

## GI SPECIAL 7C11:



**Game Over:  
Same War, Two Fronts:  
Divided Force Can't Sustain On  
Either Front:  
“Military Commanders And  
Politicians Are Quietly Fretting That  
The Attacks Are In Response The  
Administration's Plan To Move Out Of  
Iraq”**

# **“The U.S. Military Said It Couldn't Increase Forces In Afghanistan Without Reducing Troops In Iraq”**

March 10, 2009 By Nancy A. Youssef and Sahar Issa, McClatchy Newspapers [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON — As the U.S. military begins to shift its focus to a new battle against extremists in Afghanistan, a recent spike in violence in Iraq has some military commanders worried that their Afghan strategy could falter with the need to keep a large force in Iraq to quell the mayhem there.

In Baghdad and Washington, military commanders and politicians are quietly fretting that the attacks are in response the administration's plan to move out of Iraq.

“There was always an underlying feeling that once we start the drawdown the attacks would increase. But the fear is that these spikes will turn into an upward trend,” a senior military officer who closely monitors Iraq, and asked not to be named because of the issue's sensitivity, told McClatchy on Tuesday.

The U.S. military said it couldn't increase forces in Afghanistan without reducing troops in Iraq.

## **MORE:**

# **Dwell Time Cut For 4<sup>th</sup> Stryker; Not Enough Soldiers For Two Imperial Wars**

3.16.09 By Michelle Tan and Gina Cavallaro, Army Times [Excerpts]

Nearly 9,000 soldiers, including troops from Fort Lewis, Wash.; Fort Carson, Colo.; and Fort Bragg, N.C., will deploy as replacement forces for soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Defense Department announced March 2.

**About 4,000 soldiers from the 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division will deploy to Iraq in the fall, a few months earlier than expected, even as the Army continues to manage a potential reduction of forces in Iraq and an increase in Afghanistan.**

**The 4th SBCT returned in July from its last deployment, a 15-month tour in Iraq. Based on the training and reset cycle, the unit had anticipated its next deployment to be in 2010, Garcia said.**

More than 30,000 soldiers are assigned to Fort Lewis, and 12,000 to 15,000 of them are either deployed or will go overseas this year, [Maj. Mike Garcia, a spokesman for I Corps and Fort Lewis] said.

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## **BEEN ON THE JOB TOO LONG: COME ON HOME, NOW**



U.S. soldier at the site of a bomb attack in Baghdad's Sadr City February 15, 2009.  
REUTERS/Mohammed Ameen

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Sergeant From Mattoon Dies In Afghanistan**

February 27, 2009 By Paul Wood, The News-Gazette, Inc.

MATTOON – A Mattoon soldier died Tuesday in Afghanistan.

Like several other Illinois Army National Guard soldiers recently, he was the victim of a roadside bomb.

Sgt. Scott Stream, 39, was part of the 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry based in Effingham, and was assigned to the 33rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, training Afghan police since last August.

Another U.S. soldier was killed with him: Sgt. Schuyler Patch, 25, of Galva, who was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd Battalion, 106th Cavalry, based in Kewanee.

Both soldiers were killed by an improvised explosive device in Kandahar. Two other coalition members were also killed in the accident, the National Guard said Thursday.

Sherman Stream said he was told his son had been on patrol when the improvised explosive device went off.

It was the third overseas deployment for Sgt. Stream in six years, said Sherman Stream of Cave City, Ky. "He believed in what he was doing. He was doing what he had to do to protect us," his father said.

The sergeant spent most of his early life in Iowa. He graduated from Davis County High School in Bloomfield, Iowa, in 1987 and then continued his education at Drake University in 1989. He also attended Lake Land College in 2008, where he was on the President's List.

His father said Sgt. Stream had once been accepted to the Air Force Academy, but there were budget cuts that year and he did not matriculate.

Instead, Sherman Stream said, the young man became an electrician.

He enlisted in the Illinois Army National Guard in July 2000. In his first overseas deployment, Sgt. Stream was sent to Germany, where he met his Lithuanian wife, Rasa.

"Words cannot describe how our family is feeling after the loss of our hero, Scott," Rasa Stream said in a news release. "He was an amazing father, husband and son who made (the) ultimate sacrifice for the country he loved. We will always remember him for that sacrifice he made. We will miss him, but he will never be forgotten."

Sgt. Stream has two daughters, 16 and 5.

In his second deployment, he served in Iraq from May 2005 to April 2006.

His unit, comprising 3,000 soldiers headquartered in Urbana, began arriving in Afghanistan in stages last summer.

There are no services scheduled as yet, but his father said the body has been returned to the United States.

"It hits hard," his father said. "This time when Scott was over there, he had some concerns. But he was devoted to his friends and family, and he was devoted to his country.:"

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**Notes From A Lost War:**

**“The NATO Forces Came With The Promise Of Security, He Said”**

**“Unfortunately Insecurity Has Increased And They Have Lost The Villages”**

**“Today, He Said, The Area Is Relatively Quiet. It Is Also Ruled By The Taliban”**

**Mr. Hussain said his village of Sperwan in Panjwai district had two different governments... During the day it was ruled by NATO forces. During the night it was ruled by the Taliban.**

March 12, 2009 GLORIA GALLOWAY, Globe and Mail Update [Excerpts]

KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN — Mohammed Hussain grows grapes and wheat on the farm in the Panjwai district that was passed down to him from his father and grandfather. But he no longer lives there.

“We were waiting for the promised stability and security but it just didn't come,” he said this week through an interpreter.

Mr. Hussain, his wife and their eight children fled to Kandahar city about a year ago. They left their home, their vineyards, their cow and their chickens.

Mr. Hussain said his village of Sperwan in Panjwai district had two different governments by the time his family fled.

During the day it was ruled by NATO forces. During the night it was ruled by the Taliban.

Said Mohammed is also a new arrival in Kandahar. Like Mr. Hussain, he came from the Panjwai.

Three years ago, the NATO forces told him to move out of the village of Zangabad where his family had their home.

Mr. Mohammed, his wife and their family of nine children moved into a tent village on the eastern edge of Kandahar known as Khana.

Mr. Mohammed also makes trips back to his farm, risking his life to keep his family fed.

One day he arrived to find the Taliban had taken up residence. “They said ‘You have not made jihad, so this is your jihad. We are using your things,’” Mr. Mohammed said.

Another day it was a group of Canadian soldiers who had occupied his home.

Today, he said, the area is relatively quiet. It is also ruled by the Taliban.

The NATO forces came with the promise of security, he said.

“But unfortunately insecurity has increased and they have lost the villages.”

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## Lots Of Luck

3.16.09 By Michelle Tan and Gina Cavallaro, Army Times [Excerpts]

Over the next few months, in addition to the regular rotation of forces, the number of U.S. forces in Afghanistan will grow to about 55,000.

Col. John Johnson, commander of 4th BCT, 101st Airborne, on March 6 said his soldiers saw a 20 percent increase in fighting over the bulk of the past year.

The arrival of 3rd BCT, 10th Mountain Division allowed Johnson’s brigade to focus on a smaller area of operations, a three-province area the size of Maryland instead of the six provinces, roughly the size of West Virginia, they had before, he said.

“The introduction of another BCT allowed us to consolidate our combat power and better understand and improve our three provinces we have now,” Johnson said.

“We went from a population of 4.7 million to about 1.6 million, a significant decrease.”

[Assuming 5,000 for a brigade, and that’s tops, and a ratio of 10-1 necessary to suppress an insurgency, that means the brigade can handle 500 insurgents, out of 1.5 million people. Lots of luck. T]

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**“Shortage Of Helicopter Units”  
“The Combined Joint Special Ops  
Task Force-Afghanistan Gets Only**

# **Half The Helicopter Support It Wants”**

**“When Asked If He Could Predict When Forces In Iraq And Afghanistan Would Have All The Enablers They Needed, Mattis Replied: ‘Absolutely Not’”**

**“‘Black’ Units There Don’t Get The Lift They Want 50% Of The Time”**

3.16.09 By Sean D. Naylor, Army Times [Excerpts]

Special operations forces and conventional forces are working more closely than ever on the battlefield, but competition between them for scarce “enablers” such as helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles has led to a gap in combat capabilities, according to the two four-star officers who are joining forces to close that gap.

The shortage of helicopter units is so bad that a civilian expert told Congress on March 3 that the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan gets only half the helicopter support it wants.

The competition for enablers caused U.S. Special Operations Command head Adm. Eric Olson to characterize the “marriage” between conventional forces and special operations forces as “more like a divorce,” according to an internal SOCOM memorandum detailing a Feb. 3 meeting between Olson and his Joint Forces Command counterpart, Marine Gen. James Mattis, at SOCOM’s MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., headquarters. Army Times obtained a copy of the memo, which was dated Feb. 4.

As examples of “enablers” for which demand exceeds supply, the SOCOM commander cited helicopter units, engineers, medics, military police, Predator unmanned aerial vehicles and other intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance elements.

Demand on the part of conventional and special operations forces for such units is now so high that “there is a gap forming in terms of the ability to meet the need,” Olson said. “One could make a case that this is more like a divorce than a marriage, in terms of the investment strategy that has so far failed to fill in that gap between service demands on high-demand, low-density forces and SOF demands on the same forces.”

But Mattis, whose command has the mission to provide combat-ready forces to geographic combatant commanders such as Central Command chief Gen. David

Petraeus, also agreed that “the enablers are the big challenge” for conventional troops and special operators alike.

“It’s what I spend more time on than finding sufficient Army brigades or Marine regiments or aviation squadrons or ships to go do this fight in my joint force provider role,” he said. “I spend a lot more time on intelligence, surveillance, engineers, MPs, those kinds of things. It’s not easy to close the gap between, for example, SOF and (general purpose) forces, when you need the same enablers for both and you have insufficient numbers.”

However, when asked if he could predict when forces in Iraq and Afghanistan would have all the enablers they needed, Mattis replied: “Absolutely not.”

Roger Carstens, a retired Special Forces lieutenant colonel who is a non-resident fellow at the Center for a New American Security, and Robert Martinage, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, each highlighted the shortage of helicopter support for special operations missions during a hearing of the House Armed Services Committee’s terrorism, unconventional threats and capabilities subcommittee.

Martinage told Smith that “white SOF” — a phrase used to differentiate the unclassified units that make up Combined Joint Special Task Force-Afghanistan from the classified or “black” units that form the Joint Special Operations Command task force there — “don’t get the lift they want 50 percent of the time.”

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## **TROOP NEWS**

# **160 From Alabama National Guard Off To Obama’s Imperial Slaughterhouse**

3.16.09 Army Times

The National Guard’s 166th Engineer Company will head to Afghanistan for a yearlong deployment.

The 160 soldiers left home March 3 and will first spend about two months training in Camp Atterbury, Ind.

In Afghanistan, the troops will construct base camp facilities and assist the Afghan people with infrastructure improvements.

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# **Army Command Scheming To Cheat Stop-Loss Soldiers Out Of Their Pay; Trying To Cut Monthly Payment: Also Trying To Defy Congressional Plan That Monthly Payments Be Retroactive To Oct. 1, 2008**

3.16.09 By Rick Maze and Michelle Tan, Army Times [Excerpts]

**An Army proposal to pay \$250 instead of the maximum \$500 monthly allowance for soldiers affected by stop-loss orders has been rejected by senior Pentagon and congressional officials, according to Capitol Hill aides.**

That will further draw out an already lengthy process to get the money into soldiers' pockets.

"It's definitely an important issue, and I'm sure there are a lot of people who would say they are getting gypped out of money they are entitled to," said a specialist assigned to 1st Infantry Division headquarters at Fort Riley, Kan. "Personally, as long as I'm being compensated, that's enough for me." The specialist, who asked to remain anonymous, has deployed twice to Iraq and is set to leave the Army in May 2010 after eight years in uniform.

However, his unit is looking at a possible deployment late this year, which means he likely will be stop-lossed.

Gates and Army leaders are now negotiating final details of a plan that could be announced within weeks.

The plan would provide a congressionally approved payment to about 7,300 active-duty soldiers, 4,430 National Guard soldiers and 1,452 soldiers from the Army Reserve.

Aides to the House Appropriations and Armed Services committees have said lawmakers will veto a plan that does not provide soldiers the maximum \$500 monthly payments.

**The aides, who asked not to be named, also told Army Times that the Army proposed paying \$250 a month because it feared that payments too big in scale will undermine the value of reenlistment bonuses.**

Another point of contention is the question of whether the monthly payments would be retroactive to Oct. 1, 2008, as Congress envisioned.

**Pentagon sources, speaking on the condition that they not be identified, said it is possible that payments will apply only to those affected by stop-loss when the policy is announced.**

The question of retroactivity revolves around an opinion by the Defense Department general counsel that while Congress authorized the new stop-loss allowance effective when the defense funding bill for 2009 was signed into law last fall, payments can only be made when a Pentagon policy is approved by congressional committee, which was a requirement in the law.

All the services have used stop-loss at some point since the September 2001 terrorist attacks, but the Army is the only service still using it today.

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## **G.I. Coffeehouse Opens In Killeen: “May This Little Haven Become An Even Bigger Thorn In The Side Of The Military Behemoth It Dares To Challenge Than Was Its Predecessor”**



[Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier & Military Project, who sent this in.]

March 12, 2009 By Cindy Beringer, Austin, Texas; Socialist Worker

“CHANGE YOU Can (Really) Believe In” might come from an unimposing one-story building in a one horse town just outside the biggest Army base in the U.S.

Sunday, March 1 was the grand opening of Under the Hood, a G.I. coffeehouse just a couple of blocks from one of the entrances to Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas.

A neon "open" sign in its window, this former house/possibly beauty salon offers a safe "place for soldiers to meet and unwind," away from the merciless grip of those assigning multiple tours to Iraq or Afghanistan and the endless line of predatory pawn shops, strip joints, liquor stores and check-cashers.

Inside, soldiers, their families and supporters ate barbecue, played dominos or pool and imagined the possibilities. Two people were working on laptops, babies were fed or held, and young children laughed and played among the crowd.

Under the Hood is just a few blocks away from its predecessor, the Oleo Strut, a G.I. coffeehouse that was open from 1968-1972. The soldiers it served achieved some significant victories in the G.I. movement, which helped to bring the war in Vietnam to an end.

Passersby can still find spots of red paint thrown frequently at the doors and windows in the cracks of the sidewalks outside the Oleo Strut. Killeen was a Jim Crow town with an active KKK; some of the townsfolk didn't appreciate the massive, multicultural crowds the Oleo Strut drew.

Cindy Thomas, the wife of a soldier who served three tours in Iraq, and a committed supporter of the Ft. Hood chapter of Iraq Veterans against the War, manages the coffeehouse and has worked tirelessly to get it up and running.

Thomas envisions the coffeehouse as a "free speech zone," open to everyone of any political persuasion--a place where soldiers and their families will feel more comfortable getting help and talking about their situations.

"The concept of it is having that place they can come to and not only support each other and help each other out," Thomas said, "but maybe even advocate for each other."

Under the Hood has opened during an unpopular war, with other endless wars on the horizon, in a crashing economy. May this little haven become an even bigger thorn in the side of the military behemoth it dares to challenge than was its predecessor.

The main task right now is to get the word out to soldiers at Fort Hood and in the general area that Under the Hood exists and is there to help.

For more information on Under the Hood and the Oleo Strut, visit the Under the Hood café Web site <http://www.underthehoodcafe.org>.

Donations to help support Under the Hood can be made through the Web site.

## **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 RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Resistance Action**

13 March 2009 (AFP) & By Laith Hammoudi, McClatchy Newspapers

Four policemen were wounded by a roadside bomb targeting their patrol in the Al Jadida neighbourhood of Baghdad

Four policemen were injured by a roadside bomb in New Baghdad neighborhood in east Baghdad around 10 a.m.

A policeman was killed by a roadside bomb which targeted a police patrol in south Mosul on Thursday evening.

Gunmen killed a policeman near his house in east Mosul.

A Katusha rocket hit the British base in Basra international airport west Basra on Thursday evening. The spokesman of the British forces confirmed that no casualties happened.

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

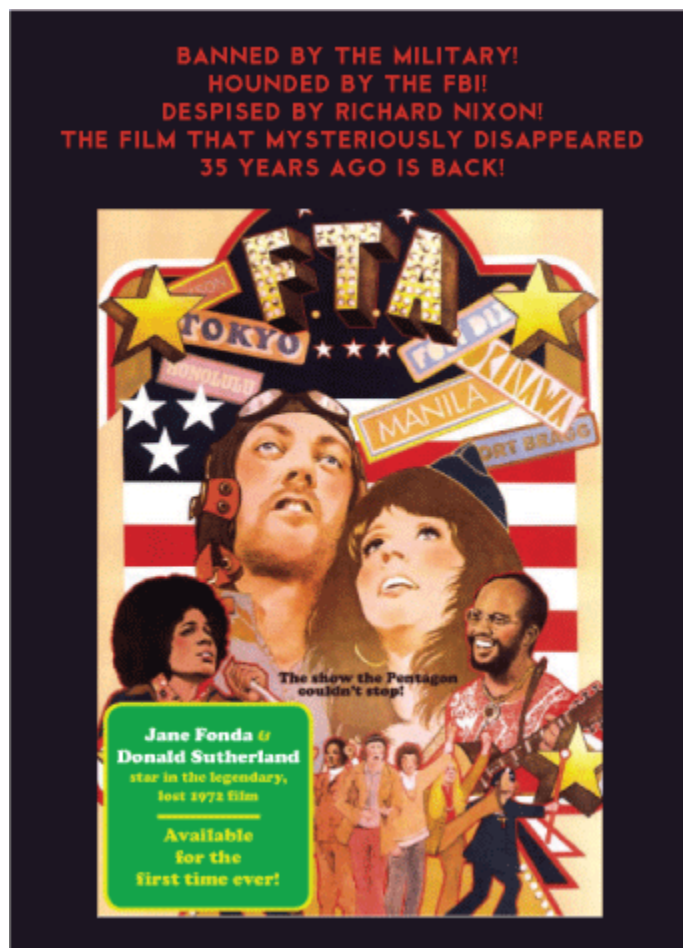
**“What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms.”  
Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787.**

**“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**

# FTA Is Back!

The Film Provides A Rare Glimpse  
Into The Revolt From Below That  
Ultimately Forced The Pentagon  
To Withdraw In Defeat From  
Vietnam



FTA Trailer

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HlkgPCgU7g&eurl=http://imgineaworldof.blogspot.com/&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HlkgPCgU7g&eurl=http://imgineaworldof.blogspot.com/&feature=player_embedded)

**FINALLY, AFTER 35-YEARS IN EXILE  
FTA IS BACK! AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 24  
EXCLUSIVELY ON DVD  
FROM DISPLACED FILMS AND  
NEW VIDEO/ DOCURAMA**

**FTA:**

**Ultra-Rare! F.T.A. (aka FREE THE ARMY aka FUN, TRAVEL, ADVENTURE), 1972,  
Displaced Films, 97 min. Dir. Francine Parker.**

**F.T.A. was originally released by American-International but pulled from  
distribution after only one week, with rumors of pressure from the Pentagon.**

**– Phil Hall, Film Threat**

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**About The Film:**

**FINALLY, AFTER 35-YEARS IN EXILE  
FTA IS BACK!  
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FROM DISPLACED FILMS AND  
NEW VIDEO/ DOCURAMA  
FTA**

Starring Jane Fonda, Donald Sutherland, Michael Alaimo, Len Chandler, Holly Near And a Cast of Thousands of antiwar soldiers. 1971—two years after Richard Nixon had promised to end the Vietnam War, American troops were still fighting and American warplanes were still bombing North Vietnam relentlessly.

A massive GI Movement to end the war was sweeping through the troops, wreaking havoc on the U.S. military. Into that mix came The FTA (F\*\*\* the Army) Show, a caustic, electrifying, sharply antiwar comedy review led by Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland. As they toured outside military bases from Guam to the Philippines, over 60,000 soldiers cheered and joined the show's call to end the war. It was an explosive, historical moment never seen before or since.

FTA, Francine Parker's powerful documentary of the tour, opened in U.S. theaters in 1972, as the Nixon administration was still escalating the war and fighting for its political life at home. After only one week, the film mysteriously disappeared—never to be seen again. Until now.

Perfect timing.

## To Get Your Copy Of FTA:

<http://www.sirnosir.com/FTA.html>

# The Obama Regime Argues That Guantanamo Prisoners Have No Rights

[Thanks to JM, who sent this in.]

13 March 2009 Associated Press

The Obama administration argued in court documents filed today that four former detainees at the Guantánamo Bay detention camp who have sued over their treatment have no constitutional rights.

The suit was brought by four British men who say they were beaten, shackled in painful stress positions, threatened by dogs and subjected to extreme medical care during their time in the lockup at the US naval base in Cuba.

“There is one word that the department of justice never uses: torture,” said Eric Lewis, lawyer for the detainees.

“But the upshot of the justice department's position is that there is no right of detainees not to be tortured, and that officials who order torture should be protected.”

The four who sued are Shafiq Rasul, Asif Iqbal, Rhuheh Ahmed and Jamal Al-Harith, all British citizens and residents.

They were sent back to Britain in 2004. The defendants in the case include former Defence Secretary Donald H Rumsfeld and retired General Richard Myers, former chairman of the joint chiefs of staff.

Eric Lewis, attorney for the four, said Friday that military officials should be subject to liability when they order torture.

“The upshot of the Justice Department's position is that there is no right of detainees not to be tortured and that officials who order torture should be protected,” Lewis said.

**MORE:**

**How Frederick Douglas  
Answered A Supreme Court  
That Held Slaves Had No  
Rights:**

**“The Pathway Of Tyrants Lies  
Over Volcanoes”**

**“Oppression, Organized As Ours Is,  
Will Appear Invincible Up To The  
Very Hour Of Its Fall”**

**“Those Who Enslave, Rob, And Torment  
Their Cooks, May Well Expect To Find  
Death In Their Dinner-Pots”**





**Your fathers have said that man's right to liberty is self-evident. There is no need of argument to make it clear. The voices of nature, of conscience, of reason, and of revelation, proclaim it as the right of all rights, the foundation of all trust, and of all responsibility. The sun in the sky is not more palpable to the sight than man's right to liberty is to the moral vision.**

**Not all the skill of politicians, North and South, not all the sophistries of Judges, not all the fulminations of a corrupt press, not all the hypocritical prayers, or the hypocritical refusals to pray of a hollow-hearted priesthood, not all the devices of sin and Satan, can save the vile thing from extermination.**

**May 1857 By Frederick Douglass, Speech on the Dred Scott Decision [Excerpt]**

**Dred Scott v. Sandford was a decision by the United States Supreme Court, 1857, written by Chief Justice Taney, that ruled that people of African descent imported into the United States and held as slaves had no rights.**

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While four millions of our fellow countrymen are in chains--while men, women, and children are bought and sold on the auction-block with horses, sheep, and swine--while the remorseless slave--whip draws the warm blood of our common humanity--it is meet that we assemble as we have done to-day, and lift up our hearts and voices in earnest denunciation of the vile and shocking abomination.

It is not for us to be governed by our hopes or our fears in this great work; yet it is natural on occasions like this, to survey the position of the great struggle which is going on between slavery and freedom, and to dwell upon such signs of encouragement as may have been lately developed, and the state of feeling these signs or events have occasioned in us and among the people generally.

It is a fitting time to take an observation to ascertain where we are, and what our prospects are.

To many, the prospects of the struggle against slavery seem far from cheering.

Eminent men, North and South, in Church and State, tell us that the omens are all against us.

Emancipation, they tell us, is a wild, delusive idea; the price of human flesh was never higher than now; slavery was never more closely entwined about the hearts and affections of the southern people than now; that whatever of conscientious scruple, religious conviction, or public policy, which opposed the system of slavery forty or fifty years ago, has subsided; and that slavery never reposed upon a firmer basis than now.

Completing this picture of the happy and prosperous condition of this system of wickedness, they tell us that this state of things is to be set to our account. Abolition agitation has done it all.

How deep is the misfortune of my poor, bleeding people, if this be so! How lost their condition, if even the efforts of their friends but sink them deeper in ruin!

Without assenting to this strong representation of the increasing strength and stability of slavery, without denouncing what of untruth pervades it, I own myself not insensible to the many difficulties and discouragement that beset us on every hand. They fling their broad and gloomy shadows across the pathway of every thoughtful colored man in this country.

For one, I see them clearly, and feel them sadly. With an earnest, aching heart, I have long looked for the realization of the hope of my people. Standing, as it were, barefoot, and treading upon the sharp and flinty rocks of the present, and looking out upon the boundless sea of the future, I have sought, in my humble way, to penetrate the intervening mists and clouds, and, perchance, to descry, in the dim and shadowy distance, the white flag of freedom, the precise speck of time at which the cruel bondage of my people should end, and the long entombed millions rise from the foul grave of slavery and death.

But of that time I can know nothing, and you can know nothing. All is uncertain at that point.

One thing, however, is certain; slaveholders are in earnest, and mean to cling to their slaves as long as they can, and to the bitter end.

They show no sign of a wish to quit their iron grasp upon the sable throats of their victims.

Their motto is, "a firmer hold and a tighter grip" for every new effort that is made to break their cruel power.

The case is one of life or death with them, and they will give up only when they must do that or do worse.

In one view the slaveholders have a decided advantage over all opposition.

It is well to notice this advantage--the advantage of complete organization.

They are organized; and yet were not at the pains of creating their organizations.

The State governments, where the system of slavery exists, are complete slavery organizations.

The church organizations in those States are equally at the service of slavery; while the Federal Government, with its army and navy, from the chief magistracy in Washington, to the Supreme Court, and thence to the chief marshalship at New York, is pledged to support, defend, and propagate the crying curse of human bondage.

**The pen, the purse, and the sword, are united against the simple truth, preached by humble men in obscure places.**

This is one view.

It is, thank God, only one view; there is another, and a brighter view.

David, you know, looked small and insignificant when going to meet Goliath, but looked larger when he had slain his foe.

The Malakoff [a fortress in Russia stormed by French soldiers] was, to the eye of the world, impregnable, till the hour it fell before the shot and shell of the allied army.

**Thus hath it ever been.**

**Oppression, organized as ours is, will appear invincible up to the very hour of its fall.**

Sir, let us look at the other side, and see if there are not some things to cheer our heart and nerve us up anew in the good work of emancipation.

**Take this fact--for it is a fact--the anti-slavery movement has, from first to last, suffered no abatement.**

**It has gone forth in all directions, and is now felt in the remotest extremities of the Republic.**

**It started small, and was without capital either in men or money. The odds were all against it.**

**It literally had nothing to lose, and everything to gain.**

There was ignorance to be enlightened, error to be combatted, conscience to be awakened, prejudice to be overcome, apathy to be aroused, the right of speech to be secured, mob violence to be subdued, and a deep, radical change to be wrought in the mind and heart of the whole nation.

This great work, under God, has gone on, and gone on gloriously.

Amid all changes, fluctuations, assaults, and adverses of every kind, it has remained firm in its purpose, steady in its aim, onward and upward, defying all opposition, and never losing a single battle.

Our strength is in the growth of anti-slavery conviction, and this has never halted.

There is a significant vitality about this abolition movement. It has taken a deeper, broader, and more lasting hold upon the national heart than ordinary reform movements. Other subjects of much interest come and go, expand and contract, blaze and vanish, but the huge question of American Slavery, comprehending, as it does, not merely the weal or the woe of four millions, and their countless posterity, but the weal or the woe of this entire nation, must increase in magnitude and in majesty with every hour of its history.

From a cloud not bigger than a man's hand, it has overspread the heavens.

It has risen from a grain not bigger than a mustard seed. Yet see the fowls of the air, how they crowd its branches.

Politicians who cursed it, now defend it; ministers, once dumb, now speak in its praise; and presses, which once flamed with hot denunciations against it, now surround the sacred cause as by a wall of living fire.

Politicians go with it as a pillar of cloud by day, and the press as a pillar of fire by night. With these ancient tokens of success, I, for one, will not despair of our cause.

Those who have undertaken to suppress and crush out this agitation for Liberty and humanity, have been most woefully disappointed.

Many who have engaged to put it down, have found themselves put down.

The agitation has pursued them in all their meanderings, broken in upon their seclusion, and, at the very moment of fancied security, it has settled down upon them like a mantle of unquenchable fire.

Clay, Calhoun, and Webster each tried his hand at suppressing the agitation; and they went to their graves disappointed and defeated.

Loud and exultingly have we been told that the slavery question is settled, and settled forever.

You remember it was settled thirty-seven years ago, when Missouri was admitted into the Union with a slaveholding constitution, and slavery prohibited in all territory north of thirty-six degrees of north latitude.

Just fifteen years afterwards, it was settled again by voting down the right of petition, and gagging down free discussion in Congress.

Ten years after this it was settled again by the annexation of Texas, and with it the war with Mexico.

In 1850 it was again settled. This was called a final settlement. By it slavery was virtually declared to be the equal of Liberty, and should come into the Union on the same terms. By it the right and the power to hunt down men, women, and children, in every part of this country, was conceded to our southern brethren, in order to keep them in the Union.

Four years after this settlement, the whole question was once more settled, and settled by a settlement which unsettled all the former settlements.

**The fact is, the more the question has been settled, the more it has needed settling.**

The space between the different settlements has been strikingly on the decrease.

The first stood longer than any of its successors.

This last settlement must be called the Taney settlement. We are now --the second, ten years--the third, five years--the fourth stood four years --and the fifth has stood the brief space of two years.

This last settlement must be called the Taney settlement.

We are now told, in tones of lofty exultation, that the day is lost all lost and that we might as well give up the struggle. The highest authority has spoken. The voice of the Supreme Court has gone out over the troubled waves of the National Conscience, saying peace, be still.

This infamous decision of the Slaveholding wing of the Supreme Court maintains that slaves are within the contemplation of the Constitution of the United States, property; that slaves are property in the same sense that horses, sheep, and swine are property; that the old doctrine that slavery is a creature of local law is false; that the right of the slaveholder to his slave does not depend upon the local law, but is secured wherever the Constitution of the United States extends; that Congress has no right to prohibit slavery anywhere; that slavery may go in safety anywhere under the star-spangled banner; that colored persons of African descent have no rights that white men are bound to respect; that colored men of African descent are not and cannot be citizens of the United States.

You will readily ask me how I am affected by this devilish decision--this judicial incarnation of wolfishness?

My answer is, and no thanks to the slaveholding wing of the Supreme Court, my hopes were never brighter than now.

I have no fear that the National Conscience will be put to sleep by such an open, glaring, and scandalous tissue of lies as that decision is, and has been, over and over, shown to be.

The Supreme Court of the United States is not the only power in this world. It is very great, but the Supreme Court of the Almighty is greater.

Judge Taney can do many things, but he cannot perform impossibilities. He cannot bale out the ocean, annihilate the firm old earth, or pluck the silvery star of liberty from our Northern sky. He may decide, and decide again; but he cannot reverse the decision of the Most High. He cannot change the essential nature of things--making evil good, and good evil.

Happily for the whole human family, their rights have been defined, declared, and decided in a court higher than the Supreme Court. "There is a law," says Brougham, "above all the enactments of human codes, and by that law, unchangeable and eternal, man cannot hold property in man."

**Your fathers have said that man's right to liberty is self-evident. There is no need of argument to make it clear. The voices of nature, of conscience, of reason, and of revelation, proclaim it as the right of all rights, the foundation of all trust, and of all responsibility.**

**Man was born with it. It was his before he comprehended it. The deed conveying it to him is written in the center of his soul, and is recorded in Heaven.**

**The sun in the sky is not more palpable to the sight than man's right to liberty is to the moral vision.**

To decide against this right in the person of Dred Scott, or the humblest and most whip-scarred bondman in the land, is to decide against God. It is an open rebellion against God's government. It is an attempt to undo what God has done, to blot out the broad distinction instituted by the Allwise between men and things, and to change the image and superscription of the everliving God into a speechless piece of merchandise.

Such a decision cannot stand. God will be true though every man be a liar. We can appeal from this hell-black judgment of the Supreme Court, to the court of common sense and common humanity. We can appeal from man to God. If there is no justice on earth, there is yet justice in heaven. You may close your Supreme Court against the black man's cry for justice, but you cannot, thank God, close against him the ear of a sympathizing world, nor shut up the Court of Heaven.

All that is merciful and just, on earth and in Heaven, will execrate and despise this edict of Taney.

If it were at all likely that the people of these free States would tamely submit to this demoniacal judgment, I might feel gloomy and sad over it, and possibly it might be necessary for my people to look for a home in some other country.

But as the case stands, we have nothing to fear.

In one point of view, we, the abolitionists and colored people, should meet this decision, unlooked for and monstrous as it appears, in a cheerful spirit.

This very attempt to blot out forever the hopes of an enslaved people may be one necessary link in the chain of events preparatory to the downfall and complete overthrow of the whole slave system.

The whole history of the anti-slavery movement is studded with proof that all measures devised and executed with a view to ally and diminish the anti-slavery agitation, have only served to increase, intensify, and embolden that agitation.

This wisdom of the crafty has been confounded, and the counsels of the ungodly brought to nought.

It was so with the Fugitive Slave Bill. It was so with the Kansas-Nebraska Bill; and it will be so with this last and most shocking of all pro-slavery devices, this Taney decision.

When great transactions are involved, where the fate of millions is concerned, where a long enslaved and suffering people are to be delivered, I am superstitious enough to believe that the finger of the Almighty may be seen bringing good out of evil, and making the wrath of man redound to his honor, hastening the triumph of righteousness.

The American people have been called upon, in a most striking manner, to abolish and put away forever the system of slavery. The subject has been pressed upon their attention in all earnestness and sincerity. The cries of the slave have gone forth to the world, and up to the throne of God.

This decision, in my view, is a means of keeping the nation awake on the subject. It is another proof that God does not mean that we shall go to sleep, and forget that we are a slaveholding nation.

Step by step we have seen the slave power advancing; poisoning, corrupting, and perverting the institutions of the country; growing more and more haughty, imperious, and exacting. The white man's liberty has been marked out for the same grave with the black man's.

The ballot box is desecrated, God's law set at nought, armed legislators stalk the halls of Congress, freedom of speech is beaten down in the Senate. The rivers and highways are infested by border ruffians, and white men are made to feel the iron heel of slavery.

This ought to arouse us to kill off the hateful thing. They are solemn warnings to which the white people, as well as the black people, should take heed.

If these shall fail, judgment, more fierce or terrible, may come.

**The lightning, whirlwind, and earthquake may come.**

**Jefferson said that he trembled for his country when he reflected that God is just, and his justice cannot sleep forever.**

**The time may come when even the crushed worm may turn under the tyrant's feet. Goaded by cruelty, stung by a burning sense of wrong, in an awful moment of depression and desperation, the bondman and bondwoman at the south may rush to one wild and deadly struggle for freedom.**

**Already slaveholders go to bed with bowie knives, and apprehend death at their dinners.**

**Those who enslave, rob, and torment their cooks, may well expect to find death in their dinner-pots.**

The world is full of violence and fraud, and it would be strange if the slave, the constant victim of both fraud and violence, should escape the contagion.

He, too, may learn to fight the devil with fire, and for one, I am in no frame of mind to pray that this may be long deferred.

Two remarkable occurrences have followed the presidential election; one was the unaccountable sickness traced to the National Hotel at Washington, and the other was the discovery of a plan among the slaves, in different localities, to slay their oppressors.

Twenty or thirty of the suspected were put to death. Some were shot, some hanged, some burned, and some died under the lash.

One brave man owned himself well acquainted with the conspiracy, but said he would rather die than disclose the facts. He received seven hundred and fifty lashes, and his noble spirit went away to the God who gave it.

The name of this hero has been by the meanness of tyrants suppressed. Such a man redeems his race. He is worthy to be mentioned with the Hoffers and Tells, the noblest heroes of history.

**These insurrectionary movements have been put down, but they may break out at any time, under the guidance of higher intelligence, and with a more invincible spirit.**

**The fire thus kindled, may be revived again; the flames are extinguished, but the embers remain; one terrible blast may produce an ignition, which shall wrap the whole South in wild conflagration.**

**The pathway of tyrants lies over volcanoes; the very air they breathe is heavy with sorrows; agonizing heart-throbs convulse them while sleeping, and the wind whispers death as over them sweeping.**

**By all the laws of nature, civilization, and of progress, slavery is a doomed system.**

**Not all the skill of politicians, North and South, not all the sophistries of Judges, not all the fulminations of a corrupt press, not all the hypocritical prayers, or the hypocritical refusals to pray of a hollow-hearted priesthood, not all the devices of sin and Satan, can save the vile thing from extermination.**

**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. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 917.677.8057**

**Resistance Spreading  
Everywhere:  
Imprisoned Chimpanzee In  
Sweden “Planned Hundreds Of**



# Stone-Throwing Attacks On Zoo Visitors”

## Zookeeper Sounds Alarm: “I Hope That Other Zoos Or Those In The Wild Will Look More Closely At What Is Happening”



The chimp stashed hundreds of stones in anticipation of throwing them

[Thanks to James Starowicz, Veterans For Peace]

9 March 2009

**A male chimpanzee in a Swedish zoo planned hundreds of stone-throwing attacks on zoo visitors, according to researchers.**

**Keepers at Furuviik Zoo found that the chimp collected and stored stones that he would later use as missiles.**

Further, the chimp learned to recognise how and when parts of his concrete enclosure could be pulled apart to fashion further projectiles.

The findings are reported in the journal *Current Biology*.

There has been scant evidence in previous research that animals can plan for future events.

Crucial to the current study is the fact that Santino, a chimpanzee at the zoo in the city north of Stockholm, collected the stones in a calm state, prior to the zoo opening in the morning.

The launching of the stones occurred hours later - during dominance displays to zoo visitors - with Santino in an “agitated” state.

This suggests that Santino was anticipating a future mental state - an ability that has been difficult to definitively prove in animals, according to Mathias Osvath, a cognitive scientist from Lund University in Sweden and author of the new research.

Dr Osvath embarked on the study after zoo staff discovered caches of stones in the section of the enclosure facing the public viewing area.

**Since the initial discovery in 1997, hundreds of the caches have been removed to protect visitors, to whom the caching and the aggressive displays seem strictly related; in the off season, Santino neither hoards the projectiles nor hurls them.**

Most interestingly, Santino seems to have learned how to spot weak parts of the concrete “boulders” in the centre of the enclosure.

When water seeps into cracks in the concrete and freezes, portions become detached that make a hollow sound when tapped.

**Santino was observed gently knocking on the “boulders”, hitting harder to detach bits that were loosened and adding those to his stashes of ammunition.**

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## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Out Latest Policy on Taking Picture of Casualties from the Iraq War

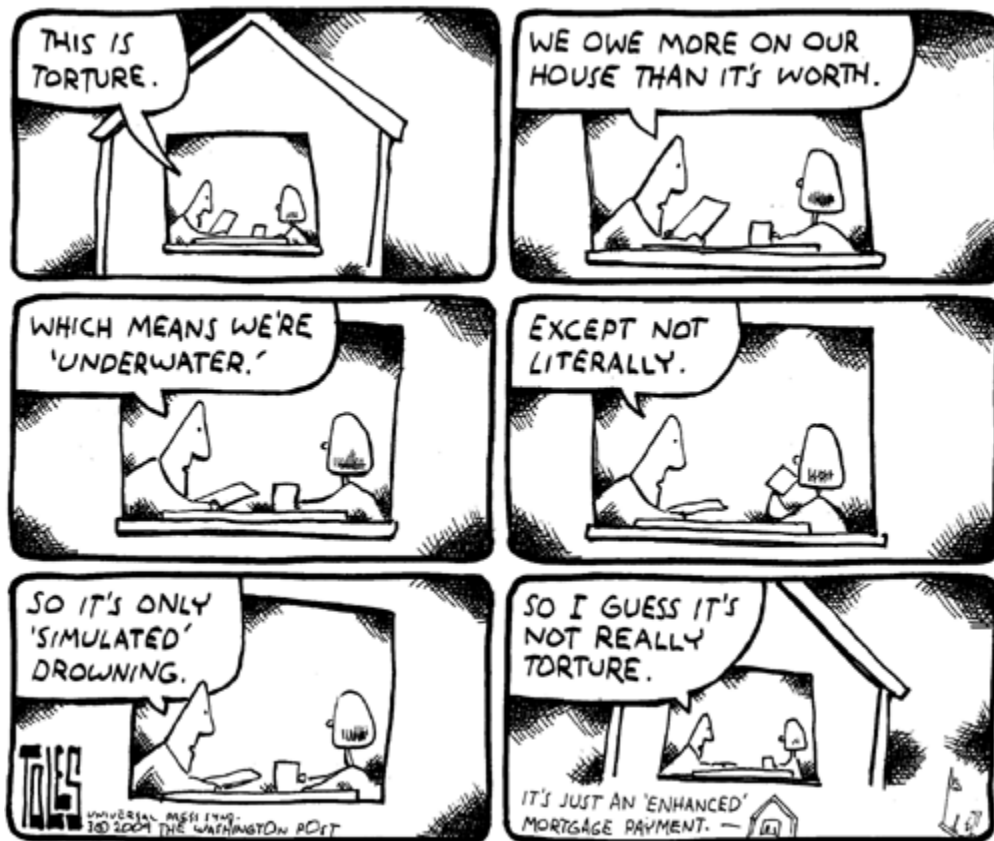
I THINK WE CAN TAKE PICTURES  
WITHOUT THEIR PERMISSION.  
THEY'RE NOT AMERICANS.



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

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

## CLASS WAR REPORTS



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes: The logic seems almost logical. Something is seriously wrong with this picture.]

## **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 Veterans Against the War to end the occupations and bring all troops home now! ([www.ivaw.org/](http://www.ivaw.org/))**

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

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



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