we will find someone.

All the best

Mario Portanova

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

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