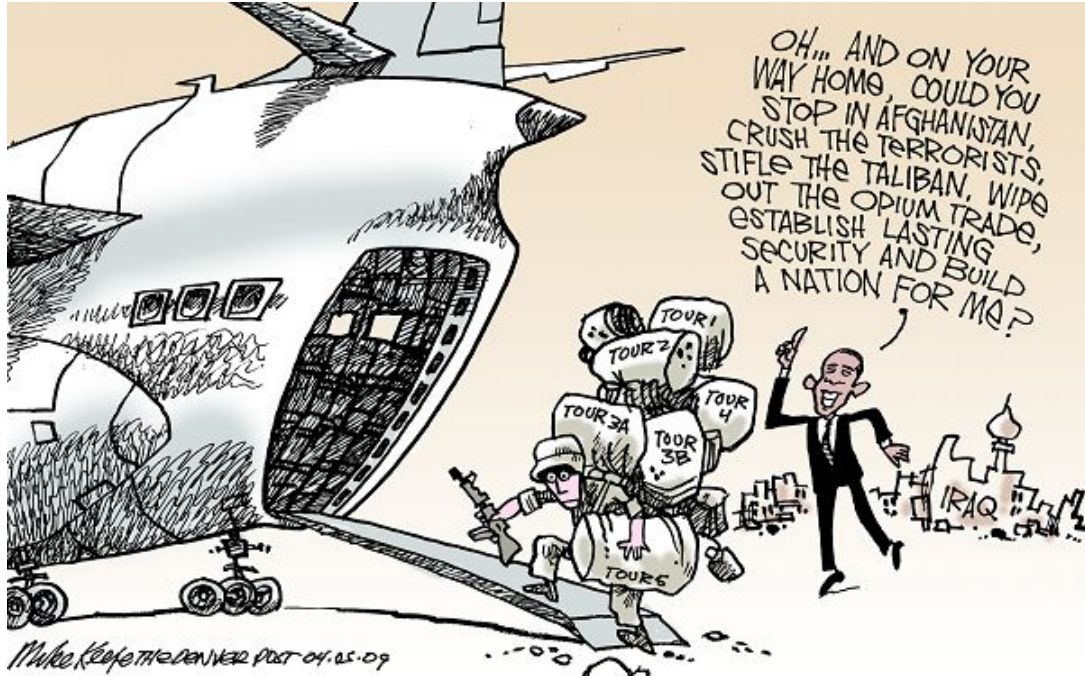


## GI SPECIAL 7F15:



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

**“Americans, Your Interventions Have Brought Us Tyranny And Death”**

**“Stay Home, Keep Your Hands Off And Leave Our Country To Us For A Change”**

**“Carrying A Picture Of Mossadeq Today Means Two Things: ‘We Want Democracy’ And ‘No Foreign Intervention’”**  
**“These Demands Fit Together In The Minds Of Most Iranians”**



Protesters displaying pictures of former prime minister Muhammad Mossadeq alongside presidential candidate Mir Hossein Mousavi during demonstrations in Iran last week. Photograph: Anonymous (courtesy of Stephen Kinzer)

[Thanks to Ben Chitty, Veterans For Peace, for posting.]

22 June 2009 Stephen Kinzer, Guardian News and Media Limited

**Despite efforts by Iran’s leaders to keep photographers off the streets during post-election protests this month, many vivid images have emerged.**

**The one posted here, above, is the one I found most chilling, poignant and evocative.**

By now, many outsiders can identify the man whose picture is on the right-hand side of this protest sign. He is Mir Hossein Mousavi, the reported loser in this month’s presidential election.

**The elderly gentleman in the other picture is unfamiliar to most non-Iranians.**

He and his fate, however, lie at the historical root of the protests now shaking Iran.

The picture shows a pensive, sad-looking man with what one of his contemporaries called “droopy basset-hound eyes and high patrician forehead”. He does not look like a man whose fate would continue to influence the world decades after his death.

**But this was Muhammad Mossadeq, the most fervent advocate of democracy ever to emerge in his ancient land.**

**Above the twinned pictures of Mossadeq and Mousavi on this protest poster are the words “We won’t let history repeat itself.”**

**Centuries of intervention, humiliation and subjugation at the hand of foreign powers have decisively shaped Iran’s collective psyche.**

**The most famous victim of this intervention – and also the most vivid symbol of Iran’s long struggle for democracy – is Mossadeq.**

Whenever Iranians assert their desire to shape their own fate, his image appears.

Iranians began their painful and bloody march toward democracy with the constitutional revolution of 1906. Only after the second world war did they finally manage to consolidate a freely elected government.

**Mossadeq was prime minister, and became hugely popular for taking up the great cause of the day, nationalisation of Iran’s oil industry.**

**That outraged the British, who had “bought” the exclusive right to exploit Iranian oil from a corrupt Shah, and the Americans, who feared that allowing nationalization in Iran would encourage leftists around the world.**

**In the summer of 1953 the CIA sent the intrepid agent Kermit Roosevelt – grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt, who believed Americans should “walk softly and carry a big stick” – to Tehran with orders to overthrow Mossadeq.**

**He accomplished it in just three weeks. It was a vivid example of how easy it is for a rich and powerful country to throw a poor and weak one into chaos.**

With this covert operation, the world’s proudest democracy put an end to democratic rule in Iran. Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi returned to the Peacock Throne and ruled with increasing repression for a quarter-century.

His repression produced the explosion of 1979 that brought reactionary mullahs to power. Theirs is the regime that rules Iran today.

**Carrying a picture of Mossadeq today means two things: “We want democracy” and “No foreign intervention”.**

**These demands fit together in the minds of most Iranians.**

**Desperate as they are for the political freedom their parents and grandparents enjoyed in the early 1950s, they have no illusion that foreigners can bring it to them.**

**In fact, foreign intervention has brought them nothing but misery.**

The US sowed the seeds of repression in Iran by deposing Mossadeq in 1953, and then helped bathe Iran in blood by giving Saddam Hussein generous military aid during the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s.

**Militants in Washington who now want the US to intervene on behalf of Iranian protesters either are unaware of this history or delude themselves into thinking that Iranians have forgotten it.**

Some of them, in fact, are the same people who were demanding just last year that the US bomb Iran – an act which would have killed many of the brave young protesters they now hold up as heroes.

America's moral authority in Iran is all but non-existent.

To the idea that the US should jump into the Tehran fray and help bring democracy to Iran, many Iranians would roll their eyes and say: "We had a democracy here until you came in and crushed it!"

Anyone doubting the wisdom of those words should pay attention to the sprouting of Mossadeq pictures during protests in Iran.

They mean: "Americans, your interventions have brought us tyranny and death. Stay home, keep your hands off and leave our country to us for a change."

**MORE:**

# **Iran: The Working Class Comes Onto The Stage: #1: 30% Join General Strike**

June 23, 2009, By Al Giordano, The Narco News Bulletin [Excerpts]

There are unconfirmed reports today that a national strike is underway already, including by Iran state television which has reported that today, Tuesday, thirty percent of workers in the country have not shown up on the job.

**If state media is admitting 30 percent, it is a safe bet that adherence to the strike is larger than that.**

It would also be very impressive because the government has warned that any citizen that participates in a strike will be fired from his and her job, or lose his or her space in the public markets.

Thirty percent compliance on what is only the first day a strike would also be heartening for the resistance because some sectors – specifically a call by the Grand Ayatollah and spiritual elder Montazeri for three days of mourning beginning tomorrow, Wednesday, have not kicked in yet.

**MORE:**

**#2:**

**Iranian Autobus Workers Join  
The Resistance:  
“Until The Principle Of The  
Freedom To Organize And To  
Elect Is Not Materialized, Any Talk  
Of Social Freedom And Labor  
Union Rights Will Be A Farce”  
“The Union Condemns Any Kind Of  
Suppression And Threats”  
“Autobus Workers Union Places Itself  
Alongside All Those Who Are Offering  
Themselves In The Struggle To Build A  
Free And Independent Civic Society”**

[Thanks to Max Watts, Australia, who sent in the articles below from The Field.]

June 20, 2009 By Al Giordano, The Field [Excerpts]

**The Autobus Workers Union of Iran (Sendikaye Sherkat Vahed, in Farsi) has just made the following declaration (translated for The Field by Iraj Omidvar):**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Declaration of The Autobus Workers Union of Iran (Sendikaye Sherkat Vahed**

In recent days we have witnessed the passionate presence of millions of women and men, the old and the young, and ethnic and religious minorities in Iran, people who want their government to recognize their most basic right, the right to freely, independently, and transparently elect, a right that in most societies around the world is not only recognized officially but for whose protection no effort is neglected.

In the current situation, we witness threats, arrests, killings, and naked persecution, which threaten to grow in dimension and lead to the shedding of innocent people's blood thus bringing a rise in popular protests and not in their decline.

Iranian society is facing a deep political and economic crisis.

Million-strong protests, which have manifested themselves with a silence that is replete with meaning, have become a pattern that is growing in area and dimension, a growth that demands a response from any responsible person and organization.

The Autobus Workers Union in an announcement issued before the elections declared, "in the absence of the freedom for political parties, our organization is naturally deprived of a social institution that can protect it."

"Workers of the Autobus Workers Union consider their social involvement and political activity to be the certain right of each member of society and furthermore believe that workers across Iran as long as they submit the platforms of presidential candidates and a practical guarantee about campaign slogans can choose to participate or not participate in elections."

The fact that the demands of the vast majority of Iranian society go far beyond those of unions is obvious to all, and in the previous years we have emphasized that until the principle of the freedom to organize and to elect is not materialized, any talk of social freedom and labor union rights will be a farce.

Given these facts, the Autobus Workers Union places itself alongside all those who are offering themselves in the struggle to build a free and independent civic society. The union condemns any kind of suppression and threats.

**To recognize labor-union and social rights in Iran, the international labor organizations have declared the Fifth of Tir (June 26) the international day of support for imprisoned Iranian workers as well as for the institution of unions in Iran.**

**We want that this day be viewed as more than a day for the demands of labor unions to make it a day for human rights in Iran and to ask all our fellow workers to struggle for the trampled rights of the majority of the people of Iran.**

**With hope for the spread of justice and freedom,**

## Autobus Workers Union

\*\*\*\*\*

It's significant that the bus workers set a date, a week from now, for its International Day of Support for Imprisoned Iranian Workers.

The call carries with it a prima facie acknowledgement that no matter what happens in the streets on Saturday, the party is just getting started.

The regime can take out Mousavi. It can take out every operative in his orbit.

But it cannot force an educated and organized workforce - with long memories of 56 years of struggle against Western and Eastern regimes alike - to show up on the job.

### MORE:

**#3:**

**Iran Khodro Auto Workers  
Protest The Regime:  
“We Declare Our Solidarity With  
The Movement Of The People Of  
Iran”**

**“It Is Our Duty To Join This People’s  
Movement”**

**[So Much For “The Malicious Lie Spread  
By Some That The Iranian Resistance Is  
An Upper Class Phenomenon”]**

June 18, 2009 By Al Giordano, The Field

The workers of the Khodro automobile company in Iran today issued the following declaration (translated for The Field from the original Farsi by Iraj Omidvar):

\*\*\*\*\*

## Strike In Iran Khodro:

We declare our solidarity with the movement of the people of Iran.

Autoworker, Fellow Laborers (Laborer Friends): What we witness today, is an insult to the intelligence of the people, and disregard for their votes, the trampling of the principles of the Constitution by the government.

It is our duty to join this people's movement.

We the workers of Iran Khodro, Thursday 28/3/88 in each working shift will stop working for half an hour to protest the suppression of students, workers, women, and the Constitution and declare our solidarity with the movement of the people of Iran. The morning and afternoon shifts from 10 to 10:30. The night shift from 3 to 3:30.

Laborers of IranKhodor

\*\*\*\*\*

This announcement - to my knowledge this is the first place it appears in English anywhere - obtained by The Field by the auto workers of the largest automobile producer in Iran, is significant on multiple levels.

The obvious one is that once the workers begin to flex their muscles on the means of production, no illegitimate regime can continue standing.

**Another is that it reveals the malicious lie spread by some that the Iranian resistance is an upper class phenomenon restricted to one or two regions for what it is: untrue.**

**Another is that it reminds us that the early resistance movement that led to the toppling of the Shah in the 1970s was not primarily theological, but secular and from the left.**

These workers, many of them, are the children and grandchildren of union organizers and members from that era.

They remember.

If the auto workers work slowdown and protest begins to spread to oil workers and other sectors of industrial labor, watch out. That is the one factor that could most hasten the fall of the regime.

**MORE:**

## Comment: T

A recently circulated comment on a veteran's discussion group described those who support the present government of Iran against the mass movement from below resisting that government as "neo-Marxist."



Referring to people who support the murderous filth who constitute the present government in Iran as “neo-Marxist” is cheap slander.

Marx consistently supported mass movements from below against ruling class tyrants and oppressors, understanding that movements from below can go far beyond the dreams of those who take the leadership of them at the beginning -- leadership who hope to use a movement to become a new ruling class regime -- whether foreign or domestic or some of each.

Individuals can be mistaken, but organized political tendencies supporting governments of oppressors and exploiters busy butchering their own people to keep their power, wealth and privilege when faced with rebellion from below can be described quite adequately as what they are: despicable reactionary propagandists for ruling class tyranny, whatever fake left masks they put on.

They merely echo today in updated form the bloody-handed butchers who celebrated the slaughter at Tianamen Square by the Chinese capitalist class as the successful defeat of a CIA plot.

Their consistent defense of murderous capitalist regimes they identify with merely exposes them for what they are: enemies of working class democracy and liberation, otherwise known in more old-timely language as class enemies.

They fear mass movements from below. And so they should.

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## IRAQ WAR REPORTS

**U.S. Military Indirectly Admits  
Mosul Is A Disaster!  
Major Bellard, Col. Volesky And  
Other Dishonorable Cowards In  
Command Terrified Of The Truth,  
So They Ban Reporter Who Told It;  
Scumsucking Rat Brass Attack Him  
Because He “Refused To Highlight”**

**News “That The U.S. Military Wanted  
To Emphasize”  
Instead “He Wrote In A March 8 Story  
That Many Iraqi Residents Of Mosul  
Would Like The American Soldiers To  
Leave And Hand Over Security Tasks To  
Iraqi Forces”**



Mosul Command Meets To Plan Fresh Stupidity: [Wolfstad.com]

**[What a pack of stupid clowns. Did they really think this all could be kept a secret?**

**[And check out in the story below how stupidly the stupid clowns lied about what the reporter did. It takes world-class fools to think their lies would stand up under examination.**

**[Truly a case of ignorant, fifth-rate, no-talent power-drunk officers behaving like what they are: hopeless, incompetent dumbfucks first class.**

**[Maybe they're paid agents of the Iraq resistance running around wearing U.S. commanding officer uniforms? They might as well be. A more perfect way to call attention to the disaster in Mosul could not have been planned. Whoever signed off on this decision has the IQ and command sense of a lump of dog shit, and in fact is a lump of dog shit. T]**

\*\*\*\*\*

June 24, 2009 Stars and Stripes

Asserting that Stars and Stripes “refused to highlight” good news in Iraq that the U.S. military wanted to emphasize, Army officials have barred a Stripes reporter from embedding with a unit of the 1st Cavalry Division that is attempting to secure the violent city of Mosul.

Officials said Stripes reporter Heath Druzin, who covered operations of the division’s 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team in February and March, would not be permitted to rejoin the unit for another reporting tour because, among other things, he wrote in a March 8 story that many Iraqi residents of Mosul would like the American soldiers to leave and hand over security tasks to Iraqi forces.

“Despite the opportunity to visit areas of the city where Iraqi Army leaders, soldiers, national police and Iraqi police displayed commitment to partnership, Mr. Druzin refused to highlight any of this news,” Major Ramona Bellard, a public affairs officer, wrote in denying Druzin’s embed request.

Bellard also alleged that Druzin used quotes out of context, “behaved unprofessionally” and persisted in asking Army officials for permission to use a computer to file a story during a communications-blackout period.

**Additionally, Col. Gary Volesky, the 3rd Brigade’s commander, asserted that Druzin “would not answer questions about stories he was writing.”**

**Terry Leonard, editorial director of Stars and Stripes, said Druzin’s reporting in Mosul had been consistently accurate and fair and he denied all of the Army’s allegations.**

**Leonard noted, for example, that reporters are not required to answer a commander’s questions about their plans for future stories.**

He said the newspaper had spent more than three weeks appealing Druzin’s banishment to senior commanders in Iraq as well as public affairs officials at the Pentagon, but had been repeatedly rebuffed.

Instead, Army officials offered to allow a different Stripes reporter to embed with the 3rd Brigade, or in the alternative, to allow Druzin to embed with a different Army unit in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk.

**Leonard rejected those offers on the grounds that the military has no right to try to deflect coverage away from Mosul or choose which Stripes reporters will be allowed to cover its operations.**

“To deny Mr. Druzin an embed under the reasons stated by Maj. Bellard is a direct challenge to the editorial independence of this newspaper,” Leonard wrote in his appeal. “That independence is mandated by Congress.

**“The denial of the embed constitutes an attempt at censorship and it is also an illegal prior restraint under federal law. ... The military cannot tell us what stories to write or not write.”**

Leonard also noted that, although Stars and Stripes receives some federal funding through the Defense Department to offset the extraordinary costs of distributing the newspaper to U.S. troops in war zones, the newspaper’s reporting is not subject to Pentagon authority.

The Army’s denial of Druzin’s embed request appears to violate the Pentagon’s established ground rules regarding embedded reporters, which state: “These ground rules recognize the inherent right of the media to cover combat operations and are in no way intended to prevent release of embarrassing, negative or derogatory information.”

Among its specific complaints against Druzin, the Army alleged:

**That Druzin used a quote from Volesky about improving the capabilities of the Iraqi police “out of context in an unrelated article weeks later.”**

**Leonard said the quote was entirely relevant to the story and that Stars and Stripes, like any newspaper, reserves the right to use quotes and information in multiple stories that may appear after the interview occurred.**

**That Druzin overheard a private conversation between a chief warrant officer and another person and then quoted the chief warrant officer in a story.**

**Leonard said the quote was actually obtained during an on-the-record conversation with the chief warrant officer; that the chief warrant officer checked with his superior to clear the conversation; and that Druzin took the extra step of verifying the quote with the chief warrant officer before it was published.**

**That Druzin attended a brigade memorial service for four U.S. soldiers killed in a Feb. 9 car bomb attack and then insisted on publishing the names of the dead soldiers before their families had been notified and their identities had been officially released by the Pentagon.**

**In fact, Leonard said, Druzin had been invited by Bellard to attend the memorial service and the newspaper, following its normal policy, did not publish the names of the dead until they had been announced by the Pentagon.**

**Leonard said the newspaper would not tolerate the Army’s attempts to control it.**

**“Under the embed rules and the congressional mandate of editorial independence for this newspaper, it does not fall under the authority or competence of the command to decide if we do a story, what story we do, or what angle we take in writing the story,” Leonard wrote in his appeal.**

**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

## **FUTILE EXERCISE: ALL HOME NOW**



US soldiers patrol in central Baghdad on April 25, 2009. (AFP/File/Ali Yussef)

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Three German Soldiers Killed Near Kunduz**

June 24, 2009 BBC

Three German soldiers have been killed during a clash with insurgents in Afghanistan, the German defence ministry has said.

The soldiers were on a joint operation with Afghan forces when the attack took place near the northern city of Kunduz, a ministry spokesman said.

The German military base in Kunduz is a frequent target of attacks.

The BBC's Bilal Sarwary recently travelled to the Char Dara district in Kunduz province. He said there was no obvious government presence but he did see plenty of Taliban fighters driving on their motorbikes.

According to the area's Governor, Enginner Omaar, there have been problems in the area because of a lack of police officers.

"We have asked the government for more forces because we underestimated the problem in Kunduz," he told the BBC.

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

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

**Worthless Piece Of Shit V-22  
Osprey On The Way To  
Afghanistan To Kill More Marines:  
Corps Traitors In Command Just  
Love It:  
"It Can't Be Used In Hot Weather. It  
Can't Be Used In Cold Weather. It Can't  
Be Used In Sand"**

Marines can't fast-rope out the side door to land in hot zones. It can't land without power — a key maneuver called autorotation that saved thousands of lives in Vietnam — without danger of flipping into its own downwash. It isn't capable of maneuvering in combat conditions.

6.23.09 By Barbara Barrett, McClatchy Newspapers [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON — In the fall, the first squadron of Marines finally will fly V-22 Ospreys into the mountains of Afghanistan , months behind schedule and despite shortcomings that make some in Congress worry whether the hybrid aircraft can do the job for which it was intended.

The aircraft, which takes off and lands like a helicopter but flies like a plane, has numerous problems.

Among them: Marines can't fast-rope out the side door to land in hot zones. It can't land without power — a key maneuver called autorotation that saved thousands of lives in Vietnam — without danger of flipping into its own downwash. It isn't capable of maneuvering in combat conditions.

The aircraft also continues to struggle with reliability issues that made its mission capability far below expectations during three tours in Iraq and left Marines cannibalizing other Ospreys for spare parts, despite a price tag that's climbed to \$121 million apiece.

Rep. Edolphus Towns , a New York Democrat, said at a hearing Tuesday that it was time to end the program.

Towns is the chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform , which has been investigating the cost overruns and mechanical problems of the Osprey.

"It can't be used in hot weather. It can't be used in cold weather. It can't be used in sand," Towns said. "The list of what the Osprey can't do is longer than what it can do."

**Twenty-six Marines and four civilians have been killed in Osprey crashes since the 1990s.**

There were problems mounting a gun on the front of the Osprey.

It couldn't fly well at altitudes above 8,000 feet or in extreme heat.

NASA experts told the Marines years ago that the aircraft had great difficulty landing on aircraft carriers in the rolling open seas.

**"The U.S. Marine Corps leadership has shown little or no concern over this issue," A.R. Rivolo , an aviation expert and critic of the Osprey, testified Tuesday. "I believe this is reprehensible.**

"It's a stand the Marine Corps leadership should never have taken."

With the 30-year program projected to cost nearly \$75 billion , the GAO recommended a new analysis of the military's needs.

**It found that in Iraq , the aircraft was capable of conducting missions less than two-thirds of the time because of weather obstacles or breakdowns.**

In Iraq , the Osprey has served largely as a VIP shuttle and troop transport. It ferried Sen. John McCain , R- Ariz. , and then-Sen. Barack Obama across Iraq last fall during the presidential campaign.

“The Osprey can complete missions assigned in low-threat environments,” testified Michael Sullivan of the GAO. He was less confident about high-threat environments.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

**NOT ANOTHER DAY  
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR  
NOT ANOTHER LIE  
NOT ANOTHER LIFE**



The body of Marine lance corporal Blaise A. Oleski at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, April 9, 2009. Oleski from Holland Patent, New York, died while serving during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. REUTERS/Tim Shaffer

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**“As Of This Week, An Estimated  
265 Service Members Will Have  
Lost Their Jobs Under ‘Don’t Ask,  
Don’t Tell’ Since January 20”  
“Tell A Friend Now Why 265 Is  
Disgraceful”  
Join The March On The White House  
June 27**

[Thanks to Frank Millsbaugh, who sent this in.]

June 24, 2009 Benjamin Mishkin, Servicemembers Legal Defense Network

As of this week, an estimated 265 service members will have lost their jobs under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” since January 20.

That’s when President Obama and the new Congress came to town -- promising change.

That’s when President Obama and the new Congress were sworn in, promising change - - change they’ve failed to deliver, certainly with respect to repealing “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

They haven’t delivered on that change, certainly with respect to “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” so we’ve got to stand together and say “Enough. 265 is disgraceful.”

Every day they wait to act, another service member is fired simply because of his or her sexual orientation.

Join us at 2 p.m. this Saturday, June 27, as we march on the White House to call on President Obama for leadership.

It’s urgent that the president and Congress act to kill “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

Even though you’re not near Washington, you can join this effort by telling your friends why 265 is disgraceful -- and why we’ve got to end “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”:

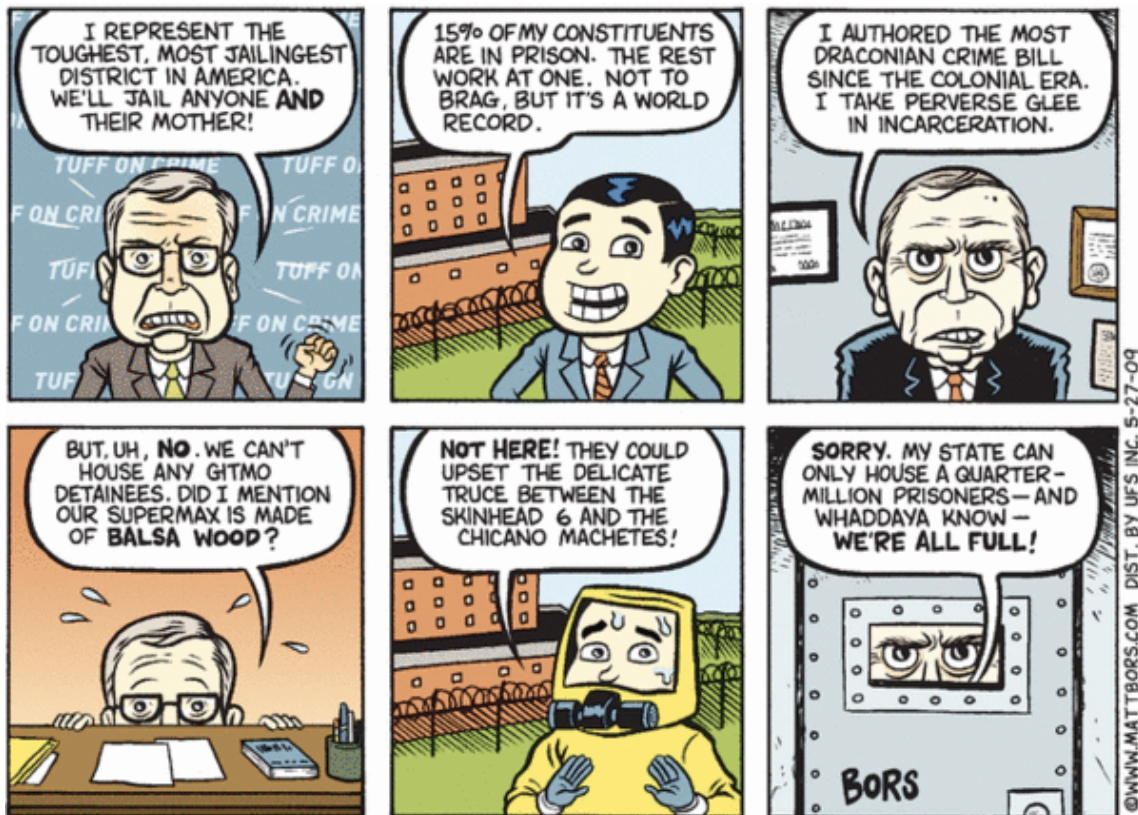
Like those who drew a line in the sand 40 years ago at the Stonewall Inn in New York City, we’re standing up to demand action. It’s past time for these discriminatory discharges to end. After 16 years of this nonsensical law, it’s critical that President Obama and Congress act to kill “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

Together, marching, we have a real opportunity to deliver a powerful message to the White House, to Congress, and to the American people -- and to let our service members know they have not been forgotten.

Tell a friend now why 265 is disgraceful:

**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**

## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**



# Obama? For Human Rights? “Ha-Ha. That’s A Good One” [Enjoy Your Preventive Detention]

June 23, 2009 By BOB HERBERT, New York Times [Excerpts] & Jun 22 Analysis by William Fisher, (IPS)

Policies that were wrong under George W. Bush are no less wrong because Barack Obama is in the White House.

One of the most disappointing aspects of the early months of the Obama administration has been its unwillingness to end many of the mind-numbing abuses linked to the so-called war on terror and to establish a legal and moral framework designed to prevent those abuses from ever occurring again.

Americans should recoil as one against the idea of preventive detention, imprisoning people indefinitely, for years and perhaps for life, without charge and without giving them an opportunity to demonstrate their innocence.

President Obama is O.K. with this (he calls it “prolonged detention”), but he wants to make sure it is carried out — here comes the oxymoron — fairly and nonabusively.

Proof of guilt?

In 21st-century America, there is no longer any need for such annoyances.

Human rights?

Ha-ha. That’s a good one.

The Obama administration is also continuing the Bush administration’s abuse of the state-secrets privilege.

Lawyers from the Obama Justice Department have argued, as did lawyers from the Bush administration before them, that a lawsuit involving extraordinary rendition and allegations of extreme torture should be dismissed outright because discussions of such matters in court would harm national security.

In other words, the victims, no matter how strong their case might be, no matter how badly they might have been abused, could never have their day in court.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jun 22 Analysis by William Fisher, (IPS)

The government has gone to court to appeal a court ruling ordering the release of a 2004 report from the Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) describing the harsh treatment of prisoners in the agency's secret prisons.

Obama recently rejected a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for Secret Service logs showing the identities of coal executives who had visited the White House to discuss Obama's clean coal policies because the disclosure of such records might impinge on privileged presidential communications.

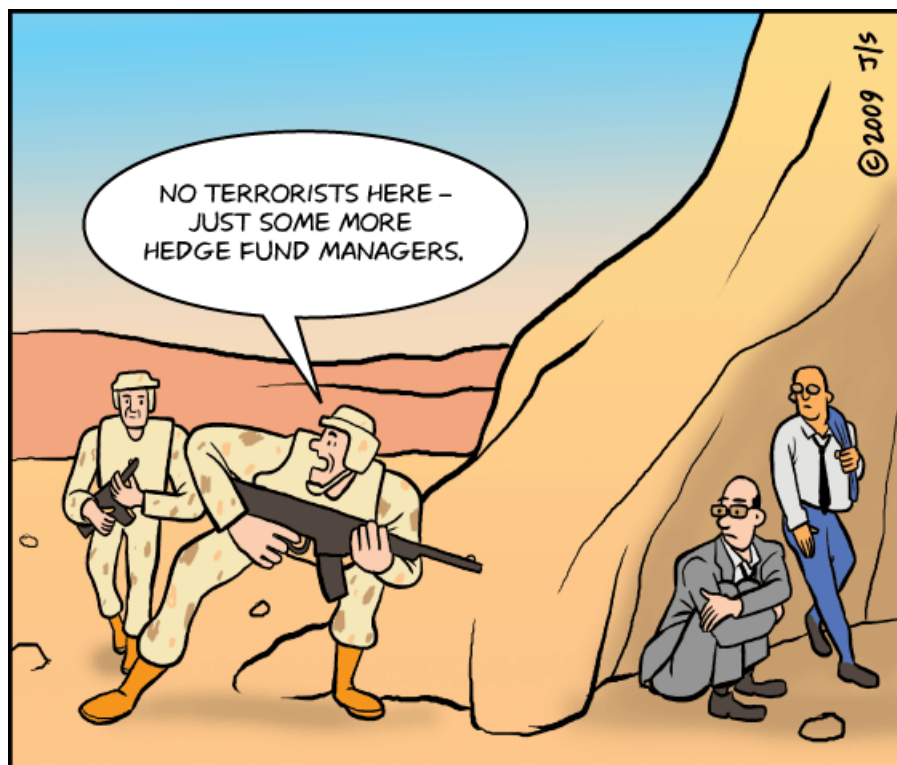
On the issue of electronic surveillance the new president has not repudiated the Bush-era executive orders supporting warrantless wiretapping and the legal opinions used to support them.

Government lawyers asked a federal judge to dismiss a lawsuit brought on behalf of a couple who were placed on a terrorist watch list.

And when watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to the Justice Department seeking records related to former vice president Dick Cheney's interview with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the outing of CIA operative Valerie Plame the Justice Department declined to turn over the records.

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS



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

## **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/))

## **Vietnam GI: Reprints Available**



**Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War**

Not available from anybody else, anywhere

Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command. The pages and pages of letters in

the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

The Military Project has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

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Cost for others: \$15 if picked up in New York City. For mailing inside USA add \$5 for bubble bag and postage. For outside USA, include extra for mailing 2.5 pounds to wherever you are.

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



# THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE WARS

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