

GI SPECIAL 5B11:



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

**“Rest In Peace Brother”
“We’ll Get Our Comrades Out Of The
Quagmire Soon”
Soldier Killed in Chopper Crash Laid to
Rest**

January 30, 2007 KATV

Little Rock - The life of an Arkansas soldier is celebrated as Sergeant First Class John "Gary" Brown was buried Tuesday afternoon.

He died January 20th in a helicopter crash in Iraq that also claimed the lives of 11 other American soldiers--including two other Arkansas national guardsmen.

The military funeral for Brown was held Tuesday morning at Agape church in Little Rock.

Brown served in both Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom--but he was more than an airmen in the guard. The 43-year-old was also a tire supply sales manager, husband, grandfather, and man of faith.

(Woody Arrowood, Friend) "To him his mission was a humanitarian mission. He was there to help the people of Iraq."

But Brown was acutely aware of the reality of war--and they he could leave Arkansas and not return.

(David Kroamer, Friend) "I asked him before he left if he was scared of dying, and he was...He said, you know, I wasn't scared after that."

Brown's family was presented the Bronze Star for their loved one's bravery before the burial at the state veteran's cemetery.

(Rev Phil Brown, Brother) "At funerals, it's the thing we say all the time, he's in a better place. It just so happens to be true."

Gary Brown is survived by a twin brother, Larry.

HAVE AN OPINION ON THIS STORY? TELL US ABOUT IT BELOW!

Lumberjack

IP: Logged

Posted: 01/30 7:05p ET

Rest in peace brother, we'll get our comrades out of the quagmire soon.

Comment: T

"The real fiends in their capital suites" who "are never spattered with a single drop of blood," as Z pointed out so well in a previous GI Special, certainly do not know that this promise has been made to Sergeant First Class John "Gary" Brown on the obscure website of an Arkansas TV station, one of two lonely comments added to the news story.

This is from another world, where most of us live, and they do not.

Even if somehow this reached the elite word of wealth and privilege in Washington DC, the politicians would have no idea what this means, or that this is

the most solemn oath one soldier can make to another, given on the occasion of the funeral of a brother killed in combat.

This is more important, and foretells the future more accurately, than anything said by any politician or media expert this year, or last.

There is payback coming, from the troops, and it will be a terrible reckoning for those who sent them to die in a war for Empire, and corporate greed on a platform of lies

“Rest in peace brother, we'll get our comrades out of the quagmire soon.”

And no rest, ever, for those responsible.

Not this side of the grave.

MORE:

Handwriting On The Wall: At Balad “T-Shirts Advertising Service In Iraq No Longer Sell Quickly” “A Lot Of People Don’t Want Shirts With OIF On It”

February 4, 2006 By Thomas E. Ricks, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

BALAD, Iraq -- Staff Sgt. Chad Twigg is on a one-year tour of duty in the middle of the Sunni Triangle. But on a recent winter morning, he wasn't digging a foxhole or tracking an enemy sniper or trying to grab some sleep between firefights.

Instead, the Army mechanic was checking out iPod accessories in one of the two post exchanges here at the biggest American base in Iraq. He worries about the lure of the PX, with its walls of shiny electronic devices and racks of new CDs. "I try to stay away from it to save money," Twigg said. But on average, 15 soldiers a day succumb and buy a television, said John Burk, the PX manager.

Balad Air Base is a unique creation, a small American town smack in the middle of the most hostile part of Iraq. While soldiers drive as fast as they can beyond its perimeter to avoid roadside bombs and ambushes, on base they must drive their Humvees at a stately 10 mph, the strictly enforced speed limit.

The 20,000 troops based at Balad, home to the major Air Force operation in Iraq and also the biggest Army logistical support center in the country, live in air-conditioned containers. Plans are being made to wire the metal boxes to bring the troops Internet, cable television and overseas telephone access.

Balad is scheduled to be one of the last four U.S. bases in Iraq and probably will be the very last, officials say. "Balad will be here, I believe, to the very end," said Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, the Slovenian-born F-15 pilot who commands the Air Force side of the operation.

Searching for drugs, pornography and souvenir weapons, they have learned the favorite places that departing Army troops use to hide contraband -- Bibles, picture frames, soap dishes and the sleeves in body armor vests that hold the bulletproof plates. Army engineers undergo especially close inspections because "they think they know where to hide everything," sometimes building false bottoms in toolboxes and containers, said Petty Officer 1st Class Steven Honer.

Offenders simply suffer confiscation, but the base does have a genuine criminal element: Recently an Army enlisted man returning from medical leave went AWOL, living with a cousin in the Air Force part of the base for two weeks before being apprehended and placed in the base's small brig.

Of the 20,000 troops at Balad, only several hundred have jobs that take them off base. Most Americans posted here never interact with an Iraqi, and some never see one, said Army Lt. Col. Larry Dotson, who is effectively the city manager. The closest some troops here come to experiencing the Iraq seen on the evening news is the miniature golf course, which mimics a battlefield with its baby sandbags, little Jersey barriers, strands of concertina wire and, down at the end of the course, what appears to be a tiny detainee cage.

For those bored with the mess halls, there are a Subway, a Pizza Hut, a Popeye's, an ersatz Starbucks called "Green Beans" that serves up triple lattes, and a 24-hour Burger King.

It is little wonder that military nutritionists worry. Three years ago, the average U.S. soldier lost about 10 pounds while stationed in Iraq for a year. "Now they gain that much," reported Maj. Polly Graham, an Army dietitian here.

Back at the Balad West PX, Burk, the manager, is pleased that he has managed to tamp down panic buying by visiting troops -- the 82nd Airborne Division always wanting Copenhagen snuff, for instance, or the Air Force hoarding Marlboro Lights.

The biggest change in buying preferences in the last two years, he said, is that T-shirts advertising service in Iraq no longer sell quickly.

"A lot of people don't want shirts with OIF on it," Burk said, citing the initials for Operation Iraqi Freedom. "It's kind of lost its pizzazz."

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Blast Kills 3 U.S. Soldiers In Diyala Province; Four Wounded

02/10/07 The Associated Press

Three U.S. soldiers were killed and four wounded in an explosion in a building northeast of Baghdad, the military said Saturday.

The blast occurred Friday while the Task Force Lightning soldiers were searching for a weapons cache and clearing a building in Diyala province, where U.S. and Iraqi forces have been battling insurgents for months around the city of Baqouba.

Fort Carson Soldier Killed By Improvised Bomb In Baghdad

1/30/07 The Associated Press

BARNSTABLE, Mass. - An Army sergeant assigned to Fort Carson, was killed last week when the Humvee he was riding in struck an improvised bomb in Baghdad, the Department of Defense said Monday.

Sgt. Alexander Fuller, 21, of Centerville, Mass. died Thursday, just two days after he called his wife, Anastacia Fuller, to tell her how beautiful she looked while pregnant. His daughter, whom he planned to call Alicia, is due in April.

"He was fearless," Anastacia Fuller, 19, said. He recently turned down a desk job to remain in the field, she said.

"He said, 'I appreciate it, but I've trained these men and I can't leave them,'" she said.

The military said the bomb also killed Pfc. Michael C. Balsley, 23, of Hayward, Calif. Balsley's family had announced his death earlier.

Both were assigned to Fort Carson's 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.

The deaths bring to 186 the number of Fort Carson soldiers who have died in Iraq.

Alexander Fuller was born in New Bedford and raised in Centerville. He had two brothers, Sean, 33, and Christopher, 22, and a 25-year-old sister, Katie. He was predeceased by his father, but his mother lives in Lake Worth, Fla.

Fuller dropped out of high school and worked at a car dealership owned by the family of his wife, whom he met at a Hyannis dance when she was 13 and he was 15. A skilled boxer, he also played football briefly in high school.

Fuller worked at a grocery store before earning his GED and enlisting in the Army in June 2004. He was married Oct. 16, 2004, between boot camp and his first deployment to South Korea.

"He was just the toughest, most fearless kid," said Zach Hallett, 24, of Osterville, with whose family Fuller once lived. "He wasn't afraid of anything."

Fuller also enjoyed writing and recording rap music.

Family members said they were told he was sitting in the Humvee's passenger seat leading a convoy when the bomb exploded.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Kellogg, Brown & Root Driver Shot Dead, Another Wounded At Anaconda

Feb. 10, 2007 Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The U.S. military confirmed today that American forces at Camp Anaconda, the huge air base north of Baghdad, shot and killed a civilian contract truck driver.

A spokeswoman for KBR, a contracting subsidiary of Halliburton that was formerly known as Kellogg, Brown & Root, said the shooting was under investigation.

Melissa Norcross, the KBR spokeswoman, said the company was not releasing the name of the dead driver or a second person in the truck who was wounded "to protect the individuals' privacy."

In Baghdad, Lt. Cmdr. Bill speaks said, "There was an escalation of force incident at Camp Anaconda on Feb. 5 (Monday) that resulted in the death of a civilian contractor. The incident is under investigation by the Army Criminal Investigation Division and KBR."

An escalation of force incident normally means a driver approaching a checkpoint did not respond to military orders to approach slowly and stop.

Halliburton is spinning off KBR into its own separate, publicly traded entity.

REALLY BAD PLACE TO BE:

BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW



12.3.06 A US soldier at the site of a bombing in Kirkuk. (AFP/Marwan Ibrahim)

TROOP NEWS

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



The funeral hearse with the casket of Marine Cpl. Mark D. Kidd arrives at the cemetery during his funeral in Brighton, Michigan February 3, 2007. Kidd was killed in Iraq by a sniper's bullet at a checkpoint. REUTERS/Rebecca Cook (UNITED STATES)

15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) Not Coming Home; Forced To Stay In Bush's Imperial Slaughterhouse

Feb. 10, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE
No. 20070210-11

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – The Camp Pendleton, Calif.-based 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) will have their deployment extended in Al Anbar Province, Iraq, in support of Multi-National Force-West.

15th MEU (SOC) forces began arriving in Iraq Nov. 11, 2006 and are currently headquartered in the vicinity of Rutbah in western Al Anbar. The 15th MEU (SOC) continues to conduct counter-insurgency operations, support the introduction of new police forces and ensure the freedom of movement for legitimate commerce along the major routes that link Jordan and Syria to Baghdad and the rest of Iraq.

The Marines and sailors of the 15th MEU (SOC), commanded by Col. Brian Beaudreault, and their families have been notified of the extension.

SATAN SAYS:

“Ha Ha Ha; You're Fucking Dead. And You. And You.”



(AFP/File/Mandel Ngan)

"The marines that I have had wounded over the past five months have been attacked by a faceless enemy. But the enemy has got a face. He's called Satan." US Marine Colonel Gareth Brandl

Wonderful Idea; Extend It To The Troops

2.8.07 New York Times

Many federal employees have outright refuse repeated requests that they go to Iraq, while others have demanded that they only be sent to Baghdad and not put outside the more secure Green Zone, which includes the American Embassy and Iraqi government ministries.

MILITARY FAMILIES CALL FEB 24TH TROOPS HOME NOW DEMONSTRATION: CENTRAL LONDON

FEB 23RD - 25TH CAMP OUTSIDE DOWNING STREET

FEBRUARY 2007 MILITARY FAMILIES AGAINST THE WAR NEWSLETTER

This month military families everywhere have a chance to let this government know we want our troops home now.

On February 24th we will join thousands of people marching in London to call for Troops Out of Iraq and No Trident.

We will also be camping outside Downing Street 23rd - 25th February.

Our sons and daughters were sent to fight in a war based on lies.

132 British service people have now died in Iraq. There were no weapons of mass destruction. Over half a million Iraqis have died.

The overwhelming majority of US, British and Iraqi citizens want the troops out now. Yet Bush is sending more troops to Baghdad for an offensive that threatens to spill over into the south - further endangering the lives of British troops.

In Afghanistan another failed US war threatens to claim the lives of yet more coalition troops and innocent civilians.

Military personnel have to endure low pay, long hours and poor equipment.

Their families are forced to put up with appalling housing on top of the daily stress of having a loved one deployed in a war zone.

When our troops come home from the war mentally or physically injured they and their families are abandoned by those that sent them there. The government are closing Britain's last military hospital.

We invite all military families and serving and ex-services people to join Military Families Against the War on the demonstration and camp.

If you plan to attend either event or would like more information about the demonstration and camp email: demo@mfaw.org.uk

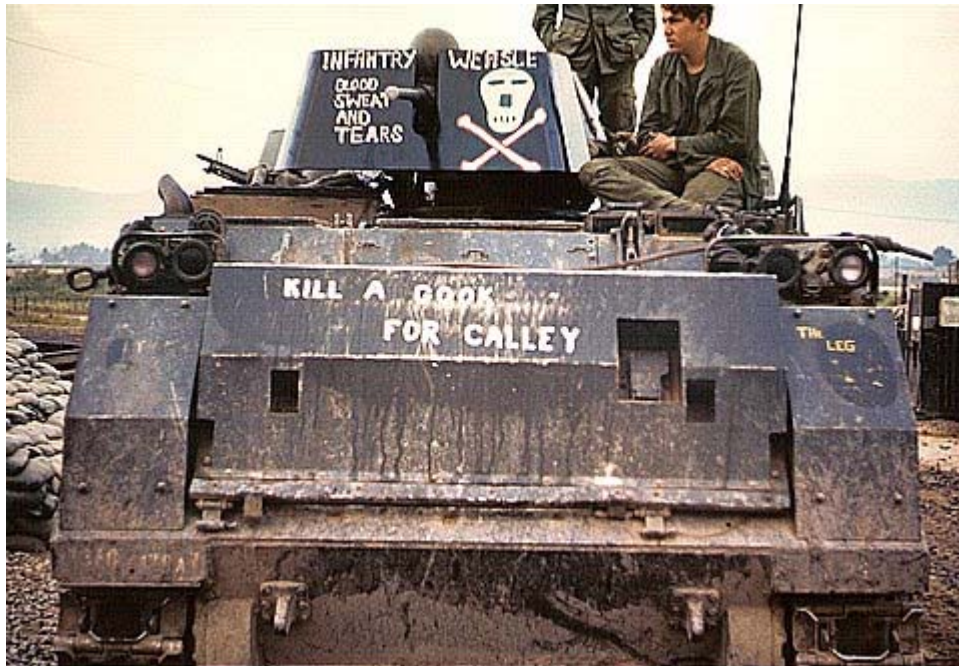
Or call

ROSE GENTLE: 07951 767 530

ADY COUSINS: 07779 628 863

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

KILL A GOOK FOR CALLEY



From: Mike Hastie

To: GI Special

Sent: February 08, 2007
Subject: Kill A Gook For Calley

I took this picture in Vietnam shortly after Lt. William Calley was found guilty for his part in the My Lai Murders. 504 Vietnamese civilians were massacred at My Lai on March 16, 1968.

When I went back to Vietnam in 1994, I stood next to a ditch where 175 civilians were shot at point-blank range. Women were raped, and infants were torn apart by automatic weapons.

The My Lai Massacre was a U.S. military operation. It was being conducted by military brass in helicopters.

This kind of hell happened so many times throughout the war in Indochina. The U.S. military was on a rampage, especially with carpet bombing and artillery fire in Free Fire Zones. Navy ships blew the hell out of everything.

The Vietnam War, to include Laos and Cambodia, was " Total Warfare."

The reason the norms of society hate veterans who expose this kind of truth, is because we expose National Shame.

"Total Warfare," is about destroying anyone or anything that supports the combatant.

Geneva Convention Rules are for civilians back home who think there are rules against killing civilians in war.

It is a massive lie!! Over one million Iraqi civilians have been killed in both Iraq wars.

The magnitude of this war is coming home to America like no other war in American history.

I see this country crumbling before my eyes. Every area involving social services in our towns and cities is suffering because our government is spending more money on violence than on kindness.

I graduated from high school in 1963, and I know longer recognize this country. America has become an internal car bomb about to go off. 40,000 gang members in Los Angeles County. 80,000 homeless people in Orange County. Intercity high schools in many large cities across America have a 40-50% dropout rate. Drug addiction in America has become a daily newspaper.

Fifty million people in America do not have health care. The Gulf Coast of America is still in shambles. How many high schools in America are on the edge of seeing more gun violence. How many more little girls are going to be shot at point-blank range. I have three grandchildren, and I doubt if they will ever see the quality of life I saw in my childhood.

So, from the My Lai Massacre in Vietnam, to the dinosaur war economy in America.

One step for insanity, one giant step toward oblivion. If we do not work for world peace on a new born child's terms, we are doomed.

Greed now has the shortest shelf life in world history.

Mike Hastie
Vietnam Veteran
February 8, 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



[Vietnam GI, June 1970]

MY LAI

“C” Company the Goat ?

Vietnam GI

Because when you come right down to it, the wrong people are on trial for atrocities.

Nixon, Westmoreland, Abrams and Mendal Rivers, the very bullshitters who are most eager to see Charlie Co. brought to justice, are finally the men most responsible for My Lai. They were the ones telling us that Ky and Thieu's corrupt government is worth dying for. They are the ones who taught us to kill, who put us over here in this mind-fucking shit hole and told us to go to it. In short, they started the war and they know you never have a war without atrocities.

[Vietnam GI, June 1970]

Laughin', Cryin',
Livin', Dyin'
Hee Haw
Who's the jackass now?

Charlie Co. is the jackass. From Nixon and Abrams on down to all sorts of deluded fat ass lifers and selfrighteous civi-pigs there is a feeling that Charlie Co. really blew it. They didn't give candy bars to the kids of My Lai. They didn't pass out soap to the women. Instead they blew off the village.

So the men of Charlie Co. fucked up. They didn't act like your friendly neighborhood Peace Corpsman. They acted instead like the ordinary sons of ordinary people.

They acted like an outfit of short-timers and Purple Heart winners who'd been in the shit, who'd lived it and breathed it for a long time. They acted like men who

were taught to believe in and respect officers like Lt. Calley, who awarded himself an extra 7 days leave while his platoon was being chopped to shit in a minefield. They acted like men who were given the bullshit line about getting their GED's and going to an Army school and then were dumped into the infantry.

The men of Charlie Co. conducted themselves like men whose personal knowledge of the Vietnamese people came from encounters with whores, pimps, begging kids, black market operators, thieves, and of course the VC. They acted like men, a tight group of men, who for two months had seen their brothers getting mangled in mine fields and ripped off by snipers and who'd rarely seen anybody to shoot back at.

Sound familiar so far?

Then pay attention.

Charlie Co. is ordered by Lt. Col. Barker to hit My Lai 4. He tells Medina there's a crack VC battalion in the village. They are supposed to destroy it, then burn out the village.

Next day they move in. No VC. But a few of the villagers panic and run. The men, fucked over, psyched up, looking for revenge, open fire.

A lot of people fall.

The rest of them are too scared to move.

Next we see Snot Calley ordering his men to herd the people into ditches and to start cutting them down. Some do and dig it. Some get pissed off and sickened by the whole thing.

Calley and Medina make a bullshit body count, find a few imaginary weapons, and pull out. A few days later Westmoreland commends Medina for doing a good job. The real story gets hushed up for the obvious reasons that nobody in the Army wanted the publicity

But after 20 months word does get out. And as the story gets pieced together by the CID, the press takes it up. The Establishment is surprised, shocked and outraged... both because there was a massacre ("How could our boys have done such a thing?"), and because the Army covered it up.

After showing that their hearts were in the right place, they gave up the stage to the Brass with parting remarks to the effect of "well, if you are just men, you will not sweep this under the rug... you will see to it that the guilty are punished."

Enter the Brass, anxious to prove that they are indeed, just men.

How do they do it?

They tell the ex-GIs of Charlie Co. that they want them to come to Washington, all expenses paid, to tell their version of the massacre so they can get the goods on Calley.

Half of the company gets sucked in. Now that the Brass has the whole story of My Lai, what do they do?

The two-faced bastards turn around and announce their intention to prosecute the whole company. But you say most of the guys are civilians now, so they are out of the reach of military "justice"? Well, not exactly... the latest is that the JAG is trying to find a way to extradite them to SVN for trial.

The Brass is really pissed at Charlie Co. But it's not because they give a fuck about the killing of innocent people.

If that were true they'd be a little more careful where they ordered air and artillery strikes. They'd also find it a little harder to just shrug when they hit our own men and say, "Well, accidents happen you know."

What they are pissed about is that news of the massacre has made them and their war look worse than they ever have before. So they know what they have to do. Put the screws to Charlie Co., to make it look to people back home and around the world that they believe in-fighting a good clean war.

At the same time they are making the GI's of Charlie look like bloodthirsty freaks. While everyone is talking about what a terrible thing it is they completely forget who is really responsible.

Because when you come right down to it, the wrong people are on trial for atrocities.

Nixon, Westmoreland, Abrams and Mendal Rivers, the very bullshitters who are most eager to see Charlie Co. brought to justice, are finally the men most responsible for My Lai. They were the ones telling us that Ky and Thieu's corrupt government is worth dying for. They are the ones who taught us to kill, who put us over here in this mind-fucking shit hole and told us to go to it. In short, they started the war and they know you never have a war without atrocities.

If you put men in the shit long enough, you're going to have My Lai's.

It's as simple as that.

If they were really concerned about putting a stop to massacres like My Lai they'd stop the war.

But right now their concerns are very clear; easy promotions, soft civilian jobs for retired Brass, and money for the owners of the arms industry. If by making the men of Charlie Co. into the scapegoat they can keep the ball rolling a bit longer you can bet your ass they'll do it.

Comment: T

If you're looking for people to blame for the endless evil shit that happens in Iraq in this dishonorable Imperial war, blame the politicians that put the troops downrange, in an impossible situation.

Everything flows from the act of invasion and conquest ordered up by the greedy Imperial liars and traitors in Washington DC. They are the enemy.

Troops Invited:

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 email contact@militaryproject.org:. Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Replies confidential. Same address to unsubscribe.

SENIOR CALL-UP APPROVED: Bring The Yougin's Home, NOW!

JOIN OUR NATIONAL SENIOR ARMY TODAY

OUR TROOPS ALWAYS ARE STAND WITH PRIDE

FreakingNews.com

[Picture by Skorpion of Independents]

1/8/2007 Veterans For Peace Discussion

A number of us Old Foggie 'Nam Vets have tried to Re-Enlist, not to mention the 'Raging Grannies.' Now with the escalation we can save the little chimps butt, before we indict the whole bunch!

**“The Case Of Patrick Chenoweth
Delivered A Crushing Blow To The
Feeble Efforts Of Military Leaders To
Win Back The Loyalty And
Commitment Of Their Troops”
“In Vietnam The Ground Troops Were So
Rebellious That The Marines Were
Removed Altogether”**

Meanwhile, on the USS Ranger literally hundreds of documented incidents occurred in which members of the crew - officers and enlisted alike - claimed that they actually had thrown the items into the gears to keep the Ranger from sailing to Vietnam.

January 2007 By Eric Seitz, On Watch; Newsletter of the Military Law Task Force of the National Lawyers Guild [Excerpts]

By August 1972 the war was extremely unpopular. Vietnam Veterans Against the War ("WAW") already was a significant force, and the GI resistance movement was spreading like wildfire.

In Vietnam the ground troops were so rebellious that the Marines were removed altogether, and it had become official policy to separate departing soldiers from the new recruits in a vain effort to prevent the former from "contaminating" the latter.

In desperation, the Pentagon had shifted its emphasis from ground operations to an air war prosecuted by aircraft carriers stationed off the coast of Vietnam and planes based in Thailand, Guam, and elsewhere.

In August, 1972, rumors surfaced that the scheduled deployment of a carrier bound for Vietnam had been postponed because of damages that had been sustained to one of its engines.

According to those rumors, at least one heavy paint scraper and another item had been thrown into the gears of the USS Ranger, based in Alameda, California, and a sailor had been arrested and was facing charges of sabotage.

Immediately the GI support movement put out the word to the vast network of GI counseling agencies and centers to inquire of their contacts with the USS Ranger and provide any information about the incident.

Within just a few days two Ranger seamen walked into a Berkeley counseling office looking for an attorney to check on the status of their shipmate, Patrick Chenoweth, who was in the brig at Treasure Island, a windblown islet in the middle of San Francisco Bay.

The very next day I met and was retained by a young, frightened Navy Fireman (E-3) Patrick Chenoweth who was charged with "sabotage in time of war," a potentially capital offense, and who until then had been represented by two young Navy lawyers, neither of whom had ever tried a major case before.

Approximately one month later Patrick Chenoweth appeared before a military judge for an initial hearing that was covered by the national and international media.

Earlier the same day, the New York Times had published an article by Seymour Hersh in which he characterized the damage to the Ranger's engine as just one of some thirty-four incidents aboard that ship and part of a sweeping tide of rebellious acts throughout the Navy and all of the other military services.

From that day until his acquittal. Patrick Chenoweth became a household name and a folk hero in the antiwar and GI resistance movements against the Vietnam War.

Every hearing at Treasure Island was packed to overflowing with the media and Patrick's friends, shipmates, and supporters.

At the same time, thousands of supporters turned out at a rally at the UC Berkeley campus hosted by Jane Fonda, who unveiled her movie "FT A," depicting her tour of Asia with other anti-war entertainers.

Meanwhile, on the USS Ranger literally hundreds of documented incidents occurred in which members of the crew - officers and enlisted alike - claimed that they actually had thrown the items into the gears to keep the Ranger from sailing to Vietnam.

Indeed, when the case went to trial, it was those gleeful statements of Patrick's shipmates that provided the crux of his defense!

From a historical perspective, the case of Patrick Chenoweth provided an enormous impetus to the already powerful GI movement and delivered a crushing

blow to the feeble efforts of military leaders to win back the loyalty and commitment of their troops.

It is no exaggeration to say that the case of Patrick Chenoweth, by virtue of its content and its timing, inspired the opposition and materially hastened the end of the U.S. war in Vietnam.

MORE:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Military Law Task Force of the National Lawyers Guild

On Watch; Newsletter of the Military Law Task Force of the National Lawyers Guild

The Task Force has established several priorities for its work in 2007. If you can help with research, writing, speaking, organizing, counseling or litigating in any of these areas, please contact the MLTF.

The priorities are:

Supporting the rights of those resisting the military, including individual resistance and other dissent, such as petitions, coffeehouses, etc. We welcome the addition of more coffeehouses located at bases stateside.

Creating programs to address the medical and psychiatric damage of the wars, including assisting the development of a veterans movement as well as challenging the system that hides this damage.

Supporting our women's military rights project, which will challenge sexual harassment and sexual assault in the military.

Supporting counter-recruitment and anti-militarism work in schools and communities.

Please call Marti Hiken at 415-566-3732 or Kathleen Gilberd at 619-234-1883 to help.

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

On The Hypocrisy Of Telling Troops To Refuse To Go To Iraq: Civilian Activists Question Moralizing At Others To Go To Prison While They're Safe At Home [1966 Style] “it is easy to say DON'T GO, BUT WE ARE NOT GOING TO JAIL, WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE PLACED IN THE BRIG”

*From: THE SPITTING IMAGE; MYTH, MEMORY, AND THE LEGACY OF VIETNAM,
New York University Press; New York, 1998*

By the summer of 1966 the movement had been supporting draft resistance for over a year and was now beginning to support, if not encourage, in-service resistance to the war.

How would men who had spent a year or more enduring the indignities of military life and the hardships of Vietnam react to criticisms of the war and calls for their involvement on the side of peace?

Moreover, was the movement not demanding that very young men take extraordinary legal risks with their futures by asking them to refuse induction or orders to fight in Vietnam -- risks that movement activists would not have to take because they were too old for the draft or exempt from service because of their class, race, or gender.

Indeed, weren't the veterans of previous wars asking Vietnam-era young men to do something they themselves had never done, namely, resist induction and service in wartime?

As the writer of an internal memorandum for the Fifth Avenue Peace Parade Committee phrased the problem:

“One reason we cannot get 100,000 men to refuse to go to Vietnam is that we cannot offer them sufficient protection.

“Being put in the brig, placed on a diet of bread and water for 9 days, forced to forfeit \$85/mo in case of private (sic), placed in solitary confinement, etc, is not protection. All this for AWOL: . .

If I were a GI and saw a peace movement such as ours which opposes the war in Vietnam and supports those who refuse I would LOOK TO THEM TO PROTECT MY RIGHTS IN REFUSING TO GO.

They can say to us that it is easy to say DON'T GO, BUT WE ARE NOT GOING TO JAIL, WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE PLACED IN THE BRIG. (Memorandum c. 1966)

President Bush Said That Iraqi Forces Are “Beginning To Show Me Something,”

[Thanks to Jeff B, who sent this in.]

1.30.07 Washington Post

President Bush said that Iraqi forces are “beginning to show me something.

Showing Bush Something



OCCUPATION REPORT

New U.S. Commander In Iraq Calls Bush “Barbaric Enemy”

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

Feb 10 By LAUREN FRAYER, Associated Press Writer

Gen. David Petraeus took charge of U.S. forces in Iraq on Saturday, becoming the third commander in the war and declaring the American task now was to help Iraqis "gain the time they need to save their country."

Petraeus spoke of "barbaric enemies who brag of inhuman acts ... in the name of religion."

**LIAR
TRAITOR
TROOP-KILLER
DOMESTIC ENEMY
UNFIT FOR COMMAND
UNWORTHY OF OBEDIENCE**



(AFP/Jim Watson)

And The Ignorance-In-Action Award For 2007, So Far, Goes To: Maj. Gen. Carter Ham, Commander, 1st ID

January 29, 2007 By Gina Cavallaro, Army Times Staff writer [Excerpts]

Fort Riley, Kan. — Insurgents are known to have infiltrated Iraq's security forces and, wearing army and police uniforms, wreaked havoc among the Iraqi population.

This tactic is a threat to U.S. troops, especially to the 11-man transition teams living on Iraqi bases. No one is more aware of that than the leaders in charge of the advisory mission.

"You can play out in your mind terrible circumstances," said Maj. Gen. Carter Ham, commanding general of 1st Infantry Division.

"Having said that, part of this is cultural. There is the Arab culture of welcoming a guest and that guest becomes your responsibility and so we watch it, obviously, very closely."

"Clearly we know that there's a degree of infiltration by the militia and other entities into the security forces," Ham said.

"We try to watch that very carefully, but again I think there is something about this cultural aspect that says, 'I might hate you but if you're in my tent then I have an obligation to watch out for you.' It's an interesting dynamic to watch that play out."

[On the other hand, if you arrive at somebody's tent with 150,000 soldiers, with no invitation and without having asked permission to come, and you proceed to slaughter tens of thousands of your "hosts" friends and relatives, you'd have to be the stupidest racist idiot on the face of the earth to think any sane human being, including your victim (oh, excuse me, your "host") wouldn't do everything possible to kill you.

[Your "host" would be right to do so.

[And this ignorant, condescending asshole with some stupid Hollywood notion of how people in the Middle East act -- or maybe he got it from a comic book he read -- is a commander of a whole infantry division?

[What, he won command of the 1st ID as a prize in a box of cracker jacks? Along with a toy soldier kit complete with some plastic guy riding a plastic camel and a tent or two?

Or maybe he just sucked it out of his thumb, or someplace else, along with the rest of the tiny notions circulating around in the vacancy where normal people have a brain.]

So Much For That “Sovereignty” Bullshit: **Occupation Command Orders Troops At Arrest Iraqi Deputy Health Minister And Trash The Place**



(AP Photo/Samir Mizban)

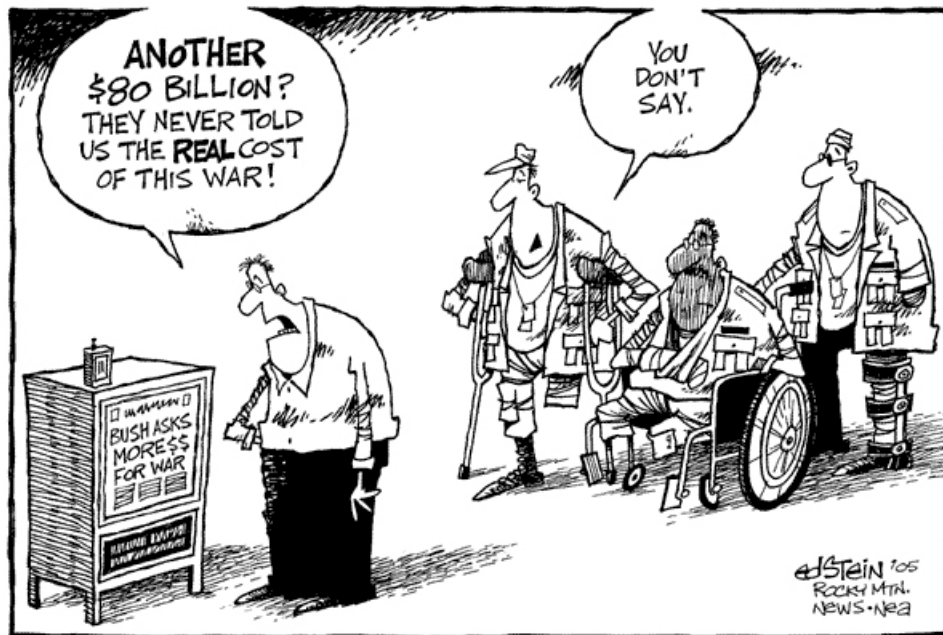
A man stands amid wreckage inside the Iraqi Health Ministry offices in Baghdad, Iraq, Feb. 8, 2007.

U.S. forces stormed the offices of the Health Ministry on Thursday and arrested a senior ministry official at gunpoint without telling the collaborator government anything about the action until it was over, and then lied about who led the raid.

However, witnesses reported that U.S. forces led the raid, not Iraqi collaborator troops as the U.S. command at first claimed.

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



[Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier, 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)

CLASS WAR REPORTS

“The Deputies Had Tried To Get Gary To Confess, But He Wouldn’t”

“They Had Kicked Him All In His Privates”

34 Years Later, Still In Prison

[The traitor Bush promises the Iraqis the Occupation will bring them American style justice. That means keeping people like this in prison forever, which is the crime now visited upon this man. The Iraqis are right to resist by force of arms. Anybody would be. There is no other choice available.]

February 8, 2007 By BOB HERBERT, The New York Times

Juanita Tyler lives in a neat one-story house that sits behind a glistening magnolia tree that dominates the small front lawn.

She is 74 now and unfailingly gracious, but she admits to being tired from a lifetime of hard work and trouble. I went to see her to talk about her son, Gary.

The Tylers are black.

In 1974, when Gary was 16, he was accused of murdering a 13-year-old white boy outside the high school that they attended in nearby Destrehan. The boy was shot to death in the midst of turmoil over school integration, which the local whites were resisting violently.

The case against young Tyler — who was on a bus with other black students that was attacked by about 200 whites — was built on bogus evidence and coerced testimony.

But that was enough to get him convicted by an all-white jury and sentenced to die in the electric chair. His life was spared when the Louisiana death penalty was ruled unconstitutional, but he is serving out a life sentence with no chance of parole in the state penitentiary at Angola.

Ms. Tyler’s sharpest memory of the day Gary was arrested was of sitting in a room at a sheriff’s station, listening to deputies in the next room savagely beating her son.

“They beat Gary so bad,” she said. “My poor child. I couldn’t do nothing. They wouldn’t let me in there. I saw who went in there. They were like older men. They didn’t care that I was there. They didn’t care who was there. They beat Gary something awful, and I could hear him hollering and moaning. All I could say was, ‘Oh Jesus, have mercy.’”

“One of the deputies had a strap and they whipped him with that. It was terrible. Finally, when they let me go in there, Gary was just trembling. He was frightened to death. He was trembling and rocking back and forth. They had kicked him all in his privates. He said, ‘Mama, they kicked me. One kicked me in the front and one kicked in the back.’ He said that over and over.

“I couldn’t believe what they had done to my baby.”

The deputies had tried to get Gary to confess, but he wouldn’t.

Ms. Tyler (like so many people who have looked closely at this case) was scornful of the evidence the authorities came up with.

“It was ridiculous,” she said. “Where was he gonna get that big ol’ police gun they said he used? It was a great big ol’ gun. And he had on those tight-fitting clothes and nobody saw it?”

The gun that investigators produced as the murder weapon was indeed a large, heavy weapon — a government-issued Colt .45 that had been stolen from a firing range used by the sheriff’s department.

Deputies who saw Gary before the shooting and those who searched him (and the rest of the black students on the bus) immediately afterward did not see any gun.

“I don’t know where the police got that gun from,” said Ms. Tyler. “But they didn’t get it from my son, that’s for sure.”

Ms. Tyler worked for many years as a domestic while raising 11 children. Her husband, Uylos, a maintenance worker who often held three jobs at a time, died in 1989. “He had a bad heart,” Ms. Tyler said.

She shifted in her chair in the living room of the small house, and was quiet for several minutes. Then she asked, “Do you know what it’s like to lose a child?”

I shook my head.

“I always felt sorry for that woman whose son was killed,” she said. “That was a terrible time. I remember it clear, like it was yesterday. But what happened was wrong. The white people, they didn’t want no black children in that school. So there was a lot of tension. And my son has paid a terrible price for that.

“They didn’t have no kind of proof against him, but they beat him bad anyway, and then they sentenced him to the electric chair.”

Ms. Tyler visits Gary at Angola regularly, the last time a few weeks ago.

“He’s doing well,” she said. “And I’m glad that he’s able to cope. He tries to help the young ones out when they come in there. He always tells me, ‘My dear, you have to stay strong so I can stay strong.’ So then I just try to hold my head up and keep on going.”

She looked for a moment as if she was going to cry, but she didn't.

"It's just sad," she said. "I wonder if he'll ever be able to come out. I wonder will I live long enough to see him out."

Thousands Held In Immigrant Prisons Don't Get Medical Treatment And Adequate Food; Subjected To Frequent Sexual Harassment

09 February 2007 By William Fisher, Truthout Guest Contributor [Excerpt]

The Bush administration's penchant for privatizing virtually all government operations has combined with the current furor over border security to create another perfect storm - this time for suspected illegal immigrants.

These thousands of people held in detention under the aegis of the US Department of Homeland Security - increasingly in privately-owned jails - are failing to receive timely medical treatment and adequate food, being subjected to frequent sexual harassment, and having their access to lawyers, relatives and immigration authorities improperly limited.

These are among the findings of the DHS inspector general, based on an audit of the US-owned and operated Krome Service Processing Center in Miami, a facility in San Diego operated by the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), and local jails and prisons in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and Hudson and Passaic counties, New Jersey.

But critics of the agency called the report disappointing, contending that it watered down recommendations and ignored the most serious allegations of abuse collected since June 2004, which they said included physical beatings, medical neglect, food shortages and mixing of illegal immigrants in administrative custody with criminals.

GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out

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

The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others:

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

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

http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi_special/; <http://www.uruknet.info/?p=-6&l=e>;

<http://www.albasrah.net/magalat/english/gi-special.htm>

GI Special distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupation of Iraq. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to

those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **GI Special has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is GI Special endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

If printed out, this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.