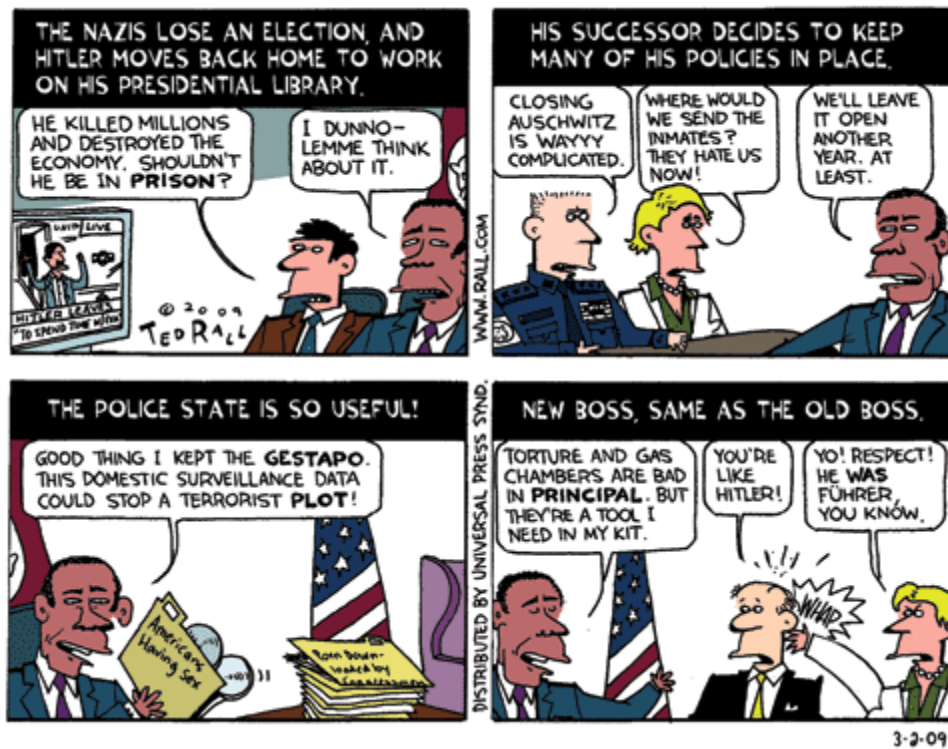


GI SPECIAL 7C8:



**At It Again:
U.S. Imperial Military Dictator
Odierno Has Decided U.S. Troops
Can Stay Fighting Insurgents In
Mosul “Past A June 30, 2009
Deadline For All U.S. Combat
Troops To Leave Iraqi Cities”**

He Has Also Decided U.S. Troops Will Stay And Fight After 2011 Withdrawal Deadline If Iraqi Politicians “Renegotiate A Later Pullout Date” [No Public Announcement Yet Of Plans To Overthrow The Government And Seize Power In Washington DC]



Sept. 16, 2008: The traitor Odierno at camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq. **Thousands of U.S. troops will remain in Iraqi cities at local security stations after the summer deadline to have combat troops out of the urban areas, Gen. Odierno, the top U.S. commander in Iraq said Saturday.** (AP Photo/Dusan Vranic, Pool-File)

March 9, 2009 By MARTHA RADDATZ and LUIS MARTINEZ, ABC [Excerpts]

Gen. Ray Odierno, the top U.S. military commander in Iraq, said that continuing the fight against insurgents in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul might lead to U.S. troops remaining in the city past a June 30, 2009 deadline for all U.S. combat troops to leave Iraqi cities, but only if the Iraqi government made such a request. **[Three guesses what Odierno’s little hand-puppets will request. Duh.]**

"If they ask us to stay we will probably stay and help them out."

Odierno said that "inside of the cities, we'll be limited in what we do," as American troops probably won't conduct their own combat patrols, though U.S. forces will continue to be embedded with Iraqi units as trainers and advisers. **[Translation: American troops will conduct their own combat patrols if he decides they will conduct their own combat patrols. As in "I'll probably pay you back the money I owe you." Or, "Never mind the condom, you probably won't get pregnant." Or how about "This weapon I'm pointing at your head probably isn't loaded."]**

But he said the situation in northern Iraq might be different if the Iraqi government asks that combat troops remain in Mosul to continue their offensive operations against insurgents.

Will all U.S. troops be completely out of Iraq by 2011, as laid out in the security agreement?

"We will," said Odierno. "We have signed an agreement that says we will be and I think we're on track to do that."

But he left open the possibility that it remains an Iraqi decision to make if it wants to renegotiate a later pullout date.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Officer Killed By IED In Tikrit

March 09, 2009 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 152-09

1st Lt. Daniel B. Hyde, 24, of Modesto, Calif., died March 7 in Samarra, Iraq, of wounds sustained in Tikrit when an explosive device struck his unit vehicle. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

US Mercenary Guarding Diplomats in Iraq Killed

March 8, 2009 (AP)

A U.S. veteran who returned to Iraq as a civilian contractor was shot to death while protecting American diplomats in Iraq, his employer said Sunday.

Justin Pope, 25, died after being shot late Wednesday or early Thursday in Kirkuk, said Douglas Ebner, a spokesman for Falls Church, Va.-based DynCorp International.

Detroit-area television station WJBK reported Saturday that Pope was killed by sniper fire. Ebner denied that, saying Pope died of "an accidental gunshot wound." He would not elaborate, saying the incident was under investigation by DynCorp and the U.S. State Department.

Albuquerque Soldier Dies Of War Wounds; Injured In Iraq In 2005

04 Mar 2009 Reporter: Alex Tomlin; ALBUQUERQUE (KRQE)

Some battles are not fought in a day. Army Staff Sgt. Daniel Tallouzi of Albuquerque, with his family at his side, fought his battle for more than two years.

On Saturday his battle ended when he died of wounds inflicted by an enemy mortar shell in Iraq.

His family said Tallouzi was raised on core principles of love, devotion, service and strength. Those values showed in his life and now in his death.

After graduating from Albuquerque's Valley High School in 2002 he went into the business his family knows best.

"We're a military family," Mario Aguirre, Tallouzi's uncle, said. "I had always instilled in them the positive points of a military career and military life and things like that."

Aguirre helped raise Tallouzi, 24, and watched him leave when he deployed to Iraq in 2005.

"I was the one who got the casualty call," Aguirre said.

In September 2006 Tallouzi was just going to bed at Camp Taji when the mortar blast hit.

"They cut his skull out and let his brain swell," Aguirre told KRQE News 13. "That was the big problem. He had picked up a piece of shrapnel that went into his head."

Doctors didn't expect Tallouzi to survive, but he kept fighting. His mother devoted the next two years to being at his side. Saturday the soldier's fight ended.

"He basically choked and drowned in his own fluids," Aguirre continued. "It was a matter of probably two hours and he was dead."

Aguirre said a part of himself and a dream died with his nephew.

"I have lost a friend and a son," he said. "Our family had their hopes pinned on Daniel will wake up one of these days."

Aguirre said the family will now devote their time to making sure wounded soldiers get the care they deserve.

The funeral mass is planned for 10 a.m. Thursday Prince of Peace Catholic Church at 12500 Carmel Avenue NE. Burial will follow at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.

The family is inviting members of the community to attend, Aguirre said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

New York Soldier Killed In Kandau Kalay



U.S. Army Pfc. Patrick A. Devoe II, Fort Richardson Alaska soldier from New York, has been killed in Afghanistan. Devoe, from Auburn, N.Y., was killed March 8, 2009 by a roadside bomb in Kandau Kalay. The 27-year-old Devoe joined the Army in January 2008. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

One Canadian Forces Soldier Killed And Four Wounded By Shah Wali Kot IED

March 8, 2009 CEFCON NR 09.005

OTTAWA – One Canadian Forces soldier was killed and four were injured when an improvised explosive device detonated near an armoured vehicle during a patrol in the Shah Wali Kot District. The incident occurred north-east from Kandahar City at around 1:15 p.m., Kandahar time, on 8 March, 2009.

The injured CF personnel were evacuated by helicopter to the Role 3 Multi-National Medical Facility at the Kandahar Airfield. All injured CF personnel are in stable condition and three of them will be evacuated to Landstuhl Medical Facility shortly.

One Foreign Occupation Soldier Killed, Two Wounded By IED; Nationality Not Announced

08 Mar. 2009 ISAF Public Affairs Office

KABUL, Afghanistan - A combined International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and Coalition element suffered an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack in eastern Afghanistan on 8 March, resulting in one service member killed and two wounded.

Services Set For Tucson Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



Master Sgt. David L. Hurt

2/25 Associated Press

A memorial service is planned for a Tucson soldier killed last week in Afghanistan.

The Department of Defense said Master Sgt. David L. Hurt, 36, died Friday after an improvised explosive device hit his military vehicle.

The service is scheduled for Monday at the Casas Adobes VFW Post, said Joshua Martin, a friend of Hurt and an Army veteran. A color guard will be provided by the Arizona Army National Guard's Tucson-posted 860th Military Police Company. Martin said he expects some 400 to 500 people to attend. "He's a local hero," Martin said of Hurt.

"It's a sad thing, not just that he was a friend, but he was one of our servicemen, one of our heroes . . . it's a tragedy," said Alexander McKenna, a boyhood friend of Hurt's and an ex-Marine. "It saddens me. It deeply saddens me."

Hurt was a Santa Rita High school graduate, who "loved being a soldier" and "was proud of his country," said his mother, Bonnie Hurt, who lives in Hope Mills, N.C.

She said she talked to her son two days before his death and he always signed off telling her he loved her.

David Hurt and the other soldier killed with him -- Staff Sgt. Jeremy E. Bessa, 26 -- were assigned to the 1st Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group in Fort Bragg, N.C.

Bessa died at the scene while Hurt died from his wounds after being evacuated to Kandahar Airfield for treatment, according to the Army.

Hurt, a native of Oak Park, Ill., moved to Tucson with his family at age 3, his 65-year-old mother said.

He enlisted in Tucson in November 1992, according to the Army.

Hurt earned his Green Beret in May 2000 and was assigned to the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne).

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Commendation Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, the Valorous Unit Award and the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, according to his Army biography.

Hurt is survived by his wife, Kelly, and two children, all of Grays Creek, N.C., in addition to his parents and a sister.

Robinson Is First Thornton Grad Killed In Afghanistan, Iraq

March 5, 2009 BY LAUREN FITZPATRICK Staff writer; Southtown Star

Simone Robinson was a smart, funny girl; a promising student who showed up for her freshman yearbook photo in a sparkly Army brat T-shirt, and graduated from Thornton Township High School in 2005 with excellent grades and a start date with the Illinois National Guard.

On Wednesday, word spread among her former classmates and colleagues that Robinson had died from the burns she suffered during a January attack in Afghanistan. It was her first deployment.

Amanda Manson, a friend since the days the girls attended eighth grade at Rosa Parks Elementary School in Harvey, said Robinson was "real sweet, and she was funny, too."

"She kept me laughing and others around her," Manson said. "She would help you when you came to her if you had problems with your work. I don't think she ever got bad grades.

"It ran in the family (because) her sister was smart, too," Manson said of Simone's sister and best friend, Sharmonique Robinson.

Sharmonique's Facebook page was covered with condolence messages Wednesday from friends who changed their profile pictures to images of Simone.

Robinson, a 21-year-old single mother of baby Nyzia, was Thornton's first alum to be killed in the wars in Afghanistan or Iraq, Principal Betheny Lyke said.

"We definitely are in mourning as a school," Lyke said. She described Robinson as an excellent student whose death shook up her former teachers. Lyke said the school's flag was flying at half staff and further plans to mourn Robinson or celebrate her life would depend on her family's wishes.

Her parents released a written statement Thursday through the National Guard:

"Nothing compares to what our family is experiencing at this time, with the loss of Simone. She was devoted to her friends, her family, her country and most importantly to her daughter, Nyzia.

"She wanted nothing more than to be a good role model for Nyzia and was dedicated to working hard to provide for her. Simone had a smile that could easily light up a room and an angelic voice heard by so many. Simone sang her way through life, getting her through so much. She is truly our hero and will always be in our hearts. We thank you for your support at this difficult time and ask media to respect our wishes not to be interviewed."

The Guard also announced Robinson was posthumously promoted to the rank of sergeant and awarded a Bronze Star medal. After the attack, while in the hospital, she also received a Purple Heart, Sgt. April Haas said.

Her other awards include a Combat Action Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M-device, Army Service Ribbon and NATO Medal.

A guardsman from her unit has flown to Texas to escort her body home. According to military tradition, Robinson's commander First Lt. Beth Roxworthy said, the body of a fallen soldier is not left alone until burial with full military honors, but all funeral details are up to the family.

Funeral services are set for Saturday at Great Hope Church in Robbins, said Roxworthy.

Robinson herself used to preside over veterans' funerals as part of a National Guard detail, Roxworthy said.

Based at the Crestwood Armory, she deployed in August with Company E, 634th Brigade Support Battalion based in Joliet to Afghanistan as part of the 33rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team to provide force protection for Camp Eggers and to be the quick reaction force for the Kabul area, officials said.

Her former colleague Anthony Caples often was her partner during a two-man flag fold ceremony. And sometimes she'd fire a rifle as part of a 21-gun salute.

"She was a young rookie, she was quiet, laid back, always had a smile," he said. "She had a positive attitude. She was tough."

Her movements were "crisp," as she helped lay soldiers to rest, including a few killed in Iraq, the 47-year-old said. "I only went with the best ones."

Now Robinson, who returns to Illinois escorted by a member of her Crestwood unit, will be buried with military honors, he said.

She was wounded during a Jan. 17 attack outside a U.S. military base in Kabul. The attack immediately killed another U.S. service member and four Afghan civilians and wounded eighteen other troops.

Badly burned during the explosion, Robinson initially was taken to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany for treatment and later was taken to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. One of her legs had to be amputated.

On Sunday she died, surrounded by her parents and sister who stayed by her bedside the past few weeks.

Longtime neighbor Victor Willis said he got the call Sunday night that Robinson had died. He had just received a flyer announcing the creation of a trust fund to care for her and her 2-year-old daughter. The flyer featured photos of the baby girl and of Robinson in full uniform, and urging friends to help support her.

"She was still fighting and stuff," he said. Willis used to play next door around the little ranch home in Robbins owned by Robinson's grandparents - a house which on Wednesday was silent.

Then one day, the young woman everyone described as tiny, little or petite showed up in her military togs, catching Willis off guard.

"I didn't think she was old enough to be in the service," he said.

Who Would Have Believed It!

Commander Says Occupation Forces “Are Not Winning In Large Parts Of The South”

Mar 9 (KUNA)

Coalition forces in Afghanistan are not winning in large parts of the south, the commander of NATO and US forces said Monday.

In an interview with BBC radio, General David McKiernan said that coalition strategy had so far been clear, but under-resourced.

In these areas, "more has to happen along multiple lines of operation in order for anybody by any metric to say that the Afghans are winning or the efforts of the coalition are winning," he continued.

REALLY BAD PLACE TO BE: ALL HOME NOW



A US radio operator near the Afghan-Pakistan border. Photograph/Reuters: The Guardian 3.6.09

TROOP NEWS

NOT ANOTHER DAY

NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR NOT ANOTHER LIE



With their dogtags tied to a single casket, the comingled remains of Staff Sgt. Alex Jimenez of Lawrence, Mass., and Spc. Byron Fouty of Waterford, Mich., are buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Feb. 17, 2009. Jimenez and Fouty, both of the 10th Mountain Division in Ft. Drum, N.Y., were killed in Iraq. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP

Resistance Action; Attack On Baghdad Police Academy Kills 32

March 8, 2009 By Hussein Kadhim, McClatchy Newspapers & 9 March 2009 (AFP) & (Reuters)

Insurgents opened fire at two soldiers in Mithaq neighborhood in Mosul on Saturday night. The two soldiers who were killed, were going to buy some food stuff from the commercial shops near their military check point in the area.

Guerrillas shot dead two US-allied Iraqi militiamen at a checkpoint in western Baghdad on Monday, a security service official said. "Armed men opened fire on a Sahwa (militia) checkpoint in the Jihad district, killing two men," an official said.

Governor of Salahudin province narrowly escaped death and five of his bodyguards were wounded when a roadside bomb struck his convoy just north of Tikrit, 150 km (95 miles) north of Baghdad, on Sunday evening, police said.

Two policemen were killed when gunmen opened fire at their checkpoint in western Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, on Sunday evening, police said.

**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.

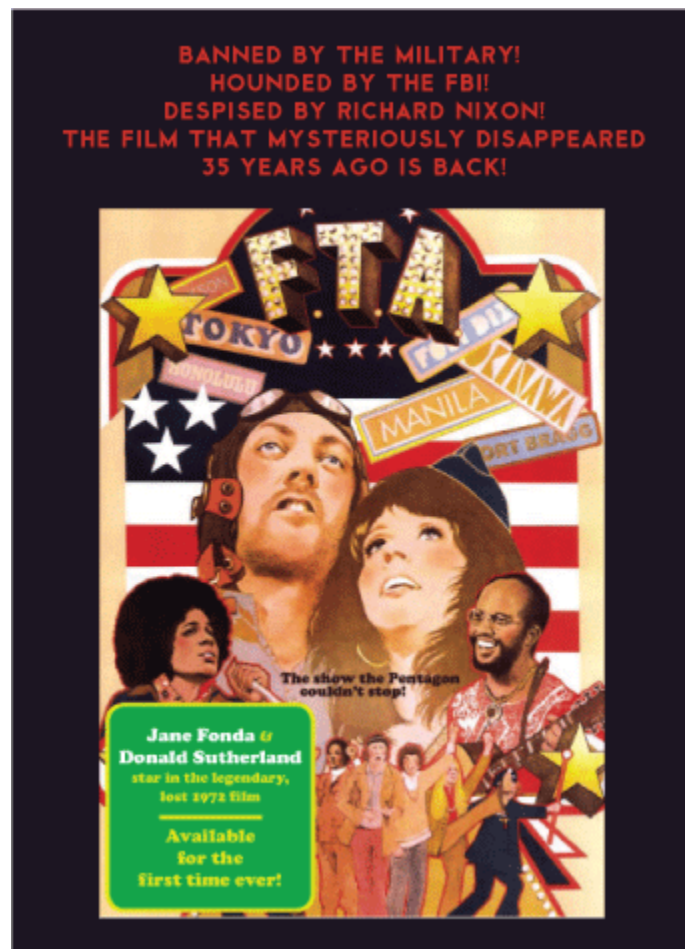
“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

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

Frederick Douglas, 1852

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://imageaworldof.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:

2/10/09 By Penelope Andrew, Criticalwomen.blogspot.com [Excerpts]

A Review of FTA (1972), Out On DVD, With Notes On Theater of War (2008)

Thirty-six years ago and about a minute before she was smeared and dubbed “Hanoi Jane,” Jane Fonda, Donald Sutherland and six of their “trouble-making” friends were the subject of a documentary film called FTA.

They formed a touring company of activist actors, comedians, singers, and writers who performed in coffeehouses and other venues as close as possible to U.S. military bases in the states and later across the Pacific Rim.

They were the thinking troops’ troupe, an anti-USO show, and an alternative to Bob Hope who had previously cornered the market on entertaining the military.

Recently, the IFC Center—the art house Villagers love so well--held two special screenings of this little known documentary by the late director (and incidentally, the first female member of the Directors Guild of America) Francine Parker.

It’s hardly been seen since its original release in 1972. FTA is a multi-purpose acronym and variously defined as “Free the Army,” “Free Theater Associates,” or, the soldiers’ favorite term, “Fuck the Army.”

Upon learning of the event, a community organizer from the 1960s, former SDS member, long-time friend of Tom Hayden and busy social worker to this very day cut to the heart of the matter in a phone message, "I am going to go. I'll be late, so save me a seat.

"You've probably figured out by now that FTA is about Jane and Donald Sutherland's anti-war tour back in the old 70s when we only had ONE war."

It's very interesting that FTA's re-release follows, by about a month, the theatrical debut of its contemporary first-cousin, Theater of War (2008)—at The Film Forum--which documents the making of the Public Theater's 2006 production of Mother Courage and Her Children with a cast led by Meryl Streep.

These celluloid monuments drive home the genius of two of the most potent, anti-war writers who ever lived: Dalton Trumbo and Berthold Brecht.

Both appeared before the HUAC. Trumbo was jailed for 11 months on contempt charges for failing to name names, while Brecht literally waltzed his way through with a performance of very broken English with a snappy German accent. In Theater of War, one is treated to a large dose of Mother Courage by way of a new translation by Tony Kushner and a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the artistry of Streep finding her character in a fascinating rehearsal process.

By contrast, FTA is raw.

It underscores how infectious was the movement of the 60s and 70s captured through a lens that focuses on: a naïve, fresh-faced Holly Near acting (albeit poorly, but with a lovely enthusiasm) the part of a privileged officer's wife; the effectiveness of songs ("We Will Not Bow Down to Genocide") sung simply by folk musician Len Chandler and ballads ("Dear Soldier, We Love You") performed and written by the talented Rita Martinson; and poetry and skits by the rest of a dedicated cast who worked at fever pitch unencumbered by a need for perfection.

The gifted comedian, social satirist and writer Paul Mooney was also part of the company.

He participated in a panel with Fonda that introduced the earlier screening of FTA.

The "a spit and a prayer production" as Fonda lovingly calls it traveled a long way to reach American troops who were questioning their roles and actions as military men and women.

FTA offered much needed support for those who joined the perilous ranks of Vietnam Veterans Against the War (for one of its most famous members, Senator John Kerry, it may well have cost him the presidency).

There are scenes with Fonda and cast sitting down with individual soldiers: Black-Americans reporting racism and abuse by their white (aptly named) master sergeants; heartbreaking commentary by wounded, shell-shocked, white soldiers who wander the streets of Japan; and young women soldiers retelling stories of

being cajoled into getting on “the Pill” for the implied purpose of servicing their male counterparts.

In one of the most powerful scenes in the film, Donald Sutherland recites from Trumbo's 1939, anti-war novel Johnny Got His Gun about a WWI soldier, Joe Bonham — not the average Joe that Sarah Palin nauseated the American public with but an extraordinary Joe--who has been maimed and disfigured beyond human recognition.

One could hear a pin drop in the audience as the atmosphere filled with the fear all nightmares bring coupled with the majesty that occurs when a true artistic moment emerges. Sutherland — unlike the earthier James Cagney who performed the part of Joe in a radio adaptation of the book — speaks the part of the narrator trapped inside what is left of his own body on the scale of a preacher (perhaps reprising his role in Jules Fieffer's Little Murders as the cynical 1972 review of FTA in The New York Times suggested), and one who is also well schooled in Shakespeare.

Sutherland's riveting oratory while clutching his beaten up copy of Johnny Got His Gun with its still-visible, iconic cover drew cheers from the audience and shouts of “Go Donald!”

Parker, Brecht and Trumbo may have passed on, but anti-war, anti-genocide and anti-poverty spirit continue in the genre of the documentary as practiced by the soothsayer Michael Moore (Fahrenheit 9/11), in the poetry of the images of Heddy Honigmann (Crazy), through the artistry of Errol Morris (Fog of War) and in the passion of Spike Lee (When the Levees Broke).

Parker's FTA has been restored from an archival print and is out on DVD with a bonus feature, a 20-minute interview with Jane Fonda revealing a ton of fascinating back story. Fonda — finding time between rehearsals for a new play 33 Variations — showed up to introduce both screenings of FTA and continues to set the record straight. “Go Jane!”

FTA (1972) directed by Francine Parker with Michael Alaimo, Len Chandler, Pamela Donegan, Steve Jaffe , Rita Martinson, Paul Mooney, Holly Near, Donald Sutherland and Jane Fonda. DVD 97 min. with bonus feature: interview with Jane Fonda.

Theater of War (2008) directed by John W. Walter with George C. Wolfe, Kevin Kline, Tony Kushner, Austin Pendleton, Jay Cantor, Meryl Streep and others.

Penelope Andrew, a NYC-based writer who contributes to The Huffington Post and Critical Women on Film, is a member of the Women Film Critics Circle. Her article: “Trauma & Recovery: A Review of I've Loved You So Long,” will appear in the Spring issue of the Newsletter of the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work. She is currently at work on “Fog of War, Body of War, Theater of War and Michael Moore,” a paper for the Canadian film journal CineACTION. A certified psychoanalytic psychotherapist and licensed clinical social worker, she maintains a private psychotherapy practice in NYC.

Her second-year internship as a social work graduate student involved working with Vietnam Veterans.

To Get Your Copy Of FTA:

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

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

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: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 917.677.8057

**GI Special Traitors' Gate Award
For Spring 2009 Goes To:
New York United For Peace And
Justice:
These Disgusting Rats Issue A Call
For A Mass Demonstration Next
Month Without Demanding All U.S.**

Troops Withdraw From Iraq Or Afghanistan, Now Or Ever! They Call Their Lame, Stupid, Pathetic Farce “Beyond War”



[Wikipedia]

The name Traitors' Gate has been used since the early seventeenth century, prisoners were brought by barge along the Thames, passing under London Bridge, where the heads of recently executed prisoners were displayed on pikes. The prisoners were shocked by the sight of the heads of the recently executed stuck on spikes on the stone gate houses.

Eligibility requirement:

Opposed Imperial War while Bush was President, but after he leaves, come up with all kinds of bullshit excuses to defend the Obama regime's refusal to bring all U.S. troops home from Afghanistan and Iraq now.

FUND OUR COMMUNITIES, CUT MILITARY SPENDING!

Bring this message to the Rally for New York Thursday, March 5th

Meet the UFPJ Contingent

3:45 - 4:00 PM

Walker Street, west of Broadway

We will then march to City Hall to join the rally.

The budget, the economic crisis, the cost of war in Iraq and Afghanistan - all topics that are being talked about and debated every day! It is our job to continue to continue to drive home the message that they are entirely related!

Join us with your signs and banners: Fund our schools, not wars!

Fund jobs, not wars! Please help us to build for the April 4th National March on Wall Street by volunteering to pass out fliers at the rally.

We will have fliers at the meet-up location or download flier [HERE](http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=dPMpluHtKFP6q9ag0D4cWWNDD1LroHTP).
<<http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=dPMpluHtKFP6q9ag0D4cWWNDD1LroHTP>

Beyond War: A New Economy is Possible! YES WE CAN carry on Martin Luther King's vision to replace war, racism and poverty with peace, equality and economic justice!
April 4th National March on Wall Street

Help Make April 4th Happen! Join us for a mobilizing meeting on Tues. March 10 at 6:30 PM.

Now more than ever before there is an opening for all people who have been fighting for peace and for justice to come together to move Dr. King's vision.

For the first time in a long time, we can march with hope.

Now is the time that our movements for racial justice and economic equality, our movements against the wars and occupations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine and elsewhere, our movements for a new economy based on people's needs, green union jobs and sustainability will ALL come together to say YES WE CAN! Yes We Can move beyond war. Yes We Can build a new world of justice, equality and peace.

In order for this to happen, we need your help to spread the word on your campuses, in your religious congregations, your PTA's, your tenants organizations, your neighborhoods.

On Tues., March 10, we are calling all activists and organizations to come to a mobilizing meeting to hear the details for April 4th, pick up fliers, hook up with others to leaflet with, and sign up to volunteer.

The meeting will be at the UFPJ office, 630 9th Ave, suite 215B, between 44th and 45th Aves.

You will need ID to show the doorman.

NYC UNITED FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE
PO Box 607; Times Square Station; New York, NY 10108
www.nycufpj.org -- 212-868-5545

www.unitedforpeace.org

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**The Second Nakba:
“The Zionists Fled From A Holocaust
And Created A New One”
“For Sabha, This Was Not A War With
 Hamas, It Was A Massacre, And Its Only
Objective Was To Eliminate The
Palestinians, To Wipe Them From The
Face Of The Earth”**

February 14, 2009 By Reem Salahi, Mondoweiss [Excerpts]

The following report was written by a delegate on a recent National Lawyers Guild delegation to Gaza.

The Second Nakba

By Reem Salahi

History repeats itself.

With the key to her demolished home around her neck, the middle-aged Palestinian woman standing before me had escaped the first Nakba (meaning 'Day of Catastrophe' marking the exodus of Palestinians from their homes with the creation of the State of Israel) of 1948 only to live through the second Nakba; the Nakba of 2009, which was more destructive and deadly than the first.

In order to reach the tent city in Jabalia, we walked down a long road of pure destruction and demolition; destroyed homes, mosques, buildings, bakeries and stores.

I had wanted to see the tent city in Jabalia to take pictures and talk to the residents living there.

Undoubtedly, these people were the most affected by Israel's recent offensive as their livelihoods were minimized to nothing more than a 6x8 foot white tent which had no amenities and housed up to fifty persons per tent.

Wherever we looked there was destruction and children; children who had lost the roof over their heads and now stood vulnerable to not only the elements, but also to Israel's continued bombing of border villages.

One child walked up and down the road with a piece of rubble tied to a long cord. It was his new toy since his old toys were lost under the ruins of what used to be his home. Men stood around, drinking tea and talking. With the backdrop of mounds of rubble and tents was another man, praying, on a piece of tarp. While the Israelis had taken away everything else of his, they did not take away his God, and to this, he bowed his head in gratitude.

These Palestinians stand under the burning sun day-in and day-out living their lives for no particular purpose.

Many of them used to be farmers. Most of them had lost multiple family members. All of them had lost their homes and farms. An older woman sat in the sand swatting flies. We approached her, as we were told by the residents of this tent city that she had lived through both Nakbas – the Nakba of 1948 and the Nakba of 2009.

Born in 1945, Sabha Yousef Mohammad Abed had lived through the first Nakba but had lost her husband and her farm in the second. Sabha had left her home in Brett (sp?) near Jaffa in what is currently considered Israel-proper when the Zionist forces had first come.

Her family fled from one village to the next to escape the Zionist forces until she eventually landed in Gaza, in the village of Jabalia, a few months later.

After the first Nakba, she lived for a few years in tents but slowly her life improved as the tents changed into block rooms and from block rooms to actual homes and farms.

While Sabha was very young during the first Nakba, she remembers the fear and the constant fleeing from one village to the next. She remembers being shot at and losing family members. She remembers the uncertainty of life and the tents and the running sewage.

But more so, she remembers building her life block by block from scratch and establishing a home for herself and her family. Sabha lost this home during the first week of Israel's offensive and is now living in a tent with her children.

While Sabha has never experienced complete stability due to ongoing wars and bombardment from Israeli forces and settlers, she had never seen the magnitude of bloodshed and brutal force used against Palestinians as she saw in Israel's recent offensive.

Israeli forces began their aerial strikes against Jabalia on the second day of the offensive.

Israeli forces bombed homes and civilians indiscriminately as her neighbors tried to flee. Many of those who tried to flee were taken as hostages by Israeli soldiers and many others were killed or fatally injured.

Those who were only mildly injured bled to death due to the lack of medical access and the ambulance drivers' inability to drive the less than one kilometer stretch from the headquarters of the Palestinian Red Cross Society to the bombed-out areas.

As Sabha spoke about Israel's recent offensive, she shook in anger.

Tell me where are the militants, she kept asking.

Are these children militants?

Does any human being deserve to live the way we live, fifty people to one tent with no blankets, no food, no water.

And where do we defecate? They have even taken away our dignity.

We are less than animals in their eyes. Even animals have more rights than us.

To Sabha, Israel's objectives were nothing short of genocide.

The Zionists fled from a holocaust and created a new one. They want a land with no people, she stated simply. A land without people for a people who have been purged from their land.

For Sabha, this was not a war with Hamas, it was a massacre, and its only objective was to eliminate the Palestinians, to wipe them from the face of the earth.

Sabha told us of how the Israeli soldiers entered their village in midday and separated the men from the women. The soldiers' faces were painted black and they shot at the villager's feet.

When Sabha saw her sons being taken away as hostages, she left her aging husband and farm behind and hid in the home adjacent to the hostages. The other women were made to march to the city center under the aerial strikes and constant bombing. Those who resisted or turned back were immediately shot. All around the streets were the dead and injured.

The area smelled of phosphorus and rotting bodies. Sabha stayed in hiding for many days. During that time, her husband was forced from their farm as Israeli bulldozers demolished the farm and bulldozed the walls of the farm over their goats, sheep, chicken and camels.

Sabha's husband, who stood on the street and watched his farm and home being demolished before his eyes, was killed moments later by an Israeli missile. One of the farm's walls fell over his dead body, and his body lay rotting for days.

As Sabha spoke, the entire village surrounded us. Even the children stood around in a circle and added to Sabha's narrative.

One girl, about seven or eight years of age, tugged at my sleeve.

That was my home over there, she whispered, pointing at rubble. She was in school when the bombing started. Embarrassedly, she admitted that she was so scared during the bombings that she fainted and peed on herself.

Her brother was killed as was many of her extended family.

Sabha is not alone in her anger. I have not met one Palestinian in Gaza who was not shocked and angered by the extent of Israel's brutality in the recent offensive.

After conducting an interview with one of the delegates, anchorman and filmmaker Ashraf Mashharawi from British Channel 4 spoke with me about his 16 year old cousin, Ahmad, who was sliced in half by what is believed to be a DIME missile.

DIME or Dense Inert Metal Explosives produce an unusually powerful blast within a small area and cause strong biological effects. The blast does not cause bleeding, but rather slices a body as smoothly as though the body was amputated.

While Israel's use of DIME has not been officially confirmed, it has been unofficially confirmed by weapons experts and doctors who have visited Gaza.

Ahmad along with Ashraf's younger brother, Mahmoud, age 11, were playing on the rooftop when they were targeted by a drone missile. Both Mahmoud and Ahmad were killed on impact and Ahmad was sliced in half.

Days later, the bottom portion of Ahmad's body was located a few kilometers from the rooftop that both Mahmoud and Ahmad were playing on. Parts of Ahmad's legs and one of his arms similarly separated from his body and were found on the rooftop by family members.

Having seen pictures of these DIME-caused amputations, I must admit that it is the most horrifying sight one can imagine.

One of the doctors at Al Awda Hospital showed me a video on his cell phone of a baby girl who was similarly sliced in half.

Her top half was black from the blast and her bottom half was gone, cleanly cut from the waist down as her guts and insides were exposed for the world to see. In the video, when the doctor – who had undoubtedly seen death in all its forms – approached to see her, he fell to the ground and started wailing. I cannot describe the sight of the girl.

Even now as I write about it, I feel light-headed and nauseous. No news station, not even Al-Jazeera, agreed to film this girl. Having seen the doctor's video, I can only sympathize.

Today is Israel's elections. Yet for the Palestinians, the question is not who will take over Ehud Olmert's position, but rather, when will be the next Israeli offensive, how many more Palestinians will be killed, and what will the next genocide that will undoubtedly wipe the memory of all Palestinians living in Gaza look like.

Before leaving the tent city in Jabalia, I told Sabha that insha'Allah I will come back to see her in better days, in happier days.

She laughed and patted my hand. When you come back, she said, you will be lucky to see any Palestinian left alive here.

But maybe its better that we are killed, this life has been hard and painful.

I have only wanted peace and stability throughout my life, and have gotten neither.

Now I have lost hope. I have lived through many wars, yet I have never seen any war like this before. That is why I know that Israel is out to eradicate us. It failed to eliminate us this time, but will not fail next time.

That is why I don't think you will come back and find us next time. Alhamdulillah (thanks to God), that is all I can say. Alhamdulillah.

An Exchange Of Views:

From: Z
To: GI Special
Sent: February 11, 2009
Subject: blank check for Zionism

Here is the kind of BS one gets from our glorious politicians. The tone is identical to what I got from Israeli prime minister's office.

My response is appended below.

Solidarity,
Z

The Letter:

From: senator@boxer.senate.gov [mailto:senator@boxer.senate.gov]
Sent: Wed 2/11/2009 11:39 AM
To: Jake Cipris
Subject: Responding to your message

Dear Dr. Cipris:

Thank you for contacting me regarding recent events in the Middle East. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your comments.

As you may know, on December 27, 2008, Israel responded to ongoing rocket fire against its citizens from Hamas, which has continued to threaten the security of Israel's borders in violation of a temporary cease-fire agreement negotiated in June 2008. No country in the world would stand for its citizens being targeted by rockets without taking appropriate action in self-defense.

On January 17, Israel announced a cease-fire in Gaza and began the withdrawal of its military forces. I am hopeful that this will lead to a post-conflict diplomatic solution that will allow the promise of peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians to finally be realized.

I am also hopeful that the Obama Administration's naming of a Special Envoy for Middle East Peace will do a great deal to advance the peace process. It is absolutely crucial for the United States and the international community to be actively engaged in promoting a lasting resolution to this conflict.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with me on this important issue.

Please be assured that as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I will work for a lasting peaceful solution to the crisis in the Middle East.

Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

Please visit my website at <http://boxer.senate.gov>

The Reply:

Dear Senator Boxer,

Your second paragraph sounds just as if it had been written for you by the Israeli government.

Israel is the aggressor in the region, and its violence against the Palestinians is infinitely worse than anything that Hamas' pitiful rockets have ever managed to inflict upon Israel.

Please, stop parroting the Zionist party line and providing pretexts for Israel's horrible conduct.

You are a US senator, not an Israeli one, and we Americans are getting sick and tired of supporting Israeli war crimes.

**Sincerely,
Z**

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



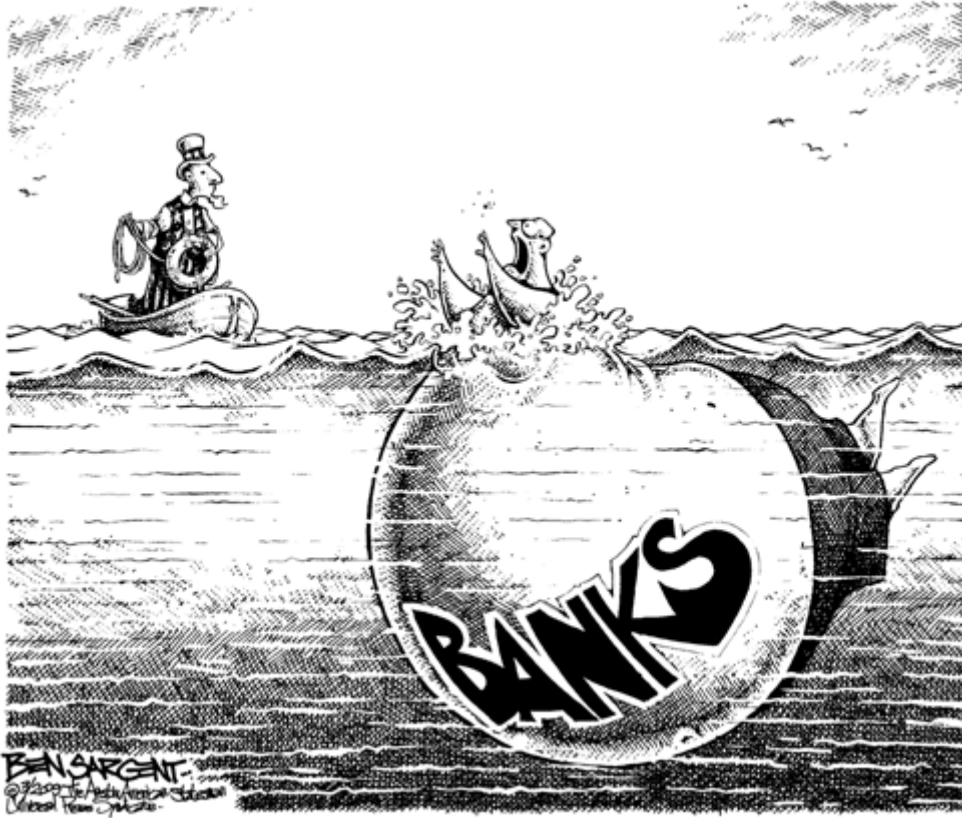
NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

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/)

CLASS WAR REPORTS



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

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

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