

**GI SPECIAL 5F21:**

**BE ADVISED:  
HERE IS THE FACE OF  
THE ENEMY**



Odious Odierno, in Mosul in April 2007 (AFP/File/Mauricio Lima)

***Odierno The Odious Blocks 1-  
Month Breaks:  
Says No To Army  
Recommendation To Give Soldiers  
Time Off From Battle:***

**“Even In World War II And Other Times ... We Would Pull Forces Off The Line And Bring Them Back On. Here We Don’t Do That,” Odierno Said. “So You Have To Be Mentally And Physically Tough”  
Army Spc. Says “The Body And Mind Need To Take A Break From Always Being On Guard”**

[Here it is again. Same old story. Used up, thrown away, and the politicians and ass kissing political shit-bird traitor Generals like Odierno couldn’t care less. To repeat for the 3,506th time, there is no enemy in Iraq. Iraqis and U.S. troops have a common enemy. That common enemy commands the U.S. forces in Iraq & owns and operates the Imperial government in Washington DC for their own profit. That common enemy started this war of conquest on a platform of lies, because they couldn’t tell the truth: this war was about power, prestige & making money for themselves, and nothing else. Payback is overdue. T]

**U.S. forces in Iraq spend more time in combat without a break than those who fought in Vietnam or World War II, according to Army psychologists who studied troops in Iraq.**

19 June 2007 By Gregg Zoroya, USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — U.S. commanders in Iraq are rejecting a recommendation by Army mental health experts that troops receive a one-month break for every three months in a combat zone, despite unprecedented levels of continuous fighting and worsening risks of mental stress.

Instead, commanders are trying to give troops two to three days inside heavily fortified bases after about eight days in the field, said Brig. Gen. Joseph Anderson, chief aide to the ground forces commander in Iraq, Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno.

**U.S. forces in Iraq spend more time in combat without a break than those who fought in Vietnam or World War II, according to Army psychologists who studied troops in Iraq.**

**U.S. commanders can’t match the World War II policy, Odierno said in a news conference late last month.**

**“Even in World War II and other times ... we would pull forces off the line and bring them back on. Here we don’t do that,” Odierno said.**

**“They (U.S. troops) are out there consistently every single day. So you have to be mentally and physically tough.”**

Army psychologists say continual combat may cause more mental health problems. Their research, conducted in Iraq last year, shows that 30% of troops experiencing high levels of combat demonstrate signs of anxiety, depression or acute stress.

Army Col. Carl Castro, a research psychologist who co-wrote the mental health study, said combat “is extremely, extremely stressful.”

That stress is aggravated, he says, by multiple tours of duty and deployments that have been extended from 12 months to 15.

**Castro and Maj. Dennis McGurk, who co-authored the study, recommend U.S. troops by company or battalion be pulled back into fortified areas to rest for one month after every three months of combat, a recovery period similar to that used in World War II.**

**Castro says U.S. troops have never spent as much time on the front lines without “a significant break” to recover from the demands of war.**

**More breaks would relieve stress, says Army Spc. Jeremy Osborn, 27, who finished a 14-month stint in Iraq in February.**

**“The body and mind need to take a break from always being on guard,” he said. “Never knowing when we were going to get attacked again was quite stressful.”**

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **U.S. Soldier Killed In Baghdad**

June 22, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070622-11

BAGHDAD — A Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldier was killed during combat operations in a southwestern section of the Iraqi capital June 21.

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### **Clayton Soldier Killed in Iraq**

Jun 22, 2007 (CBS 3)

CLAYTON, N.J. A New Jersey family is mourning the loss of a Gloucester County soldier who was a brother, son and a hero.

Army Private First Class David J. Bentz III, known to those who loved him, as D.J., was killed Wednesday while fighting in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Initial reports indicate his vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb in Iraq.

“He loved the uniform, with the chicks,” said his mother, Kimi Geonnotti, who offered a chuckle between the tears.

The 20-year-old graduate of Clayton High School was sent to Iraq only one month ago and was looking forward to celebrating his 21st birthday in August.

His mother says he loved being in the Army.

“It was strict and disciplined him and showed him a lot. He came back a different man, he came back a man’ Geonnotti said.

Kimi last spoke to her son Friday, June 15, six days before his death.

“He was scared. He kept saying pray for me.”

Private First Class Bentz is the third soldier from New Jersey to die in combat over the past two weeks.

26-year-old Army Specialist Farid Elazzouzi of Paterson died last week when an explosive detonated near his vehicle in Kirkuk. 35-year-old Army Sergeant Eric Snell of Trenton died on Monday. Authorities said his unit was attacked by insurgents while they were patrolling Baghdad.

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## Minnesota Soldier Killed In Iraq



Courtesy: Lake City Graphic

6/22/2007 The Associated Press

An Army soldier from Lake City has been killed in Iraq.

Twenty-year-old Tony Hebert was a 2005 graduate of Lincoln High School in Lake City. His father, Robert Hebert, confirmed this afternoon that his son was killed but declined to speak further about him at this time.

The Defense Department has not yet released any information on the circumstances of Hebert's death.

**Hebert is the 61st person with strong Minnesota ties to be killed in connection with the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.**

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## **British Soldier Killed In Basra**

22 Jun 07 Ministry of Defence

It is with deep regret that the Ministry of Defence must confirm the death of a soldier from 4th Battalion The Rifles in Basra, southern Iraq today, Friday 22 June 2007.

The soldier died from injuries sustained by a roadside bomb attack in Basra this morning.

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## **20-Year-Old Casper Soldier Died On Foot Patrol**

June 13, 2007 By JOSHUA WOLFSON, Star-Tribune staff writer

Scott Miller had cowboy style and a heart "as big as Wyoming."

The 20-year-old Casper soldier, who died Saturday while on foot patrol in the Iraqi town of Baqubah, was a burly country boy who liked hunting and good-natured pranks.

"He had great big brown eyes and clear from the back of the room, when his eyes really started sparkling or twinkling, I knew he had thought of something that had to do with good-humored mischief," said Janet Dawson, Miller's senior year English teacher at Natrona County High School.

In his short life, Miller made a strong impression on Dawson and others. "My heart's just broken," she said. "I know other people are suffering even more. I think it is important for the family to know that people they don't even know well loved him and miss him."

Miller had a smile that lit up the room and "a heart just as big as Wyoming," Dawson recalled.

"He was also a good storyteller," she said with a laugh. "He always had a good reason why he was late from lunch or why his paper wasn't ready yet."

Miller had a massive presence but was still humble and helpful with his classmates. "He commanded the room when he walked in," Dawson said.

Miller enlisted in the Army in July 2004 after graduating from Natrona County High School. After training at Fort Benning, Ga, he was assigned to the Stryker Brigade Combat Team at Fort Lewis, Wash. His brigade deployed to Iraq in June 2006.

Dawson doesn't recall her student being fearful of going to war.

"He talked about pride in his country, and wanting to do the right thing by his country," she said. "He wanted to be in Wyoming eventually, this was his home, he wanted to come back here. But I think he felt it was his duty to go serve."

Mitch Hill went to Natrona County High School with Miller and took several classes with him. "Everybody is going to miss him," Hill said. "I know I will. He will be one of those kids who will be missed and remembered forever. He gave his life to protect ours."

Miller liked to pull pranks on his buddies, but Hill didn't mind.

"I don't know, I kinda enjoyed it," he said. "I never had a brother and that's how he treated me, like a younger brother."

Hill remembered his friend as a cowboy at heart, who wore Cinch jeans and boots to school everyday. "He pulled off the perfect cowboy," Hill said.

After Miller deployed to Iraq, Hill would keep in touch with him through the social networking site MySpace.com. Miller described Iraq as a different world, his friend recalled.

"He really didn't like being in Iraq, but who would?" Hill said. "But he knew that is what he went into the military to do. As far as I know, he liked being a soldier."

Miller's welding instructor and sophomore football coach recalled him as a hard worker who got along with his classmates. "He was a good athlete, worked hard, had a good work ethic," said Scott Schutte.

Other students liked to be around Miller, Schutte said.

"He had a good sense of humor," Miller's former coach said. "He had kind of a neat grin when he'd smile."

That smile also made an impression on Melissa Henry, who taught Miller's speech class.

"He always had that little curled up grin, that little mischievous corner of your mouth," Henry said. Henry remembers Miller being shy and polite in her class. But he could also be a prankster.

"I remember he sat toward the back of the room," she said. "His group, he could always make them laugh. You never knew what he was up to. He was never mean. He was a good-spirited kid."

Brit Shrebe knew Miller her whole life and said he enjoyed the outdoors and hunting. She remembered him as an easygoing country boy.

“He was definitely a cowboy,” she said. “That was just who Scott was.”

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## **Airman Killed In Iraq Will Forever Be A 'Hero'**

June 13, 2007 By Gregg K. Kakesako, Honolulu Star-Bulletin

Air Force Senior Airman William Newman had hoped to be back in the islands by the end of this month to celebrate his second wedding anniversary in August and take a promotion exam.

His widow, Soyong Newman, had bought new clothes for her husband, whom everyone called “Willie,” and had planned a special trip to Maui to celebrate their anniversary

Instead, Willie Newman, 23, will be remembered this morning at a special Hickam Air Force Base service, with a funeral with full military honors planned for June 23 in his hometown of Kingston, Tenn.

On June 7, Newman became Hickam’s second loss in Iraq when he died of wounds he received from a homemade bomb. His family said he was stationed near Balad with Hickam’s Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team of the 15th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Soyong Newman said her husband was passionate about break dancing, sketching and reading and was considering a career in medicine. A sketch of his wife is proudly displayed in the couple’s Hickam townhouse. But above all, “he was a very faithful man and a good Christian,” she told reporters yesterday.

The two had met at a church picnic three years ago near Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where Newman was attending ordnance school and where Soyong’s father is stationed.

“I think I had to ask him out on a first date because he was so shy,” she said.

Newman was assigned to Hickam in May 2005 and Soyong joined him two months later. The two were wed on Aug. 2, 2005.

Newman was supposed to deploy to Iraq on Jan. 4, but was told on Dec. 29 that his unit was being sent out that same evening.

His widow said the two had talked about his dangerous career.

“I wanted him to do something less dangerous, like intel (intelligence) or computers,” she said, but he wanted to continue working in the ordnance field. Master Sgt. Michael Lester, Soyong Newman’s father, said the family has been told the details surrounding his son-in-law’s death, but knows that he volunteered to be an ordnance specialist because “he wanted to make the area (in Iraq) safe for children.”

Soyong Newman said she plans to return to Florida to be with her family and close friends.

“I will need some time to heal,” she said, adding that her husband will “always be my hero in my heart.”

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## **Marine From Collier Injured In Iraq; “Everybody Is Ready For (War) To Be Over. Either End It Or Bring Them Home”**



Scott Norris

06/21/07 Naples News

“Momma, I’m not going to lose any limbs,” were the first words Scott Norris told his mother in a Sunday morning phone call from Iraq.

Pfc. Norris, a Marine stationed in Fallujah, Iraq, was wounded by shrapnel in both legs and received multiple fractures in his right hand over the weekend, said his mother, Carol Hallenbeck of East Naples.

On Monday, the 20-year-old Collier County native was flown to a hospital in Landstuhl, Germany, where he was in intensive care waiting to be flown to Brooke Army Medical Center near San Antonio, Texas.

Hallenbeck and her boyfriend, Brent King, plan to travel to the hospital this morning to be there for Norris’ arrival.

Hallenbeck spoke to her son, who was having difficulty hearing, on Tuesday and he told her he had experienced such excruciating pain.



“We just got to get him through this,” said Hallenbeck, adding that what family and friends were going through was scary.

Norris joined the Marines in 2005 after graduating from Palmetto Ridge High School in Golden Gate Estates. When Norris left for basic training at Parris Island, S.C., in October 2005, he gave his mother two support troops bracelets, which she still wears today.

Norris was serving his first tour as a Marine combat engineer in the 2nd Marine Division unit No. 73610 when he was injured.

Norris told his mother he was on foot with another Marine detonating improvised explosive devices, IEDs, when one went off nearby, she said. “My son believes in what he was doing,” said Hallenbeck, 43.

Hallenbeck admits she wasn’t the strongest supporter of her son joining the military because the U.S. is at war, but ultimately she came to the conclusion that he is an adult and it was his decision to serve the country. “I believe in my son and he felt it was right, then I do (too),” said Hallenbeck, who wears a “Support Our Troops” yellow ribbon pin.

Hallenbeck said the country isn’t seeing “good enough accomplishments” for the U.S. servicemen and women who have died in war.

“My son isn’t coming home in a box like many of those children,” she said.

Her son’s prognosis is good, Hallenbeck said. Although she is optimistic about his legs healing, Hallenbeck knows it is no guarantee.

“We have spent a lot of time reinforcing that we will love him whether he loses his legs or not,” she said.

Hallenbeck and King said they are concerned about the possibility of any physical and physiological effects of serving in the war.

“I have to be strong,” King said. “And when he is not, I am,” Hallenbeck added.

The couple praised the government for keeping them informed of Norris’ medical condition by military officials.

King says he doesn’t have an answer to war, but is sure there are smarter people in government.

“Everybody is ready for (war) to be over. Either end it or bring them home,” he said.

Hallenbeck described Norris, one of four children, as an outdoors kid, quiet, not shy and very helpful — caring for his brother, Raymond, who suffered from a congenital disease, Williams syndrome. Raymond, 21, died in April.

Born on Dec. 25, 1986, Norris was Hallenbeck’s Christmas baby, she said. “I was so blessed,” she said.

The couple sent about 50 e-mails to their friends about their Marine son wounded in Iraq and asked them to forward it. They plan to read each of the reply e-mails to Norris when they see him.

"It will bring back his spirits," said King, who admires Norris' courage.

Among other items they plan to take with them is a Gatorade he requested Wednesday.

The days since they received Norris' phone call have just blended into each other.

After spending four days of two-minute phone conversations with their son, they are anxious to see him.

Hallenbeck said a military official told her Norris would not have to return to Iraq.

"I'm glad it's going to be over for us. ... I know it sounds selfish, but I worry about the other families and pray for them," said King.

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## **British Soldier Wounded By Basra IED**

June 22, 2007 (CBS/AP)

A British soldier was wounded Friday when a roadside bomb struck a convoy in the southern port city of Basra, the British military said.

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## **Baqouba: Big Surprise "Most Insurgent Senior Leaders Managed To Escape, Leaving Behind A Maze Of Deadly Booby Traps"**

June 22, 2007 (CBS/AP)

Ten thousand U.S. and Iraqi troops are trying to wipe out an insurgent stronghold in Baqouba, reports CBS News national security correspondent David Martin.

But Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, the ground force commander, seen at left being briefed by commanders at a bombed out hospital in Baqouba (center), visited the city Thursday and said most insurgent senior leaders managed to escape, leaving behind a maze of deadly booby traps, adds Martin.

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## **NEW GENERAL ORDER NO. 1:**

# PACK UP GO HOME NOW



A U.S. soldier stands guard as a convoy of U.S. vehicles from Kuwait arrives in Basra, January 15, 2007. (Atef Hassan/Reuters)

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## AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

### **U.S. Soldier Killed In Miri**

June 22, 2007 U.S. Department of Defense News Release

Sgt. Dustin J. Perrott, 23, of Fredericksburg, Va., died June 21, in Miri, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

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### **Assorted Resistance Action**

June 22, 2007 Xinhua

Taliban militants killed three Afghan policemen and injured five others in Kandahar province of southern Afghanistan, local police said Friday.

Militants ambushed a police patrol on Thursday night in Arghandab district and caused the casualties, district police chief Zamarai Khan told Xinhua.

A police vehicle was damaged, he said, adding he had no information about Taliban casualties.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

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



The casket of Filipino-American U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Greg Phil Gagarin June 20, 2007 at Candon, Ilocos Sur province in northern Philippines. Gagarin, 37, with the US Army's Bravo Battery, 1-37 Field Artillery, 3-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, based in Fort Lewis, Washington, was killed in action with an improvised explosive device during a mounted patrol on June 3, 2007. (AP Photo)

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## **“Uneducated And Vindictive” Marine Corps Scum In Command Fucking Over Troops With PTSD**

June 22, 2007 By Tony Perry, L.A. Times Staff Writer

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

CAMP PENDLETON — A national veterans advocacy group criticized Camp Pendleton on Thursday for its “discouraging” treatment of Marines who return from Iraq with signs of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Investigators for the Washington-based Veterans for America said they learned from a week’s worth of interviews with about 30 Marines and family members at Camp Pendleton and the San Diego Naval Medical Center that Marines are being punished, sometimes even booted from the service, for behavior problems linked to the disorder.

“I think we have the obligation to do the right thing for those Marines,” said Steve Robinson, the group’s director of veterans affairs.

Among the problems at Camp Pendleton, Robinson said, is a lack of support for family members of Marines with post-traumatic stress disorder. Some “uneducated and vindictive leaders,” he added, are punishing veterans without considering that their behavior problems might be related to combat experiences.

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## **Honorable Army Officer Gives Evidence Guantanamo Hearings A Rotten Fraud**

Jun 22 By BEN FOX (AP)

**An Army officer with a key role in the U.S. military hearings at Guantanamo Bay says they relied on vague and incomplete intelligence and were pressured to declare detainees “enemy combatants,” often without any specific evidence.**

His affidavit, released Friday, is the first criticism by a member of the military panels that determine whether detainees will continue to be held.

**Lt. Col. Stephen Abraham, a 26-year veteran of military intelligence who is an Army reserve officer and a California lawyer, said military prosecutors were provided with only “generic” material that didn’t hold up to the most basic legal challenges.**

Despite repeated requests, intelligence agencies arbitrarily refused to provide specific information that could have helped either side in the tribunals, according to Abraham, who said he served as a main liaison between the Combat Status Review Tribunals and those intelligence agencies.

**“What were purported to be specific statements of fact lacked even the most fundamental earmarks of objectively credible evidence,” Abraham said in the affidavit, filed in a Washington appeals court on behalf of a Kuwaiti detainee, Fawzi al-Odah, who is challenging his classification as an “enemy combatant.”**

An attorney for al-Odah, David Cynamon, said Abraham “bravely” agreed to provide the affidavit when defense lawyers contacted him.

“It proves what we all suspected, which is that the CSRTs were a complete sham,” Cynamon said.

Matthew J. MacLean, another al-Odah lawyer, said Abraham is the first member of a Combat Status Review Tribunal panel who has been identified, let alone been willing to criticize the tribunals in the public record.

“It wouldn’t be quite right to say this is the most important piece of evidence that has come out of the CSRT process, because this is the only piece of evidence ever to come out of the CSRT process,” MacLean said. “It’s our only view into the CSRT.”

Abraham said he first raised his concerns when he was on active duty with the Defense Department agency in charge of the tribunal process from September 2004 to March 2005 and felt the issues were not adequately addressed. He said he decided his only recourse was to submit the affidavit.

“I pointed out nothing less than facts, facts that can and should be fixed,” he told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from his office in Newport Beach, Calif.

The 46-year-old lawyer, who remains in the reserves, said he believe he had a responsibility to point out that officers “did not have the proper tools” to determine whether a detainee was in fact an enemy combatant.

“I take very seriously my responsibility, my duties as a citizen,” he said.

The military held Combatant Status Review Tribunals for 558 detainees at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay in 2004 and 2005, with handcuffed detainees appearing before panels made up of three officers. Detainees had a military “personal representative” instead of a defense attorney, and all but 38 were determined to be “enemy combatants.”

**Abraham was asked to serve on one of the panels, and he said its members felt strong pressure to find against the detainee, saying there was “intensive scrutiny” when they declared a prisoner not to be an enemy combatant.**

**When his panel decided the detainee wasn’t an “enemy combatant,” they were ordered to reconvene to hear more evidence, he said.**

**Ultimately, his panel held its ground, and he was never asked to participate in another tribunal, he said.**

**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

## Gallup Data Show Confidence In Congress At All Time Low; 14% Vs. 69% For Military

6.22.07 By Frank Newport, USA Today

Just 14% of Americans have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in Congress.

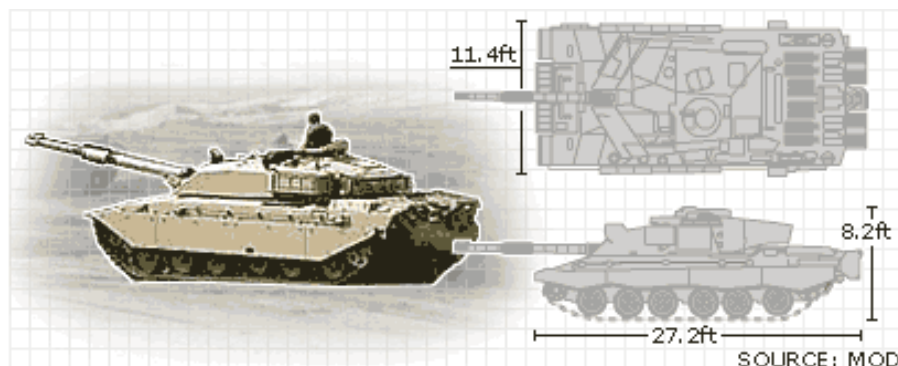
This 14% Congressional confidence rating is the all-time low for this measure, which Gallup initiated in 1973. The previous low point for Congress was 18% at several points in the period of time 1991 to 1994.

Congress is now nestled at the bottom of the list of Gallup's annual Confidence in Institutions rankings, along with HMOs. Just 15% of Americans have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in HMOs.

(By way of contrast, 69% of Americans have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the military, which tops the list.)

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## “The Worst Attack Of Its Kind Against A Heavily Armoured Challenger 2 Tank Operating In Iraq”



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

24 April 2007 BBC

A soldier has been seriously injured while inside a Challenger 2 tank in Iraq.

BBC diplomatic correspondent Paul Adams answers questions about the fears that even these heavily armoured vehicles are becoming vulnerable.

*How serious was this attack?*

It was serious, inasmuch as it constituted the worst attack of its kind against a heavily armoured Challenger 2 tank operating in Iraq.

It is the first time that a crew member has been seriously wounded inside the tank and will, inevitably, cause the military to look again at how best to protect the crews of armoured vehicles from relatively sophisticated explosive devices.

*But it would be wrong to conclude that this comes out of the blue.*

The British, like the Americans, have grown all too familiar with “explosively formed projectiles” (EFPs, also known as “shaped charges”) over the past two years.

Snatch Land Rovers, Warrior and Scimitar armoured vehicles have been hit and disabled in the past, but there has never been any doubt that, despite the highly sophisticated ceramic and steel Chobham armour, a tank crew can be vulnerable to a large enough EFP, striking with the right amount of force at the Challenger’s weakest points.

*What does it tell us about insurgent tactics and weaponry?*

They are constantly evolving. What appears to have been different about this bomb was not so much the sophistication, but the size. To inflict serious damage on a Challenger is no mean feat.

While EFPs have been used in Iraq for a couple of years, the way they are used - left by the side of a road or buried in the ground - and the methods employed to detonate them - by radio waves, infrared, or wire - have varied.

Each time a new method is used, the British military has to come up with new, more effective counter-measures. It is a race in which you are frequently in danger of being one step behind the insurgents.

*How can coalition forces defend themselves?*

The coalition is understandably coy about its counter-measures, not wanting to signal to its opponents what it knows and what it is doing to protect itself.

But as with all things in the military, it is not just about keeping pace with evolving technology.

It is also about understanding how the enemy works and adjusting your tactics and procedures accordingly.



*Where are these bombs coming from?*

The British and US have both, at various times, blamed Iran quite publicly for supplying the technology for EFPs and their detonators, in addition to much other military hardware.

**Others say that the technology is now fairly familiar and could be manufactured inside Iraq without much difficulty, and the longer the insurgency goes on, the more credible such claims may become.**

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## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Assorted Resistance Action**

June 22, 2007 (CBS/AP) & Reuters

An attacker wearing an explosives vest struck a police patrol in Fallujah, killing two officers and wounding three others. The explosion occurred near a bridge in central Fallujah, a police captain said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he feared retribution.

A bomber killed two people and wounded four when he blew himself up in a telecommunications office in Falluja, 50 km (32 miles) west of Baghdad, police said.

One policeman was killed and another wounded by a roadside bomb hidden near a body lying in the street in Karrada in central Baghdad on Thursday, police said. Police had gone to investigate the body when the bomb exploded.

A truck bomber blew up near a building housing police commandos in Madaen, 45 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, killing two policemen and wounding 12, police said.

<p><b>IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATION</b></p>
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### **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**Even during Tet '68, Saigon was still safer than Baghdad today.** David Honish, Veteran

### **OCCUPATION REPORT**

# 60% Of Iraqis Want U.S. Troops Dead: Big Surprise



Foreign occupation soldiers from the U.S. 2nd brigade, 12th Infantry Division, stop Iraqi citizens walking along a street and order them at gunpoint to submit to a body search in Dora, southern Baghdad, Iraq, June 15, 2007. (AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

**U.S. sponsored polls reported recently that 60% of Iraqis favor killing U.S. troops. It would take a drooling idiot not to understand why. 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]**

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

## Fallujah: A Crime

[Thanks to JM, who sent this in.]

Jun 19, 2007 IRIN: This item comes to you via IRIN, the humanitarian news and analysis service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

**A month-long security crackdown is preventing aid workers from getting to displaced families in the central Iraqi city of Fallujah and its outskirts, while a**

**curfew imposed by US forces is restricting residents' ability to go out and buy much-needed supplies.**

"We are living like prisoners, lacking assistance at all levels. Aid support, which last year was always here, can't be seen any more. We depend solely on ourselves, drinking dirty water to survive, even knowing that our children are getting sick from it," said Muhammad Aydan, 42, a resident of Fallujah, some 70km west of the capital, Baghdad.

"Power supply is less than two hours a day in some areas of Fallujah and sometimes we have to go three days without taking a shower to save water," Aydan added.

Local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) said they had been denied entry to Fallujah by the Iraqi and US military as a security crackdown in the area, which started on 21 May, could put their lives at risk.

"We have supplies but it is impossible to reach the families. They are afraid to leave their homes to look for food and children are getting sick with diarrhea caused by the dirty water they are drinking. We have information that pregnant women are delivering their babies at home as the curfew is preventing them from reaching hospital," Fatah Ahmed, spokesman for the Iraq Aid Association (IAA), said.

**"(What is happening in Fallujah) is a crime against the right to live. Such behavior is seen by locals as a punishment for recent attacks on US troops, but innocent civilians are the only ones who are paying," Ahmed added.**

Ahmed Rabia'a, a shopkeeper in the city, said he had been unable to open his shop for more than two weeks as most of the streets were sealed off and the huge number of checkpoints on his way to the shop forced him to wait for long hours in queues.

#### **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.**

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<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/))

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



" I DON'T REMEMBER THE ASTERISK BEING THERE."  
[Thanks to David Honish, Veteran, who sent this in.]

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS

# Welcome To The Occupied USA: School Kids Terrorized, Teachers Beaten By Scum Cops And Security Aides

[Reading this, it becomes clear why people take up arms against the kind of scum terrorizing New York City school children. Someday we'll have all our troops

home, and they'll clean this cowardly filth off our streets and out of our schools, once and for all. Those that survive the experience can be set to doing useful work, like cleaning up toxic waste dumps, where they will no doubt feel completely at home. T]

He saw a police officer slam a boy against a car. Explaining that the boy was his student, the teacher said, "He's just a kid."

According to the report, the police officer then hit and shoved the teacher. People in a group that had gathered cried out: "He's a teacher! He's a teacher!" A second officer reportedly grabbed the teacher from behind and threw him onto the sidewalk. The teacher's head bounced against the pavement.

June 2, 2007 By BOB HERBERT, The New York Times

**You most likely have no idea of the abusive treatment that students and teachers at many of New York City's public schools are enduring at the hands of overly aggressive police officers and security aides assigned to the schools.**

**Students are being belittled, shouted at, cursed at, intrusively searched and improperly touched by cops and security aides who answer to the Police Department, not school authorities.**

**In many cases, the students are roughed up, handcuffed, arrested and taken off to jail for behavior that does not even begin to approach the criminal.**

**Teachers and administrators who have attempted to intervene on the behalf of students have themselves been abused, and in some cases arrested.**

This poisonous police behavior is an extension into the schools of the humiliating treatment cops have long been doling out to youngsters - especially those who are black or Latino - on the city's streets.

**In January, a 15-year-old girl at Samuel J. Tilden High School in Brooklyn was manhandled for no discernible reason by an armed police sergeant. The sergeant had grabbed her book bag and ordered her into a school detention room.**

**When the girl replied, "That's where I'm going," the sergeant is alleged to have pushed her. The girl then said she was going to take down his name and badge number.**

**When she said that, according to a new study of police practices in the public schools by the American Civil Liberties Union, the sergeant jerked the girl's left arm behind her back at a painful angle. The girl's right hand slammed against a wall and she began to cry.**

**Students inside the room cried out in protest, but to no avail. The girl was taken to the police station and given a summons. That night the school's assistant principal called the girl's home and apologized to her mother for the incident.**

One morning last fall a large contingent of police officers arrived unannounced at Wadleigh, a high school for the performing arts in Harlem, to do a spot check for weapons by herding students through portable metal detectors.

**One of the students, the vice president of the school government association, was afraid his cellphone would be confiscated so he called his mother and asked her to come get it. He waited outside the school for her to arrive.**

**When police officers approached him, he explained that his mother was coming to meet him and would be there in just a few minutes. The police, according to the report, called him a smart-aleck, seized his cellphone, handcuffed him, took him to the local stationhouse and put him in jail.**

Unaware that her son had been arrested, the mother was frantic when she couldn't find him at the school. The charges against the boy were later dropped.

There is nothing unusual about this type of activity.

**A math teacher at the Urban Assembly Academy of History and Citizenship rushed outside the school one day last fall when he heard that a student was being assaulted. He saw a police officer slam a boy against a car. Explaining that the boy was his student, the teacher said, "He's just a kid."**

**According to the report, the police officer then hit and shoved the teacher. People in a group that had gathered cried out: "He's a teacher! He's a teacher!"**

**A second officer reportedly grabbed the teacher from behind and threw him onto the sidewalk.**

**The teacher's head bounced against the pavement. While on the ground, the teacher was handcuffed as students and school staffers looked on. He was arrested and taken off to jail.**

The report, a must-read for anyone interested in the reality of public school life in New York, is titled "Criminalizing the Classroom" and was released jointly by the New York Civil Liberties Union and the Racial Justice Program of the national A.C.L.U.

"Girls," the report said, "are particularly targeted for intrusive searches. Girls whose underwire bras set off metal detectors must lift up their shirts so (security aides) can verify that they are not concealing metal objects.

**Many girls reported that officers ordered them to unbuckle and/or unzip their pants for the purpose of verifying that the students were not concealing cellphones."**

There is no excuse whatever for this systematic mistreatment of New York City students. Mayor Michael Bloomberg is in charge of the school system, and he and Commissioner Ray Kelly run the Police Department.

**Parents across the city should demand that they step in and bring this cruel madness to an end.**

MORE:

## **New York City Citizens Beaten And Arrested By Cowardly Scum-Bag Sgt. Talvey As Other Criminals In Uniform Beat Another New York City Citizen; “What Happened To Me Was The Result Of Doing What Is Right-- Speaking Out Against Wrong Doing”**

23 Jun 2007 ActionGreens Digest Number 4400 & December 12th Movement

Thursday June 21st 2007

**Renowned attorneys and community activists Michael Tarif Warren and Evelyn Warren were severely beaten by the police and arrested. The Warrens were assaulted when they stopped to observe the police as they arrested a man.**

**The man who has been involved in a traffic accident was handcuffed and was being beaten by the police. The Warrens were observing and questioning the incident when the police attacked them. Evelyn Warren was punched in the face and Michael Warren was also beaten.**

While driving down Vanderbilt Ave in Brooklyn on Thursday evening, Attorneys Evelyn and Michael Tarif Warren observed an interaction between the police and a young man whom the police had arrested and began to viciously brutalize after he was handcuffed.

They pulled over and Michael Warren identified himself as a lawyer and ask police to stop, Police Sgt Talvy cursed them and told them to “Get the f\*\*k back in their car.

They returned to their car and Mr. Warren began to write down police vehicle plate numbers.

**Sgt Talvey then came to their car punched him repeatedly through the window and dragged him out of the car.. His wife Evelyn Warren was also punched in the face. Both were arrested and charged with obstruction, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.**

The Warrens were arrested and taken to the 77th precinct in Brooklyn, which is notorious for its treatment of people of African descent.

After mobilization by community members, the Warrens were released late Thursday night.

**MORE:**

**EVELYN AND MICHAEL TARRIF WARREN** Were released around 11:00 pm from the 77th precinct in Brooklyn. Evelyn was released with no charges and Michael was released with a Desk Appearance Ticket (DAT).

The release of these two folks was undoubtedly the result of the estimated 150 folks who packed the precinct, welcomed the release of Evelyn and Michael, and later (briefly) took the streets.

Michael's court date will be made public soon and he strongly encouraged supporters to pack the courtroom. As he said in a statement to supporters and the press, "What we experienced tonight happens every day in our communities. What happened to me was the result of doing what is right-- speaking out against wrong doing."

**[And had they been working class kids, or adults, instead of a lawyers and community activists, they would be rotting in jail. Either way, bottom feeding scum-sucker & waste of fucking space and bane of all human existence Talvey is still walking around loose. For now. T.]**

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## **General Strike Over High Fuel Prices Shakes Nigeria: “Economic Activities In Abuja, Lagos And Most States Of The Federation Were Virtually Brought To A Halt” “Activities At The National Assembly Were Also Paralysed”**

21 June 2007 This Day (Lagos)

The leadership of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) yesterday took up issues with the Federal Government which accused it of pursuing political agenda with its nationwide strike which enters the second day today.

Labour said government's allegation was "an orchestrated falsehood" intended to blackmail it into abandoning its "popular struggle" to reverse policies that are against the economic interest of the people.



The response of the organized labour came as situation reports by THISDAY from across the states showed that the industrial action was a total success in some states while in others, it was only partially successful.

Labour gave itself a positive mark in the assessment of the first day of the nationwide fuel price strike.

**Head of Information and Media of TUC, Mr. Adamson Momoh, said the CWC had resolved that the strike should continue until the government reversed the petroleum pump price from N75 to N65 per litre and agreed to other demands of the labour unions.**

**The unions are protesting against increases in the pump prices of petroleum products, a 100 per cent hike in VAT and sale of Port Harcourt and Kaduna refineries.**

The federal government had on Tuesday, in a bid to avert the strike, suspended the hike in VAT and reversed the increases in kerosene and diesel pump prices.

It also reduced, by half, the N10 increase in the pump price of petrol and promised to have a second look into the sale of the refineries.

But labour said that the concessions did not go far enough, insisting that the increase in petrol pump price must be reversed “since it was illegal.”

Responding to the allegation contained in the statement by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Ambassador Babagana Kingibe, on Tuesday night, NLC President who is leading the labour coalition, Comrade Abdulwahed Omar, said the allusion to the effect that NLC’s strike was motivated by political and hidden agenda was diversionary and untenable.

“We wish to respond to the campaign of blackmail and patent falsehood being orchestrated by the Federal Government through the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Ambassador Baba Gana Kingibe. The accusation by the SGF that labour’s position is informed by a hidden political agenda is diversionary and untenable,” he said.

While denying the allegation of political intent, Omar said the Labour’s strike was about public welfare and the economy, noting “the overwhelming national and multi-sectoral support that the current campaign has received indicated that it is popular and not partisan.”

“We are convinced that Mr. President certainly knows better that this strike is not in pursuit of political agenda, but is about public welfare and economy,” he said.

While acknowledging the achievements so far recorded by the Labour-Government stand-off which include the reversals in VAT, kerosene and diesel increment, the NLC President said the congress would continue to lead the struggle until it secured the return of fuel price to N65 per litre.

Omar appealed to members of the National Assembly to prevail on the Federal Government to hearken to the demands of the “suffering people” of the country and reverse the petrol price to its former rate of N65 per litre.

**According to him, the labour movement had resolved to continue prosecute the strike indefinitely until government returned to the old fuel price.**

In his appraisal of the day one of the labour protest, the NLC President, said the strike directive had recorded substantive compliance.

He commended Nigerians for the massive support given the on-going strike across the country against the fuel price increase, saying the support received from Nigerians had unequivocally shown that they were fed up with the constant increases in the price of petroleum product.

**The Labour President said from the accounts of strike monitors in the Federal Capital Territory and 36 states, work places and businesses had shut down as a result of the strike.**

“The level of compliance nationwide indicates that Nigerians appreciate that we must make collective efforts and sacrifice to ensure that government acts in accordance with public welfare and the will of the people,” he said.

**Economic activities in Abuja, Lagos and most states of the federation were virtually brought to a halt as most offices were empty.**

In Abuja, there were truck loads of security personnel stationed at strategic locations to prevent any fracas.

Earlier in the day, some group of students driving in about 10 fleets of buses into Abuja clashed with security personnel who had erected barricades at almost all the entry points to the capital city.

It took the intervention of NLC General Secretary, Mr. John Odah, and that of the FCT Police Commissioner, Mr. John Haruna, to resolve the matter and for the students to be allowed access to the Labour House.

**Activities at the National Assembly were also paralysed following the strike by labour unions. Only a few Assembly staff reported for work, while none of its principal officers had yet to be there when THISDAY visited.**

However, courts sat in Abuja in defiance of the strike called by the NLC and TUC.

**In Lagos, economic activities were also partially paralysed especially in the early hours of the day.**

**Major roads and businesses in the Ikeja area of Lagos state, including the state government secretariat, Alausa were deserted as civil servants and motorists complied with the sit-at-home order by the NLC for the masses to proceed on an indefinite strike.**

**Workers at the Alausa seat of government and their counterparts at the State House of Assembly were not on ground when newsmen were conveyed round the two-arms Zone.**

Aside the state workers obeying the strike order, financial institutions monitored in Lagos also operated skeletal services to their customers.

It was also gathered that Students in Public secondary and primary schools in the Ikeja area were turned back by the enforcement team of the NLC.

Major banks, fast food outlets and offices that opened for business were seen conducting skeletal services as their staff reluctantly attend to customers.

A breakdown of THISDAY reporters situation reports of the strike is as follows:

Oyo: The nation wide strike called by labour unions took effect in Ibadan and other parts of Oyo State as workers and other public officers stayed off work.

The state NLC took time off to address political developments in the country and in the state and submitted that the government of President Musa Yar'Adua was yet to convince Nigerians that it was not an offshoot of the defunct President Olusegun Obasanjo administration.

Commercial activities however continued unperturbed in all parts of the city with workers who have other businesses capitalizing on the strike to attend to their other needs.

Enugu: Commercial activities were grounded in Enugu State. Banks and most government offices in the State did not open for business.

To ensure that the strike was a success, the NLC Chairman in the State, Comrade Eugene Ugwu as early as 7 am joined members of his executive, including members of the civil societies to visit one office after another picketing them to ensure that their workers did not report for work.

However, it did not appear that members of the Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) were prepared for the strike as many of them operated normal services.

**Nasarawa: The strike started in the state amid a mild drama when workers called for a change of leadership in the state chapter of the NLC following what they perceived as an act of sabotage by the union leader, Comrade Asoloko Maku.**

**The crisis started when the workers assembled at the Lafia Parade Ground ready to move to Government House when the union leader, Comrade Asokolo, told the gathering that the peaceful protest would only take place within the parade ground. This move agitated the members who called for his removal.**

**Most of the workers carried placards with inscriptions like “no increment of fuel, implement 15% salary increment, and complete reversal of VAT.”.**

Cross River: When THISDAY went round the state capital, most public and private offices and schools did not open. Government offices did not open as workers remained at home in compliance with NLC directives. The exception, however, was the Governor's Office where some skeletal services were being offered by some staff.

Some banks which opened in the morning later closed to customers at about 10.30 am for fear of being attacked or picketed by trade union officials who were monitoring the strike.

Some filling stations which opened in the morning, perhaps to sell off their stock in anticipation of price cuts were later sealed off by NLC officials. The markets were however open but with few people patronizing them.

Kebbi: The strike was not effective. Although government offices remained closed, commercial activities were not affected by the strike. Most of the schools in the state capital opened except only few while the central market and motor parks were as busy as ever. Most of the banks as at 11.30 am were still giving skeletal service.

Ekiti: Beside the government activities that were seriously affected and paralysed by the action, no other sector of the economy complied with labour's directive. All the government offices, especially at the state secretariat, as well as the old and the new governor's office were deserted by the workers in total compliance with the directive of the labour leaders. Also, banks and other financial institutions did not open for commercial transactions.

Yobe: The strike was partially observed as most banks in the state capital, Damaturu, opened business to customers. Though civil servants stayed at home in compliance with the directive of the NLC, the opening of banks in the state took the shine off the action as many people in the state never felt the pains that are usually associated with strikes in the past. They easily strolled into their banks to transact normal business without any hindrance.

Ondo: No civil servant reported for duty in Akure, Ondo State capital. Also, banks and other public offices remained closed as only security men were seen manning the gates leading to banking premises. However, normal commercial activities were going on in various markets in Akure and other major towns while those commercial vehicles and motorcycle operators that still had fuel continued with their operations despite the state NLC's advice that they shun business.

Osun: The strike was also total in Osogbo, Osun State capital, as all federal and state offices were under lock and key. THISDAY checks in some government offices in Osogbo showed that civil servants stayed away from their official duties as some offices were only left with security men who kept watch over government property. Commercial activities were paralysed as commercial drivers, Okada riders, petty traders and hawkers kept off the major roads within the state capital.

Taraba: There was a total compliance of workers in Taraba State with the-sit- at- home order given by the NLC. Reports from NLC officials who monitored the exercise in the state showed that over 90 percent compliance was recorded. THISDAY checks showed that members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) also joined the exercise as there was no transportation to various destinations outside the state.

Most of the public offices including banks and the state secretariat complex were locked up in the early hours of the day

Imo: Commercial and social activities ground to a halt during the day one of the labour strike in Imo State as people were caught unawares because they could not go about their normal day to day activities. THISDAY went round the state capital, Owerri, and observed that all the government establishments and offices were empty as their gates were under lock and key.

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