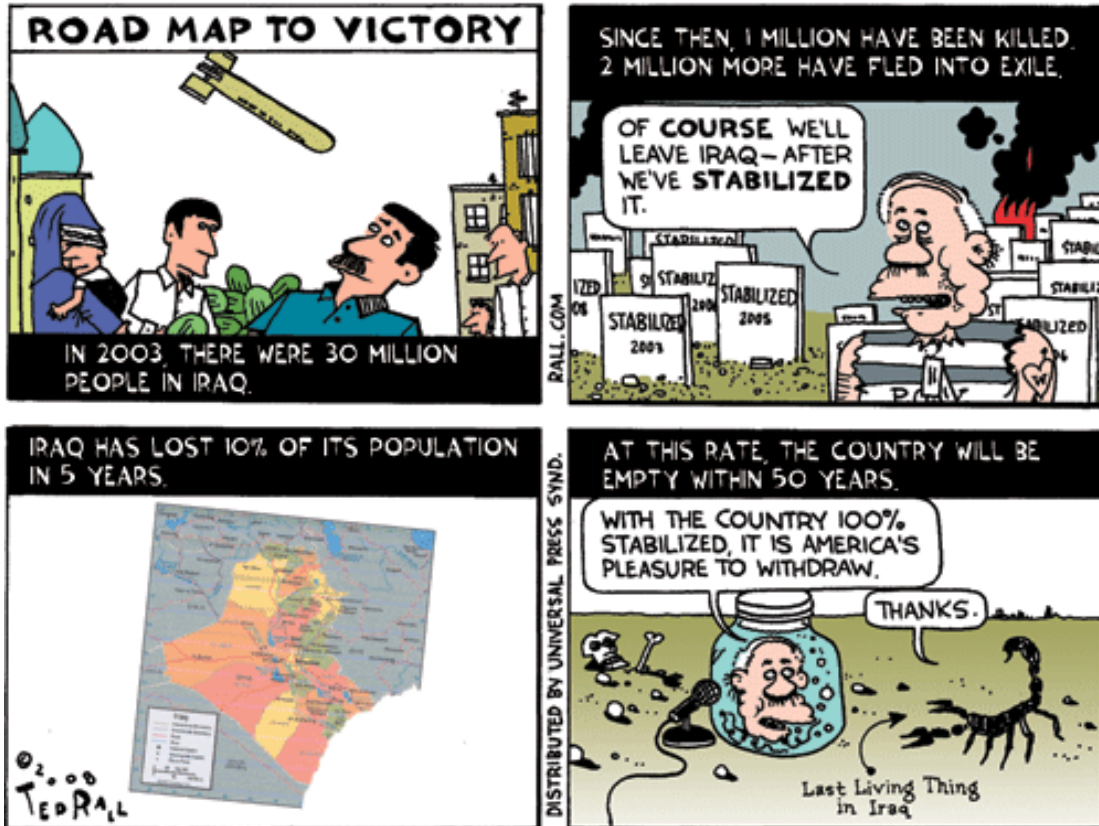


## GI SPECIAL 6G9:



7-5-08

## ACTION REPORTS:

# “The Common Sentiment Around The Rank And File In Fort

# **Carson Is One Of Extreme Discontent”**

**“One Soldier Has Recently Been  
Issued A Field Grade Article 15  
For Burning Down A  
McDonald’s Billboard Right Off  
Post In Response To Being  
Stop-Lossed”**

**“Other Soldiers Are Becoming  
Openly Defiant Towards The War In  
Front Of Their Chain Of Command  
WITHOUT Receiving Any Punishment  
Whatsoever”**



**Soldiers are now driving by and instead of throwing sodas and middle fingers at us (like they did three years ago) they now honk their horns and wave solidarity fists.**

**From: J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War & The Military Project**  
**Subject: Report from IVAW Colorado Springs**  
Date: Jul 14, 2008 3:44 PM

This is Jeff Englehart checking in on our recent (and most successful) attempts in G.I. outreach in the Fort Carson/ Colorado Springs area.

Just before I left for Bulgaria on June 7 our Denver and Colorado Springs chapters of Iraq Veterans Against the War outlined what we wanted to see specifically in organizing G.I. Resistance in our area.

**With our planning for the Democratic National convention taking so much of our time, we figured we needed to focus some energy back into what we do best out here, and that is providing outreach for the soldiers at Fort Carson.**

**Outreach has always been an integral part of the work we do in Colorado Springs, with assorted benefit shows and flyering occurring about twice a month on average. However, about a month ago we stepped up our actions and planned for a whole series of events we would be doing for the month of July.**

On July 8 we had an IVAW benefit concert in our liberal stronghold of Manitou Springs. It all started out with a Veterans Open Mike, where our IVAW and active duty members are provided the chance to talk about their experiences or read poetry that has been featured in our IVAW "Warriors Writers" compilations.

These events are good because it always draws out new faces from the civilian community as well as a few from the Army's ranks in Fort Carson.

After the open mike, we moved across the street to our de facto IVAW tavern where we held our benefit show.

I opened the night with my own acoustic guitar set, playing songs that I would consider "radical folk music".

Coincidentally, that very night was the first time I debuted a new song of mine titled "Paper Clip", essentially a propaganda song encouraging antiwar soldiers to show solidarity with each other by wearing a paper clip on their uniform.

After my set two other bands played who have quite a nice following in Colorado Springs, but who have also been incredibly outspoken in their support for IVAW.

**Throughout the show we had different members MCing the event, including one of our active duty members who got on stage and announced that he was an active duty member of Iraq Veterans Against the War and that he would never on his life redeploy to Iraq.**

As you can imagine, the crowd went wild.

Also during the show we had a merch booth set up in the back.

At this table Garrett Reppenhagen and I spoke to our latest active duty members about their experiences at Fort Carson.

**One soldier has recently been issued a field grade article 15 for burning down a Mc Donald's billboard right off post in response to being stop-lossed.**

**Other soldiers are becoming openly defiant towards the war in front of their chain of commands WITHOUT receiving any punishment whatsoever.**

**The common sentiment around the rank and file in Fort Carson is one of extreme discontent, with many soldiers attempting to find ways to become legally or medically discharged from the Army through whatever means necessary.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Immediately after the benefit show, which always draws a good crowd of supporters and even a few new active duty members, we followed up with a tower guard action from Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Essentially a Tower Guard is an action where we rent scaffolding for three days and erect a guard tower in the downtown park.

Underneath the tower, complete with an IVAW member pulling guard, we have a merch table where passers-by can come meet with us and talk about the focus of the action, which is a protest against the war and especially against the stop-loss policy.

Colorado Springs is VERY conservative, yet ironically enough, we gain a huge support from the community for this action every time we do it.

**Soldiers are now driving by and instead of throwing sodas and middle fingers at us (like they did three years ago) they now honk their horns and wave solidarity fists.**

After Friday's event our whole group went down to the major movie theater on the south end of town, where many soldiers from Fort Carson go to watch movies close to their home. We went through the parking lot and left IVAW fliers as well as our advertisements for the movie BODY OF WAR that we would be showing the following night.

Here in Colorado Springs, soldiers' cars can be easily identified by a base sticker on the windshield. This flier action went well because we ended up dropping maybe 1200 fliers before the cops came and harassed us out of the parking lot.

Moving right along....

After the Tower Guard on Saturday, we held the screening of BODY OF WAR at the local independent movie theater in the downtown area. This was a huge success, as we completely sold out the venue of maybe 150 seats and made a nice profit of about \$1500.

After the movie we held a discussion panel. Garrett Reppenhagen was on that one along with Mark Wilkerson, another IVAW veteran named Hank (I forgot his last name) and one of our active duty members as well.

Again, huge success with lots of support from the audience and no negative nay-sayers whatsoever.

**In fact, one mysterious character we saw hanging around the tower guard that day suddenly stood up in the audience, announced that he was active duty, just recently stationed at Fort Carson, praised the film and panel, and then announced that he was our newest member of Iraq Veterans Against the War.**

**Of course, the crowd was cheering for him.**

The weekend's events went very well for us.

We made some decent money, met some new active duty guys, and got our name out there in the local media, which at this time, seems to be treating us pretty good.

**A lot has changed since 2005 when we first started this gig, as now the community very much supports what we are doing, as well as a growing number of soldiers who, from what we are told by our insiders, secretly stash IVAW propaganda in their rooms!**

**What works well for us is a regular amount of benefit shows and public actions like Tower Guard.**

**But more importantly, when we meet new active duty members, we invite them out for our weekly meetings at a downtown coffee house.**

Further, we continue our open dialogue with them by inviting them out for drinks and barbecues and actually hang out with them as if they were our personal friends.

Many of them are starting to come around to looking at our IVAW chapter as their new clique of buddies, and that close relationship we have with them has been incredibly successful.

We encourage them to talk to their buddies back on base, but not being too pushy or pressuring them into forming a chapter, which at this time they think is a risky move.

The brass is fully aware of who we are, yet repression on them isn't such an issue at this time.

**If they feel more comfortable just coming into the fold with our chapter outside base, that's perfectly fine with us.**

**Either way, they are still getting the IVAW name more popular on base as time goes by.**

We are really hitting solidarity issues hard as well.

We already have most of our active duty membership wearing the paper clip in uniform, and spreading that idea around to their buddies. [Worn on pocket as a way to show support for IVAW without violating UCMJ regulations.]

In addition, with our newly replenished funds, we plan on making IRAQ VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR bumper stickers, with information about how to join on the paper side stuck to the sticky side, and instead of flyering on base, we plan on tossing an IVAW sticker under every soldier's barracks door.

We hope this will lead to a bumper sticker solidarity both on and off base.

Furthermore, as more soldiers will begin driving around town with such a sticker on their car, the local populace may begin to question whether or not the military apparatus has any control left over their soldiers' views.

Perhaps in time IVAW will be seen as a truly organic soldier's movement, and support for the war in Colorado Springs may diminish almost completely. This right now may seem an idealist fantasy, but if many soldiers are beginning to support us, then it shouldn't be hard to help them show their support.

**At any rate, by army regulation, soldiers have every right to place any bumper sticker they choose on their personally owned vehicles.**

And lastly, of course, we want to increase our active duty membership by at least 30 percent before Christmas break 2008. By continuing to show solidarity and presence in our small military town, we feel we can meet this goal, perhaps even surpass it.

**Again, after the DNC we plan on being fully engaged in GI outreach. We must be doing a good job, because our national level of IVAW is starting to look at us as a phenomenon of sorts.**

Thank you for the opportunity of allowing us the forum to discuss our report from Colorado Springs.

We'll be in touch, and in even-better communication concerning GI outreach.

In Solidarity!

Jeff Englehart  
IVAW-Mountain Region  
Denver/Colorado Springs

**MORE ACTION REPORTS  
WANTED:  
FROM YOU!**

An effective way to encourage others to support members of the armed forces organizing to resist the Imperial war is to report what you do.

If you've carried out organized contact with troops on active duty, at base gates, airports, or anywhere else, send a report in to GI Special for the Action Reports section.

Same for contact with National Guard and/or Reserve components.

They don't have to be long. Just clear, and direct action reports about what work was done and how.

If there were favorable responses, say so. If there were unfavorable responses or problems, don't leave them out.

If you are not planning or engaging in outreach to the troops, you have nothing to report.

**NOTE WELL:**

Do not make public any information that could compromise the work.

Whether you are serving in the armed forces or not, do not in any way identify members of the armed forces organizing to stop the war.

If accidentally included, that information will not be published.

The sole exception: occasions when a member of the armed services explicitly directs his or her name be listed as reporting on the action.

**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

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

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



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

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **Marine Killed In Anbar**

July 16, 2008 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20080716-04

AL ANBAR, Iraq – A Multi-National Force - West Marine died of wounds he received in action against an enemy force in al-Anbar Province July 14.

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

July 16, 2008 RELEASE No. 20080716-02 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory

BAQUBAH, Iraq – A Multi-National Division – North Soldier was killed by an improvised explosive device rigged into a house while conducting operations in Diyala province July 15.



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## Georgia Master Sgt. Killed In Kajaki Sofla



Master Sgt. Mitchell W. Young, 39, of Jonesboro, Ga., Fort Bragg-based Special Forces sergeant was killed during a combat patrol in Afghanistan's Helmand province when his vehicle hit a roadside bomb. The military said Young died Sunday, July 13, 2008 after the explosion in Kajaki Sofla, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

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## Iraq Surge “Officially” Ends: More Lying Bullshit: Troop Totals Still +15,000 From The Start

07/16/08 AP

The military surge into Iraq that began more than 18 months ago has officially ended. But 150,000 U.S. troops remain, as many as 15,000 more than before the buildup began.

While there now are technically 13 Army and two Marine combat brigades in Iraq — the same as before the buildup — the force is as much as 10 percent larger than it was in January 2007.

When the military buildup began, there were between 132,000 and 135,000 troops in Iraq.

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**FUTILE EXERCISE THEN:  
FUTILE EXERCISE NOW:  
ONLY 2 MILLION MORE TO SET UP IN 50 MORE  
MAJOR CITIES AND TOWNS:  
ALL HOME NOW!**



US military engineers move into place concrete barriers as they construct a fortified combat outpost in Mosul, on February 17. (AFP/File/Dave Clark)

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Snellville Man Dies In Afghanistan**

07/15/08 By CHRISTIAN BOONE, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

His parents had already begun buying decorations for Jon Ayers' homecoming party. The Army corporal was due to return to Snellville in three weeks.

He had but one week remaining on his first tour of Afghanistan.

Ayers, 24, died Sunday in the northeastern province of Kunar, where militants launched one of the deadliest attacks on U.S. troops since the 2001 invasion,

He was one of at least two Georgia soldiers killed Sunday in Afghanistan. Master Sgt. Mitchell Young, of Jonesboro died when his vehicle struck an explosive in Kajaki Sofla. The U.S. Department of Defense has not yet released all the names of those killed in Kunar province.

Ayers and his comrades were completing work on a new U.S. base in a remote, mountainous region bordering Pakistan, said his father, Bill Ayers.

"The last few weeks we were told that tensions had really escalated," the elder Ayers said.

But that didn't deter his son, an ROTC commander at Shiloh High School.

"He was always very positive about the mission," said Bill Ayers. "He'd say, 'Dad, we're doing really good things over there.' "

Funeral services are pending. Jon Ayers is survived by his parents, Bill and Suzanne Ayers, and his older brother, Josh.

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## O'Fallon Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



14 Jul 2008 Fox Television

A local soldier has died Sunday in Afghanistan.

Family members tell FOX 2 News that Specialist Gunnar Zwilling, 20, of O'Fallon, Mo died Sunday.

He was a graduate of Hazelwood West High School.

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## Loved Ones Remember Soldier Killed In Afghanistan Attack



July 16, 2008 MIAMI (WSVN)

MIAMI (WSVN) -- A South Florida soldier's sacrifice was remembered by loved ones on the day he was scheduled to arrive home.

Sergio Abad was among nine U.S. servicemen killed in a deadly Taliban attack in Afghanistan on Sunday.

More than 100 militants fired machine guns, lobbed grenades and shot mortars into a remote base housing the U.S. Forces.

Abad was set to return home to South Florida Tuesday to be with his pregnant fiance.

His mother is still in shock with the loss of her son. "Horrible, surreal. I keep thinking they're gonna call and say they made a mistake. Don't think they will now, it's been too long," said Lori Pitts.

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## East Tennessee Soldier Killed In Afghanistan

July 15, 2008 By J.J. Stambaugh, Knoxville News Sentinel Co. [Excerpts]

A 24-year-old East Tennessee man apparently was among nine soldiers killed this weekend in an attack by insurgents on a U.S. base in Afghanistan.

The family of Jason Hovater was notified early Monday morning of his death, according to a representative of New Covenant Fellowship, 6828 Central Ave. Pike in Knoxville, where the family worshipped.

"He certainly was a hero to us," said Vickie Pettitt, church administrator for New Covenant Fellowship. "It's a real deep loss for our church."

Hovater, who was originally from Lake City, leaves behind his wife, Jenna Hovater, Pettitt said. The couple had been married for about 19 months.

"They had only spent six weeks together during their marriage," Pettitt said. "It's a shock. It's a devastating blow ... But Jenna is a strong young woman and she has a lot of family support. She's trying to remember the good that Jason was to her."

Pettitt described the fallen soldier as a devout Christian and church leader who had taken two missionary trips in recent years, one to Russia and one to Guatemala. He also deeply loved Christian music, she said.

He grew up in Lake City but began attending New Covenant Fellowship when he turned 18, she said.

"Jason never met a stranger," she said. "He had a warm smile that would warm your heart."

Pettitt said she wasn't sure if Hovater's address was in Knoxville or in Anderson County.

After news of Hovater's death reached officials in Anderson County, the flag in front of the courthouse in Clinton was lowered to half-staff, according to County Mayor Rex Lynch's office.

Holley-Gamble Funeral Home of Lake City is expected to handle the arrangements but there has been no word as to when Hovater's body will arrive in the United States, a funeral home employee said.

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## **IED Kills Foreign Occupation “National” Wherefrom Not Announced**

16 July, 2008 AAP

Two men serving alongside Australian soldiers in Afghanistan have been killed in a roadside bomb attack.

An Afghan soldier and a coalition forces national were working with an Australian Special Operations Task Group patrol in Oruzgan Province on Tuesday when they were killed by a improvised explosive device.

The explosion occurred as the predominantly Australian force withdrew from a successful clearance operation.

Defence head Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston said Australian troops moved quickly to provide first aid and organise a medical evacuation for the men but both succumbed to their wounds.

Two other Afghans were injured during the clearance operation. Australian troops gave them first aid and took them to a nearby medical facility for international troops.

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# **Defeated In Battle, Occupation Command Orders Retreat From Afghan Base: “They Took The District Mayor With Them” Advancing Resistance Forces Take Base And Wanat Village**

July 16, 2008 (AP)

**U.S. and Afghan troops have abandoned a remote outpost in eastern Afghanistan where militants killed nine American soldiers this week, and wounded 15 more, officials said Wednesday.**

**Compounding the military setback, insurgents quickly seized the village of Wanat in Nuristan province after driving out the handful of police left behind to defend government offices, Afghan officials said.**

A NATO spokesman said "We are committed, now more than ever, to establishing a secure environment that will allow even greater opportunities for development and a stronger Afghan governmental influence." **[Right. Having abandoned the field of battle, there will be even more time to do so.]**

**Omar Sámi, spokesman for the Nuristan provincial governor, said American and Afghan soldiers quit the base on Tuesday afternoon.**

**He said they took the district mayor with them.**

**Sami said U.S. troops armed local police with more than 20 guns before they left, but that the officers had fled the village and crossed into neighboring Kunar province when 100 militants moved into Wanat.**

**MORE:**

## **And Now For The Good News:**

# Kabul Won't Fall To Resistance "Anytime Soon"

7.15.08 Alan Cullison, Wall St. Journal [Excerpt]

**A north-south high way connecting Kabul with Kandahar, a prized project of the White House for the development of Afghanistan, has become so troubled by banditry that freight carriers fear using it.**

**Last month, Taliban on motorcycles and armed with guns and rockets overwhelmed a convoy carrying military supplies 40 miles from Kabul, and set fire to dozens of trucks.**

**About 40 trucks were burned before Afghan and foreign troops arrived and chased the attackers away, a local mayor said.**

**"I don't think anyone is expecting Kabul to fall anytime soon, but it is clear that the insecurity is spreading into areas that were previously called success stories," said Paul Fishstein, director of the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit in Kabul.**

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## Resistance Action

Jul 14 KABUL (AFP) & Reuters & 07/15/08 Quqnoos & AP & July 16, 2008 (AP) & (Reuters)

Taliban militants claimed responsibility Monday for the abduction of an Afghan senator who was snatched at a gunpoint 70 kilometres (40 miles) from capital Kabul.

Abdul Wali, a member of the Upper House of the parliament from the province of Logar adjoining Kabul, was kidnapped Sunday as he was driving with his two guards and driver, police said.

"Taliban have abducted Dr. Abdul Wali and until now Taliban's leading council have not made any decision on his fate," Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid told AFP.

\*\*\*\*\*

A roadside bomb killed six Afghan guards of a Western security firm, accompanying a NATO convoy, in another area of Helmand late on Sunday, another official said.

Police said a bomber attacked one of their patrols in Lashkar Gah, the capital of neighboring Helmand province, wounding a policeman.

Taliban militants captured three judges in Logar province south of Kabul on Tuesday, the provincial governor said.

An Afghan police spokesman says unknown attackers have captured two Turkish nationals in western Afghanistan. Spokesman Rauf Ahmadi says authorities found the Turks' abandoned car along with their passports west of Herat city, near the border with Iran. He says the two men worked for a road construction company in the area. They disappeared on Monday.

\*\*\*\*\*

(PAN) The Taliban have shot dead seven Afghan civilians for working with the government and other organisations, police said.

The men and women were dragged from cars, buses and taxis on the main road between Kabul and Kandahar in the southern province of Ghazni, said police.

The province is three hours drive from Kabul. The seven men were shot in the neighbouring province of Zabul.

A spokesman for the Taliban said militants had killed 15 "spies of the government" captured on the road in the last three days.

**POLITICIANS CAN'T BE COUNTED ON TO HALT  
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WAR**

## **TROOP NEWS**

### ***Rat Patrol:***

**Two Rats In Perfect Harmony:  
Hey, Forget About Iraq;  
Time To Go Die For The Empire In  
Afghanistan & Pakistan Instead**





Americas' Imperial political leadership hard at work doing what they do best.]  
[www.wolfstad.com/](http://www.wolfstad.com/)

16th July, 2008 Irish Sun

The US presidential candidates, Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain, outlined plans to defeat terrorism in Afghanistan by making Pakistan the focus of the fight.

"This is a war that we have to win," Obama said in a major foreign policy speech here, offering a plan for withdrawing US forces from Iraq and taking the fight to Pakistan and Afghanistan.

**MORE:**

***AND HERE IT IS, JUST FOR YOU!  
SEE THE RATS DREAMS COMING  
TRUE:***

**"A Surge In U.S. Forces In Afghanistan  
Sooner Rather Than Later"**

07/16/08 AP By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press Writer [Excerpts]

**Pentagon leaders on Wednesday signaled a surge in U.S. forces in Afghanistan "sooner rather than later," a shift that could send some units there within weeks, as officials prepare to cut troop levels in Iraq.**

**Senior military officials are looking across the services to identify smaller units and other equipment that could be sent to Afghanistan, according to a defense official.**

Although there are no brigade-sized units that can be deployed quickly into Afghanistan, military leaders believe they can find a number of smaller units such as aviation, engineering and surveillance troops that can be moved more swiftly, said the official, who requested anonymity because the discussions are private.

The moves are expected to happen within weeks rather than months, the official said.

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## Canada Deports U.S. Soldier Resisting Iraq War

07/15/08 AP & ROBERT MATAS, The Globe and Mail & Courage to Resist

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — A U.S. Army deserter who fled to Canada three years ago was deported Tuesday to America, marking the first time a resister to the U.S. war effort in Iraq has been removed by Canadian authorities.

Paula Shore, spokeswoman for the Canada Border Services Agency, confirmed that Robin Long, 25, was deported, but she could not discuss specifics of the case, including Long's destination.

While dozens of supporters gathered this morning at Peace Arch Park on the Canadian-U.S. border, Robin was already being transported to Fort Carson, Colorado.

Long fled to Canada in 2005 to avoid serving in Iraq. He sought refuge in Canada on the grounds that the U.S. Army wanted him to participate in what he called an "illegal war of aggression in Iraq."

Justice Anne Mactavish of the Federal Court of Canada ruled Monday that Long couldn't provide clear evidence he would suffer irreparable harm if he was returned to the United States.

In her ruling, Mactavish said that although the percentage of American military deserters prosecuted for desertion has increased since 2002, the vast majority have not been prosecuted or faced jail time.

Last week, the Federal Court blocked the deportation of National Guard Sgt. Corey Glass, 25, while it decides whether to hear his case. Glass refused redeployment to Iraq.

Mr. Long was not in court for the hearing yesterday.

He was in custody at a location outside Vancouver after failing on two previous occasions to report to authorities when he was required.

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# IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

## “The Iraqi People Will Fight You Until Doomsday”

July 15, 2008 Nancy A. Youssef and Sahar Issa, McClatchy Newspapers

In an audiotape purportedly by Iraq's former military commander and vice president under Saddam's regime, Izzat al-Douri told President Bush that this would be a “decisive year” and vowed to continue fighting American forces.

Douri, who became the leader of the Baath Party after Saddam was executed in December 2006, told Bush that “the Iraqi people will fight you until doomsday.”

He demanded that Bush withdraw American troops from Iraq and called on him to reveal the true U.S. troop death toll, suggesting that the American military was withholding information.

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## Resistance Action

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (CNN) & Reuters & July 15 (Reuters) & Nancy A. Youssef and Sahar Issa, McClatchy Newspapers & By Alexandra Zavis, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer & July 16 (Reuters) & AP

**Two bombers killed 20 police recruits and wounded 55 others at a U.S.-Iraqi army base in the eastern suburbs of Baqubah in Diyala province, 65 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, an Iraqi security source said.**

The bombings occurred in quick succession outside the Baqouba Recruiting Center, about 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, where men had gathered to learn whether they had jobs in the army.

After the first bomber detonated himself at around 8 a.m., the survivors began to flee. The second bomber chased them into a corner and detonated into the crowd seconds later, said a man working at the center who wanted to be identified only as Maj. Ghassan out of fears for his safety.

A member of the Diyala province security operations command said tribal leaders had been asked to send recruits to join a new offensive against insurgents.

\*\*\*\*\*

A traffic police officer was killed in central Baghdad on Monday when a grenade was tossed at a crowd of officers, an Iraqi Interior Ministry official said. The police officers

were gathered at an intersection when the explosive was hurled from a speeding car. Four traffic police officers were wounded.

Insurgents killed an off-duty policeman in a drive-by shooting at a bus-terminal in eastern Mosul, police said.

Militants fired mortars near a government building, wounding one civilian in Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A car bomber killed wounded a policeman in an attack on a police checkpoint in eastern Mosul, the U.S. military said.

A parked car bomb exploded by an army patrol in Mosul, wounding two Iraqi soldiers, police said.

A bomb killed one member of a U.S.-backed neighbourhood patrol unit and wounded another on Monday in Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb wounded three policemen when it hit their patrol in Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

Guerrillas killed an Iraqi soldier when they opened fire in Mosul, police said.

In Baghdad, a bomber blew herself up Tuesday evening inside the house of a municipal leader who was planning to establish a U.S.-allied group, an official connected with the group reported Wednesday. Saad Awad, the leader in the Abu Ghraib district, escaped unharmed but his father was among three men killed while seven others were injured,

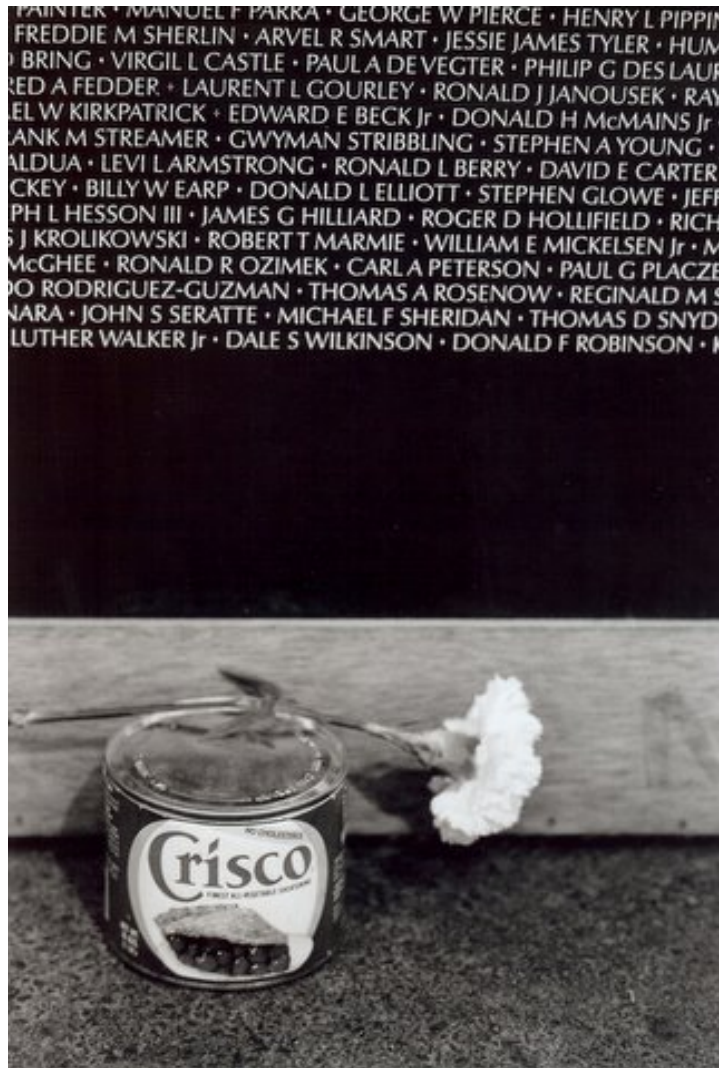
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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**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.**

# **SCREWED**



The Moving Wall is about two-thirds the size of the Wall in Washington, D.C. It is transported around the country.

From: Mike Hastie  
To: GI Special  
Sent: July 16, 2008  
Subject: Screwed

### SCREWED

The Moving Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Salem, Oregon 1989.  
The most succinct photograph I have ever taken.

Mike Hastie  
Vietnam Veteran

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)

# **1. News Article: “Tiny Iraq Navy To Flex Muscle As Oil Guardian”**

## **2. Comment: Fabian Bouthillette, Lieutenant, USNR; The Military Project & Iraq Veterans Against The War**

[Lt. Bouthillette was asked to write a comment on the Reuters article about the Iraq Navy. The article appears first, then his comment. T]

### **#1: News Article: “Tiny Iraq Navy To Flex Muscle As Oil Guardian”**

July 9, 2008 By Ian Simpson, Reuters

UMM QASR, Iraq (Reuters) - Iraq's fledgling navy of battered patrol boats is bulking up for a greater role in protecting the country's economic heart, its offshore oil terminals, officials said.

Putting on muscle to protect the two terminals that account for 90 percent of Iraq's revenues, the tiny navy is aiming to boost manpower by about a third to 2,500 in two years and greatly expand its fleet, now centered on five Chinese-made Predator patrol boats.

More control over its wreck-ridden waters at the head of the Gulf is another sign of Iraq's determination to secure its oil infrastructure and reserves, the world's third largest.

A military crackdown three months ago on Shi'ite militias restored government control over Basra province, site of the navy's riverside base at Umm Qasr.

"We're continuing to work year by year on what will come next. The Iraqi navy will be transformed into something bigger than it is now," operations chief Commodore Ahmed Maarij, a 25-year navy veteran, told Reuters on Monday.

The navy's goal is to take on more duties from U.S., British and Australian warships that now patrol the two terminals, the al-Basra facility, capable of loading four tankers, and the single-berth Khur al-Amaya.

The fleet's tiny size means only one Iraq vessel at a time can make the four-hour voyage out of the muddy Khur Abdullah waterway to the terminals to join the patrol.

Iraqi marines, also expanding under the navy growth program, are stationed on the terminals.

"That is the key strategic piece. They are the maritime heartbeats of Iraq," said Captain Phil Warwick of Britain's Royal Navy. Warwick is head of a U.S.-British team training and assisting the Iraq navy and marines.

The oil terminals' vulnerability was underscored in 2004 when bombers launched boat attacks that killed three U.S. sailors.

The navy also has a major role in security at Umm Qasr, entry point for 80 percent of Iraq's imports and running at capacity since the military crackdown in Basra improved security. Iraqi marines provide land security for the port.

Under the expansion plan, Iraq is buying 15 patrol boats from Malaysia, set to arrive in July 2009, and five patrol ships from Italy, along with other equipment. The purchases are to be completed in 2011.

"Essentially, we're going to double the size of the navy overnight. And for any navy, or any armed force, that's quite a challenge," said Lieutenant Commander Charles Maynard of the Royal Navy, the training group's operations officer.

With a desert wind kicking up a chop on the Khur Abdullah waterway, Iraqi sailors aboard the patrol boat Sorraq drilled on intercepting boats, putting out an engine fire and raising and cleaning the anchor and chain.

Many of those training were in their 30s or older, veterans who had served in the navy under Saddam Hussein.

"Some of the crew are going to get to go to other countries to train on the new ships. Everybody is excited about that," said Sergeant Kadhim Zubair, 42, who ran the training session.

**#2: Comment:  
Fabian Bouthillette,  
Lieutenant, USNR;  
The Military Project &  
Iraq Veterans Against the War**

From: Fabian Bouthillette

To: GI Special

Sent: July 14, 2008

Subject: For GI Special, response to oil terminal article

Despite my absolute opposition to the occupation of Iraq, I do believe Iraq's oil terminals do need to be safeguarded.

However, it's much easier to blow up the pipeline on land than try to take down an entire platform structure. I'd be curious to know what the rate of sabotage on the pipeline is these days. My guess is that the rate has gone down as Iraqis realize the importance of safeguarding their money. I could definitely be wrong on that point.

I think it's absolutely deceitful that the article uses the example of the 3 U.S. sailors killed by a suicide attack in 2004 as evidence of the platform's vulnerability.

If you remember, these are the sailors that I always talk about getting killed just 2 - 3 months before I got to the Gulf.

These sailors were conducting a boarding and search of a small boat. The boat blew itself up and killed the sailors.

A boat of that size would never have been a real threat to the terminal as it would never have been allowed anywhere near the terminal. I know because I spent 7 weeks keeping small boats away from the terminals.

That attack is an example of resistance fighters trying to do damage to the U.S. Navy, not the terminal.

You know how we always talk about guerrilla fighters hitting their enemies where they are weakest?

Well, when are Navy personnel at their weakest?

When they are conducting a boarding!

If I were an Iraqi resistance fighter and wanted to kill some U.S. Navy sailors, I'd let them board my ship, then attack them. In this case the attack was in the form of a suicide bomb. I wouldn't launch a frontal attack on a heavily guarded oil platform.

And knowing that the U.S. Navy is most vulnerable during a boarding, how many times has a boarding team been attacked? I believe the 2004 incident is the only one during the occupation. That's one time out of potentially thousands of opportunities.

Anyway, as far as Navy operations go, protecting the oil terminals is probably one of the simpler things the Navy does. I'm not trying to say it's easy or not stressful. However, I do think that we'll be able to train up the Iraqi Navy and turn over the duties of protecting the terminal over to them.

The article says we can have that done by 2011, and that does seem like a reasonable goal.

It does sound like they're working on some real basic skills though, like raising and cleaning an anchor. I doubt anyone is really trying to blow up the terminals though. The Iraqis themselves really want to protect their own oil terminals, so I'm not too worried about their security.



All in all, I'm actually not against the idea of helping build up an Iraqi navy force that can protect its own terminals. Those two terminals do account for over 90% of Iraq's GDP. It's better to be prepared than risk losing all of your country's income.

Plus, the Iraqi Navy will need to learn how to inspect cargo vessels inbound and outbound from Iraq, and we certainly can help them do that.

Just as long as the United States isn't getting paid for it's training services in oil, I'm fine with our presence over there in helping the Iraqi Navy.

Iraq Veterans Against the War advocates for reparations to be paid to Iraq, and, in a way, helping them get their oil flowing safely is doing that, just as long as we don't take a cut of the profits from the oil.

Fabian Bouthillette, Lieutenant, USNR  
The Military Project  
Iraq Veterans Against the War

### **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. Phone: 917.677.8057**

## **NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER**

**Telling the truth - about the occupation or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance - whether it's in the streets of Baghdad, New York, or inside the armed forces.**

**Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces.**

**If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers. <http://www.traveling-soldier.org/>**

**And join with Iraq War vets in the call to end the occupation and bring our troops home now! ([www.ivaw.org/](http://www.ivaw.org/))**

## OCCUPATION REPORT

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



Iraqi citizens forced out of their house at gunpoint by foreign occupation soldiers from the USA are forced to lie down in the street with their faces in the dirt during a home invasion military terror operation ordered by U.S. command in Baghdad's Sadr City July 12, 2008. [Photo: REUTERS/Damir Sagolj]

**[Fair is fair. Let's bring 150,000 Iraqi troops over here to the USA. They can kill people at checkpoints, bust into their houses with force and violence, butcher their families, overthrow the government, put a new one in office they like better and call it "sovereign," and "detain" anybody who doesn't like it in some prison without any charges being filed against them, or any trial.]**

**[Those Iraqis are sure a bunch of backward primitives. They actually resent this help, have the absurd notion that it's bad their country is occupied by a foreign military dictatorship, and consider it their patriotic duty to fight and kill the soldiers sent to grab their country. What a bunch of silly people. How fortunate they are to live under a military dictatorship run by George Bush. Why, how could anybody not love that? You'd want that in your home town, right?]**

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

**“If The Soldier Or A Policeman Made  
A Mistake His Officers Or Ministry  
Should Handle The Matter Not The  
Americans”**

**“We Are Loyal To This Country And Its  
People, But Most Of Our Politicians Who  
Rule The Country Are Not”**

July 15, 2008 By Correspondent Hussein, "Inside Iraq"

Taxi drivers and barbers are well known for having the variety of customers from the poor and the rich of the society they live in. For that reason dictators recruited some taxi drivers and few barbers to keep them in touch with what is happening in their society.

Saddam Hussein, the last dictator of Iraq and the whole world ,hired some agents to be in these two positions to be used in killing more and more people whom he thought had a threat on his throne which he thought it would last for ever and to be aware of what was going on, besides the rumors they spread to keep him on power.

The point made me talk about this matter is related to the taxi drivers and the stories they see and tell. On Thursday afternoon I hired a taxi as usual to take me home, but the talk I exchanged with driver was not normal. The taxi driver pitied the soldiers on the check point we passed and he was about to cry. I asked him of the reason that made him do that. I answered myself before he did thinking that he has a brother who was killed in a suicide car bomber or gunmen attacks. But it wasn't like that.

I was shocked when he told me his story. He said that " I was in Abu Dsheer neighborhood in southern Baghdad an hour ago when my eyes saw something extraordinary.

**I saw a member of the Iraqi security check point having a suspected young man in custody which is a normal thing.**

After that I noticed a woman who was with him stood in the mid way of the street to stop an American convoy which was accidentally nearby.

**The American convoy stopped, but they were in hurry. They didn't give the woman or the checkpoint security members enough time to explain the matter for them.**

**They put the suspected young man who was in custody of the Iraqis and the member who caught him in their vehicles taking them to their FOB!**

Then the driver said" I just wonder why do they arrest the man who is in charge of keeping peace and order? How could they put the criminal on the same level with the policeman or the soldier who was doing his duty?

"Who are they to do so?" "

I didn't say a word when I heard that as the driver is right. What will the soldiers and policemen do when they see and hear such a thing?

If the soldier or a policeman made a mistake his officers or ministry should handle the matter not the Americans.

What respect remains by people for the security forces if something like took place. What is the role of the government in such cases?

**Eventually, I would say what one of the Iraqi army officers said to me a week ago" We are loyal to this country and its people, but most of our politicians who rule the country are not "**

For that reason we witness such accidents and Iraqis are losing self confidence as they lost that of politicians'.

**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.**

## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

**Wall St. Journal Congratulates  
Obama:**

**“Who Would Have Thought That A  
Democrat Would Rehabilitate The Much-  
Maligned Bush Agenda?”**



July 9, 2008 Editorial, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

THE HEADY days of Obamamania have given way to one big Obummer.

Since securing the Democratic presidential nomination, Barack Obama has moved so far and fast to the right that even the Wall Street Journal could approve, with an editorial headlined "Bush's Third Term."

**"We're beginning to understand why Barack Obama keeps protesting so vigorously against the prospect of 'George Bush's third term,'" the editorial said.**

**"Maybe he's worried that someone will notice that he's the candidate who's running for it.**

"Most presidential candidates adapt their message after they win their party nomination, but Mr. Obama isn't merely 'running to the center.' He's fleeing from many of his primary positions so markedly and so rapidly that he's embracing a sizable chunk of President Bush's policy.

**"Who would have thought that a Democrat would rehabilitate the much-maligned Bush agenda?"**

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