



## MEETING REMINDER

VFP-56's next meeting takes place Thursday, October 6, at 7:00 pm at the Marsh Commons, 101 H Street, in Arcata.

## IRAQ WAR CASUALTIES

As of September 27, there have been 2,119 coalition troop deaths in the war in Iraq:

- 1,922 Americans
- 96 Britons
- 13 Bulgarians
- 1 Dane
- 2 Dutch
- 2 Estonians
- 1 Hungarian
- 27 Italians
- 1 Kazakh
- 1 Latvian
- 17 Poles
- 2 Salvadorans
- 3 Slovaks
- 11 Spaniards
- 2 Thai
- 18 Ukrainians

Most tragic, hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqi civilians have lost their lives in this war for oil.

## DUES ARE DUE

Remember to renew your membership. Most VFP members renewed in the Fall, so most likely your renewal is due. If you are not sure, contact treasurer Kathie Kelly. She can be reached at 826-1499 or [kathiek@arcatanet.com](mailto:kathiek@arcatanet.com).

## Prohibited Government Recruiting

by S. Brian Willson

Paid agents of the United States Government are recruiting young people to participate in behavior prohibited by US law. These agents recruit in a manner that discriminates against people based on their sexual preference—i.e., against openly gay persons.

Thus, these agents, identified as US military recruiters, are acting in an unlawful manner asking people to participate in unlawful activities.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act (CRA) of 1964 prohibits unequal treatment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in all areas of employment. The 14th Amendment to the US Constitution requires affording “equal protection of the laws” to all persons within each state, and by virtue of the US Supreme Court ruling in *Bolling v. Sharpe* (1954), such equal protection binds the federal government through the Fifth Amendment’s “due process” clause. Thus, in discriminating against gay persons, the military recruiters are violating the Constitutional civil rights of potential recruits, and the provisions of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

A number of academic institutions have banned military recruiters on their property because of discrimination policies, bans which have been upheld by at least one federal court.

But the most egregious offense of these federal agents, i.e., military recruiters, is that they are recruiting young people who, it can be reasonably predicted, will have a great probability to be ordered to participate in illegal wars and occupations (crimes against peace, and possibly crimes against humanity) and to target civilians and civilian infrastructure (war crimes).

The U.S.-led wars against, and occupations of, Afghanistan and Iraq, 2002 to the present, are illegal on their face. No war was declared as required by the US Constitution. The United Nations (UN) Charter to which the U.S. is a signatory, allows military action in only two instances: (1) if authorized by the UN Security Council, or (2) if undertaken in self-defense against an existing or imminent armed attack. Neither of these conditions were met or sought. Under Article VI, Clause 2, of the US Constitution, the provisions of the UN Charter are incorporated into the Supreme Law of the Land of the United States, and therefore the US violated both the UN Charter, and its own Constitution.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has publicly declared that the US invasion of Iraq was and remains an illegal act that contravenes the UN Charter.

Richard Perle in 2003, when a senior advisor to the Department of Defense Policy Board, admitted that the Iraq war was illegal because the US had broken international law, behavior not consistent with the rules of the UN.

US military judge, Lt. Commander Robert Klant, in May 2005, found Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Pablo Paredes had “reasonable cause to believe that the wars in Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, and Iraq were illegal.” He came to this legal conclusion after hearing testimony at Paredes’ trial that: (1) the wars violated the UN Charter, ratified by the US, which forbids force unless carried out in self-defense or with the approval of the UN Security Council, neither of which were applicable to or

*(continued on page 7)*

## Where's Mike?

by Fred Hummel

Mike Thompson's our congressman, a decorated Vietnam veteran and co-chair of the Congressional Veterans' Caucus. So why won't Mike cosponsor any bills that address the issue of depleted uranium's (DU) impacts on the health of US servicemen and women? That's a question that begs believable answers. Unfortunately, what's been heard from Mike doesn't seem to make much sense based on his stated support for members of our armed services. Check his website: <http://mikethompson.house.gov/newsroom/index.asp?ID=16>.

Mike says many bills submitted by House Democrats will never be let out of the Republican dominated committees. That's certainly true, but it hasn't stopped Mike from cosponsoring other bills submitted by Dems, 19 in the 108th Congress alone. What is it that makes DU bills, intended to protect service members, so different from all those others?

Mike says the latest DU bill submitted by Congressman Jim McDermott, HR2410, the Depleted Uranium Munitions Study Act, is 'disingenuous' and will never be passed. But doesn't Congress allow amendments to bills so that flaws detected in the original version can be corrected? Of course it does, we all know that.

Further, even though a bill might not be passed in this Congress, it serves an educational purpose for its members and for rank-and-file citizens alike in preparation for future consideration of the issue. And without cosponsors, any bill is less likely to be taken seriously. So why does Mike continue to give us such odd reasons for his failure to endorse?

The fact is, Mike has had the chance to cosponsor five DU bills in the last three Congresses and he's zero for five with a BA of .000. There must be a good reason for this but it's certainly not obvious. So we're left to figure it out for our-

selves.

Few people know Mike Thompson is a member of the Congressional Blue Dog Democratic Caucus made up of moderate to conservative Democrats. Could it be that conservative Democrats are fans of DU and Mike buys into their logic? Or could it be that because Mike is a member of the American Legion which has declared war on war protestors that prevents him from working with VFP on this issue? Who knows? I hope he agrees we all should know his positions on important legislation.

This is all so frustrating because Mike is well aware of the problems caused by Agent Orange and many similar actions; he certainly has done well on the SHAD Project where service members were used as guinea pigs for chemical and biological testing. You'd think the DU issue would be a natural for this guy. It's not and more's the pity. It's time for each of us to write to our congressman.

### HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS

## Veterans for Peace Chapter 22 Joins Katrina Relief Convoy

by Fredy & Sherry Champagne

Veterans For Peace Chapter 22 of Garberville is collecting relief aid for the victims of the Katrina Hurricane.

Leaving by October 1st, the Spirit of Garberville will be traveling to Covington, Louisiana, where the aid will be distributed directly to the affected people who are suffering homelessness and displacement.

Our Garberville VFP chapter will join chapters from Eureka, Ft Bragg, Willits, Santa Rosa, and the Bay Area to send aid by bus convoy, joining with buses and trucks from the VFP Chapters in Southern California. We will

be joining the Veterans For Peace effort to distribute aid throughout the New Orleans area. VFP buses are needed there to deliver much needed supplies like food and water to the outlying communities in the area that were most devastated.

Please help Chapter 22 help the victims of the Katrina disaster. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to Veterans For Peace Chapter 22, P O Box 69, Garberville, CA 95542. Donations may also be deposited directly into the Veterans For Peace account no. 1724 at the Community Credit Union of Southern Humboldt.

We wish to thank all our supporters and sponsors without whom we would not be able to work and travel in this project.

For more information contact Fredy and Sherry Champagne at 707-923-3658.



# Beyond Treason

*Film Review by Peter Aronson, DU/WMD Committee*

“Beyond Treason” was produced and directed by Joyce Riley and William Lewis. This 89-minute documentary presents comprehensive documentation from United States Government archives of a massive cover-up lasting over two generations. Chemical, biological and radiological experimentation on members of our Armed Forces without their knowledge or consent is “Beyond Treason.”

This riveting film exposes the process and personnel responsible for a variety of experimental actions on members of our Armed Forces with expert testimony and firm documentation. It reviews: Atomic Veterans and experiments with ionizing radiation in 1945; “MK Ultra”—from the ’50s to the ’70s, mind control research with radiation and psychotropics conducted by the DOD & CIA; “Project White Coat,” 1954-1973, an Army germ warfare study; Agent Orange, mid-’60s, 19m gallons of cancer-causing dioxin deposited in Southeast Asia, including effects on non-combatants and our own troops; BZ (Agent Buzz) used in Project Dark in 1963, exper-

iments with hallucinogens that last for months; and the film does an especially good job with DU. These are convincing examples of past and current government MO.

The directors of this film carefully avoid attributing the set of Gulf War illnesses exclusively to radiological (DU) exposures, yet strongly implicate it. They nicely review the potential contributors to Gulf War Syndrome (GWS), which include vaccines (some troops received up to 17 in one day, some of which were experimental and found to be dangerous); chemical and biological agent exposures. They also focus on uranium (DU) munitions, ionizing radiation and the demonstrated role it has as the major player in GWS.

“Beyond Treason” includes the best presentation (overview) I have seen delivered by Dr. Doug Rokke on DU issues, and valuable contributions by Leuren Moret, Dennis Kyne, Bob Jones and Mark Zeller. It has great documentation, troop testimonials, juicy quotes and footage from government officials, and some amazing statistics and reporting on a wide range of topics. For example,

from 1984 to 1989, with direction from the CDC & Department of Commerce, our government sold and exported to Iraq \$4b worth of deadly biological agents: Anthrax, Clostridium Botulum, and West Nile Virus. Some in the film speculate the huge Iraqi CBR weapons storage sites, the ones said by the government to be the likely source of GWS in our troops, were destroyed in part to cover up the identity of the countries named on the cases of the illegal CBR agents (UK, USSR, USA, Israel) shown in this documentary.

The program is packed with detailed information about WMDs and our role in spreading them globally—eternally—illegally.

Find more on this important program, and other treasonous government actions at the website: <http://www.beyondtreason.com/>

## **FREE “Beyond Treason” DVD for any US Veteran!**

Please fax your name, address, and DD214 Form to: (573) 378-5998 or mail duplicate DD214 form to: Veteran’s DVD, P.O. Box 85, Versailles, MO 65084.

## **HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS**

### **HSU Children’s Center Hurricane Katrina Relief Drive**

*Submitted by Steve Stamnes*

Parents of children attending the HSU Children’s Center have organized a relief effort that directly supports families displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Preschoolers will assemble care packages for children and families being sheltered by the Children’s Center at the University of Louisiana Lafayette.

The center is specifically requesting donations of personal hygiene items, such as shampoo, soap, combs and brushes, toothbrushes and toothpaste, bandaids, washcloths and hand towels.

Beyond that, families are also in need of blankets, personal storage bags, books and toys for young children (playdough, paper, crayons, bubbles, etc.) and board games and books for older children as well, children’s underwear and socks, baby diapers, wipes and ointment.

Please bring donated items to the Humboldt State University Children’s Center office in Arcata by Friday, October 7th. For more information call 826-3838.



# This is a Mess of Our Own Making

by *Tim Collins*

When I led my men of the 1st Battalion the Royal Irish Regiment across the border into Iraq we believed we were going to do some good. Goodwill and optimism abounded; it was to be a liberation, I had told my men, not a conquest.

In Iraq I sought to surround myself with advisers—Iraqis—who could help me understand what needed to be done. One of the first things they taught me was that the Baath party had been a fact of life for 35 years. Like the Nazi party, they said, it needed to be decapitated, harnessed and dismantled, each function replaced with the new regime. Many of these advisers were Baathists, yet were eager to co-operate, fired with the enthusiasm of the liberation. How must it look to them now?

What I had not realized was that there was no real plan at the higher levels to replace anything, indeed a simplistic and unimaginative over-reliance in some senior quarters on the power of destruction and crude military might. We were to beat the Iraqis. That simple. Everything would come together after that.

The Iraqi army was defeated—it walked away from most fights—but was then dismissed without pay to join the ranks of the looters smashing the little infrastructure left, and to rail against their treatment. The Baath party was left undisturbed. The careful records it kept were destroyed with precision munitions by the coalition; the evidence erased, they were left with a free rein to agitate and organize the insurrection. A vacuum was created in which the

coalition floundered, the Iraqis suffered and terrorists thrived.

One cannot help but wonder what it was all about. If it was part of the war on terror then history might notice that the invasion has arguably acted as the best recruiting sergeant for al-Qaeda ever: a sort of large-scale equivalent of the Bloody Sunday shootings in Derry in 1972, which in its day filled the ranks of the IRA. If it was an attempt to influence the price of oil, then the motorists who queued last week would hardly be convinced. If freedom and a chance to live a dignified, stable life free from terror was the motive, then I can think of more than 170 families in Iraq last week who would have settled for what they had under Saddam. UK military casualties reached 95 last week. I nightly pray the total never reaches 100.

The consequences of this adventure may run even deeper. Hurricane Katrina has caused a reappraisal of the motives and aims of this war in the US. The storm came perhaps in the nick of time as hawks in Washington were glancing towards

Iran and its newly found self-confidence in global affairs. Meanwhile, China and India are growing and sucking up every drop of oil, every scrap of concrete or steel even as the old-world powers of the UK and US pour blood and treasure into overseas campaigns which seem to have no ending and no goal.

It is time for our leaders to explain what is going on. It was as a battalion commander trying to explain to his men why they would embark on a war that I came to public notice. The irony is that I made certain assumptions that my goodwill and altruistic motivations went to the top. Clearly I was naive. This time it is the role of the leaders of nations to explain where we are going and why. I, for one, demand to know.

*Colonel Tim Collins gave a celebrated speech to his troops about their mission to liberate, not conquer, in Iraq. He has since left the army.*

Article published in the Sunday, September 18, 2005 issue of *The Observer*. Submitted by Carl Stancil.

## Who Will Say 'No More'?

by *Gary Hart*

*"Waist deep in the Big Muddy and the big fool said to push on,"* warned an anti-Vietnam war song those many years ago. The McGovern presidential campaign, in those days, which I know something about, is widely viewed as a cause for the decline of the Democratic Party, a gateway through which a new conservative era entered.

Like the cat that jumped on a hot stove and thereafter wouldn't jump

on any stove, hot or cold, today's Democratic leaders didn't want to make that mistake again. Many supported the Iraq war resolution and as the Big Muddy is rising yet again now find themselves tongue-tied or trying to trump a war president by calling for deployment of more troops. Thus does good money follow bad and bad politics get even worse.

History will deal with George W. Bush and the neoconservatives who misled a mighty nation into a flawed war that is draining the finest military in the world, diverting Guard  
*(continued on page 6)*



# Arcata Establishes Model Voter Confidence Resolution

by W. Leon Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *The Iconoclast*

Voter confidence has plummeted during the past two presidential elections with corporate-owned voting machine tabulations in question from coast to coast. Several organizations have advocated changes in the voting system, but one city is taking it a step further. The City of Arcata, California, after months of debate and consideration, has adopted what is called the Voter Confidence Resolution.

According to Dave Berman, one of the resolution's authors, this type of initiative, if adopted by cities throughout the country, could have a decisive impact on the confidence voters achieve by providing unquestionable election returns.

"But we must first change the national dialogue," he said.

Berman is aggressively taking his case to the people, conducting workshops, keynoting speaking engagements, and asking cities throughout the country to seriously push this agenda.

The heart of Arcata's resolution is an eight-point comprehensive election reform platform, including:

(1) voting processes owned and operated entirely in the public domain, and

(2) clean money laws to keep all corporate funds out of campaign financing, and

(3) a voter verified paper ballot for every vote cast and additional uniform standards determined by a nonpartisan nationally recognized commission, and

(4) declaring election day a national holiday, and

(5) counting all votes publicly and locally in the presence of citizen witnesses and credentialed members of the media, and

(6) equal time provisions to be restored by the media along with a measurable increase in local, public control of the airwaves, and

(7) presidential debates containing a minimum of three candidates, run by a nonpartisan commission comprised of representatives of publicly owned media outlets, and

(8) preferential voting and proportional representation to replace the winner-take-all system for federal elections.

In an interview with *Iconoclast* publisher W. Leon Smith, Berman explained the importance of the resolution:

BERMAN: We have a message that we're trying to get out. We're trying to change the point of view of the people in this country and are actually giving them talking points to rally around so that we can all be on the same page so that there becomes critical mass. What we're trying to do is build to a tipping point. It's almost unbelievable that we've come to this point in time without having passed that tipping point already.

ICONOCLAST: Is the Voter Confidence Committee, of which you are a member, part of the City of Arcata or is it something separate and this happens to be the first city that joined it?

BERMAN: This is a citizen's organization that is based in Humboldt County, California and Arcata is one community in the county and they were the first to embrace this resolution. They've got a long history of being really progressive in that regard.

Councilmember Dave Meserve has

been recognized around the world as a small-town progressive leader, particularly in regard to resolutions against the Patriot Act and calling for the impeachment of the Bush Administration. Earlier this year, he spearheaded an effort to get through a resolution that contemplated making Arcata a sanctuary for contentious objectors. He's a genuine progressive leader. We have others in this community, too.

It's a natural for the movement behind the voter confidence resolution to come from here. There's a lot of people in this community who unabashedly called for revolution, and I'm one of them. I don't mean to say revolution, because I don't say that word unless I say *peaceful* revolution. This is a very peaceful community.

In June in Houston, you might recall there was a meeting of the Baker-Carter election reform committee, and a host of other long-time administration stooges pretending to look at the problems with elections and this was their second and final meeting to discuss problems with the 2004 election.

It was a complete sham.

As a result of that meeting being called, election reform advocates from around the country convened a counter-hearing held the day before. It was June 29 and June 30. The purpose of the counter-hearing which was called the "election assessment hearing" was to hear testimony and receive evidence from experts who have studied what occurred last November and to discuss ways to improve and repair our election systems.

At that hearing, David Cobb submitted into testimony the voter

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## Who Will Say 'No More'?

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and reserve forces that should be on the front line of homeland defense, shredding international alliances that prevailed in two world wars and the Cold War, accumulating staggering deficits, misdirecting revenue from education to rebuilding Iraqi buildings we've blown up, and weakening America's national security.

But what will history say about an opposition party that stands silent while all this goes on? My generation of Democrats jumped on the hot stove of Vietnam and now, with its members in positions of responsibility, it is afraid of jumping on any political stove. In their leaders, the American people look for strength, determination and self-confidence, but they also look for courage, wisdom, judgment and, in times of moral crisis, the willingness to say: "I was wrong."

To stay silent during such a crisis, and particularly to harbor the thought that the administration's misfortune is the Democrats' fortune, is cowardly. In 2008 I want a leader who is willing now to say: "I made a mistake, and

for my mistake I am going to Iraq and accompanying the next planeload of flag-draped coffins back to Dover Air Force Base. And I am going to ask forgiveness for my mistake from every parent who will talk to me."

Further, this leader should say: "I am now going to give a series of speeches across the country documenting how the administration did not tell the American people the truth, why this war is making our country more vulnerable and less secure, how we can drive a wedge between Iraqi insurgents and outside jihadists and leave Iraq for the Iraqis to govern, how we can repair the damage done to our military, what we and our allies can do to dry up the jihadists' swamp, and what dramatic steps we must take to become energy-secure and prevent Gulf Wars III, IV and so on."

At stake is not just the leadership of the Democratic Party and the nation but our nation's honor, our nobility and our principles. Franklin D. Roosevelt established a national community based on social justice. Harry Truman created international networks that repaired the damage of World War II and defeated communism. John F. Kennedy recaptured the

ideal of the republic and the sense of civic duty. To expect to enter this pantheon, the next Democratic leader must now undertake all three tasks.

But this cannot be done while the water is rising in the Big Muddy of the Middle East. No Democrat, especially one now silent, should expect election by default. The public trust must be earned, and speaking clearly, candidly and forcefully now about the mess in Iraq is the place to begin.

The real defeatists today are not those protesting the war. The real defeatists are those in power and their silent supporters in the opposition party who are reduced to repeating "Stay the course" even when the course, whatever it now is, is light years away from the one originally undertaken. The truth is we're way off course. We've stumbled into a hornet's nest. We've weakened ourselves at home and in the world. We are less secure today than before this war began.

Who now has the courage to say this?

This article was published in *The Washington Post* on August 24, 2005. Submitted by Jim Sorter.

## Arcata Voter Confidence Resolution

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confidence resolution. This was before it had been passed. This was somewhat of a symbolic thing. He submitted it into evidence and all of the documents that were submitted into evidence, as well as transcripts of the testimony given that day, were compiled into a single record from the event that was presented to the Baker-Carter commission. It was duly recognized. It wasn't like so many other times when the voice of the people is just completely marginal and set aside maybe with lip service being paid. I believe the record was also submitted to Congress.

Coming up Sept. 30, and Oct. 1 and 2, in Portland, Oregon, there is going to be another national election reform conference, called "the summit to save our elec-

tions." This one I am going to go to personally. I will be doing a workshop about the resolution. The point for me in doing this is to, like, train the trainers. There will be election reform leaders from all over the country there. My intention is to lead them in a workshop that will show them how they can conduct a workshop when they go back to their communities.

The workshop that they'll do will accomplish the things that I've been telling you about, build consensus on a local level, address the wording of the resolution with the template as a starting point, and find what's comfortable for your community to adopt.

This is an abbreviated version of an article published by *The Lone Star Iconoclast* on September 12, 2005. For the complete interview visit: <http://198.65.14.85/News/2005/37-38/37news02.htm>

Info: <http://guvworld.blogspot.com>.



## Prohibited Recruiting

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sought by the US; (2) torture and inhumane treatment well documented in Iraqi prisons constitute grave breaches of the Geneva Convention, ratified by the US, and are considered war crimes under the US War Crimes Statute; (3) both the UN Charter and Geneva Conventions are part of the Supreme US Law under the Supremacy Clause of the US Constitution; (4) the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) requires all military personnel to obey lawful orders, that a general order or regulation is lawful *unless* it is contrary to the Constitution and laws of the US; (5) the Nuremberg Principles, applicable to the US and each of its citizens as part of international law, and the US Army Field Manual, create a duty to *disobey* unlawful orders; and (6) Article 509 of Army Field Manual 27-10 specifies that “following superior orders” is *not* a defense to the commission of war crimes unless the accused “did not know and could not reasonably have been expected to know that the act ordered was unlawful.”

We now have the benefit of the seven leaked confidential British Downing Street Memos, dated from March to July 2002, that paint a damning portrait of the US march to war a full year before its March 2003 invasion. The head of the British Intelligence Service M16 reported in these 2002 memos that “war was now seen as inevitable,” that “intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy.” “Regime change” was the policy, but without any justification, and “has no basis under international law.” The memos also declare: “There is no recent evi-

dence of Iraq complicity with international terrorism. . . There is no credible evidence to link Iraq with Osama Bin Laden.” Regarding Iraq’s possession of WMD, the “intelligence is poor.”

### RECRUITER ABUSE

Reports of serious recruiter improprieties, including fraud and coercion, have surfaced and the Army has been forced to investigate 480 allegations of impropriety by recruiters since Oct. 1, 2004.

One recruiter was caught encouraging a recruit to create a fake high school diploma to cover for the fact that he had dropped out. Another recruiter was discovered driving a recruit to a store to purchase a detoxification kit to rid his system of supposed marijuana traces.

Recruiters in Ohio, New York, Washington, Texas and New England said that as long as an offending recruiter met his enlistment quota of roughly two recruits a month, punishment was unlikely. “The saying here is, ‘Production is power,’” the recruiter in northern Ohio said. “Produce, and all is good.”

“The problem is that no one wants to join,” the recruiter said. “We have to play fast and loose with the rules just to get by.”

US Army Recruiting Command provides a recruiting handbook to the 7,500 recruiters who are ordered to approach tenth, eleventh and twelfth graders—repeatedly.

### CONCLUSION

US military recruiters should be prohibited from (1) participating in acts (recruitment) that discriminate against persons on the basis of sexual preference, violating protected

civil rights, and (2) inducing with historical patterns of misrepresentations the signing of contracts with young people who, it can be reasonably predicted, have a great probability of being ordered to participate in acts prohibited under US Constitutional and statutory law.

Military recruiters are acting as accomplices in inducing others to join an organization (the US military or one of its branches) that is currently violating international law, therefore violating US Constitutional law, and whose servants are being ordered to behave in a manner resulting in commission of crimes and participation in lawless behavior.

Recruiters are accruing personal gain. Matching or exceeding, or failure thereof, superior-mandated recruiting quotas relate directly to career promotions/demotions and, therefore, increased/decreased pay grades. Thus, inducing people to sign a military contract where the recruits will likely participate in prohibited activities directly benefits the recruiter in career promotion and pay increases. Furthermore, the recruiter is participating in a conspiracy with his/her superiors to meet quotas (1) without regard to telling the truth, (2) through uttering various misrepresentations, and (3) perpetrating unwanted harassment.

Military recruitment during the period of illegal wars mandates formal prohibition of such behavior in each jurisdiction where it is occurring. Furthermore, military recruitment deserves permanent bans as long as the military discriminates against openly gay persons.

NOTE: *Source citations are available for all facts included in above essay.*





**Veterans For Peace  
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# LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

If you would like to submit an article, opinion, comment or response to anything you have read that might interest the members of VFP-56, please email it to [turtldncer@aol.com](mailto:turtldncer@aol.com) in Word format, or mail to Jim Sorter at 1762 Buttermilk Lane, Arcata, CA 95521. Submissions will be included on a first come basis until the newsletter is full. Late arriving submissions will be archived for future issues.

**Donate your cash refund to VFP!  
Use number 167  
(or just say, "Veterans For Peace")  
the next time you take your cans and bottles  
to the Arcata or Eureka Recycling Center.**

## TURTLE PROJECT REACHING ITS CLIMAX

After three months in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico volunteering at the Proyecto Tortuga Ecologico Nursery, Jim and Linda Sorter will be headed home on the first of October after a busy but worthwhile venture.

As was promised, the first turtle of the season whose eggs were collected by Jim and Linda was dedicated to Rob Hepburn's deceased mother



Margaret and the hatchlings from that turtle were released to the sea on September 10th (see photos above). The hatching success rate for that nest was approximately 98% which is extraordinary. Love to you Rob!!!!



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