

## **GI SPECIAL 4L11:**



Fall 2006 The Veteran, Vietnam Veterans Against The War

# **U.S. Support For War Hits New Low: Opposition Bigger Than Vietnam**

**12/12/2006 (AFP) Support for the war has reached new lows in the United States, according to a CBS poll released Monday.**

The poll found that 62 percent of Americans said sending troops to fight in Iraq was an error, while 34 percent still backed the decision.

According to the Gallup organization, which conducted the poll for the US television network, not even during the Vietnam conflict did so many Americans oppose the war.

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## **Traitors Confer On How To Defy Will Of U.S. Citizens And Kill More U.S. Troops And Irais**



The traitors Bush, Cheney, and Pace speaks with reporters at the Pentagon, Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2006, following a meeting to discuss how to keep the war in Iraq going, despite the will of majority of U.S. Citizens who want it stopped. (AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

**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 email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657**

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

## **Four Marines Killed In Al Anbar**

12 December 2006 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory  
RELEASE No. 20061212-14

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – One Marine assigned to Regimental Combat Team 7 died Monday from non-hostile causes while operating in Al Anbar Province.

Three Marines assigned to 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing died Monday from wounds sustained due to enemy action while operating in Al Anbar Province.

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## **Roadside Bomb Hits Combat Patrol, Kills Three Baghdad Soldiers**

11 December 2006 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory  
RELEASE No. 20061211-03

BAGHDAD: An improvised explosive device detonated near a Multi-National Division – Baghdad patrol, killing three Soldiers in the northern part of the Iraqi capital Dec. 10.

As the Soldiers conducted a late night combat patrol, the roadside bomb detonated killing three Soldiers and wounding two others.

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## **IED Hits Security Patrol, Kills One Baghdad Soldier, Another Wounded**

Dec. 10, 2006 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE  
No. 20061210-16

BAGHDAD – An improvised explosive device detonated near a Multi-National Division – Baghdad patrol, killing one Soldier west of the Iraqi capital Dec. 10.

As the patrol was finishing its early morning security mission west of the city, the roadside bomb detonated killing one Soldier and wounding another.

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## **13th SC(E) Soldier Dies Near Diwaniyah**

12.12.06 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No.  
20061212-13

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – A 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Soldier died of apparent natural causes near Diwaniyah Dec 11. The Soldier lost consciousness and was transported to a Troop Medical Clinic where medical personnel were unable to revive him.

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## **Oregon Soldier Killed By Roadside Bomb**

December 13, 2006 Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. -- A soldier from Springfield is the latest Oregon casualty of the Iraq war, his family said Tuesday.

Army Sgt. Brennan Gibson, a 1997 graduate of Thurston High School, was killed Sunday when a roadside bomb struck his Humvee, according to Ken Brown, a pastor and family spokesman.

Gibson, 26, was one of three soldiers killed in the attack on the outskirts of Baghdad. The soldiers had completed a patrol and were heading back to their base when the bomb exploded, Brown said. "He loved being a soldier, and he was a good one," Brown said.

Brown said he was with the Gibson family when military personnel brought the news to them Monday morning. They first learned of the death in a phone call from Gibson's wife, Corinna, late Sunday, he said.

Gibson, the son of John and Linda Gibson of Springfield, left for Iraq shortly after the birth of his son, Kaden, Brown said.

After high school, Gibson attended Oregon State University in Corvallis, graduating in 2003 with a bachelor of science in art, with a special focus on graphic design. He was a member of Theta Chi fraternity. Brown said he believes that Gibson and his wife met as students at OSU.

Gibson was a member of the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, based out of Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska. About 3,500 members of the division were deployed to Iraq in mid-October for a one-year tour of duty, an Army spokeswoman in Anchorage said.

Brown said he has known the Gibson family for more than 11 years, first at Eastside Faith Center and more recently as pastor of Hope Chapel in west Eugene. John Gibson works as a building inspector, and Linda Gibson works in sales for an adhesives firm. Brennan Gibson is the youngest of their six children.

Brown described Gibson a "one of those guys that whatever he does, he equips himself to do it well," Brown said. "He was going to be a father, and he was so looking forward to that."

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## Corpsman From Colorado Is Killed In Action In Iraq



Christopher A. Anderson

December 7, 2006 By Tillie Fong, Rocky Mountain News

A Colorado sailor was killed in Iraq on Monday. Christopher A. Anderson, 24, of Longmont died during military action in Anbar province.

He was a Navy corpsman who was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, based at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Calls to the family and to the Navy were not returned Wednesday.

However, Rick Anderson, Christopher's father and a career Navy SEAL, told CBS 4 News that his son was "serving his community, serving his country and serving his family" at the time of his death, and that his son had been approved to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Christopher Anderson joined the Navy on Aug. 9, 2005, and had reported to his unit in May of this year, according to his father.

Brian Van Ness, 49, a next-door neighbor, recalled that Anderson would mow the lawn for neighbors and help out with other chores.

"He always was getting involved with helping neighbors out," Van Ness said.

Van Ness said Christopher had wanted to join the Navy right after the tragedy of Sept. 11.

"He was real excited to join the military but didn't get in right then," he said.

Christopher worked in construction before he finally enlisted last year. Van Ness said the neighborhood threw a going-away party for Christopher when he was about to leave for boot camp last year.

"The way he described it - he was going to be the head of a medical group and he was pretty proud of himself for landing that," he said.

Van Ness said he didn't have any contact with Christopher after the party, but he said Christopher knew full well the dangers of military service.

"He was a real bright kid - he knew what he was getting into," he said. "He wouldn't jump into anything."

Rick Anderson told CBS4 that Christopher was the type of person who wanted to be in middle of the action and not stay back.

A graduate of Longmont High School in 2000, Christopher Anderson was a member of the school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes, according to John Poynton, spokesman for the St. Vrain Valley School District.

"The students and staff of Longmont High School and the entire district send our heartfelt condolences to the Anderson family," Poynton said. "He died serving his nation and we're proud of him."

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## **Copter Crash Kills Ex-Nellis Officer**



Kermit Evans: Air Force captain remembered as "great husband and father"

Dec. 07, 2006 Kermit Evans Las Vegas Review-Journal

Air Force Capt. Kermit O. Evans was growing weary of the war in Iraq and was getting anxious to see his wife and young son in Las Vegas when the helicopter he was riding in crash-landed in a lake Sunday, killing him and three other troops, his family said.

"He always wanted to be fair, and if it wasn't right, he was going to find a way to make it right. He always spoke his mind, and he did it respectfully," his wife, Perneatha Cunningham Evans, said Tuesday, reflecting on the life of her 31-year-old husband.

A memorial service for him is scheduled at noon today at the Nellis Air Force Base chapel. The family is planning a burial service at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Evans was an explosives ordnance officer formerly stationed at Nellis Air Force Base and a native of Hollandale, Miss. He worked for Nellis' environmental program before he left in 2004 to enter explosives ordnance school at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Perneatha Evans said.

"He was a great husband and father," she said. "I'll remember him forever."

Perneatha Evans and their son, 13-month-old Kermit Jr., have been living in Las Vegas while he was overseas. She works at Quest Diagnostics, and her sister lives in the Las Vegas Valley.

Evans and his wife met at Mississippi State University where he studied chemical engineering and played on the football team as a walk-on. Their paths crossed again when he was stationed at Nellis from November 2001 to December 2004. They were married at Victory Baptist Church on Oct. 10, 2004.

She last spoke to him Saturday. "His heart was heavy because they had had a loss there," she said in a telephone interview. "He was traveling around the theater of Iraq to check on his troops to see if they needed anything. He was supposed to come home in the end of February."

A Nellis base spokesman, Capt. Justin McVay, said Evans "was just catching a ride" when, according to other U.S. military officials, the twin-rotor Marine CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter went down in Lake Qadisiyah behind the hydroelectric dam at Haditha on the Euphrates River in the volatile western Anbar province. Sixteen troops were on board.

Maj. Gen. William Caldwell, the top U.S. military spokesman in Iraq, told The Associated Press that the helicopter began to lose power after lifting off from the dam. He said all but the pilot and co-pilot evacuated from the back of the helicopter. It glided across the water and used a boat ramp to get on shore. He said no fighting was going on in the area at the time. The incident is under investigation.

The other 12 troops survived.

Evans, on his second tour in Iraq, was assigned to the 27th Civil Engineer Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base, N.M. He was deployed with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq.

McVay said that at the time of the emergency landing, Evans was an operations officer for a detachment that responds to improvised explosive device attacks, conducting forensic analysis to figure out how to counter them.

Evans' only sibling, Kervin Evans of Peoria, Ill., said that his younger brother had been working 18-hour shifts since his arrival in Iraq in July. They communicated by e-mail and occasionally by telephone. He spoke to him last week.

"He sounded tired, like maybe he was worn out, maybe battle-weary. He was planning on having some serious down time when he came home," Kervin Evans said.

He said his brother joined the Air Force because "he thought there was something missing in his life, and the military was where he thought he could get fulfillment."

"He was more than a brother. He was a friend," Kervin Evans said, describing the two of them growing up in Mississippi with their mother and father as a "very tight family."

"He was fun-loving, mischievous," he said. "I'm the reserved kind of guy. But if it was exciting, he was off like a shot to do it. He believed in honor and morals and had a very strong work ethic."

Perneatha Evans said her husband "loved Las Vegas" where he had friends and co-workers.

**Evans was the 45th member of the military with Nevada ties to die in the nation's war on terrorism overseas since Sept. 11, 2001.**

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## Springfield Marine Dies In Iraq



Marine Cpl. Nicholas Rapavi

Nov 28, 2006 BY TINA ESHLEMAN, TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Marine Cpl. Nicholas Rapavi often told his parents that while the mission in Iraq was important, his top concern was bringing the members of his squad home unharmed.

While on patrol Friday, Rapavi kept his squad back while putting himself in harm's way by going first through a gate in a situation he thought looked suspicious. He was shot in the neck, his father, Paul Rapavi, said yesterday.

"He felt like these guys depended on him and it was his responsibility to make sure they were OK," Paul Rapavi said. "He lost one of the members of his squad in September and he was devastated by that because these people were his brothers."



Nicholas Rapavi, 22, of Springfield, became the 101st Virginian to die while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. According to the Department of Defense, he was fatally injured while conducting combat operations in Iraq's Anbar province.

Paul Rapavi said his son had served in Afghanistan and once before in Iraq. He advanced in the ranks to become a corporal and led a squad of as many as 12 Marines. Nicholas had planned to leave the Marines at the end of his four-year term in May and go to college and possibly re-enlist later, his father said.

Although not from a military family, Nicholas had wanted to be in the Marines since he was in high school.

"Early on, he was an avid baseball player, but when he went to high school, everything was secondary to the Marines," said Paul Rapavi, who is a dentist. He said Nicholas did everything he could to prepare himself -- joined the Army ROTC, lifted weights, did pushups, always strove to improve.

He had two younger brothers -- Jonathan, 20, and Christopher, 18 -- to whom he was very close, his father said.

"It's been especially tough for the 20-year old," Paul Rapavi said. "All his friends think of Nicholas as the true American hero. When he joined, they were saying, 'Osama bin Laden's in trouble now.' Nobody's going to get away from Nick."

Paul Rapavi described his son as outgoing with lots of friends, a natural leader. "He was a tough guy but treated people fairly. You didn't cross his brothers, but as soon as he straightened you out, he could be your friend."

Besides his father and brothers, Nicholas Rapavi is survived by his mother, Cathy Rapavi-Burnley.

Plans for a funeral service are incomplete, but his family hopes he will be able to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, his father said.

Nicholas Rapavi was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, based at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

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## **Family Finds Fallen Longwood Soldier's Girlfriend**

December 8 2006 By Henry Pierson Curtis, Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO · A family's search for the girlfriend and infant daughter of a Special Forces soldier from Longwood who was mortally wounded this week in Iraq ended with a phone call.

Spc. Marco Miller's brother and sisters found his girlfriend's telephone number late Tuesday, the same day the paratrooper was taken off life support at a military hospital in Germany.

Miller, 36, suffered massive head wounds Sunday from enemy fire while conducting an escort mission in Taji, Iraq. Miller was assigned to the 3rd Battalion Support Company, 20th Special Forces Group, Camp Blanding, the Department of Defense announced late Thursday.

The Army flew his sisters and brother to Germany, where they decided nothing more could be done for him, the family said. Marco Miller's siblings knew he had a child but did not know his girlfriend's name and were unable to reach her earlier in the week. They found Misty Jefferson's phone number among Marco Miller's papers, his brother said.

"I personally wanted to be the one who told her," younger brother Demond Miller said Thursday afternoon. "She's already part of our family." The Fern Park security consultant met Jefferson and his niece, 5-month-old Tamia Michelle, on Wednesday when he flew home from Germany.

"They will come to the funeral," he said of the family gathering to be held next week in Miller's hometown of Warren, Ohio. Jefferson would not speak to the Orlando Sentinel on Thursday, saying she was still trying to deal with Marco Miller's death.

Renee Daniels, the soldier's mother, said in a telephone interview that she was looking forward to finally holding her sixth grandchild. She and other family members knew the baby's name, but her son Marco, whom she described as very private, hadn't told them his girlfriend's name.

Jefferson, of Maitland, dated Marco Miller for about a year before he shipped out last spring for Iraq. After their daughter's birth in August, she e-mailed him photos of Tamia, family members said.

A veteran of the first Gulf War, he re-enlisted after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, family members said. Jefferson's name apparently was not included on the list of those who should be notified in the event of his death, Demond Miller said.

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## **Soldier From Marysville Dies**

December 8, 2006 The Daily Herald Co

MARYSVILLE - A 1999 graduate of Lake Stevens High School has died from injuries he suffered last month while on duty with the Army in Iraq, the Defense Department reported Thursday.

Spc. Jordan W. Hess, 26, of Marysville, was injured Nov. 11 in Ta'Meem, Iraq, when an improvised bomb exploded near the enlisted man's patrol, the Army said. He died Tuesday while being treated for his injuries at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.

Hess was the son of William and Tammy Hess of Marysville. He was the youngest of seven brothers and had one younger sister. All of Hess' brothers live out of state. Hess was the only one among the siblings who joined the military. He enlisted in the Army two years ago, according to a relative who spoke briefly with a reporter Thursday.

William and Tammy Hess traveled to Texas to be with their son and were not in Marysville when their son's death was announced Thursday.

**Hess is the seventh Snohomish County resident to die in Iraq during the war. The Associated Press reported that more than 140 troops with ties to Washington have died since the beginning of the war in March 2003.**

Hess was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, which is based in Schweinfurt, Germany.

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## **Marine Helicopter Down, 18 Injured**

12/11/06 AP & Multi-National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20061211-06

**A Marine helicopter assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) made a hard landing Monday in a remote desert area of Anbar province at approximately 12:00 p.m., injuring 18 people, the third U.S. aircraft to go down in the insurgent stronghold in two weeks.**

The latest casualties underscored a major danger for Americans in Iraq, where the military relies heavily on air travel to transport troops and ferry officials and journalists to remote locations and to avoid the dangers of roadside bombs planted by insurgents.

The CH-53E Super Stallion, the U.S. military's largest helicopter, was conducting a routine passenger and cargo flight. There were a total of 21 people aboard the helicopter, including 4 crew members.

Nine of the 18 injured were treated and returned to duty, it said. The military did not give the exact location where the hard landing occurred, saying recovery efforts were underway.

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## **British Soldier Wounded In Basra**

12.14 Reuters

A roadside bomb targeting a British military patrol wounded a soldier in the southern city of Basra, British military spokesman Captain Tane Dunlop said.

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# Four DoD Mercenaries Captured

Dec 12 (Reuters)

Four South African security workers have been taken prisoner north of Baghdad and their whereabouts remain unknown, South Africa's Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday. The men were employed by OSSI-Safenet security service, a sub-contractor for the U.S. Department of Defense.

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## ***Helping The Resistance:* U.S. Troops Kill Three Collaborator Soldiers, Miss The General**

December 09, 2006 By DPA

US troops mistakenly shot dead three Iraqi soldiers during a raid in Dolouiya, 80 km north of Baghdad Saturday. The American forces mistook the three approaching Iraqi armed personnel as insurgents and shot them dead.

The three soldiers were deployed to guard the house of an Iraqi army general near the spot where the US soldiers were conducting a raid.

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**THIS ENVIRONMENT IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR  
HEALTH;  
TIME TO COME HOME, NOW**



10.26.06: US soldiers stand guard at a spot checkpoint setup in the Karada district of central Baghdad.(AFP/Wisam Sami)

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **“Christopher Came To Me And He Said, ‘Mom I’m Not, Don’t Think I’m Coming Back’”**

Dec 4 2006 KXMBTV

A North Dakota family is making funeral preparations.

29-year-old Christopher Kleinwachter was a corporal in the North Dakota National Guard.

Kleinwachter was serving in Afghanistan and died last week from injuries he suffered when his vehicle rolled over. The military is calling it an accident.

Corporal Kleinwachter was attached to the 188th Air Defense Artillery's First Battalion. In Grand Forks today Carmen Kleinwachter told reporters she's proud her son stood up for what he believed.

She says the night before she was notified of her son's death, she had a premonition that something was wrong.

Carmen: "Christopher came to me and he said, 'Mom I'm not, don't think I'm coming back. And then when the knock was on the door, you know it's like the movies. You look and you say next frame, I don't want to see this. Let's just fast forward this part of my life, I don't want to see this.'"

Christopher Kleinwachter graduated from Grand Forks Central High School in 1995. His funeral is scheduled for Saturday.

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## **Royal Marine Killed In Helmand**

A Royal Marine has died during a battle with insurgents in the troubled Helmand province of southern Afghanistan.

Nato said that its forces were involved in an exchange of fire and the Ministry of Defence subsequently confirmed that a British marine had died.

The MoD also said he was with Plymouth-based 42 Commando and that he was hit by small arms fire.

It said a helicopter evacuated him to the hospital at Camp Bastion, where he was pronounced dead.

Forces were patrolling to the north of Now Zad, a district in north Helmand, when they came under attack from Taleban forces.

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## **U.S. Civilian Killed In Kandahar**

Dec 10, 2006

Violence overseas has killed another mid-Michigan native, this time a civilian. Family members say Jon Michael Krancich of Grand Ledge was killed in a bombing in Afghanistan. It happened Wednesday in Kandahar. That's in the southern region of the country.

The family tells 6 News Krancich was working in the area. He was 49 years old.

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## **Two Occupation Troops Wounded In Zabul Ambush: Nationality Not Announced**

December 10, 2006 AP

An attack left two NATO soldiers wounded, officials said Sunday.

Insurgents ambushed the NATO troops in southern Zabul province Sunday, wounding two soldiers and damaging four vehicles with a roadside bomb and gunfire, said Capt. Andre Salloum, a spokesman for NATO's troops in the south.

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## **Assorted Resistance Action**

10 December 2006 FOCUS News Agency & The Associated Press & Dec 11 (KUNA) & 12 December 2006 By VOA News

According to sources from the radical Taliban movement 12 policemen and 4 civilians were killed in series of attacks in the southern parts of the country.

In eastern Paktia province on Saturday, a roadside bomb hit a patrol vehicle, killing six Afghan soldiers who were working with American troops, said provincial police chief Gen. Abdul Anan Roufi.

Police chief of Afghanistan's Farah province Said Aqa Saqib said eight militants were eliminated in a clash in Bala Balook district. He said the Afghan police was supported by NATO troops in the fighting that lasted for more than one hour.

Taliban denied their casualties in the attack in Farah province and said their men had killed 10 local and foreign soldiers. Taliban spokesman Yousaf Ahmadi said only three of the men were killed in the fighting

Afghan authorities say a bomber has killed eight people at a governor's residence in southern Afghanistan. They say the attack in Helmand province killed guards, but did not harm the governor, Mohammed Daud.

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## OOPS

December 10, 2006 AP & BBC

NATO on Sunday sharply reduced the number of Taliban militants it said were killed in fighting on Dec. 2 in southern Afghanistan.

**NATO officials originally said its soldiers had killed about 70-80 militants in the Musa Qala district in Helmand province, but on Sunday that figure was revised down to about seven or eight killed.**

The clash near Musa Qala in Helmand province involved Danish forces who were fighting alongside British troops.

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## U.S. Ambassador Boldly Predicts Absence Of Occupation Defeat

December 11, 2006 By CARLOTTA GALL and ISMAIL KHAN, The New York Times Company [Excerpt]

"I expect next year to be quite bloody," the United States ambassador in Afghanistan, Ronald Neumann, said in a recent interview.

"My sense is the Taliban wants to come back and fight. I don't expect the Taliban to win, but everyone needs to understand that we are in for a fight."

Fighting traditionally dies down in winter because of the inhospitable conditions in the mountains.

But the new fighting season in the spring will be even bloodier, a Western diplomat in Kabul said. "We have to assume that things will be bad again," he said, "because none of the underlying causes are being addressed."

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## **U.S. Stooge "President" Boldly Breaks Into Tears, Raves Incoherent Bullshit**

Dec. 11, 2006 (CBS/AP) & 12.13.06 ALISA TANG, Canadian Press

CBS NEWS Consultant Jere Van Dyk, who is based in Afghanistan, says, "The attacks are getting worse... President Ahmad Karzai (of Afghanistan)... is so distraught that he actually cried, talking about the bombings."

Afghan president Hamid Karzai on Wednesday lashed out at Pakistan for the third time this week, accusing the neighbouring country of trying to make "slaves" of the Afghan people.

"Pakistan hopes to make slaves out of us, but we will not surrender," Mr. Karzai said.

**[In case you missed it, Hamid Karzai, the suppositious head of government in Afghanistan, is a former employee of Unocal Corporation, the parent company of Union Oil Company of California. He is now an employee of the U.S. government, hired to run Afghanistan for Bush, and is clearly losing it. Both Afghanistan, and his mind. T]**

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## **New Taliban Rules**

Dec. 10, 2006 ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Taliban gunmen who killed two teachers in eastern Afghanistan early Saturday were only following their rules: Teachers receive a warning, then a beating, and if they continue to teach, they must be killed.

The new list of 30 rules, decided on during a high Taliban meeting in September or October and since circulated over the Internet, span from the organizational -- no jihad equipment may be used for personal means -- to the health conscious -- militants are not supposed to smoke.

They also contain a grave warning for aid workers and educators.

Rule No. 24 forbids anyone to work as a teacher "under the current puppet regime, because this strengthens the system of the infidels."

One rule later, No. 25, says teachers who ignore Taliban warnings will be killed.



The 30 Taliban rules also spell out opposition to development projects from aid organizations, including clinics, roads and schools.

"If a school fails a warning to close, it must be burned. But all religious books must be secured beforehand," rule No. 26 says.

An addendum to the rules said they were distributed initially at a meeting of top Taliban leaders during Ramadan this year. The rules were signed by Mullah Omar, the fugitive Taliban leader and "the highest leader of the Islamic Emirates of Afghanistan," according to the document.

**A purported Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, confirmed the authenticity of the rules.**

**He said aid organizations were not working for the Afghan people but for the policies of occupying countries. "If they won't stop their work we will target them, like we've targeted them in the past," he said.**

The rules confirm a Taliban policy of undermining all forms of development that benefit ordinary Afghans and seem to sanction the targeting of civilians, said Maj. Luke Knittig, a spokesman for NATO's International Security Assistance Force.

Other edicts focus inward on the Taliban command structure:

No. 9: Taliban may not use jihad equipment or property for personal ends.

No. 10: Every Talib is accountable to his superiors in matters of money spending and equipment usage.

No. 12: A group of mujahedeen may not take in mujahedeen from another group to increase their own power.

**Other rules appear focused on not having ordinary Afghans turn against the Taliban. Rule No. 16 says it is "strictly forbidden" to search houses or confiscate weapons without a commander's permission.**

**No. 17 says militants have no right to confiscate money or possessions from civilians.**

No. 18 says fighters "should refrain from smoking cigarettes."

Rule 19 says that mujahedeen may not take young boys without facial hair onto the battlefield -- or into their private quarters, an attempt to stamp out the sexual abuse of young boys, a problem that is widely known in southern Afghanistan but seldom discussed.

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**TROOP NEWS**

# **“If We Had 1,000 French Soldiers In Edinburgh, We’d Want Them To Leave As Well”**

11 Dec 2006 JUDE SHEERIN, The Scotsman [Excerpts]

Speaking from his base at Shaibah, near Basra, Major [Ben] Wrench said "They know we're not here indefinitely. If you say you're going to go, the population will jostle for position. If you don't say you're going to go, you'll get other people within the population who want you to go. It's a Catch-22 situation."

Major Charlie Burbridge, a British military spokesman, said he could see why some Iraqis might want UK forces to go home.

Speaking in Basra, he said: "We have to accept that, if we had 1,000 French soldiers in Edinburgh, we'd want them to leave as well."

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## ***“The Post-Deployment Death Spiral”***

### **“The Army And Marine Corps Today Cannot Sustain Even A Modest Increase Of 20,000 Troops In Iraq”**

### **“U.S. Commanders For Afghanistan Have Asked For More Troops But Have Not Received Them”**

December 13, 2006 By Ann Scott Tyson, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

According to Army Gen. John P. Abizaid, the top U.S. commander for the Middle East, the Army and Marine Corps today cannot sustain even a modest increase of 20,000 troops in Iraq.

**U.S. commanders for Afghanistan have asked for more troops but have not received them, noted the Iraq Study Group report, which called it "critical" for the United States to provide more military support for Afghanistan.**

The U.S. military has more than 140,000 troops in Iraq and 20,000 in Afghanistan, including 17 of the Army's 36 available active-duty combat brigades.

**When Army and Marine Corps combat units return from the war zone, they immediately lose large numbers of experienced troops and leaders who either leave the force, go to school or other assignments, or switch to different units.**

**The depletion of returning units is so severe that the Marines refer to this phase as the "post-deployment death spiral."**

The U.S. military today could cobble together two or three divisions in an emergency -- compared with as many as six in 2001 -- not enough to carry out major operations such as overthrowing the Iranian government.

"That's the kind of extreme scenario that could cripple us," said Michael E. O'Hanlon, a military expert at the Brookings Institution.



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

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# **Millions Of Americans Know Someone Killed Or Injured In Iraq, Afghanistan; [And The Numbers For Iraqis And Afghans Is Enough For 100 More Years Of Armed Resistance]**

**Using the same ranges of the number of family members and acquaintances, Moody also estimated that between 1 million and 1.9 million people in Iraq and Afghanistan have a family member killed and between 7.1 million and 10.3 million people have an acquaintance who has been killed.**

**Between 775,000 and 1.5 million people have a family member detained by the United States and between 5.5 million and 8 million people have an acquaintance who has been detained.**

December 11, 2006 Duke University News & Communications

Durham, NC: Between 4.3 million and 6.5 million Americans are likely to know someone who has been killed or injured in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to new estimates by a Duke University sociologist.

Although the number of soldiers killed or wounded is known, the social effect of those deaths and injuries stretches beyond those directly affected to their social network — family, friends and acquaintances — which is harder to count but likely important in shaping beliefs and behaviors.

“We look at the news and it seems like something in a movie far away,” said James Moody, associate professor of sociology at Duke. “It’s very different when there’s an empty chair at the Christmas table.”

“We have this lone cowboy model of social life. But we all have friends, we all have family,” he said. “Let’s think about how these events really affect whole communities.”

In the paper, Moody also estimates how many people in Iraq and Afghanistan know people who have been killed in the war or detained by the U.S. -- a number which has implications for the U.S., he said.

“It seems reasonable to think that some proportion of people who have had their brother or cousin die might raise up arms against us,” he said. “As the numbers killed go up, the number of affected kin rises dramatically.”

He said he got the idea for the paper after listening to a letter read on National Public Radio in which a listener commented that nobody knows how many people are affected by the war's casualties.

"I thought, 'That's not true. We can know, within ranges,'" he said. In sociology, the problem the listener described is known as the "network scale-up" problem, and has been studied extensively by social scientists, he said.

So, using accepted estimates of family and friend networks, casualty estimates of 2,888 soldiers killed and just under 20,000 wounded, and a formula for estimating social networks, Moody came up with a range of how many Americans know someone who has been killed or wounded. If one then considers how many people know soldiers either killed or wounded, the total range is 4.3 to 6.5 million.

The formula is designed to account for the fact that people share some family and friends, and to prevent double-counting someone who might know more than one soldier.

The calculation uses an extended family size of 26 to 49 members and a U.S. population of 280 million.

Using this formula, Moody figures that between 75,000 and 141,000 Americans have a family member who has been killed in Iraq, and 519,000 to 978,000 people have a family member who has been wounded.

When the circle is expanded to acquaintances, the number rises to between 554,000 and 836,000 people who know someone who has been killed, and between 3.8 million and 5.7 million who know someone who has been injured. The number of acquaintances is estimated to range between 192 and 290. Acquaintances are defined as two people who, at a minimum, know each other's names.

**Using the same ranges of the number of family members and acquaintances, Moody also estimated that between 1 million and 1.9 million people in Iraq and Afghanistan have a family member killed and between 7.1 million and 10.3 million people have an acquaintance who has been killed.**

**Between 775,000 and 1.5 million people have a family member detained by the United States and between 5.5 million and 8 million people have an acquaintance who has been detained.**

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

**IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

# Welcome To Ramadi; Have A Nice Day



A guerrilla fighter takes position in central Ramadi Dec. 8, 2006. (AP Photo)

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## Coordinated Resistance Attack Hits Oil Protection Base

December 13 AFP

Two bombers have smashed trucks into a military base housing a unit that protects Iraq's oil infrastructure, killing nine soldiers and wounding 15, an officer and a medical source said.

One after another, at 8am local time, the trucks ploughed into a camp near the town of Riyadh, 50 kilometres from the oil centre of Kirkuk, and exploded. The base is near pipelines carrying crude to the massive Baiji refinery.

The Strategic Infrastructure Brigade, an army unit formed of local tribesmen, is tasked with protecting the northern oil fields and the hundreds of kilometres of pipeline snaking across the flat plains of northern Iraq.

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

## Assorted Resistance Action



Dec. 14, 2006: A mortar shell landed on an oil pipeline inside the al Dora refinery in southern Baghdad and sparked a fire. (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

09 Dec 2006 Reuters & 10 Dec 2006 Reuters & AFP 12.11 Reuters & Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20061211-05 & RELEASE No. 20061211-06 & AP & 12/12/2006 (AFP) & Reuters & 12.14 Reuters

**Insurgents attacked the convoy of Iraq's vice president, Adel Abdul Mahdi, in Baghdad on Thursday, but there were no injuries, Interior Ministry spokesman Brigadier Abdul Karim Khalaf said.**

**Khalaf and two Interior Ministry officials who spoke on condition of anonymity told Reuters Mahdi was in the convoy but was not hurt. They said the attack took place in Jamiaa district, a mostly Sunni area in western Baghdad.**

"The convoy was going toward Karrada district and reached Mulla Huwaish Mosque when gunmen opened fire on it. Security guards returned fire," Khalaf said.

A hospital received the bodies of three off-duty Iraqi soldiers shot dead in the main road between Tal Afar and Mosul, a hospital source said.

A policeman was killed and three others wounded when they tried to defuse a car bomb on Wednesday in the northern oil city of Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A car bomb exploded near an Iraqi army convoy and killed a policeman, and wounded three soldiers, in Nafaq al-Shurta in western Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb exploded close to an Iraqi army patrol, killing one soldier and wounding four near the town of Mussayab, 60 km (40 miles) south of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb stuck a joint patrol of police and Interior commandos, killing two commandos and wounding one policeman in Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad.

A police officer was shot to death in the northern city of Mosul.

A car bomb killed two policemen who were trying to defuse it and wounded four civilians late Wednesday in Baghdad and a car bomber slammed into an Iraqi army check point, killing a soldier.

**A huge fire broke out at an oil storage facility after explosions Monday night in a volatile area south of Baghdad, police said.**

Iraqi firefighters extinguished the blaze shortly after it broke out about 9:15 p.m. at the Latifiyah facility, about 25 miles south of Baghdad, area police officer Lt. Haidar Sattar said.

He said sabotage was suspected, but more details would not be available until Tuesday because the blast occurred after dark in the area south of Baghdad known as the "Triangle of Death" for the large number of insurgent attacks.

A roadside bomb wounded a policeman when it exploded near his patrol in the town of Rashad, 40 km (25 miles) southwest of the northern city of Kirkuk, police said.

MOSUL - A hospital source said they received the bodies of two policemen and a soldier with gunshot wounds on Saturday.

Police Colonel Yarub Khazal from the security team of former deputy prime minister Ahmed Chalabi, head of the deBaathification committee, was shot dead by guerrillas as he was driving his car in west Baghdad's Yarmuk neighbourhood, the security official added.

In the same area a roadside bomb exploded as an Iraqi army patrol passed, wounding three soldiers.

In the central city of Tikrit police said militants shot dead a security guard from a local hospital while he was on his way to work,

In the province of Diyala, northeast of Baghdad, a policeman was shot in a series of attacks in the provincial capital of Baquba.

Gunmen killed army Colonel Yaarub Khazaal, a security guard for Ahmed Chalabi, , in the western Yarmouk district of Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

RABIA - A bomber rammed his vehicle into a military fuel truck carpark, setting four trucks on fire, police said.



A car bomb exploded in a parking lot of Mahmoud University in Baghdad, wounding two policemen.

A car bomber blew himself up near a house used as a base by police commandos, killing a policeman and wounding five others in Doura district in southern Baghdad, police said.

A Multi-National Division – Baghdad national police training team was ambushed southeast of the Iraqi capital and received heavy incoming fire from insurgents at approximately 12:15 p.m., Dec. 11. Due to the severity of the attack, the 2nd Brigade, 1st National Police Training Team requested aviation support.

A suicide car-bomb blew up at the entrance to the Iraqi National Police barracks in the Jaza'ir neighborhood Dec 11.

A blue van reportedly rammed four National Police vehicles parked at the entrance to the barracks and detonated. Two of the vehicles were destroyed. Four policemen suffered minor injuries in the attack and were evacuated to a local hospital for further treatment.

Guerrillas shot dead two policemen near the town of Hawija 70 km (45 miles) southwest of Kirkuk, police said.

Ibn al-Nafis hospital reported receiving the body of an Iraqi soldier killed by a sniper in the capital's Karrada neighbourhood.

The Iraqi army also reported that Lieutenant Colonel Adel Finjan, staff officer for training at the 10th division, was killed by guerrillas as he drove to work near the southern port city of Basra.

Guerrillas attacked an Iraqi army check point and wounded four soldiers east of Balad, 80 km (50 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

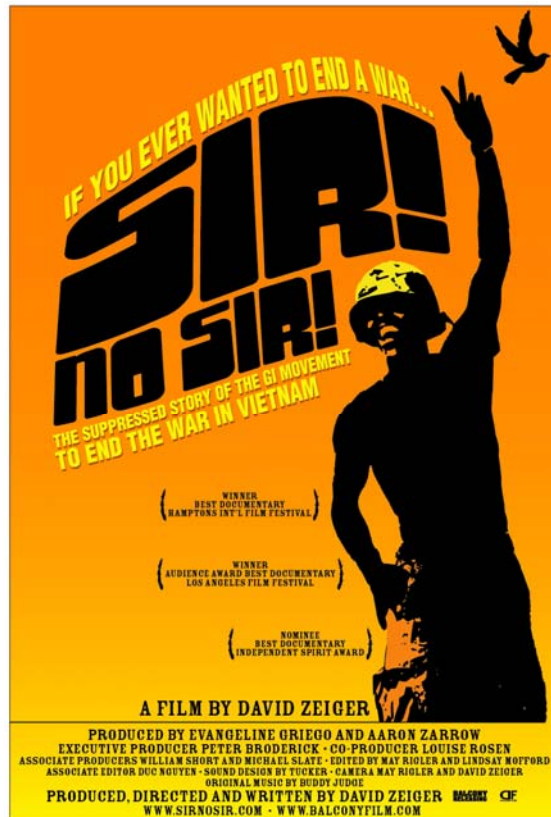
## **NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER**

**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](http://www.ivaw.net))**

## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

# “Thousands Of Drafted And Enlisted Men Demonstrated In The Streets And On Bases”



Tom Keogh, The Seattle Times

I remember, back in college, hearing about a traveling group of anti-Vietnam War entertainers who called themselves "Free the Army." Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland were the headliners, and while F.T.A. presented songs and jokes and rhetoric about stopping "Nixon's war," the most dramatic moment, apparently, was Sutherland's reading of the final few pages of Dalton Trumbo's powerful anti-war novel "Johnny Got His Gun."

What was unique about the show, however, was its targeted audience: not civilian activists against the war but anti-war military personnel and Vietnam veterans.

Today, for a variety of reasons explored in the documentary "Sir! No Sir!," their story is far less known than that of student demonstrators and others outside military service who protested America's Vietnam policy.

While disabled veteran Ron Kovic's experiences as an activist (recounted in his memoir "Born on the Fourth of July," dramatized on film by Oliver Stone) and John Kerry's post-Navy, anti-war efforts shed some light on discontent among servicemen over Vietnam, the full picture of their rebellion is rather staggering.

Filmmaker David Zeiger, who helped organize anti-war demonstrations by soldiers in the 1970s, fleshes out the Pentagon's own extraordinary data with numerous interviews and archival footage.

**Between 1966 and 1971, the film shows us, there were more than a half-million incidents of desertion by soldiers. Large numbers of entire units refused to go into battle, and officers were "fragged" (killed with grenades by their own troops) at an alarming rate. Hundreds of underground newspapers were published by soldiers.**

**Thousands of drafted and enlisted men demonstrated in the streets and on bases. Many of these men were routinely beaten and ended up in stockades and federal prisons.**

There were varied reasons soldiers soured on the war, we learn from Zeiger's talking heads. Some African Americans, for example, could find no motivation to kill the Vietnamese on behalf of what they considered a racist America.

Other men who said they witnessed unreported atrocities, or who believed there was too much emphasis on injuring unarmed civilians, spoke out publicly.

Among the interviewees is veteran Randy Rowland, now a Seattle nurse.

"Sir! No Sir!" suffers a bit from a barrage of information that is difficult to fully assimilate or to put into context. (A psychedelic guitar constantly playing in the background is a major annoyance.)

**But the big picture is congruent and often stunning in its portrayal of real men taking great personal risks to act on conscience.**

**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](http://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."**

# OCCUPATION REPORT

## ***This Is Not Satire:*** **“Not Everyone Attacking Us Is An Enemy, They Might Be Angry Locals”**

10 December 2006 BBC

The government has updated its compensation scheme to enable soldiers injured by those who are not considered enemy combatants to make claims.

The revision was made to take account of the "shift in the situation" British soldiers now find themselves in.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said a compensation scheme for troops injured in "civilian" situations - such as an off-duty fight - had been in place for 27 years.

"But we now recognise that the situation in Basra has shifted.

"Not everyone attacking us is an enemy, they might be angry locals."

**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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org):. Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential. Same to unsubscribe.**

### **GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out**

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The following have posted issues; there may be others:

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<http://imagineaworldof.blogspot.com/>; <http://qi-special.iraq-news.de>;

[http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi\\_special/](http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/); <http://www.uruknet.info/?p=-6&l=e>;

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