

**GI SPECIAL 3D20:**

**LIAR  
TRAITOR  
DOMESTIC ENEMY  
EVIL PIECE OF SHIT  
UNFIT FOR COMMAND**



(Lee Jae-Won/Reuters)

**Rumsfeld Could Care  
Less About U.S. Troops  
Dying In Afghanistan**

November 18, 2005 New York Times on the Web

**Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld dismissed growing calls for the United States to start withdrawing forces from Iraq, *saying Iraq was several years behind Afghanistan as a secure country.***

**Comment:**

[This time it isn't about missing body armor, or unarmored vehicles, or using a machine to sign his letters to Gold Star families.

[This is about knowing the most basic fact about a war: how many of your troops are dying.

*[The kill ratio in for U.S. troops in Afghanistan is higher than Iraq. This is not news. There have been newspaper reports this year pointing it out.*

[And here we have this blind, stupid, incompetent politician talking about how he hopes the "security" in Iraq will catch up to Afghanistan! If Iraq had the same ratio of dead U.S. troops to the total number deployed that has occurred in Afghanistan, there would be a thousand more dead in Iraq, minimum.

[So, the politician responsible for managing the armed forces of the United States doesn't know how and where his troops die, or in what numbers, and obviously doesn't care, because if he cared, he would know.]

[This week, however, he was doing something much more important than that. He took a trip to Australia on his personal jet, and, while there, played squash.

[The enemy is not in Iraq. Iraqis and U.S. troops have a common enemy killing them both. That enemy is in Washington DC, in control of the U.S. Imperial government, or, in this individual case, off in Australia playing squash.]

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

# **Five U.S. Soldiers Killed, Five Wounded Near Beiji**

11/19/05 AP

The U.S. military said five soldiers were killed Saturday and five were wounded in a pair of roadside bombings in northern Iraq. The soldiers were assigned to the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division and were on patrol near Beiji.

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# **Two U.S. Soldiers Killed, 4 Wounded By Khalidiya IED**

Nov 19, 2005 Deutsche Presse-Agentur

**Police reported that two U.S. soldiers were killed and another four wounded when their Humvee struck an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).**

Salim Najim of the police said the IED blast took place at 9:00 am Saturday in Khalidiya, 70 kilometres west of Baghdad.

He said the victims were seen being moved to an air base after area around the blast site was sealed off.

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## **SECOND SOLDIER DIES OF INJURIES IN DELIBERATE ATTACK**

November 19, 2005 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND  
NEWS RELEASE Number: 05-11-32C

TIKRIT, Iraq – A second Task Force Band of Brothers' Soldier died from injuries sustained in an attack Nov. 17.

The 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division Soldier was medically evacuated to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany Nov. 18 where he died.

**The attack occurred near the city of Baiji. According to witnesses, the driver of the civilian vehicle waited for the patrol to come into sight before pulling onto the road and crossing the median, ramming the Soldiers' vehicle and causing it to roll over. The deliberate attack closely followed an IED detonation on the same well-traveled route.**

**Soldiers engaged the vehicle as it was crossing the median, but were unable to stop it.**

**Three other Soldiers were injured in the attack and are still being treated for their wounds.**

**MORE:**

## **Soldier Injured In Iraq Dies**

Nov. 19, 2005 Associated Press

A 19-year-old soldier from Sparta has died in Iraq, where three of his brothers also have served.

David Gaunky of Sparta said the family was informed Friday that his son Alex died from injuries suffered when a vehicle came across the road and crashed into his convoy.

He said his son suffered severe head trauma and other injuries, requiring multiple surgeries, and was airlifted to Germany but died.

His son, who was with the Army's 101st Airborne Division, was sent to Iraq in August, he said.

Gaunky said two of his other sons are serving their second tours in the region, 24-year-old Adam with the Navy aboard the USS Tarawa, and 22-year-old Don with military intelligence in Iraq, attached to the 18th Airborne Corps. Don's twin brother Bob recently got out of the Navy and also had served in Iraq, he said.

Alex Gaunky graduated last year from Sparta High School. His father said Alex knew in middle school he would join the military, and he joined up soon after graduating from high school.

While in Iraq, he kept in touch with the family in telephone calls, Gaunky said.

The family asked that doctors take any of his viable organs for transplants, he said. "So at least that means some part of him lives on and he's still trying to save lives," his father said.

**Forty-nine military personnel from Wisconsin have died in the Iraq war.**

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## Another Dead Mercenary

19 November 2005 Mail & Guardian

A third South African has died of his injuries following a suicide bombing in Baghdad this week.

**The dead, who are believed to be former police task force members, worked for DynCorp International, a US-based company, which recruits security personnel from around the world to serve in conflict areas.**

They were apparently escorting a convoy of construction engineers in Baghdad's high-security Green Zone when the bomb exploded in a panel van about 10m away.

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# **“In The Beginning, We Knew Who The Enemy Was. Now We Don't Know Who It Is” 101st Airborne Death Toll Mounts**

November 19, 2005 By James Malone, The Courier-Journal

Barney Grigg said his soldier son had good news when they spoke by phone last weekend -- a two-week leave next month that would bring him home to Oklahoma for Christmas.

But Pfc. Travis Grigg, with the Kentucky-based 101st Airborne Division, was killed this week with three other Fort Campbell soldiers when a roadside bomb exploded near Taji, Iraq.

"My wife said there's two military men at the door, and I knew what it was," Barney Grigg said. "It was a real bad feeling. I always thought he was coming home."

Travis Grigg, 24, of Inola, Okla., was driving a Humvee, taking the soldiers back from a mission, when the bomb went off, Barney Grigg said the Army told him.

**In all, Fort Campbell has lost 84 soldiers in the war -- and 15 since the 101st's second deployment to Iraq started in September. Two who were killed in separate vehicle accidents this week have not been identified.**

The other soldiers killed in the explosion were Staff Sgt. James E. Estep, 26, of Leesburg, Fla.; Spc. Matthew J. Holley, 21, of San Diego; and Spc. Alexis Roman-Cruz, 33, of Brandon, Fla. All four were with the 320th Field Artillery.

**The deaths of Estep, Grigg, Holley and Roman-Cruz raised to 14 the number of 320th Field Artillery troops killed in the war in Iraq, according to Army records.**

About 17,600 troops from Fort Campbell are currently deployed.

Staff Sgt. Josh Forbess, with the 320th's rear detachment at Fort Campbell, said Estep was a close friend. "We used to ride Harleys together," he said. "He was a great guy and definitely loved his family."

Forbess, 28, said he has been surprised by the number of early casualties during this deployment.

**"I was honestly expecting one or two, because you have to be a realist here, but I was hoping there would be none. But I was not expecting this many in this short of a time," he said.**

Tonya Leonard of Oak Grove, whose husband, Crawford, is a medic with the 187th Infantry, said the families try not to dwell on the dangers, but she still watches the news on TV every day.

She said she knows her husband, who is on his second tour in Iraq and also served in Afghanistan, sees the wounded and dying, and she prays for him to have strength.

"It's harder this time because I know what's going on," Leonard said.

"In the beginning, we knew who the enemy was. Now we don't know who it is."

[For openers, try the murderous assholes who brought this war on. They fit every imaginable definition of "the enemy"]

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## HOW FAST DOES THIS PATROL CONVOY MOVE? WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT HOW THE WAR IS GOING?



US Marines from Echo Company 2nd Battalion 2nd Marine Regiment *walk in front of a convoy of humvees looking for improvised explosive devices* during a patrol in the Zaidon area of Al-Anbar province. (AFP/David Furst)

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## Few Foreigners Are Found Among Insurgents: Silly General Keeps On Faking It

**But analysts say the focus on foreign elements is also an attempt to undermine the legitimacy of the insurgency in the eyes of Iraqis, by portraying it as terrorism foisted on the country by outsiders.**

November 17, 2005 Jonathan Finer, Washington Post Foreign Service

**BAGHDAD -- Before 8,500 U.S. and Iraqi soldiers methodically swept through Tall Afar two months ago in the year's largest counterinsurgency offensive, commanders described the northern city as a logistics hub for fighters, including foreigners entering the country from Syria, 65 miles to the west.**

"They come across the border and use Tall Afar as a base to launch attacks across northern Iraq," Col. H.R. McMaster, commander of the Army's 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, which led the assault, said in a briefing the day before it began.

**When the air and ground operation wound down in mid-September, nearly 200 insurgents had been killed and close to 1,000 detained, the military said at the time.**

***But interrogations and other analyses carried out in recent weeks showed that none of those captured was from outside Iraq.***

***According to McMaster's staff, the 3rd Armored Cavalry last detained a foreign fighter in June.***

Top U.S. military officials here have long emphasized the influence of groups such as al Qaeda in Iraq, an insurgent network led by a Jordanian, Abu Musab Zarqawi.

**But analysts say the focus on foreign elements is also an attempt to undermine the legitimacy of the insurgency in the eyes of Iraqis, by portraying it as terrorism foisted on the country by outsiders.**

**"Both Iraqis and coalition people often exaggerate the role of foreign infiltrators and downplay the role of Iraqi resentment in the insurgency,"** said Anthony H. Cordesman, a former Pentagon official now at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, who is writing a book about the Iraqi insurgency.

**"It makes the government's counterinsurgency efforts seem more legitimate, and it links what's going on in Iraq to the war on terrorism,"** he continued.

"When people go out into battle, they often characterize enemies in the most negative way possible. Obviously there are all kinds of interacting political prejudices they can bring out by blaming outsiders."

**In weekly briefings for reporters in Baghdad, Maj. Gen Rick Lynch regularly displays slides showing the face of Zarqawi, whose organization has asserted responsibility for many high-profile attacks. Mug shots of the Jordanian adorn virtually every barracks and checkpoint in Baghdad's fortified Green Zone.**

**U.S. and Iraqi officials have long maintained that a key to stabilizing the country is preventing an alliance between foreign fighters and Iraqis who might be amenable to pursuing politics instead of violence to accomplish their goals.**

**But as the country's nascent political process has moved forward -- a transitional government has been elected and a constitutional referendum held so far this year, and parliamentary elections are scheduled for next month -- there is little evidence that the native insurgency has diminished.**

**In much of the country, including the north and center, commanders say, the insurgency is led and populated almost entirely by Iraqis, many of them former members of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party, who do not work closely with Zarqawi's group.**

**Commanders there say Iraqi insurgents are largely responsible for the roadside bombings, some involving armor-penetrating weapons, that have been responsible for roughly half of the U.S. combat deaths in recent months.**

**ONLY 137,904 MORE LEFT TO SEARCH:  
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE, LETHAL AND  
PREPOSTEROUS:  
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW!**



Nov. 19, 2005: Marines of Company G., 2d Battalion, 6th Marines search a small shack looking for hidden weapons, in Saqlawiyah. (AP Photo/U.S. Marine Corps, Cpl. Robert R. Attebury, 2d Marine Division Combat Camera)

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## TROOP NEWS

# 60% Of Americans Say The War Isn't Worth The Costs

11/18 LA Times

"In a CNN/USA Today/Gallup survey released this week, 60% of Americans polled said the war had not been worth the costs - the highest figure the poll has recorded for this view."

"In an ABC/Washington Post survey released earlier this month, 55% said they believed Bush 'intentionally misled the American public' in making his case for war - the worst showing for the president on that question."

Reuters: "In a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll this week 63% of Americans oppose Bush's handling of the Iraq war, and 52% say troops should be pulled out now or within 12 months."

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.

## She's Got It Right

In front of the US Post Office near Johnstown's Central Park, Lynda Saintz bundled up against the 30-degree weather. "My son's going to be deployed in Afghanistan," said the 49-year-old housewife. "I'm against the war in Iraq. I'm against the war in Afghanistan. I'm scared because of my son. I'm scared because of every mother's son." Johanna Neuman, The Los Angeles Times, 19 November 2005

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## Army In Full Retreat: Defiance And Refusal To Report For Duty Kill Call-Up Of IRRs

November 18, 2005 Washington Post

**The Army has suspended plans to expand an unwieldy, 16-month-old program to call up inactive soldiers for military duty, after thousands requested delays or exemptions or simply failed to show up.**

**Despite intense pressure to fill manpower gaps, Army Secretary Francis Harvey said the Army has no plans for any further call-up of the Individual Ready Reserve beyond the current level of about 6,500 soldiers.**

**MORE:**

## **Calls Out Bloodthirsty Cowards**

Letters To The Editor  
Army Times  
11.14.05

**The writer of “Punish no-show soldiers” (Letters, Oct. 31) states, “Soldiers in the IRR are paying for the shortcomings of the Army recruiting efforts.”**

What he should have said was something akin to, “Soldiers in the Individual Ready Reserve are paying for the shortcomings of those in the general U.S. population who support this war only in words, and not deeds.”

**We wouldn't have a recruiting shortfall in America if those who are of fighting age and support the war in Iraq would put their money where their mouth is, put on a uniform and grab a gun.**

Sgt. 1st Class Kip Reitz  
Ft. Benning, Georgia

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## **U.S. Suicide Troops Apply Here: No Waiting; You Get To Try Vietnam For Real**

November 18, 2005 Los Angeles Times

**About 350 U.S. Marines from bases at Twentynine Palms and Camp Pendleton in California are being trained as advisors to the Iraqi army, in the hopes that a strategy honed during the Vietnam War can be used to improve Iraq's military and hasten the withdrawal of U.S. personnel. [Right. Everybody knows how brilliantly things worked out in Vietnam.]**

In many cases, that will mean living outside the security of U.S. bases. [Great. Let's make sure Bush and Rumsfeld draw the short straws. No doubt they, and their oh so brave Congressional war-loving ass-kissers, will be eager to volunteer for this one. Why not? They keep saying that the Iraqis love the occupation. No doubt Iraqi citizens will come by the thousands to make them feel welcome. And throw flowers. Or something.]

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## ***According To U.S. Army Law: U.S. Officers Who Ordered Use Of White Phosphorus At Falluja Are Criminals***

19 November 2005 By Andrew Buncombe in Washington, Independent News & Media (UK) Ltd.

The debate over the use of white phosphorus in the battle of Fallujah took a new twist when it emerged the US Army teaches senior officers it is against the "laws of war" to fire the incendiary weapon at human targets.

A section from an instruction manual used by the US Army Command and General Staff School (CGSC) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, makes clear that white phosphorus (WP) can be used to produce a smoke screen.

But it adds: "It is against the law of land warfare to employ WP against personnel targets."

Though the US at first denied it had used WP, the Pentagon has admitted using the weapon against insurgent targets. It insists the use of incendiary weapons against military targets is permitted.

But military specialists said the "laws of land warfare" taught at the CGSC are the guidelines that the US Army teaches as general principles.

The Pentagon said it could not account for the discrepancy between its admission that WP was used at Fallujah and the guidance in the teaching manual.

[Sooner or later, what goes around comes around. Lots of empty cells at Leavenworth for the scum responsible.]

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## ***Asshole Rumsfeld Caught Again:***

# **This Time Refusing To Stop Financial Predators From Cheating Troops**

November 18, 2005 New York Times

**The Pentagon got a tongue-lashing from members of the Senate Banking Committee for failing for years to work with federal and state financial regulators to prevent deceptive sales of unsuitable insurance and investment products to members of the armed forces.**

The criticism came at a hearing to review an extensive new report, released yesterday by the General Accountability Office, on the flawed financial products sold to military consumers and the questionable techniques being used to sell them.

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## **Red Tape Gone Amok**

Letters To The Editor  
Army Times  
11.14.05

**Limiting gifts to wounded troops to no more than \$20 is just another example of red tape gone amok. ("Policing charity," Oct 31).**

This should be fixed and fixed immediately.

**Any reasonable person (if there are any left in Congress) would realize that the rules are to aid in preventing bribes to high-ranking government and military officials.**

**The last thing on the minds of wounded troops and their loved ones is accepting any type of bribe.**

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld could fix this in a day. Walk into the majority leader's office and ask that Congress remove wounded soldiers from the policy restrictions. If Congress is serious about supporting our troops, this will have already happened before this letter is printed.

If Congress hasn't been asked to act or hasn't acted, there is at least as much shame as there is blame on a lot of shoulders.

Sgt. Maj. George S. Kulas (ret.)  
Fond du Lac, Wis.

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## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

# Assorted Resistance Action

11.19.05 AFP News & (Xinhuanet) & Aljazeera

**Insurgents killed two policemen in an attack on a checkpoint in Baquba, 60 kilometres (35 miles) northeast of Baghdad, police said. Three more policemen and two civilians were wounded in the attack which involved small arms and rocket fire.**

**A car bomb exploded near a police patrol in Saadoun Street in central Baghdad on Saturday, wounding five Iraqis, including three policemen, an Interior Ministry source said.**

Iraqi police and U.S. soldiers surrounded a house in Mosul, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad, after reports that al-Qaida in Iraq members were inside, said Mosul police spokesman Brig. Said Ahmed al-Jubouri.

**Almost immediately, a fierce firefight broke out, and three insurgents detonated explosives and killed themselves. Five more died fighting, while four police officers also were killed, he said.**

**BAGHDAD - Three policemen were wounded when armed fighters attacked their patrol along a highway in eastern Baghdad, police said.**

**BAQUBA - Police said six mortar rounds landed on the house of the Diyalah governor in the east of Baquba, wounding two of his bodyguards.**

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

## FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

**“The Bush Administration No Longer  
Sets The Agenda In Iraq”**

Nov. 18, 2005 Newsweek, By Christopher Dickey

**The Bush administration no longer sets the agenda in Iraq, in fact, and hasn't for at least two years.**

The watershed came in November 2003 when there was a dramatic spike in U.S. casualties and Washington suddenly scrambled together a policy for transferring sovereignty back to Iraqis instead of pocketing it indefinitely for the Pentagon and the oil companies, as originally intended.

The American invasion, which was supposed to be proactive, has led to an occupation that is entirely reactive, and it's clear—or ought to be—that the castles in the air constructed by Wolfowitz and his friends have been blown away by facts on the ground.

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## **“Does Anyone Remember The Way This Began?”**

November 17, 2005 by Anthony Wade, opednews.com [Excerpt]

**Irresponsible describes the manner in which this administration has waged this war.**

Does anyone remember the way this began? Promises of us being greeted as liberators, six month timeframe, and fanciful tales of Iraq's oil revenues footing the bill have all been proven to be irresponsible at best. Trillions of dollars missing with no explanation while administration-friendly companies have made the lion's share of blood profits.

**Troops sent in without adequate equipment and families left to raise money for body armor. Vehicles without doors, let alone protection. Soldiers used to protect oil ministries while weapons stockpiles went unguarded. Soldiers used to protect truckers from Halliburton who were earning insulting wages above that of a typical soldier.**

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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

### **Family Butchered By Occupation Troops On Their Way To A Funeral: Why? Their Vehicle Slowed Down**

Nov 19, 2005 Deutsche Presse-Agentur

**In Mahmoudiya, 35 kilometres south of Baghdad, U.S. troops killed three civilians and wounded another two while the civilian vehicle was carrying a coffin to the**

cemetery in Najaf. The troops shot at the vehicle for slowing down when the U.S. convoy was passing by.

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# All Iraqis Will Be Tortured Equally

November 18, 2005 Riverbend, Baghdad burning

November 18, 2005

**The talk of the town is the torture house they recently found in Jadriya.**

The whole world heard about the one in Jadriya, recently raided by the Americans. Jadriya was once one of the best areas in Baghdad. It's an area on the river and is special in that it's greener, and cleaner, than most areas. Baghdad's largest university, Baghdad University, is located in Jadriya (with a campus in another area). Jadriya had some of the best shops and restaurants- not to mention some of Baghdad's most elegant homes..... and apparently, now, a torture house.

We hear constantly about these torture dungeons. Right after the war, certain areas became infamous for them. The world knows them as 'torture houses' for the obvious reasons- they were once ordinary homes, and now they've become torture centers for suspects and innocents alike. The Iraqi government conveniently calls them 'detention centers' and the Iraqi Ministry of Interior oversees and funds them.

**One area which was well-known for its torture houses immediately after the war was Sadir City in Baghdad. Except they weren't called torture houses back then.**

**The people who ran them called them 'ma'akim' or 'courts'. They would bring 'suspects' in for interrogation- often ordinary citizens- and beat and whip them for various confessions involving accusations and alleged crimes.**

**A 'Sayid' would then come in and sentence the culprit- the sentence would sometimes involve cutting off a hand or a foot and at other times it might be death.**

**We heard this from an aunt's neighbor who was mistakenly taken in and beaten as a suspected former security agent. His family connections with influential Shia clerics in the area were the only things that got him out alive- bruised and broken-but alive.**

**These torture houses have existed since the beginning of the occupation.**

While it is generally known that SCIRI is behind them, other religious parties are not innocent.

**The Americans know they exist- why the sudden shock and outrage? This is hardly news for Americans in the Green Zone.** The timing is quite interesting- it shouldn't matter that this raid came immediately after the whole white phosphorous story

came out, but the Pentagon and American military have proven to be the ultimate masters of diversion.

Only last year in an area called Ghazaliya, one such house was discovered. It was on a smaller scale though. My cousin lives in Ghazaliya and he said that when the Americans got inside, they found several corpses and a man hanging from the ceiling on a makeshift noose.

**The neighbors had tried to get the Americans to check the house for months- no one bothered.**

**They finally raided it because they got information from someone in the area that it was an insurgents hiding place. I read once that in New York, if a woman is being raped, she should scream 'fire' instead of 'rape' because no one would come to save her if she was screaming 'rape'.**

**That's the way it is with Iraqi torture houses- the only way they'll check it is if you tell them it's a terrorist cell.**

**And another thing- you know when they say 'men dressed in Ministry of Interior uniforms' or 'men in official cars claiming to be from the Ministry of Interior', etc. when describing some horror committed by the new Iraqi security forces in the news?**

**Here's a thought: they aren't 'claiming' and they aren't in costume- they actually ARE from the Ministry of Interior!**

**One would think they'd do this covertly so as not to enrage Iraqis or humanitarian organisations, except that it doesn't matter to them because SCIRI and Da'awa aren't out to win hearts and minds. They have American favor- what more does one need in the New Iraq?**

For over a year corpses have been turning up all over Baghdad. Corpses of people who are taken from their homes in the middle of the night (lately they've been more brazen- they just do everything in the light of day), and turn up dead somewhere. That isn't as disturbing as the reports about the bodies- the one I can't get out of my head is that many of the corpses are found with holes in the skull left by an electric drill.

I guess the lucky ones go to Abu Ghraib.....

And it's not only 'suspected insurgents' who disappear- Iraqi security forces have been known to raid complete areas and detain any males from the ages of 12 to 60- especially in Sunni areas. Those 'suspected terrorists' that are rounded up and taken away- you know where they disappear to now.

**Interior Minister Bayan Jabr (SCIRI Thug-Made-Government-Official-In-Italian-Suits) is mollifying Iraqis with this little gem,**

**...the group included Shiites as well as Sunnis.....**



I'm sure we can all sleep better at night with the knowledge that SCIRI/Da'awa torturers don't discriminate according to religious sect- under the new constitution, American military guidance, and the blessings of the Pentagon- all Iraqis will be tortured equally.

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

**WELCOME TO LIBERATED IRAQ**



An Iraqi woman in Baghdad holds identification cards of family members imprisoned by the Occupation during a conference organised by the Iraqi national Accordance Front November 19, 2005. Relatives of people detained by the Iraqi government forces accused the government on Saturday of arbitrary arrests.  
REUTERS/Thaier al-Sudani

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**Resistance Cripples Oil Output:  
“Those People Who Do The Attacks  
Have A Winning Tactic”**

November 17, 2005 Kevin G. Hall, Knight Ridder Newspapers

**WASHINGTON - Insurgent attacks are costing Iraq about 500,000 barrels of oil a day, almost a third of its daily output.** At today's oil prices, that's costing the country at least \$28 million in export earnings every day.

In the run-up to the war, the Bush administration and Iraqi exiles said oil exports would provide badly needed petrodollars to help rebuild Iraq and offset the cost of the U.S.-led occupation. "The oil revenues of that country could bring between \$50 (billion) and \$100 billion over the course of the next two or three years," then-Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz told Congress on March 27, 2003, shortly after the war began. "... We're dealing with a country that can really finance its own reconstruction, and relatively soon."

But since the March 2003 invasion, Iraqi oil production has failed to match the prewar level of 2.5 million barrels per day.

**Production briefly approached that level in March and April 2004, but insurgent attacks on pipelines, oil wells and other infrastructure have eroded output since then.**

Statistics from the International Energy Agency, a research arm of developed nations, show that Iraq has exceeded production of 2 million barrels a day in only three of the past 18 months. From January through October, production averaged 1.8 million barrels a day.

**While defining oil production in Iraq is more art than science in the absence of modern measuring equipment, American experts and Iraqi officials don't dispute the estimate of 500,000 barrels lost daily to insurgent sabotage around Kirkuk in the north and Basra in the south.**

"It's a huge drag (on the economy). The export pipeline (in northern Iraq) through Turkey is a regular target. This is at least 350,000 barrels per day. You can imagine how much money we are losing," said Hussein al-Uzri, the president and chairman of the Trade Bank of Iraq, which provides credit for the nation's oil sector.

The saving grace for Iraq is that global oil prices are high, allowing the new government to earn more from today's reduced production than from prewar levels, when world prices were less than \$35 a barrel. Still, attacks on the country's refineries, pipelines, oil wells and power grids have been so disruptive that Iraq, which has the world's third-largest oil reserves at 113 billion barrels, is now a net importer of gasoline and diesel fuel.

**The insurgent attacks hit American pocketbooks too.**

**Most Iraqi oil isn't bound for the United States, but today's global oil market is drum-tight, with little capacity anywhere to boost production. If Iraq can't export more oil, the global supply-demand balance stays tight, and fuels cost American consumers more.**

It wasn't supposed to be this way.

In September 2002, Ahmad Chalabi, an Iraqi exile who's close to some Bush administration officials, famously told The Washington Post that oil exports would rebuild Iraq and promised "American companies will have a big shot at Iraqi oil."

After the invasion, Vice President Dick Cheney told the American Society of Newspaper Editors on April 9, 2003, that Iraq would produce 2.5 million to 3 million barrels of oil daily by the end of that year.

In a speech Nov. 9 in Washington, Deputy Prime Minister Chalabi was equally upbeat.

"Iraq has the potential to increase its oil production immediately and quickly," he said. "We have the means now to do it in a fast way and progressively come up to 3 million barrels a day of production."

Independent experts aren't so sure.

Fatih Birol, chief economist of the International Energy Agency, said Monday that Iraq wasn't likely to sustain oil output at 3 million barrels a day until 2010.

Today, Chalabi is deputy prime minister of Iraq, calling the shots for the oil sector, but it's become a soft target for insurgents.

**"The reality is that those people who do the attacks began to realize they have a winning tactic here," said Gal Luft, the director of the Institute for Analysis of Global Security in Washington.**

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## **U.S. OCCUPATION RECRUITING DRIVE IN HIGH GEAR; RECRUITING FOR THE ARMED RESISTANCE THAT IS.**



11.15.05 US Marines from Echo company 2nd Battalion 2nd Marine Regiment detain and search them during a sweep of the Zaidon market area, located southeast of Fallujah. (AFP/David Furst)

**[Fair is fair. Let's bring 150,000 Iraqis over here to the USA. They can kill people at checkpoints, bust into their houses with force and violence, overthrow the government, put a new one in office they like better 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 actually resent this help, and consider it their patriotic duty to fight and kill the soldiers sent to 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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## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

### **Bush Says Iraqi Resistance Defeating Him**



REUTERS/Adrees Latif

**"Iraq is making amazing progress from the days of being under the thumb of a brutal dictator." Bush in Osan, South Korea November 19, 2005**

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# **Murtha, Other Democrat And Republican Politicians Reject Immediate Withdrawal From Iraq 403 To 3: Why? Because They're Against It: *DUH***

[Somehow, a silly rumor spread that Murtha was for immediate withdrawal from Iraq. He is opposed, and repeated that last night on CNN, for anybody that has lost their grip on reality.

[In case you run into any civilians still suffering from delusions about this, give them the quote below. You don't need to tell the troops. They understand and will continue to understand the difference between coming home *now* and maybe coming home next summer. At least those that live that long will continue to understand it.

[As for the leaders who call themselves anti-war and think Murtha's ideas are just fine, here's a modest proposal: get your pontificating ass over to Iraq for the next six months, go on patrols through IED loaded roads right alongside the troops, and see how fine you think it is then to babble about *maybe* coming home in six months.]

November 19, 2005 By ERIC SCHMITT, The New York Times

**WASHINGTON -- Republicans and Democrats shouted, howled and slung vicious insults on the House floor on Friday as a debate over whether to withdraw American troops from Iraq descended into a vitriolic fury over President Bush's handling of the war and a leading Democrat's call to bring the troops home.**

The battle boiled over when Rep. Jean Schmidt, R-Ohio, the most junior member of the House, told of a phone call she had just received from a Marine colonel back home.

"He asked me to send Congress a message: Stay the course," Schmidt said. "He also asked me to send Congressman Murtha a message: that cowards cut and run, Marines never do."

Democrats booed and shouted Schmidt down over the attack on Rep. John P. Murtha of Pennsylvania, a Vietnam combat veteran and one of the House's most respected members on military matters.

The proceedings came to a standstill, and moments later, Rep. Harold Ford, D- Tenn., charged across the chamber's center aisle to the Republican side, screaming that the attack had been unwarranted.

Rep. Martin Meehan, D-Mass., yelled: "You guys are pathetic. Pathetic."

**On Thursday, Murtha called for pulling out the 153,000 American troops within six months and for a quick-reaction force in the region, perhaps in Kuwait, and to pursue stability in Iraq through diplomacy.**

**But House Republicans planned to put to a vote -- and reject -- their own nonbinding alternative resolution that simply said: "It is the sense of the House of Representatives that the deployment of United States forces in Iraq be terminated immediately."**

Late Friday night, the measure was defeated, 403-3.

But the measure's fate was sealed -- and the vote count's significance minimized - - when the Democratic leader, Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, criticized the Republican tactics and instructed Democrats to join Republicans in voting against an immediate withdrawal.

**MORE:**

## **The Twisted Mind Of An Imperial Coward**

November 19, 2005 By ERIC SCHMITT, The New York Times

**Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., denied that there were any political tricks and said pulling American forces out of Iraq so rashly would hurt troop morale overseas. "We want to make sure that we support our troops that are fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. We will not retreat."**

**[So, getting U.S. troops out of a lost war for oil and Empire based on lies will hurt their morale, because they will be alive and have all their body parts intact. Drop this asshole on Iraq, without a parachute. It's so easy for cowards like Hastert to tell other people to do the dying, while they hide safely at home making speeches.]**

**MORE:**

# **The Imperial Officer Corps Moves Against The War In Iraq**

**Comment: T**

**[Murtha speaks for the Pentagon officer corps, and he and they are perfectly willing to see the slaughter of U.S. troops and Iraqis go on for another half a year, stacking up more corpses and maimed bodies on both sides.**

**[But why be surprised?**

**[This isn't about stopping the U.S. Imperial politicians from inflicting misery and death anywhere in the world they see fit. It's about doing it effectively, and about how Bush is putting the Empire in the ditch. And it's also about keeping the war going and the troops dying while the Pentagon makes the detailed strategic redeployment of the Imperial armed forces that Murtha calls for in his remarks below.**

**[With the armed forces tied down in a hopeless war in Iraq, it's quite impossible for the Empire to take on Chavez in Venezuela, or anybody else.**

**[Murtha and the officer corps aren't completely stupid, and see the terrible risks to the U.S. corporate class that flow from Bush regimes' incompetence and the disaster in Iraq.**

**[Iraq is a losing proposition, inefficient and ineffective management of Imperial resources, and detrimental to Imperial objectives and interests.**

**[Not long ago, the business press reported that the Iraq war is hurting the profits of the biggest U.S. corporations everywhere in the world.**

**[That's where Bush crossed the line.**

**[As long as his regime was merely killing people wholesale, no problem, provided it benefited the American corporate class. But profits are taken seriously.**

**[This is not about whether or not to maintain the Empire, and kill whoever is necessary to do so. It is about how to do it successfully and therefore profitably.**

**[If that's what you're for, by all means hail John Murtha as your savior.]**

**[If not, then keep building the movement from below to end not only this war, but to bring about the kind of revolutionary change that can rid us of the whole corporate class that benefits from Imperial wars, including the next one, because as long as they rule, there will be a next one.**

**[Make no mistake, as long as they control the government, there will be more wars for their benefit, and as long as they survive as a class, they will use their wealth and power to control the government. They bought and paid for it a long time ago and they will not just walk away from their personal private property. It will have to be taken from them. When the crisis comes, the troops will be with us.]**

\*\*\*\*\*

November 17, 2005 By Vicki Allen, (Reuters) & LIZ SIDOTI, AP

**"It is time for a change in direction," said Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., one of Congress' most hawkish Democrats.**

Murtha argued that U.S. troops have become the targets who have united the insurgency, and that continued deployments are breaking the military.

**He said he believed U.S. troops could be withdrawn within six months.**

<p><b>First elected to Congress in 1974, Murtha is known as an ally of uniformed officers in the Pentagon and on the battlefield. The perception on Capitol Hill is that when the congressman makes a statement on military issues, he's talking for those in uniform.</b></p>
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**MORE:**

***“They could go right down the road.”***

November 17, 2005 **The New York Times: the news conference Thursday by Representative John Murtha of Pennsylvania**, as provided by Federal News Service. [Excerpt]

Q My other question. What do you mean exactly by a Quick Reaction Force in the region

REP. MURTHA: Yeah. Well, the Marines in Okinawa -- you remember in Somalia, we came back from Somalia and then we went back in. It only took us a couple of days to take care of the Iraqi army, and now we're not talking about an army.

What I'm talking about is a terrorist camp that may affect our national security or the security in the region, we could go back in. But not a civil war or something like that, I mean, you know, that's up to the Iraqis to settle that.

**So I think the Marine force could be in there momentarily, within a couple of days, within 48 hours they could be in there. And if the Kuwaitis would agree and they wanted to put a force in Kuwait, that would be a good place to have them.**

***They could go right down the road.***



**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.**



*Ah..Er..Sorry Guys, I Had Bad Intelligence.*

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## **Congress Helps Self to \$3,100 Pay Raise; Cuts Food, Medical & School Aid For Citizens**

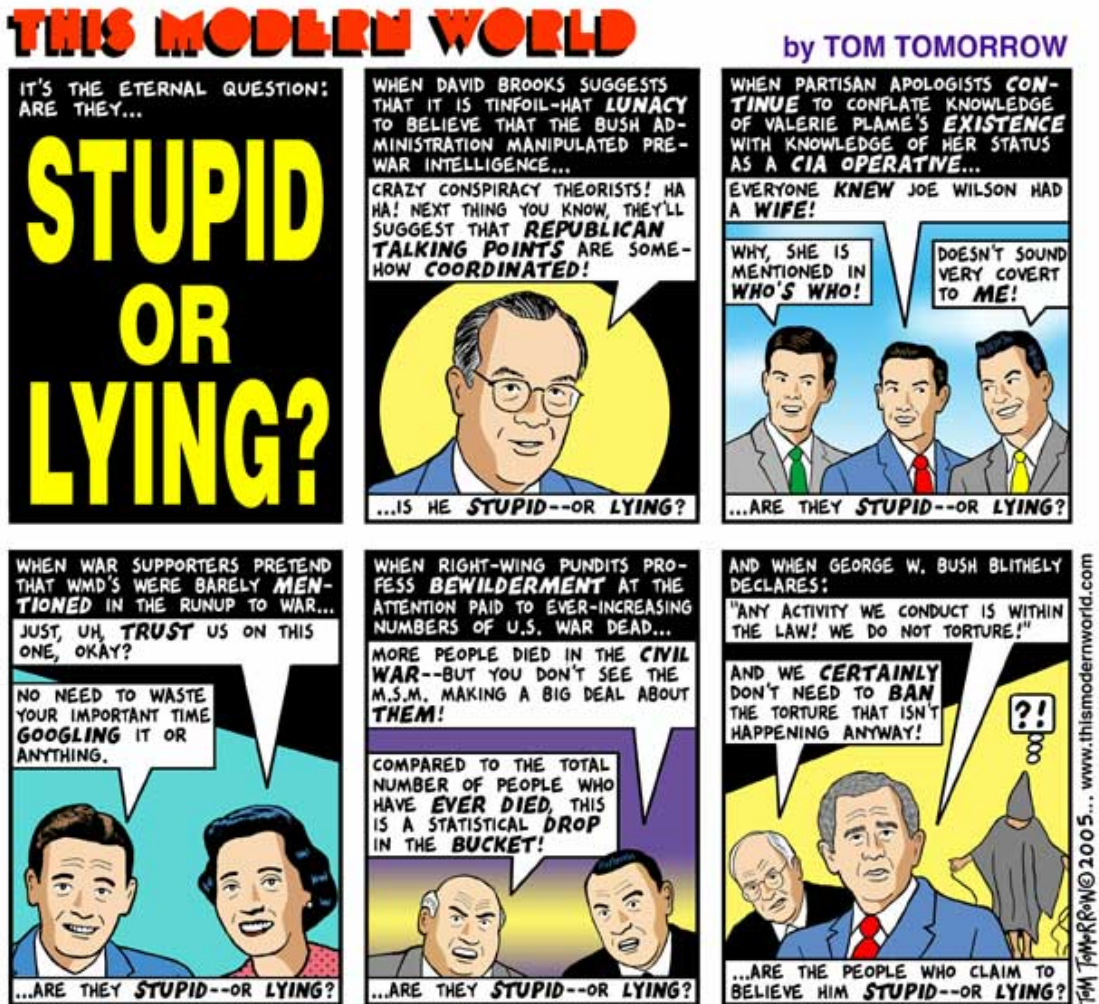
18 November 2005 By David Espo, The Associated Press

Washington - The Republican-controlled Congress helped itself to a \$3,100 pay raise on Friday, then postponed work on bills to curb spending on social programs and cut taxes in favor of a two-week vacation.

**The cost-of-living increase for members of Congress - which will put pay for the rank and file at an estimated \$165,200 a year - marked a brief truce in the pitched political battles that have flared in recent weeks on the war and domestic issues.**

Republicans spent the day celebrating a party-line, post-midnight vote in which the House cleared legislation to reduce deficits by \$50 billion over five years. The vote was 217-215, with all the Democrats who voted in opposition, along with 14 GOP rebels.

The House-passed measure attacks deficits by limiting spending for the first time in a decade on Medicaid, food stamps, student loans and other benefit programs that normally rise with inflation and eligibility.



Received:

## Family Of The Poorest Soldier To Die In Iraq Gets Some Help

From: Jacob Wheeler jacobrwheeler@hotmail.com

Sent: November 19, 2005

Subject: Herminia Ramos, mother of Salvadoran soldier killed in Iraq

Dear friends who have helped (or expressed interest in helping) Herminia Ramos, the impoverished mother of Natividad, the Salvadoran soldier killed in Iraq on April 4, 2004.

**I traveled to Ahuachapan province on the Salvadoran-Guatemala border last weekend and met with Herminia. I opened a bank account for her and deposited \$600 from donations from U.S. citizens who read my article about her plight, either in the San Francisco Chronicle, WorldPress.org, or Utne.com. Several hundred more dollars should follow, once we can figure out how to deposit U.S. money orders or personal checks into her account.**

Here are links to the articles:

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2005/07/24/ING6RDRPJ81.DTL>

<http://www.worldpress.org/Americas/2139.cfm>

[http://www.utne.com/web\\_special/web\\_specials\\_2005-07/articles/11731-1.html](http://www.utne.com/web_special/web_specials_2005-07/articles/11731-1.html)

Early indications are that one can transfer money through First Union bank in San Francisco, California (please call first as I have yet to confirm), to be forwarded to Herminia Ramos Mendez under account number 011401000110344 at Banco Cuscatlan, Ahuachapan, El Salvador. In case you need it, her national identification number is 02507171-7 and her date of birth is August 12, 1958. Please specify that these are donations related to her son, Natividad, who was killed in Iraq last year.

Though still covered by a blanket of never-ending poverty, Herminia seems to be doing better. Some clothes were donated to her and her four sons (two teenagers, two toddlers) by a lieutenant in the Salvadoran army, she told me, after the rains from Hurricane Stan wrought havoc on her country in September.

**Still no financial help from any government though. She recently turned 47, which means she is 8 years away from receiving a pension from the Salvadoran government.**

Herminia figures she and her family can make it through one year with the \$600 now in her account. But I encouraged her to invest some of the money in a stand selling tortillas or fruit in a market in nearby Guaymango, for instance, to make the money last.

Our reunion was a joyous one as we ate lunch at the fried chicken restaurant Pollo Campero after depositing the money (photo attached). I translated and read letters to her sent by some of you, and she expressed gratitude for all the help.

Thanks again. I'll keep you all posted on further developments.

By the way, if you decide to send more, please email me and let me know how much. I'd like to keep track of the aid she is receiving.

Best,

Jacob Wheeler  
Freelance journalist

### **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://gi-special.iraq-news.de>, <http://www.notinourname.net/qi-special/>,  
[www.williambowles.info/qispecial](http://www.williambowles.info/qispecial), [http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi\\_special/](http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/),  
<http://www.albasrah.net/maqalat/english/qi-special.htm>

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