

## GI SPECIAL 5H3:



© The Commercial Appeal. Dist. by UFS, Inc.

# **U.S. General Orders Military To Attack The Traitor Bush “All The Time”**

**“He’s The Most Vicious Enemy  
We’ve Ever Seen”**

# **“He’s Going To Try Some Catastrophic Attack That’s Going To Influence The Debate Back In Washington”**

August 2, 2007 By Kim Gamel, ASSOCIATED PRESS [Excerpt]

**“We’ve been fighting this enemy now for a while. He’s the most vicious enemy we’ve ever seen.**

**“He has no respect for human life and what he’s going to try to do is to do some catastrophic attack that’s going to influence the debate back in Washington,” [Maj. General Rick] Lynch told The Associated Press.**

**“We’ve got to stop him from doing that by taking the fight to him all the time.”**

**LIAR  
TRAITOR  
MURDERER  
DOMESTIC ENEMY  
UNFIT FOR COMMAND  
UNWORTHY OF OBEDIENCE**



July 20, 2007. (Larry Downing/Reuters)

---

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **Baghdad IED Kills Three U.S. Soldiers; Eleven Wounded**

August 3, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory August 3, 2007

BAGHDAD — Three Multi-National Division - Baghdad Soldiers were killed and 11 others wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated near their patrol during combat operations in an eastern section of the Iraqi capital August 2. Four of the injured were treated for minor injuries and were returned to duty.

---

### **U.S. Soldier Killed, Three Wounded In Baghdad**

August 3, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070803-04

BAGHDAD — A Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldier was killed and three Soldiers wounded during combat operations in a western section of the Iraqi capital Aug. 2.

---

### **U.S. Soldier Killed, Two Wounded Near Al Basrah**

August 2, 2007 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND Casualty Reports RELEASE No. 20070802-11

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – A 13th SC(E) Soldier was killed and two others were wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated near their vehicle while conducting a combat logistics patrol in the vicinity of Al Basrah, Iraq August 1.

The wounded Soldiers were treated by Coalition Forces medical personnel and transported to a nearby medical facility for further evaluation and treatment.  
<http://www.wishtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=6871112>

---

# Indiana Soldier Killed In Iraq By Roadside Bomb



Aug 3, 2007 By Jay Hermacinski, WISH TV

INDIANAPOLIS - Funeral arrangements are pending for Army Specialist Zachariah Gonzalez. The 23-year-old Indiana native was killed in Baghdad Jul. 31.

Army officials say Gonzalez was riding in a Stryker armored vehicle when it hit a roadside bomb. The soldier and two of his buddies died in the attack.

A 2002 graduate of Hamilton Southeastern, Gonzalez first joined the reserves to be a cook. But once in the army, he decided to join full time as an infantryman.

"Zachariah was a child and then a man of vision and passion, always sure of where he was going and what he wanted," said uncle Manuel Gonzalez.

While Army pictures show a young man who wore the uniform with great pride, family photos show a different side, a loving son and brother who cherished his family as they cherished him. Family members say Gonzalez last spoke to his mother one week before he was killed. During the conversation he talked about the future.

"He was ready to come home. To lay out in the grass in the back yard because he said there was no grass here and he couldn't wait to go home and lay down in the grass," his uncle said. Gonzalez is coming home, but now the grass he so longed to touch will become his final resting place.

---

## Corporal Steve Edwards Of 2nd Royal Tank Regiment Killed In Iraq

2 Aug 07 Ministry of Defence

It is with much sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm the death of Corporal Steve Edwards 2nd Royal Tank Regiment in Basra City, southern Iraq on Tuesday 31 July 2007.

Corporal Edwards, known as 'Eddy' to his friends, was on a routine patrol in the Mustashfa district of Basra City when his Warrior Armoured Vehicle was struck by an Improvised Explosive Device shortly before midnight local time. Corporal Edwards was checking the safety of the soldiers travelling in his vehicle at the time of the attack.

---

## Central Texas Family Remembers Soldier



Cpl. Rhett A. Butler: Courtesy

July 24, 2007 KVUE News

Services have been set for a Texas soldier killed in Iraq.

Cpl. Rhett A. Butler, 22, died Friday in Khan Bani Sa'd, Iraq when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device, the Department of Defense announced Monday.

He was assigned to 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Washington.

Butler went to high school in Lago Vista, and in the Butler family home there are more tears than smiles these days.

The family is often huddled around the computer reading messages posted by friends and fellow soldiers from around the world.

Butler joined the Army three years ago. His first tour in Iraq began in May.

His family says he decided long ago to join the Army and was proud to serve.

"He was proud to serve his country, and I don't believe he had any political thoughts on way or another about Iraq," said David Butler, father. "The reason he was in Iraq was that he was there to protect his friends and comrades."

Butler recently told his family he planned to sign up for four more years.

Although butler spent two and a half years at Lago Vista High School, he grew up in Glenrose, outside of Fort Worth. Services are set for this weekend at the Glenrose High School auditorium on Saturday July 28 at 2 p.m.

---

## **THIS ENVIRONMENT IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH; COME HOME, NOW**



U.S. military armored vehicles block a road at the site of a roadside bomb attack that targeted a U.S. military patrol in Baghdad August 1, 2007. (Thaier al-Sudani/Reuters)

---

## **Sgt. Holke Remembered As Adventurous**

07/25/2007 Debbie Pfeiffer Trunnell, Staff Writer, San Bernardino Sun

CRESTLINE - Sgt. Eric Holke was always eager to try something new, whether it was working in the backcountry for the California Conservation Corps, doing living history at Renaissance fairs or serving in the military.

As a costumed fair participant, he traveled to events all over Southern California. Life in the Army and later the California National Guard took him further afield to bases in the U.S., one tour of duty in Afghanistan and two in Iraq.

Holke, 31, was on his second tour of duty in Iraq, serving with the 1st Battalion, 160th Infantry, California Army National Guard, Fullerton, when he died July 15 in a non-combat-related incident in Tallil.

"It's very sad that he is gone," said his sister, Erin Holke. "I wish he was still alive and coming back to his huge family and all the things he loved to do."

According to family members, Holke, formerly of Crestline, was killed when the Humvee he was in tried to avoid hitting an Iraqi and flipped over.

The accident took place only weeks after he was deployed to Iraq. He leaves behind his new wife and son, parents, sister and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

The young man spent his early years in Riverside, where he was a typical boy playing computer games, riding his bike, swimming in his aunt's pool and joining in Cub Scout activities.

He took an early interest in history, watching shows about World War II and other military conflicts on the History Channel with his dad, Jack Holke.

When he was in sixth grade, the family moved to Crestline, where he became a fan of the great outdoors. He hiked, skied and snowboarded whenever he could. "He loved living in the mountains while he was a child," Jack Holke recalled.

After taking an audio-visual class in a Regional Occupational Program and filming sports at Rim of the World High School in Lake Arrowhead, Holke became interested in film. "He wanted to become a director and producer and create short films," said his aunt, Monika Holke. "That became his dream in high school." He continued studying film and also worked at the TV and radio stations at San Bernardino Valley College.

Ready for a new adventure, he left the college and went into the California Conservation Corps. He spent the next two years out in the middle of nowhere in Northern California with everything he needed on his back.

When Holke returned from the wilderness, he became active in Renaissance fairs. He did most of his presentations at the Koroneburg Renaissance Festival outside of Corona and Norco but also traveled to other fairs.

His specialty was demonstrating how the German military lived in the 1400s through 1600s, according to Pat Long, a cousin and producer of Renaissance fairs. And he excelled at it, recalled Tom Wilson, a fellow fair producer. "It was a lot of fun seeing him get into the character," he said. "You could talk to him for an hour and he would still have the accent."

Eager to learn new skills and get money to go back to school, Holke enlisted in the Army in 2000. He served with the 82nd Airborne, like one of his grandfathers, a much-decorated World War II veteran.

He went to Afghanistan and then to Iraq with the 82nd Airborne before being honorably discharged from the Army in 2005.

Back in Riverside, he studied business and film at San Bernardino Valley College, did re-enactments at Renaissance fairs and joined the California National Guard.

It was nice to have him around again, his aunt recalled.

"He was the kind of young man if you looked in his eyes and saw his smile, he would be in your heart forever," she said.

In that same happy period, Holke met the love of his life, Cassidhe.

The couple married in January, and they shared a home with her 16-year-old son, Steven, whom he considered his own.

But their time together was brief. He was called up and left in March for Camp Shelby, Miss.

Holke was deployed in June to Iraq. Stationed in Kuwait, he was on an escort convoy transporting supplies. In phone calls home to his family, he spoke of his pride in serving his country and everything he hoped to do when he came home.

“He wanted to earn a bachelor’s degree in business, get into the film industry and start a new life with his wife and Steven,” said Monika Holke. “Mostly to continue with what he left behind.”

At Holke’s funeral service Sunday at Evans-Brown Mortuary in Sun City, the military presented five medals, including the Bronze Star, to his family.

---

### **Notes From A Lost War:**

## **“They’re Smart; They Will Go Where We Are Not”**

Aug 1 By CHARLES CRAIN, Time Inc. [Excerpts]

The dusty farming communities southeast of Baghdad have become a key front in U.S. efforts to pacify the Iraqi capital. As militants search for sanctuaries from which they can stage attacks in the city, American troops are looking for ways to block an elusive enemy.

As tens of thousands of additional American soldiers began patrolling Baghdad this summer, Madain, to the southeast of the capital, was an obvious fallback position for militants.

**One group has based itself in a bend in the Tigris River dominated by fish farms, and the dike roads that criss-cross the area cannot carry the weight of U.S. vehicles.**

“There aren’t really a lot of people, and they can stage from there,” says [Capt. Richard] Thompson, who commands a company based at one of the combat outposts. “They’re smart; they will go where we are not.”

**The last line of defense against strikes inside Baghdad are the checkpoints along Madain’s arterial routes - most of them manned by the Iraqi security forces.**



**The checkpoints are an improvement over the open roads that previously prevailed, but they are only as effective as the soldiers manning them.**

“Do I worry about that? Sure I do,”[Col. Wayne] Grigsby says the U.S. commander. He said he trusts the politicians and security chiefs he deals with at his level.

**But the loyalties of the force as a whole are more difficult to discern. “The further you get down in the organization,” he said, “I don’t know.”**

---

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Foreign Occupation Soldier Killed, Another Wounded, Probably American**

August 1, 2007 The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan: A gun battle with militants in eastern Afghanistan left a NATO soldier dead Wednesday.

The clash in eastern Afghanistan also left another soldier wounded, the alliance said in a statement. NATO did not identify the exact location of the clash, or the nationality of the casualties.

Most of the troops in eastern Afghanistan are American.

---

## **TROOP NEWS**

### **Combat Veterans At The Mercy Of DoD For Army Equipment Lost In Combat; Hounded By Collection Agencies, Credit Ruined;**

**“They’ll Just Pound Him And Call Him, Call His Employers, And Make His Life As Miserable As They Can Until He Pays Up”  
[Grounds For Insurrection By Any Army, Anywhere, Anytime]**

**Comment: T**

**This government has lost all right to either rule America or to expect the slightest further obedience from members of the armed forces. They are nothing but a pack of lying, stealing, shit-eating organized criminal scum. They hate our liberties, they hate our troops, they hate anybody and everything that doesn’t put more wealth in their pockets. They are beneath contempt.**

**Here are the enemies domestic that every member of the armed forces takes an oath to defend us from by force of arms.**

**They have outlived their usefulness. It’s time to clean the filth out of Washington DC, top to bottom, side to side, no exceptions.**

**When rats like we have infesting DC tried it in Russia, the Russian soldiers knew what to do. See the article below. T**

\*\*\*\*\*

**And despite repeated requests, the Army never could tell us what piece of equipment Rodriguez was billed for, nor would they get rid of the debt.**

**“I did my time, I served my country and this is the thanks I get,” Rodriguez said.**

Jul 31, 2007 Kirstin Cole Reporting, (CBS) [Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier, who sent this in.]

Servicemen and women who made huge sacrifices fighting in the war and now paying yet another price, even after coming home.

One soldier in particular is currently battling against a new “debt of service.”

Brian Rodriguez is a fighter, an honorably discharged soldier who’d been deployed in Iraq.

“I was a combat engineer,” Rodriguez said. “We deal with land mines, explosives.”

He fought for his nation, only to return to his homeland and wage a fresh battle.

**Former Army Specialist Rodriguez started getting bills for \$700 for lost or damaged government property this summer.**

**Although he was discharged some four years ago, bills recently arrived demanding payment, but giving no details on what or why -- nor do they offer a way to dispute the charges.**

**“For doing my job you’re going to bill me?” Rodriguez said.**

And he’s not alone.

**A 2006 government report found more than 1,000 soldiers being billed a total of \$1.5 million.**

**And while fighting overseas put their lives on the line, this battle on paper could cost them their future by ruining their credit.**

**Rodriguez will be reported to credit agencies next month.**

“It makes a terrible point about the nature of military service today,” citizen soldier Tod Ensign said.

Ensign is a veteran’s advocate. He says this is all part of the military’s push to be run more like a business.

**“They’ll just pound him and call him, call his employers, and make his life as miserable as they can until he pays up,” Ensign said.**

Testimony before Congress detailed in a report found that “although unit commanders and finance offices are authorized to write off debts for lost and damaged equipment ... they have not always done so.”

“It happens too often and it’s just disgraceful,” Sen. Charles Schumer said. “Here are people who are risking their lives for us and they come home and they’re being treated as if they’re criminals instead of heroes.”

**Because it’s been four years since he left the Middle East, Rodriguez’s battalion was dissolved and his commanders are long gone.**

**And despite repeated requests, the Army never could tell us what piece of equipment Rodriguez was billed for, nor would they get rid of the debt.**

**“I did my time, I served my country and this is the thanks I get,” Rodriguez said.**

**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.

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



U.S. Army Pfc. Le Ron Wilson's burial services at Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale, New York July 17, 2007. Wilson, 18, from New York, died July 6, 2007, in Iraq of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. (Shannon Stapleton/Reuters)

---

## Fools In Command Learn Nothing And Forget Nothing

August 2, 2007 By Mark Mazzetti, International Herald Tribune [Excerpt]

During the Vietnam War, generals used enemy body counts to trumpet the successes of the military's jungle offensives.

The Pentagon says it abandoned this "metric" after the defeat in Vietnam, but over the past four years in Iraq, military commanders have often used their numbers for insurgents killed when detailing the success of a particular operation.

---

# **“Hey, No Problem” “Take A Left, Go About 250 Miles, And You’re The Fuck Out Of Here”**



---

## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Iraqi Patriots Rebel At Occupation Concentration Camp**

Aug 3 (KUNA)

Clashes between inmates of Badoush detention camp, east of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, and the Multi-National Force (MNF) left a detainee killed and two others injured Friday.

The riots erupted in the heavy punishment cell when wardens and an MNF unit got into there to take some detainees to the gallows, an Iraqi police source told KUNA.

The inmates resisted the orders of the wardens and set fire to some furniture, prompting the MNF troops to use tear gas, live ammunition and rubber bullets to put down the riots.

The clashes killed one detainee and killed two others, according to the source.

---

# Assorted Resistance Action

Aug. 2, 2007 By STEVEN R. HURST, Associated Press & Reuters & AFP & (KUNA)

Around 11.30 am, a suicide car bomb targeted a police check point at Hashimiyat area (20 km north of Baquba) killing four policemen and injuring three others. Four people were also killed including the head of Hibhib communications department with some members of his family.

Around 12.15 pm, a roadside bomb targeted a police car which was on the way of Baghdad – Kirkuk. No casualties reported but some damage to the vehicle.

Around 5 pm, opened fire on a police officer at Qadisiya neighborhood near power station department downtown Kirkuk injuring him with two other people who were at the scene.

Wednesday night , a roadside targeted the convoy of the head of Mosul police at the wood area north of Mosul injuring four of his guards only .

An Iraqi soldier was killed and three civilians were wounded in blasts in the north Iraqi city of Kirkuk on Thursday. An IED targeted a military patrol near Al-Awashra village on the Kirkuk-Beji west of the city killing one soldier, a source in the Iraqi police told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

A second blast hit a military uniforms and supplies shop near the Old Courts in Kirkuk where three civilians were wounded and taken to hospitals.

One more IED targeted a car escorting the deputy police commissioner in the area of Tarik Baghdad in Kirkuk. No one was injured.

**A car bomber slammed into an Iraqi police station northeast of Baghdad and killed at least 13 people, police said. Most of the dead were policemen and recruits lining up outside the station in Hibhib, The bomber blew up his vehicle at a police checkpoint, turning it into a ball of fire.**

An Iraqi army patrol responding to an incident in the town of Jbela was hit by a roadside bomb that wounded two soldiers, police said.

South of Baghdad, guerrillas entered the home of Hadi al-Mayahi, an official of the local branch of the trade ministry in Al-Wahda, killing him and capturing four of his sons, said police Captain Muntadhar Mohammed.

Further into the south, policeman Hisham Raheem who guarded electricity installations near the city of Kut, was shot dead on his way to work, said police Lieutenant Ali Hussein.

After finishing his job, an administrator (general manger) of the Baghdad ministry of industry killed up by guerrillas at Al-Sadoun street .

Around 10 am, a roadside bomb targeted an American convoy at Baladiyat neighborhood Baghdad. No casualties reported.

Basra: Around 7 am, mortars hit the headquarter of Hakimiya joint forces injuring one policeman with two cars damaged.

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

## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**“What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms.”  
Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787.**

# **Empire History**



From: Richard Hastie  
To: GI Special  
Sent: August 02, 2007  
Subject: Empire History

**Empire History**

The reason you destroy your Empire History,  
is because the grave site is filled with shame.

Mike Hastie  
U.S. Army Medic  
Vietnam 1970-71  
August 2, 2007

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](mailto:hastiemike@earthlink.net)) T)

***The August Days, 1991:  
Russian Soldiers Refuse To  
Obey***

**People Shook Their Fists And  
Shouted, “Don’t Shoot Your  
Own People! Turn Against Your  
Officers!”**

**“The First Demonstrators Cheered  
As The Gunners In Ten Tanks Of  
The Taman Guards Turned The  
Barrels Of Their Guns Away From  
The Parliament”**

**“Chugunov And His Friends Felt  
Ashamed, And They Told The Crowds  
Around Them They Would Do Nothing To  
Disgrace The Names Of Their Fathers,**



# **They Would Not Shoot At Their Own People”**

**Children climbed on the tanks and asked the young soldiers how to drive; pretty young women teased the recruits and said that maybe they should all go home and do something more interesting than sitting around on a tank.**

**From: LENIN’S TOMB: THE LAST DAYS OF THE SOVIET EMPIRE, BY DAVID REMNICK; RANDOM HOUSE; NEW YORK, 1993 [Excerpts]**

## **Comment T:**

**The book has nothing to do with Lenin’s Tomb, and nothing to do with a “Soviet” Empire, because Stalin wiped out the elected Workers Councils [“Soviet” means “Council”] over 65 years before the Russian people rose up in 1991 to destroy the dictatorship that made their lives hell.**

**What you do read below is how a gang of corrupt scum tried to wipe out the Russian movement from below against the dictatorship that held them down. The scum decided to organize a military coup, declared martial law and sent Russian soldiers into the streets of Moscow to kill the aroused citizens.**

**And you will read how people who had never made history before came out to defend their revolution, and how the soldiers refused to obey the orders of the corrupt politicians and rotten generals, and instead turned their weapons against those commanding them to kill their fellow citizens.**

**In another part of the book, the writer reports how these honorable troops were ready to use the air force to bomb the political bosses in the Kremlin and kill them all if necessary to defend their liberties.**

**They knew who the domestic enemies were.**

**When the time comes here, go thou and do likewise.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The barracks of the Kantemirovskaya Mechanized Division in the town of Naro-Fominsk outside Moscow were quiet, and Private Vitaly Chugunov, a young man with wheat-blond hair from the city of Ulyanovsk, was in the middle of a deep, untroubled sleep.

These were the last sweet moments before Monday reveille and another week of training.

Chugunov had thought he would be among the first generation of Soviet soldiers blessed by the rise of a peaceable kingdom, a country in which a policy of “new thinking” ensured against another Afghanistan, another occupation of Eastern Europe.

Suddenly, an officer burst into Chugunov's barracks, shouting his charges out of bed.

There were no complicated explanations, nothing about Gorbachev or a state of emergency. "We all thought it was one of those training alerts, and we quickly got everything ready to go," Chugunov said.

Soon he was inside his armored personnel carrier, part of a huge convoy headed for Moscow.

**Chugunov and his buddies were confused, not quite sure why they were taking the highway north into the city at such a fast clip and churning up the asphalt.**

**Along the way, Chugunov could see a few people waving at the tanks and the armored personnel carriers; people shouting at them to turn around and go home.**

**Slowly, the young soldiers began to understand, Chugunov fastest of all.**

His father had been in a tank when the Soviet army invaded Prague in 1968. He'd always told his son how scared he was that day. The commanders had told them that the Czechs would give them boxes of chocolate and the chocolate would have poison inside them. Watch out for poisoned wine, they told them.

**And then, as his tank rumbled into the city, he heard the insults: "Occupiers!"**

**"Pigs, go home!"**

**Looking out at the road now, Chugunov thought that he was headed for something far worse than his father had ever known.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**By 9:00 A.M., tanks surrounded Moscow City Hall. Soldiers had taken down the Russian tricolor and replaced it with the red Soviet [translation: Stalinist] flag.**

Tanks were taking positions in all the key points of the city: the TV and radio stations, newspaper offices, Lenin Hills, the White House.

**A journalist called General Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, the commander of the air force. Shaposhnikov had listened to Yazov's [one of the would-be military dictators] commands and explanations of the coup, but he made no secret to the reporter that he was revolted by what had happened.**

**"Let the sons of bitches comment on what they are going to do with the country," he said. [This General later told the traitors if they didn't surrender, he would order the air force to bomb the Kremlin and kill them.]**

\*\*\*\*\*

Nadezhda Kudinova, a seamstress at a parachute factory on the edge of town, arrived at work.

On the way, she had heard some vague rumors on the bus that the newscasters were announcing that Gorbachev [a political leader who had introduced a few reforms, but not enough] had resigned for “health reasons” and that Yanayev and some unpronounceable committee - the “GKChP”- had taken power. [Gorbachev had been arrested by the plotters.]

It all seemed so vague and unreal.

The factory director immediately gathered all the workers and insisted that they all stand by the Emergency Committee, that what the country needed now was stability and discipline in the workplace.

**As the day went on and she heard that Yeltsin [a reform political leader] had begun organizing the resistance at the White House, Kudinova brightened.**

**“Maybe I should start writing some leaflets,” she thought. On her way home, she saw the tanks, she saw how the tanks had chewed up the road, a violation.**

**She saw the crowd beginning to gather at the White House, and she made a decision.**

**She would protect the president she had voted for just two months before.**

**She went to the White House for Yeltsin, for an independent Russia.**

**It wasn't about Gorbachev, she thought. Gorbachev had gotten what he deserved.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Yeltsin arrived at the White House at around 10:00 A.M.

He and Ruslan Khasbulatov, the chairman of the parliament, and Ivan Silayev, the Russian prime minister, drafted an appeal, “To the Citizens of Russia,” denouncing the putsch as a “reactionary unconstitutional coup d'etat” and calling for a nationwide strike.

**Khasbulatov and Vice President Aleksander Rutskoi, a war hero in Afghanistan, began broadcasts from a makeshift radio station - inside the parliament building, the White House.**

By eleven the depression in the city was beginning to lift just slightly,” said Masha Lipman's husband, Seriozha Ivanov.

**“People riding in the trolleys were laughing at the tanks, mocking them.”**

**Children climbed on the tanks and asked the young soldiers how to drive; pretty young women teased the recruits and said that maybe they should all go home and do something more interesting than sitting around on a tank.**

Then, just after noon, Yeltsin walked down the front steps of the White House and clambered up on a T-72-Tank No. 110 of the Taman Guards. It was an indelible image that would set the tone for the next three days.

As a small crowd of demonstrators and reporters listened, Yeltsin's voice boomed out. "Citizens of Russia," he began. ". . . The legally elected president of the country has been removed from power. . . . We are dealing with a right-wing, reactionary, anti-constitutional coup d'etat. . . . Accordingly, we proclaim all decisions and decrees of this committee to be illegal. . . .

**Then Konstantin Kobets, a retired general now appointed Russian defense minister by Yeltsin, climbed aboard and addressed not only the citizens, but the soldiers of Russia.**

"I am the defense minister of Russia," he said, "and not a hand will be raised against the people or the duly elected president of Russia."

Kobets had led a battalion during the Prague invasion in 1968, and he said he was not about to repeat his mistakes.

**He would organize the military resistance and try to convince the officers and troops that they could not, as soldiers or citizens, follow the commands of a junta.**

**Rutskoi responded instantly and went on the radio: "Comrades! I, an officer of the Soviet armed forces, a colonel, a Hero of the Soviet Union who has walked the battle-torn roads of Afghanistan and knows the horrors of war, call on you, my brother officers, soldiers, and sailors, not to act against your own people, against your fathers, brothers, and sisters."**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Outside the White House, the first demonstrators cheered as the gunners in ten tanks of the Taman Guards turned the barrels of their guns away from the parliament. The attackers were now ready to defend the White House.**

**Private Chugunov sat in his tank, parked in the Lenin Hills.**

**At first there was real fear, he said.**

**People shook their fists and shouted, "Don't shoot your own people! Turn against your officers!"**

**He saw women crying, people brought them food to eat, flowers to stick in their guns, leaflets from the White House, Yeltsin's appeal to the military to obey their oath to the people.**

**The soldiers unloaded their AK-47s and kept them out of sight.**

**"Why don't we make a U-turn and go home?" they began to say to one another.**

**Chugunov and his friends felt ashamed, and they told the crowds around them they would do nothing to disgrace the names of their fathers, they would not shoot at their own people.**

**At noon Yeltsin went on the radio: “At this difficult hour of decision remember that you have taken an oath to your people, and your weapons cannot be turned against the people.**

**“You can erect a throne of bayonets but you cannot sit on it for long. The days of the conspirators are numbered. . . . Soldiers, I believe at this tragic hour you will make the right decision. The honor of Russian arms will not be covered with the blood of the people.”**

\*\*\*\*\*

**At the White House, a retired lieutenant from the Taman Guards – “Baskakov is my name, here is my tattoo” – took command of Civil Defense Unit No. 34.**

**He was proud to see that it was his boys who were the first to come over to the side of the resistance.**

Baskakov had quit the Communist Party the year before and he felt that it was his duty “as a Christian” to come to the barricades. He never said a word to his family, just walked out the door and took the metro to the White House.

Baskakov’s men, a ragtag outfit of Afghan vets, took command of entrance 22 of the parliament, where key figures, like Shevardnadze and Popov, were going in and out.

Baskakov’s men spotted snipers in the windows of the Hotel Mir across the street and near the American embassy. For years, American diplomats had assumed that the KGB used the hotel as a lookout point on the embassy.

Baskakov’s troops were pathetically armed with black-market pistols, knives, billy clubs, an occasional machine gun.

If there was an attack, they’d be cannon fodder, and they knew it. Everyone knew it.

It was that combined sense of heroism and fatalism, especially among the kids who had joined the resistance units, that moved Baskakov.

**“I used to be critical of the young,” he said.**

**“But there were bikers, the Rockers, going on reconnaissance missions on their motorcycles across the barricades, giving us news about the troop movements. The young girls that people call prostitutes, they were there giving us food and drink.”**

**The defenders of the White House came slowly: first a few thousand, then ten thousand.**

**By the end of the day there would be around twenty-five thousand.**

**With advice from the military men, they began building barricades, gnarled heaps of scrap: construction rods, concrete blocks, rusted bathtubs, bricks, tree trunks,**

**even cobblestones from a small bridge nearby that had been the site of an anti-czarist uprising in 1905.**

**The strike leader, Anatoly Malikhin, showed up wearing a United Mine Workers Union T-shirt (“United We Stand, Divided We Fall”).**

**He went inside and quickly strapped on a machine gun. Somehow, he said, he had had the feeling it would come to this when the first mines went out on strike two years before.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**The retreat began after 11 00 A.M. when the first tanks turned around near Red Square.**

**By 1:00 P.M., huge convoys stormed along the main arteries out of town, endless columns of tanks and personnel carriers chewing up the soft asphalt and heading toward their barracks.**

I jumped into a car with Debbie Stewart of the Associated Press, who drove wildly along the tank column.

**Weaving in and out of the convoy and racing up and down the columns, we saw an amazing display of joy.**

The armies of Napoleon, Hitler, and other would-be conquerors of Moscow had time and again fled Russia in despair and defeat.

**These soldiers were retreating in relief and sheer pleasure, as if they had won the victory of an age. [And so they had.]**

The machines made Leninsky Prospekt tremble. I could feel the rumbling at the base of my throat and on the soles of my feet.

**All along the convoy, the soldiers, most of them eighteen or nineteen years old, smiled and laughed.**

**The worst had not happened.**

**They had not shamed themselves.**

**They had not shot at their brothers and sisters, their mothers and fathers.**

**In gratitude, old women threw bunches of red carnations and white roses at the boys in their tanks.**

**Construction crews stopped work and applauded the parade.**

**The soldiers answered with the thumbs-up and applauded back.**

**“It’s over! We’ve got our orders!” a commander shouted above the furious din.**

**“Thank God, we’re headed home!”**

**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**

## **“If We Are Headed For Martial Law, Better That It Be With A Broken Military”**

[Thanks to Bill Hassell, Hopetoun, Victoria, Australia, who sent this in.].

2007-07-27 By Dave Lindorff, Afterdowningstreet.org [Excerpt]

If ordered to turn their guns and bayonets on their fellow Americans, would our heroes in uniform follow their consciences, and their oaths to “uphold and defend” the Constitution of the United States?

Or would they follow the orders of their Commander in Chief?

It has to be a plus that National Guard and Reserve units are on their third and sometimes fourth deployments to Iraq, and are fuming at the abuse.

It has to be a plus that active duty troops are refusing to re-enlist in droves — especially mid-level officers.

If we are headed for martial law, better that it be with a broken military.

Maybe if it’s broken badly enough, the administration will be afraid to test the idea.

---

## **August 3, 1913: Horrible Anniversary The Wheatland Massacre**

Carl Bunin Peace History July 30-Aug 5

Four died in the Wheatland riots when police fired into a crowd of California Hop pickers trying to organize (with the help of the IWW, or Industrial Workers of the World) at the Durst Ranch in Wheatland, California.

Hundreds of workers — whites, Mexicans, and Filipinos — lay down their tools because of terrible working conditions, low wages, and an almost complete lack of sanitation and decent housing.

---

## **August 4, 1964: Lying Lyndon Johnson Fakes The USA Into Escalation In Vietnam [Gee, He Wasn't A "Neo-Con" Either, So Knock Off The Stupid Bullshit About Bush's Buddies Inventing Evil U.S. Imperial Wars]**

Carl Bunin Peace History July 30-Aug 5

**A second attack on U.S. naval ships in Vietnam's Gulf of Tonkin was reported by the Pentagon.**

**But there was no such activity reported by the task force commander in the Gulf, Captain John J. Herrick.**

One of the Navy pilots flying overhead that night was squadron commander James Stockdale, later held as a POW by the North Vietnamese for more than seven years, and Ross Perot's vice presidential candidate in 1992.

**"I had the best seat in the house to watch that event," recalled Stockdale, "and our destroyers were just shooting at phantom targets — there were no PT boats there.... There was nothing there but black water and American firepower."**

Nearly three decades later, during the Gulf War, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Sydney Schanberg warned journalists not to forget "our unquestioning chorus of agreeability when Lyndon Johnson bamboozled us with his fabrication of the Gulf of Tonkin incident

**"The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops." Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

**OCCUPATION REPORT**



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



Iraqi citizens forced at gunpoint to stand outside as their home is invaded in the middle of the night by foreign occupation soldiers from the U.S.A. in Baquba June 28, 2007. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic

**[61% of Iraqis say they approve of attacks on U.S.-led forces in their country, up from 47 percent in January. A solid majority of Shiite and Sunni Arabs approved of the attacks, according to the poll. 9/27/2006 By BARRY SCHWEID, AP & Program on International Policy Attitudes**

**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!**

## No Running Water In Baghdad; Large Sections Dry For Six Days

[Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier, who sent this in. He writes:

## **BENCHMARKS FOR SUCCESS IN IRAQ:**

**SPONSORING A CIVIL WAR THAT SPINS OUT OF YOUR  
CONTROL – CHECK**

**YOUR QUISLING GOVERNMENT CAN'T PASS THE LAWS YOU  
WANT – CHECK**

**YOUR QUISLINGS HATE EACH OTHER TO THE POINT WHERE  
THE GOV'T BREAKS DOWN – CHECK**

**YOU NO LONGER HAVE RUNNING WATER IN THE CAPITAL  
YOU ARE “SECURING” - CHECK**

**MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!**

Aug. 2, 2007 By STEVEN R. HURST, Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Much of the Iraqi capital was without running water today and had been for at least 24 hours, compounding the urban misery in a war zone and the blistering heat at the height of the Baghdad summer.

Residents and city officials said large sections in the west of the capital had been virtually dry for six days because the already strained electricity grid cannot provide sufficient power to run water purification and pumping stations.

Baghdad routinely suffers from periodic water outages, but this one is described by residents as one of the most extended and widespread in recent memory.

Jamil Hussein, a 52-year-old retired army officer who lives in northeast Baghdad, said his house has been without water for two weeks, except for two hours at night. He says the water that does flow smells and is unclean.

Two of his children have severe diarrhea that the doctor attributed to drinking what tap water was available, even after it was boiled.

“We’ll have to continue drinking it, because we don’t have money to buy bottled water,” he said.

Adel al-Ardawi, a spokesman for the Baghdad city government, said that even with sufficient electricity “it would take 24 hours for the water mains to refill so we can begin pumping to residents. And even then the water won’t be clean for a time.

**“We just don’t have the electricity or fuel for our generators to keep the system flowing.”**

Noah Miller, spokesman for the U.S. reconstruction program in Baghdad, said that there had been a nationwide power blackout for a few hours Wednesday night that might be causing problems for all systems that depend on Iraq's already creaking electricity grid.

In the meantime, Iraqis suffer in brutal heat. It was 117 degrees in the capital today, down from 120 the day before. With the power out or crackling through the decrepit system just a few hours each day, even those who can afford air conditioning do not have the power to run it.

Many Baghdad residents have banded together to use power from neighborhood generators, but the cost of fuel and therefore electricity is skyrocketing. Diesel fuel was going for nearly \$4 a gallon today.

**As expected in the midst of a water shortage, the cost of purified bottled water has shot up 33 percent. A 10-liter bottle now costs \$1.60.**

**“For us, we can buy bottled water. But I’m thinking about the poor who cannot afford to buy clean water,” said Um Zainab, a 44-year-old homemaker in eastern Baghdad.**

**“This shows the weakness and the inefficiency of government officials who are good at only one thing — blaming each other for the problems we face.”**

---

## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**

**“The Share Of National Income Going To Wages Is At The Lowest Level Ever Recorded, While The Piece Of The Pie Gobbled Up By Corporate Profits Is At Its Highest Point Since 1960”**

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

**But when the masses ask for help paying for health insurance or child care, or request that everyone be given the right to paid sick days, we're told we cannot afford it.**

**“Afford” seems to be a very special term in the current American context: Letting the wealthy take ever-bigger pieces of our national product is something we always seem able to afford.**

July 18, 2007 By Heather Boushey and Joshua Holland, AlterNet [Excerpts]

The commercial media is telling us two perfectly contradictory stories about the American economy.

The first is how wonderfully rich we are in the United States. The stock market’s booming -- some analysts predict the Dow will break the 15,000 this year -- the economy is expanding at a healthy clip, productivity growth is up and unemployment and inflation are relatively low.

But, at the same time, we’re also told that we don’t have the money to pay for a robust social safety net. When it comes to paying for universal health coverage, affording retirement security for our elderly, investing in programs for the poor or educating our children, we need to pinch pennies.

According to this story line, we face a looming “entitlement crisis” -- we won’t be able to afford to keep the Baby Boomers in good health and out of poverty, we’re told, unless we slash their benefits and privatize the programs that their elderly parents enjoy today.

This is the line we hear from the administration when it talks about entitlement “reform”: Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson says that “the biggest economic issue facing our country is the growth in spending on the major entitlement programs: Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.”

The solution, according to the Heritage Foundation, is to cut entitlement spending. “Reforming Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid is the only way to get the budget under control,” it says.

**What reconciles these two themes is absent from our mainstream economic discourse:**

**We “can’t afford” all sorts of programs that are clearly in the common good because most of the benefits of our growing economy have gone to a very small group of Americans, who have, in turn, seen their taxes slashed again and again in the past six years.**

**Saying that the majority of the country’s economic gains in recent years have gone to the top 1 percent of the income ladder understates the trend. You have to cut the pie into even smaller slices to get the full picture.**

**Because, while the bottom half of the top 1 percent of the income distribution have done far better than the average wage slaves, it is a smaller slice still -- the top .01 percent -- that has grabbed most of the gains, seeing an impressive 250 percent increase in income between 1973 and 2005 from an economy that’s grown by 160 percent.**

An analysis by economists Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez gives us the best perspective of what's going on for everyone else.

**They found that despite several periods of healthy growth between 1973 and 2005, the average income of all but the top 10 percent of the income ladder -- nine out of ten American families -- fell by 11 percent when adjusted for inflation.**

**For three decades, economic growth in the United States has gone first and foremost to building today's modern Gilded Age.**

**The recipients of those gains don't care about a fully funded Social Security system or a healthy Medicare program -- they don't need them.**

**Meanwhile, even as the top earners' incomes have gone through the roof, their tax burden has shriveled.**

**At the same time, the share of federal revenues contributed by corporations has declined -- by two-thirds since 1962.**

When people tell us that our economy cannot "afford" things like universal healthcare or paid sick days, it fits with the economic experience that most Americans have had in their real lives -- the benefits of our boom-boom economy have not gone to the great masses but to "someplace else."

Americans feel pinched.

It's not that they're not working hard. The typical U.S. family puts in more time at work than ever before. The typical married couple works an additional 13.3 weeks per year -- 533 hours -- compared to a generation ago.

When we talk about the slow growth of family income, economists like to mention globalization, mechanization or other factors that require us to be lean and mean and more "competitive."

**The story line is that U.S. families have not seen their income grow because America has had to fight it out in a wide-open global economy, and these are lean times for workers.**

**But that's simply not true.**

The economy -- as measured by gross domestic product (GDP) -- has grown by over 160 percent since 1973 (PDF). This is only slightly less than the period from 1947 to 1973 when GDP grew by 176 percent.

That has come as Americans have become much more productive -- by over 80 percent since 1973 -- meaning it now takes fewer workers to produce the same number of widgets as it did in the past.

**The share of national income going to wages is at the lowest level ever recorded, while the piece of the pie gobbled up by corporate profits is at its highest point since 1960.**

**But when the masses ask for help paying for health insurance or child care, or request that everyone be given the right to paid sick days, we're told we cannot afford it.**

**“Afford” seems to be a very special term in the current American context: Letting the wealthy take ever-bigger pieces of our national product is something we always seem able to afford.**

**We work hard. We -- the 99.9 percent -- and deserve a bigger piece of the pie.**

**With a growing economy, we can afford it, and we all know just where to look for how to pay for it.**

---

GI Special distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupation of Iraq. We believe this constitutes a “fair use” of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **GI Special has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is GI Special endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: [www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml](http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml) for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond ‘fair use’, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

---

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