

GI SPECIAL 5A24:

FORMULA HELL



From: Mike Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: January 23, 2007
Subject: Formula Hell

FORMULA HELL

**U.S. soldiers run on blood.
The U.S. dinosaur economy runs on the theft of OIL.
When the dip stick runs low on soldiers,
they wind up in graveyards, or in hospital beds.
Or, maybe they wind up in pill bottles, or in a bar,
telling their stories of hell, and betrayal.
When the U.S. runs low on oil, they send more
soldiers to Iraq, to check the dip sticks for the Corporate Rich.
The raised hood on a gas guzzler is an open casket.
Support The Troops.
Send more soldiers to hell.
George Bush and Charles Manson have a lot in common.**

**Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic**

Vietnam 1970-71
January 23, 2007

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Two Marines Killed In Separate Incidents In Al Anbar

01/24/07 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory

One Marine assigned to 1st Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group and one Marine assigned to Regimental Combat Team 5 died today from wounds sustained due to enemy action while operating in Al Anbar Province.

Former Fleming Man Dies In Iraq



Staff Sgt. John E. Cooper

Jan. 18, 2007 By Jim Warren, HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

A former Fleming County resident was killed in Iraq on Monday along with three other soldiers when a homemade bomb exploded near their Humvee during combat operations at Mosul, the U.S. Army said.

Staff Sgt. John Edward Cooper, 29, of Ewing was part of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, out of Fort Bliss, Texas.

"He was a wonderful young man; everybody liked him," his mother, Janice Botkin, of Fleming County, said yesterday. "He was really firm in his beliefs, and he thought he was doing the right thing in bringing democracy to Iraq."

Staff Sgt. Cooper was single and had no children. The Army had been his life, his mother said.

He was on his second tour in Iraq, and previously had served in Afghanistan, his mother said. He served in Iraq in 2003-04, then returned to Iraq with his outfit last fall.

His mother said they spoke several times by telephone after he shipped out. She said he called on her birthday.

Cooper was born in Brown County, Ohio, the youngest of four children. But the family moved to Fleming County about 1978 after his mother and father divorced. He graduated from Fleming County High School in 1995 and joined the Army that September, his mother said.

"He wanted to be a soldier from the third grade on," Botkin said. "And he was strong enough to pursue his dream of being in the military."

Cooper's oldest sister, Sherri Springate of Versailles, said her brother worked hard to make his dream come true.

"He signed up for the Army right out of high school," she said. "I remember that he would go running along the country roads to build himself and be ready to pass his physical training when he went into basic. "We're all so proud of him."

Heavy Fighting In Central Baghdad: Soldier Killed, Two More Wounded



Smoke rises over the area where U.S. and Iraqi troops clashed with guerrillas north of the heavily fortified Green Zone in Baghdad Jan. 24 2007. (AP Photo/Samir Mizban)

24 January 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE
No. 20070124-07 & By BASSEM MROUE, Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD – Insurgent small arms fire targeting a Multi-National Division – Baghdad patrol killed one Soldier near the city's center Jan. 24.

One Soldier was killed, two others were wounded.

U.S. and Iraqi troops clashed with gunmen firing heavy weapons from concrete high-rises in a Sunni insurgent stronghold north of the heavily fortified Green Zone on Wednesday. Iraq's defense ministry said as many as 30 militants were killed and 27 captured.

Apache attack helicopters buzzed past the tall buildings and radio towers, with several Humvees on the tree-lined street below. Gunfire rang in the background as shells fell, according to AP Television News footage.

Black smoke rose from the area, on the west bank of the Tigris River about one mile north of the Green Zone, site of the U.S. and British embassies as well as the Iraqi government headquarters.

The military reported separately that an American soldier was killed Wednesday in clashes near the city's center.

Polk City Woman Killed In Blackhawk Crash In Iraq



January 24, 2007 Internet Broadcasting Systems, Inc.

DES MOINES, Iowa -- An Iowa National Guard soldier from Polk City was killed in a Blackhawk helicopter that went down Saturday in Iraq.

Iowa National Guard spokesman Lt. Col. Gregory Hapgood said Sgt. Maj. Marilyn Gabbard, 46, was one of 12 Americans killed on a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter at about 2:45 p.m. Baghdad time, northeast of Baghdad. The Pentagon said the chopper was shot down by a shoulder-fired missile.

Hapgood said that of the 12 servicemembers killed in the crash, 10 were from the Army National Guard and two were active duty Army soldiers.

She was on a six-month tour of duty and was deployed in December 2006. She was a non-commissioned officer in charge of the National Guard Affairs Team in Baghdad.

Gabbard is a 27-year veteran of the Iowa National Guard. She began as a private in Boone.

She was promoted to Command Sergeant Major on April 1, 2001, and became the Iowa National Guard's first female Command Sergeant Major and only the second woman promoted to Sergeant Major in the Iowa National Guard, a news release said.

Gabbard is survived by her husband, Edward; daughter Melissa (Ben) Danielson; stepson Terry (Cathy) Gabbard; stepdaughters Sherri Gabbard, Kerri (Rick) Wilson, Gerri Gabbard, Mari Jo (Harold) Scott, and Deborah (Michael) Pommier; her mother, Mary Van Cannon; sister, Marla Noren; and brothers Mark Van Cannon and Mike (Carol) Van Cannon; her grandchildren, Benjamin and Austin Danielson; and stepgrandchildren, Paul Gabbard, Sunnie (Sean) Robinson, Christopher Gabbard, Cassandra, Brianne and Courtney Wilson, Jessica and Jeremy Scott, and Kayla Pommier, the news release said.

Marine Killed In Anbar



Marine Lance Cpl. Emilian Sanchez, 20, was killed Jan. 21, 2007, in Iraq's Al Anbar province. He was assigned to Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, stationed in Camp Pendleton, Calif. (AP Photo/Family Photo via U.S. Marine Corps)

Arkansas Sgt. Killed In Iraq



Arkansas Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class John Gary Brown, 43, of Little Rock, Ark., attached to the Company B, 1st Battalion, 185th Aviation (Air Assault) Regiment of the 77th Aviation Brigade, died Jan. 20, 2007, when a US Forces UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter went down northeast of Baghdad. (AP Photo/Arkansas National Guard)

Texas Pilot Killed In Iraq



Capt. Sean E. Lyerly, 31, of Pflugerville, Texas, died in Iraq, Jan. 20, 2007. Lyerly was piloting the Army Black Hawk helicopter that went down in Iraq over the weekend, killing all 12 soldiers onboard. Lyerly had been assigned to the Texas Army National Guard's 36th Combat Aviation Brigade, 36th Infantry Division in Austin, Texas. (AP Photo/Lyerly family)

Texas Soldier Killed By IED



U.S. Army Pfc. Allen B. Jaynes, of Athens, Texas, died Jan. 20, 2007, in Iraq of wounds sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. Jaynes was assigned to 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, at Fort Carson, Colo. (AP Photo/Courtesy of the Jaynes Family)

US Iraq Casualties Exceed 52,585; +100,000 Disability Claims Granted From Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans

January 24, 2007 From: Michael Munk Via David McCreynolds

US military occupation forces suffered at least 200 combat casualties (up sharply from 129) in the week ending Jan 24, and total casualties reached at least 52,585.

The total includes 26,177 killed or wounded by what the Pentagon classifies as "hostile" causes and 26,408 dead and injured (as of Jan. 6) from "non-hostile" causes such as accidents, suicides and illness serious enough to require medical evacuation.

US media divert attention from the actual cost in American life and limb by routinely reporting only the number killed (3,063 as of Jan. 24) and rarely noting the 23,114 wounded in combat.

To further minimize public perception of the cost, they work with the Pentagon to ignore the 24,823 military victims of "non-hostile" injuries and illness, although the 3,063 reported deaths includes the 599 (up 13 from last week) who died from just such causes.

Although not defined as "casualties" since they have been discharged from active duty, as of July 20, 2006, a total of 152,669 U.S. military veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan had filed disability claims, over 100,000 of which had been granted.

REALLY BAD PLACE TO BE: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW



U.S. soldiers patrol in central Baghdad Nov. 5, 2006. (AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed)

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Assorted Resistance Action

January 24, 2007 By FISNIK ABRASHI, Associated Press Writer

KABUL, Afghanistan — A bomber with explosives strapped to his chest blew himself up in a crowd of laborers waiting outside a U.S. military base in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, killing as many as 10 people.

A Taliban ambush left nine police dead in the south, officials said.

The suicide bomber struck as hundreds of Afghan workers lined up to enter the base, known as Camp Salerno, outside the city of Khost, said provincial Gov. Jamal Arsalah.

Arsalah, who saw the aftermath of the explosion, said 10 men were killed and 14 injured. However, the NATO-led force, which includes the U.S. base, said eight Afghans, including two policemen, were killed and five wounded. No U.S. or NATO troops were injured in the blast.

The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force said the attacker detonated an explosives-filled vest when he reached the point where people entering the base are searched. Arsalah said concrete barriers that protect the base helped prevent a heavier toll.

In southern Afghanistan, Afghan and NATO-led forces battled militants for nearly five hours. Two policemen were killed and 10 others wounded, he said.

Suspected militants also ambushed a border police patrol on the road from Kandahar to Uruzgan, killing nine policemen, Qasem said.

TROOP NEWS

New York's 10th Mountain Division Troops Screwed: Not Coming Home From Afghanistan; "24,000 U.S. Troops In Afghanistan, The Highest Number Since The War Began"

[Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier, who sent this in.]

Jan 24 By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press Writer

The Pentagon has decided to extend the combat tour of 3,200 soldiers from a 10th Mountain Division brigade in Afghanistan for four months in hopes of quelling the violence.

The decision comes a week after Defense Secretary Robert Gates met with commanders in Afghanistan and heard a request for more troops.

According to several military officials, the decision was made to extend the 3rd Brigade rather than hold over about 1,200 soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division — which is about halfway through a scheduled four-month tour in eastern Afghanistan. That regiment is now expected to go home as planned, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the details had not been released.

There are about 24,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, the highest number since the war began in October 2001.

Rep. John McHugh, R-N.Y., whose district includes Fort Drum, said the news was "a disappointing development."

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



The casket of Army Sgt. Thomas E. Vandling Jr., 26, of Bellevue, Pa. at the Church of the Assumption in Bellevue, Pa., Jan. 12, 2007. Vandling died of injuries, Jan. 1, 2007 while on patrol in Iraq. (AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

Half A Million Troops Deployed At Least Twice To Wars

[Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier, who sent this in.]

January 24, 2007 Jeanine Plant, AlterNet [Excerpts]

According to the data obtained by Army Times, out of the 1.4 million soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, nearly one-third of them, roughly 420,800 service members, deployed more than once.

And since September 2001, 683,380 soldiers deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, 163,949 of them at least twice, according to Army Times.



In Iraq, Brigade Hit By Average Of 4 IEDs A Day: Command Sgt. Major Condemns Army's Callous Disregard Of Homecoming Troops; 700 From Brigade Got No Counseling At All, The Rest Got 20 Minutes;

January 24th, 2007 MICHAEL GILBERT; The News Tribune [Excerpts]

A combat infantryman who led 4,000 Stryker soldiers through a bloody year in Iraq says the Army must do more to help its men and women cope with the harsh emotional realities of war.

For all their preparations for Iraq, Thomas Adams said the troops from his Fort Lewis Stryker brigade weren't ready for the hurt of losing buddies, and of killing. And the retired command sergeant major said fear of being stigmatized as weak or unbalanced continues to keep many soldiers from seeking the help they need.

"We had all the new equipment training, all the generals came down and told us how good we were, sprinkled holy water on us. We were the best," Adams told the Department of Defense Mental Health Task Force, meeting Tuesday in Tacoma.

"But we had not one class. Not one professional came in and talked to us about what it was going to be like when we lose somebody for real."

During the brigade's year in Mosul during 2004-05, Adams said he went to 45 memorial ceremonies for soldiers killed with the brigade or its attached units.

He and the brigade commander, Col. Robert Brown, saw most if not all of the 600 who were wounded, and went to the scene of most of the major incidents.

He described some of them in horrific detail. The brigade was hit with more than 1,300 roadside bombs - nearly four a day. There were more than 80 car bombs.

He said when his brigade came home, they tried to get every soldier 20 minutes alone with a mental health counselor. But with 4,000 soldiers, it took months.

Adams said he still feels like he let down the more than 700 who left the Army before they could get their turn - at least some are probably suffering now, he said.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Assorted Resistance Action

24 Jan 2007 Reuters

BAGHDAD - A car bomber blew up near a police patrol, killing four policemen and wounding three civilians in the western, Sunni Arab Amiriya district, police said.

Guerrillas opened fire on the motorcade of Abd Dhiab al-Ajili, the minister of higher education, on a highway in the southern Doura district of Baghdad, killing one of his guards and seriously wounding another, the minister told Reuters.

Guerrillas killed an Iraqi translator who worked with the U.S. forces on Tuesday in the city of Kut, 170 km (105 miles) southeast of Baghdad, police said.

Clashes erupted between insurgents and Iraqi army and police, wounding six soldiers on Tuesday in the town of Suwayra, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, police said. Three soldiers were reported missing after the clashes.



A burning police pickup truck in the district of Amariyah in Baghdad Jan. 24, 2007 after it was struck by a car bomber. According to eyewitnesses, all three or four policemen inside the truck were killed. (AP Photo/Asaad Mouhsin)

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

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation's ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke. For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. Frederick Douglas, 1852

**“The ‘Principal’ Reason The U.S.
Occupation Is Failing Is That The
Vast Majority Of Iraqis Oppose It”**

January 19, 2007 By ALAN MAASS, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

“Our past efforts to secure Baghdad failed for two principal reasons: There were not enough Iraqi and American troops to secure neighborhoods that had been cleared of terrorists and insurgents. And there were too many restrictions on the troops we did have.” -- George Bush

THE “PRINCIPAL” reason the U.S. occupation is failing is that the vast majority of Iraqis oppose it. This is why U.S. forces are unable to maintain control over Baghdad, not the number of soldiers deployed.

The population of greater Baghdad is 7 million, and the U.S. has 70,000 combat troops, along with 60,000 support soldiers, in all of Iraq.

In any occupation, the occupiers depend on the support -- or at least acquiescence -- of the occupied when their armed forces aren't immediately on hand. Otherwise, resistance forces can easily escape occasional raids and sweeps, and return once the occupiers go back to their bases.

Bush's new plan to send 17,500 more soldiers to Baghdad will not succeed either. According to a Pentagon field manual on counterinsurgency -- written by none other than Lt. Gen. David Petraeus, the newly appointed head of U.S. forces in Iraq -- the U.S. would need twice its present combat strength in the capital to quell the resistance.

The most important reason why the U.S. can't secure Baghdad -- not to mention other parts of Iraq -- is that almost all Iraqis, at least outside of Kurds in the north, view the U.S. as an occupying army, and Iraqis who work with them as puppets and collaborators.

“We have given the Iraqis so much. We have deposed their dictator... We've given the Iraqi people a chance to draft their own constitution, hold their own free elections and establish their own government.” -- Sen. Dick Durbin

Researchers from Johns Hopkins University shocked the world with their findings that some 655,000 people have died “as a consequence of the war”--about 2.5 percent of the pre-invasion population, or one in every 25 Iraqis. Some 90 percent of these war-related deaths were the result of violence, and a large number were directly attributable to U.S. forces.

As left-wing writer Mike Ferner calculated on the CounterPunch Web site, “Comparable casualties in our country would mean that every person in Atlanta, Denver, Boston, Seattle, Milwaukee, Fort Worth, Baltimore, San Francisco, Dallas and Philadelphia would be dead. Every. Single. Person.”

This is what the U.S. has “given” to Iraq.

“[Iran and Syria] are allowing terrorists and insurgents to use their territory to move in and out of Iraq. Iran is providing material support for attacks on American troops.” -- George Bush

Iran does have varying degrees of influence with Shia leaders, but that hasn't stopped the U.S. from striking up its own relationships.

For example, in a seeming attempt to promote a possible alternative to al-Maliki, the U.S. is cozying up to the Shiite political leader with probably the strongest ties to Iran--Abdel Aziz al-Hakim, who uses the Iraqi Interior Ministry as cover for the death-squad operations of his Badr Brigade.

"There have to be some consequences to the Iraqis not coming to a political accommodation...It is time for us to send a message to the Iraqi government that they have to stand up." -- Sen. Barack Obama

IF REPUBLICANS and Democrats can agree on one thing about the disaster in Iraq, it's that Iraqis should be objects of blame.

To hear the way Obama tells it, you might think that the U.S. was invited to invade, and now the Iraqis -- by refusing to live the life of freedom and prosperity planned out for them by Washington -- aren't holding up their end of the bargain.

In reality, the U.S. has called the shots on every major decision in the "new" Iraq. Politicians like Obama, for example, regularly berate Prime Minister al-Maliki for refusing to take on sectarian violence. But Maliki told reporters late last year that he was powerless to move a single company of Iraqi soldiers without permission from U.S. and British forces.

Though Bush claimed that the Iraqi government had designed and proposed the new strategy for securing Baghdad, the bickering over details that followed his speech showed the opposite.

The U.S. remains the real power in Iraq, and its actions have made life increasingly intolerable for the vast majority of Iraqis. Nevertheless, blaming Iraqis for "not standing up" or succumbing to "ancient religious hatreds" is a convenient cover for absolving the U.S. of any responsibility for Iraq's nightmare.

Those who really are on the side of freedom need to speak out for immediate U.S. withdrawal -- and for the right of Iraqis to determine their own future.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

How Government Spies And Other Assorted Rats Created A Terrorist In Order To Arrest A Terrorist And Torment His Family

But Siraj's attorney described it truthfully: "In essence, what we have is the New York City Police Department creating a crime so they can solve the crime and claim a victory in the war on terror. ...What the government has done by painting this young man...as the mastermind behind the plot to bomb the 34th Street subway is really creating a devil so that they can lock up the devil."

January 13, 2007 By Becky Akers, LewRockwell.com [Excerpts]

A US district judge sentenced notorious terrorist, Shahawar Matin Siraj, to 30 years in prison this past Monday for agreeing to blow up the 34th Street subway station in Manhattan.

The next day, by amazing coincidence, his family was arrested on immigration charges.

No doubt you're scratching your head, trying to recall who Shahawar Matin Siraj is.

If he's dangerous enough to merit 30 years in the slammer and a deported family, why haven't you heard of him?

Likely because his case doesn't pass the laugh test.

The usual suspects are bragging that their jihad against him has saved civilization, but it's shamefaced bragging of the kind you hear when a 10th-grader beats up a kindergartner.

Siraj was a 22-year-old Pakistani working in Brooklyn, NY at an Islamic bookstore – located, ominously enough, next to a mosque. Both Siraj's family and his attorneys have described him as "witless and impressionable." His uncle admitted, "He's my nephew, but he's not too bright.... He's not dangerous, he just talks."

Siraj's hours in the bookstore and the mosque, where he prayed, as well as his lack of sophistication recommended him to 50-year-old Osama Eldawoody.

An Egyptian immigrant who became a US citizen, Eldawoody is also a "paid police informant." For several years after 9/11, he and an undercover cop prowled both bookstore and mosque. Eldawoody collected \$100,000 of our taxes for chatting up "radical young Moslem men," a.k.a. customers at the bookstore, and for reporting the license-plate numbers of cars parked at the mosque.

Wouldn't it be easier if we simply required Moslems to wear yellow crescents on their sleeves?

The snitch and his undercover sidekick honed in on Siraj, "not the brightest bulb in the chandelier," and another dim wit as well. James Elshafay is just 21; his short life has been nasty and brutish.

His Irish mother and Egyptian father separated when he was a toddler. He suffers from schizophrenia and depression, as do other members of his family, and takes drugs of which Leviathan approves to counter these ills.

He took drugs Leviathan doesn't approve as a teen, perhaps because a "male relative" molested him. He drank to excess, sniffed glue, and dropped out of the ninth grade in his school on Staten Island. He volunteered for the Army, but he was so damaged even those body-snatchers wouldn't have him.

In short, Elshafay and his friend Siraj sound more like threats to themselves than to the American Way of Life.

We've all known folks like them: there's a glazed look in their eyes as they work to decipher such sentences as "You want fries with that?" and "The red light means STOP." Often they're eager to please and readily agree to just about anything; you could suggest a blind date with Hillary Clinton, and you'd get a goofy grin and a "Sure!"

Some of us, to our shame, may have mocked or even bullied children like them when we were kids. Then we grew up. We learned that wounded souls and minds are still worthy of respect, that their slow wits don't exempt us from the Golden Rule, and that only the truly vicious take advantage of them.

Enter Eldawoody, the NYPD, the FBI, and the whole apparatus of prosecutors, judges, and other criminals fighting a largely invented but highly useful "War on Terror."

Eldawoody showed Siraj and Elshafay pictures of their fellow Moslems' torture at Abu Ghraib and told them US soldiers were raping Iraqi girls.

He claimed he belonged to a terrorist organization – well, OK, he does collaborate with the Feds – and could supply explosives.

According to Siraj, Eldawoody suggested "blowing up the buildings and blowing up the Wall Street places." Unfortunately for Siraj and Elshafay, the man pretending to be their friend and Moslem mentor, the one who told them his imam had declared a fatwa for killing Americans, was wearing a wire. When Siraj exclaimed, "That (US soldiers' raping Iraqi girls) was enough for me. I'm ready to do anything. I don't care about my life," Eldawoody's tape caught it.

Trying to impress the older man, Siraj also mentioned blowing up the 34th Street subway stop, which links to New York's Penn Station. He and Elshafay allegedly possessed crude drawings of the station when they were arrested.

Siraj was tried and convicted in May. The chief witnesses against him were the drugged Elshafay, the corrupt Eldawoody, and his own words, taped without his knowledge.

Siraj has no criminal record. He was a member of no terrorist organization. He possessed no explosives or other means of carrying out the scenarios Eldawoody concocted.

Nevertheless, Judge Nina Gershon sentenced him to 30 years.

Ray Kelly, New York's police commissioner, called this travesty "an important milestone in safeguarding New York against terrorist plotters whether home-grown or foreign."

But Siraj's attorney described it truthfully: "In essence, what we have is the New York City Police Department creating a crime so they can solve the crime and claim a victory in the war on terror. ...What the government has done by painting this young man...as the mastermind behind the plot to bomb the 34th Street subway is really creating a devil so that they can lock up the devil."

You might think Leviathan would rest content after entrapping and railroading "the devil." But no. Now the beast is rampaging after Siraj's parents and sister.

Like torture, punishing a "criminal's" family is an ancient horror that modern, supposedly enlightened societies shun. And like torture, Bush's America has revived it.

This is especially infuriating since the Bible Bush claims to follow specifically condemns such injustice: "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin." (Deut. 24:16; see also Jer. 31:30 and Ezek. 18:1-13.)

A dubious immigration battle cloaks the State's vindictiveness against the Siraj family.

These folks follow a form of Islam so secular their neighbors in Pakistan beat and burned Mr. Siraj. He sought asylum here.

Our merciful bureaucrats rejected the application, so the family appealed. That apparently makes them "fair" game for Leviathan.

But will the State bother with such an excuse the next time?

When the rest of us are arrested for smoking pot, or for refusing to show ID, or for protesting the war, will our families be locked up, too?

The passage in Deuteronomy continues almost eerily, "Do not deprive the alien or the fatherless of justice..." Let us tremble with Jefferson when we reflect that God is indeed just and that His justice cannot sleep forever.

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.

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

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



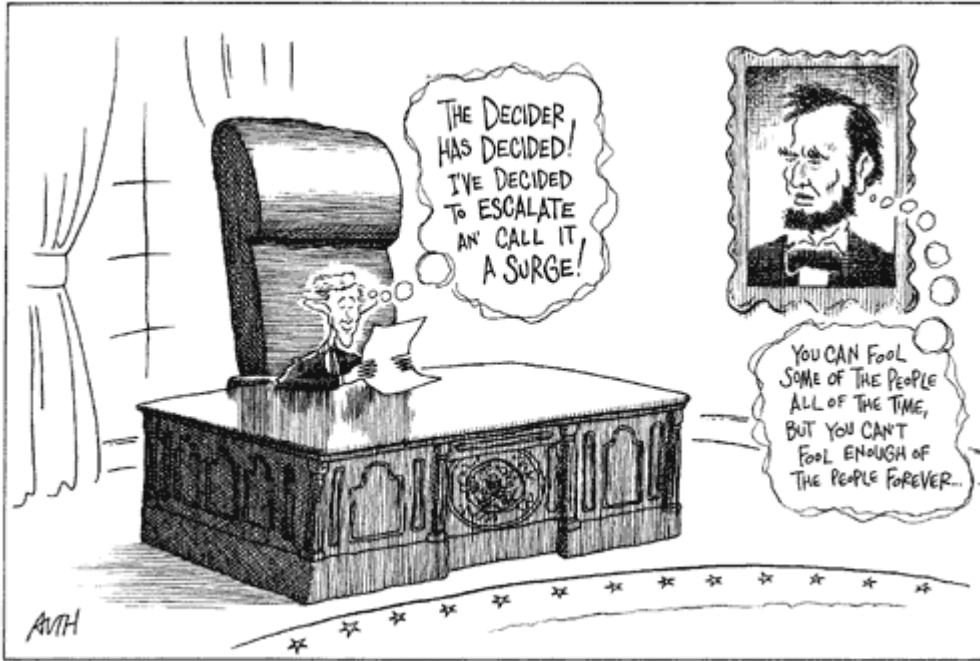
[Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in.]

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.

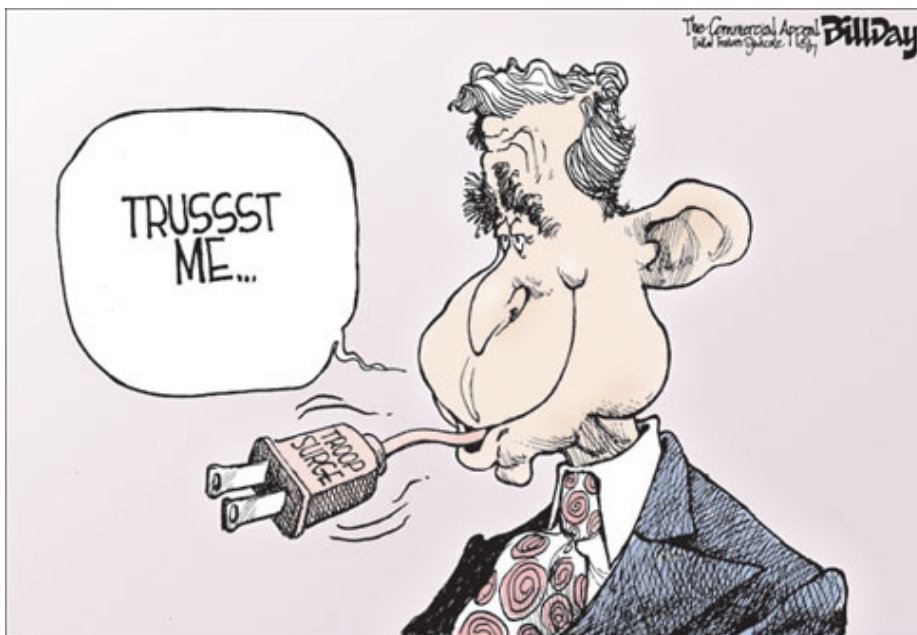
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/> And join with Iraq War vets in the call to end the occupation and bring our troops home now! (www.ivaw.net)

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



12-7-07 THE AMERICAN OVERSIGHT BOARD PRESS SERVICE

[Thanks to David Honish, Veteran, who sent this in.]



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[Thanks to David Honish, Veteran, who sent this in.]

GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out

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