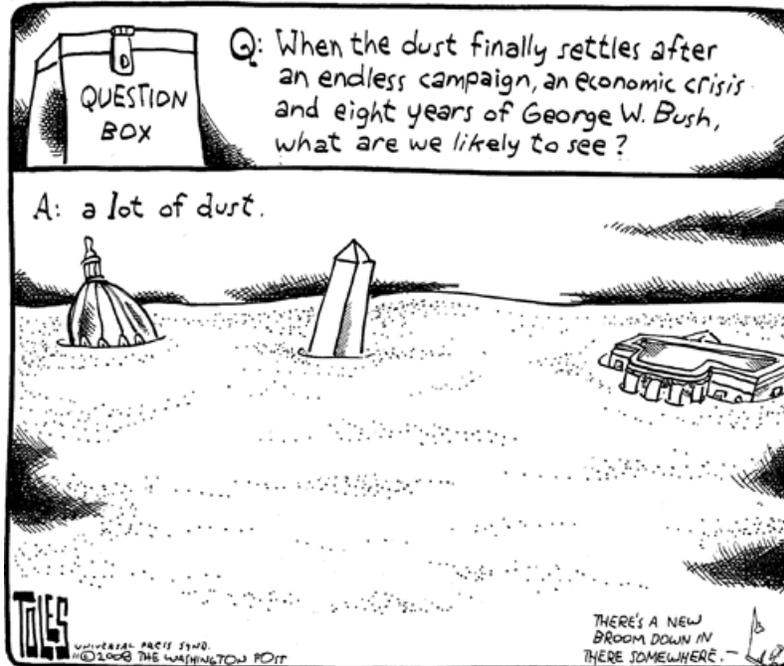


## GI SPECIAL 6K7:



# NOT MY ENEMY:

## By Warrior Writers, Iraq Veterans Against The War

### Book Release Event Schedule:



**November 11 [Tuesday] 7-9pm  
Bluestockings:  
172 Allen Street (Rivington & Stanton), NY 10002.**

**Join Booklyn and Iraq Veterans Against the War this Veterans Day @  
Bluestockings Bookstore with readings and discussion by IVAW Warrior Writers.**

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**November 19 [Wednesday] 7:30-9:30pm :  
WORD Bookstore  
126 Franklin St. (Franklin & Milton St.),  
Greenpoint, Brooklyn 11222.**

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**Celebrate the book release of Not My Enemy with readings and discussion with  
IVAW Warrior Writers**

NOT MY ENEMY, shows the realities of war through hard-hitting stories and poems by  
Iraq War Veterans writing collective, the Warrior Writers.

The collection is a rare glimpse into the hearts and thoughts of veterans trying to re-build  
their experiences and make sense out of the madness of war.

This book highlights a variety of writing from over 20 Warrior Writers from across the  
U.S., from NY to the West Coast.

**“It is hard to fit into a life where everyone around me has no understanding that I  
lived my life for a year in a place where every decision I made either killed  
someone, or saved someone.**

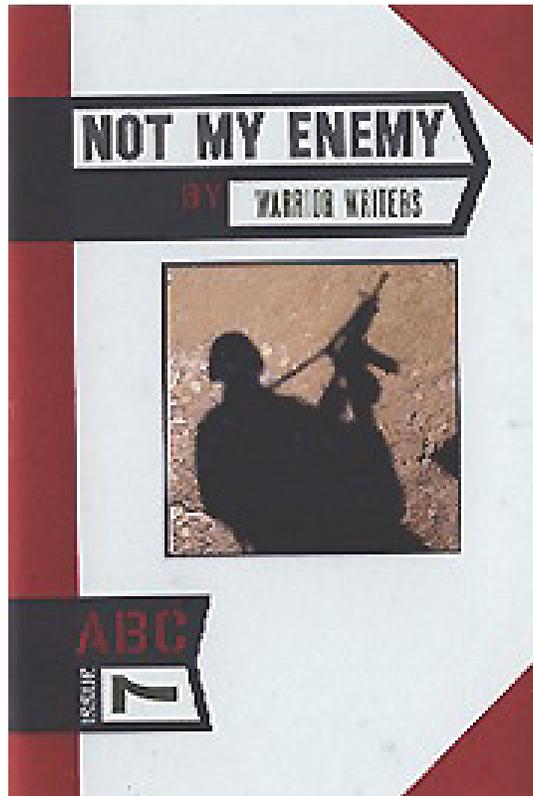
**“I hope that in time we as veterans will find a way to bring our experience from  
war into society so our children will know the truth: War makes monsters of us  
all.”**

**Mark “Gordie” Lachance  
(excerpt from War Makes Monsters of Us All)**

## **IVAW Warrior Writers Project:**

**Through writing and artistic workshops, the Warrior Writers Project provides tools  
and space for community building, healing, and self discovery for members of  
Iraq Veterans Against the War.**

## The Book:



### **Not My Enemy**

By Warrior Writers

ABC Series Volume II, No. 7

2008

6.25x9.25"

48 pages

Letterpressed cover and endsheets, offset interior.

Numbered edition of 1000 copies.

### **Contributing Warrior Writers:**

Lovella Calica (Director & Editor), Drew Cameron, Toby Hartbarger, Sholom Keller, Aaron Hughes, Justin Cliburn, Mark Wilkerson, Eli Wright, Fernando & Maria Braga, Jon Turner, Phil Aliff, Cloy Richards, Matt Howard, Vince Emanuele, Mike Blake, Paul Abernathy, Mark Lachance, Garrett Reppenhagen, Sara Wallace, Nathan Lewis, Hart Viges, Jared Hood, Jeff Key.

With cover photo by Garrett Reppenhagen

**To order a copy of Not My Enemy, check out "Buy Booklyn".**

Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW) includes recent veterans and active duty servicemen and women from all branches of military service who have served in the United States military since September 11, 2001.

IVAW was founded to give a voice to the large number of active duty service people and veterans who are against the war.

Members educate the public about the realities of the Iraq war by speaking in communities and to the media about their experiences. Members also dialogue with youth in classrooms about the realities of military service.

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

**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 wars, 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 WAR REPORTS**

### **Northern Baghdad IED Kills U.S. Soldier; 2 Wounded**

November 9, 2008 BAGHDAD; Aswat al-Iraq:

A U.S. soldier was killed and two others wounded when an improvised explosive device (IED) went off near their vehicle in northern Baghdad, the U.S. army in Iraq said.

"The three soldiers were wounded when their vehicle came under an IED bombing attack on Saturday. They were rushed to a medical unit but one of them died of his wounds," according to a U.S. army statement received by Aswat al-Iraq.

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### **Two U.S. Soldiers Wounded By Najaf IED**

November 9, 2008 BAGHDAD; Aswat al-Iraq:

An improvised explosive device blast in Najaf left two Iraqi and U.S. soldiers wounded, a media adviser for the U.S. forces in Iraq said.

“An IED attack today targeted a U.S. army patrol while exiting the province of Najaf, leaving two U.S. and Iraqi soldiers wounded,” al-Miqdad Gabriel told Aswat al-Iraq over the phone.

“The charge exploded near the Police Academy in the province,” he said, not giving more details on the incident.

The holy Shiite province of Najaf lies 180 km southwest of the Iraqi capital Baghdad.

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## **U.S. Army Patrol Attacked In Eastern Baghdad; Casualties Not Announced**

Nov. 9 (UPI)

A U.S. Army patrol was attacked by bomb near eastern Baghdad's Al-Shaab neighborhood. KUNA said no word was available on possible casualties from that blast.

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**GUESS WHO'S WORRIED  
GUESS WHO ISN'T  
GUESS WHY  
ALL HOME NOW**



An Iraqi man faces U.S. soldiers in a village near Baquba in Diyala province, October 18, 2008. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic

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# **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

## **Scottsbluff Marine Killed In Afghanistan**

October 29, 2008 By Chabella Guzman, Staff Reporter; Star-Herald

Those who knew him say Adrian Robles excelled as a corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps — a Marine others could look up to, one that displayed the Corps' values in his everyday life.

Robles received three Good Conduct Medals and, at the age of 21, had already served in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2006 and was serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan when he was killed. The Robles family would like Adrian to be remembered for the good man he was and the good he brought into the world through the military.

"He had always wanted to be a Marine," said his father, Cesar Robles. "He wanted to make a difference for his country and his family — mostly for his family, so we can always have freedom."

Adrian's grandfather, Pedro A. Torres, a fighter pilot in World War II, was a big influence in his life.

"He loved his grandpa so much," Cesar said. "He was a hero to him; always looking up to his grandpa."

At 16, Robles told his parents he wanted to join the Marines. At 17, he wanted them to sign the papers that would allow him to join before his 18th birthday.

"We told him no," said his mother, Yolanda Robles.

"We told him that he would have to wait for his 18th birthday," Cesar said. "He joined right after high school."

His family agreed that he was a very dedicated young man and that dedication was part of what made him excel.

"He would say, 'This is what I want to do,'" Yolanda said. "He would work very hard to attain the goals he set for himself."

Adrian's unselfishness, determination and good attitude is why many say they liked to be around him.

"Adrian always had a great presence about him," said his brother-in-law, James Montanez, an Air Force recruiter in Arizona. "If you were having a bad day, he would bring you up. People always liked being around him."

“I’ve know Adrian since his senior year in high school, so we are like brothers,” he said. “It’s really rough when it hits so close to home, but I know he loved what he was doing.”

Adrian’s older sister, Beatriz Montanez, agreed.

“As soon as he smiled, even if you were mad at him, you would stop and have to smile,” she said.

The grieving has only begun for Adrian’s family members, who hold fond memories of a much-loved son and brother.

“It’s real hard. They took part of my life away,” Cesar Robles said. “I’m still hoping someone will call and say it was a mistake. It is very hard.”

His mother cannot find words yet for her grief. She just agrees that it is very hard.

Adrian’s sister is having a tough time, too.

“I’m trying to hold onto the good memories and know he was doing something he loved,” Beatriz said.

Yolanda agreed. “Adrian always knew the dangers,” Yolanda said. “The military never lied to him. With all that he knew, he still wanted to go and make a difference. “Our military needs to be strong. They go and protect us. It’s not a game. We live the way we do because of their sacrifice.”

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## **Great Moments In U.S. Military History: Mass Murder In Khost: 14 Terrorists – Oops -- Security Guards – Slaughtered After They Surrender**

Nov 10 (AFP)

Fourteen Afghan security guards were killed by US troops, a provincial governor said Monday.

Three destroyed vehicles remaining at the scene in the eastern province of Khost late Sunday were scorched and pocked with bullet holes, an AFP reporter said.

Khost governor Arsala Jamal said the men were security guards for a road construction company, rejecting suggestions from the US-led coalition that the men were anti-government militants.

“None of them is alive to say how it happened ... but I know they were not Taliban. They were security guards working for 250 dollars a month,” Jamal told AFP.

**Locals said they had seen men in the vehicles raise their arms in surrender before they were fired on.**

The incident took place about 12 kilometres (seven miles) northeast of the provincial capital, also called Khost, and about two kilometres from an international military base.

There was a similar incident late last month in which the US military said it had killed several insurgents in the province of Ghazni but local officials said the men were civilian security guards, 23 of whom were killed.

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## **Army Intelligence Operative Set On Fire In Afghanistan**

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

November 06, 2008, By Noah Shachtman, Blog.wired.com

A social scientist in the Army's controversial Human Terrain program was en route to Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas after being set on fire in and apparent Taliban attack in Afghanistan.

It's the third time in five months that a Human Terrain Team member has been killed or seriously wounded.

**Paula Lloyd was interviewing locals in the southern village of Maywand on Tuesday as part of her duties in a Human Terrain Team, which embeds civilian cultural experts into U.S. combat units.**

She approached a man carrying a fuel jug and they began talking about the price of gas. Suddenly, the man doused Lloyd in a flammable liquid and set her on fire. She suffered second- and third-degree burns over 60 percent of her body, a Human Terrain source told Danger Room.

The injuries could have been worse. Lloyd's teammate immediately threw her into a nearby water source to douse the flames, then Lloyd was sped to a nearby medical facility. Fortunately, the first doctor to treat her was a U.S. Army burn specialist. After being stabilized, Lloyd was evacuated to the military's Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany and is now en route to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. Lloyd is in “stable, but guarded condition,” the source said.

The Taliban took credit for the attack on their website.

“I mean, it's a war. That's what we're involved in,” a Human Terrain source says.

The Human Terrain program has come under criticism from within the military for its sloppy hiring practices and uneven battlefield training.

Academic social scientists, meanwhile, have accused the program on being unethical, for blurring the line between civilian researcher and armed combatant.

**Over the last year-and-a-half in Iraq and Afghanistan, some of the program's social scientists have dressed in uniforms that make them virtually indistinguishable from ordinary soldiers; others have not.**

**Some have carried weapons; others move around unarmed.**

Lloyd knew Afghanistan well, having worked there previously for the State Department.

The man who attacked her was “from all appearances a non-belligerent.” Until he struck.

The attacker was shot dead, and the Army is investigating the incident, according to John Stanton, an independent journalist.

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## TROOP NEWS



*“Oh, I likes officers. They makes me want to live till  
the war’s over.”*

By Bill Mauldin, Up Front, 1945 W.W. Norton & Co., New York

[Thanks to "Comrade Tribune," Vietnam Veteran, who sent this in.]

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# **196th Infantry Brigade "Charger"**

## **"As Early As Mid-1969, However, An Entire Company Of The 196th Light Infantry Brigade Publicly Sat Down On The Battlefield"**



[Thanks to Michael Letwin, New York City Labor Against The War & Military Project, who sent this in. This is the complete article, nothing omitted.]

GlobalSecurity.org

The 196th Infantry Brigade is a training support brigade (TSB) for the Pacific region. Reserve Component soldiers from throughout the USARPAC AOR give the brigade the largest area of responsibility of any of the Army's 18 TSB's.

The 196th Infantry Brigade provides dedicated training support, coordination, advice, and assistance to the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (Hawaii Army National Guard) and theater high priority units; conduct Training Assessment Model (TAM) evaluations on all USARPAC RC units; and provide general training support, advice, and assistance to RC leaders throughout the Area of Operations (AOR) - to attain the highest state of readiness in matters relating to training, organization, administration/ logistics, operational capability, and unit strength reporting. On order, it provides the pre-designated Defense Coordination Officer and Element (DCO/DCE) for Military Assistance to Civil Authorities (MACA) operations in Hawaii and American Samoa, and provides Mobilization/Demobilization Assistance Team (MAT/DMAT) support for RC mobilization operations throughout the AOR.

The 196th Infantry Brigade was first organized in 1921 as an element of the Army Reserve's 98th Division. Its mission then was to train soldiers. During World War II, the 98th Division arrived in Hawaii in April 1944, and was given the mission of defending Kauai and Maui initially; later it was made responsible for the defense of Oahu. In May

1945, the division began intensive training in preparation for its role in the invasion of Japan, but the war ended before the unit could leave Hawaii. It went to Japan for occupation duty, where it was inactivated in February 1946.

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade was raised again at Fort Devens, MA in September 1965 and originally scheduled to be sent to the Dominican Republic in mid-1966, but was rushed to Vietnam instead and posted in the western portion of the III Corps Tactical Zone. It initiated Operation Attleboro into War Zone C of Tay Ninh Province, which developed into a major action after a large enemy base camp was uncovered, 19 October 1966. In April 1967 the brigade was selected, along with the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, to form a provisional division-sized unit called Task Force OREGON and moved to the I Corps Tactical Zone. The brigade stayed with this command, which was converted into the 23d Infantry Division (AMERICAL) 25 September 1967. The 196th Light Infantry Brigade officially joined this division, 15 February 1969. It operated throughout northern Vietnam, and after the division closed out of Vietnam, 29 November 1971, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade was reconstituted as a separate (provisional) brigade-sized element to safeguard the same area of operations. In April 1971 the brigade was relocated to Da Nang for major port security duties.

**By 1969 many of the U.S. troops had turned against the war for many different reasons.**

**And by 1971 the morale, discipline and battleworthiness of the US Armed Forces were lower and worse than at any time in the 20th century. By every indicator, the US Army in Vietnam was approaching collapse, with individual units avoiding or having refused combat, murdering their officers and non-commissioned officers, drug-ridden and dispirited where not near-mutinous.**

The latter stages of the Vietnam War produced no fewer than ten major incidents of mutiny, and for each of these major refusals there were dozens of minor ones or situations in which combat orders were effectively thwarted.

**As early as mid-1969, however, an entire company of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade publicly sat down on the battlefield.**

And in April 1972 members of the 196th Infantry Brigade (Separate), the last US combat brigade in Vietnam, refused to go out in support of ARVN operations. On 29 June 1972 the 196th Infantry Brigade (Separate) finally departed Vietnam as the last U.S. Army combat brigade to leave in Increment XII of the U.S. Army withdrawal.

The 196th was reactivated 26 May 1998 during a ceremony at Ft. Shafter, Hawaii. The new 196th works with Reserve Component units in Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, and Japan, to assist these units in staying trained and ready at all times.

The Brigade has stood up 4 battalions, 1st located in Oahu, 2nd in Alaska, and 3rd in Guam. The Support Battalion stood up in 2000 and is stationed out of Oahu.

The 196th Infantry Brigade spent the year 2000 conducting numerous training events for Reserve Component Forces throughout the United States Army Pacific, (USARPAC). The highlight of the year was the Brigade's support to the 29th Enhanced Separate

Brigade, Hawaii Army National Guard. The Brigade also participated in training exercises in Alaska, with the 207th Scout Group, and in Guam with the 1-294th Infantry Battalion. The 196th Brigade Engineers have been on the road throughout the summer and fall with deployments to Korea, Alaska, Guam, California, and Japan. The brigade has supported various exercises throughout the USARPAC area of responsibility and continues to provide quality training to various units within USARPAC.

The Brigade continues to provide professional and responsive training support to Reserve Component units throughout the Pacific. During the summer of 2001 it conducted numerous annual training exercises and evaluations for reserve component units across the Pacific. Highlights included annual training support for the 100th Bn, 442nd Infantry and the 2nd Bn, 299th Infantry in Hawaii and 1st Bn, 184th Infantry in California. We also provided training support to the 1st Bn, 294th Infantry, Guam Army National Guard, as they deployed from Guam to Hawaii for their annual training. The Brigade assisted in the mobilization of A Company, 1-184 IN, which deployed for a mission to Southwest Asia in October 2001.

Since September 11th the Brigade has assisted supported reserve component units in preparing for possible mobilization and assisted National Guard units in Guam, Alaska, and Hawaii in training for their airport security mission as part of Operation Noble Eagle.

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## IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP



(Graphic: London Financial Times)

## Resistance Action

November 9, 2008 (CNN) & AFP & Nov 11 2008 AFP

**Insurgents bombed an outdoor market in the Iraqi town of Khalis on Sunday in an attempt to kill the mayor, who was wounded in the attack along with the town's deputy police chief in charge of coordinating security operations in the town.** Khalis Mayor Auday al-Khadran and the deputy police chief, Nihad Al-louaibi, were touring the market. Khalis is in Diyala province, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) north of Baghdad.

A roadside bomb struck an Iraqi army convoy in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, killing three Iraqi soldiers and wounding four others, a Mosul police official said.

A car bomb attack struck an Iraqi police patrol in Sawas neighborhood in southwestern Mosul, wounding six police officers.

A roadside bomb struck a police patrol in central Baghdad, wounding two police officers in the Zaiouna neighborhood.

Guerrillas opened fire on a police checkpoint in western Mosul, wounding two police, police said.

A roadside bomb wounded two policemen when it targeted their patrol in the Ghadir district of eastern Baghdad, police said.

Guerrillas wounded three policemen in a drive-by-shooting on their checkpoint in central Tuz Khurmato, 170 km (105 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb killed an Iraqi soldier and wounded another in northeast Mosul on Saturday, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

In Baquba, a bomber killed four guards belonging to U.S.-allied Awakening councils.

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

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

## **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**

## **“Why The Military Prefers Drugs Over What Works Against PTSD”**

From: Pham Binh [Editorial Board, Traveling Soldier & Military Project]

To: GI Special

Sent: November 10, 2008

Subject: Why the Military Prefers Drugs Over What Works Against PTSD

One reason why the military and its doctors are always pushing pills and not something that works: where's the money to be made in veterans talking about their experiences?

That's free!

**Also: talking about what happened might also lead to veterans asking WHY it happened.**

**Why did my buddy have to die in Anbar, or on a barren mountain in Afghanistan, etc.**

**Getting the answers to those questions is almost as bad as the drug companies not getting taxpayer money and profiting from vets having PTSD.**

### **Troops Invited:**

**Comments, arguments, articles, and letters 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

## **“Nobama Is Shooting His Mouth Off About This And That - His Silence About Iraqnam Speaks Volumes”**

From: “Comrade Tribune” [Vietnam Veteran]

To: GI Special

Sent: November 10, 2008

Subject: Vet's Day +

1. Happy Birthday to all the jarheads on the corps birthday today.
2. Veteran's Day wishes to everyone. “We few, we precious few, we band of brothers.”
3. Cowlumbus [Ohio] had their Vet's Day activities last goddamned Friday. Their thought is to get 'workers downtown' to turn out for the parade, etc.

An already piss pour plan went down the shitter when a cold rain fell. This idea is fucked and a couple of hundred people watched the festivities; they were in large part already downtown anyway. No 'V' car formation for WWI gang as there are not enough of them alive to participate.

4. At least Chillicothe [Ohio] where there's a big VA Hospital had their event on Saturday so working folks who had the day off could attend.

**5. Nobama is shooting his mouth off about this and that-his silence about Iraqnam speaks volumes.**

**6. Nobama seems intent on pouring more troops into Afghannam.**

**7. Why can't we learn from history?**

**The Russian Army, one of the strongest in the world at the time, committed a large number of that army to Afghannam and slunk home like whipped puppies with their tails between their legs.**

**Nobama appears to be taking a page from the Bush administration and thinks Afghannam can be won on the cheap with 'elevated' troop levels -- falling short of the manpower need to effect any kind of strategic control in a country that large with brutal terrain, not to mention no support from the locals.**

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# **Under Cover Of Racist Myth, A New Land Grab In Australia: “An Epic Scandal Of Racism, Injustice And Brutality Is Being Covered Up In The Manner Of Apartheid South Africa”**

[Thanks to JM, who sent this in.]

October 24 2008 By John Pilger, The Guardian [Excerpts]

Its banks secured in the warmth of the southern spring, Australia is not news. It ought to be.

An epic scandal of racism, injustice and brutality is being covered up in the manner of apartheid South Africa.

Many Australians conspire in this silence, wishing never to reflect upon the truth about their society's Untermenschen, the Aboriginal people.

The facts are not in dispute: thousands of black Australians never reach the age of 40; an entirely preventable disease, trachoma, blinds black children as epidemics of rheumatic fever ravage their communities; suicide among the despairing young is common.

No other developed country has such a record.

A pervasive white myth, that Aborigines leech off the state, serves to conceal the disgrace that money the federal government says it spends on indigenous affairs actually goes towards opposing native land rights.

In 2006, some A\$3bn was underspent “or the result of creative accounting”, reported the Sydney Morning Herald.

Like the children of apartheid, the Aboriginal children of Thamarrurr in the Northern Territory receive less than half the educational resources allotted to white children.

In 2005, the UN committee on the elimination of racial discrimination described the racism of the Australian state, a distinction afforded no other developed country.

This was in the decade-long rule of the conservative coalition of John Howard, whose coterie of white supremacist academics and journalists assaulted the truth of recorded

genocide in Australia, especially the horrific separations of Aboriginal children from their families.

**Smear by media as a precursor to the latest round of repression is long familiar to black Australians.**

**In 2006, the flagship current affairs programme of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Lateline, broadcast lurid allegations of “sex slavery” among the Mutitjulu people in the Northern Territory.**

**The programme's source, described as an “anonymous youth worker”, was later exposed as a federal government official whose “evidence” was discredited by the Northern Territory chief minister and the police.**

The ABC has never retracted its allegations, claiming it has been “exonerated by an internal inquiry”.

**Shortly before last year's election, Howard declared a “national emergency” and sent the army to the Northern Territory to “protect the children” who, said his minister for indigenous affairs, were being abused in “unthinkable numbers”.**

Last February, with much sentimental fanfare, the new prime minister, Labor's Kevin Rudd, made a formal apology to the first Australians.

Australia was said to be finally coming to terms with its rapacious past and present.

Was it?

“The Rudd government,” noted a Sydney Morning Herald editorial, “has moved quickly to clear away this piece of political wreckage in a way that responds to some of its own supporters' emotional needs, yet it changes nothing. It is a shrewd manoeuvre.”

In May, barely reported government statistics revealed that of the 7,433 Aboriginal children examined by doctors as part of the “national emergency”, 39 had been referred to the authorities for suspected abuse. Of those, a maximum of just four possible cases of abuse were identified.

**Such were the “unthinkable numbers”.**

**They were little different from those of child abuse in white Australia.**

**What was different was that no soldiers invaded the beachside suburbs, no white parents were swept aside, no white welfare was “quarantined”.**

Marion Scrymgeour, an Aboriginal minister in the Northern Territory, said: “To see decent, caring (Aboriginal) fathers, uncles, brothers and grandfathers, who are undoubtedly innocent of the horrific charges being bandied about, reduced to helplessness and tears, speaks to me of widespread social damage.”

What the doctors found they already knew - children at risk from a spectrum of extreme poverty and the denial of resources in one of the world's richest countries.

Having let a few crumbs fall, Rudd is picking up where Howard left off.

**His indigenous affairs minister, Jenny Macklin, has threatened to withdraw government support from remote communities that are “economically unviable”.**

**The Northern Territory is the only region where Aborigines have comprehensive land rights, granted almost by accident 30 years ago.**

**Here lie some of the world's biggest uranium deposits. Canberra wants to mine and sell it.**

Foreign governments, especially the US, want the Northern Territory as a toxic dump.

The Adelaide to Darwin railway that runs adjacent to Olympic Dam, the world's largest uranium mine, was built with the help of Kellogg, Brown & Root - a subsidiary of American giant Halliburton, the alma mater of Dick Cheney, Howard's “mate”.

**“The land grab of Aboriginal tribal land has nothing to do with child sexual abuse,” says the Australian scientist Helen Caldicott, “but all to do with open slather uranium mining and converting the Northern Territory to a global nuclear dump.”**

What is unique about Australia is not its sun-baked, derivative society, clinging to the sea, but its first people, the oldest on earth, whose skill and courage in surviving invasion, of which the current onslaught is merely the latest, deserve humanity's support.

**MORE:**

## **DANGEROUS MUSIC; Australian Government Racist Terror Up Close And Personal**

November 08, 2008 By Max Watts. This article is from Max Watts, who lives in Australia, began helping GIs resisting the Vietnam War in the 1960's, and has never stopped helping soldiers opposed to Imperial wars.

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**COONABARABRAN, NEW SOUTH WALES, DECEMBER 1983**

We had dined and wine well in a small Chinese Restaurant at the North end of the small town. Afterwards we walked, full of good cheer, along the almost deserted main road, back to our hotel. I played my mouthharmonica, perhaps not very well. Erka, who sometimes doesn't love music, took off separately.

A small, black, Aborigine, came up and asked me if he could play, too. I lent him my mouthorgan. He began to play, not much better than I.

But not for long.

Suddenly two police cars, which had been hiding somewhere, raced towards us, pulled up on the sidewalk. One, two, three troopers (1) jumped out, surrounded us, yelled, particularly at the Aborigine.

Cried he had stolen the harmonica.

I, really quite surprised, said: "No, no, I lent it to him !"

The Black man, visibly paled, handed it back to me.

The cops pushed him into one of the police cars, disappeared.

I, quite shaken, walked on.

#### **PALM ISLAND, QUEENSLAND, NOVEMBER 2004**

Mulrunji Doomadgee, 36, was walking home. He had been drinking, and was singing happily as he went along. Perhaps not very well.

Police Senior Sergeant Chris Hurley stopped Doomadgee, rather forcefully, and locked him up. Doomadgee, unhappy, resisted.

Hurley hit him, then left the Black man lie in a cell.

Forty minutes later Doomadgee was dead. An autopsy showed a split liver, other serious injuries.

A week later the police explained that it had been an unfortunate accident. Doomadgee had fallen on his way to his cell. The death was in no way the fault of the police, of Senior Sergeant Hurley.

As the Police explained this to the Palm Island Aborigines some became - very - unhappy.

Fires started and the Police Station, the court building, the house of the Senior Sergeant, burned down.

The heavily armed Queensland Special Police Unit was flown, by helicopter, into Palm Island. They raided, beat, and arrested.

Amongst others, the Aboriginal activist Lex Wooten

Hurley, quite unexpectedly, was brought to trial (2). The (of course all White) jury found him innocent on all charges.

Hurley was promoted and received a special payment of approximately \$ 100,000 (Australian Dollars) from the Queensland Labor government to compensate him for his lost property.

All members of the Special Police Unit received Special Medals for their courage.

The Palm Island Aborigines who had been beaten and arrested received only "trouble".

### **TOWNSVILLE, QUEENSLAND, 7 DECEMBER 2008**

Lex Wooten has just been condemned to seven years imprisonment for inciting a riot.

His mother Agnes explained to the Australian Television that she was relieved. Wooten had risked a life sentence.

Others, lefties, unionists, ratbags, are not happy with this verdict.

There have already been protest meetings, short strikes, in Australian and New Zealand towns.

More will perhaps follow.

A few months ago the new Australian Federal government leader, Kevin Rudd, "apologised" to Australia's Aborigines for their - past - mistreatment.

Whether this means better treatment in future is uncertain.

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(1) "Up rode the troopers, one, two, three" from Waltzing Matilda, Australia's best known song.

(2) Quite unexpectedly: Australian Aborigines are used to dying in police/prison custody.

In the 1980's approximately a hundred such deaths "in custody" were examined. No policeman, no prison warder, were brought to any trial.

The Queensland Police found it quite surprising that Senior Sergeant Hurley could, in this case, be tried and protested very energetically against this to the State government.

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

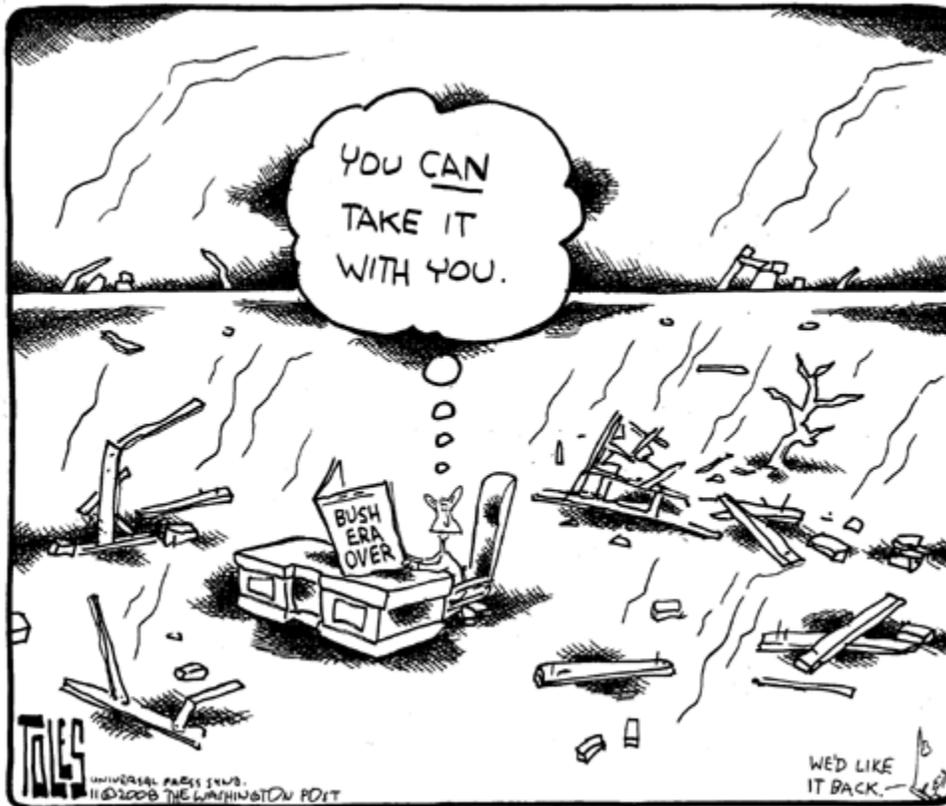
**Telling the truth - about the occupations or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance to Imperial wars inside the armed forces.**

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/))

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**And The Rats Busy Demanding We  
Worship The New Emperor Are Up To  
Their Necks In Blood...**

November 7, 2008 Editorial, Socialist Worker [Excerpt]

Obama plans to leave tens of thousands of U.S. troops in Iraq to ensure that a pro-American government survives.

And as he stressed repeatedly on the campaign trail, Obama wants to escalate the savage war in Afghanistan, where the pursuit of Osama bin Laden masks what is really a U.S. determination to occupy a strategic crossroads in Asia.

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

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE  
WARS**

## CLASS WAR REPORTS



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**Big Banks Use Bailout Billions To  
Buy Other Banks;**

# **Taxpayers Fucked As Bankers “Will Also Get Billions Of Dollars In Merger-Related Tax Benefits” From The Same Rotten Deal**

OCTOBER 30, 2008 By JESSE DRUCKER, Wall St. Journal

**PNC Financial Services Group Inc. will receive several billion dollars in federal tax savings stemming from its purchase of National City Corp., tax experts said, significantly increasing the price tag of the federal assistance that helped spark the deal.**

The tax benefit for PNC is the latest outgrowth of a ruling by the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department in late September intended to give a boost to the struggling banking sector.

**The ruling, which gives banks the ability to quickly use up the “tax losses” of banks they acquire, is adding significantly to the overall cost of the \$700 billion bailout package passed by Congress.**

Robert Willens, an independent corporate tax analyst based in New York, estimated the tax savings to PNC could total as much as \$5.1 billion.

PNC's Chief Financial Officer Richard Johnson said the \$5.1 billion figure was too high. “We will benefit from the tax-law change in a meaningful way, but substantially below the number you are quoting.”

**He wouldn't provide an alternative figure. Other tax experts said the benefit almost certainly would be in the billions of dollars.**

PNC is the third big bank to benefit from the tax break.

**Wells Fargo & Co., which announced plans to buy Wachovia Corp., and Banco Santander SA, which is buying the rest of Sovereign Bancorp Inc. that it didn't already own, will also get billions of dollars in merger-related tax benefits thanks to the change.**

Friday, PNC announced it would acquire Cleveland-based National City in a mostly stock deal initially valued by PNC at \$5.6 billion.

**PNC was able to do the deal in part because of another transaction it announced the same day: The U.S. Treasury Dept. agreed to purchase \$7.7 billion of preferred shares and related warrants in PNC, part of the wider federal bailout of banks.**

Under normal circumstances, companies are permitted to carry over tax benefits from money-losing years to offset taxes when they return to profitability.

However, Congress restricts the amount of those losses that can be used after a company is acquired, to prevent companies from buying and selling other firms solely to

benefit from their tax losses. In its ruling, Treasury lifted that restriction if the company being bought is a bank with tax losses attributable to a portfolio of loans.

Pittsburgh-based PNC has said that National City's loan portfolio has \$19.9 billion of losses and other adjustments. Mr. Willens estimates that those adjustments translate into \$19.9 billion of tax deductions.

**Under the old rules, PNC would have lost the use of nearly \$15 billion of the tax deductions and saved a total of about \$1.9 billion in taxes.**

**Instead, PNC will be able to use all \$19.9 billion in deductions and save about \$7 billion, likely over about seven years, Mr. Willens calculates. PNC's total nominal tax benefit from the rule change could total as much as \$5.1 billion, he said.**

**MORE:**

## **“Treasury's Version Of The Weapons Of Mass Destruction”**

November 3, 2008 By Lee Sustar, Socialist Worker [Excerpt]

**“It is starting to appear as if one of Treasury's key rationales for the recapitalization program--namely, that it will cause banks to start lending again--is a fig leaf, Treasury's version of the weapons of mass destruction,” wrote New York Times business columnist Joe Nocera.**

**“In fact, Treasury wants banks to acquire each other and is using its power to inject capital to force a new and wrenching round of bank consolidation.”**

What's more, the banks have already set aside an estimated \$40 billion for executive bonuses for this year, according to the Wall Street Journal.

While political considerations might mean that the bonuses aren't paid out, the question remains: Why do they need the bailout money if they've got so much cash anyway?

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**“We’ve Instructed Our Staff In All 21 States That We Have Offices In To Start Bundling Greenbacks Into Tight Rolls, Perfect For Small Stoves And Furnaces,” Said Robert K. Steel, Wachovia CEO And President**

## BEFORE



Intersection of Mission St. and Cesear Chavez, NE corner, San Francisco. Photo: Billboard Liberation Front

## AFTER



Intersection of Mission St. and Cesear Chavez, NE corner, San Francisco. Photo: Billboard Liberation Front

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

By Billboard Liberation Front

client: **Wachovia Bank**  
improvement: **Money to Burn**  
date: **November 8, 2008**

Creative director/marketing coordinator: Milton Rand Kalman, Jack Napier | street team: Jack Napier, Louis Cypher | production: Ehrich Weiss, Rico T. Spoons, Duncan D'Nuts, Jaqoe Commerce

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 8, 2008  
San Francisco, CA

Dear Shareholders and Clients,

The Billboard Liberation Front has partnered with Wachovia to release a daring advertising campaign that celebrates Wachovia's new money management strategy. This campaign emphasizes the silver lining in the economic storm front now threatening to swamp our economy as well as our individual fiscal inner tubes.

**"The calamitous decline in the value of all investments and the impending total collapse of the dollar will render the true value of the average savings account or investment portfolio roughly equal to a bucket of warm piss," noted Thomas J. Wurtz, CFO of Wachovia.**

Dr. John Silvia, Managing Director and Chief Economist noted: "After that golden shower we got from Golden West, we decided to fight fire with fire and start bailing for our clients and stockholders, mixed metaphors notwithstanding."

This dramatic revaluation of your money has created the opportunity for our team at Wachovia to offer a unique service to our stockholders and clients.

**"With what promises to be the coldest winter in years now commencing, we've instructed our staff in all 21 States that we have offices in to start bundling greenbacks into tight rolls, perfect for small stoves and furnaces," said Robert K. Steel CEO and President.**

**"We believe this is the soundest application of our clients' money."**

"We're in the money.... we're in the money...' they sang in the 1920's. Maybe we should be singing 'Burn, Baby, Burn' in light of the modern era of fiscal management," - BLF CEO Jack Napier. Rico T. Spoons added, "The true value of this new campaign will be reflected in the "heat" it generates for Wachovia's clients."

That's right, you no longer have to worry about your money. As a matter of fact, don't bother worrying at all.

The BLF ([www.billboardliberation.com](http://www.billboardliberation.com)) has been improving outdoor advertising since 1977. Prior campaigns have included work for Exxon, R.J. Reynolds, and Apple Computers.

Wachovia Corporation (NYSE: WB), based in Charlotte, North Carolina, is a diversified financial services holding company provided via its operating subsidiaries a broad range of banking, asset management, wealth management, and corporate and investment banking products and services.

The Department of the Treasury is a Cabinet department and the treasury of the United States government.

It was established by an Act of Congress in 1789 to manage government revenue. The Department is administered by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Rico T. Spoons  
Director of Offense

**Got an opinion? 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.**



**GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out**  
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The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others:

<http://williambowles.info/gispecial/2008/index.html>;

[http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi\\_special/](http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi_special/);

<http://www.albasrah.net/pages/mod.php?header=res1&mod=gis&rep=gis>

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