

GI SPECIAL 4K17:

**“If You Ever Send Us To
Fight In Such A
Pointless Lie Again We
Will Have Our
Vengeance”**



Spencer Batchelder

“Homecoming”
A Film Review

[Thanks to Veterans Against The Iraq War]

November 14, 2006, Film Review by Spencer Batchelder, The Life & Times of
Spencer Batchelder, [www.halfjack.typepad.com]

"Probably the best piece of political propaganda ever" was the first words to come
after completing this wonderful propaganda piece disguised as a horror flick.

What amazed me the most was the fact that this movie was sold at AAFES (Army
& Air Force Exchange) of all places.

The movie with characters spoofing President George Bush, Ann Coulter, and Pat Robertson is about a presidential election where the incumbent is battling an unpopular war, sound familiar, and to make matters worse dead soldiers start to rise from their graves' to vote.

The Administration claims the soldiers will support their mission in full but then the zombies hit the polls they tell a different story.

I won't tell you the entire plot I will leave it up to you to watch but if you hate Ann Coulter as much as I do you will enjoy the various attacks on her character such as the skank and carnival freak show references.

So if you hate the war you will love this movie, personally my selection and I found it to be amazing.

Check it out from your local video store today.

But the best part was the finishing line when the zombies march with fireworks and flags waving in the background saying, "If you ever send us to fight in such a pointless lie again we will have our vengeance."



IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Soldier Killed In Diyala

17 November 2006 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory
RELEASE No. 20061117-01

TIKRIT, Iraq: A Task Force Lightning Soldier attached to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, was killed by small arms fire Thursday during combat operations in Diyala province.

Marine With Lincoln Connection Killed

Nov 16, 2006 By The Associated Press

Lance Cpl. Mike Scholl, a U.S. Marine and 2002 graduate of Lincoln High School, was killed in Iraq earlier this week.

A friend of Scholl's, Erich Kaiser of Lincoln, said he received news Tuesday that Scholl had died from injuries caused by a roadside bomb.

Scholl is the son of Deb Chandler of Lincoln, Kaiser said.

And he was a new father of a baby girl, Addison.

Scholl married his wife Melissa a day before he left on his first overseas tour in Afghanistan, Kaiser said.

Addison was born 11 days after he left on a second tour, this time to Iraq, in October. Scholl never had a chance to see the baby in person, Kaiser said. The young family lives in Vancouver, Washington.

Kaiser and Scholl forged a friendship six years ago through their shared interest in fast cars and the two were members of a Lincoln car club, Camaros Inc.

Kaiser was notified by friends who spoke with Scholl's best friend, former Camaros Inc. member and fellow overseas soldier Jason Hilker.

Scholl was extremely responsible and took an active leadership role in the club, even though he was a just teenager then, Kaiser said.

"He was just one of those kids. He brought a whole new kind of life to our club," he said.

Scholl loved fast cars, especially the muscle cars from the 1960s to 1970s, Kaiser said.

"He seemed like he lived the life of a 30 year old. He just had this great level head on him," he said.

Scholl worked in Lincoln for a year or so after high school, Kaiser said, and joined the Marine Corps in 2004.

He was a machine gunner, and he had to convince the Marine Corps to take him because he had pre-existing health conditions that initially kept him out, Kaiser said. "It was something he wanted to do that badly," he said.

Scholl had knee surgery before he left for Iraq and recovered more quickly than expected. Perhaps he could have left later with a different unit, Kaiser said, but he wanted to serve with the soldiers he knew.

Kaiser said Scholl e-mailed him about two times a week throughout both overseas tours.

"I always thought, nothing will happen to him because I only know just this one person in Iraq, and there are thousands of soldiers over there," Kaiser said. "There's no way it could happen to him."

The men had their last e-mail exchange Friday. Scholl wasn't able to watch the Husker game against Texas A&M and wanted to know how it came out.

Kaiser said a memorial service will be held Monday at a Lincoln church, though he was not sure what time. He said Scholl will be buried in Washington at the request of his wife.

Maryland Soldier Killed In Iraq

November 16, 2006 The WBAL Channel

IJAMSVILLE, Md.: Another Maryland soldier has been killed in Iraq.

WHAG In Hagerstown has confirmed that 24-year-old Lt. John Ryan Dennison, of Ijamsville, Frederick County, died in Iraq on Wednesday.

Dennison graduated from Urbana High School in 2000. He attended West Point before going on active duty with the Army.

Dennison's mother told WHAG NBC25 that Dennison graduated in the same 2004 West Point class as Emmitsburg native Lt. Robert Seidel who also died in Iraq this year.

One of his high school teachers said he was a serious student but also knew how to have fun.

Dennison's wife, Haley, is on active duty in Afghanistan.

Panama City Beach Soldier Loses Legs In Iraq

November 15, 2006 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla.: A soldier who earned a Purple Heart during his first tour of duty in Iraq has been seriously injured while serving a second tour, his family said.

Army Sgt. Joshua Cope lost both his legs and injured his right arm when an improvised explosive device exploded near his Humvee on Monday, said Cope's mother Linda Cope. She said several other soldiers were killed in the attack.

"I thank God he's alive," Linda Cope said. "Pray for him and the men that got killed. Pray for us."

Joshua Cope was scheduled to be transferred to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., his mother said. He was under sedation and was not aware of the situation, family members said.

Cope is a member of the Germany-based 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. During his first tour, Cope earned a Purple Heart after getting shot in the thigh, Linda Cope said. Her son also was awarded an Army Commendation Medal with a "V" device for valor for dragging his team leader from a burning Humvee.

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



A 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team soldier in central Baghdad's Karradah district, Oct. 24, 2006. (AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

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)

TROOP NEWS

RESISTANCE WHERE IT COUNTS:

**HOW ANTI-WAR SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN IRAQ
ORGANIZED AGAINST THE WAR ON THE FRONT LINES**

**JEFF ENGLEHART, JOE HATCHER and GARETT REPPENHAGEN
1st Infantry Division, Diyala Province, Iraq, 2004 - 2005**



**THERE HAS TO BE A POINT
WHEN WE REACH A HIGH
ENOUGH NUMBER OF
TROOPS IN OUR PEACE
EFFORT THAT A UNIFIED
BOYCOTT OF ALL MILITARY
ACTION WILL HAVE A
DESIRED EFFECT**

- SOLDIER X

Find out what you can do to support the G.I. Movement!

**JUDSON MEMORIAL CHURCH
55 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH, NEW YORK CITY
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2006**

**SPONSORED BY: THE MILITARY PROJECT,
NEW YORK CITY LABOR AGAINST THE WAR (NYCLAW) AND
IRAQ VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR (IVAW)-NYC CHAPTER**

ENDORSERS:

**CITIZEN SOLDIER, GI SPECIAL, MILITARY FAMILIES SPEAK OUT,
TRAVELING SOLDIER, VETERANS FOR PEACE (NYC - CHAPTER 34),
AFTER DOWNING STREET, BRING THE RUCKUS (NYC), CONSUMERSFORPEACE.ORG, INTERNATIONAL
SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION, LEFT TURN, NOT IN OUR NAME (NYC), WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT@MILITARYPROJECT.ORG

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



The casket of Army Spc. Nicholas Rogers at Deltona Memorial Gardens in Deltona, Fla., Nov. 2, 2006. Rogers, who was in the Army's 10th Mountain Division, was killed Oct. 22 in Iraq. (AP Photo/Nigel Cook, Pool)

Soldier Sentenced To 90 Years In Iraqi Rape Case

11/16/2006 By RYAN LENZ, Associated Press Writer, The Associated Press

A soldier was sentenced Thursday to 90 years in prison with the possibility of parole for conspiring to rape a 14-year-old Iraqi girl and kill her and her family.

Spc. James P. Barker, one of four Fort Campbell soldiers accused in the March 12 rape and killings, pleaded guilty Wednesday and agreed to testify against the others to avoid the death penalty.

"This court sentences you to be confined for the length of your natural life, with the eligibility of parole," said Lt. Col. Richard Anderson, the military judge presiding over the court-martial.

Under the plea agreement, Barker got a life sentence but will not serve more than 90 years in prison, Anderson said. He will be eligible for parole in 20 years.

Barker, 23, showed no reaction when the sentence was read. Afterward, he smoked a cigarette outside as a military bailiff watched over him. He grinned but made no remarks as reporters passed by.

Earlier Thursday, Barker wept during his closing statement, accepted responsibility for the rape and killings and said violence he encountered left him "angry and mean" when it came to Iraqis.

"I want the people of Iraq to know that I did not go there to do the terrible things that I did," Barker said, his voice quivering as he began to weep. "I do not ask anyone to forgive me today."

Barker confessed Wednesday to the crimes as part of a plea agreement to avoid a possible death penalty that requires him to testify against the others.

In his closing statement, Barker said Iraq made him angry and violent.

"To live there, to survive there, I became angry and mean. The mean part of me made me strong on patrols. It made me brave in fire fights," Barker said. "I loved my friends, my fellow soldiers and my leaders, but I began to hate everyone else in Iraq."

During testimony intended to show the judge that Barker could be rehabilitated, Barker's fellow soldiers described weeks with little support and sleep while manning distant checkpoints.

Capt. William Fischbach, the lead prosecutor, told the court that such conditions were no excuse for Barker, who led the group to the family's house, and that no one deserved such unspeakable horrors.

"This burned-out corpse that used to be a 14-year-old girl never fired bullets or lobbed mortars," Fischbach said as he held pictures of the crime scene. "Society should not have to bear the risk of the accused among them ever again."

The killings in Mahmoudiya, a village about 20 miles south of Baghdad, were among the worst in a series of alleged attacks on civilians and other abuses by military personnel in Iraq.

The defendants are accused of burning the girl's body to conceal the crime.

Sgt. Paul E. Cortez, 24, and Pfc. Jesse V. Spielman, 22, of Chambersburg, Pa., members of the 101st Airborne Division along with Barker, have also been charged. Cortez has deferred entering a plea, and Spielman will be arraigned in December. Pfc. Bryan L. Howard, 19, also deferred entering a plea at his arraignment in October.

Private Steven Green, 21, pleaded not guilty last week to civilian charges including murder and sexual assault. He was discharged from the Army for a "personality disorder" before the allegations became known, and prosecutors have yet to say whether they will pursue the death penalty against him.

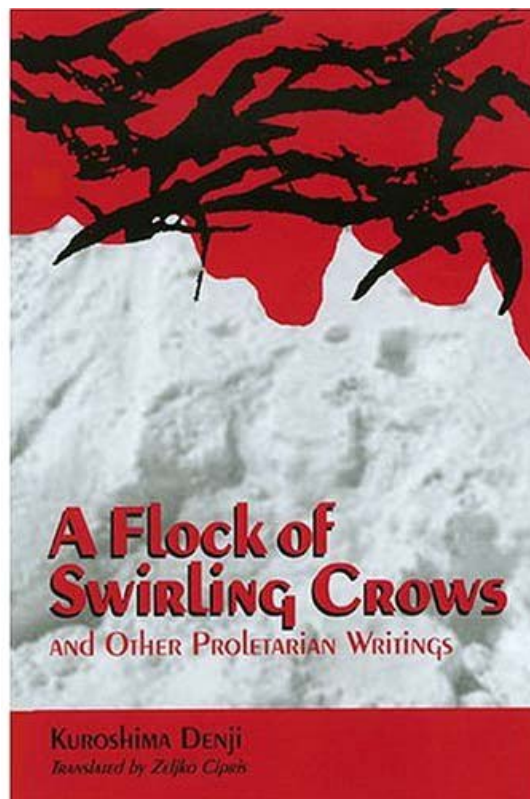
In earlier testimony, Barker described in detail how he raped Abeer Qassim al-Janabi with Cortez and Green before Green killed the girl, her younger sister and parents.

"Cortez pushed her to the ground. I went towards the top of her and kind of held her hands down while Cortez proceeded to lift her dress up," he said. "Around that time I heard shots coming from a room next door."

Howard, Cortez and Spielman could face the death penalty if convicted. Cortez and Spielman are both being held in confinement, and Howard is restricted to post.

Barker did not name Spielman and Howard as participants in the rape and murders but said Spielman was at the house when the assault took place and had come knowing what the others intended to do. Prosecutors on Thursday said Howard had been left behind at a checkpoint.

Ishikawa and Kuroshima would understand: insert troops into a hell on earth and there's no way to prevent atrocities. Yet the real fiends in their capital suites are never spattered with a single drop of blood. Solidarity, Z



Never Mind About Iraq:

“Pentagon Says Smoking Kills Soldiers At An Alarming Rate”

[Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in. He writes: "Dr. David N. Tornberg, deputy assistant secretary of defense for clinical and program policy explains that smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in America's armed forces." What a liar!]

November 15, 2006 Matthew Borghese, All Headline News Staff Writer

The Pentagon is supporting the 29th annual American Cancer Society "Great American Smokeout" as a way to help soldiers quit smoking.

Dr. David N. Tornberg, deputy assistant secretary of defense for clinical and program policy explains that smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in America's armed forces.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

UNTOUCHABLE TRUTH



From: Richard Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: November 16, 2006 6:41 PM
Subject: UNTOUCHABLE TRUTH

UNTOUCHABLE TRUTH

You do not bring the enemy to the peace table by just killing military combatants.

You ultimately bring the enemy to the peace table by killing innocent civilians.

They are military targets.

The primary goal of the aggressor nation is to break the spirit of the people, and its ability to defend its homeland.

This strategy is as old as warfare itself.

**Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71**

If anyone wants to see graphic images of what the U.S. Government is doing in Iraq, please Google: U.S. Atrocities In Iraq.

There are hundreds of pictures to grieve over, but at least you will be looking at the truth.

So, if you get into an argument with someone who supports this war, tell them where to go.

A picture is worth a 1,000 words, and when doubters look at hundreds of pictures, the truth becomes ferocious.

**Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran**

**Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.
Martin Luther King, Jr.**



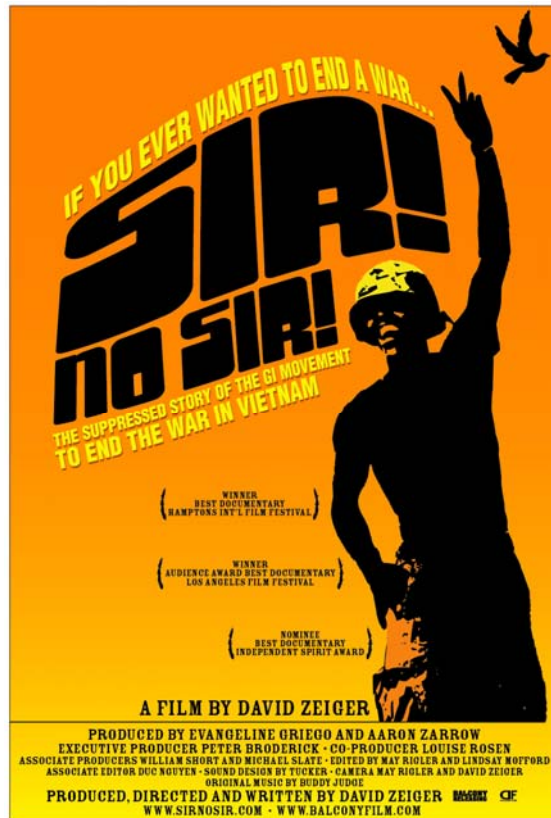
PS: Most U.S. atrocities in Vietnam were committed by airstrikes and artillery.

Photos 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)

What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send to contact@militaryproject.org:. Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential. Same to unsubscribe.

“The Largely Unknown Story About The GI Resistance Movement Against The Vietnam War”

“Regular Protests Outside The Gates Of Travis Created A Powerful Dynamic Inside The Base”



January 07, 2006 By Bruce Gagnon, Space4peace.blogspot.com

Mary Beth and I went to Waterville, Maine today to see the new film Sir! No Sir! which was being shown at the annual film festival there.

It is a documentary telling the largely unknown story about the GI resistance movement against the Vietnam war from the mid-to-late 60's through the early 70's.

Using interviews, archival footage, and news clips the film does a great job of showing just how big and powerful the movement of GI opposition to the war was.

One story was about the 1,000 person detention camp in Vietnam where largely black GI resisters were imprisoned due to their opposition to the war. The troops, severely mistreated in the jail, went on a rampage and burned the place down.

Sailors assigned to the Kitty Hawk aircraft carrier in San Diego, soon to be shipped out to Vietnam, started a campaign to have their fellow sailors and citizens in the community at large publicly vote (outside shopping malls, movie theaters, bars, etc) on whether the Kitty Hawk should go back to the war or not.

The vote was overwhelming NO and forced the Naval commander and politicians to hold news conferences saying the Kitty Hawk would sail back to the war. The debate the GI's created was inspiring.

Untold stories like this run throughout the film and reveal just how powerful the GI resistance movement was.

At my own base in California, Travis AFB, which was the key airlift base for the Vietnam war it was there that I was exposed to the GI resistance movement which helped turn me from a Young Republican for Nixon in 1968 to an anti-war activist by mid-1971.

Regular protests outside the gates of Travis created a powerful dynamic inside the base that forced the 15,000 permanently stationed troops on our base to constantly debate the merits of the war.

This is why today I am such a believer in protests at military bases and weapons production installations.

Another event the film features are the "Fuck the Army" tours that went to bases around the country and overseas featuring popular entertainers like Jane Fonda, Donald Sutherland, and Country Joe and the Fish. Fonda is interviewed in Sir! NO Sir! and has pledged to help promote it as a tool to build opposition to the war in Iraq.

In a recent interview about the film, filmmaker David Zeiger said, "As you see in the film, there were CBS Nightly News stories about the GI Movement. There is a segment in the film of Walter Cronkite talking about the GI underground press.

"In the state of Texas, where there was a very large anti-war movement in Austin and Houston, and the center of the Texas movement for a time was at Fort Hood. The armed forces demonstrations were major events for the whole state.

"I think people knew generally that there was opposition in the military, but they didn't know the details or how widespread it was. But it was certainly more prominent than people remember it. It has been thoroughly wiped out of any histories of the war."

Do yourself a favor. Make arrangements to show this new documentary film in your community.

Try to help spread the word around any military installations so that GI's, now on their way to Iraq, get to see it as well.

Sir! No Sir!:

At A Theatre Near You!
To find it: <http://www.sirnosir.com/>

**The Sir! No Sir! DVD is on sale now, exclusively at
www.sirnosir.com.**

Also available will be a Soundtrack CD (which includes the entire song from the FTA Show, "Soldier We Love You"), theatrical posters, tee shirts, and the DVD of "A Night of Ferocious Joy," a film about the first hip-hop antiwar concert against the "War on Terror."

Do you have a friend or relative in the service? Forward GI Special 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 or write to: The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657

Circle Of Angels

From: Dennis Serdel
To: GI Special
Sent: November 16, 2006
Subject: Circle Of Angels

By Dennis Serdel, Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade, purple heart, Veterans For Peace, Vietnam Veterans Against The War, United Auto Workers GM Retiree, in Perry, Michigan

Circle Of Angels

**A circle of angels fly high where it is hard to breathe
hard to feel warm, weary from flight
would like to spread their feathery wings
stop the air descend to land through unlit clouds
through foggy darkness home,
to the home they remember they left
before Vietnam after one year, one lands
a Vietnam angel from hell stands at the doorsteps
of home weary and tired with a purple heart
that drips real blood, that leaves real scars
an infantry badge, a 50 chopper combat badge**

which glows with fear remembering how some men
laugh nervously while others say nothing
and some genuflect, your different son,
your different brother, your not the same person
you've changed they think to themselves
while they go through the motions
of a false welcome of a person they once knew
but they're scared of him now
so the stranger lifts off beating his wings
like a chopper with too many wounded
he can not rise above the clouds
so he circles with the angels
he can barely see in the foggy darkness
above his home.

The Green Elephant



Cali brother from Delta Co., 4th Bn., 9th Inf, 25th Inf. Div. lighting up a cartridge, R & R
Cu Chi style

From: David Cline, Vietnam Veterans Against The War
To: GI Special
Sent: November 14, 2006
Subject: Drugs in Iraq & Vietnam

[Thanks to David Cline, Vietnam Veterans Against The War, who sent this in. He writes:
Off of the article about the 10 foot pot plants in Afghanistan that GR sent out, he and I
have been having a little email dialogue about drug use in Iraq and in Vietnam.

[Below is an email and pix above I sent him yesterday that I thought you would enjoy.]

ARVN's [Army Of The Republic Of Vietnam: collaborators for the U.S. occupation] used to sell weed and their old ladies to us. We had contempt for them for the way they did their women.

We didn't have rolling papers or even know how to roll but we used to empty out a cigarette and then fill it with cleaned pot, we used to call that "loading a cartridge".

Other thing we did was use a pipe and one guy would blow on the bowl and we'd stick the stem into a jungle shirt cuff.

The other person getting the hit would put his face in the armpit and stay in there for several minutes. Definitely caused a change of attitude. We called that the "green elephant"

OCCUPATION PALESTINE/LEBANON

Zionist Terrorists Knowingly Killed Gaza Civilians: Military Chiefs Were Warned That Change Of Safety Margin For Gunners Risked Slaughtering The Innocent

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

November 12, 2006 Peter Beaumont, foreign affairs editor, The Observer

Israeli military commanders drastically reduced the 'safety' margins that separate artillery targets from the built-up civilian areas of Gaza earlier this year, despite being warned that the new policy risked increasing Palestinian civilian deaths and injuries, The Observer can reveal.

The warning, delivered in Israel's high court by six human rights groups, came after the Israeli Defence Force reduced the so-called 'safety range' in Gaza from a 300-metre separation from built-up areas to just 100 metres - within the kill radius of its 155mm high-explosive shells, generally regarded as being between 50 and 150 metres.

Disclosure of the new shelling policy, which went largely unnoted at the time, has emerged in international outcry over the latest artillery incident by Israeli gunners shelling Gaza - the killing of 19 members of an extended family in the Gaza town of Beit Hanoun.

It was the highest Palestinian civilian toll in a single incident since the current conflict erupted in September 2000. The deaths were caused when what witnesses described as a volley of tank shells hit a built-up civilian area.

The revelation follows reports that the shelling of Gaza has continued despite the recent recognition by senior Israeli military officers, including the head of the IDF's Southern Command, that indirect artillery fire (ie, firing without seeing the target) was largely pointless in countering Palestinian rocket fire.

As more details of the Beit Hanoun incident have emerged, including Israel's admission that the shells that killed the family were in response to the firing of Qassam rockets, probably from a car driven into the area by militants the previous day, they have raised more questions than they have answered.

The IDF has claimed a fault in the artillery radar system's co-ordinates for the missiles changed the margin of error from 25 to 200m, but that still does not explain why it waited until the following day to return fire to a general area - a policy that the Israeli peace group B'Tselem describes as a 'war crime'.

As well as provoking international concern, the Beit Hanoun killings have pushed into the open deep misgivings within the Israeli military itself over its use of artillery - and the capabilities of Israeli gunners - both in Gaza, and in the recent war in Lebanon, as an effective response to missile fire.

As a point of comparison, between June 2004 and July 2006, 14 civilians (six of them minors) were killed by Qassam gunfire fired by Palestinians into Israeli territory and at settlements in the Gaza Strip.

In the four weeks from 26 June-24 July this year, however, IDF actions in the Gaza Strip to end the Qassam rocket fire caused the death of 126 Palestinians, 63 of whom did not participate in the hostilities. Twenty-nine of these were minors. According to the UN, since the end of June 450 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza.

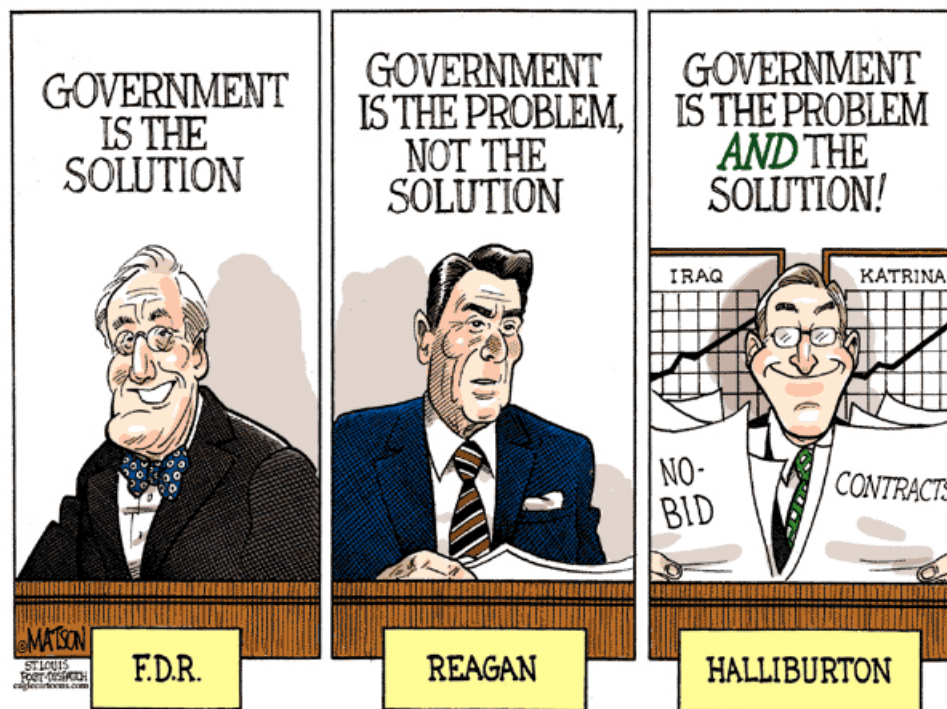
Among those who have been loudly critical of the Israeli tactics in Gaza following Beit Hanoun is Lt Col Ron Ben Yishai, defence correspondent of the newspaper Yediot Aharonot. 'Artillery is a weapon system designed to "cover" territory and not hit specific targets, particularly when it is used as "preventative fire" at territories rather than a specified target,' he wrote last week.

'These facts are well known to IDF officials, particularly after the recent Lebanon war when about 130,000 artillery shells were fired. Now it is clear that the effectiveness of this weapon against Hizbollah fighters was marginal, while the economic cost was astronomical and reached millions of dollars

'Even before the Lebanon war it was proven that artillery fire failed in preventing or even minimising Qassam rocket fire from the Gaza Strip. This is the reason why the IDF Southern Command decided recently ... to stop, or at least highly limit, the use of preventative artillery fire.'

[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation by foreign terrorists, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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

Democrat and Republican Politicians:

“Two Wings Of The Same War Party

“

November 12, 2006 by Chuck Zlatkin, Rightiswrong.com

It is clear that the polls didn't lie. The majority of the American people was opposed to the war in Iraq and expressed themselves strongly on Election Day.

Shouldn't we rightfully expect a change in the Iraq War?

Not so fast.

Throughout the entirety of this war, the House voted overwhelmingly for every war appropriations bill, while the Senate continuously voted unanimous support for war funding.

There are marked differences in ideology, policy and practice between Democrats and Republicans when it comes to most issues.

When it comes to funding the war in Iraq to the tune of \$340 billion, they are just two wings of the same War Party.

Unless they can muster the will to stop voting for funding the war will continue.

Democrats from Howard Dean to Nancy Pelosi to John Conyers are calling for restraint when it comes to actions directed at the impeachment of Bush or the immediate withdrawal of troops.

There is no talk of cutting funding for the war.

As far as the leadership of the Democratic Party is concerned, an immediate end to the war or setting a date for withdrawal is impolitic at this time.

This is no time for anti-war people to kick back and relax.

Now is the time to increase anti-war activity. Now is the time to hold elected officials responsible for their positions on the war.

We must be more vocal and unrelenting.

The mandate is clear; the American people want the war to end and the troops to come home now.

We have to convince the Democrats that anti-war fervor was not just a means to power.

Ending the war is their mission; and if they fail, there will be hell to pay.

[True about the Democrats, but neither lobbying Democrats, or Republicans, or elections, stopped the Vietnam War. Thinking so is a delusion. When the troops refused to fight the Vietnam War any more, it stopped. Anything less than outreach to today's troops is pissing in the wind. T]

All Honor To Their Memory



Carl Bunin, Peace History November 13-19

November 17, 1989

Riot police in Prague, the capital of Czechoslovakia, arrested hundreds of people taking part in a protest march. More than 15,000 people, mostly students, took part in the demonstration demanding democratic rights, the biggest show of public dissent for two decades.

CLASS WAR REPORTS

**Black Woman Accused Of
'Lynching' White Police Officer:
Family Experiences 'Nightmare' At
Pomona Fair;**

Racial Slurs, Insults Send Family To Court



11.13.06 By Shirley Hawkins, Our World Los Angeles Staff Writer

What was supposed to be a day of family fun at the Pomona County Fair swiftly turned traumatic for Yolanda Davis and her three children when they were allegedly attacked by a police officer after a verbal confrontation with two fair goers.

Davis and her children, 15-year-old Daqunisha DeBose, 9-year-old Kimira Pamphlin and 5-year-old Trevor Pamphlin, were standing in line to take photos when Davis chided her daughter DeBose for “acting out” at the park.

According to Davis, a white couple standing nearby overheard her talking to her daughter. “I was scolding her about her attitude,” said Davis, who said that Daqunisha had been pouting all day. “This white lady overheard me talking to my daughter,” Davis recalls.

Davis said she was shocked at the next words that came out of the woman’s mouth. “She said, ‘How dare you talk to your child like that, you stupid nigg*r?’

“I looked around and she was coming towards me,” recalls Davis. “And I said, ‘Excuse me, are you talking to me?’ And she said, ‘Yes.’ I said, ‘No, you’re not. You need to mind your own business.’”

Davis recalls that the argument got heated. “The white lady and I were verbally going back and forth,” she said. “The man who was with this woman said, ‘Y’all are ignorant,’ referring to black people. And I said, “No, you’re ignorant because you’re in my business.”

As the words became more heated Davis said that several security guards approached and tried to calm the situation. “The white man kept attacking me with racial slurs and he was calling me ‘ignorant’ and stupid.’

We were trying to leave the park and the security officers were telling the man to 'shut up.'

"We were waiting for the security officers to open the gate so that we could leave. The white lady started yelling, 'Call the police!'" recalls Davis. "The white couple did not leave, they kept talking and the argument escalated."

Davis said that the security guard then focused his attention on the white couple and told them to shut up.

Davis said that the argument continued and the security guard talked on his walkie-talkie and summoned the Pomona Police, one of whom was an officer James Gibson.

"The man who had been verbally attacking me would not move," recalls Davis. "He was blocking the gate. I tried to push past the man and the woman," said Davis, who said the couple continued to be verbally abusive.

Davis said that she could not believe what happened next.

"An officer Gibson arrived. I told him, 'Why don't you tell the white couple to shut up?'" But Gibson, who Davis describes at 6 ft. 4 and 240 pounds, allegedly said, "Shut up and leave the park." Davis repeated, "Why don't you make them leave?"

Davis said that Gibson allegedly replied, "F*ck this." "He handcuffed me and yanked me up by the handcuffs," recalls Davis. "He grabbed me by my right arm and slammed me to the ground, hurting the left side of my face.

"I'm only 5 ft. 4 and weigh 145 pounds," she said. "The force of this police officer's assault caused me to hit the concrete and bite down on my mouth, filling it with blood. He handcuffed me so tight, it left bruises on my skin.

"Then he threw his left knee into my spine and placed his right knee into my face, causing me to have a black eye. He also left me with a shoe print on my left arm. As I was lying on the ground, I was saying, 'Why are you doing me like this?' I just had surgery 60 days ago. I had a tummy tuck and liposuction.' I told him, 'Please, I'm asthmatic.'"

Davis began shedding tears as she recalled what happened next.

Davis alleges that Gibson repeatedly said, "Shut up, you nigg*r b*tch."

He treated me like a wild animal instead of a human being," said Davis.

"His knee was so deep in my face that his polyester pants took the skin off my eye, causing me to have a black eye. All this happened while my younger children stood and viewed me and this police officer."

In the meantime, Davis' daughter Daqunisha was repeatedly yelling at the officer to leave her mother alone.

“Then this officer Gibson ran over to my daughter Daqunisha and grabbed the bottom of her shirt then grabbed her right arm. He socked her in the face and began choking her around her neck. After he put handcuffs on my baby, he placed them so tight that she lost the feeling in her wrist. There were witnesses and they were saying, ‘Leave her alone--she’s just a little girl.’”

Davis alleges that Gibson then slammed Daqunisha’s head into the porta potty, causing damage to her braces.

Davis said that the nightmare continued when they were taken to the Pomona Fair police substation. “They booked us and fingerprinted us and charged us with lynching,” said Davis.

“I didn’t even know what lynching was,” Davis recalled. “If you’re the first one on the ground, how can you be accused of lynching?” said Davis. “I was crying because I knew that I had been mistreated worse than a dog.”

Davis subsequently filed a citizen’s complaint and Joe Romero, chief of police for the Pomona Police Department said that the complaint is being actively investigated. “I personally met with Ms. Davis and her sister and introduced her to internal affairs investigator Sgt. Dexter Cole,” said Romero. “We are actively investigating this incident and we are conducting a formal investigation.”

A Pomona policeman who is acquainted with the case but did not want to be identified stated that after Davis’ arrest, the report was presented to the Los Angeles District Attorney’s office in Pomona. “The district attorney’s office felt that there were enough criminal violations to charge Ms. Davis to have her appear in court,” he said.

Latoya Polk, who was a witnesses to the incident and subsequently submitted a written statement, recalls officer Gibson saying to Davis, “‘You’re going to jail.’” “Everything became chaotic,” recalls Polk. “My perception was that this incident involved unnecessary roughness and force upon a woman and a child that could have resulted in bodily injury.”

Liegia Henson, a family friend, said she was “shocked” when she heard about the incident. “The situation with the police department and Yolanda is out of hand and needs to be dealt with properly,” she said. “Anything else would be another injustice.”

Davis appeared at the Pomona courthouse on Oct. 17. “The judge said, ‘You have two felony charges against you,’ said Davis. ‘One is for lynching and the other is for battery of a police officer.’”

Davis’ sister, Vickie Smith, who was not at the fair when the incident occurred, said that the court set Davis’ bail at \$50,000. “When my sister went back to court on Oct. 17 and they found out that she was also being charged with battery of a police officer, they raised her bail from \$50,000 to \$100,000,” said Smith, who said that Davis, who runs a day care center, raised the bail money by using the center as collateral.

Davis said that Gibson took her daughter to the La Padrinas youth detention center and charged her with a 405A felony of lynching and battery of a police officer where she was held for 12 hours.

Davis will appear at the Pomona courthouse on Nov. 13 at a preliminary hearing. "I don't even know what will happen at this hearing," said Davis.

Najee Ali, founder of Project Islamic Hope, who is an advocate for the family said, "We're organizing a courthouse rally for Davis outside of the Pomona courthouse Monday morning, Nov. 13 at 8:30 a.m. When Yolanda told me what happened, it brought tears to my eyes. The charges, especially the lynching charge, is ludicrous," said Ali. "I promised that I would fight for Davis and her daughter's justice. I am asking the public to come out and join us."

Smith is incensed by the incident. "How is it possible to lynch anybody when Yolanda was the first to be thrown on the ground, then was handcuffed with the officer's knee in her face and his foot on her arm?" said Smith.

"We want officer Gibson's badge on the table," said Smith.

"How can you be in law enforcement and protect and serve people if you're a racist? If this officer had been a prudent officer, he would have said, 'What seems to be the trouble?' Instead, he grabs my sister and my niece, body slams them to the ground and uses racial slurs."

The incident has left the Davis family traumatized. "Since they charged me with lynching and battery of a police officer, I have been numb," said Davis. "I don't know why I was charged with lynching," said Davis. "On Sept. 16, our freedom and our rights were taken from us. We're all scared," said Davis. I know I did not do anything. I was the lynchee and I couldn't defend myself. I cry and I hurt everyday."

Lynching derives from the name of Charles Lynch and was used in the post-reconstruction South against blacks, often to intimidate other blacks from exercising their civil rights.

Asked what type of justice she would like to see, Davis said, "I want Gibson not to lie. I want his badge taken away from him," said Davis. "How can he serve the community when he's prejudiced? What could we do to him? How could he stay on the police force when he's whipping and beating people and using racial slurs?"

Davis said that the incident has had an adverse effect on her children. "All four of us are seeing a psychiatrist," said Davis, who said that she has never been to jail in her life. "My babies are traumatized," said the mother. "They are sleeping with me at night.

"My daughter Kimira was pulling her hair out when she was witnessing me being brutalized and she said that she still sees Gibson's face at night. My son Trevor bites his nails and has been wetting the bed. He said he's scared of police and he cannot trust them because they beat up his mom and sister," said Davis.

Received:

Kucinich

From: Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War
To: GI Special
Sent: November 16, 2006

On occasion, while reading your great newsletter, I feel that comments made against certain politicians are unwarranted.

The most recent and egregious of these came November 16th in an article titled, "The Role That People Like Kucinich Play In Trying To Tie The Anti-War Movement To A Pro-War Party." I feel these attacks against Congressman Kucinich are baseless, especially when given the evidence.

Kucinich has been one of the few proud, strong anti-war leaders that we have had. He has given support to almost every resolution put forward aimed at getting us out of Iraq, making sure there are no permanent bases, etc...

He is also one of the very few who have voted against funding for the continuation of the war on every occasion.

Finally, he has worked tirelessly to create a cabinet level Department of Peace, aimed at offering peaceful solutions to our current military industrial society and war. Feel free to check his record at the Peace Majority website peacemajority.org/scorecard/scorecard.jsp?person_legislator_ID=241.

He earned a 99% rating, but I think his commendable work speaks for itself.

REPLY:

His work certainly does speak for itself.

During the 2004 election campaign, when Kerry was condemning Bush for delaying the offensive that later destroyed Falluja and butchered its' citizens, and when Kerry was demanding that 40,000 more U.S. troops be sent to Iraq, Kucinich was out telling everybody to vote for Kerry.

That, however, was then, and this is now. Holding old political positions against people is really stupid. People can and do change their minds, and learn from experience.

Today, what he is for is more dead U.S. troops and more dead Iraqis.

His web site says so: www.kucinich.us/issues [Iraq] His plan:

"The United Nations, through its member nations, will commit 130,000 peacekeepers to Iraq on a temporary basis until the Iraqi people can maintain their own security.

"UN troops will rotate into Iraq, and all U.S. troops will come home."

So, until his bullshit plan is adopted by the U.N., which, of course will never happen, the troops stay.

His vote against war money means nothing when the party he supports and defends and tells people to vote for is committed to continuing the war. He plays the role of the Judas Goat, chumping the innocent, as the article criticized in this letter pointed out quite accurately.

Let him break with and condemn his beloved Imperial Democratic War Party for the pack of troop-killing traitors they are and let his web site proudly proclaim it. Let him join with Iraq Veterans Against The War to say he is for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq. Then there can be recognition that he is a professional politician worth respecting, and not just another treacherous DC rat.

When and if that happens, it will be an honor to acclaim him on the front page of GI Special. Don't hold your breath.

Unless and until that happens, he's up to his neck in blood with the rest of the politicians who oppose bringing *all* the troops home *now*.

Not another day, not another life, and nothing less. T



BRING THEM HOME NOW! Iraq Veterans Against the War: Staff Sgt Dennis Kyne, Cap't Chad Hetman, Sgt Steve Mortillo, Sp4 Toby Hartzbarger, Sgt Mark LaChance, Combat Medic Patrick Resta. VETERANS' DAY RALLY 11/11/06; BpVETforPEACE

Internet Café For Troops Opens At Ft. Drum

From: Cindy Mercante
To: thomasfbarton@earthlink.net
Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2006 8:53 PM
Subject: Re: Notice your info

Hello, just thought I would share our first of its kind since Vietnam...

A sharing space, an information buffet and a cup of joe...or some beverage warm or cold!!

Different Drummer Internet Cafe a product of Citizen Soldier (in NYC) is opened near Fort Drum, Watertown NY in the Historical Paddock Arcade, one of the country's oldest indoor malls... covered mall!

We are opened to provide info and entertainment in a warm environment and boy do we need warm up here in the North Country!!

Anyways, just thought I would share our info and concerns...continuing to provide a service for the service of our servicemembers...

www.differentdrummercafe.org or email at gicoffeehouseddc@yahoo.com

Thank you for your attention!

Cinthia
Cafe Coordinator

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head. The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

**Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004**

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

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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://qi-special.iraq-news.de>; http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/;

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

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