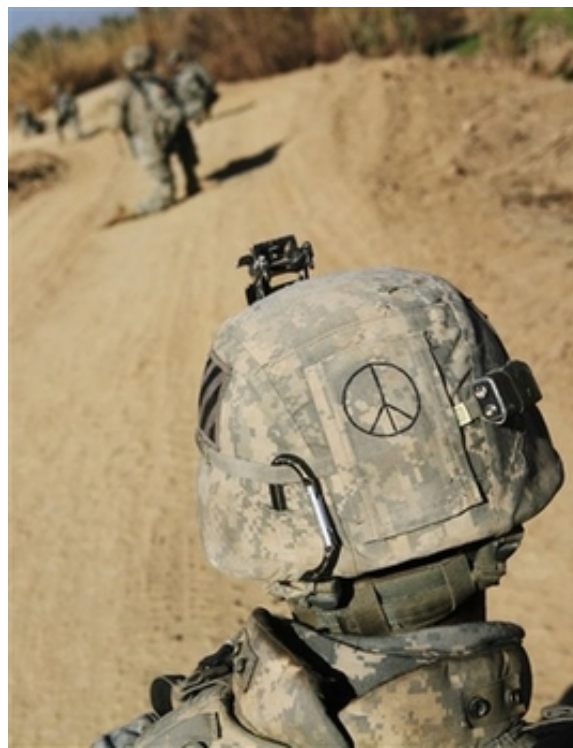


## **GI SPECIAL 6F8:**

**POLITICIANS CAN'T BE COUNTED ON TO HALT  
THE BLOODSHED**

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE  
WAR**



U.S. Army soldier patrols Bejjia village, Iraq Feb. 4, 2008. (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)

**No End To Stop-Loss;  
JCS Chief Increasing Numbers  
Of Troops Condemned To Serve  
In Combat Against Their Will:**

# Need More Blood For Hopeless Imperial Wars? No Problem: Mullen Is Your Man!



**THANKS A LOT MR SHITBIRD:** After telling soldiers they'll get stop-lossed, Mullen thinks they won't care about that if he gives out cheap-ass shiny little command coins to soldiers from the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division, June 11, 2008 in Fort Stewart, Ga. (AP Photo/Stephen Morton)

June 11, 2008 By RUSS BYNUM, AP Military Writer

The U.S. military's top uniformed officer told an audience of Army troops Wednesday the unpopular "stop loss" policy won't end anytime soon, and he predicted a small rise in the number of troops forced to serve past their re-enlistment or retirement dates.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told an audience of 600 soldiers at Fort Stewart he understands the strain the stop loss practice and multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan have placed on service members.

"I would like to see an end to the stop loss policy, but I don't see it happening in the near future," Mullen said during a question-and-answer session with the troops. "I see a slight growth in the next couple of years based on predictions right now."

Mullen said about 11,000 Army troops are now serving under the stop loss policy, which critics have referred to as a "backdoor draft."

Concerned about burnout among the ranks, the Army is working to grow by about 22,000 soldiers, to 547,000 total on active duty. The expansion will make it easier to cease the stop loss policy, Mullen said, as well as extend the time troops spend at home between deployments to two years rather than one.

But that won't happen for up to three years, Mullen said.

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **West Baghdad IED Kills U.S. Soldier**

June 12, 2008 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE  
No. 20080612-14

BAGHDAD – A Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldier was killed from wounds sustained when the Soldier's vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device in west Baghdad at approximately 3:30 p.m. June 12

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### **Wyoming Soldier Dies In Iraq**

[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in.]

June 12, 2008 By The Associated Press

SARATOGA -- A soldier from Saratoga who died in Iraq this weekend was remembered by his mother as a dedicated serviceman who looked forward one day to retiring to the Wyoming mountains.

The U.S. Department of Defense announced Wednesday that Staff Sgt. Tyler E. Pickett died Sunday in Kirkuk Province. He was killed by enemy forces using an improvised explosive device.

Pickett was assigned to the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y.

Pickett's mother, Saratoga resident Sheri Peterson, said her 28-year-old son was killed in a suicide bombing that also injured 18 other people. Pickett was on his second tour in Iraq and had also served in Afghanistan.

Pickett is survived by his wife, Kristy, of Antwerp, N.Y., and her two children, Peterson said. The couple celebrated their second anniversary in February.

Pickett was born in Rice Lake, Wis., and moved to Saratoga, in south-central Wyoming, at the age of 14.

"When you move to a small town, sometimes it's hard to acclimate," Peterson said. "That didn't happen here. He was friends with everyone. It didn't matter where he was, he always touched someone's life."

Pickett graduated from Saratoga High School in 1999 and enlisted in the military about a year later, Peterson said. She said serving in the military was always a part of Pickett's plan.

"He knew what he wanted long before most kids do," she said.

Peterson said her son came from a family with a history of military service. "My son's job was to protect his country, and when you protect your country, you put your life on the line every day -- just like a police officer does, just like a fireman does," Peterson said.

Pickett's survivors include his father, Ed Pickett, of Rice Lake, and other family members in Wyoming. Peterson said funeral services are planned in Saratoga, Antwerp, N.Y., and Minnesota.

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## Taunton Mourns Soldier's Death



Shane Duffy walked of the field last month after being honored for his service to the country. (MIKE COHEA/GATEHOUSE MEDIA NEWS SERVICE)

June 6, 2008 By Brian R. Ballou, Globe Staff

TAUNTON - His hands shaking and his blue eyes full of tears, Keavin Duffy pulled his wallet out of his back pocket yesterday morning and took out a photograph of his infant granddaughter. Standing on his expansive front lawn, with a bevy of small family dogs running large circles around him, Duffy cupped the photograph in his hand.

"This is my son's daughter," said Duffy, a veteran town firefighter, his voice trembling. "She lost her father."

He looked somberly off toward his winding dirt driveway, where his daughter, Shannon, had just pulled up. His older son, also named Keavin, stood next to him, gazing at the picture and appearing to hold back tears. Then, he walked into his house to wait for a US Army official to arrive and provide details about the event that claimed the life of his youngest son, Shane Duffy.

Duffy, a 24-year-old Army sergeant, was killed in Iraq this week, just after returning to duty from a visit to his hometown. The news shocked Taunton. Duffy was the first soldier of this community to die in combat in the Iraq war.

He had visited his hometown only weeks before, watching his sister make the game-winning hit in a high school softball game on May 23. Duffy was honored before the game for his service to the country, and then he took in the game with his daughter sitting on his lap.

"There's no words for that," Shannon Duffy said then of the experience of having her brother in the crowd. "I was so happy that I did well. For this to be his first game really watching me for Taunton High, it was awesome. I'm so happy he got to see me play. I just hope he comes home safe."

The family was notified of Shane Duffy's death Wednesday.

By Thursday morning, every flag on municipal property in the town was at half-staff, at the request of Mayor Charles Crowley, who has known the soldier's father since grade school.

"Shane is a true hero, who came from a place with a strong tradition of service in the military," Crowley said. "He's the latest example of heroism and what being a Tauntonian is all about. We're a strong community that has the feel of the family, so I know that many of our residents will remember the Duffy family when they say their prayers."

Michael Sylvia, deputy chief of the Taunton Fire Department, said he has worked with Keavin Duffy for the past 15 years. "He's a very family-oriented man. I know all his kids, and they've always been very close-knit. They are all devastated."

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## Two U.S. Soldiers Wounded In Kadhamiya

June 12 (Reuters)

The U.S. military said a bomb attack on a U.S. military convoy killed six Iraqis on Wednesday in the Kadhamiya district in northwestern Baghdad. The blast wounded seven Iraqis and two U.S. soldiers.

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### GUESS WHO'S WORRIED

## **GUESS WHO ISN'T GUESS WHY ALL HOME NOW**



Iraqi face down a U.S. soldier on their street in Baghdad's Sadr City June 10, 2008.  
REUTERS/Omar Obeidi

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Two UK Soldiers Killed In Upper Gereshk Valley, Another Wounded**

12 June 2008 BBC NEWS

Two British soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan, according to the Ministry of Defence.

Both men were serving with 2nd Battalion the Parachute Regiment, a statement by the MoD said. Next of kin have been informed, it added.

The servicemen killed on Thursday 12 June came under fire as they were conducting a routine foot patrol near Forward Operating Base Gibraltar in the Upper Gereshk Valley, the MoD said.



A third soldier was injured in the attack and is receiving treatment at Camp Bastion medical facility.

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## **Romanian Soldier Killed In Afghanistan, Three More Wounded**

June 13 (Reuters)

A Romanian infantry soldier was killed and three others injured during an attack by insurgents in Afghanistan on Thursday, the defence ministry said in a statement.

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## **Wind Gap Guardsman Killed By Road Bomb In Afghanistan**



Spc. Derek Holland

June 06, 2008 HARRISBURG (AP)

A Wind Gap National Guardsman was killed in Afghanistan by a roadside bomb Tuesday afternoon, according to military officials.

Spc. Derek Holland died after the bomb struck Holland's Humvee near the town of Zormat. The bomb also killed an Army major serving with the Provincial Reconstruction Team and wounded the vehicle's gunner.

Holland, 20, was a 2006 graduate of Pen Argyl High School and enlisted in the National Guard during his senior year. He was attached to the 228th Brigade Support Battalion in Bethlehem.

"He was one of the most dedicated soldiers I have known," said Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Horner, Holland's supervisor. "He just wanted to do his part in serving his country. He wanted to do the job he came in to do."

Holland was enrolled in the information systems technology program at the Career Institute of Technology, a vocational-technical school that serves students from Pen Argyl.

His teacher at CIT, Andra Groller, said Holland was shy when he first arrived. He became interested in the military in his senior year and hoped to combine it with his computer education, she said.

"He was a very quiet ... thoughtful kind of person," said John Smith, principal of Pen Argyl High School, who announced Holland's death at a faculty meeting Thursday morning. "We had a moment of prayer for him."

Holland was one of two Pennsylvania soldiers killed in the Middle East on Tuesday.

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## **Four Foreign Occupation Troops Wounded In Nangarhar; Nationality Not Announced**

06/13/08 The Associated Press

A car bomber attacked a NATO convoy Friday in Nangarhar province, wounding four troops in NATO's International Security Assistance Force, the alliance said in a statement. Most troops in that province are American.

---

## **840 Foreign Military Deaths As A Result Of Battle Or Accidents In Afghanistan Since The Occupation Began In 2001:**

June 13 (Reuters)

United States 517

Britain 102

Canada 85

Germany 26\*

Spain 23

Netherlands 16



Other nations 71

TOTAL: 840

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## **Attacks On UK Troops At Kandahar Airbase Set A New Record**

2008/06/12 IRNA

The number of attacks on Kandahar Airfield reached its highest level last month since British troops were deployed in Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, two years ago, according to Defence Secretary Des Browne.

In a written parliamentary reply published Wednesday, Brown said that there had been seven attacks on the base, more than double the number in the previous month.

Since British troops were deployed in May 2006, he said that a total of 89 rocket attacks were recorded at the base, used as the UK's military hub for southern Afghanistan.

The number in the first five months of this year had reached 15, almost half the number suffered in 2007. The most likely days of recent attacks in the past three months, Browne said, was on Thursdays and Friday.

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**“US Failure In Afghanistan Is Now Evident And NATO Desperation Only Too Visible”**

**“Obama Pressuring The White House To Violate Pakistani Sovereignty Whenever Necessary”**

**“As Western Intelligence Agencies Active In The Country Are Fully Aware, The Situation Is Out Of Control”**

**The "neo-Taliban" control at least 20 districts in the Kandahar, Helmand and Uruzgan provinces where Nato troops replaced US soldiers. It is hardly a secret that many officials in these zones are closet supporters of the guerrilla fighters.**

June 11 2008 By Tariq Ali, Guardian.co.uk [Excerpts]

In the latest clashes on the Pakistan-Afghan border, Nato troops have killed 11 Pakistani soldiers and injured many more, creating a serious crisis in the country and angering the Pakistan military high command, already split on the question.

US failure in Afghanistan is now evident and Nato desperation only too visible. Spreading the war to Pakistan would be a disaster for all sides. The Bush-Cheney era is drawing to a close, but it is unlikely that their replacements, despite the debacle in Iraq, will settle the American giant back to a digestive sleep.

The temporary cleavage that opened up between some EU states and Washington on Iraq was resolved after the occupation. They could all unite in Afghanistan and fight the good fight.

This view has been strongly supported by every US presidential candidate in the run up to the 2008 elections, with Senator Barack Obama pressuring the White House to violate Pakistani sovereignty whenever necessary. He must be pleased.

That the "good war" has now turned bad is no longer disputed by a number of serious analysts in the US, even though there is no agreed prescription for dealing with the problems.

Not least of which for some is the future of NATO, stranded far away from the Atlantic in a mountainous country, the majority of whose people, after offering a small window of opportunity to the occupiers, realised it was a mistake and became increasingly hostile.

**The "neo-Taliban" control at least 20 districts in the Kandahar, Helmand and Uruzgan provinces where Nato troops replaced US soldiers.**

**It is hardly a secret that many officials in these zones are closet supporters of the guerrilla fighters.**

**As western intelligence agencies active in the country are fully aware, the situation is out of control.**

The model envisaged for the occupation was Panama. The then US secretary of State, Colin Powell, explained that: "The strategy has to be to take charge of the whole country by military force, police or other means".

His knowledge of Afghanistan was limited.

Panama, populated by 3.5 million people, could not have been more different to Afghanistan, which has a population approaching 30 million and is geographically quite dissimilar.

**To even attempt a military occupation of the entire country would require a minimum of 200,000 troops.**

**A total of 8000 US troops were dispatched to seal the victory.**

The 4000 "peacekeepers" sent by other countries never left Kabul.

The Germans concentrated on creating a police force that could run a police state and the Italians, without any sense of irony, were busy "training an Afghan judiciary" to deal with the drugs mafia. The British were in Helmand amidst the poppy fields. As for the new satellite states involved – Czechs, Slovenes, Poles, Estonians, Slovaks and Romanians – it was useful training for the future.

Five years later, in September 2006, an attempted bombing of the US embassy came close to hitting its target.

**A CIA assessment that same month painted a sombre picture, depicting Karzai and his regime as hopelessly corrupt and incapable of defending Afghanistan against the Taliban.**

Ronald E Neumann, the US Ambassador in Kabul supported this view and told an interviewer that the US faced "stark choices" and defeat could only be avoided through "multiple billions" over "multiple years".

The repression, striking blindly, leaves people with no option but to back those trying to resist, especially in a part of the world where the culture of revenge is strong. When a whole community feels threatened it reinforces solidarity, regardless of the character or weakness of those who fight back.

Many Afghans who detest the Taliban are so angered by the failures of Nato and the behaviour of its troops that they are hostile to the occupation.

Nato itself has stopped pretending that its occupation has anything to do with the needs of the Afghan people and acknowledge it as an open-ended American military thrust into the Middle East and Central Asia.

As the Economist summarises, "Defeat would be a body blow not only to the Afghans, but" – and more importantly, of course – to the Nato alliance". As ever, geopolitics prevail over Afghan interests in the calculus of the big powers.

The basing agreement signed by Washington with its appointee in Kabul in May 2005 gives the Pentagon the right to maintain a massive military presence in Afghanistan in perpetuity.

**That Washington is not seeking permanent bases in this fraught and inhospitable terrain simply for the sake of "democratisation and good governance" was made clear by NATO's secretary general Jaap de Hoop Scheffer at the Brookings Institution in February this year: the opportunity to site military facilities, and potentially nuclear missiles, in a country that borders China, Iran and Central Asia was too good to miss.**

More strategically, Afghanistan has become a central theatre for uniting, and extending, the west's power-political grip on the world order.

Nato's failure cannot be simply blamed on the Pakistani government.

It is a traditional colonial ploy to blame "outsiders" for internal problems. If anything, the war in Afghanistan has created a critical situation in two Pakistani frontier provinces and the use of the Pakistan army by Centcom has resulted in suicide terrorism in Lahore with the federal intelligence agency and a naval training college targeted by supporters of the Afghan insurgents.

The Pashtun majority in Afghanistan has always had close links to its fellow Pashtuns in Pakistan. The present border was an imposition by the British empire, but it has always remained porous.

It is virtually impossible to build a Texan fence or an Israeli wall across the mountainous and largely unmarked 2500km border that separates the two countries. The solution is political, not military. And it should be sought in the region not in Washington or Brussels.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

# **IRAQ VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR HOUSE/POOL PARTY FUNDRAISER!**



**July 5th, 2008 – 1 pm  
Lisa Cantu's**

**1288 West 3rd St.  
San Pedro, California 90732**

From: Wendy Barranco  
To: GI Special  
Sent: June 12, 2008  
Subject: IVAW LA Pool Party/House Fundraiser

Hope this message finds you all well. Just wanted to extend this invitation on behalf of IVAW Los Angeles. This is going to be a fun informal gathering.

**Please pass it on to all your contacts and/or list serves.**

**I hope to see you all there!**

Best,  
Wendy Barranco  
President  
Iraq Veterans Against the War - Los Angeles

\*\*\*\*\*

**Report Back Winter Soldier: Iraq & Afghanistan**

**Kick off the summer right with IVAW Los Angeles!**

**Meet the new chapter officers:  
President – Wendy Barranco, USA, WS Testifier  
Vice-President – Jabbar Magruder, USA, WS Testifier  
Treasurer – Garrett Ameigh, USMC  
Member Coordinator – Cameron White, USMC**

**Hear about the great success of Winter Soldier and help us put  
an end to the Iraq occupation!**

**\*Bring your towel and bathing suit/trunks\***

**\*IVAW merchandise available for purchase\***

**\*Cash ONLY bar stocked with your favorite drinks\***

**\*\$10 suggested door donation (no one turned away for lack of funds)\***

**For more info contact:  
Lisa Cantu- Inicolecantu@yahoo.com (310) 483 – 6298**

or Wendy Barranco - [stylishoney@hotmail.com](mailto:stylishoney@hotmail.com)

## **DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE SERVICE?**

Forward GI Special along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly. Whether in Iraq or stuck on a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the war, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657. Phone: 917.677.8057

## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **GET THE MESSAGE?**





**Iraqi nationalists rally in Sadr City in Baghdad June 13, 2008 against George Bush's demand for a U.S.-Iraqi security pact that would permit continued U.S. occupation of Iraq. (AP Photos By Karim Kadim)**

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(Graphic: London Financial Times)

## **Resistance Action**

June 11 (Reuters) & June 12 (Reuters) & Yahoo!7/Telecom New Zealand

A roadside bomb exploded near a police patrol, wounding four policemen in central Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb killed two policemen and wounded four others while they were on patrol in Kut, 150 km (95 miles) southeast of Baghdad, police said.

An Iraqi police officer was wounded in a roadside bomb attack on a police convoy in the Rusafa area of eastern Baghdad, U.S. forces said.

A bomb inside a parked car struck a police commando patrol, killing one policeman in the Aalawi district of central Baghdad, police said.



Nine police commandos were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near their patrol on Palestine Street in northeastern Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb exploded near a vehicle carrying Sameer al-Waili, a major-general in the Interior Ministry, near Beirut Square in northeastern Baghdad, police said. Waili was not harmed but three of his guards were among the wounded.

Insurgents threw a grenade at an Iraqi army checkpoint, wounding six soldiers in western Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb exploded near a local official in the Shaab district of northern Baghdad, police said. He was not harmed but three of the wounded were his guards.

A roadside bomb killed three members of the Kurdish forces and wounded four when it exploded near their patrol on Wednesday in the town of al-Saadiya, Diyala Province, near Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, police said.

The local headquarters of the Iraqi Islamic [collaborator] Party, in the Iraqi Accordance Front, was damaged when five bombs planted inside the building exploded in the city of Falluja, 50 km (30 miles) west of Baghdad, police and a member of the party said. One guard was wounded.

A car bomb struck an Iraqi police commando patrol in central Baghdad, killing three people and wounding more than a dozen, a security official and a medic says. The attack occurred at about 2pm (2100 AEST) in the Al-Allawi district. One commando was killed, and 15 people wounded, 12 of them commandos, the security official confirmed.

**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

"When someone says my son died fighting for his country, I say, "No, the suicide bomber who killed my son died fighting for his country."

-- Father of American Soldier Chase Beattie, KIA in Iraq

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head. The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie  
U.S. Army Medic  
Vietnam 1970-71  
December 13, 2004

## **“We All Knew That The Only Way To Stop The War, Was To Get Those Fingers Off Those Triggers.....And Only The GI’s Can Do That”**

From: Penumbra [Vietnam Veteran]  
To: CAWI  
Sent: June 09, 2008  
Subject: GI's stopped Viet Nam [Excerpt]

from the first time we had to take to the streets before this bs war started, we all knew that the only way to stop the war, was to get those fingers off those triggers.....and only the GI's can do that.

Civilians will never understand the power of the UCMJ over a serviceman.

All our Rights are taken away, we are presumed guilty in any legal proceeding, and any refusal to "go along" gets one in big trouble.

But, in Vietnam, entire units would simply sit down in the field, smoke pot, and call in bogus contacts and false body counts.

It was only when that happened and the fraggings went up that we got ole dickless dickey nixon to start a withdrawal.....

**MORE:**

**“In Vietnam, Entire Units Would Simply Sit Down In The Field, Smoke Pot, And Call In Bogus Contacts And False Body Counts”**

**[SEE IT FOR YOURSELF, RIGHT HERE:]**



## **Sir! No Sir!:**

The Sir! No Sir! DVD is on sale now, exclusively at  
[http://www.sirnosir.com/home\\_dvd\\_storefront.html](http://www.sirnosir.com/home_dvd_storefront.html)

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

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

**BUY SIR! NO SIR! FOR ACTIVE DUTY SOLDIERS  
NOW**

**HELP GET SIR! NO SIR!  
INTO THE HANDS THAT NEED IT MOST**

## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

**U.S. OCCUPATION RECRUITING  
DRIVE IN HIGH GEAR;  
RECRUITING FOR THE ARMED  
RESISTANCE THAT IS**



Iraqi women and children watch as foreign occupation soldiers from the U.S. search their personal belongings during an armed home invasion on the edge of Baghdad's neighbourhood of Shulla, May 18, 2008. REUTERS/Oleg Popov

[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 what you'll do is you'll take his sofa cushions and you'll dump them. If he has a couch, you'll turn the couch upside down.

"You'll go into the fridge, if he has a fridge, and you'll throw everything on the floor, and you'll take his drawers and you'll dump them.... You'll open up his closet and you'll throw all the clothes on the floor and basically leave his house looking like a hurricane just hit it.

"And if you find something, then you'll detain him. If not, you'll say, 'Sorry to disturb you. Have a nice evening.'

"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!**

**GI SPECIALS BY MAIL FREE FOR  
ACTIVE DUTY TROOPS**

IF YOU WISH TO HAVE A SELECTION OF GI SPECIALS MAILED TO YOU, EMAIL YOUR ADDRESS TO: [CONTACT@MILITARYPROJECT.ORG](mailto:CONTACT@MILITARYPROJECT.ORG) OR DROP A LINE TO: BOX 126, 2576 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10025-5657 USA. 917.677.8057

Please say how many you wish sent.

NOTE WELL: They will all be different issues of GI Special to satisfy DOD regs that you may possess copies, *provided you don't have more than one of the same issue.*

## OCCUPATION PALESTINE

### UNCONQUERED UNCONQUERABLE



A Palestinian youth throws a stone at Zionist border police during a protest against the construction of Israel's wall in the occupied West Bank village of Bilin, near Ramallah, June 13, 2008. REUTERS/Baz Ratner

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

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS

### FEMA Gave Away About \$85 Million In Household Goods

# **Meant For Hurricane Katrina Victims; “FEMA Was Told In Regular Meetings That Unity Was Desperate For Household Supplies And That The Group Has Been Forced To Beg For Donations” FEMA Never Told Community Groups That It Had Tens Of Millions Of Dollars Worth Of Brand-New Items Meant For Storm Victims**

[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. **She writes: Class war. How did it come that FEMA didn't know they needed the stuff? Who paid for it? Will they do any better with Wisconsin and Iowa?**]

\*\*\*\*\*

June 12, 2008 From Abbie Boudreau and Scott Zamost, CNN Special Investigations Unit

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (CNN) -- FEMA gave away about \$85 million in household goods meant for Hurricane Katrina victims, a CNN investigation has found.

The material, from basic kitchen goods to sleeping necessities, sat in warehouses for two years before the Federal Emergency Management Agency's giveaway to federal and state agencies this year.

James McIntyre, FEMA's acting press secretary, said that FEMA was spending more than \$1 million a year to store the material and that another agency wanted the warehouses torn down, so "we needed to vacate them."

Photos from one of the facilities in Fort Worth, Texas, show pallet after pallet of cots, cleansers, first-aid kits, coffee makers, camp stoves and other items stacked to the ceiling.

FEMA said some of the items were donations from companies after Katrina, but most were purchased in the field as "starter kits" for people living in trailers provided by the agency.



**And even though the stocks were offered to state agencies after FEMA decided to get rid of them, one of the states that passed was Louisiana.**

Martha Kegel, the head of a New Orleans nonprofit agency that helps find homes for those still displaced by the storm, said she was shocked to learn about the existence of the goods and the government giveaway.

"These are exactly the items that we are desperately seeking donations of right now: basic kitchen household supplies," said Kegel, executive director of Unity of Greater New Orleans. "These are the very things that we are seeking right now. FEMA, in fact, refers homeless clients to us to house them. How can we house them if we don't have basic supplies?"

Kegel's group works with FEMA and other local organizations to rehouse victims of Katrina, the 2005 hurricane that flooded New Orleans and killed more than 1,800 people along the Gulf Coast.

**Community groups say thousands of people are still living in abandoned buildings in the city, though fewer than 100 people remain housed in tents.**

**Kegel said FEMA was told in regular meetings that Unity was desperate for household supplies and that the group has been forced to beg for donations.**

**But she said FEMA never told Unity and other community groups that it had tens of millions of dollars worth of brand-new items meant for storm victims.**

She said she learned of it from CNN, which found that those items never made it to people such as Debra Reed.

"An honest person like me didn't get nothing," said Reed, 54, who recently moved from a tent beneath a New Orleans bridge to a home with the help of Kegel's group.

"I'm gonna turn, 'cause I'm gonna cry. I didn't get nothing. I fought to get my money, but they wouldn't give it to me. So I ended up going under the bridge."

**Asked whether FEMA believed that Katrina victims no longer needed the items, McIntyre wrote: "If the state did not request the supplies, then FEMA would not know."**

Pallets at the Fort Worth warehouse were piled high with boxes of buckets, boots, cleansers, mops and brooms.

**There were stacks of tents, lanterns and camp stoves for people still displaced, as well as clothing, bedding, plates and utensils.**

**Meanwhile, Kegel said, Unity's clients can take only "one fork, one spoon, one knife; they can only take one plate. We don't have enough to go around."**

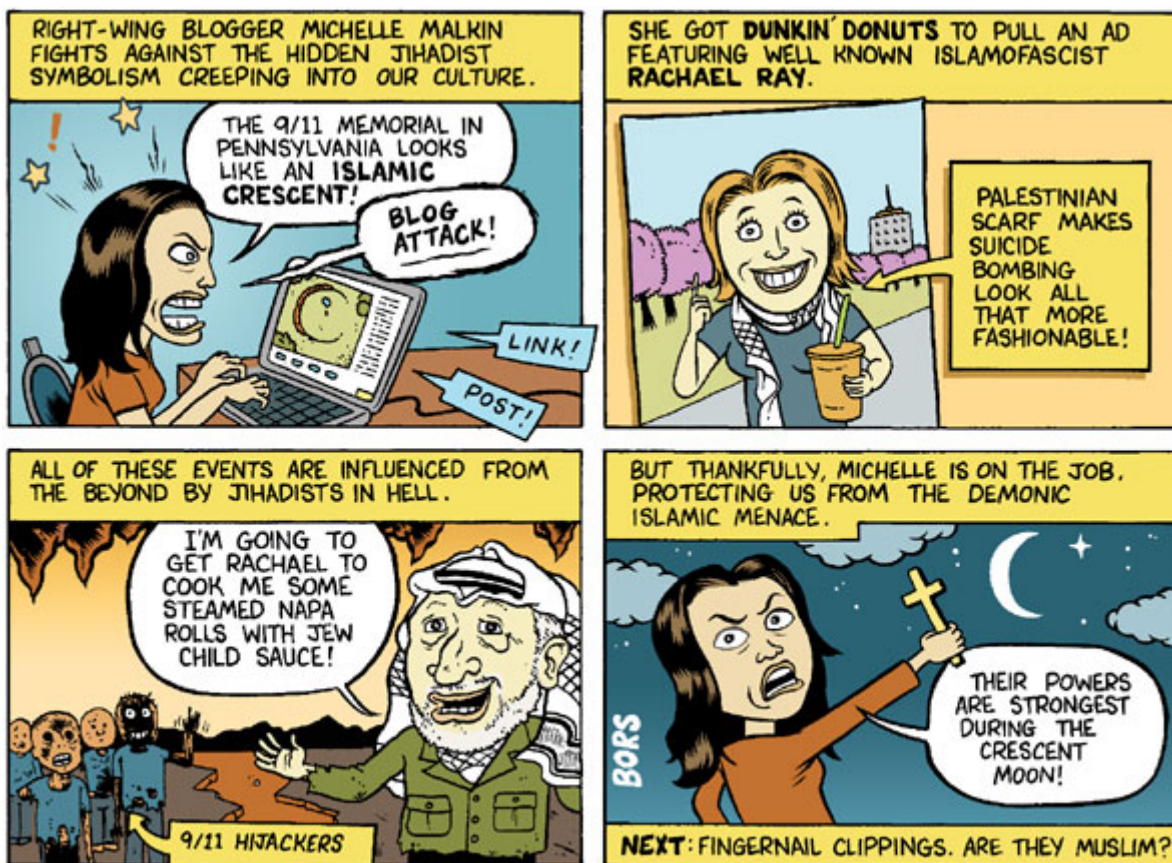
**But FEMA said the items were no longer needed in the stricken region. So it declared them "federal surplus" and gave them away.**

John Medica, director of the Louisiana Federal Property Assistance Agency in Baton Rouge, said he was unaware that Katrina victims still had a need for the household supplies.

"We didn't have anybody out there who told us they wanted it," Medica said.

Instead, 16 other states took the free items.

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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### 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

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