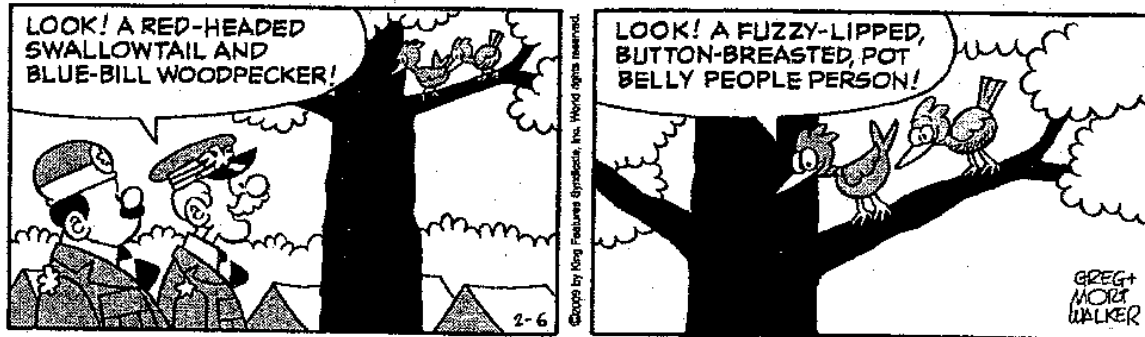


## GI SPECIAL 7C4:



# The Iraqi Resistance Responds to President Obama:

**“It Is Time That People In  
Washington Understand That  
There Are No Shared Interest  
Between An Occupying Tyrant  
And An Oppressed Victim Of  
Occupation”**

**“The People Of Iraq Whom You  
Addressed, In All Their Sects**

**Colours And Religions, Refuse  
Your Occupation”  
“We Promised To Pin Down Your  
Troops In Iraq And Drain Your  
Economy Until You Admit Defeat And  
Withdraw Your Troops”  
“Remember, That Hiding Behind And  
Holding Castles Is No Longer  
Sustainable In Modern Warfare!”**

[Thanks to Sandy Kelson & Mark Shapiro, The Military Project & Ward Reilly, Veterans For Peace, who sent this in. The political formulations are consistent with past positions of nationalist, secular tendencies within the Baath Party. T]

**Rafidan**  
**The Political Committee**  
Baghdad -Republic of Iraq



**رافيدان**  
**اللجنة السياسية**  
بغداد - جمهورية العراق

**“While you were preparing your new strategy in leaving the streets and highways of Iraq to your collaborators, and hiding your troops behind the walls of the castles and green zones you have prepared for your minimized long term presence, we have been preparing to address your new tactics and will deal with them in the proper manner.”**

March 02, 2009 Release No: 57, Official English Transcript  
Radfidan  
The Political Committee - Baghdad – The Republic of Iraq  
The 3rd of Rabi' Awwal 1430 H  
The 28th of February 2009 M

In Respect to the remarks of President Barak Hussain Obama, The president of the United States of America.

The Political Committee of a number of factions in the Iraqi Resistance, mainly the factions present in our front, respond with our point of view on the contents of his speech.

Over the last four months, as the battle of our people continues to free Iraq of all foreign occupation, we have been studying the movements on the ground as well as analyzing the intelligence in order to assess the next strategy that the US administration will take under the leadership of the new presidency.

We have inherited a foreign occupation, endless counts of innocent dead, injured, and handicapped, millions of refugees, in essence, Mr. President, the complete and planned disintegration of our nation and people.

We believe that the funds wasted in this war would have been more useful if it were spent on research to develop alternative energy, which no doubt would have reduced energy conflicts, cures for cancer, agricultural solutions to prevent worldwide poverty, advancements to develop Africa, where people still die of starvation and intentional neglect.

Endless causes, all in need of immediate attention.

By the will of God almighty, the resilience of our men, and the patience of our humble people, we have so far managed to halt and render useless all imperialist agendas set for Iraq and the region in whole. Simply by choosing to resist occupation, a right guaranteed by God first and then by international conventions to all men.

A right your country's policies continue to disrespect and dishonor, in clear example of state sponsored Terrorism.

You have spoken to our people in part of your speech, and we thank you for these words, you have displayed a far better understanding our nation, than your predecessor, who preferred to dive deep into the oceans of illiteracy and ignorance.

Despite the fact that you did not mention the Iraqi resistance in your speech, and chose to label us as terrorists along with those who arrived with your troops, we will set that aside for now, and mention a few facts for the record.

**(1) The people of Iraq whom you addressed, in all their sects colours and religions, refuse your occupation, and those who accept it, are those who benefit from it.**

**(2) The Iraqis you addressed, as we truly hope, are not the ones who bathe in the riches of treason, behind your walls of the green zone, nor are they the likes of Ahmed Al Chalabi, whom your previous government conspired with and his likes from the dark alleys of 5 star hotels in the US and Europe prior to your occupation.**

**(3) The Iraqi people you talked to are those who never invited your occupation, and were trying their best to survive on what was possible, under the criminal sanctions that went on for 13 years only to be crowned with a foreign occupation, unmatched in criminal acts, in today's modern world.**

We the Iraqi People and their resistance demand the following:

- 1) The fulfilment of all the conditions presented to your government through the mediators you sent in 2006.
- 2) The hand over of all the traitors & Collaborators in the green zone to the Iraqi people where they will be dealt with as any nation would do with in cases of high treason.
- 3) The full & just compensation for our people for the losses they have suffered.
- 4) The halting of all compensations paid to those who fall under your umbrella in the region from the resources of our people.
- 5) The return of all land stolen from our country.
- 6) The departure of all foreign corporations mainly in the sectors of energy, communication, and infrastructure rebuilding, specifically those linked to Neocon interests. Our people are more than qualified to rebuild and operate our institutions.
- 7) The hand over of all mercenaries accused of killing innocent civilians mainly security contractors in Black Water and their CEO to be tried for murder.
- 8) All foreign advisors are to leave Iraq with your troops.
- 9) The dismantling of all militias equipped by your country and Iran together to shift the nature of battle towards the sectarian nature in order to allow your troops to concentrate on the major resistance activities in the central region of Iraq.
- 10) The halting of all support to the sectarian government elected in the orchestrated elections in the green zone.
- 11) The reduction of the influence of your Persian allies in Iraq which your previous government worked with in close conjunction and who continue to fund Al Qaeda on behalf of your intelligence agency's behalf.
- 12) The return to the old constitution of a unified Iraq. And the Upholding of new elections within 6 months of the resistance taking power of the nation, this will be supervised, by must be conducted in the presence of a number of credible international monitors.

Not the ones sponsored by the CIA.

13) Cities and provinces are to be handed over one by one starting with the four main cities and airports of Baghdad, Basra, then Mosul and Kirkuk in the same order. The rest will fall immediately in our hands. The borders will have other arrangements.

You must search further for the honest Iraqis and from the ranks of our people and not those of your collaborators to achieve a just solution. You can also recognize the right for the Iraqi people to resist and publicly ask for our advice and representation.

The Iraqi people intend to be masters of their own house as they always have, and by following the plan you have declared, you have not yet fully understood Iraq well.

The Iraqi Resistance will not accept any short term or long term energy contracts with the US until we ensure that the rights of our people are properly addressed. And within the parameters of relations based on mutual respect first and mutual interests second.

President Obama, It is time that people in Washington understand that there are no shared interest between an occupying tyrant and an oppressed victim of occupation.

After three wars and over a decade of sanctions, there were enough honest men to defeat the world's most powerful army and play a major role in destroying the most imperialistic Globalized economy ever developed by expansionary capitalism.

These are the type of people you are speaking to Mr. Obama.

And if you were not presented with this reality throughout the briefings that occurred, and understood the true scale of the economic disaster with all the social and geopolitical implications of your military defeat in Iraq, then please allow us to mention a few of the major achievements that the Iraqi Resistance have promised it's people and the free people of the world and has delivered:

**1) We promised to pin down your troops in Iraq and drain your economy until you admit defeat and withdraw your troops.**

**And this we fulfilled.**

**2) We promised to halt the US plan for Middle East in full, and prevent the loss of other innocent lives in other neighboring countries, and that we fulfilled.**

3) We embraced the war and continue the fight on behalf of all the oppressed world, which not only stood still and watched the massacre of our people and the illegal occupation of our nation, but many of its leaders participated and continue in harming our people inside and outside Iraq and assist in the theft of our resources.

This, apart from the support of honest people all around the world,

4) Including citizens of your country, who marched day and night to support the cause of Iraq's right to resist, marches that defied the weather, and weathered criminal defiance and ignorance of world politicians.

Marches that we will ever be indebt to, and in gratitude & in appreciation for.

May god bless those people wherever they are. And this we fulfilled and continue to do so.

5) We have understood the nature of international balances of power and most importantly predicted the primitive mind of the occupation and played a major role in forcing the US to increase oil prices in clear desperation for cash. And use that to allow other powers to recover. And the numbers never lied, this we also fulfilled.

**6) The Iraqi People wrote a new chapter in Urban warfare, and invented the art of remote combat, and in turn gave the world lessons and set a new standard in how to defeat the world's most powerful army.**

In this, the most dangerous achievement that threatens US global influence is that all the oppressed people who suffer from negative US influence, can use this experience to free themselves as well.

This also has been delivered.

7) The Resistance has already drafted its 2, 5 and 10 year plan to engage Iraq in rebuilding programs that will set a new standard for development in the Region and restore Iraq to its rightfully earned place in world politics and positive human development. This while maintaining Iraq's isolation from harmful neighboring countries at the same time, these plans was prepared and drafted in the early months of 2007 and are ready to implement once we see the end of your occupation.

8 ) The resistance created a new battle field and utilized every tool available to break free of the corporate media and tell, inform, and educate the world of the true nature of the struggle, and present every curious man and woman daily reports and videos of your military's defeat and in every language possible.

People from all over the world, chose out of their own free will and time, people of different religions and backgrounds chose to be soldiers of the cyber wars and translated all what we had to tell, asking nothing in return but the truth.

The true casualties of your war are yet to be declared. (We refer to the green card soldiers)

9) The resistance has sparked not only the collapse of the US economy, but also caused the domino effect and the destruction of your fine tuned and delicate Globalized economy, and forced the return to national economic protection, and the rights of local and regional economies to grow and ensure a decent life and practice their right to develop as well.

All your efforts to restore the globalized economy will deliver nothing of value, and puppet governments that maintain your oversight of world resources will eventually fall, one after the other, as their faults will be more evident to their average citizens, and that is why you are now receiving daily reports, from the CIA about the world economy.

ALL THE ABOVE, AND YOU STILL CHOOSE TO IGNORE THE RESISTANCE OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE AND THE RESISTANCE OF THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF THE FREE, WHICH WE INTEND TO PROPOSE TO THE WORLD AS THE NEXT STAGE OF FREEING THE PLANET FROM YOUR DOMINANCE WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT.

**ALL THIS SAID, AND THE GLOBAL MEDIA WHICH YOU STILL MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER STILL LABELS FREE PEOPLE AS TERRORISTS AND EQUALS THE RESISTANCE OF OCCUPATION WITH CRIMINAL ACTS OF STRIKING CIVILIANS IN BUILDING AND TERRORIZING THE LIVES OF THE INNOCENT.**

**TRULY IRONIC!!!**

We in the Iraqi resistance, renew our pledge to our people and to our brothers and sisters in the global family, to continue the fight and struggle to free Iraq and give our allies the chance to follow suite.

**While you were preparing your new strategy in leaving the streets and highways of Iraq to your collaborators, and hiding your troops behind the walls of the castles and green zones you have prepared for your minimized long term presence, we have been preparing to address your new tactics and will deal with them in the proper manner.**

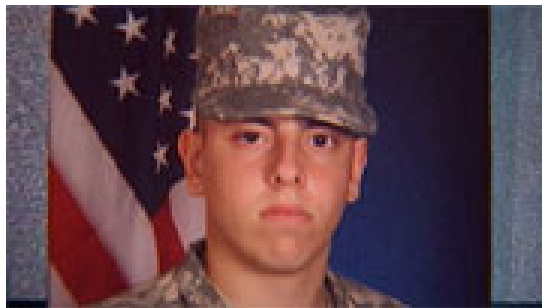
**Remember, that hiding behind and holding castles is no longer sustainable in modern warfare!**

**Good Luck President Obama!**

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

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **Hoosier Soldier Killed In Iraq**



Private First Class Zachary Nordmeyer

Feb 24, 2009 Sandra Chapman, Eyewitness News

Indianapolis - A graduate of Ben Davis High School was killed in Iraq Monday. Zachary Nordmeyer and his combat unit came under fire while searching for insurgents hiding out northeast of Baghdad in Balad.

Outside the Nordmeyer home, a lone star stands watch for a grandson's return. Inside, a broken-hearted grandfather fighting back tears as he recounts Zachary Nordmeyer's last battle. "He died doing what he wanted to do. He was very proud of his country, his uniform, his unit," said Paul Nordmeyer.

The 21-year-old Ben Davis High School graduate was part of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team. On Monday his unit raided a village of insurgent Al Qaeda in Balad, Iraq. Commanders tell the family Zachary fought to the end as armed men opened fire from behind a door.

"Zachary was hit in the arm, went down, retrieved his weapon, returned fire, took another round in the leg, got up, returned fire, took a shot to the chest. He never made it to the hospital. But he fought for his life just like he fought for our country," said Paul Nordmeyer.

"It's a great loss to our community, to Ben Davis, to our country it's a great loss," said Cheri O'Day, Wayne Township Schools.

Zachary's career with the armed forces began at Ben Davis with three years in the ROTC. He graduated in 2007. Now his name becomes the 18th added to a permanent school memorial in honor of former students who made the ultimate sacrifice.

"When his family is ready, we will add his name to that, unfortunately, a growing list. I just think it's important that we never forget," said O'Day.

For Paul Nordmeyer, a former 1960s veteran, the pride of Zachary's service helps cut through the pain. It was just last August the family gathered to welcome Zachary home, celebrate his birthday and wish him well for his stint in Iraq. Upon word of his death, they gathered once more.

"We just kind of reminisced at the legion. We sat at the same table where we had that party. Yeah, it was something. It's rough," said Paul Nordmeyer.

Zachary Nordmeyer was scheduled to come home in October and get married. He leaves behind a fiance, two brothers who attend Ben Davis and his father Michael. Funeral services are pending.

Ben Davis will salute Zachary and other soldiers at the first football game this fall.

Zach was assigned to the 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Also killed in the fight were Cpl. Michael L. Mayne, 21, of Burlington Flats, New York and Spc. Michael B. Alleman, 31, of Logan, Utah.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Kewanee Soldier Dies In Afghanistan**

February 25, 2009 Pam Cunningham, Reporter, WQAD-TV



KEWANEE, Illi. - People in the town of Kewanee are still learning that one of their own was killed in combat in Afghanistan. Schuyler Patch and three other National Guard soldiers were killed Tuesday when their humvee was hit by a roadside bomb.

Its news no one wants to hear and the family learned Tuesday afternoon.

In Kewanee, the flags are flying at half staff in honor of soldier Schuyler Patch.

Connie Stiles a family friend says, "With the Patch family they're not only Kewanee residents, they're not only customers, they're our family, they're our friends. We put the flags up in honor of them and our sign as well."

At the Shell gas station is reads, "In our prayers Patch Family."

Many people are praying for his family, including his father who owns John's Glass shop in town, his step-mom, Amy, his mother and his sister.

Stiles says, "I talked to Amber (Schuyler's sister) this morning it still hasn't sunk in quite yet."

Before that roadside bomb struck his humvee taking Patch's life in Kandahar, Afghanistan, he wasn't just a National Guard member--he was a good friend.

Beverly Stoner's son grew up with Patch. "Ryan went over there yesterday with his parents and sister and spent time with them last night."

Stoner's son Ryan was so close to Schuyler, he like the Patch's declined to talk right now.

"He was crying really hard, he doesn't cry a lot...and he was always at out house all the time, he was like a second son, they looked a lot alike even."

Schuyler will be remembered for his laughter. Stoner says his aunt put it best.

"She says well he was ornery then snot you know but I loved him to death and I said me too."

He's gone. And it will take a long time for everyone to come to terms with it.

Stoner says, "If I sit and think about something that we did I'll cry a little bit, but that's okay you have to have the tears and you have to have the grief, but we'll remember the good times."

Schuyler Patch had a My Space page. And many of his friends are leaving messages of condolence there. In his about me section he wrote, "I am about to do another tour overseas and I just want to say that I appreciate all of you who have supported me and believe in me! I feel like I can face the world head on now and am confident in pretty much everything I do.

Schuyler Patch was a member of the Kewanee National Guard unit.

Another local soldier Aaron Carlson is a member of the Galva National Guard unit is receiving treatment after being struck by car bomb in Afghanistan in January.

**According to the Department of Defense, 27 Illinois soldiers have died in Afghanistan and 120 have been injured.**

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## **TROOP NEWS**

**FUTILE EXERCISE:  
ONLY 174,973 MORE HAYSTACKS TO GO:  
ALL HOME NOW!**



U.S. soldiers from 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Pennsylvania Army National Guard dig through hay in search of weapon caches in Baghdad's Adhamiya district February 13, 2009. REUTERS/U.S. Army/Spc. Colton Allred/Handout

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**The Darryl Dumbfuck Award For  
2009 So Far Goes To:**

# The Genius Who Named This Task Force For Exactly What It Really Is

From: BartolucciR@aol.com  
To: BartolucciR@aol.com  
Sent: Tue, 3 Mar 2009 2:53 pm  
Subject: KVN-Official message from LtCol Rollins (3-2-09)

Families and Friends,

Greetings from Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Well, we are now in the home stretch. March has finally arrived. I am sure all of you are anxiously awaiting the arrival of your Marines and Sailors.

We all continue to be very busy as we continue our day to day operations, plan our turnovers with our replacements, and coordinate our retrograde home.

Since the beginning of the New Year and the establishment of the new security agreement our operational tempo has changed directions but by no means has is slowed down.

We continue to engage our Iraqi partners and continue to foster relationships that will inhibit the insurgents from coming between the coalition forces and the people of Iraq.

Now, with regards to our retrograde, our demobilization, our deactivation, and our return to the reserve centers, let me make a few comments that will hopefully dispel any rumors.

We will be in the States in about a month, we will conduct our demobilization tasks in California, this will take about a week to accomplish. We will then return to our reserve centers for deactivation. Specific dates and times have not been published yet nor have our flight schedules, so anything you have heard up to this point is pure speculation. As I receive more information I will pass to my Company Commanders and to the Key Volunteer Coordinators from each of the 5 companies.

I have been through this process several times and as we get closer and closer the rumors get bigger and bigger. Please wait for the official word which will ALWAYS originate from me. If you have any questions please use your Key Volunteers, that is what they are here for.

**On behalf of the Marines and Sailors of Task Force Empire I want to thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you all upon our return.**

Semper Fi,  
GRR  
LtCol G.R. Rollins  
CO, TF Empire, 2D Bn, 25th Marines, RCT-8

Camp Korean Village, 20 Iraq  
DSN: 3415-071  
SVOIP: 696-7417

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# Free Tax Assistance For Members Of The Military

[Thanks to Sandy Kelson, Military Project, who sent this in.]

February 27, 2009 IRS Tax Tips

If you or your spouse are a member of the military, you may be eligible to receive free tax return preparation assistance.

The U.S. Armed Forces participates in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and provides free tax advice, tax preparation, return filing and other tax assistance to military members and their families.

The Armed Forces Tax Council oversees the operation of the military tax programs worldwide, conducting outreach with the IRS to military personnel and their families. The AFTC consists of tax program coordinators for the Marine Corps, Air Force, Army, Navy and Coast Guard.

Volunteer assistants at Military-based VITA sites are trained to address military-specific tax issues, such as combat zone tax benefits and the new Earned Income Tax Credit guidelines.

To receive this free assistance, you should bring the following records to your military VITA site:

Valid photo identification

Social Security cards for you, your spouse and dependents or a social security number verification letter issued by the Social Security Administration

Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents

Current year's tax package, if you received one

Wage and earning statement(s) -- Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R

Interest and dividend statements (Forms 1099)

A copy of last year's federal and state tax returns, if available

Checkbook (to get routing number and account number for direct deposit)

Total amount paid for day care and day care provider's identifying number

Other relevant information about income and expenses

If your filing status is Married Filing Jointly and you wish to file your tax return electronically, both you and your spouse should be present to sign the required forms. If it isn't possible for both to be present, a valid power of attorney that allows tax preparation can be used to sign and file the return.

There is a special exception to using a power of attorney for spouses in combat zones that permits the filing spouse to e-file a joint return with only a written statement setting forth that the other spouse is in a combat zone and is unable to sign.

For more information, review IRS Publication 3, Armed Forces' Tax Guide, available on the IRS Web site at IRS.gov or order a free copy by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

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## **IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Resistance Action**



(Graphic: London Financial Times)

March 5 (Reuters)

A parked car bomb wounded a policeman when it struck a police patrol in southern Mosul, in the north of Iraq, police said.

A car bomber wounded a soldier near an army patrol in northern Mosul, police said.

A roadside bomb wounded Muhsin Taha al-Mismar, the head of the education office of Salahuddin Province, in a town near the city of Tikrit, 150 km (95 miles) north of Baghdad, police said. Mismar's driver was also wounded in the blast.

Insurgents in a car shot and wounded police Brigadier- General Salam Salman while he was heading to work in central Baghdad, police said.

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## FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



**“At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation’s ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke.**

**“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.**

**“We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake.”**

**Frederick Douglas, 1852**

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

**Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787.**

**"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

## The Gravedigger

By Dennis Serdel, Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade, purple heart, Veterans For Peace 50 Michigan, Vietnam Veterans Against The War, United Auto Workers GM Retiree, in Perry, Michigan

From *Peace Speaks From The Mirror*

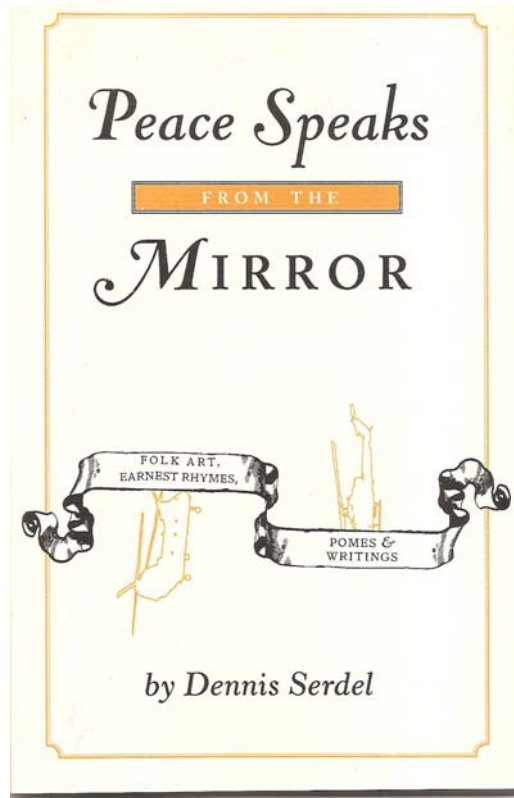
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It's cold in the morning  
and he shivers,  
he kicks up the furnace  
he turns down at night  
these heating bills are killer  
he puts some coffee on  
trying to remember  
who he buries today  
these Michigan winters  
freeze the ground on down  
he needs some gas  
in the truck  
and the digger too  
it's a hell of a way  
to make a living  
but it's steady pay  
After a cup and a half  
of coffee and three cigarettes  
it dawns on him who's grave  
he has to dig today  
it's Mary and John's son  
from across the tracks  
the paper had his picture  
he was just a boy  
played football  
at the old high school

a stand out star  
joined the Army after that  
cause all the jobs are gone.

MORE:

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Perry,  
Michigan 48872

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Over Seas Orders, please write first and I will send the Postal costs. Let me know if you want USA Postal costs, Western Union Perry Michigan, Money Gram, Fed Ex, Pink Japanese International Money Order.

Or payment can be made by well hidden American dollars in a Registered Mailing.

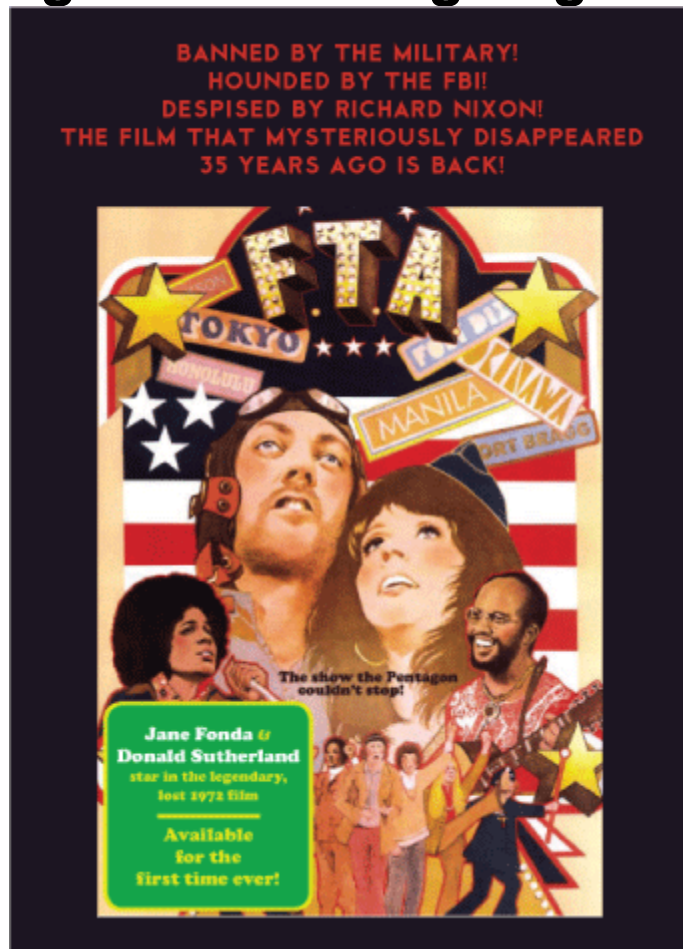
Let me know.  
Dennis Serdel



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## 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: “Behind-The-Scenes Footage Of Soldiers Talking Candidly To The Troupe Members About Their Frustration And Anger At The Ongoing War”



## FTA Trailer

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HlkqPCgU7g&eurl=http://imgineaworldof.blogspot.com/&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HlkqPCgU7g&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

\*\*\*\*\*

## About The Film:

[Thanks to Michael Letwin, New York City Labor Against The War & Military Project, who sent this in.]

February 22, 2009 By Dennis Lim, Los Angeles Times [Excerpts]

A time capsule of the anti-Vietnam War movement, "FTA" is also a vivid flashback to a world-famous movie star's stint as a political radical. At the peak of her celebrity, which coincided with the dawning of her political consciousness, Jane Fonda abdicated her Hollywood throne and remade herself as the face of the anti-establishment.

With government agents and the news media watching her every move, she led a vaudeville troupe on a tour of U.S. military bases in 1971 -- a trip chronicled in this fascinating documentary, largely unseen since its brief, abortive release and finally available on DVD this week.

In the disc's only extra, a 20-minute interview, Fonda recounts how the project came about. She and Donald Sutherland, her costar in 1971's "Klute" (which won her an Oscar), were approached by Howard Levy, a doctor who had become an antiwar cause célèbre for refusing to train Green Beret medics.

He proposed that they put on a corrective to Bob Hope's gung-ho USO shows, giving voice not just to the growing peace movement but to antiwar sentiment within the ranks of the military.

The FTA troupe staged its first shows in the U.S., with Fonda and Sutherland (who had just played the irreverent Hawkeye in Robert Altman's "MASH") headlining a company that included Peter Boyle and Howard Hesseman. (The all-purpose acronym is short for "Free the Army" and a more profane variation.)

When it came time to embark on the two-week Pacific Rim tour, Fonda assembled a more politically correct lineup that stressed racial and gender parity -- equal numbers of black and white, and male and female, performers, including singer Holly Near and comedian Paul Mooney.

Fonda, Sutherland and company stopped off in Hawaii, the Philippines, Okinawa and Japan (where they were initially refused entry). Denied permission to perform on U.S. bases, they set up shop in nearby coffeehouses and other venues, although military officials apparently tried to minimize attendance by publicizing incorrect show times.

All told, the troupe played 21 shows, which were attended by some 64,000 servicemen and women. Many of the male GIs, as Fonda ruefully concedes in the interview, must have been anticipating the Space Age sex kitten from "Barbarella" and not the righteous radical who took the stage in jeans, no makeup and a raised fist.

The show mixes protest songs with broad and bawdy skits, taking potshots at military chauvinism and top-brass privilege. But what it lacks in finesse, it makes up for with a raucous energy.

Directed by Francine Parker (who died in 2007), the documentary alternates between the song-and-dance routines and behind-the-scenes footage of soldiers talking candidly to the troupe members about their frustration and anger at the ongoing war and the American presence in the region.

As fate would have it, "FTA" opened the same week in July 1972 that news broke of Fonda's trip to Hanoi, where she made radio broadcasts for the North Vietnamese regime and was photographed sitting on an anti-aircraft gun. Within a week, the distributor (youth-flick specialist American-International Pictures) had pulled the movie from theaters.

Fonda's career went into partial eclipse, and she remains to this day a favorite target of the right, but she recovered to win a second Oscar for the 1978 war-veteran drama "Coming Home." For years she quietly has distanced herself from her radical past, which might explain why "FTA," which she co-produced, has been out of circulation for more than three decades.

Its recent reemergence points to a change of heart and owes much to the efforts of filmmaker David Zeiger, who used footage from "FTA" in "Sir! No Sir!," a 2005 documentary about antiwar resistance within the military.

## **To Get Your Copy Of FTA:**

[http://militarylies.typepad.com/military\\_lies/2009/01/preorder-fta-from-displaced-films.html](http://militarylies.typepad.com/military_lies/2009/01/preorder-fta-from-displaced-films.html)



Vietnam Days

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## March 6, 1967: Honorable Anniversary



Carl Bunin Peace History

Muhammad Ali was ordered by the Selective Service to be inducted into military service. He refused, citing his religious beliefs that precluded him from killing others.

“I ain’t got no quarrel with those Vietcong.”

**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

**OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

**“Understand Me:  
Ever Since I Was A Child I Have  
Lived Among Survivors Of The  
Death Camps”**

**“Take Away The Name Of My  
Grandfather From The Memorial That  
Testifies To The Horrors Suffered By  
The Jews, So That It Can No Longer  
Be Used To Justify The Horror Which  
Is Visited Upon The Palestinians”  
[Open Letter To The President Of Israel]**

29 Jan 2009 By Jean-Moïse Braitberg; LE MONDE

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you, to ask you to contact those who are authorized to do so, to remove the name of my grandfather from the memorial at Yad Vashem, which is dedicated to the Jewish victims of National Socialism.

It says “Moshe Brajtberg, gassed in 1943 in Treblinka.”

The rest of my family also perished in the various of the camps to which they were deported.

I beg you. Mr. President, to do this, because that which has happened in Gaza, and in other places, and has defined the fate of the Arab peoples of Palestine for 60 years now, disqualifies - to my mind - Israel to be the center which is dedicated to remember the suffering of the Jews, and by extension, that of all of mankind.

Understand me: ever since I was a child I have lived among survivors of the death camps.

I saw the numbers tattooed on their arms and heard the stories of their tortures. I experienced the unbearable mourning and shared the nightmares.

I learned that these crimes shall never again take place, that no person, ever again, shall despise another for his ethnicity or religion, and rob him of his elementary Human Rights, just as he has a right to a life lived in decent circumstances, with the hope of better things for his family.

Still, Mr. President, I have noticed that despite innumerable Resolutions of the international community, despite the obvious injustices to which the Palestinians have been heirs since 1948, despite the hopes of Oslo, and despite the repeated recognition on the part of the Palestinian authorities that Israeli Jews have the right to live in peace and security, the only answer of successive Israeli governments has been brute force, blood shed, incarceration, constant controls, colonization and expropriations.

You will tell me, Mr. President, that it is legitimate for a country to defend itself against rockets aimed at its people, or kamikazis who take many innocents with them in death.

To which I will answer that my human sympathies do not ask after the nationality of the victim.

You, on the other hand, lead a nation that means to represent the Jews in their entirety, but also claim to preserve the memory of the victims of National Socialism.

**That is what touches me and is unbearable to me.**

**While you write the names of my loved ones at Yad Vashem, in the heart of Israel, the state holds the memory of my family prisoner behind the barbed wire of Zionism, in order to make them hostages of a so-called authority which - day after day - practices injustice.**

**So I beg you to take away the name of my grandfather from the memorial that testifies to the horrors suffered by the Jews, so that it can no longer be used to justify the horror which is visited upon the Palestinians.**

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

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## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



### How It Is

March 2, 2009 Jack A. Smith, Dissident Voice [Excerpt]

Despite unlimited financing, the Pentagon has lost the war in Iraq.

When the world's greatest military juggernaut is fought to a stalemate by an erratic irregular force of perhaps 20,000 effectives, it is a defeat that cannot be covered up --- at least by history --- through a cosmetic "surge" consisting of equal parts violence and bribery.

But the Obama Administration seems committed to a clear victory in Afghanistan (as were the British and Russians of previous eras, much to their chagrin).

In the Department of Defense budget proposal the monies are to facilitate "achieving U.S. objectives in Afghanistan," and those objectives of necessity include wiping out the military humiliation in Iraq.

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



# THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE WARS

## CLASS WAR REPORTS

“WE’RE SORRY, SAY BANKERS. WELL, SORT OF”



Steve Bell

### 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

RECEIVED



# **MARCH FOR HOUSING JUSTICE IN NEW ORLEANS!**

**Keep Lafitte Open!  
No Forced Evictions During Crisis!**

**1pm Rally; 2pm March.  
March 7, 2009. Saturday.**

**Rally at corner of Orleans & N. Claiborne.**

March 03, 2009 Via NOLA\_C3\_Discussion

**The grave shortage of affordable housing in New Orleans, already at an appallingly high level due to ruling class manipulation of the Katrina recovery, is worsening as the national recession erodes the economic welfare of people here.**

The local unemployment rate, for the first time in three years, has shot above the national unemployment rate.

While this happens the local safety net remains in tatters as a consequence of the wave of privatization of public services here that followed Hurricane Katrina.

Averting yet another housing catastrophe in post-Katrina New Orleans requires mass resistance from below that compels authorities to take the following measures:

1. KEEP LAFITTE OPEN! NO EVICTIONS!
2. LSU HANDS OFF LOWER-MID CITY!
3. NO EVICTIONS OF N.O. RENTERS FOR THE DURATION OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS!

Sponsors: Residents of Lafitte, C3/Hands Off Iberville, May Day Nola, Stephanie Mingo, & the Committee to Reopen Charity.

Meetings 7pm Thursdays in St. Jude's Basin Hall. 410 Basin St

**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!



### GI Special Looks Even Better Printed Out

GI Special issues are archived at website <http://www.militaryproject.org> .

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/);

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