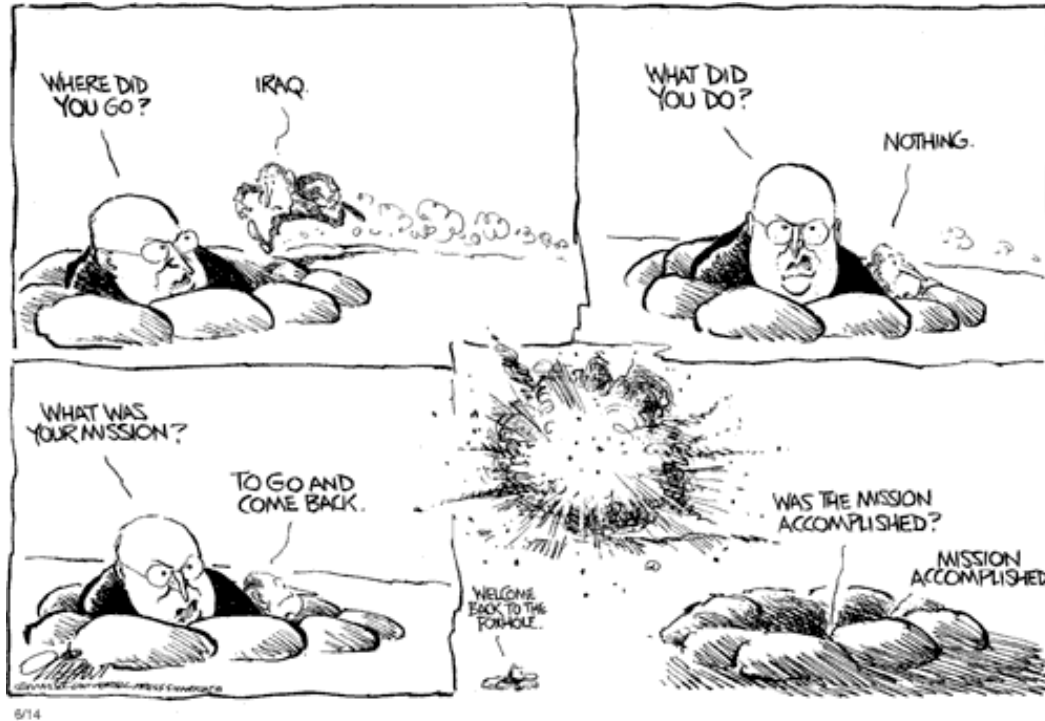


GI SPECIAL 4G4:



[Thanks to David Honish, Veterans For Peace, who sent this in.]

“It Is Their Duty, To Throw Off Such Government”

July 01, 2006 James Starowicz, Veterans For Peace [Excerpt]

From The Declaration Of Independence, July 4, 1776

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.

Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government.

A long train of abuses and usurpations.

Where to begin with that....how about the whole "unitary president" thing? The fact that Congress is disregarded when they don't agree with Bush. Or the 750 laws disregarded by Bush's signing statements.

Or the lies to Congress and the American people about yellowcake, about aluminum tubes, about Valerie Plame, about illegal wiretapping, torture or rendition.

Or invading a sovereign country. The "wartime president" even though Congress never declared war.

The enormous wealth transfer from the formerly middle class to the most wealthy.

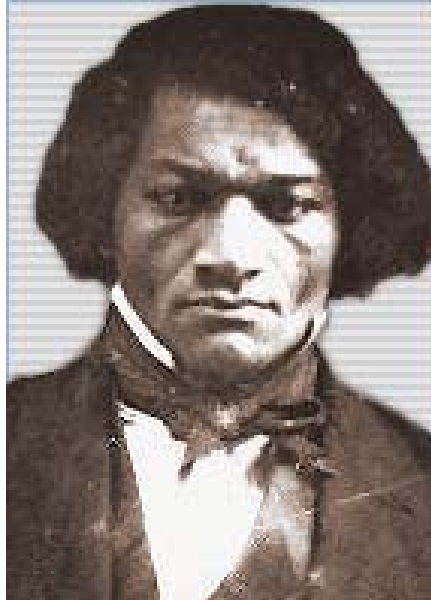
The altering of expert opinions, the denial of science.

The leak of classified information for political gain.

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.

**July 4, 1852:
Frederick Douglas Had Some
Words For The Bush Regime That
Any Self-Respecting Iraqi Could
Repeat Today:**

“For Revolting Barbarity And Shameless Hypocrisy, America Reigns Without A Rival”



Fellow citizens, pardon me, and allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here today?

What have I or those I represent to do with your national independence?

Are the great principles of political freedom and of natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence, extended to us?

And am I, therefore, called upon to bring our humble offering to the national altar, and to confess the benefits, and express devout gratitude for the blessings resulting from your independence to us?

Would to God, both for your sakes and ours, that an affirmative answer could be truthfully returned to these questions.

Then would my task be light, and my burden easy and delightful. For who is there so cold that a nation's sympathy could not warm him? Who so obdurate and dead to the claims of gratitude, that would not thankfully acknowledge such priceless benefits? Who so stolid and selfish that would not give his voice to swell the hallelujahs of a nation's jubilee, when the chains of servitude had been torn from his limbs?

I am not that man. In a case like that, the dumb might eloquently speak, and the "lame man leap as an hart."

But such is not the state of the case.

I say it with a sad sense of disparity between us.

I am not included within the pale of this glorious anniversary!

Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you this day rejoice are not enjoyed in common.

The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity, and independence bequeathed by your fathers is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought life and healing to you has brought stripes and death to me.

This Fourth of July is yours, not mine.

You may rejoice, I must mourn.

To drag a man in fetters into the grand illuminated temple of liberty, and call upon him to join you in joyous anthems, were inhuman mockery and sacrilegious irony.

Do you mean, citizens, to mock me, by asking me to speak today?

What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July?

I answer: a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim.

To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciations of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade, and solemnity, are, to him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy: a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages.

There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices, more shocking and bloody, than are the people of these United States, at this very hour.

Go where you may, search where you will, roam through all the monarchies and despotisms of the old world, travel through South America, search out every abuse, and when you have found the last, lay your facts by the side of the everyday practices of this nation, and you will say with me, that, for revolting barbarity and shameless hypocrisy, America reigns without a rival.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

MARINE KILLED IN AL ANBAR PROVINCE

7/3/2006 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
RELEASE Number: 06-07-03CF

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq: A Marine assigned to Regimental Combat Team 5 died due to enemy action while operating in Al Anbar Province today.

BAGHDAD SOLDIER KILLED BY EXPLOSION

7/3/2006 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND NEWS
RELEASE Number: 06-07-03CF

BAGHDAD: A Multi National Division Baghdad Soldier died at approximately 7:20 p.m. on July 2 when his vehicle was hit by an explosion during a combat patrol north of Baghdad.

Vinita Marine Killed

07/03/06 (AP)

VINITA, Okla.: A Vinita family says their 23-year-old relative has been killed in Iraq.

Family members of 23-year-old Marine Sergeant Justin Noyes tells K-O-T-V-Channel Six in Tulsa that Noyes was a demolition specialist. They said Noyes was working on an improvised explosive device his unit discovered, when a second device they hadn't spotted exploded beneath him.

Noyes recently came home on leave to get married.

Guardsman, 19, Killed

Jul. 01, 2006 BY FREDERICK MELO, Pioneer Press

On the eve of a weekend full of patriotic celebration, a central Minnesota community grieved the death of a 19-year-old Minnesota National Guard member serving in Iraq.

Kyle R. Miller of Willmar was seated in the first vehicle of a U.S. military convoy traveling Thursday near Baghdad when a roadside bomb exploded. Miller died on the way to the hospital. The driver, seated in front of him, survived.

Miller's mother, Kathy L. Miller of Bird Island, Minn., said she learned of her son's death Friday morning and was still wondering Friday night whether the tears would ever stop.

"It's been a hard day for everyone," she said.

Miller was the second-youngest military enlistee from Minnesota to die in Iraq, and the first Willmar resident to be killed in combat since the Vietnam War.

His mother said he joined the National Guard while still a junior in high school and was assigned to the 682nd Engineer Battalion, where he worked in communications. He had only recently completed basic training, she said, and had been in Iraq for four months.

Miller was among the 2,600 Minnesotans deployed in March in the largest overseas deployment of the Minnesota National Guard since World War II.

"He was a good boy: too young," Kathy Miller said.

He spent his childhood in Bird Island and part of his teens in Willmar, with his father. Ron Christianson, who lives next to Miller's father and stepmother in Willmar, said he visited the couple several times Friday and was left speechless by the loss.

When a military vehicle pulled up to Randall and Candia Miller's home early Friday morning, neighbors immediately understood the significance without being told, Christianson said.

Quieted by the loss, Willmar residents said they were grateful to have ducked tragedy until now. But the war seemed to have been growing closer and closer to their community of a little more than 18,000 residents. National Guard Sgt. Brent Koch, 22, of nearby Morton was killed in Iraq on June 16.

About 2 percent of each year's graduating class enlist in Willmar's National Guard training center or join the military while still in high school, said Kathy Leedam, superintendent for Willmar schools.

Willmar school officials said Miller graduated from the district's Area Learning Center in June 2005.

On Tuesday, thousands of Willmar residents are expected to travel to nearby Spicer, Minn., for its annual Fourth of July celebration, which has become a steady draw in central Minnesota. For those who knew Miller, and even for many who did not, the event will carry a somber undercurrent.

"It's the closest (death) that I know of to home," said Spicer Mayor William Taylor, whose daughter returned from military duty in Iraq two years ago. "My heart goes out to that family."

Miller is the 34th Minnesota military enlistee to die in Iraq.

In April 2004, 19-year-old Marine Pfc. Moises Langhorst of Moose Lake was killed in combat near Fallujah, Iraq.

Miller leaves behind a younger sister who is in high school, as well as three older siblings.

**REALLY BAD IDEA:
NO MISSION;
HOPELESS WAR:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW**



6.20.06 A US soldier in the streets of al-Farouk area in Mosul. (AFP/US Army/Sgt Jeremy T. Lock)

Kentucky Marine Injured

July 3, 2006 AP

A Kentucky Marine is in an Army hospital in Iraq after being injured by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Lance Corporal Kenneth Ward of Manitou was injured when his unit was taking over a bank in Ar Ramadi.

Ward's mother says her son has injuries to his left arm and leg and his left torso. He was also hit by shrapnel in the back of the head and is suffering some short-term memory loss.

The 20-year-old Ward joined the Marines after high school. His mother, Faith Corbett, says he wanted to join the Marines after the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Attack On British Near Amarah Damages Armor

Jul. 3 2006 AP & (Mail & Guardian)

A roadside bomb also struck a British armored vehicle Monday morning near Amarah, 180 miles southeast of Baghdad, British spokeswoman Capt. Kelly Goodall said. Nobody was wounded but the vehicle was heavily damaged.

Two mortar rounds landed outside the British/Australian base in Samawah, 370km south-east of Baghdad, but no injuries or damage were reported.

The attacks underscored the increasing danger facing coalition forces in predominantly Shiite southern Iraq, which has been relatively quiet during a more than three-year-old Sunni-led insurgency but has seen an increase in attacks in recent months.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

U.S. Helicopter Crashes In Smyrna: Airman Dies

Jul. 2, 2006 By ASSOCIATED PRESS

A US helicopter crashed Sunday in southern Afghanistan, killing one crewmember, the military said.

An AH-64 Apache attack helicopter plunged to the ground shortly after taking off from Kandahar Air Field at 8:30 p.m., the coalition said in a statement.

One crewmember was killed, while the other was injured and evacuated for emergency treatment

The helicopter was responding to a reported rocket attack against the airbase when it crashed. There were no injuries reported from the rocket attack, the military said.

Soldier, A New Father, Killed; “This Wasn’t Supposed To Happen”

June 30, 2006 By REBECCA CATALANELLO, St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

A Tampa Bay boy, Cpl. Aaron Griner longed for Florida's beaches when military service took him to other parts of the world.

"All I want is to go back to Florida where it's warm and the beach is right (outside) my window," the 6-foot-2, blue-eyed Army medic wrote on his MySpace.com blog last year while stationed at Fort Drum, N.Y.

Griner, 24, died Wednesday in the deserts of Afghanistan, far from the beaches, the wife and the infant son he pined for.

He was traveling across Helmond Province when the vehicle he was in struck a land mine, the U.S. Defense Department announced Friday. Griner's aunt, Beverly Bridges Fernandez of Tampa, said three others were riding in the Humvee. Griner was the only one killed.

"This wasn't supposed to happen," said Fernandez, 57.

Her nephew joined the military when he was single and seeking career direction. But when Griner fell in love in New York and married Amanda Helmer, 24, a red-headed occupational therapist, a couple of years ago, his life ambitions shifted a bit.

Son Austin arrived Feb. 10, just weeks before Griner left for Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division of Fort Drum. The Army delayed the expectant father's deployment so he could welcome the infant into the world.

At 9 pounds, 3½ ounces, Austin was the spitting image of his father, with the same bright blue eyes, strawberry blond hair and chubby cheeks.

It was suddenly harder for Griner to leave.

"He was not a fighter," Fernandez said of her nephew. "He felt the calling to help the innocent people affected by war."

As a medic, Griner was able to deliver humanitarian services, which suited his easy going, peace-loving personality, Fernandez said.

Griner grew up in Brandon, the second child and only son of Anita Lovallo of Tampa and Ernest Griner of Riverview. From a devout Catholic family, he attended Sacred Heart Academy in Tampa from kindergarten on. Griner spent his youth surrounded by his two sisters and 15 cousins, playing soccer and, as a striker, always looking to score goals.

He loved novelist Kurt Vonnegut, comedians Chris Farley and Adam Sandler and, if his Web site is any indication, Corona beer.

As a youngster, Griner battled a slight learning disability, Fernandez said. He passed the GED test and began searching for a career path. After working various odd jobs and traveling to Costa Rica with his mother and uncle, the athletic young man decided to join the military.

He hoped the skills he learned as an Army medic would help him build a career after his service ended.

The family learned of Griner's death on Wednesday, about two months shy of his 25th birthday. On Friday, they gathered at Griner's grandparents' home in Seminole Heights, comforting one another, navigating inquiries from reporters and trying to plan a funeral they had hoped not to attend for decades.

Wife Amanda and baby Austin are expected to arrive in Tampa over the weekend. For now, Fernandez said, the family is still trying to grasp what has happened.

"He was a good kid, a very sweet child," she said tearfully. "People need to know there are good kids over there."

Two U.S. Troops Wounded In Sangin

July 3, 2006 The Associated Press

The military said up to 30 extremists, firing guns and mortars, attacked a coalition patrol that had just found a weapons cache in Sangin.

It said two soldiers were wounded and airlifted to a medical facility where they were in stable condition.

The clash occurred Sunday in southern Helmand province's Sangin district, which has become a hotbed of militant activity, particularly for the 3,300 British soldiers in the region.

"The coalition attacked the engaging enemy element as well as a second group attempting to reinforce the original group," said a military statement.

Afghan Soldiers Forbidden To Go On Raids With Occupation Troops: Defense Minister Says They "Ruin" The Army

7.3.06 New York Times

A joint military raid by American and Afghan forces on an unobtrusive house in Kabul last March has pointed up the tensions between the American military and the Afghan Defense Ministry over the conduct of counterinsurgency raids, particularly in the capital.

The raid, in which six men were detained, was led by masked American special forces troops, and included eight members of a unit of the Afghan National Army.

The involvement of Afghan soldiers prompted Defense Minister Abdur Rahim Wardak, who had no advance notice of the raid, to bar Afghan Army personnel from taking part in any raids on houses or compounds, saying involvement in such "policing jobs" would "ruin" the army.

Taliban Night Letters Effective

7.10.06 Time

Night letters: menacing notes posted under the cover of darkness that threaten persons cooperating with the government-have become a potent weapon in the Taliban's widening campaign against the symbols of authority in the new Afghanistan.

TROOP NEWS

**THIS IS HOW BUSH BRINGS THE TROOPS HOME:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE**



The casket of Lance Cpl. Nicholas Whyte after his funeral in New York, June 30, 2006. Whyte died two days before his 22nd birthday on June 21st while on patrol in Iraq. REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton

Counter Bush At Ft. Bragg

From: Lou Plummer
Sent: July 02, 2006
Subject: Counter Bush at Ft. Bragg

On July 4th soldiers from the 82nd Airborne and Special Forces have been ordered to assemble for a photo opportunity with President Bush, who will fly into the area for a few hours to appear with them before the cameras to garner support for a war that nearly 70% of Americans now believe was a mistake.

Led by members of Military Families Speak Out and Iraq Veterans Against the War, activists from across North Carolina are holding a vigil in Fayetteville to remember the 2,500 Americans who are no longer available for the president's public relations team to use.

"The president can't order veterans and family members to be silent. We intend to offer a counter to the command enforced patriotism our friends and loved ones are enduring at Ft. Bragg" says organizer Lou Plummer, a Fayetteville native and member of Veterans for Peace and Military Families Speak Out.

The vigil in Fayetteville begins at noon on July 4th. The organizers plan to display a handwritten memorial listing the names of the slain service members, a display that now numbers 29 panels. The vigil will be held at the Fayetteville Market House at the corner of Hay Street and Green Street.

For more information:

In Fayetteville:
Lou Plummer (lou.plummer@mac.com)

(910) 433-9053 (home)
(910) 728-8695 (mobile)

In Greenville:
Jacek Teller (Iraq Veterans Against the War) (JT0409@ecu.edu)

252-916-8031

Endorsers and Sponsors:

Fayetteville Peace with Justice
Military Families Speak Out
Iraq Veterans Against the War
Veterans for Peace
Bring Them Home Now Campaign

150 Soldiers From Illinois Off To Bush's Imperial Slaughterhouse

Jul 3, 2006 Kristyn Hartman, Reporting (CBS)

CHICAGO: On the eve of America's most patriotic holiday, some citizen soldiers are getting ready to do their tour of duty.

150 National Guard troops are leaving Illinois later this week for Fort Dix, New Jersey, and later, Iraq. The members of Alpha Company of the 1st Battalion, 178th Infantry will be providing convoy escort and security duty for U.S. and Coalition forces in Iraq.

Senior Commanders Objecting To Attacking Iran

7.10.06 New Yorker, July 10, 2006

Senior U.S. military commanders are increasingly challenging the idea of a U.S. bombing campaign against Iran's nuclear facilities, according to active-duty and retired officers and officials, saying that air attacks would probably not succeed in destroying the program. They are also warning that an attack could lead to serious economic, political and military consequences for the United States.

National Day Of Support For Spc. Suzanne Swift July 15th

Jul 1, 2006 Callie Wight via Phil G

Many of us have heard about Suzanne Swift, 21 year old army specialist and MP, who served in Iraq as Humvee driver for combat patrols. She alleges that while in Iraq she was sexually assaulted and harassed by 2 of her sergeants.

Her unit returned home for 18 months of stabilization time; however, Suzanne's unit was re-deployed to Iraq after only 11 months home.

Suzanne went AWOL for 6 months but was arrested at her mother's home in Eugene, Oregon a short time ago. She is now confined to base while her charges of military sexual trauma are being investigated.

Suzanne's mother, Sara Rich, is now a member of MFSO and a counter-recruitment activist in Oregon.

She and Suzanne's supporters are calling a national day of support for Suzanne on July 15th, which is Suzanne's birthday.

Please support Suzanne in whatever way you can on that day.

www.suzanneswift.org
formydaughter@yahoo.com

The Fix Is In: Pentagon Report Whitewashes Command And Civilian DoD Leaders: Only The Grunts Guilty For Tortures

July 03, 2006 By Lolita C. Baldor, Associated Press

The Pentagon has released a 2005 military review of prisoner interrogation policies that concluded that no uniformed or civilian leaders directed or encouraged the prisoner abuses committed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The report was released under a freedom of information request by the American Civil Liberties Union. ACLU attorney Amrit Singh said Friday that "it's notable that even the Church report said there were missed opportunities and that sufficient guidance was not given."

Singh added that the ACLU still believes that there should be an independent investigation into whether high-level military officials should be held accountable for detainee abuses.

Recruiting Panic At The Pentagon: New Pitch Aimed At 9 To 14 Year Old Kids

7.3.06 Boston Globe

Complaints from parents and teachers say that new learning materials designed by a New Hampshire publisher for 9- to 14-year-olds amount to little more than an early recruiting pitch for the Army.

The latest issue of Cobblestone magazine, distributed nationwide to schools and libraries, is dedicated to the Army, a first for the popular periodical.

Titled "Duty, Honor, Country," the issue depicts a soldier in Iraq manning a machine gun on its glossy cover and includes articles ranging from what it's like to go through boot camp-"You're in the Army Now"-to a rundown of the Army's "awesome arsenal," to a detailed description of Army career opportunities.

“Innocent Old Ladies” Slam War



Phyllis Cunningham, of the New York City chapter of the Raging Grannies, holds up a protest sign as the group rallies near the gazebo in Haddonfield. Photo by AL SCHELL/Courier-Post

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

July 1, 2006 By RICHARD PEARSALL, Courier-Post Staff

HADDONFIELD: A group of grannies tying up traffic Friday spelled out their anti-war message.

They range in age from 67 to 91. Some of them use canes and they like nothing better than to be underestimated.

"Dress like innocent old ladies so you can get close to your target," is one of their strategies.

And they hope people remember the advice they got as youngsters: "Listen to your grandmother."

They're the New York City chapter of Raging Grannies and they were in Haddonfield Friday to do their thing -- sing an original song or two, skewer the president. Maybe dance, then "march" to the Army recruiting office to offer their services in place of younger people in Iraq.

David Kalkstein of Cherry Hill was the organizer of the local event.

The meeting took place in the Gazebo in King's Court, off Kings Highway in the main business district of this old town with Quaker roots.

A retiree and activist himself, Kalkstein, 67, said his involvement with protests began much like many of the "Grannies."

"I got sick of what was happening," the former insurance executive said, "and because I was retired, I decided to do something about it. I have the time."

Many members of the Grannies cut their "protest teeth" protesting the war in Vietnam.

"I was too busy then," Kalkstein said, "which is one reason I'm protesting now."

The Grannies pride themselves on taking their causes, but not necessarily themselves, seriously. They are inclined to use humor to disarm their opponents and assiduously shun violence.

V.A. Piece Of Shit Arrests Vietnam Vet For Wearing T-Shirt He Doesn't Like; Keeps Vets Pocket Knife

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

July 1 - 2, 2006, By MIKE FERNER, Weekend Edition

Yesterday afternoon, drinking a cup of coffee while sitting in the Jesse Brown V.A. Medical Center on Chicago's south side, a Veterans Administration cop walked up to me and said, "OK, you've had your 15 minutes, it's time to go."

"Huh?" I asked intelligently, not quite sure what he was talking about.

"You can't be in here protesting," Officer Adkins said, pointing to my Veterans For Peace shirt.

"Well, I'm not protesting, I'm having a cup of coffee," I returned, thinking that logic would convince Adkins to go back to his earlier duties of guarding against serious terrorists.

Flipping his badge open, he said, "No, not with that shirt. You're protesting and you have to go."

Beginning to get his drift, I said firmly, "Not before I finish my coffee."

He insisted that I leave, but still not quite believing my ears, I tried one more approach to reason.

"Hey, listen. I'm a veteran. This is a V.A. facility. I'm sitting here not talking to anybody, having a cup of coffee. I'm not protesting and you can't kick me out."

"You'll either go or we'll arrest you," Adkins threatened.

"Well, you'll just have to arrest me," I said, wondering what strange land I was now living in.

You know the rest. Handcuffed, led away to the facility's security office past people with surprised looks on their faces, read my rights, searched, and written up.

The officer who did the formalities, Eric Ousley, was professional in his duties. When I asked him if he was a vet, it turned out he had been a hospital corpsman in the Navy. We exchanged a couple sea stories.

He uncuffed me early.

And he allowed as to how he would only charge me with disorderly conduct, letting me go on charges of criminal trespass and weapons possession, a pocket knife, which he said would have to be destroyed (something I rather doubt since it was a nifty Swiss Army knife with not only a bottle opener, but a tweezers and a toothpick).

After informing me I could either pay the \$275 fine on the citation or appear in court, Ousley escorted me off the premises, warning me if I returned with "that shirt" on, I'd be arrested and booked into jail.

I'm sure I could go back to officers Adkins' and Ousleys' fiefdom with a shirt that said, "Nuke all the hajis," or "Show us your tits," or any number of truly obscene things and no one would care. Just so it's not "that shirt" again.

And just for the record? I'm not paying the fine.

I'll see Adkins and Ousley and Dubya's Director of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, if he wants to show up, in United States District Court on the appointed date.

And if there's a Chicago area attorney who'd like to take the case, I'd really like to sue them, from Dubya on down.

I have to believe that this whole country has not yet gone insane, just the government. This kind of behavior can't be tolerated. It must be challenged.

Pentagon Tormenting Relatives Of Dead Troops; They Wait Weeks And Months And Nobody Gives A Shit

7.2.06 St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Across the nation, there are dozens of families waiting for the armed forces to tell them how their loved ones died while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

While the exact cause and nature of most deaths, either combat- or noncombat-related, are quickly resolved, every noncombat death triggers an investigation.

The process often leaves some families without concrete answers about their loved one's death for weeks or months. They live in a purgatory of knowing they have lost a loved one to the war, but not knowing exactly how or why.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Assorted Resistance Action

Jul 3 (Mail & Guardian) & KIM GAMEL, Associated Press Writer

A bomb struck an oil pipeline in northern Iraq, setting it on fire, but the attack was not expected to affect exports. **[Right. Explosions and fire have no effect on pipelines at all. See the photo above.]**

A car bomber apparently targeting an Iraqi patrol blew himself up near the al-Kindi hospital in eastern Baghdad, wounding two soldiers, two police officers and one civilian, Lieutenant Ahmed Qassim said.

The bullet-riddled bodies of five Iraqi soldiers were found by a sanitation plant in Mandali, on the Iranian border 100km east of Baghdad, police said.

A policeman was killed and four policemen wounded when a car bomb went off in a crowded market in the northern city of Mosul.

The bullet-riddled bodies of five Iraqi soldiers were found by a sanitation plant in Mandali, on the Iranian border 60 miles east of Baghdad.



Members of the Oil Protection Police inspect a burning oil pipeline near Kirkuk, about 250 km (150 miles) north of Baghdad, July 3, 2006. The pipeline was sabotaged by insurgents, according to witnesses in the area. REUTERS/Slahaldeen Rasheed (IRAQ)

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

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

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

Soldiers In Pill Bottles #1



From: Richard Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: July 02, 2006

**Day after day, the war in Vietnam
got worse and worse.**

**Day after day, the war in Iraq
is getting worse and worse.**

**There is a time when soldiers
begin to figure out the war is a lie.**

**They begin to deteriorate inside,
because their task has no meaning.**

**It is at this point, that soldiers begin
to feel prisoners of betrayal.**

**They feel used and tossed away,
like a paper cup after a movie.**

**Betrayal is always the real enemy.
Always.**

**I did not serve in Vietnam for the
cause of freedom.
I served in Vietnam for the cause**

of profit.

I was as expendable as an empty
cartridge.

Wasted by the corporate rich.

Over and over again, the same
recipe of deceit is passed on to
the next generation.

Patriotism is a disguise for glory.

The only glory in war, is in the
imagination of those who were
never there.

Soldiers In Pill Bottles live in a world
of silence, because the truth has nothing
to do with serving their country.

Lying is the most powerful weapon in war.

I began to heal, and nurture myself, when
I began to bear witness about the lies.

It is always the truth about the lies that
has to be revealed to the outside world.

The survivor absolutely has to speak,
because if he does not, history will
repeat itself.

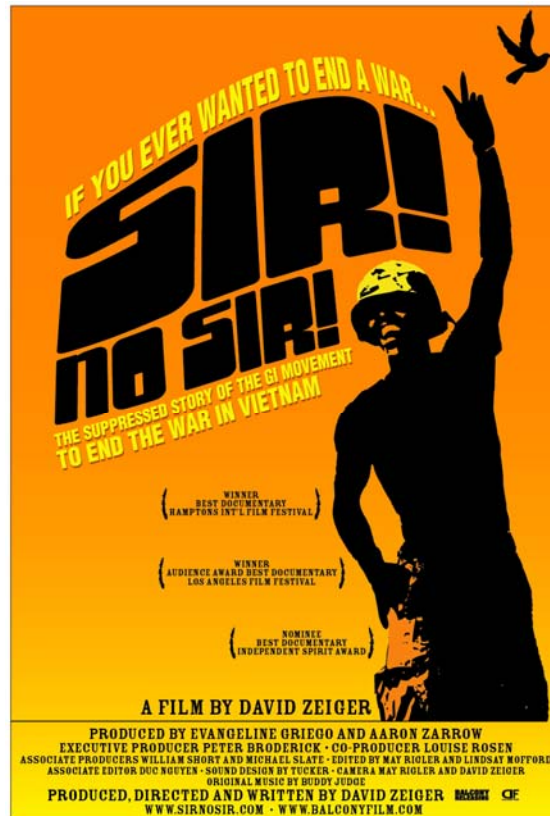
Bring The Troops Home Now,
Before There Is Only Remains.

Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran
July 1, 2006

Photo from the I-R-A-Q (I Remember Another Quagmire) portfolio of Mike
Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work,
contact at: (hastiemike@earthlink.net) T)

**“As Sir No Sir! Hints, Those Who
Fought The Brass And The
Profiteering That Motivated Them**

Stayed Far More Sane Than Their Comrades Who Did What They Were Told”



6.18.06 By Rich Gibson, Hawaii Indymedia [Excerpts]

During the U.S. invasion of Vietnam there were more than 500,000 documented troop refusals, mutinies of one size or another, more than 1,000 incidents of troops shooting or blowing up their officers: fragging.

In 1968, troops from Ft. Hood were mobilized in a plan to crush protests at the Chicago Democratic Convention. A mass refusal led by black soldiers caused officers to abandon the plan, leaving the brutalization to the Chicago police and the National Guard. In 1971, the vaunted U.S. Americal division reported one incident of fragging per week in Vietnam.

At the same time, the U.S. Phoenix program, a CIA-led assassination campaign, was in the process of killing what came to be more than 30,000 Vietnamese. When questioned about the project in congressional hearings years later, CIA director William Colby said, "We took a scattergun approach. It is an imperfect universe."

Even so, as a leading military apologist for U.S. imperialism admitted. "The morale, discipline, and battle worthiness of the U.S. Armed Forces are...lower and worse than at

any time in this century and possibly in the history of the United States" (Col. Robert D. Heinle, Jr.; North American Newspaper Alliance; Armed Forces Journal, June 7, 1971).

As the film, *Sir No Sir!*, demonstrates, this massive desertion was caused, in part, by the incessant optimistic outreach that epitomized the civil rights movement and, later, the anti-war movement.

To transform the deep-seated nationalism of the fifties McCarthy era into resistance, it took hundreds of thousands of leaflets and newspapers, usually homemade by creative people drawing on the specifics of their own situations, handed out one-by-one; thousands of impromptu conversations, and direct action—sit-ins, walkouts, small and large demonstrations, on school campuses, at draft boards, and in front of military bases.

One newspaper photograph featured in the film, a picture of teenage Marines sitting in a circle, hands raised in the V-peace sign, with a caption noting they were sentenced to more than a decade of hard labor for refusing to go to Vietnam, was used at recruiting depots, in student unions, and home visits: "What do you think their mothers felt about this?"

Over time the idea that "we are all in the same boat," in the nation, in the Navy, in the brigade, unit, or battalion, became more, "the working class and the brass have nothing in common."

Black troops, in particular, took the lead in recognizing that they had nothing to gain, and a lot to lose, by fighting the enemies of their enemies. The racism that allowed the murders of what may have been four million Vietnamese ("gooks," "slopes," etc) did not play well with black troops who could hear the reverberating, "n-----."

Sir No Sir! does a great job documenting how, through coffee houses, entertainment (yes, Jane Fonda is featured, apparently with no regrets on her part, despite her later religious conversions), and concentrated action, people began to choose not to be instruments of their own oppression, and discovered the joy in resistance, the freedom that comes when self-analysis meshes with concrete circumstances: it's right to resist.

Early resisters like David Duncan and Howard Levy, both once committed military men who openly rebelled, are featured along with surreptitious resisters, like National Security Agency techno-spies who simply stopped translating material for their officers.

There was a price to pay, of course: time in jail or the stockade, trials of innocents, bad discharges, and some lives simply destroyed by the oxymoron, the Code of Military Justice, which sought early scapegoats for what became a flood of rebellion. Social change took considerable sacrifice.

And the war went on, and on, and on, as Johnson, Nixon, and Nobel Peace Prize winner Kissinger prolonged the war, pulled out everything they had trying to win; dropping more bombs on Vietnam than was used on both sides during World War II, invading Cambodia (giving rise to the Khmer Rouge, later U.S. favorites in the United Nations), and finally attempting to simply destroy the entire infrastructure of Vietnam, from factories to the water supply, before the U.S. withdrew.

America left behind enough equipment in Vietnam to make the Vietnamese one of the best supplied militaries in the world. Also left behind were extensive lists of those Vietnamese collaborators who worked with the U.S.—proving once again that the U.S. is an unreliable ally.

On the other hand, though, it was not merely troubled consciences and revulsion at injustice or atrocities that moved the U.S. invading troops. It was also the fact they were being shot, defeated militarily, politically, and morally by a superior force. Eventually, about 58,000 U.S. troops came home in body bags and untold numbers came home in ruins.

As Sir No Sir! hints, those who fought the brass and the profiteering that motivated them stayed far more sane than their comrades who did what they were told, soldiered through their tours, and came home to see millions of people in the streets opposing what they did, while the National Liberation Front continued their inexorable march to Saigon.

Because the powerful documentary is well-researched, yet passionate, the film will be especially useful in classrooms, perhaps offsetting the lies of ambitious military recruiters.

At issue, with great difficulty, is when we become what we do.

When does an apparently innocent, religious, nationalist, teenager who invades another nation, neither in his/her own interest or in the interest of those being invaded; when does this person become a war criminal—when the entire operation is a war crime?

What is the source of the audacity that says, everyone in authority is wrong?

Or, perhaps more on point: Where does the phantasmagoric courage to be the first to say, “Sir, No Sir!” come from, when it is clear someone must be first?

Still, there are some lessons from the era of the anti-war movement.

Here are just three: a small number of people can initiate social change, quantity can turn into quality, that is, handing out one flyer at a time can eventually forge a movement, and last: What you do counts.

The international war of the rich on the poor is intense now. Whose side will you choose?

**Sir! No Sir!:
At A Theatre Near You!
To find it: <http://www.sirnosir.com/>**

What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Send to

contact@militaryproject.org. Name, I.D., withheld on request.
Replies confidential.

OCCUPATION REPORT

The Lying Bullshit Rolls On: [See The Photo Below]

07/03/2006 By Antonio Castaneda, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAMADI, IRAQ

U.S. troops are switching tactics in the fight against insurgents in parts of this rebellious city, replacing confrontation with courtesies in hopes of winning public trust and undercutting support for the militants.

Marines based in western Ramadi now regularly knock on people's front doors instead of storming through.

In more dangerous areas of the city, Marines still use aggressive tactics, such as blowing in doors with shotguns when residents don't immediately answer the door, to evade possible gunmen.

"You've got an enemy that understands the effects of our mistakes," [2nd Lt. Ryan] Hub said, referring to damage caused by U.S. forces that insurgents trumpet in propaganda. "I think part of the battle of Ramadi is the (information campaign) that insurgents are winning."

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"If you're treating everyone like terrorists, kicking down doors and tearing through their homes, that's what you'll get - terrorists," said Cpl. Daniel Tarantino, 21, of Gainesville, Ga.

Even here, though, the tension of war still grates on Marines. One Marine, sweating during an overnight patrol that snaked deep into the city, cursed at a boy in a driveway to keep his lights off.

Another Marine struggled to contain his temper with an Iraqi man who didn't understand English.

MORE:

Good News For The Iraqi Resistance!! **The Propaganda Above Can't Hide Ugly Reality:**



Foreign fighters from the U.S. armed forces occupying an Iraqi citizens home in Ramadi, June 19, 2006. (AP Photo/Jacob Silberberg)

They Made A Town A Concentration Camp, And Called It Peace

7.2.06 San Diego Union-Tribune

Soldiers used to call the main road in Tarmiyah "the racetrack." When patrols came through the Sunni town, north of Baghdad, they gunned their engines and drove as fast as possible, hoping not to be hit by a shower of rocket-propelled grenades.

Today, with U.S. soldiers living in the center of town and keeping insurgents away by ringing the city with triple-stacked concertina wire, Tarmiyah is a success story, for now.

“You Can Imagine How Many Areas Are Still To Be Attacked”

[Thanks to JM, who sent this in]

29 June - 5 July 2006 Nermeen Al-Mufti, Al-Ahram Weekly (Cairo) [Excerpt]

Ali Ismail lives in the vulnerable Al-Shurta neighbourhood in western Baghdad. He said, "Several Iraqi and US sources allege that Al-Qaeda has moved into Al-Adhamiya. That means this neighbourhood will be treated with the same harshness shown in Falluja and Talaafar and other cities similarly accused.

“The strange thing is that the same sources used to claim Al-Qaeda was hiding in Al-Dawra in southern Baghdad.

“Stranger still, those sources say that the Al-Qaeda leadership is in Al-Huweija, west of Kirkuk. You can imagine how many areas are still to be attacked, and how many dozens of people, even hundreds, will have to die.”

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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[Thanks to David Honish, Veterans For Peace, who sent this in.]

Bush Says Patriots Defending America Against Him

“Today, a new generation of American patriots is defending our freedom against determined and ruthless enemies.” George W. Bush, July 03, 2006 Associated Press

NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

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

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

Received:

“We Are Looking For Soldiers From NJ To Interview”

July 02, 2006 From: Elizabeth Weill-Greenberg elizabethwg@gmail.com

Hello,

My name is Elizabeth Weill-Greenberg. I'm co-founder of a new independent newsmagazine based in North Jersey. We're called City Belt, and we're beginning as a monthly magazine and daily (or close to daily) Web site (www.citybelt.org). Our first print edition will be released in September.

My name is Elizabeth Weill-Greenberg. I'm co-founder of a new independent newsmagazine based in North Jersey. We're called City Belt, and we're beginning as a monthly magazine and daily (or close to daily) Web site (www.citybelt.org). Our first print edition will be released in September.

We're going to be an alternative publication with a progressive point of view, committed to social and economic justice.

Right now we are looking for soldiers from NJ to interview for a monthly feature on the Iraq war. (We can keep the soldiers' identities private if necessary.)

PS For more about me please read my bio on the website. I'm a long time NJ resident and just released my first book with The New Press called, 10 Excellent Reasons Not to Join the Military. I've been a news reporter for newspapers in DC and NYC.

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Received:

Free Journal For Troops + More On British Armed Forces Federation

From: Michael Novick
To: GI Special
Sent: July 03, 2006
Re: British Armed Forces Federation Online: Baff.org.uk/Home.html

I really value the work you are doing and the information you provide but the piece on the British military "trade union" was a little misleading.

Their website sounds and looks a lot tamer than the article. They specifically disclaim being a trade union, and though they are open to all ranks without regard to rank, they specifically support the chain of command within the military.

They also disavow any "industrial action" (that is, no strikes).

PS

Could you print a notice that "Turning the Tide: Journal of Anti-Racist Action, Research & Education" is free to active duty members of the military (regular or reserves).

Write to Anti-Racist Action-LA/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART), PO Box 1055, Culver City CA 90232; antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com

GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out

GI Special issues are archived at website <http://www.militaryproject.org> .

The following have posted issues; there may be others:

<http://www.williambowles.info/gispecial/2006/index.html>;

http://robinlea.com/GI_Special/; <http://imagineaworldof.blogspot.com/>; <http://gi-special.iraq-news.de>; http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi_special/;

<http://www.uruknet.info/?p=-6&l=e>; <http://www.albasrah.net/magalat/english/qi-special.htm>

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