

## GI SPECIAL 5E2:



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

# Sabotage The War

From: Dennis Serdel  
To: GI Special  
Sent: May 01, 2007

By Dennis Serdel, Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade, purple heart, Veterans For Peace 50 Michigan, Vietnam Veterans Against The War, United Auto Workers GM Retiree, in Perry, Michigan

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## Sabotage The War

**The wolves are frothing around Wall Street  
while the rich Elite hide behind  
brick walls with no windows.**

**Their front-man Bush is sinking in quicksand  
but the Soldiers can't wait for 2008.  
Learn from us all you young men from old men,  
who were young too in Vietnam,  
how not to fight, when you can,  
avoid battles, just go through the motions,  
refuse orders and sabotage  
the wolves' war anyway you can.  
Your commander and chief  
may be impeached as a sacrifice  
by the wolves like they had to do  
when Nixon resigned...  
but we know most of you  
were not even born, just a war that you read about  
in history class,  
when at it's height, killed 500 Soldiers a week  
in another endless war or so it seemed.  
But us young Soldiers stopped the madness,  
gave the country back to the Vietnamese  
because us young Soldiers, like you can,  
disobeyed the wolves' generals  
until the wolves withdrew  
all the Soldiers and the wolves  
on Wall Street and the rich Elite  
started to count, all the money that they made,  
off the war, that's how you stop it  
brothers in arms.  
You may be dead or wounded  
and can't wait till 2008  
the elections are a joke anyway  
because all you are offered  
to vote for are handpicked  
by the rich Elite and corporations  
who control the US government.  
None of them will bail you out,  
so you have to stop fighting,  
sabotage the war, then the wolves  
have no choice, but to bring you home,  
it's worked before.  
We need a revolution in the USA  
end the occupation by the wolves,  
by the Elite  
it could even be non-violent...  
of for and by patriotic Americans,  
so we can fly  
our red white and blue flag**

**with pride...  
for all the world to see.**



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

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **New Jersey Sgt. Killed In Iskandariyah**



Sgt. Michael R. Hullender, 29, was killed by a roadside bomb while he was foot patrol April 28, 2007, in, Iraq. Hullender, 29, of Little Falls, N.J., was a medic who joined the Army in September 1998 and was assigned to Fort Richardson in May 2005. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

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## Iowa Soldier Killed In Baghdad



Army Pfc. Brian A. Botello, 19, of Alta, Iowa, was killed during combat operations April 29, 2007, in Baghdad. He was one of three soldiers with the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, of Fort Carson, Colo., who were killed in the explosion. (AP Photo/Fort Carson)

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## Maryland Staff Sgt. Killed In Baghdad



Army Staff Sgt. Jay E. Martin, 29, of Baltimore, died after a makeshift bomb exploded near his unit during combat in Iraq April 29, 2007. He was one of three soldiers with the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, of Fort Carson, Colo., who were killed in the explosion. (AP Photo/Fort Carson)

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## Ohio Sgt. Killed In Iraq



Sgt. Norman L. Tollett, 30, of Columbus, Ohio, an 82nd Airborne Division Paratrooper died of wounds sustained when his patrol came under small arms fire April 28, 2007, in Baghdad, Iraq. Tollett was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 82nd Airborne Division. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

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***Capt. John J. McKenna:***  
**“Dad, Why Are We Going In Here?  
This Is All BS”**  
**“Maybe They Will Ask Why McKenna  
Had To Die Aug. 16 From Sniper Fire  
In A Place Called Fallujah”**

April 26th 2007 BY DENIS HAMILL, NEW YORK DAILY NEWS COLUMNIST

**Make it a sign of his times.**

**When they change E. Second St. in Kensington, Brooklyn, to Capt. John J. McKenna Way at noon on Saturday, May 19, maybe people who never had the privilege to know him will ask about him.**

**Maybe they will ask why McKenna had to die Aug. 16 from sniper fire in a place called Fallujah in Iraq, trying to save a fellow soldier named Lance Cpl. Michael Glover, of Garden City, both of the 2nd Battalion of the 25th Marines, 4th Division, Fox Company, a reserve unit based in Albany near where McKenna worked as a state trooper.**

**Last year, before Thanksgiving, I asked McKenna's father, John McKenna 3rd, a math teacher, if his son believed in the mission in Iraq in which he died.**

**"He believed in his men," said his father.**

**"When he served in Afghanistan he believed in the mission as a payoff for Sept. 11.**

**"When he was transferred to Kuwait before his unit was sent into the initial invasion of Iraq he called me and said, 'Dad, why are we going in here? This is all BS.**

**"We got this guy Saddam in a box, both in the north and south fly zones. I don't understand why we're doing this.'**

**"But he went for his men, not for some great mission. But when he got there, he really felt for those Iraqi people, especially the kids."**

After his name goes up on the sign on E. Second St., if one Brooklyn kid stops and asks about Capt. John J. McKenna and learns of the folly of this "BS" war in Iraq, then McKenna will have lived on in that kid's life by helping to steer him or her away from death at a young age in this or some future war of political choice, concocted by arrogant politicians whose own kids never seem to serve or die or have streets named for them at age 30.

So make this a sign of his times.

For McKenna's name on that street sign should not be another grave marker. He already has one of those, over which his mother, Karen, weeps.

No, let Capt. John J. McKenna's name on that sign on that Brooklyn lamppost be the byline of his proud biography that tells us about the special life John J. McKenna led. Not a reminder of his death in a lost war that took him from friends and family and from all of us who would have benefited from having a good and brave and selfless man sharing this world with us.

When the summer sun shines on that sign let it reflect that McKenna was raised on this working class block, a burly redhead who towered two-sewer homers in countless games of stickball, a kid who played "soldiers" with his Brooklyn childhood buddies like Joseph Fonti, who would later become a priest.



Let it tell us that McKenna went to Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Bishop Ford High, and became a Boy Scout and later an Eagle Scout, before joining the New York State Troopers and the United States Marine Forces Reserves.

As the sign bearing his name drips with spring rain let it remind us that McKenna was baptized, received First Holy Communion and Confirmation a few blocks away at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

When snow falls on that sign let it shiver with the chilling irony that his old buddy, the Rev. Joseph Fonti, would wind up saying McKenna's Requiem Mass in that same church.

Listen to the sign rattle in the Brooklyn autumn winds and listen to his father speak of his son he will never see again, and about the scholarship fund he has established in his name.

"John championed the underdog, always helped people who couldn't help themselves. Which was confirmed by the guys in his unit that I talked to. He went out instinctively to get Mike Glover who was actually dead at the time, and that's when John got hit.

"John always believed in giving back to those who helped him. So we are going to hold a series of fund-raisers to establish a scholarship fund in my son's honor so that his death will have lasting purpose."

**Come and be part of his street-naming ceremony, on the corner of Greenwood Ave. and E. Second St. at noon on May 19, and join the USMC, VFW, Catholic War Vets and NYS Trooper Honor Guards, and the Boy and Girl Scouts, and the NYPD Pipe and Drum Band, and sing along with the national anthem as they enshrine this Brooklyn patriot's name on Capt. John J. McKenna Way.**

**But instead of mourning his death, celebrate the short, sweet, courageous life of Capt. John J. McKenna.**

**Make it a sign of his times.**

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## **Moultrie County Soldier Killed In Iraq**



04/29/2007 by: Matt Franzblau, WCIA 3 News

DECATUR/ SULLIVAN - A Moultrie County town is mourning the loss of one of their own tonight. 21-year old Cole Spencer of Gays was killed Saturday while serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq.

Spencer was deployed this past March and was planning to get married once he returned home. Spencer's fiancée says he spent just over a month in Iraq before being killed.

Friends and family of the 21-year old army vet say they still don't know the circumstances surrounding his death. Spencer also leaves behind a 16-year-old brother and his two parents.

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## MNC-I Soldier Dies Of Non-Battle Related Cause

May 1, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070501-08

BAGHDAD – An MNC-I Soldier died at approximately 10:30 a.m. Tuesday of non-battle causes.

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## Peoria-Born Soldier Dies In Baghdad



The casket of Army Pfc. Lucas V. Starcevich, 25, at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield, Ill., April 27, 2007. Starcevich died April 16 in Baghdad, Iraq, of wounds



sustained when the vehicle he was in struck an improvised explosive device. (AP Photo/Seth Perlman)

April 18, 2007 PEORIA JOURNAL STAR, INC.

PEORIA - A 25-year-old soldier born in Peoria was killed in Iraq when his vehicle hit an explosive, his family and the Defense Department said Tuesday.

Army Pfc. Lucas Vincent Starcevich died Monday in Baghdad, the Department of Defense said. Starcevich was born in Peoria and was a graduate of Champaign's Unity High School and Parkland College who had enlisted in 2000, according to the News-Gazette newspaper. His family has asked for privacy during their bereavement.

"We're going to have a person from the Army that will speak on our behalf," Starcevich's mother, Eva Tomson, told the News-Gazette. "Basically what we're asking is that everyone let us grieve in peace, and honor our son."

Starcevich was honorably discharged in 2004 after serving in Iraq and re-enlisted in 2005 "because he loved the Army," the statement said.

He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, in Schweinfurt, Germany, the Defense Department said.

Starcevich is survived by his father, Bradley of St. Charles; his mother, Eva Tomson of Tolono; a brother; and a sister.

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## Local Soldier Dies In Iraq

April 25, 2007 By Susan Robertson, The Virginia Gazette

JAMES CITY — Lisa Ingram remembers her brother as a fun-loving man who always put family first.

"Whenever he came home, we'd have a cookout," Ingram recalled. "He loved sports. He'd watch a lot of ESPN, and he just loved spending time with his family."

Chief Warrant Officer Dwayne Moore, 31, was killed last Thursday near Mahmudiyah, Iraq, when his unit came under attack from enemy rocket fire.

"It's a hard time for all of us," Ingram said in an interview at her parents' home near Ewell.

According to information from the Department of Defense, a rocket struck a building where Moore was on duty. As he helped fellow soldiers, a second rocket struck the building and killed him.

A native of Williamsburg, Moore graduated from Lafayette High in 1994. Melvin Jones, who has taught at Lafayette since it opened in 1973, knew Moore in a capacity that differed from the norm.

“Often teachers would send me a student because they messed up, but not Dwayne,” Jones recalled. “He was never in trouble, and he was reliable and trustworthy. He was a model student for the black community and a model for the entire community.”

Moore played football at Lafayette for at least two seasons. “I’m sure I recruited him” for track, Jones added. Bubba Hooker was Moore’s football coach at Lafayette. He recalled the starting defensive back and wide receiver as a player “who always performed to the best of his ability.” Moore played in one of Lafayette’s leaner eras, when the Rams were part of the Peninsula District and faced some of the state’s best teams on an annual basis.

As the youngest of seven children, he always looked up to his three brothers, each serving in the Marine Corps. He followed in their footsteps, but broke tradition by enlisting in the Army a few months after graduation from Lafayette.

Moore trained at Fort Sill in Oklahoma to be a field artilleryman. He went on to attend Cameron University in Lawton, Okla., graduating in 2003.

He then entered Warrant Officer Candidate School at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. After completing his training he was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division’s 2nd Brigade Combat Team at Fort Drum, N.Y.

Unlike his older brothers, who left the military for civilian life, Moore intended to make a career out of the military. He loved the Army, according to his family.

He was deployed to Iraq last August. He had previously been deployed to other parts of the world, including South Korea, but this was his first deployment to the Middle East.

One of his favorite pastimes was riding his motorcycle. He once told his sister that when he wasn’t doing that, he was thinking about it. A strong Christian who was very involved in the church, Moore put his family and the Lord first in his life, according to his sister.

He is survived by his wife, Kelly; a daughter, Aiyanna; parents, Fred and Anne; and his siblings.

The family will receive friends next Tuesday, May 1, at Nelsen Funeral Home on Strawberry Plains Road. A memorial service will be held at Bethel Restoration Center on Richmond Road at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 2. Burial will take place in Williamsburg Memorial Park.

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**“We Are Just Interfering, And  
Letting Our Soldiers Die”  
“It’s Just Terrifying, Because You Can  
Drive The Same Road For Eight Months,**

# And Then One Day It's Over," Gonzalez Said

01 May 2007 By Sudarsan Raghavan and Karin Brulliard, The Washington Post  
[Excerpts]

On Monday, U.S. troops at Camp Victory, a sprawling base near Baghdad International Airport, reflected on April's deadly toll on their comrades.

Sitting at a picnic table outside a recreation center, four soldiers smoked Marlboros under a starry sky. Part of the Headquarters Support Company for the 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart, Ga., they had arrived last month. They were on the base, just "sweeping parking lots and waiting for a sandstorm," as Pfc. Richard Gonzalez, 22, put it.

**Still, they said, frequent news of troop deaths made even their mission more frightening.**

**"It makes me feel depressed to be in Iraq right now," said Gonzalez, who is on his second deployment. "It's a whole lot different than last time."**

**Now, he said, soldiers at the base must carry weapons.**

**Return addresses on letters from home must be ripped off and burned, so as not to fall into the wrong hands.**

**On his first deployment, eight months passed before his Baghdad base was hit by mortar fire.**

**This time, he said, it seems the Camp Victory intercom announces incoming fire every day.**

"There's a whole lot more activity," said Spec. Krystal Fowler, 21, of Hampton, Va. She said it "kind of bothers" her to know other troops are taking hits in the field and she can't help.

Spec. Natisha Jetter, 23, of Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, in the Virgin Islands, agreed.

"Our fellow soldiers are out there dying, and we're here not doing our job," Jetter said.

Gonzalez said the deaths made him realize that "there's a war going on out there."

**Fowler sighed. It's a war between Iraqis, she said.**

**"We are just interfering, and letting our soldiers die."**

"I'd rather be out there helping people survive," Fowler said. "The more of us that are out there, the more chances they have to survive."

There was a pause, as the soldiers mulled that.

**“It’s just terrifying, because you can drive the same road for eight months, and then one day it’s over,” Gonzalez said.**

**“Over,” Fowler echoed.**

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## **Green Zone Attacked Again; Documents Captured In Recent Fighting Include ID Card For Access To U.S. Embassy**

5.1.07 By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press Writer & By Sudarsan Raghavan and Karin Brulliard, The Washington Post

BAGHDAD - Mortar rounds slammed into the U.S.-controlled Green Zone on Tuesday, with one striking within 100 yards of the Iraqi prime minister’s offices, a government official said. No casualties were reported.

It was the second attack against the Green Zone in 12 hours, and it underscored heightened concerns about security in the area that is home to the U.S. and British embassies and thousands of American troops.

The first round of explosions occurred at about 10 p.m. Monday and another round struck at about 10 a.m. Tuesday.

“There is a duck-and-cover going on right now,” said Lt. Col. Christopher C. Garver, a U.S. military spokesman, before quickly getting off the phone.

Garver referred questions about possible casualties among the other foreigners and Iraqis who live and work in the Green Zone to the U.S. Embassy, which did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

An Iraqi government official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity in discussing security issues, said six mortar rounds fell around the offices of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki on Tuesday and the closest came within 100 yards of the compound.

The explosions late Monday also were directed toward that part of the Green Zone, also known as the international zone, the official said.

The Pentagon also said Monday that documents captured in recent fighting in Baghdad included two identity cards for access to the Green Zone and an ID card for access to the U.S. Embassy.

The list of captured materials included 12 passports — no country was specified — and five Iraqi army ID cards, including four for an Iraqi army lieutenant colonel.

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**GUESS WHO'S WORRIED  
GUESS WHO ISN'T  
GUESS WHY  
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW**



An Iraqi woman walks past U.S. soldiers as they man a check point in central Baghdad, April 26, 2007. (AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed)

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

**TROOP NEWS**

# ***Ass-Kissing Hour At CENTCOM: Petraeus And Fallon Have A Good Laugh With The Traitor Bush While Troops Die***



The traitor Bush, at the start off a briefing with military leaders at CENTCOM headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla. May 1, 2007. Co-conspirators Fallon, commander of U.S. Central Command, center, and Petraeus, commander of the disaster in Iraq, is at right. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

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## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Assorted Resistance Action**

30 Apr 2007 Reuters & 01 May 2007 Reuters & By Sudarsan Raghavan and Karin Brulliard, The Washington Post

Guerrillas killed an Iraqi contractor, when they carried out a drive-by shooting in the town of Yusufiya, just south of Baghdad, police said.

In Ramadi, a car bomb exploded at a police checkpoint, killing four policemen and injuring six others.

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## GET THE MESSAGE?



4.30.07: Baghdad, Iraq: Thousands of Iraqi Shias shout anti-US slogans during a demonstration in al-Kadhimiyah district. Photograph: Sabah Arar/AFP/Getty Images [Thanks to JM, who sent this in.]

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

### FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

**Support Our Troops! Woo!  
“Anyone In Control Of Money In The  
Military Will Find Any Way To Save  
Pennies Here And There”**

# **“Unless, Of Course, They’re Dealing With Contractors, Where Perpetual War Means Perpetual Profits”**

**[By a soldier in Iraq. To protect from unwanted attention by Bush buddies, all personal information removed.]**

February 28, 2007 [Excerpts]

There’s been a fire storm of controversy over the latest reports of the goings on at Walter Reed Medical Center. The Washington Post blasted the care at Walter Reed, reporting on bureaucratic red tape around medical compensation claims and the poor conditions in the barracks of the facility.

Lack of foresight in planning the War on Terror extended to poor planning on the caring of the wounded.

Walter Reed is the destination of the vast majority of wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. It’s a care facility where both physically and mentally injured soldiers come for treatment. Amputees get fitted for prosthetic limbs and claims are filed to draw a disability check. Those suffering from post traumatic stress syndrome can find help in support groups or with medication.

In a perfect world, there is an efficient system set up to handle all of this. Since September 11, soldiers have been revered as heroes in the eyes of the public.

But those who have left their limbs and their mind on the battlefield, it’s just another fight to get the care they deserve.

**I’ve read several reports on injured soldiers denied compensation because of their past medical history. For example, someone who was in an IED blast that damaged their knee would not get any money because that person had an old knee injury during their high school football days.**

**They couldn’t prove the disability was a result of the blast.**

**This goes to show that anyone in control of money in the military will find any way to save pennies here and there. Unless, of course, they’re dealing with contractors, where perpetual war means perpetual profits.**

**After the shit hit the proverbial fan regarding Walter Reed, the staff went into a frenzy about the ordeal, claiming the reports coming out were factual but unfair.**

**Um, did I miss something?**

**How can something be true but not fair?**

**That's why it's called the truth, not 'what we want you to know.' It's not rose colored or tucked away neatly like the problems were before the Washington Post exposé.**

Immediately they began renovating the offending rooms, removing mold, repairing holes in ceilings and fixing leaky pipes. "It's not the Ritz-Carlton at Pentagon City, I'll grant you that," Lt. Gen. Kiley, the Army surgeon general said of the conditions.

**I wonder how humble his accommodations are.**

**Citizens pay for both with their tax dollars, yet the ones actually coming from combat zones without their god damn arms and legs are living in sub par quarters.**

**The money is there, obviously. It's just not being well spent.**

At this very moment, I'm up late at night in a heated bay in Taji, Iraq with an internet line hooked right up next to my bed. Tomorrow I have the option of either going to a well stocked chow hall or to one of several fast food joints, like Subway or Taco Bell.

**Down the street, KBR employees are getting paid very little to do our laundry as Dick Cheney, former CEO of KBR's parent company Halliburton, gets paid a six figure severance per year.**

**Round and round the tax money goes, where it stops, nobody knows.**

**Especially not Walter Reed.**

That's not even the best part.

**Those undergoing care at Walter Reed have now been ordered to keep quiet about problems arising there since the coverage began (the delicious irony is that The Airforce Times, a military-ran publication, broke that story).**

As you can see in the article, sweeping under the carpet as taken action as a first sergeant and twenty platoon sergeants were reassigned, with 120 new permanent soldiers expected to arrive mid March.

That, unfortunately, will not solve the problems.

A budget analysis and retooling is needed, along with granting VA hospitals like Walter Reed a bigger budget.

**In the Senate there will be those wondering where all that money is going to come from.**

**Try by closing down every Pizza Hut and Cinnabon in Iraq. Then fine KBR every time they overcharge the government, which apparently is all the fucking time.**

**There, budget problems solved.**

Now that I fixed the crisis, I just ask for a humble lieutenant general's quarters.

Just don't put me close to Walter Reed so I don't smell the mold and decay.

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, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657

## Mutiny? A Prince Goes To War



[Bokertov.typepad.com]

Abu Zaid of the Malik Ibn Ashtar Brigade of the Mehdi Army is quoted as saying: "We are awaiting the arrival of the young, handsome, spoilt prince with bated breath ... we will be generous to him ... we will return him to his grandmother, but without ears."

May 1, 2007 by Felicity Arbuthnot, Global Research

Felicity Arbuthnot is a journalist and activist who has visited the Arab and Muslim world on numerous occasions. She has written and broadcast on Iraq, her coverage of which was nominated for several awards. She was also senior researcher for John Pilger's award-winning documentary "Paying the Price: Killing the Children of Iraq". [www.johnpilger.com/page.asp?partID=4](http://www.johnpilger.com/page.asp?partID=4) and author, with Nikki van der Gaag, of "Baghdad" in the "Great Cities" series, for World Almanac Books (2006.)

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**When (UK) Private Paul Barton (27) of the First Battalion of the Staffordshire Regiment returned from Basra, just days ago, he did the unthinkable. He telephoned his local paper, the Tamworth Herald and told the truth about the war that is lost and the extent of the disaster it has become.**

"Basra is lost .... the government are just trying to save face", he said. In the first hour they were there, he asserted, fifteen mortars and three rockets were fired into their base and they were "mortared every hour of the day", reported The Independent. Corporal Richard Bradley also spoke out saying: "Blokes are dying for no cause at all and getting injured for no cause at all."

**Every patrol they went on, said Barton: "We were either shot at or blown up by roadside bombs", concluding: "We have overstayed our welcome ... we should pull out and call it quits."**

**It is hard to believe that in the mind set that is the army, men of such junior rank speaking out do not have the support of those far more senior. So far, there have not been reports of them being accused of insubordination, or worse.**

The seemingly increasingly delusional Prime Minister Blair weighed in saying: "I would be delighted if my children served in Iraq." They have not yet been spotted at any recruiting office.

Perhaps they had read Private Barton's description of a colleague he found with "the top of his head and his hand blown off".

Blair, like his friend, the alleged dodge drafting Bush, is brave to the last drop of others' blood, even, seemingly, that of his own children.

**The website The Army Rumour Service has some barely repeatable responses. One that is just recordable reads: "Words almost fail me - the lying (expletive deleted) has surely hit rock bottom with this statement. I can only assume that he is now, without a shadow of a doubt, certifiable and should be sectioned for the good of the country."**

Blair recently, reportedly, has bought an adjoining building to his central London, Connaught Square mansion so his family could exit from a rear entrance in relative privacy - or clandestinely, or slinking out, pick your metaphor - rather than through the front door, as most of the world do. Blair's bravery is also mirrored in his drive to Parliament from No 10 Downing Street in a bullet proof limo. It is barely a three minute walk.

**Now, into the Iraq disaster, is the looming spectre of “what to do with Prince Harry” and the Ministry of Defence, Buckingham Palace and the British army seem unable to sort out this 22 year old, yet alone a woefully misplaced and illegal invasion.**

**Prince Harry, third in line to the throne joined the Army, as did his brother, Prince Andrew, second in line to the throne. Apparently none of the above expected them to be sent to a war (or invasion) zone, in spite of that being what armies do for a living.**

Bit like a surgeon not expecting to operate or a reporter not expecting to report.

Prince Harry is expected to leave for Iraq within days.

His photograph is being circulated round Basra, it seems, as the supreme prize for the resistance. Reports say that if captured, they will cut off his ears - for starters.

The Army say that his “deployment to Iraq ... is under constant consideration ...”

The media seems mostly less than sympathetic to the establishment’s (and Harry’s) dilemma. Joan Bakewell’s Independent column draws comparison with Henry Vth known as “Harry of England”, who, in battle, dressed up as an ordinary soldier to hear the truth of what his troops in battle really thought, first hand. One declared of him: “I wish he were here alone. So should he be sure to be ransomed and many a poor men’s lives saved.”

She also points out that were Harry kidnapped, Blair’s “we don’t negotiate with terrorists” stance, which has led to the snatched being left to rot or be killed, would be immediately forgotten. Additionally “Rambo” raids by the SAS and maybe Mossad would be mounted. That of course would lead to many of the public wondering why one life is so much more precious than others.

Further, if the Army decide not to deploy the Prince, there will be many parents of serving soldiers asking why their sons lives are less precious.

If he is deployed and confined to a “safe” position, pushing a pen in a bunker, they will be asking the same question.

“I am an ex soldier and if my life can be risked, so can his” posted Davie from Manchester on the BBC Online website. He should be treated as “any other son with requisite Training”, wrote the parent of another soldier.

**“I do enjoy running down a ditch full of mud, firing bullets. It’s the way I am, I love it”, said Harry - whose educational achievements appear fairly limited - in an interview. Playing war games is one thing, a wily, determined, sophisticated resistance in an invaded country, is quite another.**

One cartoon shows Harry with a cigarette in one hand and a beer in the other, declaring that it is only fair he should go into battle: “I’ve already fought in Tramp, Annabelles and Chinawhite” (nightclubs) and recently indeed tangling outside Boujji’s club with photographers having allegedly spent the evening drinking “crack baby” cocktails.



Hopefully he won't get many of them in Basra. Photographer Nirach Tanner is quoted as saying: "He screamed at me to f ... off,, then grabbed me by the collar and tried to shove me over." Bakewell refers to "his freedom with fists and drink". Fights with mates and heavy morning heads are less than useful in a war zone.

Early this week, an un-named "friend" of Harry told a newspaper that the young man had told more "friends" he was "not afraid to die".

On Sunday, another leak from, presumably another "friend" said at a farewell party (at another nightclub, Mahiki, he was: "Sh....ing himself".

As a leader of eleven other servicemen and prime targets, as they are with his regiment, hardly the cool head needed.

**Abu Zaid of the Malik Ibn Ashtar Brigade of the Mehdi Army is quoted as saying: "We are awaiting the arrival of the young, handsome, spoilt prince with bated breath ... we will be generous to him ... we will return him to his grandmother, but without ears."**

"The people who will be in danger will be the troop with him. I would not blame any soldier who would not go out on patrol with him. Also, the betting is that the patrol will be told to protect him at all costs", posted Gordon Allison of Forces Reunited on BBC Online.

So apart from the fact that Britain, the US and the coalition of the coerced should not be there, there is the rub.

At every level, what a mess.

**The British army already under siege, now a magnet for every resistance group across Iraq with Harry the payback prize for the whole bloody debacle.**

**If he lands with his "boys" as he calls them, on 1st May (Ministry of Defence coy on announcing exact date, but certainly imminent) the day George Bush announced "Mission Accomplished" on USS Abraham Lincoln, four years ago, the challenge to the resistance will be utterly irresistible.**

**Abu Mujaba, reportedly a leader of a resistance unit said: "...we can kill hundreds of British soldiers before forcing them to withdraw - but Harry is a bigger catch and we will force the British to come on their knees and talk to us." It is not looking good.**

But two resounding questions remain, here in the real world.

**Will the deployment of the precious Prince, to be baby sat and guarded, in this invasion, spark the ultimate mutiny in the increasingly angry climate amongst the lied to US and UK troops - and public?**

**And since the war has been declared illegal (even by the former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan) and is littered with Downing Street's "dodgy dossiers", could**

he be the first royal heir to be charged with war crimes, just for being there - if he returns in one piece ?

UN Resolution 33/24 (1978) has plenty to say about the right to reclaim illegally invaded territory, territorial integrity and liberation from colonial domination and foreign occupation.

An unholy, shameful disaster.

And finally - mutiny?

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



The casket of Cpl. James T. Lindsey at Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, , April 25, 2007. Cpl. Lindsey, 20, from Florence, Ala., was killed April 12 in Baghdad by an improvised explosive device. (AP Photo/AI Grillo)

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## **\$500 Billion For Iraq; “What Could That Kind Of Money Buy?”**

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

Apr. 30, 2007 By Ron Hutcheson, McClatchy Newspapers [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON - The bitter fight over the latest Iraq spending bill has all but obscured a sobering fact: The war will soon cost more than \$500 billion.

That's about ten times more than the Bush administration anticipated before the war started four years ago, and no one can predict how high the tab will go.

The combined spending requests would push the total for Iraq to \$564 billion, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service.

What could that kind of money buy?

**A college education - tuition, fees, room and board at a public university - for about half of the nation's 17 million high-school-age teenagers.**

**Pre-school for every 3- and 4-year-old in the country for the next eight years.**

**A year's stay in an assisted-living facility for about half of the 35 million Americans age 65 or older.**

**Troops Invited:**

**What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send email [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org). Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Replies confidential. Same address to unsubscribe.**

**OCCUPATION REPORT**

***Good News For The Iraqi  
Resistance!!***

**U.S. Occupation Commands'  
Stupid Terror Tactics Recruit Even  
More Fighters To Kill U.S. Troops**



Two Iraqi citizens are forced to squat down after a night home invasion at gunpoint by foreign occupation soldiers from the U.S. Army's 3-2 Stryker Brigade during a raid in Baghdad April 10, 2007. REUTERS/Bob Strong

**[Fair is fair. Let's bring 150,000 Iraqi troops over here to the USA. They can kill people at checkpoints, bust into their houses with force and violence, butcher their families, overthrow the government, put a new one in office they like better and call it "sovereign," and "detain" anybody who doesn't like it in some prison without any charges being filed against them, or any trial.]**

**[Those Iraqis are sure a bunch of backward primitives. They actually resent this help, have the absurd notion that it's bad their country is occupied by a foreign military dictatorship, and consider it their patriotic duty to fight and kill the soldiers sent to grab their country. What a bunch of silly people. How fortunate they are to live under a military dictatorship run by George Bush. Why, how could anybody not love that? You'd want that in your home town, right?]**

**"In the States, if police burst into your house, kicking down doors and swearing at you, you would call your lawyer and file a lawsuit," said Wood, 42, from Iowa, who did not accompany Halladay's Charlie Company, from his battalion, on Thursday's raid. "Here, there are no lawyers. Their resources are limited, so they plant IEDs (improvised explosive devices) instead."**

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

**"90 Percent Of The People He  
Interrogated Were Innocent"**

# **The Number “Will Soon Pass 20,000” In U.S. Occupation Concentration Camps: “Most Of Those Detainees Will Be Held Indefinitely, Will Never Be Charged With Any Crime, And Will Not Be Allowed To See A Lawyer”**

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

Apr 30 Aaron Glantz, (IPS) [Excerpt]

Joshua Casteel is a former U.S. Army interrogator at Abu Ghraib. He arrived at the prison in June 2004, a few months after the scandal broke.

“By the time I arrived at Abu Ghraib, every camera in the world was pointed at us,” he said. “So things had changed radically. We were not allowed to touch people except in acts of reassurance -- like if we wanted to calm someone down, we might be able to touch their hand. We were also being watched by cameras and audio recording equipment and by visiting dignitaries on occasion. So (interrogations) were more structured around just talking in a room.”

**The main problem, Casteel says, was that over 90 percent of the people he interrogated were innocent -- simply caught up in large-scale military raids.**

**Because the U.S. military rarely releases detainees, Casteel says he was forced to interrogate innocent prisoners again and again.**

“I was constantly being asked, ‘Why am I being held here? I want answers!’” Casteel said.

“But that was my job. We were supposed to be finding answers to our questions, but we kept being put into situations that were incredibly puzzling because talking to people was like trying to get blood from a turnip.

**“They were the ones that had a greater justification for the need to have answers.”**

The Washington Post reported this month that the U.S. military now holds 18,000 security detainees in Iraq -- almost double the number of Iraqis incarcerated when the Abu Ghraib scandal broke three years ago.

**The newspaper reports that this number will soon pass 20,000, with more and more Iraqis apprehended in sweeps as part of Bush’s “surge”.**

Most of those detainees will be held indefinitely, will never be charged with any crime, and will not be allowed to see a lawyer.

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## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

***Big Surprise:***  
**Bush Vetoes Democrats Bill:**  
**They Promise To Come Up With Money**  
**For More Dead U.S. Troops And Dead**  
**Iraqis Anyhow**  
**[Enough Said]**

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## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**

***Criminals Who Run Texas Prison***  
***Torment Children There:***  
**“Yelled At For Trying To Take A**  
**Blanket, While The Guards Wear**  
**Gloves And Heavy Clothing”**  
**“They Have Grabbed The Food And**  
**Thrown It In The Trash In Front Of The**  
**Children”**  
**“They Cry Because They Say They Are**  
**Hungry”**



**The artwork of children tells no lies, and the artwork of children imprisoned at Hutto--posted on the ACLU Web site--is heartbreaking. A child sits atop a broken heart; a boy behind crudely drawn bars. The saddest of all--an American flag, with the words "HELP" scrawled between the two red stripes at the top.**

April 27, 2007 By CINDY BERINGER, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

**"HELP US and ask questions," read the note, secretly passed to a visitor from an immigrant child incarcerated in a Texas prison.**

Based on their visits and interviews, the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children and the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service are calling for the immediate shutdown of the T. Don Hutto Residential Center in Taylor, Texas.

Local activists have brought national and international attention on this facility, owned by the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), which imprisons children and their families for profit under the same horrendous conditions as when it was a prison for adults.

**Approximately 400 immigrants are incarcerated in Hutto, and at least half of the prisoners are children, according to Texans United for Families.**

Many of the immigrants--who are limited to countries other than Mexico--have made requests for asylum in the U.S. They await deportation hearings without any charges for months, and sometimes years.

**The artwork of children tells no lies, and the artwork of children imprisoned at Hutto--posted on the ACLU Web site--is heartbreaking.**

**A child sits atop a broken heart; a boy behind crudely drawn bars.**

**The saddest of all--an American flag, with the words "HELP" scrawled between the two red stripes at the top.**

ACCORDING TO depositions filed with the ACLU lawsuit, the guards at Hutto threaten unruly children with separation from their mothers. But this is often an echo of the threats that drove these families to the U.S. in the first place, to seek asylum.

Raouitee Pamela Puran came from Guyana after she and her four-year-old daughter Wesleyann Emptage were threatened by the people who kidnapped and murdered her husband.

"Wesleyann has heard the guards threaten that children who act up will be separated from their parents," Raouitee said in her deposition. "Almost everyone has heard this. Wesleyann is terrified that something like that could happen to her. She is afraid of the guards because she thinks they have the power to take me away from her."

**Sherona Verdieu, a 13-year-old from Haiti whose father was kidnapped and eventually killed when her mother could not pay a ransom, said she worried about crying--that this could be a cause for separating her from her mother.**

**Elsa Carbajal--a 24-year-old woman from Honduras who survived a brutal rape committed by the son of a police officer who continued to terrorize her afterward--said that her 5-year-old son and 3-year-old daughter “think that they have done something wrong to be imprisoned in this jail.”**

Angelina, Elsa’s daughter, suffered significant weight loss while in Hutto.

**She told her mother that she was always cold, but according to Elsa, she was yelled at for trying to take a blanket, while the guards wear gloves and heavy clothing.**

The cruelty of the guards and prison officials that emerges from reading the lawsuit is hard to fathom.

Families are awakened at 5:30 or 5:45 a.m., and must be through bathing by 6 a.m.

**They are given 20 minutes to eat. “If we haven’t finished,” Elsa says, “the officials say they aren’t interested--the time to eat has finished.”**

**If the children haven’t finished, they have to throw away the food.**

**“In some cases,” she says, “they have grabbed the food and thrown it in the trash in front of the children, and they cry because they say they are hungry.”**

After the 20-minute meal, the prisoners return to their cells “to do nothing,” Elsa says. “They don’t allow us to sleep, only to sit and wait for the hours, days, months to pass.”

The prisoners aren’t allowed to have books sent to them, and a great deal of the day is spent in senseless head counts to make sure no one has escaped.

Nine-year-old Kevin Yourdkhani, the son of Iranian-born parents who have sought asylum in Canada for several years, ended up in Hutto after the plane he and his family were traveling on was forced to make an emergency landing in Puerto Rico, where U.S. officials questioned their passports.

In his deposition, Kevin complained about the ridiculous excuse for an education system at Hutto. “Students” in the class of 25 ranged in age from six to 12 years old. “All we do is color and draw pictures and watch Spanish movies,” Kevin said. Kevin also said that his bed was small and cold, and stuck next to a smelly washroom. His mother had to use the toilet in front of him.

**Once, when Kevin’s dad came in to fix the bed, guards told him that if his father was in his room again, both parents would be put in separate jails, and Kevin would be sent to a foster home. “I cried and cried,” he said. “I felt if I will be separated, I can never see my parents again, and I will get stepparents, and they will hurt me or maybe they will kill me.”**

SINCE THE ACLU filed its suit March 6, seven of the children named in the action--Wesleyann, Kevin, Angelina and Richard Carbajal, and Aisha, Mohammed and Bahja Ibrahim--have been released from Hutto, along with their families.

**T. Don Hutto was supposed to be a model for an ever-growing number of immigrant detention centers. Although officials of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs enforcement claim that Hutto was designed to stop the practice of separating detained parents from their children, it seems more likely that this private prison thought it would be more cost-effective to have parents caring for young children within the jail.**

Besides, there is still plenty of separation. Fathers are often sent to a separate facility, and children who are citizens are usually farmed out to relatives, rather than sent to Hutto.

Immigrant rights activist Jay Johnson-Castro has continued his walks to expose atrocities along the border of Texas and Mexico and in immigrant detention facilities. During a recent five-day march to protest immigrant prisons in the Rio Grande Valley, he learned that Hutto isn't the only place where children are being detained.

Johnson-Castro also visited Raymondville, the home of a \$65 million tent city that holds 2,000 immigrants who speak more than 40 different languages in windowless hothouses. They are locked down 23 hours a day.

**“We still have the problem that Hutto was supposed to fix,” says Johnson-Castro.**

**“The criminals who run this show can say that’s the game, but we’re sick and tired of you making these rules... The criminals make the rules, and we’re going to put a stop to it.”**

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