

## GI SPECIAL 5120:



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# Army Testing Soldiers' Brains Before Deployment

Sept 19, 2007 MSNBC Headline

**Generals? Politicians?**

**Fuck no.**

**Unnecessary. Previously confirmed zero base line. T**

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## IRAQ WAR REPORTS

### **Soldier Dies In Anbar “Non-Combat-Related” Incident**

September 20, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070920-08

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – A Soldier assigned to Multi-National Force-West died Sept. 19 in a non-combat-related incident in Al Anbar Province.

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### **“And Now A 5-Month-Old Girl Grows Up Half-Orphaned While A Community In Eastern Montana Mourns A Pointless Loss On Top Of Fated Ruin” Whirlwind Drops On Dying Town With Tragic Word Of A Fallen Son**

September 17, 2007 By PIERRE TRISTAM, Daytona Beach News-Journal

Eight years ago I was driving through eastern Montana one evening when I stopped in Glasgow, barely a town some 55 miles south of the Canadian border.

In a diner on Glasgow's Main Street, a stack of newsletters, dated from the same day, announced a lecture and slide show for that evening titled, "Eastern Montana: Paradise or Purgatory?" to be delivered at the local high school library by Don Baker, a Montana historian.

A predictable pattern emerged as Baker showed his slides, from yellowed images of bustling towns and main streets of the 1920s and 1930s to color slides of the same towns now shuttered and dead, with Baker their eulogist.

Melstone: "What was one time a community of 1,200 is a community of 200 today," held together by one last oil field at the north end of town. Emory: "It was a town that didn't last very long. The soil here is very rocky, very shallow, and it's windswept. This is all that remains, a school that became a community hall."

Ismay: "This became a town of about 1,200 people. It had two of everything. Two banks, two mercantiles. The editor of Ismay's newspaper, then called the Yellowstone Evening Journal, stated that on Saturday night the streets of Ismay were busier than Chicago's. It became quite a town."

What a name, too -- the fusion of Isabel and May, daughters of the president of the Milwaukee Road railroad that was nailing its ties through the Montana prairie in 1908.

That's how it was in the Plains back then: The landscape's future could be inscribed on a whim, but not quite conquered.

Eight years ago, Ismay was a town of 21, its cemetery census outnumbering the living by more than 10-to-1. Ismay tried to grasp at glory one last time in the early 1990s when it renamed itself Joe for the duration of each NFL season, so it could be known as Joe, Montana, after the famous San Francisco 49er quarterback. The stint got the town's residents an invitation to David Letterman and articles in all three national newspapers.

But even that burst of fame died and dust devils again became the only whirlwinds to occupy the town.

Until this.

Last week I read a blurb in the paper about the death of Staff Sgt. Yance T. Gray, 26, in Iraq, a member of the 82nd Airborne who was to be heading home to his wife and 5-month-old daughter soon.

Just another death, maybe:

We pretend to mourn for those soldiers sacrificing for who the hell knows what anymore in Iraq, but in reality the mourning is abstract to nonexistent for most.

Those ceremonious pretensions of supporting troops are what enable the feeding of cannon fodder with a clean conscience, however unconscionable the war.

But Gray was from Ismay. His immediate family now lives in North Carolina. His parents, grandparents, a brother and a sister are all either in Ismay or nearby Miles City.

**For dying communities like Ismay, the lives of native sons and daughters all over the world are all they have left.**

**Take that away, and you get a sense of the shock wave a death like Gray's has on those communities, and the devastation it leaves behind long after the press reports move on to the next soldier's pointless death elsewhere.**

Gray wasn't a nameless soldier, of course. None of them is, and Gray even less so: His father, Richard, wasn't repeating rote pride when he said that, for all of his son's desire to be in the 82nd Airborne since he was 5, "he wasn't any mindless robot."

**Gray was one of the seven active-duty soldier-authors of a New York Times op-ed on Aug. 19, "The War As We Saw It," that demolished recent claims politicians,**

**academics parachuting into Baghdad and Washington commentators were making of any progress in Iraq.**

(One other of the seven writers, Omar Mora, also was killed with Gray, in an apparent truck roll-over that killed five other American soldiers and two Iraqis.)

**Gray's and his colleagues' criticism of the war can't be countered by those who claim that higher brass or the president know better.**

**Not at this point.**

**Not anymore.**

**Grunts know what others either don't or refuse to see.**

**Nor can Gray's death be chalked up to some worthy sacrifice. He served with honor. His country betrayed him.**

**And now a 5-month-old girl grows up half-orphaned while a community in eastern Montana mourns a pointless loss on top of fated ruin.**

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## **S.A. Soldier Killed In Iraq Had A Rough Childhood**



Javier Paredes (Courtesy photo)

09/06/2007 Nancy Martinez and Sig Christenson, Express-News

Army Pfc. Javier Paredes, a 24-year-old San Antonio native who lived most of his childhood in foster care, died in Iraq on Wednesday, his family confirmed.

As a child Paredes, suffered physical abuse, including cigarette wounds to his body, his family said. He and his brothers were removed from his home when Paredes was about 5. Paredes and his four siblings spent most of their childhood at foster homes and group homes all over the state.

Family and friends were still in shock Wednesday night when they gathered at the downtown home of Paredes' aunt, Maria Acevedo.

"Javier was a good kid," Acevedo said. "His mother would have been proud of him."

His mother died in 1999, she said, and family members weren't sure how she died.

Paredes, known by his nickname Niño, lived with Acevedo just before he joined the military in 2004. Before that, he had stints in construction work and at H-E-B as a dishwasher, his family said.

They said that just before noon, two Army officials visited their home on South San Jacinto Street to tell them that Paredes had died from injuries from an explosion.

"I asked them if they were sure it was him," his 21-year-old brother Pedro Paredes said. "They said yes, that he was identified by his dog tags."

They described Paredes as a proud, strong soldier who loved his job and worked as a medic, rescuing wounded soldiers on the battlefield.

One of Paredes' siblings is a Marine, but his whereabouts are unknown, family said.

Paredes, a graduate of Ingram High School, is the 32nd San Antonio-area resident to die in Iraq since the March 19, 2003, invasion.

Meanwhile, family and friends of another fallen soldier gathered at San Antonio International Airport just before dusk to greet another fallen local soldier, Cpl. Tracy C. Willis. Killed in a rooftop shootout with insurgents, the 21-year-old former O'Connor High School football star arrived home for the last time on a Continental Airlines flight.

Six baggage handlers stood near the casket, draped in an American flag, as it rolled on a conveyor belt into the waiting hands of a military honor guard.

Family members wept as the troops, in dress uniforms, slowly marched to a waiting hearse. Airport police cars, red lights flashing, dotted the tarmac.

Gonzalo Paredes, 20, said he was going to miss his brother.

Paredes' best friend, Juan Medina, 21, said he worked with Paredes at the Central Market on Broadway for a few years.

Medina said his friend was a hard worker who washed dishes and did other jobs at the store, often volunteering for night and holiday shifts.

"The day he joined the military, he called me from the recruiter's office. I told him, 'Niño, what are you doing? You know we are at war, right?'" Medina said. "But he said he had

made his decision, that he was going to do it and I didn't need to worry. But that's the way he was, spontaneous."

Acevedo said she was also worried about her nephew's safety, but told him the day he enlisted that he had her support in his decision.

"I told him joining the military was a bad decision," Pedro Paredes said, remembering that his brother also at some point considered college. "But when he makes up his mind about something, he does it, and he does it all the way."

Medina also remembered a more playful side of Paredes, who was an avid fan of the San Antonio Spurs and Dallas Cowboys.

"Every Thursday we would all get together to play flag football at Olmos Park," Medina said. "Once, there was a team playing rugby and Niño said he wanted to try it, so he did."

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## Mount Dora Marine Dies In Iraq: 153rd Floridian To Fall In War



Cpl. Christopher L. Poole, of Mount Dora

September 11, 2007 Katie Fretland Sentinel Staff Writer

Christopher L. Poole Jr. was born on the Fourth of July. With such a birthday, he figured the military was his chosen path.

In April, the U.S. Marine left Mount Dora for Iraq just a few days after asking his high-school sweetheart to marry him. The 22-year-old intended to travel home for a visit in November. But last week, a knock on his mother's door brought her the worst of news.

Poole was killed with three other Marines on Sept. 6 in Al Anbar province in Iraq, the U.S. Department of Defense said Monday. Poole, a communications specialist, was killed in an explosion when a suicide bomber drove a vehicle into a security checkpoint, his family said. He is the 153rd Floridian killed in the Iraq war.

His fiancée, 19-year-old Andrea Garcia, summed up how Poole's friends and family felt about him: "He was our hero."

Poole was born in Eustis and spent about 10 years of his life in Albany, Ga., near a military base. He watched the soldiers with admiration and at age 10 proudly told his mother that he was going to be a Marine.

At Mount Dora High School, he spent his time running track, watching football and boating with friends. His trademark was a bumper sticker -- "Ain't scared" -- that he placed on his prized red Mustang.

"He was proud of who he was," said brother Jeff Poole, 20. "He basically stood up to anybody who said anything to him. He was a smart aleck."

One of the last photographs taken of Poole shows him smiling on a boat wearing beach shorts and a cowboy hat.

"That was him," said his mother, Donna Hunsicker, by cell phone as she picked out frames to buy for the many pictures of her son. "Just a free-spirited, happy-go-lucky guy."

Poole was based in Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he was assigned to the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

On the day he went overseas, his fiancée said, he said goodbye and she promised to wait for him forever.

"We spent every day together," Garcia said. "That guy stole my heart."

In Iraq, the days dragged on for the young Marine. In phone calls home, he spoke of the heat, the boredom and the growing hostility of Iraqis, his mother said.

He spent most of his time repairing radios and communications lines and became disillusioned with the war.

"He said, 'I am so bored. I'm going to shoot at some sand because I am so bored,' " Hunsicker said. "He said, 'The only thing they have here are rocks and sand, sand and rocks. The more he was there, the more he'd say, 'I hate this place.' "

Hunsicker packed a huge box of candy and cookies to comfort him until he could visit. She wasn't sure whether he got it before he died.

She said she will never forget looking out the window of her Mount Dora home and seeing two men in uniform walking up to her door.

"I saw those two gentlemen walk up the driveway, and I thought maybe they're here to talk to my 20-year-old or tell me Chris was hurt," Hunsicker said. "They kept saying, 'No you need to go inside.' It was so unreal."

Hunsicker pleaded, telling the men she had just talked to her son about five days earlier and that there must have been some mistake.

"He always wanted to be in the United States Marine Corps," Hunsicker said, sobbing. "I want him buried with his dress blues uniform. He said that's what he wanted. He deserves that."

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



Thanks to Kevin Ramirez, CCCO. He writes: Pics showing what happens when US bases get mortared/rocketed. Obviously taken by a GI. I found them online, and don't know who took them.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**



## **2 British Soldiers Killed In Road Traffic Accident In Helmand**

20 Sep 07 Ministry of Defence

It is with much sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm that two soldiers serving with the 2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment (Worcesters and Foresters) have died in a road traffic accident in southern Afghanistan today, Thursday 20 September 2007.

Shortly after 3am local time, the soldiers were taking part in a re-supply mission in support of Operation Palk Wahel, 5km south west of their patrol base in an area north of Gereshk, Helmand province, when the Pinzgauer vehicle they were travelling in came off the road.

Sadly, both soldiers were declared dead at the scene.

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## **Eleventh Dutch Soldier Killed Near Deh Rawod**

Sep 20, 2007 Deutsche Presse-Agentur

Amsterdam - Another Dutch soldier was killed early Thursday evening in Afghanistan, Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende said in parliament Thursday.

The 20-year-old soldier was killed just north of the Dutch military base at Deh Rawod, bringing the total number of Dutch soldiers killed in Afghanistan to 11.

Defence Minister Eimert van Middelkoop of the Christian Union said the death occurred during intensive fighting.

'The guerillas were forced to leave a vehicle, which was later destroyed by a Dutch Apache helicopter,' Van Middelkoop told reporters.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

## **U.S. Military Cemetery Running Out Of Space;**

# “Fort Riley Can Bury Bodies On Top Of Other Bodies If Family Members Want To Share A Plot”

September 20, 2007 Reuters

OVERLAND PARK, Kansas (Reuters) - A Kansas military cemetery has run out of space after the burial of another casualty of the Iraq war, officials said on Thursday.

"We are full," said Alison Kohler, spokeswoman for the Fort Riley U.S. Army post, home of the 1st Infantry Division.

Since the 2003 beginning of the war in Iraq, Fort Riley has lost 133 soldiers and airmen, though not all are buried in the Fort Riley cemetery. Sgt Joel Murray, who died September 4 in Iraq, took the last available plot, said Kohler.

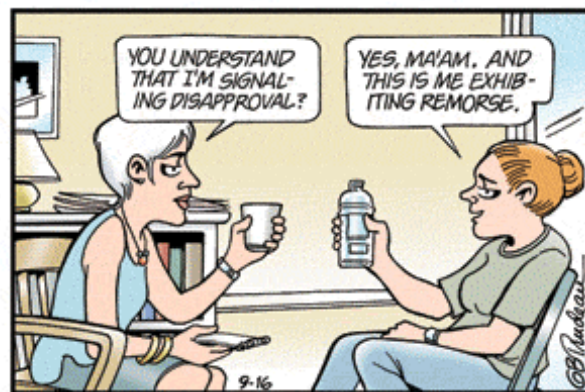
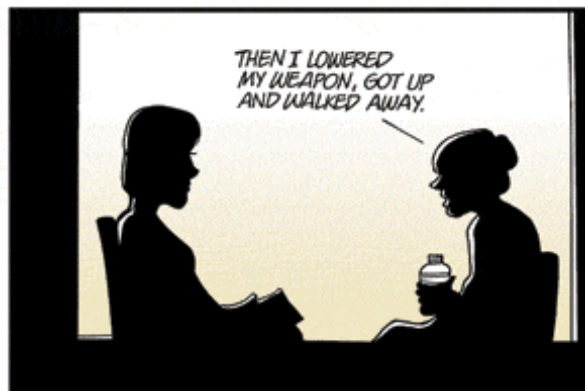
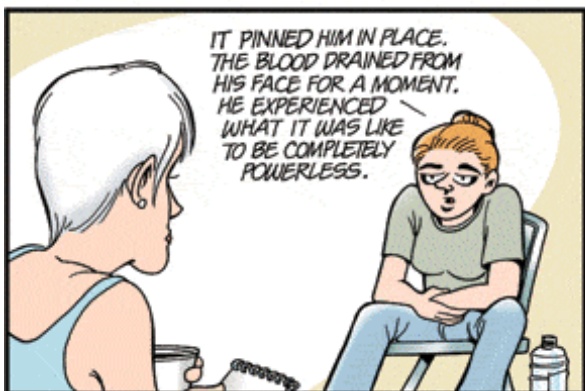
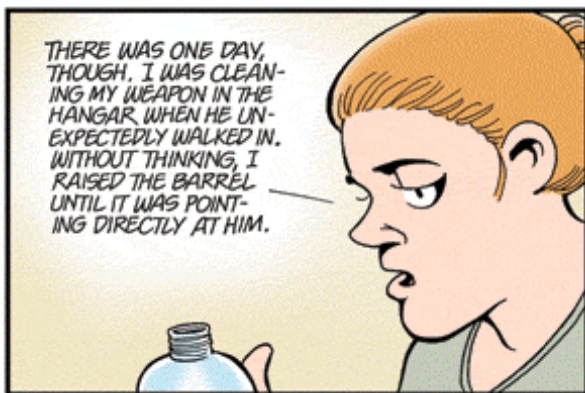
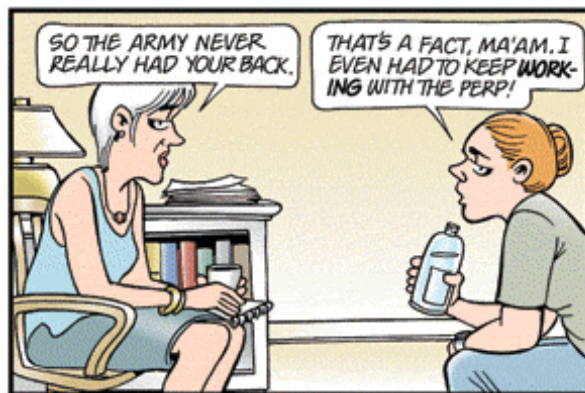
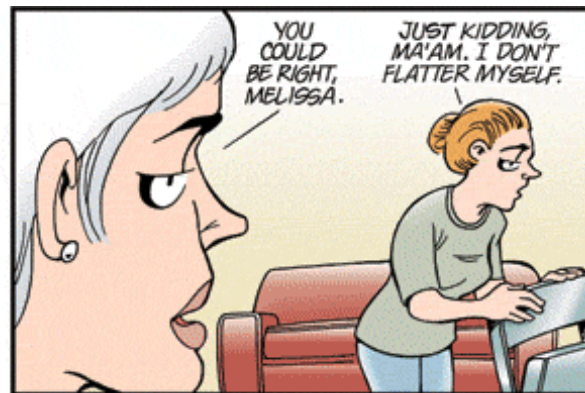
Fort Riley can bury bodies on top of other bodies if family members want to share a plot, said Kohler.

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



**A group burial at Arlington National Cemetery September 13, 2007.** Staff Sgt. Harrison Brown, Pfc. David Neil Simmons, and Pfc. Todd Andrew Singleton were members of the 69th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division in Fort Benning, Georgia. They were killed on April 8 by a makeshift bomb and small arms fire in Baghdad. REUTERS/Jim Young



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

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# ***Who Gives A Shit What The American People Want: The Traitor Odierno Grabs For Command Of Iraq War Policy: He Has Decided U.S. Troops Will Stay In Iraq Until Iraqis Are Ready To Take Over***

Sep 20, 2007 Reuters

US commanders say troop withdrawals can only be done as Iraqi security forces are trained to take over responsibility, which [General] Odierno said was "a very deliberate process".

"We will not give back any of the hard-fought gains because we tried to rush this process," he said.

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## **Betrayus Limerick Contest Winners**



September 20, 2007 The Borowitz Report

Yesterday the Borowitz Report reported that Moveon.org was planning a “really mean” limerick about General David Petraeus. According to the story, Moveon had composed the first four lines of the poem, but was stumped about the fifth and last line:

Hey there, General Petraeus  
You should be called General Betray-us  
Your views on Iraq  
Are one big crock  
(last line here)

Within minutes, The Borowitz Report was deluged with hundreds of submissions from readers offering a last line to Moveon.org’s mean limerick. While almost all of the submissions rhymed with “Petraeus” and some of them even made sense, here are the lines that the Borowitz Report has decided to forward to Moveon.org:

“Get us out before they fillet us.”

“Urging private contractors to slay us.”

“And when will the world pay us?”

*From Shakespeare:*

“This doth really dismay us.”

*From Bob Barker:*

“Don’t forget to neuter and spay us.”

*And from Yoda:*

“Please remove from this fray us.”

#### **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.**

## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

## GET THE MESSAGE?



A demonstration against the Occupation in Baghdad's Sadr City September 16, 2007. People took to the streets in Sadr City to protest against a raid by U.S. forces on a Shi'ite mosque on Friday, residents said. REUTERS/Kareem Raheem (IRAQ)

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## Resistance Action

20 Sep 2007 Echo Publications & Associated Press & (Xinhua) & (KUNA) & Reuters & By Sahar Issa, McClatchy Newspapers

2 roadside bombs detonated targeting a police patrol in al-Zaghareed area near the town of al-Saqlawiyah killing 2 policemen, injuring 4. Local Police have imposed a curfew in the area after allowing two hours for cars to return home.

A roadside bomb struck an Iraqi police patrol today, killing one officer and wounding four others and a civilian, a police official said. The explosion took place at 9.10am (6.10am Irish time) near the al-Shaab Stadium in predominantly Shiite eastern Baghdad, said the official.

Two policemen injured when an explosion hit a police patrol in north-east Baghdad Thursday, pan-Arab al-Jazeera news broadcaster reported.

A car bomb struck an Iraqi Army checkpoint in eastern Baghdad on Thursday, killing two soldiers and wounding two others, a well-informed police source said.

An Iraqi soldier killed and another wounded in an IED explosion that targeted their patrol near Ibn Al Bitar Hospital in Salhiyah neighborhood downtown Baghdad this morning.

A bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into a checkpoint manned by Iraqi Army soldiers on a bridge near the Habibiyah neighborhood, killing two soldiers and wounding two civilians, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

2 Iraqi Army servicemen injured in IED explosion that targeted their patrol on the highway between Kirkuk and Riyadh, near al-Zara'a village, at 12:50 this afternoon. The servicemen belonged to the First Regiment of the Fifth Brigade deployed to the defense of the infrastructure, accompanying the Engineering Corps.

IED targeting the Second Company of the Second Regiment of the Second Brigade on the highway between Kirkuk and Rashad, to the west of Kirkuk, resulted in the injury of 1 Iraqi Army serviceman.

Guerrillas assassinated a radio presenter, Muhannad Ghanim, who worked for the Iraqi Islamic Party's Dar el-Salam radio in the city of Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police Brigadier Abdul-Kareem al-Jubouri said.

Guerrillas killed Mustafa Kadhim, a senior judge, and his driver in a drive-by shooting in central Baghdad, police said and Sheikh Khalid Salim Faris al-Bayati, member of Tuz Khurmatu Local Council near Al Beer Ahmed area west of Tuz Khurmatu town north of Baghdad while he was returning home this morning.

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

## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation's ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke. For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. Frederick Douglas, 1852**

**"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.**

**"The mighty are only mighty because we are on our knees. Let us rise!"  
--Camille Desmoulins**

# The Iraq War Is The Greatest Lie In American History



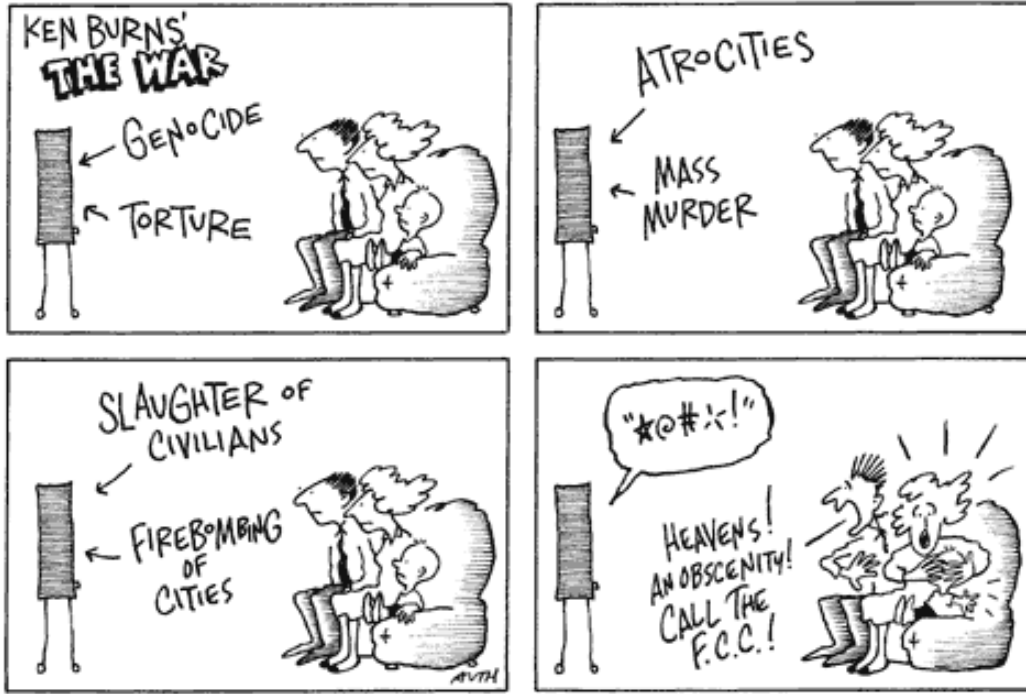
From: Mike Hastie  
To: GI Special  
Sent: September 20, 2007  
Subject: The Greatest Lie In American History

**The Iraq War is the Greatest Lie in American History**

**Mike Hastie  
Vietnam Veteran  
September 20, 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 Noble Cause

From: Don Bacon, [Smedley Butler Society]  
 To: GI Special  
 Subject: The noble cause  
 Date: Sep 21, 2007

**The US has found the noble cause**

**Protecting Iraqis from the collaborator Iraqi army**

**So the US will form a new police force to protect Iraqis from their army**

**That should work as well as anything else**

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By HAMZA HENDAWI -- AP

BAGHDAD (AP) — As the Americans patrol the Sunni Arab neighborhood of Azamiyah, people keep turning to them for help. One man asks them to bring in a fuel truck stopped by Iraqi troops. Another complains that Iraqi soldiers just beat up his brother.

The Americans used to be loathed in Azamiyah, a longtime stronghold of insurgents and the last place where Saddam Hussein appeared in public. Now the animosity has given way to a grudging acceptance, because the people of this northern neighborhood want

American protection from a foe they hate and fear even more: the mainly Shiite Iraqi army.

"We feel safe when the Americans are around," says a computer engineer who gave his name only as Abu Fahd. He stopped going to work because of his fear of militiamen at the Shiite-dominated Health Ministry and now makes a living selling clothes.

"When we see the Iraqi army, we just stay home or close our shops."

The story of Azamiyah, once a favorite with wealthy Sunnis and nationalists, shows once again how difficult it is to measure the success of the latest surge of American troops amid the shifting allegiances in Baghdad.

The accommodation between Azamiyah and the Americans represents a major breakthrough for the U.S. military, which had long considered the neighborhood among the city's most dangerous. Yet the success is largely due to a sectarian divide so deep that it has poisoned institutions such as the Iraqi army, jeopardizing the chances of reconciliation and leaving the Americans caught in the middle.

In that sense, the Americans have both won and lost.

Much of the new goodwill in Azamiyah hinges on whether the Americans can prevent perceived excesses by Iraqi troops. It also depends on how far they can ease the economic plight of a once prosperous neighborhood now sealed off from the rest of the capital by a security wall.

Capt. Albert J. Marckwardt, commander of the 3rd Infantry Division's B Troop, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, has about 100 soldiers to patrol the old section of Azamiyah, an area less than a half-mile square thought to be infested with insurgents and built around the Abu Hanifa mosque, the country's most revered Sunni shrine.

His soldiers were among the last to arrive in Iraq from among the 30,000 reinforcements ordered by President Bush this year.

With so much riding on their mission, the soldiers must play roles as diverse as policemen, economic planners and mediators. Marckwardt personally carries out some of these tasks during daily patrols that take him and his men to busy outdoor markets and alleys less than 9 feet wide. They greet every man with the Arabic "Salamou Aleikom," or "Peace be with you."

During a recent patrol, a Sunni bank manager asks Marckwardt to prevent Iraqi soldiers from escorting armored vans that deliver cash to his branch.

"People don't like them. We would be happier if you did it instead," he pleads.

"I can," replies the officer, "But what happens when we leave? The Iraqi army is the future. You must learn to live and cooperate with each other."

It is not difficult to see why Azamiyah's Sunnis resent the mostly Shiite Iraqi soldiers.

In desert camouflage and matching body armor, the Iraqi soldiers drive their newly acquired Humvees perilously fast, leaving dust storms in their trail. They walk the streets with the swagger of victors and, according to residents, harass motorists and pedestrians at checkpoints and throw out sectarian taunts.

U.S. officers are aware of the problems. They say they conduct joint patrols with the Iraqis in the hope of showing them more balanced tactics. The U.S. military is planning to recruit as many as 1,000 policemen from Azamiyah, of whom 800 would be deployed in the neighborhood so Sunnis will protect Sunnis.

"When we do that, there will be no need for the Iraqi army here," Marckwardt repeatedly tells residents.

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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

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

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



An Iraqi citizen in his own house as it is searched by foreign occupation soldiers from the U.S.A. during a night home invasion in southeast Baghdad September 12, 2007. REUTERS/Carlos Barria

Iraqi citizens have no right to resist home invasions by occupation soldiers from the USA. If they do, they may be arrested, wounded, or killed.

**[There's nothing quite like invading somebody else's country and busting into their houses by force to arouse an intense desire to kill you in the patriotic, self-respecting civilians who live there.**

**[But your commanders know that, don't they? Don't they?]**

**"So you've just humiliated this man in front of his entire family and terrorized his entire family and you've destroyed his home. And then you go right next door and you do the same thing in a hundred homes."**

**Sgt. John Bruhns**

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

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

**Daryl Dumbfucks In Command Of  
U.S. Forces In Iraq Piss Off Kurd  
Regime, The Only Ally U.S. Has  
Left;  
Idiot Campaign To Blame Iranians  
For Everything Blows Up In Their  
Faces**

September 20, 2007 Jay Price and Yaseen Taha, McClatchy Newspapers

SULAIMANIYAH, Iraq - U.S. troops arrested an Iranian man during an early morning raid on a hotel in this northern Iraqi city Thursday and accused him of helping to smuggle a deadly type of roadside bomb into Iraq.

**But the Kurdistan Regional Government in a statement called the arrest "illegitimate," said the man was a member of a trade delegation that had been invited to Sulaimaniyah by the local government and demanded that he be released.**

**"Actions like these serve no one," the statement said.**

The United States has detained several Iranians in Iraq in the past year and accused them of training Iraqi insurgents and providing weapons to them.

The U.S. statement didn't identify the man except to allege that he is an officer in the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corp's elite Quds force. The statement said intelligence indicated that the man had trained foreign fighters in Iraq and provided them with roadside bombs known as explosively formed penetrators, or EFPs. EFPs fire a molten jet of metal through vehicles' armor and are much feared by U.S. troops.

**The Kurdish Regional Government said the man was Aghai Farhadi, a member of an economic and commercial delegation from the Iranian governorate of Kermanshah, which borders Iraq's Sulaimaniyah and Diyala provinces.**

**Hassan Baqi, the head of the Sulaimaniyah chamber of commerce, said Farhadi had been in Sulaimaniyah for a week for discussions on opening a border crossing near Panjween, 68 miles east of Sulaimaniyah, and other trade-related issues.**

It was unknown what evidence, if any, American troops recovered when they seized the man at the Sulaimaniyah Palace Hotel. **[Please, don't blame the "troops." Some piece of ass-kissing shit decided pull this one, complete with the stupid, silly lies.]**

Saifudean Ahmed, Sulaimaniyah's security director, said 20 U.S. soldiers took part in the arrest. Witnesses said helicopters hovered over the scene for two hours.

**Kurdish officials were quick to distance themselves from the detention.**

"We had no prior knowledge of the detention of a member of the Iranian commercial delegation," Sulaimaniyah police chief Gen. Zarkar Alia said in a statement. "We heard of the incident from unofficial sources. The operation was carried out without coordination with us, the security forces or the authorities in Sulaimaniyah."

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# **Cholera Epidemic Reaches Baghdad; "The Government Is Doing Nothing"**

September 20, 2007 By ANDREW E. KRAMER, New York Times

BAGHDAD, Sept. 20 — Iraqi health officials confirmed the first cases of cholera in Baghdad today, in a sign that an epidemic that has infected approximately 7,000 people in northern Iraq is spreading south through the country's decrepit and unsanitary water system.

The World Health Organization and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society said they had confirmed at least one case of cholera in Baghdad, though Iraq's Ministry of Health did not confirm it. Hospital sources said there could be at least two other confirmed infections, connected to a death in Kut and one in Tikrit.

**Officials said there was a further possible outbreak in Diyala, a fraught area north of Baghdad, and in Kut, southeast of Baghdad.**

The World Health Organization has already reported an outbreak of the disease in the northern cities of Kirkuk and Sulaimaniya, and 10 people are known to have died. But the disease is now moving from the north into more unstable areas of the country where it could be even harder to treat and contain.

"It is already endemic in some parts of Iraq, but when it is growing and moving, that's when it becomes an epidemic," said Dr. Naeema al-Gasseer, the World Health Organization's representative for Iraq. The organization said there was laboratory confirmation of the disease in a 25-year-old woman living in Baghdad.

Cholera is fairly simple to treat under normal circumstances, but the war in Iraq makes it far more difficult to contain. The mass displacement of the population has pushed many people into unsanitary living conditions, where food and water can become tainted with sewage and spread the cholera bacteria.

Kamar el-Jadi, head of the health department for the Red Crescent Society in Baghdad, said cholera was spreading because some people embraced unsanitary living conditions, and she criticized the government for not responding properly.

"They like to live and eat in the rubbish," she said. "I don't know how they can eat in these bad conditions."

She added: "The government is doing nothing. They don't have a program. They have done nothing against this disease."

Health officials at the Red Crescent had earlier predicted that cases would begin turning up in Baghdad in late September or early October, when temperatures are especially favorable for the bacteria, *Vibrio cholerae*, which infects the intestines. People contract cholera by drinking water or eating food contaminated with the bacteria, which comes from the feces of an infected person.

**Iraq's deputy health minister, Dr. Adel Mohsin, said last week that further spread of the epidemic was very likely unless government agencies followed strict guidelines on water testing and maintaining sufficient levels of chlorination to kill the bacteria.**

**But Dr. Mohsin said that chlorine imports had been severely curtailed as a result of recent insurgent bombs that had used chlorine.**

The Red Crescent has said that shallow wells contaminated by sewage around Sulaimaniya — which had at least two cholera outbreaks in the decades before the American-led invasion in 2003 — could have set off the epidemic. But problems that have developed since the invasion, like poor control of chlorination levels, have the potential to make this outbreak more dangerous, the Red Crescent said.

Officials focusing on Baghdad are trying to figure out how to ward off an epidemic when it is too dangerous for health workers to easily move about the city.

World Health Organization officials advising the Iraqi government said Baghdad might need to set up response teams in each separate district, rather than trying to work with a centralized response unit.

Cholera can be mild or even have no symptoms, but about one in 20 infected people become extremely ill, with profuse watery diarrhea, vomiting and leg cramps.

**Without treatment, rapid loss of body fluids causes dehydration and shock, and a person can die within hours.**

Cholera does not usually spread directly from person to person, so casual contact with infected people is not risky, and quarantine is not necessary. But those in close contact, like members of a household, are at risk.

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## **Resistance Attack On Oil Pipeline Threatens To Cut Off Baghdad's Water Supply**

09/20/2007 AP

City officials urged Baghdad residents Thursday to conserve water and fill up their tanks in case water treatment stations have to be shut down because of an oil spill in the Tigris River.

The warning was issued three days after insurgents set off a bomb under an oil pipeline near Beiji, 250 kilometers (155 miles) north of Baghdad, setting off a fire and causing huge quantities of crude oil to spill into the Tigris, which flow through the capital.

**"We call upon people to store and economize the use of drinking water in anticipation of the worst, which is the arrival of the oil spill to water treatment stations in Baghdad," said Naeem al-Qaabi, deputy head of the Baghdad municipal administration.**

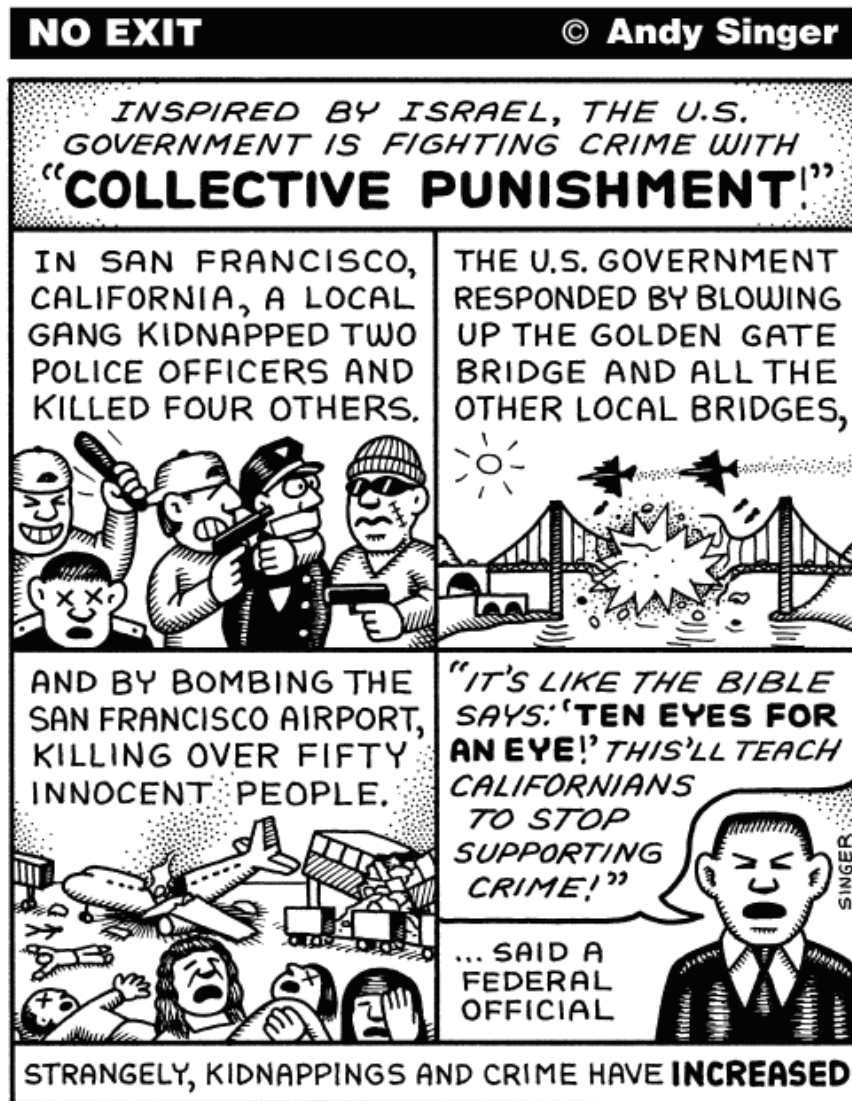
**He estimated that it would take the oil slick about 48 hours to reach Baghdad.**

Al-Qaabi said that rubber barriers have been placed around purification stations in and around the capital. But he said those barriers may not be enough and that the stations would have to be shut down.

Al-Qaabi said officials are working with the Ministry and Water Resources to try to divert the oil slick into Lake Tharthar north of the Iraqi capital and prevent it from reaching Baghdad, a city of about 5.5 million people.

In the meantime, he said water towers around the city were being filled to the maximum to store as much water as possible before the slick reaches the capital.

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK





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

**AND NOW, A MESSAGE FROM TRANSIT WATCH  
AND THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE  
DEPARTMENT:**




**HOLY FUCKING SHIT IT'S  
A GODDAMN FUCKING BOMB**

**EVERYONE HERE'S ALL FUCKING DEAD OH MY GOD**

Oh my God holy shit Jesus Christ it's a fucking bomb.



**SubTalk** [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info)  **New York City Transit** *Going your way*  
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[Thanks to Mark Shapiro, who sent this in.]

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## **Received:**

# **The Karpova Case: “Should The Court Do Anything But Laud And Acquit Her, Even The Statue Of Liberty Should Weep - Or Fall”**

From: Felicity Arbuthnot  
To: thomasfbarton@earthlink.net  
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2007 8:38 AM  
Subject: Judith Karpova

Re: Judith Karpova and the Human Shields - Iraq February 2003.

I was shocked to read of the plight of Ms Karpova at the hands of the U.S. 'Justice' system. I was in Iraq and Baghdad at the same time as the Human Shields.

Did they break the US/UK driven UN embargo (which was to force Saddam to give up the weapons of mass destruction they knew he did not have); did they aid Iraq financially?

Well if you call going to the local soukh to buy local produce, aiding Iraq, yes.

If you call giving a few Dinars to children as young as five, forced out of school to sell cigarettes, clean shoes, as a result of the embargo (in a country which valued education above all and with Palestine had the highest PhD's per capita on earth) yes, they put a little extra food on a family table, a miniscule amount more money circulated in the soukh, in a country where many families often ate in rota, one giving up food for a day, to give a little more for the others.

When children fainted in school, the reason was usually: 'It's not my turn to eat today' - courtesy USA and Britain.

When they visited the hospitals and held grief stricken parents, watching their children die, for want of often the simplest medications, vetoed by the US and UK and gave them another few Dinars to try and find that life saver, on the black market, did they re-charge the Iraqi economy?

With the equivalent of usually about \$5?

No they re-charged, a small life, if they were in time.

Don't forget, all Iraq's bank accounts were frozen, state and private.

Did they aid Iraq by the few dollars a night they paid the family owned hotels they stayed at near Firdos Square, where Saddam Hussein's statue was toppled?

If you count giving a small living to a family, who had somehow kept the hotels going, from love and pride, through the thirteen grinding embargo years, in an outward looking country, which welcomed visitors with open arms, who now barely ever came, yes. And they gave them their pride back.

Did they aid Iraq by buying the occasional meal in the small hotel restaurants?

Yes, as above and they gave the Chef his pride back.

Inventive meals were produced again, when even hotels could afford only most basic ingredients. Imagination was challenged and wonders were produced from little, in gratitude also to those who came in solidarity, in a country where 'embargo related causes' (U.N.) were estimated to have killed one and a half million people (majority the under fives, the sick and the elderly) in thirteen years.

Did they aid Iraq by their presence? Yes.

The people, the children (broadly, half the population is under fifteen) had known nothing but thirteen years of deprivation (Iraq imported seventy percent of almost everything prior to the embargo) and thirteen years of illegal US and UK bombings. Iraq's children were diagnosed by child psychiatrists from the West as 'the most traumatized child population on earth', as a result. These children who had known nothing but fear and deprivation from the West, suddenly learned, either first hand, or from the media, that not all westerners were George W. Bush and Tony Blair, but there were those who were prepared to risk their lives, with them, as they waited again for the bombs to fall.

They learned of the 'greater love that no man (or woman) has' than to be prepared to suffer, even die, for another.

Lastly, Ms Karpova and those who traveled to Iraq, acted explicitly in the true spirit of that which the United Nations was meant to stand, declared in San Francisco on the 26th June 1945, betrayed by the U.S. and U.K. from Hiroshima Day 1990 (the date of the imposition of the embargo) to now (there was no U.N., mandate for the invasion of Iraq):

'We the peoples of the United Nations, determined to save successive generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind - and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small - and to establish conditions under which justice and respect arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.'

Further: 'And to these ends, to practice tolerance and live together as good neighbours and unite our strength to maintain international peace a security and to ensure, but the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used .....' And to: ' ... take effective, collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to peace and to bring about by peaceful means ... justice and international law, adjustment or settlement or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace'.

Ms Karpova and those prepared to risk so much in travelling to Iraq on the eve of war, uniquely embody the wondrous aspiration of the San Francisco declaration, so shamefully trashed, broken and ignored by Washington and Whitehall.

It is the architects of the Iraq disaster in the latter who should be in Court.

Ms Karpova and those prepared to stand for right in a far away place, should be honoured by their countries, the United Nations and be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Should the Court do anything but laud and acquit her, even the Statue of Liberty should weep - or fall.

**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 to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org):. Name, I.D., withheld on request. Replies confidential. Same to unsubscribe.**

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