

GI SPECIAL 5E7:

Action Week In Ansbach



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**“A Signal Against The War”
“A Victory For The Soldiers Who
So Desperately Need Our
Assistance”
12.-20. May 2007**

We don't have much time left until May 16th (OPERATION "Just Say NO") rolls around when we will be standing outside the home of the "12th Combat Aviation Brigade" demanding that the lives of those young soldiers housed there be preserved, and the lives of many Iraqis spared.

From: Stop The War Brigade stopthewarbgde@hotmail.com

To: GI Special
Sent: May 05, 2007
Subject: Action Week in Ansbach "A Signal Against the War" 12.-20. May 2007 -
OPERATION "Just Say NO"

Let's get the word out ASAP. We're finally there.

We've mobilized and inspired a lot of people. Talk about "running with the Ball", those good people in Ansbach could show us a thing or two.

I showed up there to give a speech on Easter Sunday unaware of their real plight. It wasn't long before I started to understand the full scope of the Problem. I suggested a few things that I thought would increase the pressure and turn up the heat.

Bring on the Iraq War Veterans with the support of Vets of other conflicts along with the vibrant local anti-War/Peace movement and you've got a volatile mix.

A situation that no one would dare ignore, Friend and Foe alike.

They took "my" suggestion to the limit and have organized a series of events with little or no resources that goes far beyond my expectations of what I dreamed to be possible in such a short span of time.

This should be a lesson to us all.

The situation in Ansbach is crying out for help and help is on the way.

Much respect to the IVAW for responding on such short notice and providing a host of members who are prepared to go. We won't give up on getting them all over to Germany until time runs out but some of them definitely will be coming and that's a great victory.

A victory for the Movement, a victory for the people of Ansbach and Germany, and a victory for the soldiers who so desperately need our assistance.

Let's work to see that that happens. Seize the initiative.

It's literally a matter of life or death for them. Some will undoubtedly go on to Iraq and kill or be killed and, yes, perhaps the vast majority will go, because they've been lied to, coerced and press-ganged into this march into Death.

However, we will be able to reach out to most of them and tell them the terrible truth about their situation which some of them certainly realize already.

We will give them an alternative and something to act on. There are decisions to be made and those decisions are not, in any way, easy to manage.

They're at a fork in the road. Whichever way they choose is fraught with danger and uncertainty.

We don't have much time left until May 16th (OPERATION "Just Say NO") rolls around when we will be standing outside the home of the "12th Combat Aviation Brigade" demanding that the lives of those young soldiers housed there be preserved, and the lives of many Iraqis spared.

That's a noble undertaking and I would hope that many people will decide to join us there.

I encourage you to send letters of support to the soldiers and the people of Ansbach.

I encourage those who have lots of money and influence to be generous with their time and resources.

It would be a good thing to have a few of those Rap Artists, Rock Stars and Hollywood Personalities on the Set in Ansbach really doing something to support the troops. We welcome them. They can also sponsor a soldier or Vet.

Yes, I said Soldier, because there are soldiers who are prepared to come and stand with us in Ansbach.

You can also organize an action in your area to show solidarity. Send us the photos and reports concerning such actions. It doesn't matter if it's just a small group or even one person. Let's be dedicated, innovative and resolute. Let's have an objective and accomplish it.

Let's win this struggle.

See You in Ansbach,

**Darnell Stephen Summers
OPERATION "Just Say NO"
"Stop The WAR Brigade"
stophthewarbgde@hotmail.com**

Here's A Rough Translation Of The Event Schedule As It Is Developing

Action Week in Ansbach "A Signal Against the War" 12.-20 May 2007

Confirmed Activities of the Ansbach Peace Coalition.

14. May: International Press Conference RE: Ansbach Action Week with representatives of Ansbach Peace Coalition, The Citizen's Initiative "It's Enough (We've had It)" and US Veteran, 11 a.m. in the "Kapitelsaal des Evangelischen Dekanats, Schaitbergerstr. 20, 91522 Ansbach"

16. May: At the front gate of the US Army Base in Ansbach/Katterbach: **Silent Vigil circa 5:00 pm, Followed by an appeal from US Iraq/Viet Nam War Veterans to their countrymen and women.**

19. May: Center of the City 2:00 pm: Demonstration and Rally at Martin-Luther- Platz: Speeches from the Ansbach Peace Coalition, US-Veterans; "Die-In" to the sounds of Jimi Hendrix' "Star Spangled Banner", Street Theater: Re-enactment of Abu-Ghraib + Guantanamo with Steel Cages und orange colored Overalls and the "Kick Bush's Ass" Action, and a lot more.

20. May: Ansbach People's Park, 3:00 pm: Crosses to be set up in memory of the Victims of the Iraq War; 5:00 pm: a Field Religious Service administered by Reverend Hansjörg Meyer with the Motto "Turn Swords into Plowshares!"

Proposed Activities:

12. May: Information Table to be set up at the Süddeutscher Journalists Day in Nuremberg.

13. May: Mother's Day: Suggestion, "Grillparty for Peace" at "Soldiers Lake" (Soldatenweiher) with remarks from the US Peace Movement and Ansbach Peace Coalition.

15. May: "International War Resisters Day" Information Table to be setup in the Center of the City.

??May: Presentation by Veterans at the "Fachhochschule" in Ansbach in cooperation with the "Ökumenischen Hochschulgemeinde-Ecumenical College Community" and Staff

??May: A Dialogue between Representatives of the Religious Community and Veterans(to be Organized by Reverend Meyer)

On-Going Actions With IVAW & STWB:

- Rap Sessions with Soldiers at local Bars(11.,12.,18.,19. May)
- Veterans will be present at Springfest (event is always frequented by many Soldiers, 11.-17 May)
- Veterans will make themselves available for talks at Schools (Contact through Oberschulamtsrat Kreiselmeyer)
- Picnic in front of a famous American Fast-food Chain
- Press: "Question and Answer Sessions" for Radio, Television and Print Media
- **A great openness to the suggestions of US Veterans as to proposed actions.**

Darnell Stephen Summers
"Stop The WAR Brigade"
stopthewarbgde@hotmail.com

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Six U.S. Soldiers & Reporter Killed By Diyala IED; Two Soldiers Wounded

5.6.07 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND Release 07-01-03C
& AP

TIKRIT, Iraq – Six Task Force Lightning Soldiers and one European civilian journalist died as a result of injuries sustained when their vehicle was attacked with an IED in Diyala Province, Sunday.

Two Soldiers were wounded in the attack and evacuated to a Coalition medical facility for treatment.

Two Marines Killed In Anbar

May 6, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070506-04

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – Two Marines assigned to Multi National Force-West were killed May 5 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar Province.

South Baghdad IED Kills One Soldier; Another Wounded

May 6, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070506-14

BAGHDAD — While conducting a combat patrol an MND-B Soldier was killed when an improvised explosive device struck the unit's vehicle in a southern section of the Iraqi capital, wounding one other Soldier May 6.

Two IEDs North Of Baghdad Kill U.S. Soldier; Two Wounded

May 6, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070506-13

BAGHDAD — An MND-B Soldier was killed and two others were wounded when their vehicle was struck by two improvised explosive devices (IEDs) north of Baghdad May 6. The unit was conducting a clearing operation in the area when the IED attack occurred.

West Baghdad IED Kills U.S. Soldier; Four Wounded

May 6, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070506-01

BAGHDAD – A MND-B Soldier was killed and four others were wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated in a western section of the Iraqi capital May 4.

U.S. Soldier Killed In Non-Combat Incident

May 6, 2007 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory

A Task Force Lightning Soldier died Sunday in a non-combat related incident. The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin and release by the Department of Defense. The incident is under investigation.

3 GIs From State Killed In Iraq

May 6, 2007 Seattle Times staff and wire reports

A pair of large roadside bombs killed two Washington soldiers and injured five others from the Northwest in Iraq on Thursday. A separate roadside bomb attack killed a third Washington soldier.

Staff Sgt. Coby G. Schwab, 25, who lived in Puyallup, and Cpl. Kelly B. Grothe, 21, of Spokane Valley, were killed when a blast hit the “Buffalo” heavily armored vehicle they were traveling in on a mission to clear a road in Ramadi.

Schwab is originally from Henderson, Nev., and his wife is an active-duty soldier stationed at Fort Lewis, said Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Coon, a spokesman for the U.S. Army Reserve.

An earlier roadside bomb blast hit another vehicle in the group, injuring five soldiers from Washington, Idaho and Montana. The “Buffalo” Schwab and Grothe were in pulled up to assist the injured soldiers when the second bomb was detonated, said Coon.

The soldiers were from the 321st Engineer Battalion of the U.S. Army Reserve, based in Hayden Lake, Idaho. The unit was deployed to Iraq in September to clear roadside bombs and protect convoys, one of the war’s most dangerous missions, Coon said.

According to the Spokane Spokesman-Review, Grothe graduated from Central Valley High School in 2004.

In a separate incident, a 24-year-old soldier who grew up in Thurston County died in a roadside bomb blast in Iraq, his mother said.

According to The Associated Press, Holly Burson said casualty notification officers told her that her son, Pfc. Jerome Potter, was killed Thursday while on patrol in Baghdad.

Potter was based at Fort Hood, Texas, and went to Iraq in October.

Potter’s family said he grew up in Yelm and Olympia, attending Yelm High School before joining the Job Corps, where he got his GED.

He worked as a forestry firefighter for a couple of years and had aspired to use money he earned in the military to become a park ranger when he finished his enlistment.

Cibola Grad, Spc. Clifford A. Spohn III, Is Killed In Iraq

April 11, 2007 By Susie Gran, The Albuquerque Tribune

A 2004 Cibola High School graduate who joined the Army five months after receiving his diploma was killed at an Iraqi police station in Karmah.

Spc. Clifford A. Spohn III, 21, a paratrooper assigned to Fort Richardson, Alaska, was hit with indirect fire Monday while working at the Iraqi station with his unit, according to an Army news release. Three other paratroopers were injured.

Spohn, who went by Adam, lived in Alaska with his wife, Amanda, and their daughter, a spokesman for the family said.

Spohn was assigned to Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. He joined the Army in October 2004.

Cibola Principal Grace Brown said Spohn was the eldest of four Spohn children to attend the West Side school.

Two sisters currently attend Cibola, and a brother graduated last year.

Brown remembered Spohn was active in music and drama, and characterized his family as "very strong spiritually," said Rigo Chavez, spokesman for Albuquerque Public Schools.

Chavez said Brown spoke with Spohn's parents after learning of his death. "They are very proud of him, she said. He died doing something he believed in," Chavez said.

Spohn's parents are Clifford and Sandy Spohn, said the family spokesman, Dever Langholf.

Meanwhile, a Las Cruces woman and her husband have been grieving over the death of her son, an Army soldier killed in Iraq.

Staff Sgt. Jesse Williams, 25, of Santa Rosa, Calif., died Sunday in Balad of wounds from small arms fire, the U.S. Defense Department said.

Williams was assigned to the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Wash.

He was on his second tour of duty in Iraq. He was awarded a Purple Heart during his first tour when he was hit by shrapnel in his arm while fighting insurgents.

His mother, Janyce Leone, and stepfather, Ron Leone, have lived in Las Cruces since 2003.

"I've raised Jesse since he was 4," Ron Leone said. "He's my only child. He's everything you could ever hope for in a son."

Besides his parents, Williams is survived by his wife, an 11-month-old daughter, a brother and a sister.

"In July, when he was getting ready to go away on his second tour of duty, he put ink on his daughter's hands and pressed them to his chest," Leone said.

"Jesse wanted a tattoo of his daughter's handprints. He wanted them, and put them, close to his heart because that's where he always wanted his daughter - close to his heart," Leone said.

82nd Airborne Soldier From Nebraska Killed In Iraq

Apr. 25, 2007 By ANNA JO BRATTON - Associated Press Writer

OMAHA, Neb. --A 28-year-old Nebraska man who was a member of the 82nd Airborne Division died Monday in Iraq.

Ken Locker Sr. of Burwell said members of the Nebraska National Guard came to his workplace in Norfolk on Tuesday to tell him his son, Sgt. Ken Locker Jr., was killed in an attack.

Locker was a soldier with the 82nd Airborne Division.

Ken Locker Sr. said he had worried about his son since he heard news of a deadly suicide truck bombing Monday that killed nine soldiers, the single deadliest attack for the 82nd Airborne Division in nearly 40 years.

"I've had the feeling over the last week that something drastic was going to happen," Locker said Wednesday. "Three days in a row, I've had really bad feelings."

Locker graduated from Burwell High School in 1997, enlisting in the Army while he was still in high school, his father said.

"I was rather happy, because his grades were low until he enlisted in the Army, and then his grades shot up," Ken Locker Sr. said.

Locker spent three years in the Army, then more than two years with the National Guard before re-enlisting in the Army, his father said.

The soldier was back in January to visit, and asked his father if he knew why he was serving.

"He said, 'Dad, do you know why I'm over there?'" Ken Locker Sr. said. "'I'm over there for the children, that they might have a safer world to live in.'"

Ken Locker Sr. described his son as an outdoorsman who loved hunting, fishing and his family.

Locker's mother died in 1999, and a half sister died in 2005. He was divorced, and had three young sons, one with his ex-wife and two with a Lincoln woman, his father said. He also is survived by two sisters, a half sister and a half brother.

Locker was injured in Iraq last fall by a land mine, his father said, and was awarded a Purple Heart. The soldier had two or three pieces of shrapnel in his neck, and his hearing was damaged in the attack. He was transferred to desk duty for a month, his father said.

"I wish they would have left him out for the whole tour," Ken Locker Sr. said.

Locker is the 43rd U.S. service member with Nebraska connections killed in Iraq or Afghanistan since the beginning of military operations following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Soldier Dies In UK From Injuries Sustained In Iraq

6 May 07 Ministry of Defence

It is with deep sadness that the Ministry of Defence must announce the death of a soldier, who died today, 6 May 2007, as a result of injuries that were sustained in Iraq last week.

The soldier, from the Royal Logistic Corps, was very seriously injured on Thursday 3 May 2007, when the heavy equipment transporter the soldier was travelling on as part of a routine re-supply convoy to Basra Palace was struck by an improvised explosive device attack.

The soldier was very seriously injured and was treated at the field hospital in Basra Air Station before being flown back to the UK. Sadly, and despite the best possible medical care, the soldier died as a result of the injuries this afternoon.

Samarra Resistance Launches Coordinated Attack In Force: Two U.S. Soldiers Wounded In A “Bloody Street Battle”

May 6, 2007 By ROBERT H. REID, Associated Press & by Paul Schemm, AFP & Reuters

In Samarra, militants assaulted police station with a car bomb and automatic fire, killing 12 officers and triggering a bloody street battle with US forces in apparently coordinated attacks in which guerrillas also fired mortar bombs.

The attacks in Samarra, a Sunni city 60 miles north of Baghdad, began when a car bomber struck the police headquarters. Following the blast, dozens of insurgents - some wearing masks and wielding video cameras - opened fire on the building and at least one police checkpoint, witnesses said.

A van car bomb rammed the gates of a police station and exploded, killing local police chief Colonel Jalil al-Dulaimi and at least 11 of his men.

U.S. paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division at a nearby base responded to the attack, and came under small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire when they rushed to the scene, the U.S. military said.

Two Americans were wounded and a vehicle was damaged.

Some half dozen seriously wounded Iraqi policemen were evacuated by helicopter to a US medical facility.

The Samarra attack was the third in four days against police bases housing officers recruited by the government to fight the insurgency

A few minutes later, militants in the town attacked a police checkpoint near the al-Askari shrine, killing another police officer, police said.

FUTILE EXERCISE: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW!



An Iraqi contractor unloads concrete barrier blocks as U.S. soldiers stand by in Baghdad, May 5, 2007. (AP Photo/Ali al-Khazali)

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

2 U.S. Troops Killed, Two Wounded By Military Trainee At Pul-e-Charkhi Prison

05/06/2007 By FISNIK ABRASHI, Associated Press Writer

KABUL, Afghanistan- An Afghan soldier posted outside a prison being revamped to house Afghans transferred from Guantanamo Bay killed two of his American military trainers Sunday, a U.S. spokesman said. The shooter also wounded two U.S. soldiers.

He was shot dead by other Afghan troops at Pul-e-Charkhi prison, some 20 miles east of Kabul, said Maj. Sheldon Smith, a spokesman for Combined Security Transition Command, which trains Afghan security forces.

The four American soldiers were working as mentors to Afghan troops providing external security for the prison, Smith said.

“All indications are” that the shooter was a member of the Afghan National Army, the post-Taliban force trained mainly by the American military, Smith said.

The revamp is supposed to improve security at the jail.

Assorted Resistance Action

5.5.07 (AP) & May 6 (AFP) & AP

A bus taking Afghan soldiers to work has been blown up by members of the Taliban in Kabul, Afghanistan’s capital. The driver of the bus was killed and at least 22 soldiers were reportedly injured when a bomb concealed in a cart exploded..

The bomber, carrying explosives strapped to his body, attacked a police patrol in Nad Ali district in Helmand province, said Ghulam Nabi Mulakheil, the provincial police chief.

Two officers and the bomber were killed in the blast, Mulakheil said.

In eastern Paktika province, militants attacked a police post in Gomal district, killing one officer and wounding two others, said Mohammad Akram Akhpelwak, the provincial governor.

Militants also destroyed an old government compound in the area, he said.

Eight policemen were killed in a six-hour battle in the western province of Farah Saturday when Taliban fighters ambushed a police patrol, the provincial police chief told AFP Sunday.

Two more were wounded and another policeman was missing. Four police vehicles were burned by insurgents.

The attack occurred near the centre of Bakwa district, which was overrun by Taliban late February. Occupation forces later drove them out.

On Sunday a car bomb exploded near police returning from Bakwa, wounding one of the men.

On Saturday five policemen were killed when a remote-controlled mine blew up as a police convoy was passing, killing five officers and wounding two others in the Chola district of eastern Ghazni province in southern Afghanistan, said deputy governor Qazim Allayar.

Two policemen were also killed in the southern province of Helmand on Saturday when a bomber blew himself up close to their convoy, police said. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

Most of the violence has been in the south, the birthplace of the Taliban movement, but attacks in the previously quiet west have stepped up in recent months.

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

Warlord CIA Agents [Ret'd?] Take Control In Somali Capital

Dheere was the ruler of Jowhar, a quiet trading center north of Mogadishu, where he presided over a famously ruthless extortion network.

May 04, 2007 By Mahad Elmi and Shashank Bengali, McClatchy Newspapers [Excerpts]

MOGADISHU, Somalia - A former warlord who for a time had been on the CIA payroll was sworn in Friday as mayor of Mogadishu and announced a plan to pacify this turbulent African capital within three months by requiring residents to turn in their guns.

But previous regimes have failed to disarm Mogadishu - the most dangerous city in Africa, where many families maintain AK-47s and other weapons for protection - and Dheere offered few details of his security plan.

Dheere's appointment as mayor, which was announced by the interim prime minister, Ali Mohamed Gedi, follows the installation of another former warlord, Abdi Hasan "Qaybdiid" Awale, as the national police chief.

According to U.S. officials, both were briefly on the CIA payroll in 2006 under a covert program to fight the rise of the Islamists, a plan that fell apart when the Islamists drove the warlords from power last June.

Dheere was the ruler of Jowhar, a quiet trading center north of Mogadishu, where he presided over a famously ruthless extortion network.

The insurgents, thought to be a mixture of anti-government militants and the remnants of a radical Islamist regime that Ethiopia toppled in December, have mounted a steady assault on the Ethiopians for months.

But the elevation of two former warlords figured to anger supporters of the Islamist regime, who are said to number in the thousands.

Some residents were also skeptical that men who'd ruled by violence for so long could bring peace.

"All these men are warlords," said Mohammed Hussein Ali, a Mogadishu businessman. "As long as they are members of government with power, it's just the same situation as in the past."

TROOP NEWS

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



Funeral services for Staff Sgt. William Moore in Benson, N.C., May 3, 2007. Moore was one of nine 82nd Airborne Division paratroopers killed April 23, 2007, in a truck bombing in Iraq. (AP Photo/Gerry Broome)

**3,200 Troops From The 3rd IDs'
Combat Aviation Brigade Off To
Bush's Imperial Slaughterhouse**

[Thanks to Michael Letwin, New York City Labor Against The War, who sent this in.]

May 6, 2007 By Chris Kraul, L.A. Times Staff Writer

BAGHDAD — The final troop contingent in President Bush's controversial plan to improve security, a brigade that includes 152 attack and transport helicopters, will arrive soon in the Iraqi capital, a U.S. commander said.

With the arrival of the 3rd Infantry Division's Combat Aviation Brigade, based at Ft. Stewart, Ga., the addition of 28,500 troops begun in mid-February will be complete.

The brigade will be based at Camp Victory near the Baghdad international airport, Maj. Gen. James Simmons, deputy commander of multinational forces, said in an interview Friday.

The air combat brigade will increase the U.S.-led forces' helicopter fleet by 34%. Also coming are 3,200 pilots, crew members, mechanics and other support personnel.

Pentagon Announces Plan To Help The Iraqi Resistance Movement Build IEDs

[Thanks to Ward Reilly, Veterans For Peace, who sent this in. He writes: The "insurgents"(aka Iraq people) must be running out of ammo to kill U.S. troops, so it's time for the Bushies to give them more...peace from Ward.]

May 4 By Jim Wolf, (Reuters)

The Bush administration told Congress on Friday of plans to sell Iraq about 400 million rounds of small arms ammunition, 170,000 grenades, demolition explosives and other military gear and services valued at up to \$508 million.

The Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency said the Iraqi government had asked for up to 100 million rounds of both M855 5.56mm and 7.62mm ammunition for small arms, as well as about 200 million other bullets.

The notice of a proposed sale is required by law. Congress has the power to reject it. The deal could be worth up to \$508 million if all options are exercised.

As part of the proposed package, the United States would sell 170,000 40mm HEDP grenades, 80,000 C-4 1-1/4 pound plastic explosive packets and 4.2 million feet of detonating cord.

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

GET THE MESSAGE?



In Kirkuk May 6, 2007 demonstrators held a rally demanding the release of their relatives who were arrested during raids by the U.S. REUTERS/Slahaldeen Rasheed (IRAQ)

Assorted Resistance Action

May 6 2007 (Xinhua) & Reuters & By Chris Kraul, L.A. Times Staff Writer & AFP

In the south, the Basra airport was reported closed until further notice after insurgent attacks Saturday damaged a runway.

Insurgents shot dead a police officer and bombed a police commando patrol, killing a commando member in separate attacks in Baghdad on Sunday, a well-informed police source said.

“Unknown armed men gunned down Captain Hatam Othman, an aide for Baghdad chief police, while driving his car in the Hai al-Amil neighborhood in southwestern the capital,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In separate incident, a roadside bomb struck a police commando patrol in the Saidiyah district in southern Baghdad, the source said.

The attack damaged a police vehicle, killing a commando member and wounding three others aboard, the source added.

Guerrillas killed a police colonel on Saturday in the town of Yethrib, near Balad, 80 km (50 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

Police said they found the bodies of three policemen in the town of Garma, near Falluja, 50 km (35 miles) west of Baghdad.

Major General Adnan Thabit escaped a roadside bomb attack near his motorcade in Kirkuk, police said.

Guerrillas attacked a policeman and an Iraqi translator working in a U.S. military base, seriously wounding the pair in the city of Kut, police said.

In the town of Yathrib, in the province of Salaheddin, police Colonel Jabbar al-Tamimi was killed.

“Tamimi was visiting a water purification project in the Al-Bujaili district in Yathrib when he was attacked by gunmen and riddled with bullets,” said a police officer, who requested anonymity.

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

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

**“An Incendiary Story Of
Thousands Of Soldiers Who
Helped End A War 40 Years
Ago”**

**“As The Bush Administration
Plans Only Escalation Of This
Horrendous War, The 200-Pound
Gorilla Blocking His Way May Well
Be The Troops Themselves”**



From: David Zeiger
To: GI Special
Sent: May 04, 2007
Subject: A Letter from David Zeiger

This coming MONDAY is the Sundance Channel's televised Premiere of Sir! No Sir! Don't miss this opportunity to see the film and show it to others.

Make a night of resistance out of it!

**Sir! No Sir!
Monday May 7
Sundance Channel
9 pm Eastern and Pacific**

Check Listings for Central and Mountain

**The Ground Truth
Monday, May 7
The Sundance Channel
10:30 pm Eastern and Pacific**

Check Listings for Central and Mountain

A Letter From David Zeiger

It's a unique experience to feel that you are part of making history.

So says Dr. Howard Levy who, as an army doctor in 1966, spent 3 years in federal prison for refusing to train Green Beret troops heading to Vietnam. His comments come at the end of my film about the GI Movement against the Vietnam War, Sir! No Sir!

In a sadly ironic twist, 40 years later Dr. Levy and the thousands of active duty soldiers who openly organized against the Vietnam War while in the military are once again part of making history-because their story is sparking a new and significant movement in the military today.

Sir! No Sir! tells a story that has literally been erased from history.

Hundreds of films, both fiction and non-fiction, have been made about Vietnam.

But this story-the rebellion of thousands of American soldiers-has never been told in film.

This is certainly not for lack of evidence. By the Pentagon's own figures, 503,926 "incidents of desertion" occurred between 1966 and 1971; officers were being "fragged"(killed with fragmentation grenades by their own troops) at an alarming rate; and by 1971 entire units were refusing to go into battle in unprecedented numbers.

In the course of a few short years, over 200 antiwar underground newspapers were published by soldiers around the world; local and national antiwar GI organizations were joined by thousands; thousands more demonstrated against the war at every major base in the world in 1970 and 1971, including in Vietnam itself; and stockades and federal prisons were filling up with soldiers jailed for their opposition to the war and the military.

Colonel Robert Heintz, the Marine Corp's official historian, wrote strikingly in 1971 that rebellion in the ranks had "permeated every branch of the service." His article in the Armed Forces Journal was titled "The Collapse of the Armed Forces."

Sir! No Sir! opened in theaters last Spring and got a good deal of attention.

L.A. Times critic Kenneth Turan called it "A powerful documentary that uncovers half-forgotten history, history that is still relevant but not in ways you might be expecting," and another critic only half-jokingly called it "A film that threatens the war movement with every showing, the Bush administration should outlaw it from all theatres within fifty miles of an armed forces recruiting station."

It turns out he had a point.

Since its release last spring, my little film about events that happened 40 years ago has had quite an impact inside the military. Kind of like giving a motorboat to prisoners abandoned on a remote Island.

The organization Iraq Veterans Against the War has distributed hundreds of DVDs soldiers for free, and the film has been cited by several who have publicly refused deployment to Iraq on the grounds that the war is immoral and a clear violation of international law.

Navy Seaman Jonathon Hutto and Marine Sergeant Liam Madden met at a screening in Norfolk last fall and, inspired by the film and David Cortright's seminal book on the GI Movement, *Soldiers in Revolt*, decided to start the Appeal for Redress.

Cleverly using the military's own whistleblower protection policy, the Appeal is a petition to congress calling for an immediate end to the war. Almost instantly they had 1,600 signatures (it has since risen to over 2,000).

If the number seems small, consider this: There are currently about 140,00 troops in Iraq. In November 1969, with over 3.5 million GIs in Vietnam, 1,366 signed a New York Times ad calling for an end to the war-and the effect was electrifying. Numbers only take on their true meaning when understood in context.

True, Iraq is not Vietnam, and 2007 is not 1969.

But something very profound is happening here.

The world is full of moments when history intertwines with the present in dynamic and unexpected ways.

The civil rights movement of the 1960s was fueled by the hundred-year-old stories of Harriet Tubman, John Brown, and the slave rebellions we never learned about in school.

This is another one of those moments.

My film doesn't tell anyone what to do.

But it does tell an incendiary story of thousands of soldiers who helped end a war 40 years ago.

As the Bush administration plans only escalation of this horrendous war, the 200-pound gorilla blocking his way may well be the troops themselves.

David Zeiger

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

Also available is a Soundtrack CD (which includes the entire song from the FTA Show, "Soldier We Love You"), theatrical posters, tee shirts, and the DVD of "A

Night of Ferocious Joy," a film about the first hip-hop antiwar concert against the "War on Terror."

I Must Become A Survivor



From: Mike Hastie
To: GI Special
Sent: May 06, 2007
Subject: I Must Become A Survivor

I Must Become A Survivor

The most horrifying realization a soldier can ever have is knowing that he or she was used for the purpose of profit. After serving in a combat zone for a year, or two, or three, the damage to the self is unimaginable. There is nothing but a feeling of numbness. It is so profound, that you cannot define it. It simply goes beyond words and thoughts. It is the most powerful feeling I have ever had. Every trust fiber of my being is on alert. It is like mortar rounds coming in on top of you,

round after round after round.
Betrayal after betrayal after betrayal.
Your life becomes a lie,
lie after lie after lie.
No direction home.
And when you finally arrive at your hometown,
you feel like you are in enemy territory.
Nothing makes sense anymore.
When I see the American flag,
I do not see my country.
I detach from everything,
out of self preservation.
Lying is the most powerful weapon in war.
I must become a survivor,
because I absolutely have to bear witness.
It is the only obsession that keeps me alive.
I look over my shoulder,
and then I ponder how much money I can put together.
I'll dye my hair brown, and move to Paris.
I've got to get out of here.
I don't feel safe here anymore.
Bush and Cheney are "Incoming."

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
May 4, 2007
37th Anniversary of
Kent State

Photo and caption 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)

***SHUT YOUR MOUTH AND DO
WHAT YOU'RE TOLD!***

**“What The Military Hates More Than
Anything In The World Is A Soldier
That Thinks For Him/Herself And
Makes His/Her Voice Heard”**



To assume that a soldier will blindly follow along in the wake of the criminality of an illegal and bloody occupation does not give enough credit to the conscience of the human mind. To think that silencing a soldier's voice to hide the truth will help us win this war is absolutely ludicrous!

**From: J.D. Englehart [1st ID, Iraq, from February 2004 until February 2005]
To: GI Special
Sent: May 05, 2007**

From "Heckle" at Fight To Survive www.ftssoldier.blogspot.com

When Heretic and I got busted for our blog while we were in Iraq, they said the same shit then as what they're saying now to justify ending the war blog culture....

That it is a breach of operational security, that it only helps the enemy by lending encouragement, that it paints the picture that troop morale is low.

Same old shit as in any imperial war. Keep military adventures as far away from the plebeians as possible.

Unlike other war bloggers, we came out very fortunate. Our chain of command's threats of court-marshal proved to be futile. As was later confirmed by Military Intelligence and C.I.D., not once did we ever technically break OPSEC.

However, after much brow-beating and ass-chewings, we were told that we were not allowed to harbor opinions negative of the war, the government, and especially the president.

In short, we were told to stop writing. Our voice, the soldier's voice, was put under by a makeshift gag order. Overnight we became silenced and censored.

As far as why they choose to silence the soldier's voice, it seems pretty clear to me. With elections starting to heat up, this one party government doesn't want the voting public to think that a rising tide of pissed off soldiers exists.

If every blogger was actually enjoying him/herself in Iraq, and letting the world know how great we're doing over there, perhaps this wouldn't be an issue.

But what the military hates more than anything in the world is a soldier that thinks for him/herself and makes his/her voice heard, especially when that voice is telling the truth.

It was an average soldier who blew the whistle on the tortures and inhumanity at Abu Gharib.

It was an average soldier who pointed his finger right back at Rumsfeld and asked, "When will we get armor for our trucks?!"

It was a group of average soldiers who refused a suicide mission to deliver tainted fuel into a combat zone with no crew-served weapons or ammunition to defend themselves with, and no armor to protect them whatsoever.

It was an average soldier who publicly interrupted his Colonel saying, "No sir, America is not at war. Its soldiers are at war. America is at the mall!"

To assume that a soldier will blindly follow along in the wake of the criminality of an illegal and bloody occupation does not give enough credit to the conscience of the human mind.

To think that silencing a soldier's voice to hide the truth will help us win this war is absolutely ludicrous!

This is about PR spin.

It's about convincing America that nothing is wrong. Bush's dumb-ass is still trying to convince us that his "brilliant" troop surge will work, even though it was nothing more than smoke and mirrors to begin with.

"Jest hold on der, Amurica. You's aul wait en see. This here troop seeerge is gar-aun-teeed! Ain't no sense in fussin' and fightin'. God'll see us through this! Amurica complains too damn much, can't see the bigger picture. We have no choice but to win in Iraq. Duncha know? Terrurist wanna kill us cuz they hate our freedumb!!"

As if Bush had any credibility left, imagine what a sudden increase in antiwar blogs will do to him. I can see why he's nervous. Had he actually ever been in a war, ever really been in the military, he'd know that some veterans are fucking crazy, pissed off and know how to shoot a gun.

If I were responsible for starting an endless war, I'd be scared, too.

I am incredibly dismayed with this sudden turn of events.

Blogging was the only thing that kept me going in Iraq. I felt then, as I do now, that the American public deserves to know the truth about what's going on.

Further, if this new policy stretches into prohibiting emails as well, try explaining that to a soldier's wife, or husband, or parents, or children. We live in modern times, and as such this government needs to come to terms that the military family community depends on emails for instant reports from their loved ones.

I feel really bad for soldiers in Iraq right now. How much are we willing to isolate them, especially when most soldiers think Americans, despite their stupid yellow ribbons of "support", really don't give a fuck about what's going on outside of their pretentious lives anyways?

To the soldiers in Iraq, I can only hope that they don't let these very Anti-democratic assholes silence their voice.

They are still citizens of this country. Each and every one of them has a mind of her/his own.

What good is the 1st Amendment that they are fighting and dying for if they can't even use it themselves?

This government can't hide the truth forever. The blood and gore, so conveniently disguised and filtered through biased media, is still on our hands regardless how much we try to forget about it.

The Pentagon may like to think that its problems are solved by silencing the soldier's voice, but its not.

It only serves as aggravation to an already bigger problem. Every soldier has a story to tell. And when the soldier returns home from this disgusting war, that is when we as a country will all be forced to listen. Whether we like it or not.



MORE:

“It Takes The Pentagon To Censor Freedom Of Speech In The Land Of The Liberated”

From: Felicity Arbuthnot
To: GI Special
Sent: May 06, 2007
Subject: Censorship

In all the years I went to Iraq under the Saddam regime and filed copy by fax or later email, when internet cafes opened, nothing was ever censored and everything arrived intact at the other end.

(And no, I was not paid by Saddam, I wish!)

It takes the Pentagon to censor freedom of speech in the land of the liberated - freedom of speech of those fighting on behalf of the land of Lady Liberty.

Ironic, eh?

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:. Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Replies confidential. Same address to unsubscribe.

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

OCCUPATION REPORT

**60% Of Iraqis Want U.S. Troops
Dead:**

Big Surprise



An Iraqi citizen man stands by the taxi he used to make his living after it was run over and destroyed by a US military vehicle in central Baghdad, April 11, 2007. Several cars were damaged and two civilians hurt when a US military convoy pushed their way through morning rush hour. (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

[U.S. sponsored polls reported recently that 60% of Iraqis favor killing U.S. troops. Iraqis feel about U.S. troops trampling them in the dirt the same way Americans felt about British troops trampling them in the dirt in 1776. They are right to resist. T]

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/)

***Welcome To Liberated Iraq:
Demonstrate?
Against Bush's Occupation?***

Prison Camp For You!



U.S. soldiers take prisoner a protester as local residents rally against the U.S. military occupation in Kamaliyah neighborhood in Baghdad May 2, 2007. (AP Photo/Adil al-Khazali)

OCCUPATION PALESTINE



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

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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

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://qi-special.iraq-news.de>;

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

<http://www.albasrah.net/maqalat/english/qi-special.htm>

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