

MILITARY ANALYST FEEDBACK
POST GUANTANAMO VISIT
(Transcripts: June 25-27, 2005)

Note: These are clips found as of 1500 Monday. More may follow.

Highlights:

- **General Montgomery Meigs**
 - *WNBC-NY*, 6/25: The DoD is starting to do a better job of telling the Gitmo story, which is “professionally run.”
 - *MSNBC News Live*, 6/25: Compared Gitmo to the DoD Leavenworth facility. All the right things, including interrogations, are being done “correctly.”
- **Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer**
 - *Fox and Friends* – 6/26: What we have done to “consistently ensure humane treatment” is amazing...the interrogations are “definitely working.”
- **Major General Donald W. Shepperd**
 - *CNN American Morning*, 6/27: Gitmo “bears no resemblance” to how it’s portrayed in the press. The guards are dedicated and doing “an extremely tough job” with the dangerous detainees.
- **Colonel Jack Jacobs (three different clips)**
 - *MSNBC*: 6/26: Gitmo is “a very nice facility.” But the DoD’s invitation for analysts to tour the facility was “long overdue...” “There’s nothing to be ashamed of” and “it makes no sense” to close Gitmo.
 - *MSNBC*, 6/26: Conditions at Gitmo have changed for the better over the years... the soldiers “go out of their way” to accommodate Islam at the prison
 - *MSNBC*, 6/26: Conditions exceeded expectations – the cells are “high tech.” The interrogators are establishing relationships with detainees to gain information, but “it takes time.”
- **Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu**
 - *Fox and Friends* – 6/27/05: Gitmo is a “very smooth-working, operating procedure that may have had problems in the beginning but is now up and running.” The facility and guards are “impressive.”

Transcripts:

General Montgomery Meigs

(Found Weekend Today Show clip and MSNBC - this Weekend clip)

WNBC-NY (NBC) - Today

6/25/2005 7:08:07 AM

Newscaster: Earlier this week a team of human rights experts at the United Nations accused the U.S. of unfair treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay. And joining us this morning from Washington, D.C., two NBC news analysts, both former generals, Barry McCaffrey who's returned from a trip to Iraq and Montgomery Meigs, who recently returned from, I believe, just yesterday, a visit to Guantanamo Bay. Good morning to both of you...

Newscaster: General Meigs, let me turn to you and Guantanamo Bay. You were just there at the invitation of the U.S. military. Give us your general impressions. **Meigs:** Well, we went to just about every corner of the place. Escorted by Major General Hood, the commander down there. There's been over \$100 million of new construction. The place is professionally run. I was impressed. **Newscaster:** isn't the debate though not so much about exactly how prisoners are being treated there but more on whether or not Guantanamo Bay has become a symbol? A symbol to the Muslim world and in particular -- a recruitment tool for terrorists because of what it represents? **Meigs:** Well, I think the problem we have is in terms of the general treatment of prisoners early on in the war. Let me give you an example. The Red Cross just spent six weeks there interviewing prisoners, going to every part of the prison. It's not an irretrievable situation. You're going to have to have something like Guantanamo to hold these 500-odd terrorists who were very seriously dedicated people. It might as well be Guantanamo as just the Department of Defense is going to tell the story of what's really going on there. I think they're starting to do a much better job of that now. **Newscaster:** General Meigs and General McCaffrey, thanks very much to both of you this morning.

MSNBC News Live

6/25/2005 11:20:12 AM

Newscaster: Meanwhile Guantanamo Bay is just one of the fronts on the war on terror causing frustration. Earlier I got a firsthand account from two retired generals. They now serve as analysts.

...General Meigs, thanks for your patience. You returned from a visit to Camp Delta in Guantanamo Bay, a source of a lot of controversy. What were your perceptions there?

Meigs: The place is very professionally run. There's been \$100 million spent in construction, which has brought the facilities up to a very high standard in terms of confinement facility. The confinements were sound, similar to what we use in the Department of Defense facility at Leavenworth. We talked with the senior interrogation heads, and interrogations were being done correctly - nothing like what you read in the log in "Time" magazine... Looks to me like they've got that thing up and running properly. **Newscaster:** But how much were you actually able to see? There's a lot of controversy, because of the treatment of detainees during interrogations ... Amnesty and The Red Cross are both saying the prisoners may have been abused and that they were

OSD

not allowed to see all that was going on. Were you able (confirm?) **Meigs:** Yes. I know the commander. He was trying to show us everything because he's got a good story to tell. The Red Cross had just spent six weeks there interviewing prisoners, getting access to any part of the facility. And as I understand it, secondhand, their issues concern individual cells for prisoners, as opposed to two or three prisoners in a cell. That is not unusual in confinement facilities, in that the prisoners can talk to each other cell-to-cell, et cetera. So I would say as time goes on, this story is going to abate. They are doing the right things at Guantanamo. **Newscaster:** I will have more on their thoughts on whether the media is giving America the accurate picture of what's really happening in the war on terror. Meanwhile, a look at your weather...

Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer

(Found Sunday Fox News clip; the Saturday clip was not available)

Fox News -- Fox and Friends Sunday

6/26/2005 9:45:13 AM

Newscaster: There has been a lot of debate about conditions at Gitmo. Our next guest said it is not the detainees who are getting abused but the prison guards. In Washington to explain is command sergeant Steve Greer. He went to the facility and he was there for Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. Sergeant, I saw you yesterday on shows and one of the interesting things the points you made was you ate the food the detainees eat and it is better than foods that the actual guards eat. It even costs more. **Greer:** Yes. That's absolutely right. It is amazing the amount of steps that we have taken and put in place to ensure there is a consistently humane treatment for all detainees. Some 520 currently inside Gitmo. They've been there awhile. **Newscaster:** You said the people being treated harshly are the guards themselves. What you are also saying, Sergeant is that these prisoners have not been broken in any way. **Greer:** Well, what I would tell you is that the interrogation strategy down there is based on rapport building because that works. You don't torture detainees to gain information - it's critical information to fight the war on terror. What they have done is designed a rapport building based on certain activities. If you are not compliant you get less incentives. I watched a Libyan being interrogated - he was eating Hostess donuts and reading a magazine from the coast of Libya. Another interrogation I watched (included) the detainee watching Martha Stewart Living and drinking Seattle's Best Coffee. These are incentives given to detainees if they are compliant if they continue to provide information to their interrogators. **Newscaster:** we have had e-mails and discussed this as a talking point early in the show. We have had people e-mail in to say this is nothing but a dog and pony show and of course conditions will be good and respectful because you guys will be brought down there and everybody knows it. What do you say to that? **Greer:** That's nonsense. That B roll footage you ran there - that's camp x-ray - that thing has been gone for two years. There have been millions of dollars of construction and operation costs put into the camps at Camp Delta. Here's the deal. The International Red Cross has 24/7 access to detainees and they have met with every single detainee. Not to mention, anybody who thinks that there is something going on other than humane treatment there never served a day in the military

because the soldiers and sailors I know would never put up with it. They wouldn't allow this to go on....

Newscaster: Steve, this is what I want to know. We had interrogations - you witnessed four of them. My question is, if these interrogations are indeed working, are we further along on the intelligence trail? Are we any closer to cracking Al-Qaeda? Are we closer to getting Osama bin Laden? **Greer:** I don't know. Yes, they are definitely working. I spoke to the senior interrogator - a female who has been there two years, she said every single week they gain credible information that helps us uncover the structure of a Canadian and associated networks. Not to mention Al-Qaeda's pursuit of WMD, terrorist techniques and skill sets the way they recruit, recruiting centers and locations as well as how terrorist organizations used legitimate financial businesses as fronts to fund terrorism. **Newscaster:** The interrogations you viewed - what were they like? **Greer:** it was really hair-raising to watch the interrogations and to see an Al-Qaeda operative face-to-face with an American interrogator and interpreter. To see the cat and mouse game that goes on... There was one individual who was leaning forward in his seat very focused and attentive, with the detainee watching every word he said, he was there two years and he was a leader within the camp itself.... **Newscaster:** thank you for joining us today. Take care.

Major General Donald W. Shepperd

(Found CNN American Morning News and Friday live clip only; CNN Radio transcripts not available)

CNN -- American Morning

6/27/2005 9:14:57 AM

Newscaster: On Friday, a group of former military leaders, who are now TV commentators, also toured the prison. Don Sheppard was there. He's in Washington this morning for us. Nice to see you, General. You went Friday. How long were you there? What did you get to see? **Shepperd:** We were there the whole day. We got to see the entire detention facility, talk to the guards, see interrogations, observe interrogations, and talk to interrogators. We had pretty much free run of the place to talk to anyone we wanted to talk to. **Newscaster:** What did you come away thinking? **Shepperd:** I came away thinking what the congressional delegation said. What we saw in Guantanamo bears no resemblance to what we are reading in the present press. Most of the people writing about this, I believe, have never been there. We have impressions of an old facility camp that was closed three years ago. We have a modern, well-constructed prison guarded by very, very dedicated people, doing an extremely tough job in the midst of a very dangerous people. **Newscaster:** Did you talk to interrogators there as well? What kind of questions did you have for them? **Shepperd:** We talked to interrogators and watched them at work as well. A lot of people have the impression of people at Guantanamo, people with no rights and being mistreated. This is consistent with what I heard from the interrogation training in Arizona, mistreatment does not work. You can't get things out of people by torturing them. All it does is screw things up. You have to establish rapport over a long period of time, keep the interrogations going and eventually people will give you information that you then coordinate with other pieces of information to bring you actionable intelligence and that's what's happening now.

Newscaster: You had free run of the place and that you got to watch them at work pretty much unfettered for a day. Isn't it fair to, well, if there's abuse going on it sure isn't going to happen while the U.S. Congressional delegation is going through and certainly not while former people who are now analysts on TV, are hanging out in town? I mean, it seems to me, obviously you wouldn't see those things, I think that's fair to say, isn't it?

Shepperd: Absolutely. They put their best foot forward. In any prison situation you have to continually guard against abuses. There have been abuses at Guantanamo in the past. I think they have been fixed and they're constantly on the alert for them. What we saw was a bunch of dedicated people that are really mad and feel attacked by the things coming out in the print press about this. They say, I don't know where these people are getting information. They haven't been here, and I haven't seen it going on. **Newscaster:** not only coming out in the print press, journalists who haven't had a chance to visit, talking about Amnesty International, they called Guantanamo modern gulag, the IRC said tactics were tantamount to torture. IRC comes by frequently to check on prisoners. They're there all the time. The same with Amnesty International, they are people there. These are not journalists typing on computers in another state and never have left the country.

Shepperd: The International Red Cross has access 24 hours a day 7 days a week at times and place of their choosing. You've got to realize that people think about Guantanamo as in previous wars where you captured detainees and hold them until the end of the war and release them. Guantanamo is detaining people, keeping them off of the battlefield, releasing ones not guilty and punishing and bringing to military tribunals ones that are. That's what we saw going on. And I believe that's what's going on now, after some rough starts. **Newscaster:** What do the interrogators tell you about information they're getting from folks who remain detained there?

Shepperd: These people have been here, some, two, three years. **Newscaster:** Are you still getting valuable information? **Shepperd:** Absolutely yes. You get bits and pieces. New people coming in all of the time, new faces, they reconfirm new things and go into databases line things up, they say we've gotten a lot of information to prevent attacks in this country and other countries with the information they're getting from these people and it's still valuable. Former Air Force Major General Don Shepperd joining us CNN military analyst back from Gitmo. Thanks for talking with us.

Live from CNN

(6/24/05 2:50 p.m.)

Newscaster: We have just established a line to Guantanamo Bay to our military analyst, General Don Shepperd. He arrived there as part of a trip put together by the Pentagon in the wake of that human rights report that criticized conditions at the prison for war detainees. General Shepherd is on the phone with us right now. What do you see? **Shepperd:** I'm seeing a lot of rain right now. We're in the middle of a drenching rainstorm. Every American should have a chance to see what our group saw today. The impressions you're getting from the media and from pronouncements of people who have not been here are false. What we're seeing is a modern prison system with dedicated people, interrogators who know what they're doing. And people are being well treated. We had a chance to tour the facility, eat what the prisoners eat, we've seen people being interrogated. It's nothing like the impression from the media.

News caster: You said you got to talk to the interrogators and guards. What have they told you? **Shepperd:** The interrogators, we have the opinions that people have been mistreated. Everyone we talked to, and this is consistent with things I have known in the past, every interrogator will tell you the key is a relationship based on respect. Eventually, they will begin to talk and you get pieces of information you can fit together with pieces of information from somewhere else. Pressure doesn't work, disrespect doesn't work, and torture is counterproductive. That came from everyone, men and women who were interrogators down here. **News caster:** This leads me to my next question. Of course, this was a trip organized by the Pentagon. Do you feel like you're getting full access? Are you seeing a true picture? **Shepperd:** That's a good question. They are proud to have people down here to see what we're seeing. Obviously, they're going to put their best foot forward, and obviously, there will be abuses or people disobeying the regulations. I have been in prisons and jails in the United States, and this is by far the most dedicated force I've ever seen in any correctional institution anywhere. **News caster:** You mentioned you have spoken with guards. What are they saying? **Shepperd:** Very interesting. I had lunch with one of the female guards and then I talked to a group of male guards as well. I said, do you ever see anything that goes on that resembles mistreatment of prisoners or mistreatment by the prisoners of guards. They say they're on alert at all times. They're not armed when they're around the guards (sic - meant to say "prisoners"). You don't do that because obviously weapons can be taken and used against you. But basically, they treat the prisoners firmly with respect. They don't engage in a lot of banter with them. They say the prisoners do things that we've heard about in the media. They sometimes get riled and will throw feces, they'll throw urine at the guards. But this entire system is based upon compliance. In other words, if you comply with the rules, you're gonna be treated well, you'll be given more privileges just like any detention facility, and if you don't, your life is going to be much more miserable than those who do. So, all of the guards seem to be very professional. None of them that I have talked to have observed anything in the way of mistreatment or any really bad incidents. The biggest thing they say is violence between the prisoners themselves. A lot of the prisoners don't like each other. They're from different countries. **News caster:** On the flipside, have you had access to the prisoners themselves and what are their conditions? **Shepperd:** We have not had access to the prisoners themselves. We are told what they are and we have seen all the facilities. We have watched interrogations. We just watched interrogations of two high-value prisoners who have been here for a considerable amount of time. The facilities are basic of prisons anywhere. We have seen the cell said. They're 7 x 8 cells. They're clean. they have a toilet in the facility. They have a water fountain in the facility. They have a bed. They are given the Koran. They're given a mattress. They're given clothes, recreational things such as playing cards, chess, checkers, that type of thing. We have not had access to talk to the prisoners and, again, that's one thing you've got to be very careful of. You want to establish a prisoner relationship with the interrogators and not have that proliferated with other people. **News caster:** Let's back up for just a moment because you said you watched an interrogation. Explain to us how that played out and were there any instances of abuse or possible abuse? **Shepperd:** Absolutely not. Basically, you're able to observe interrogations. When you say, "we watched them," I want to be very careful about how I

describe this. I do not want to describe how we watched it. They have various ways of monitoring the interrogations. With the interrogations we watched, there were interrogators, translators who translated for the detainee, and there were also intelligence people in there. They're basically asking questions. They ask the same questions over a long period of time. They get information about the person's family, where are they from, who they know, what they do. All of the things you would want in a criminal investigation. These were cordial, very professional. There was even laughing in two of them. **Newscaster:** Laughing in an interrogation? **Shepperd:** Yes. It's not like the impression that we have where people bend people's arms and mistreat people. They're trying to establish a firm professional relationship where they have respect with each other and can talk to each other. Yes, there was laughing and humor going on in a couple of these things. I'm talking about a remark made where someone will smirk or laugh or chuckle. **Newscaster:** We appreciate your time and that look inside Gitmo with you being there. Thank you for that. We invite you to stay tuned.

Colonel Jack Jacobs

(Found three MSNBC clips and NBC Weekend Nightly News clip)

MSNBC

6/26/2005 9:35:56 AM:

Newscaster:...possible prisoner abuse in Guantanamo Bay, lawmakers from both sides of the aisle tour the site this weekend. They say conditions are improving for prisoners. Military escorts took a house delegation through cellblocks, interrogation rooms, and troops' barracks. Our own military analyst was also given a tour of Guantanamo Bay earlier this week; retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs joins us with a little more insight. First up, before we get to Guantanamo Bay, about that report in the Sunday Times about U.S. officials meeting with insurgent leaders, tell us a little about what that might mean.

Jacobs: I think we're reaching out to try to find some solution to the problem of continued violence by this group of people that we call collectively the insurgency, trying to meet with these guys and figure out if there's some way that we can ameliorate the situation. I can't get any confirmation that it actually took place. But I can tell you this -- unless you meet with every one of these guys, including Al-Zarqawi's mob, you're not going to get anything.

Newscaster: Well, Secretary Rumsfeld has said it was Iraqis meeting with insurgent leaders. Was there a difference there? Would they not do it with the U.S. military?

Jacobs: They might do it with the U.S.'s approval, but not with the U.S. or any combination of those things. And it's possible and plausible that the Iraqis themselves would meet with the insurgency leaders. But if they're going to do it, they've got to get all of the insurgency leaders together. The thing is so fragmented, unless they get them all to agree it's not going to work.

Newscaster: Now to Guantanamo Bay. Tell us about the cells themselves also where the prisoners are detained. What are they like?

Jacobs: Well, the older cells, of course, are older. But the new cellblocks, which a new cellblock is patterned directly after a high security prison in Indiana, and it's the state of

the art facility. The cells are very, very good indeed. The detainees have the capability to talk to other detainees and inmates. They can do things like play checkers with them and so on, even in the higher security blocks. It's a very nice facility, to be honest with you. If you've got to be in prison, it's not a bad place to be.

Newscaster: We're seeing a lot of high-profile visits to Guantanamo Bay is it part of a PR ploy? We now recognize that we've been watching pictures from three years ago, since abandoned. Now Camp Delta, an entirely different location in that facility in Guantanamo Bay. What's going on here?

Jacobs: Well, I think the Defense Department has been way behind the eight ball. This story had been building up over a period of time. You said yourself, the x-ray pictures are three years old and we've still been showing them. The Defense Department has waited; instead of getting ahead of the story and saying, why don't you come on down and take a look at this thing. We'll show you what it's really like, but has waited until now to do it. Long overdue. I think that the story -- the story is one in which we can get a good view of what's actually taking place. There's nothing necessarily to be ashamed of. The facilities there are actually quite good. And the story is an interesting and important one that the Defense Department should have shown us before. They need to learn from this, that it doesn't make any sense to wait, get everybody down there, show them the stuff at the very beginning, and they would be lots better off.

Newscaster: We spoke to two retired Generals yesterday. Alex just spoke to two lawmakers who said conditions there, and you yourself saw that conditions there are better or good. Does that mean, however that, the reputation, the image, has not been too tarnished, that this camp should in fact stay open?

Jacobs: Well, the reputation is tarnished, period. I don't know if you're going to be able to improve the reputation in the Islamic world, no matter what you do. At the end of the day, the intelligence value of Guantanamo is so high, and I've seen both unclassified and classified briefings down there. But I can tell you that the intelligence value is so high that it makes no sense whatsoever to close it down. And we're still getting information from detainees who have been there for three years.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 10:38:56 AM

Newscaster: Retired Army Colonel Jack Jacobs, welcome as always.

Jacobs: Good morning.

Newscaster: A report in the "Sunday Times" of London, about meetings between U.S. officials disputed by Donald Rumsfeld, and Iraqi insurgents. Any way you slice that, it's still problematic because the insurgency is not a coherent group, could you tell us about that?

Jacobs: I tried to check to see whether or not it was true and so far, nobody's talking about it. It's plausible that we will have, that we would have had meetings with these guys. But one of the points that you mention, that it's difficult, if you can't assemble everybody who is participating in this very fragmented insurgency, we call it an insurgency like it's one centrally-organized thing, it's not...

Newscaster: Let's go to Guantanamo Bay. The respect or disrespect of Islam. Now we talked earlier about some of the cells and conditions there. What about Islam itself? Did you get any sense of how fair it is there?

Jacobs: Sure. Not only what happened before, and people make mistakes and you're sure mistakes have been made in the past. The law of large numbers says eventually something bad may have happened. I can tell you right now that they go really, from my standpoint, way out of their way to accommodate Islam. Ritually slaughtered meat is flown in from Florida. The meals that they ate, I can tell you that you can't eat that much food, to be honest with you. The each, each detainee gets a prayer rug, prayer oil, prayer beads. He's got a niche in his cell for his Koran, so that it doesn't inadvertently get desecrated. Every conceivable horizontal surface you can think of has got an arrow stenciled on it. Any place that a detainee can be, interrogation room, out in the exercise yard in the cell, to show which way to turn, which way is Mecca, so he can pray.

Newscaster: Are these changes? Is this an updating in the system? Because the reports, remember the log story about how the 20th hijacker was treated three years ago or two years ago.

Jacobs: That was a long time ago.

Newscaster: Do you have a sense that this is newly implemented?

Jacobs: This is the sense, I think some of the changes, the large majority of them have been evolutionary, the kind of conditions we have there now, were not, were not existing three years ago. They've been changing for the better. And I think one of the reasons we've done it is less because of the international concern about it, but because you get more information out of these guys if you treat them properly. And they're properly treated and we're getting lots of information from them. Information we didn't get before.

Newscaster: Better with honey than vinegar.

Jacobs: It works every time.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 11:47:47 AM

Newscaster: Meanwhile, we'll get insight from our own military analyst, also given a tour of Guantanamo Bay earlier this week. Retired Army Colonel Jack Jacobs, welcome as always.

Jacobs: Good morning again.

Newscaster: Tell us a little bit -- earlier you talked about the cells and the food. Tell us about specifically about the interrogations you were able to witness.

Jacobs: We saw a number of interrogations. Some fairly high profile and extremely dangerous detainees. And they used different techniques. The whole idea is to get closer to the detainees, so he can feel comfortable with you and therefore give you the information you require. You're not going to get any good information from somebody you beat up. He's going to tell you whatever he thinks you want to hear so that you'll stop. So they've been working hard over the last few years to gain the trust of these detainees. Some of them are very, very high-level and hard-core people. And it works, it works. I saw one, one detainee, whenever there's a session, he won't talk unless he gets his stuff. What's his stuff? A Twix candy bar, you can't make this up. A cup of Seattle's best coffee and the latest edition of "" Martha Stewart Living."" and then he'll start talking.

Newscaster: And is that because Martha Stewart....

Jacobs: I have no idea. Are you establishing real trust with these people, if you have an interrogator and analyst, who over time, develops trust with the detainees.

Newscaster: Is that a change in a tactics? We had heard before the complaints of the FBI agents who were sent to various locations who witnessed military interrogations or perhaps those by the contractors or reservists in Iraq. Who at one point were doing some of them? Is that a change in tactics?

Jacobs: I think in some areas it's a change. In many areas, it's not. Because the American military people recognize that if you, if you establish trust you're going to get the information you require ultimately. But I think overall it's a recognition that it's going to take time and you have to establish a working relationship with the detainee. There's one interrogator I saw, who is a very motherly type. And this is the interrogator who finely got this one detainee to spill everything because he felt some sort of close relationship with this woman, who over time developed a personal intellectual relationship with him.

Newscaster: Did you see what you expected to see when you took this tour?

Jacobs: No. I'm something of a skeptic. And a doubter. I've always been, I was very surprised to see what I saw. I expected the facilities to be very rustic. They are not, they are in very good shape and they are in new high-tech containment cells. I did not expect civilians to be interrogating the prisoners. I didn't expect to see the little contact with military people and detainees.

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu

(Found the Fox News clip only. Radio transcripts for KKLA Frank Pastore, Al Rondel Show, Greg Allen Show, KTFK Crane & Smash and True North Radio with Laurie Morrow not available)

Fox News (Fox and Friends First)

6/27/2005 6:23:12 AM

Newscaster: Because he's just back from Guantanamo Bay. He spent a lot of time in the military. Former Green Beret, Colonel, thank you for joining us. What did you see when you got over to Gitmo? **Cucullu:** Good morning, Brian. I saw an impressive situation there. We're talking about a very smooth-working, operating procedure that may have had problems in the beginning but is now up and running. The facility is quite adequate for what the mission is. And the troops were extraordinarily impressive from top to bottom. I had an opportunity to dine with them, to work with them, and it really was amazing. **Brian:** First off, do the troops realize the amount of pressure and focus is on Gitmo? **Cucullu:** Oh, it's unbelievable. They get -- you know, they get Fox News down there. They get emails; they talk to their friends and relatives here in the states. And they're quite aware, not only of the overall situation, but they're extremely aware when you hear off the wall comments by people like Senators Kennedy and Durbin, that attack them personally, and the great thing is that rather than hurt their morale, what this really does is it raises the bar for them. They say we're going to be even better than we were before, just to prove to these guys how professional we are. **Brian:** In terms of what you observed first-hand, what do you know now that you didn't know before you walked on to the island? **Cucullu:** Well, quite a few things, Brian. The first thing I know for sure is that there's no torture going on down there. And that these people are being kept in a way that's very humane, probably more so than even your average maximum security prison

in the United States. The other thing is that surprised me is the fact that we're still getting what we would call actionable, usable intelligence information interrogations with these guys, and that I hadn't expected, and so I was very pleased to see that, because what it shows is that the process is working and that there really is a reason, other than the fact that these are very evil terrible people, who keep this system working. **Brian:** The FBI report that says they used dogs chained to the floor, forced to go to the bathroom on themselves, everything like that, do you understand that that is proven true, but that was the old system or is that considered a false report? **Cucullu:** I don't know what happened in the past, and it's tough for me to evaluate that particular report, although it sounds a bit hyperbolic to me. We went through several of the camps, we actually watched several ongoing interrogations and we had a chance to talk to the troops on a one-on-one basis over a meal, which was a detainee's meal, it proved to me that there's absolutely nothing like that going on now. In fact, many of us were a bit shocked at the leniency that the command is showing toward the prisoners, the detainees, because in many cases the real abuse going on down there that we don't hear about is that every day when these guards, our young men and women go into the blocks, they're assaulted by the detainees throw feces, urine, semen, spit. They're vilified, threatened; their families are threatened with death. If they go into the cell with these guys, they're personally attacked. They try to scratch their eyes out, pull their mouths and stuff, and break their hands. It's very dangerous, and these kids are very brave and professional for putting up with it and not reacting in a way that maybe you and I would if we put up with the same threat. **Brian:** When you talk about interrogations, you say relationships are being built. Why? **Cucullu:** Because they feel that you get -- it's like the old -- the old saying, you get more flies with honey than you do with vinegar. These people are working with them over a long period of time, the interrogators are establishing a relationship with the prisoners, and what they're finding is that in many cases, it's an ego thing, Brian. These detainees are proud of what they did, they're proud of the fact that they have tried to kill Americans, and Westerners and will do so in the future. They brag about it. They openly boast about it. And they -- we're finding out things about financing, about Al Qaeda organizations and training, about operations that took place in the past and may happen in the future, so this is all -- is essential for the security of the United States that we continue the interrogation process down there. **Brian:** Last question, there's no way to ever show you if there was something to hide in Gitmo, the average person watching at home says (they) never show you what was wrong at Gitmo. What makes you think that you got the real story? **Cucullu:** Because we saw hundreds of people, we saw almost every cell and confinement facility down there. It's simply impossible, Brian, to have a conspiracy on that level and that magnitude. There were 10 of us along; we were speaking to the troops over a meal. If somebody had a complaint or a problem, they would have indicated it to one of us and we would have been able to share that. This business about these vast conspiracies is really overstated. Plus we do what we're looking for. You know, we're not rookies at this, and we've inspected military units before. You can tell the pride, the honesty, and the pride that comes from these troops. **Brian:** Thanks again for joining us. **Cucullu:** Great to be on with you. **Brian:** In and out of Cuba, not an easy thing to do.

Military Analysts - Gitmo Trip Wrap-Up*(Media Coverage: June 24 – July 5)***Summary**

Coverage of the military analyst visit to Guantanamo included 37 known articles or interviews across television, print, online and radio outlets. Military analyst Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu had the most coverage followed by Major General Shepperd and then Colonel Jacobs. Themes were consistent with last weeks topics as follows:

Prisoner/Guard Abuse

- Most abuse is either toward U.S. military personnel and/or between prisoners
- U.S. military guards are regularly threatened by prisoners
- Some analysts stated there may have been past abuses at Gitmo but not now

Prisoner Interrogations

- Interrogators are building relationships with prisoners; not torturing them
- We are still gaining valuable information from prisoners
- Interrogations are very professionally run

Quality of Prisoner Care

- Soldiers go out of their way to accommodate Islamic practices by providing prayer rugs, Korans and directional arrows pointing toward Mecca
- Dietary needs of prisoners are taken into consideration and medical care is provided

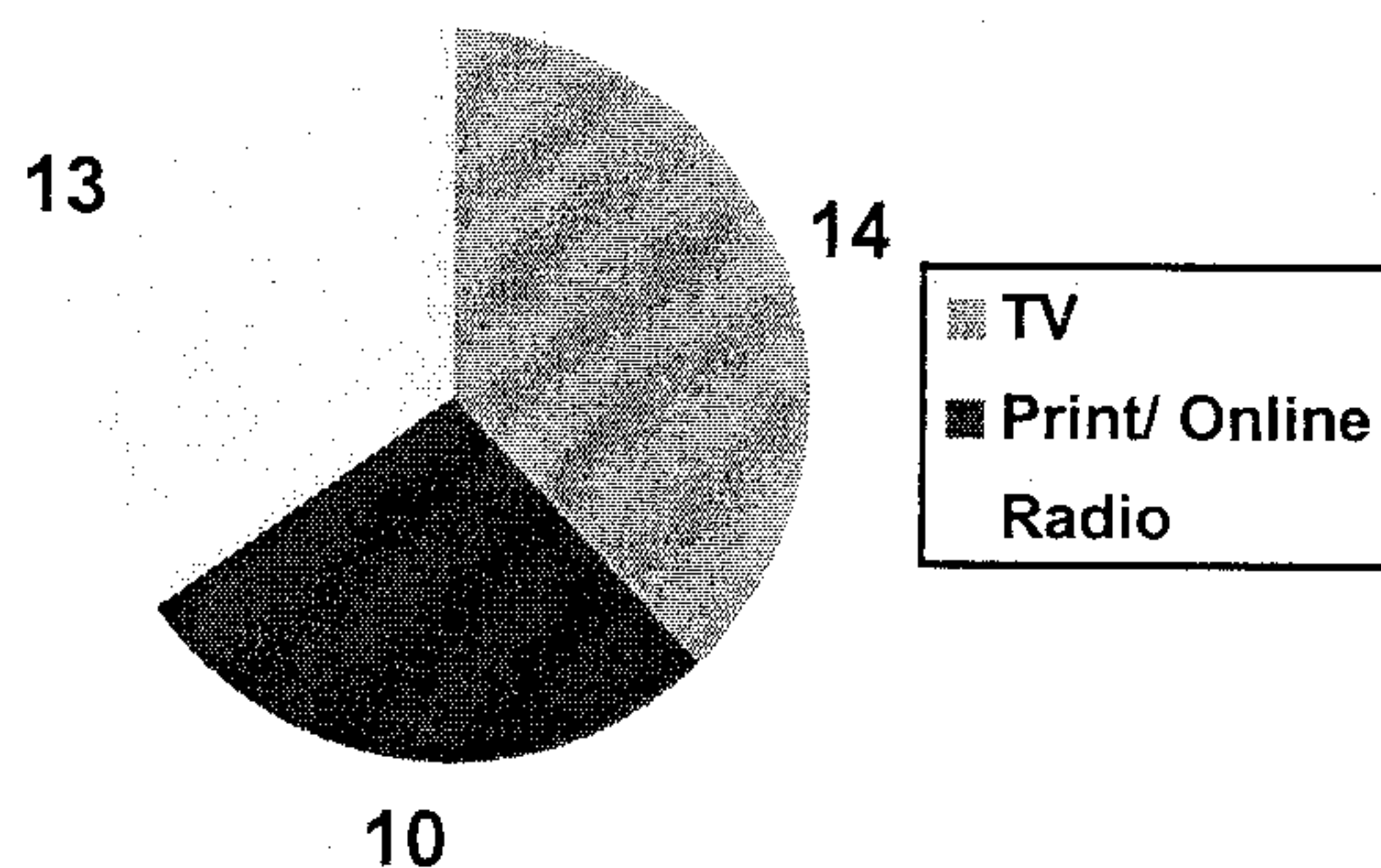
Closing Gitmo

- Gitmo exceeds Geneva Convention requirements
- We should not close this facility and let dangerous terrorists out

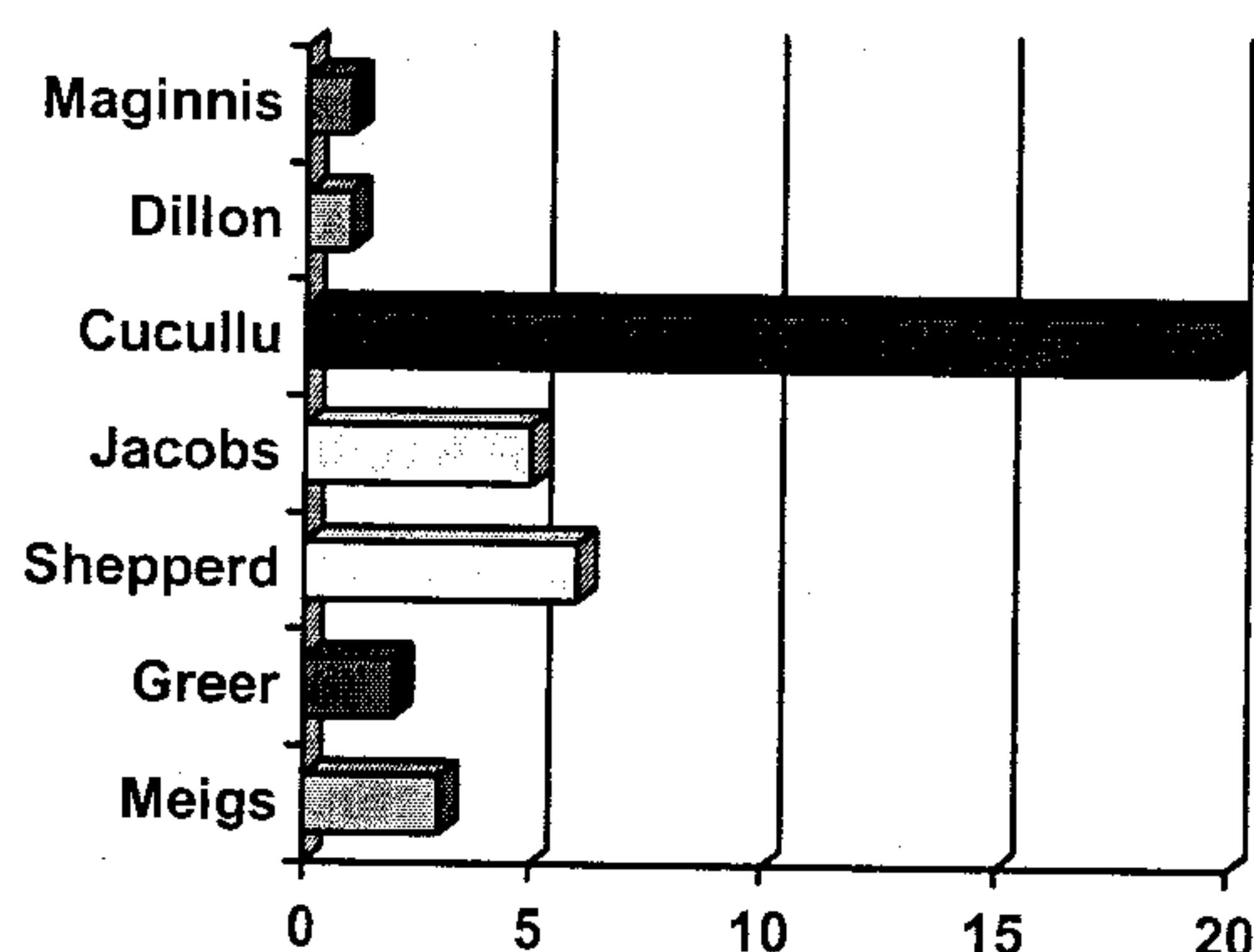
Analyst Feedback

- Analysts felt criticism of DoD is unfair and misguided
- DoD should have been more open about Gitmo sooner
- Analyst tour is “long overdue” and there is “nothing to be ashamed of”
- Television media has outdated images of Gitmo (i.e. showed a rundown facility)

COVERAGE BY MEDIA OUTLET



Amount of Coverage per Analyst



No Known Post-Trip Commentary

- Colonel Tim J. Eads
- Colonel Glenn Lackey
- Retired CIA – Wayne Simmons
(Quoted within a Gordon Cucullu piece)

SUMMARY OF MEDIA COVERAGE

(*Indicates new media not covered in last report)

General Montgomery Meigs

Television

WNBC-NY (NBC) - Today

6/25/2005 7:08:07 AM

- General discussion of Gitmo structural changes, prisoner treatment and Red Cross interviews of detainees. Also talked about whether Gitmo should continue to detain prisoners.

MSNBC News Live

6/25/2005 11:20:12 AM

- Discussed the quality of the facilities, prisoner interrogations and Red Cross involvement. Also commented on the professionalism of the military personnel at Gitmo and believes DoD is doing the “right thing” at Gitmo.

MSNBC*

6/27/2005 3:24:11 PM

- Spoke of the numerous changes at Gitmo. For example, building rapport with prisoners, the high quality of food and facility improvements in comparison to past conditions.

Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer

(Fox News interview on Saturday, June 25; not available)

Television

Fox News -- Fox and Friends Sunday

6/26/2005 9:45:13 AM

- Emphasized that interrogations are built on rapport rather than torture and that the food quality is good. Also discussed the fact that prisoners attack military guards.

Major General Donald W. Shepperd

(Radio interviews ABC Radio - New York and CNN Radio this Weekend: not available)

Print/Online:

Visit offers glimpse into Guantanamo

(CNN.com; online CNN article by General Donald Shepperd) – July 1

- Criticism of DoD is unfair and misjudged. Gitmo replicates military justice systems (i.e. military tribunals) and is modeled after U.S. prisons. "Certainly no gulag."

Television:

CNN -- American Morning

6/27/2005 9:14:57 AM

- Discussed guards' professionalism, the quality of facilities and interrogation techniques (i.e. building relationships with prisoners).

Live from CNN

6/24/05 2:50 PM

- Gitmo is a modern prison system with dedicated guards and interrogators who know what they're doing. Stated that analysts had access to multiple parts of the facility despite the fact that it was a DoD sponsored trip.

CNNEU* - CNN Europe

6/27/2005 4:21:29 PM

- Military commissions are going on right now. U.S. guards are angry that Gitmo is being portrayed in a negative fashion in the media. Early abuses have been "cleaned-up."

Colonel Jack Jacobs

(MSNBC interview – June 26; not available)

Television

MSNBC

6/26/2005 9:35:56 AM

- He did not get any sense of abuse taking place. Stated that the DoD needs to be more proactive about its Gitmo PR efforts. Valuable and actionable intelligence is still being collected.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 10:38:56 AM

- DoD has been very accommodating to Islamic practices at the Gitmo facilities (i.e. prayer rugs, ritually slaughtered meat, etc.) and conditions are changing for the better.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 11:47:47 AM

- Observed “relationship building” between the detainees and guards and discussed the high quality of the Gitmo facilities.

MSNBC*

6/29/2005 3:32:44 PM

- Mentions there may have been abuse in the past but not now. Discussed the high quality of the facility and the fact that there is still new information being gathered.

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu

(**Articles:** The Walton Reporter – New York; Democracy Project; The Right Approach

Radio: WABC - New York City, Dennis Prager - Los Angeles, KKLA - Los Angeles, KABB - Los Angeles, Greg Allen - Tampa, WMET - Washington, D.C, KFI - Los Angeles, KTFK - St. Louis, Liberty Broadcasting – Nationally Syndicated, True North Radio – Waterbury (VT), Greg Allen Show - Tampa – Not Available)

Print/Online

Interrogations at GITMO: Breaking Stereotypes...*

(The One Republic Journal; Gordon Cucullu) – July 5

- Observed interrogations while visiting Guantanamo and spoke of the importance of building rapport with the detainees. New information continues to be collected from detainees. Was impressed by the professionalism of the facility personnel at the camp.

Abuse at Guantanamo: Reporting on a visit to Gitmo...*

(The One Republic Journal; Gordon Cucullu) – June 28

- Attacks on American service members from prisoners are common. Inspection of cells indicated “a far cry from the harshness of American maximum security prisons.” “Combatants are evil and dangerous.”

Mothering Terrorists at Gitmo *

(FrontPageMagazine.com ; Gordon Cucullu) – June 28

- Prisoners receive a 2,600-calorie diet. Facility personnel and guards are regularly attacked and gaining information continues to be a challenge. He commended personnel at the Gitmo facility.

What I Saw at Gitmo

(FrontPageMagazine.com; Gordon Cucullu) – June 27

- Observed interrogations and commented on the quality of medical care. He also pointed out that the Korans handed out all have protective cases.

Television

Fox News - Fox and Friends First

6/27/2005 6:23:12 AM

- Discussed the morale of prison guards despite public criticism of how the Gitmo facility is run. Continue to build relationships with prisoners to gain actionable intelligence. The camp continues to serve its purpose.

Fox News* - Dayside with Linda Vester

6/29/2005 1:42:06 PM

- Dangerous detainees regularly threaten guards and interrogations are necessary in order to gain continued intelligence.

Major Dana R. Dillon

Print/Online

Model Gitmo: Very far away from anything Amnesty claims.*

(National Review; Dana Dillon) – July 1

- Detainees are treated humanely and just. The Pentagon is holding U.S. personnel who have previously mistreated prisoners accountable. The detention operations at Gitmo play a “vital role” in the war on terror.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Maginnis

Print/Online

Commentary & News Briefs

(Agape Press; Compiled by Jody Brown quoting Robert Maginnis on Gitmo) – June 27

- Observed the interrogation process and was impressed with the level of professionalism at the camp. New intelligence is surfacing all the time.

P A R 

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

MILITARY ANALYST TRIP TO GUANTANAMO

(June 25, 2005)

The military analysts who discussed Guantanamo included:

- **Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu** – FrontPage Magazine, 6/3
 - Amnesty’s allegations of a “gulag” are “loathsome” and “offensive”
- **Major Dana R. Dillon** – Scripps News Service, 6/23
 - Comparing Guantanamo to the Cambodian killing fields is “grossly exaggerated” and contributes to lowered morale at home and for the troops overseas.
- **Colonel Jack Jacobs** – MSNBC, 6/20
 - The administration thinks that Guantanamo Bay still serves its purpose.
- **Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Maginnis** – Agape Press, 6/16
 - Amnesty “doesn't understand the holocaust or the gulags...” Detainees are “often treated better than the American soldiers who are guarding them...” In addition, “millions of dollars” are now being spent on an air-conditioned facility.
- **General Montgomery Meigs** - MSNBC, 6/23
 - “We started the game and you can't walk out at the end of third period and declare victory.”
- **Major General Donald Shepperd** - CNN, 6/23
 - “We would be crazy to close Gimo,” because where else would detainees go? But he wants to see for himself “what the legal processes are being followed there.”
 - Gitmo was a mistake and is now a “symbol,” much like Abu Ghraib. It’s a “failure of policy” and the world deserves “an explanation.” (CNN, 6/13)
- **Mr. Wayne Simmons** – Fox News, 6/6
 - The Pentagon has made “horrible decisions about Gitmo,” including allowing those “terrorists” to have the Koran there... The occurrence of abuses there are rare and “inadvertent.”

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu (USA, Retired)

Without Amnesty – FrontPage Magazine, June 3

- *In a bylined piece about Amnesty International’s allegations of a gulag at Guantanamo:*

...Make no mistake, Amnesty's accusations are the most loathsome and despicable imaginable. Especially offensive is Amnesty's calling the terrorist prison in Guantanamo an American 'gulag...'

As the Wall Street Journal notes, compared to the Soviet gulag in which millions died, "this is just one more sign of the moral degradation of Amnesty International." It is worse than lack of principle or judgment to use a highly charged word like 'gulag' recklessly; a word with such a terrible connotation. It is an intentional distortion of fact...

To ignore completely as Amnesty has done the hapless situation in North Korea in a real gulag and of escaped refugees who are forcibly repatriated back to North Korea from China to certain imprisonment or execution, is reprehensible and inexcusable. This immoral stance is exacerbated by the crocodile tears the organization sheds over detained terrorists bent on mass killing of innocent held in a detention center.

The Journal summed it perfectly: 'A "human rights" group that can't distinguish between...death camps and detention centers for terrorists who kill civilians can't be taken that seriously.'

Major Dana R. Dillon (USA, Retired)

As criticism of war builds, Kennedy calls for Rumsfeld to resign – Scripps News Service, June 23

- ***Concerning recent "gulag" claims at Guantanamo and the situation in Iraq:***
"Comparing Guantanamo Bay to the killing fields in Cambodia, I think that kind of language is grossly exaggerated and doesn't help," he said. "Eventually, if they destroy the morale at home, they destroy the morale of the soldiers in the field." But Dillon says the administration also brought some of the criticism on itself through its public relations approach up until now.
"There seems to be a tendency to say, 'We see the light at the end of the tunnel,' when in fact the light is a long, long ways off," he said. "I think it would help if the administration went back to what it did in the beginning and talk about the long war, that it is painful."

Winning the Peace: Principles for Post-Conflict Operations - (National Security Research, June 13), by James Jay Carafano, Ph.D. and Dana R. Dillon

- ***In a bylined piece concerning the situation in Iraq:***
Despite the frequency of military intervention and the inevitable follow-on operations, there has been scant success in developing a sound doctrine to guide the planning. This is unacceptable...
Initial assessments of U.S. military operations in Iraq suggest that the military failed either to follow its own doctrine or to learn from past experiences. Halting efforts to rebuild Iraqi security forces and control arms in the country are just two examples...
Current experiences clearly demonstrate that occupation operations are complex and difficult. If the United States wishes to meet future challenges more effectively, it must address the impediments to providing the right combination of

hard and soft power. Innovations in doctrinal concepts, education, operational practices, and organization could provide the impetus for developing an appropriate post-conflict force for the next war.

Colonel Tim J. Eads (USA, Retired)

Fox News: U.S. Troops Headed Home Soon From Iraq? – Fox News, April 11

➤ ***When asked about troop realignment and question over when the troops will return home:***

It's still going to take a lot of time. I mean, we're talking years, as opposed to months. Yes, we are going to be able to bring some troops home, bring some troop levels down, as the Iraqi military and police force are more capable and able to do some of the tasks that the U.S. military is forced to do right now.

I think, no matter, after two years, we are still going to have some troops there.

When asked if three years was reasonable to train the Iraqi military:

Absolutely, because, you know, we started from nothing. You know, the first thing we did -- and some have said it was a mistake -- was that we disbanded the military. And so, what you lost when you did that is, you lost the officer corps. You lost the officer the noncommissioned officer corps, which are really the backbones of the military.

When asked about senior U.S officials' timeline for withdrawal:

Well, I think what they're telling you is, the trend line is showing that, if things continue on the current trend, we are going to be at a point soon that we can start bringing guys home.

Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer (USA, Retired)

FNC – Fox News, May 13

➤ ***When asked about resistance toward U.S. troops in Iraq:***

I will tell you routing out the resistance and denying the terrorists a sanctuary they're currently using in the western corridor would be defined in my terms as success. You have to understand insurgents as well as terrorists in the case, five basic resources to survive. They have to have manpower, funding, they need weapons intelligence, and a safe haven. So this is a huge plus for us and the fact they've now moved their safe haven so close to the porous border. They used to be in Fallujah and now they're over to the western corridor, which is a plus for us. We're pushing them over to the main source of manpower support, which is Syria.

Colonel Jack Jacobs (USA, Retired)

MSNBC – June 21

➤ ***When asked to make parallels between Vietnam and Iraq:***

I think there are parallels. It's the question of whether or not we can articulate an objective, which, when we reach it, we can say, we've actually won. I think we have not done that to a great effect yet. I mean, we've articulated what the objective is in Iraq. But I don't think that we really genuinely believe we're going to reach it in any reasonable amount of time before we have to say we're going to go home.

Medal of Honor recipient Colonel Jack Jacobs describes talking with soldiers in Iraq – NBC Nightly News, June 21

➤ ***Talking about morale of the troops:***

When I was in Vietnam, if you asked anybody what he wanted more than anything else in the world, he'd say to go home. And we asked hundreds and hundreds of soldiers, low-ranking soldiers, in both Afghanistan and Iraq, we asked them the same question. And the response, to a man and a woman was, 'To kill bad guys.' I mean that was startling to me. The morale is just over the top, just really, really enthused about what they're doing. And I think the reason is they perceive that they're making progress. Success will do a lot to morale.

Our capability to get information inside the Sunni Triangle, among the bad guys, is--while not poor, is not much better than poor. It is improving, but I think we need more rapid improvement in our capability to get information which is of a high quality from a reputable source to turn into finished intelligence.

I would characterize my view of the overall strategic situation inside Iraq as guardedly optimistic. The major independent variables here are the determination of the Sunni clergy to get on the bandwagon, because they were going to be left out. And the tactical success we've had at--at knocking off bad guys, which makes their capability to--to coalesce into a coherent force, I think their capability is very, very low at the moment and probably getting worse. It doesn't mean that there aren't going to be some startling attacks, costly attacks, dangerous attacks. But I think the prognosis for the bad guys is poor at the moment.

MSNBC – June 20

➤ ***When asked about whether Gitmo still effectively serves its original purpose:***

I think so. The reason they're there is because it's not U.S. territory, and therefore, the U.S. has the ability to say that the normal rules that applied to American citizens who were detained do not apply at Guantanamo Bay because it's properly Cuba, it's not the U.S. The president made another point that people often forget, and it's the linchpin of the decision to keep these people without trial and to try to extract as much information as possible for as long as they can, and that is, that these people were not wearing uniforms when they were captured. And as far as the Geneva Convention is concerned, it requires the protections of the Geneva Convention that the combatant has to be in a uniform. If you combine those two things, that's why the administration thinks that Guantanamo Bay still service its purpose.

Colonel Glenn Lackey (USA, Retired)

- No coverage found

Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Maginnis (USA, Retired)

Commentary and News Briefs – Agape Press, June 16

- ***Refuting Amnesty International and others' claims comparing Guantanamo to a "gulag":***
"They (Amnesty International) clearly don't understand the holocaust or the gulags," Maginnis states. "I've certainly been to some of the former concentration camps (and in comparison), Guantanamo Bay is a very open facility." In addition, Maginnis says the terrorist prisoners at "Gitmo" are often treated better than the American soldiers who are guarding them. "We provide three Muslim-Islamic traditional meals each day; they have a call for prayer five times a day; they're given prayer rugs," he says. "(And) they're given the best medical attention -- certainly as good or better than any military member in the U.S military receives." Maginnis says millions of dollars are now being spent to build an air-conditioned facility for the detainees.

Fox News: Hannity and Colmes – Hannity and Colmes, May 23

- ***When asked about the pictures of Saddam Hussein's mass graves:***
I've been to one of those mass graves in Hilla, Iraq. And I can tell you about the pictures, and, you know, the hand shackles, and the holes in the head from gunshots.
You know, but Saddam Hussein -- the pictures shouldn't have been released. It's a DOD policy. We have an investigation underway. In fact, we've conducted 10 major investigations over the last couple of years. We have incarcerated 130 soldiers. We've had 360 investigations in other areas, as well.
You know, we had some problems. We're fixing those problems, with Abu Ghraib. It's unfortunate that "Newsweek" spun an article that really was misinterpreted...
And the reality, Alan, is that Karzai said in the White House today, that, you know, the riots in Afghanistan had nothing to do with the "Newsweek" Koran article. They had everything to do with the politics of Afghanistan.

General Montgomery Meigs (USA, Retired)



Major General Donald W. Shepperd (USAF, Retired)



Mr. Wayne Simmons (CIA, Retired)



Major General Donald W. Shepperd (USAF, Retired)



P A R 

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

MILITARY ANALYST TRIP TO GUANTANAMO

(June 27, 2005)

The military analysts who discussed Guantanamo before and after their trip included:

- **Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu** –
 - *FrontPage Magazine*, 6/3: Amnesty's allegations of a "gulag" are "loathsome" and "offensive"
 - *FrontPage Magazine*, 6/27: Gitmo abuse consists of "the relentless, merciless attacks on American servicemen and women by these terrorist thugs."
- **Major Dana R. Dillon**
 - *Scripps News Service*, 6/23: Comparing Guantanamo to the Cambodian killing fields is "grossly exaggerated" and contributes to lowered morale at home and for the troops overseas.
- **Colonel Jack Jacobs** –
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 - *Fox News*, 6/6: The Pentagon has made "horrible decisions about Gitmo," including allowing those "terrorists" to have the Koran there... The occurrence of abuses there are rare and "inadvertent."

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu (USA, Retired)

PRINT/ONLINE

What I Saw at Gitmo – June 27

(FrontPage Magazine.com)

➤ *In a bylined piece about his trip to Gitmo:*

Last week, I was privileged to be part of a Department of Defense trip to the Joint Task Force - Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. I got to see the operations of this “controversial” facility up-close – something particularly important after Sen. Richard Durbin’s comparison of its guard to Nazi storm troopers and calls of leftists to shut the center down...

After speaking with soldiers, sailors, and civilians who collectively staff Gitmo, I left convinced that abuse definitely exists at the detention facilities, and it typically fails to receive the press attention it deserves: it’s the relentless, merciless attacks on American servicemen and women by these terrorist thugs. Many of the orange jumpsuit-clad detainees fight their captors at every opportunity, openly bragging of their desire to kill Americans...

We dined with the soldiers, toured several of the individual holding camps, observed interrogations, and inspected cells. We were impressed by the universally high quality of the cadre and the facilities...

There is a good reason these unlawful combatants are being confined. They are evil and dangerous individuals. Yet these thugs are treated with an amazing degree of compassion...

You are right to worry about inhumane treatment taking place at GITMO. But your concern should be for the dedicated, well-trained, highly professional American men and women who are subjected to a daily barrage of feces, urine, semen, and spit hurled at them along with vile invective as they implement a humane, enlightened system of confinement on men who want nothing more than to kill Americans. These quiet professional Americans, who live under the motto “Honor Bound for Defense of Freedom,” deserve our utmost respect and concern. Shame on anyone who slanders or disrespects them for short-term and short-sighted political advantage.

Without Amnesty – FrontPage Magazine, June 3

➤ *In a bylined piece about Amnesty International’s allegations of a gulag at Guantanamo:*

...Make no mistake, Amnesty’s accusations are the most loathsome and despicable imaginable. Especially offensive is Amnesty’s calling the terrorist prison in Guantanamo an American ‘gulag...’

As the Wall Street Journal notes, compared to the Soviet gulag in which millions died, "this is just one more sign of the moral degradation of Amnesty International." It is worse than lack of principle or judgment to use a highly charged word like 'gulag' recklessly; a word with such a terrible connotation. It is an intentional distortion of fact...

To ignore completely as Amnesty has done the hapless situation in North Korea in a real gulag and of escaped refugees who are forcibly repatriated back to North Korea from China to certain imprisonment or execution, is reprehensible and inexcusable. This immoral stance is exacerbated by the crocodile tears the organization sheds over detained terrorists bent on mass killing of innocent held in a detention center.

The Journal summed it perfectly: 'A "human rights" group that can't distinguish between...death camps and detention centers for terrorists who kill civilians can't be taken that seriously.'

BROADCAST TV

Fox News (Fox and Friends First)

6/27/2005 6:23:12 AM

Newscaster: Because he's just back from Guantanamo bay. He spent a lot of time in the military. Former Green Beret, Colonel, thank you for joining us. What did you see when you got over to Gitmo? **Cucullu:** Good morning, Brian. I saw an impressive situation there. We're talking about a very smooth-working, operating procedure that may have had problems in the beginning but is now up and running. The facility is quite adequate for what the mission is. And the troops were extraordinarily impressive from top to bottom. I had an opportunity to dine with them, to work with them, and it really was amazing. **Brian:** First off, do the troops realize the amount of pressure and focus is on gitmo? **Cucullu:** Oh, it's unbelievable. They get -- you know, they get Fox News down there. They get emails; they talk to their friends and relatives here in the states. And they're quite aware, not only of the overall situation, but they're extremely aware when you hear off the wall comments by people like Senators Kennedy and Durbin, that attack them personally, and the great thing is that rather than hurt their morale, what this really does is it raises the bar for them. They say we're going to be even better than we were before, just to prove to these guys how professional we are. **Brian:** In terms of what you observed first-hand, what do you know now that you didn't know before you walked on to the island? **Cucullu:** Well, quite a few things, Brian. The first thing I know for sure is that there's no torture going on down there. And that these people are being kept in a way that's very humane, probably more so than even your average maximum security prison in the United States. The other thing is that surprised me is the fact that we're still getting what we would call actionable, usable intelligence information interrogations with these guys, and that I hadn't expected, and so I was very pleased to see that, because what it shows is that the process is working and that there really is a reason, other than the fact that these are very evil terrible people, who keep this system working. **Brian:** The FBI report that says they used dogs chained to the floor, forced to go to the bathroom on themselves, everything like that, do you understand that that is proven true, but that was

the old system or is that considered a false report? **Cucullu:** I don't know what happened in the past, and it's tough for me to evaluate that particular report, although it sounds a bit hyperbolic to me. We went through several of the camps, we actually watched several ongoing interrogations and we had a cans to talk to the troops on a one-on-one basis over a meal, which was a detainee's meal, it proved to me that there's absolutely nothing like that going on now. In fact, many of us were a bit shocked at the leniency that the command is showing toward the prisoners, the detainees, because in many cases the real abuse going on down there that we don't hear about is that every day when these guards, our young men and women go into the blocks, they're assaulted by the detainees throw feces, urine, semen, spit. They're vilified, threatened; their families are threatened with death. If they go into the cell with these guys, they're personally attacked. They try to scratch their eyes out, pull their mouths and stuff, and break their hands. It's very dangerous, and these kids are very brave and professional for putting up with it and not reacting in a way that maybe you and I would if we put up with the same threat. **Brian:** When you talk about interrogations, you say relationships are being built. Why? **Cucullu:** Because they feel that you get -- it's like the old -- the old saying, you get more flies with honey than you do with vinegar. These people are working with them over a long period of time, the interrogators are establishing a relationship with the prisoners, and what they're finding is that in many cases, it's an ego thing, Brian. These detainees are proud of what they did, they're proud of the fact that they have tried to kill Americans, and Westerners and will do so in the future. They brag about it. They openly boast about it. And they -- we're finding out things about financing, about Al Qaeda organizations and training, about operations that took place in the past and may happen in the future, so this is all -- is essential for the security of the United States that we continue the interrogation process down there. **Brian:** Last question, there's no way to ever show you if there was something to hide in Gitmo, the average person watching at home says never show you what was wrong at Gitmo. What makes you think that you got the real story? **Cucullu:** Because we saw hundreds of people, we saw almost every cell and confinement facility down there. It's simply impossible, Brian, to have a conspiracy on that level and that magnitude. There were 10 of us along; we were speaking to the troops over a meal. If somebody had a complaint or a problem, they would have indicated it had to one of us and we would have been able to share that. This business about these vast conspiracies is really overstated. Plus we do what we're looking for. You know, we're not rookies at this, and we've inspected military units before. You can tell the pride, the honesty, and the pride that comes from these troops. **Brian:** Thanks again for joining us. **Cucullu:** Great to be on with you. **Brian:** In and out of Cuba, not an easy thing to do.

Major Dana R. Dillon (USA, Retired)

PRINT/ONLINE

As criticism of war builds, Kennedy calls for Rumsfeld to resign – Scripps News Service, June 23

➤ *Concerning recent “gulag” claims at Guantanamo and the situation in Iraq:*

“Comparing Guantanamo Bay to the killing fields in Cambodia, I think that kind of language is grossly exaggerated and doesn't help,” he said. “Eventually, if they destroy the morale at home, they destroy the morale of the soldiers in the field.” But Dillon says the administration also brought some of the criticism on itself through its public relations approach up until now.

“There seems to be a tendency to say, ‘We see the light at the end of the tunnel,’ when in fact the light is a long, long ways off,” he said. “I think it would help if the administration went back to what it did in the beginning and talk about the long war, that it is painful.”

Colonel Tim J. Eads (USA, Retired)

Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer (USA, Retired)

BROADCAST TV

Fox News -- Fox and Friends Sunday

6/26/2005 9:45:13 AM

Newscaster: There has been a lot of debate about conditions at Gitmo. Our next guest said it is not the detainees who are getting abused but the prison guard. If Washington to explain is command sergeant Steve Greer. He went to the facility and he was there for Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. Sergeant, I saw you yesterday on shows and one of the interesting things the points you made was you ate the food the detainees eat and it is better than foods that the actual guards eat. It even costs more. **Greer:** Yes. That's absolutely right. It is amazing the amount of steps that we have taken and put in place to ensure there is a consistently humane treatment for all detainees. Some 520 currently inside Gitmo. They've been there awhile. **Newscaster:** You said the people being treated harshly are the guards themselves. What you are also saying, Sergeant is that these prisoners have not been broken in any way. **Greer:** Well, what I would tell you is that the interrogation strategy down there is based on rapport building because that works. You don't torture detainees to gain information - it's critical information to fight the war on terror. What they have done is designed a rapport building based on certain activities. If you are not compliant you get less incentives. I watched a Libyan being interrogated - he was eating Hostess donuts and reading a magazine from the coast of Libya. Another interrogation I watched (included) the detainee watching Martha Stewart Living and drinking Seattle's Best Coffee. These are incentives give to detainees if they are compliant if they continue to provide information to their interrogators. **Newscaster:** we have had e-mails and discussed this as a talking point early in the show. We have had people e-mail in to say this is nothing but a dog and pony show and of course conditions will be good and respectful because you guys will be brought down there and everybody knows it. What do you say to that? **Greer:** That's nonsense. That B roll footage you ran there - that's camp x-ray - that thing has been gone for two years. There have been millions of dollars of construction and operation costs put into the camps at Camp Delta. Here's the deal. The International Red Cross has 24/7 access to detainees and they have met with every single detainee. Not to mention, anybody who thinks that there is

something going on other than humane treatment there never served a day in the military because the soldiers and sailors I know would never put up with it. They wouldn't allow this to go on....

Newscaster: Steve, this is what I want to know. We had interrogations - you witnessed four of them. My question is, if these interrogations are indeed working, are we further along on the intelligence trail? Are we any closer to cracking Al-Qaeda? Are we closer to getting Osama bin Laden? **Greer:** I don't know. Yes, they are definitely working. I spoke to the senior interrogator - a female who has been there two years, she said every single week they gain credible information that helps us uncover the structure of a Canadian and associated networks. Not to mention Al-Qaeda's pursuit of WMD, terrorist techniques and skill sets the way they recruit, recruiting centers and locations as well as how terrorist organizations used legitimate financial businesses as fronts to fund terrorism. **Newscaster:** The interrogations you viewed - what were they like? **Greer:** it was really hair-raising to watch the interrogations and to see an Al-Qaeda operative face-to-face with an American interrogator and interpreter. To see the cat and mouse game that goes on... There was one individual who was leaning forward in his seat very focused and attentive, with the detainee watching every word he said, he was there two years and he was a leader within the camp itself.... **Newscaster:** thank you for joining us today. Take care.

Colonel Jack Jacobs (USA, Retired)

BROADCAST TV

MSNBC

6/26/2005 9:35:56 AM:

Newscaster:...possible prisoner abuse in Guantanamo Bay, lawmakers from both sides of the aisle tour the site this weekend. They say conditions are improving for prisoners. Military escorts took a house delegation through cellblocks, interrogation rooms, and troops' barracks. Our own military analyst was also given a tour of Guantanamo Bay earlier this week; retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs joins us with a little more insight. First up, before we get to Guantanamo Bay, about that report in the Sunday Times about U.S. officials meeting with insurgent leaders, tell us a little about what that might mean.

Jacobs: I think we're reaching out to try to find some solution to the problem of continued violence by this group of people that we call collectively the insurgency, trying to meet with these guys and figure out if there's some way that we can ameliorate the situation. I can't get any confirmation that it actually took place. But I can tell you this -- unless you meet with every one of these guys, including Al-Zarqawi's mob, you're not going to get anything.

Newscaster: Well, Secretary Rumsfeld has said it was Iraqis meeting with insurgent leaders. Was there a difference there? Would they not do it with the U.S. military?

Jacobs: They might do it with the U.S.'s approval, but not with the U.S. or any combination of those things. And it's possible and plausible that the Iraqis themselves would meet with the insurgency leaders. But if they're going to do it, they've got to get all of the insurgency leaders together. The thing is so fragmented, unless they get them all to agree it's not going to work.

Newscaster: Now to Guantanamo Bay. Tell us about the cells themselves also where the prisoners are detained. What are they like?

Jacobs: Well, the older cells, of course, are older. But the new cell blocks, which a new cellblock is patterned directly after a high security prison in Indiana, and it's the state of the art facility. The cells are very, very good indeed. The detainees have the capability to talk to other detainees and inmates. They can do things like play checkers with them and so on, even in the higher security blocks. It's a very nice facility, to be honest with you. If you've got to be in prison, it's not a bad place to be.

Newscaster: We're seeing a lot of high-profile visits to Guantanamo Bay is it part of a PR ploy? We now recognize that we've been watching pictures from three years ago, since abandoned. Now Camp Delta, an entirely different location in that facility in Guantanamo Bay. What's going on here?

Jacobs: Well, I think the Defense Department has been way behind the eight ball. This story had been building up over a period of time. You said yourself, the x-ray pictures are three years old and we've still been showing them. The Defense Department has waited; instead of getting ahead of the story and saying, why don't you come on down and take a look at this thing. We'll show you what it's really like, but has waited until now to do it. Long overdue. I think that the story -- the story is one in which we can get a good view of what's actually taking place. There's nothing necessarily to be ashamed of. The facilities there are actually quite good. And the story is an interesting and important one that the Defense Department should have shown us before. They need to learn from this, that it doesn't make any sense to wait, get everybody down there, show them the stuff at the very beginning, and they would be lots better off.

Newscaster: We spoke to two retired Generals yesterday. Alex just spoke to two lawmakers who said conditions there, and you yourself saw that conditions there are better or good. Does that mean, however that, the reputation, the image, has not been too tarnished, that this camp should in fact stay open?

Jacobs: Well, the reputation is tarnished, period. I don't know if you're going to be able to improve the reputation in the Islamic world, no matter what you do. At the end of the day, the intelligence value of Guantanamo is so high, and I've seen both unclassified and classified briefings down there. But I can tell you that the intelligence value is so high that it makes no sense whatsoever to close it down. And we're still getting information from detainees who have been there for three years.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 10:38:56 AM

Newscaster: Retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs, welcome as always.

Jacobs: Good morning.

Newscaster: A report in the "Sunday times" of London, about meetings between U.S. officials disputed by Donald Rumsfeld, and Iraqi insurgents. Any way you slice that, it's still problematic because the insurgency is not a coherent group could you tell us about that?

Jacobs: I tried to check to see whether or not it was true and so far, nobody's talking about it. It's plausible that we will have, that we would have had meetings with these guys. But one of the points that you mention, that it's difficult, if you can't assemble

everybody who is participating in this very fragmented insurgency, we call it an insurgency like it's one centrally-organized thing, it's not...

Newscaster: Let's go to Guantanamo Bay. The respect or disrespect of Islam. Now we talked earlier about some of the cells and conditions there. What about Islam itself? Did you get any sense of how that fair there is?

Jacobs: Sure. Not only what happened before, and people make mistakes and you'll sure mistakes have been made in the past. The law of large numbers say eventually something bad may have happened. I can tell you right now that they go really, from my standpoint, way out of their way to accommodate Islam. Ritually slaughtered meat is flown in from Florida. The meals that they ate, I can tell you that you can't eat that much food, to be honest with you. The each, each detainee gets a prayer rug, prayer oil, prayer beads. He's got a niche in his cell for his Koran, so that it doesn't inadvertently get desecrated. Every conceivable horizontal surface you can think of has got an arrow stenciled on it. Any place that a detainee can be, interrogation room, out in the exercise yard in the cell, to show which way to turn, which way is Mecca, so he can pray.

Newscaster: Are these changes? Is this an updating in the system? Because the reports, remember the log story about how the 20th hijacker was treated three years ago or two years ago.

Jacobs: That was a long time ago.

Newscaster: Do you have a sense that this is newly implemented?

Jacobs: This is the sense, I think some of the changes, the large majority of them have been evolutionary, the kind of conditions we have there now, were not, were not existing three years ago. They've been changing for the better. And I think one of the reasons we've done it is less because of the international concern about it, but because you get more information out of these guys if you treat them properly. And they're properly treated and we're getting lots of information from them. Information we didn't get before.

Newscaster: Better with honey than vinegar.

Jacobs: It works every time.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 11:47:47 AM

Newscaster: Meanwhile, we'll get insight from our own military analyst, also given a tour of Guantanamo Bay earlier this week. Retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs, welcome as always.

Jacobs: Good morning again.

Newscaster: Tell us a little bit -- earlier you talked about the cells and the food. Tell us about specifically about the interrogations you were able to witness.

Jacobs: We saw a number of interrogations. Some of fairly high profile and extremely dangerous detainees. And they used different techniques. The whole idea is to get closer to the detainees, so he can feel comfortable with you and therefore give you the information you require. You're not going to get any good information from somebody you beat up. He's going to tell you whatever he thinks you want to hear so that you'll stop. So they've been working hard over the last few years to gain the trust of these detainees. Some of them are very, very high-level and hard-core people. And it works, it works. I saw one, one detainee, whenever there's a session, he won't talk unless he gets his stuff. What's his stuff? A Twix candy bar, you can't make this up. A cup of Seattle's

best coffee and the latest edition of "" Martha Stewart Living."" and then he'll start talking.

Newscaster: And is that because Martha Stewart....

Jacobs: I have no idea. Are you establishing real trust with these people, if you have an interrogator and analyst, who over time, develops trust with the detainees.

Newscaster: Is that a change in a tactics? We had heard before the complaints of the FBI agents who were sent to various locations who witnessed military interrogations or perhaps those by the contractors or reservists in Iraq. Who at one point were doing some of them? Is that a change in tactics?

Jacobs: I think in some areas it's a change. In many areas, it's not. Because the American military people recognize that if you, if you establish trust you're going to get the information you require ultimately. But I think overall it's a recognition that it's going to take time and you have to establish a working relationship with the detainee. There's one interrogator I saw, who is a very motherly type. And this is the interrogator who finely got this one detainee to spill everything because he felt some sort of close relationship with this woman, who overtime developed a personal intellectual relationship with him.

Newscaster: Did you see what you expected to see when you took this tour?

Jacobs: No. I'm something of a skeptic. And a doubter. I've always been, I was very surprised to see what I saw. I expected the facilities to be very rustic. They are not, they are in very good shape and they are in new high-tech containment cells. I did not expect civilians to be interrogating the prisoners. I didn't expect to see the little contact with military people and detainees.

MSNBC – June 20

➤ *When asked about whether Gitmo still effectively serves its original purpose:*

I think so. The reason they're there is because it's not U.S. territory, and therefore, the U.S. has the ability to say that the normal rules that applied to American citizens who were detained do not apply at Guantanamo Bay because it's properly Cuba, it's not the U.S. The president made another point that people often forget, and it's the linchpin of the decision to keep these people without trial and to try to extract as much information as possible for as long as they can, and that is, that these people were not wearing uniforms when they were captured. And as far as the Geneva Convention is concerned, it requires the protections of the Geneva Convention that the combatant has to be in a uniform. If you combine those two things, that's why the administration thinks that Guantanamo Bay still service its purpose.

Colonel Glenn Lackey (USA, Retired)

➤ No coverage found

Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Maginnis (USA, Retired)

PRINT/ONLINE

Commentary and News Briefs – Agape Press, June 16

➤ *Refuting Amnesty International and others' claims comparing Guantanamo to a "gulag":*

"They (Amnesty International) clearly don't understand the holocaust or the gulags," Maginnis states. "I've certainly been to some of the former concentration camps (and in comparison), Guantanamo Bay is a very open facility." In addition, Maginnis says the terrorist prisoners at "Gitmo" are often treated better than the American soldiers who are guarding them. "We provide three Muslim-Islamic traditional meals each day; they have a call for prayer five times a day; they're given prayer rugs," he says. "(And) they're given the best medical attention -- certainly as good or better than any military member in the U.S military receives." Maginnis says millions of dollars are now being spent to build an air-conditioned facility for the detainees.

General Montgomery Meigs (USA, Retired)

General Montgomery Meigs

BROADCAST TV

(Found Weekend Today Show clip and MSNBC - this Weekend clip)

WNBC-NY (NBC) - Today

6/25/2005 7:08:07 AM

Newscaster: Earlier this week a team of human rights experts at the United Nations accused the U.S. of unfair treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay. And joining us this morning from Washington, D.C., two NBC news analysts, both former generals, Barry McCaffrey who's returned from a trip to Iraq and Montgomery Meigs, who recently returned from, I believe, just yesterday, a visit to Guantanamo Bay. Good morning to both of you...

Newscaster: General Meigs, let me turn to you and Guantanamo Bay. You were just there at the invitation of the U.S. military. Give us your general impressions. **Meigs:** Well, we went to just about every corner of the place. Escorted by Major General Hood, the commander down there. There's been over \$100 million of new construction. The place is professionally run. I was impressed. **Newscaster:** isn't the debate though not so much about exactly how prisoners are being treated there but more on whether or not Guantanamo Bay has become a symbol? A symbol to the Muslim world and in particular -- a recruitment tool for terrorists because of what it represents? **Meigs:** Well, I think the problem we have is in terms of the general treatment of prisoners early on in the war. Let me give you an example. The Red Cross just spent six weeks there interviewing prisoners, going to every part of the prison. It's not an irretrievable situation. You're going to have to have something like Guantanamo to hold these 500-odd terrorists who were very seriously dedicated people. It might as well be Guantanamo as just the

Department of Defense is going to tell the story of what's really going on there. I think they're starting to do a much better job of that now. Newscaster: General Meigs and General McCaffrey, thanks very much to both of you this morning.

MSNBC News Live

6/25/2005 11:20:12 AM

Newscaster: Meanwhile Guantanamo Bay is just one of the fronts on the war on terror causing frustration. Earlier I got a firsthand account from two retired generals. They now serve as analysts.

...General Meigs, thanks for your patience. You returned from a visit to Camp Delta in Guantanamo Bay, a source of a lot of controversy. What were your perceptions there?

Meigs: The place is very professionally run. There's been \$100 million spent in construction, which has brought the facilities up to a very high standard in terms of confinement facility. The confinements were sound, similar to what we use in the Department of Defense facility at Leavenworth. We talked with the senior interrogation heads, and interrogations were being done correctly - nothing like what you read in the log in "Time" magazine... Looks to me like they've got that thing up and running properly. **Newscaster:** But how much were you actually able to see? There's a lot of controversy, because of the treatment of detainees during interrogations ... Amnesty and The Red Cross are both saying the prisoners may have been abused and that they were not allowed to see all that was going on. Were you able (confirm?) **Meigs:** Yes. I know the commander. He was trying to show us everything because he's got a good story to tell. The Red Cross had just spent six weeks there interviewing prisoners, getting access to any part of the facility. And as I understand it, secondhand, their issues concern individual cells for prisoners, as opposed to two or three prisoners in a cell. That is not unusual in confinement facilities, in that the prisoners can talk to each other cell-to-cell, et cetera. So I would say as time goes on, this story is going to abate. They are doing the right things at Guantanamo. **Newscaster:** I will have more on their thoughts on whether the media is giving America the accurate picture of what's really happening in the war on terror. Meanwhile, a look at your weather...

Mr. Wayne Simmons (CIA, Retired)

PRINT/ONLINE

Fox News - June 6

- ***Asked about the treatment of prisoners at Gitmo:*** "First of all, understand this. The Pentagon has made some horrible, horrible decisions about Gitmo. One of the mistakes they made was ever allowing the Koran into Gitmo. They are terrorists. They have no right having that holy book in Gitmo. That's number one. Number two, of the thousands and thousands of interviews and interrogations that we've done, we've had very few abuses, and most of these were inadvertent. The outrage seems to be only from the left, who seems more

concerned about the rights of the people trying to kill us than the rights of our soldiers. That is absolutely beyond the pale.

Major General Donald W. Shepperd (USAF, Retired)

BROADCAST TV

(Found CNN America Morning News only; CNN Radio transcripts not available)

CNN -- American Morning

6/27/2005 9:14:57 AM

News caster: On Friday, a group of former military leaders, who are now TV commentators, also toured the prison. Don Sheppard was there. He's in Washington this morning for us. Nice to see you, General. You went Friday. How long were you there? What did you get to see? **Shepperd:** We were there the whole day. We got to see the entire detention facility, talk to the guards, see interrogations, observe interrogations, and talk to interrogators. We had pretty much free run of the place to talk to anyone we wanted to talk to. **News caster:** What did you come away thinking? **Shepperd:** I came away thinking what the congressional delegation said. What we saw in Guantanamo bears no resemblance to what we are reading in the present press. Most of the people writing about this, I believe, have never been there. We have impressions of an old facility camp that was closed three years ago. We have a modern, well-constructed prison guarded by very, very dedicated people, doing an extremely tough job in the midst of a very dangerous people. **News caster:** Did you talk to interrogators there as well? What kind of questions did you for them? **Shepperd:** We talked to interrogators and watched them at work as well. A lot of people have the impression peep at Guantanamo, people with no rights and being mistreated. This is consistent with what I heard from the interrogation training in Arizona, mistreatment does not work. You can't get things out of people by torturing them. All it does is screw things up. You have to establish rapport over a long period of time, keep the interrogations going and eventually people will give you information that you then coordinate with other pieces of information to bring you actionable intelligence and that's what's happening now. **News caster:** You had free run of the place and that you got to watch them at work pretty much unfettered for a day. Isn't it fair to, well, if there's abuse going on it sure isn't going to happen while the U.S. Congressional delegation is going through and certainly not while former people who are now analysts on TV, are hanging out in town? I mean, it seems to me, obviously you wouldn't see those things, I think that's fair to say, isn't it? **Shepperd:** Absolutely. They put their best forward food what have you. In any prison situation you have to continually guard against abuses. There have been abuses at Guantanamo in the past. I think they have been fixed and they're constantly on the alert for them. What we saw was a bunch of dedicated people that are really mad and feel attacked by the things coming out in the print press about this. They say, I don't know where these people are getting information. They haven't been here, and I haven't seen it going on. **News caster:** not only coming out in the print press, journalists who haven't had a chance to visit, talking about amnesty international, they called Guantanamo modern gulag, the IRC said tactics were tantamount to torture. IRC comes by frequently to check on prisoners. They're there all

the time. The same with Amnesty international, they are people there. These are not journalists typing on computers in another state and never have left the country.

Shepperd: The international red cross has access 24 hours a day 7 days a week at times and place of their choosing. You've got to realize that people think about Guantanamo as in previous wars where you captured detainees and hold them until the end of the war and release them. Guantanamo is detaining people, keeping them off of the battlefield, releasing ones not guilty and punishing and bringing to military tribunals ones that are. That's what we saw going on. And I believe that's what's going on now, after some rough starts. **Newscaster:** What do the interrogators tell you about information they're getting from folks who remain detained there? **Shepperd:** These people have been here, some, two, three years. **Newscaster:** Are you still getting valuable information? **Shepperd:** Absolutely yes. You get bits and pieces. New people coming in all of the time, new faces, they reconfirm new things and go into databases line things up, they say we've gotten a lot of information to prevent attacks in this country and other countries with the information they're getting from these people and it's still valuable. Former Air Force Major General Don Shepperd joining us CNN military analyst back from Gitmo. Thanks for talking with us.

CNN - June 23

- **Referring to his upcoming trip to Gitmo:** "I think we'll be able to see the full scale of how they're handling people. I want to understand is exactly why is Guantanamo important, what are you (DoD) doing. What is the legal processes being followed there and is there any way to close this place and do it anywhere else. I don't think there is but I'd like to see the full score."

- **Asked if we should close Gitmo:** "My opinion without having seen it: We would be crazy to close GITMO you would have to detain them somewhere else. You can't just release them to other countries, at least not in large numbers."

CNN - June 13

- **When asked if our policy on Gitmo was a mistake:** After Abu Ghraib, especially, Abu Ghraib became a symbol. And now again, Guantanamo has become a symbol. And I think what we're seeing is a failure of policy and an explanation of that policy to the American people and to the world.

P A R  A

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

MILITARY ANALYST FEEDBACK
POST GUANTANAMO VISIT
(Initial Report: July 13-15, 2005)

Highlights*:

➤ **Mr. Jed Babbin**

- *White House Bulletin*: "...witnessed parts of four different interrogations and saw no abuse."
- *White House Bulletin*: "They're [the prisoners] not happy down there, but they are living better than they were [in Afghanistan or Iraq]."

➤ **Captain Chuck Nash**

- *Fox News, 7/15*: "It has more scrutiny" and it is a "very professionally run organization [Gitmo]"
- *Fox News, 7/15*: "Some of the treatment may be uncomfortable but it is not torturous and it's not illegal."
- *Fox News, 7/15*: "...the only leverage that we have remaining on these prisoners is they don't know when they're going to get out."
- *Fox News, 7/15*: "There is absolutely zero truth to charges about the abuse of the Koran. There were instances where Korans may have been dropped but there are no instances of guards desecrating the Koran."

* Scheduled to broadcast were approximately seven radio shows with Jed Babbin; these transcripts were not immediately available for this report.

Mr. Jed Babbin

White House Bulletin - IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND AROUND TOWN; Prisoners At Guantanamo Bay Prison Providing Good Information.

Several members of the press have recently been brought to the Guantanamo Bay prison camp to see what's going on at the facility amid claims that prisoners are being abused, and American Spectator Contributing Editor Jed Babbin is among the latest. Babbin was flown to the base on Tuesday for a nine-hour tour, and during the visit officials suggested that some prisoners are providing good information to government investigators and battlefield commanders. "We're getting some good stuff," one official told Babbin. He said some of the information extracted from prisoners has been used by the FBI investigators of 9/11, and by battlefield generals in Iraq and Afghanistan. Babbin said in a telephone interview that he witnessed parts of four different interrogations and saw no abuse. Babbin also visited all of

the five separate camps. He described the interrogation rooms as stark, filled only with cameras and folding chairs. He said the prisoners were provided cheese crackers and soda during interrogations, but otherwise were fed from a nutritious menu. "They're not happy down there," Babbin said of the prisoners, "but they are living better than they were [in Afghanistan or Iraq]." He said that many are receiving health, dental and mental care.

Chuck Nash

Fox News – Your World with Neil Cavuto

7/15/2005 1:15:28 AM

Cavuto: Today's guest just got back from Guantanamo bay and says if anything, the prisoners are treated too well. He joins us right now. What do you make, Chuck, of the attention Gitmo gets these days? **Nash:** Unfortunately we have a situation that should not be political that is being made political. To add more wood on to the proverbial fires that are started here on Capitol Hill, this in no way should be in the news and the reason is because this is a very professionally run organization. It has had more scrutiny than probably, you know, any other military organization out there. They're doing a fabulous job, and they are, take it from me, they are getting some tremendous intelligence information out of these guys. I know you're aware, but my security clearance is still current. And while I was down there, I was given a classified briefing of what was going on. And just take it from me, that we are gaining tremendous value out of these prisoners. **Cavuto:** I know you were there and you know better than I but there is a separate report that says there were some cases of abuse there and John McCain, a guy who of course was in the North Vietnamese prison for seven years of his life says we (as a country) can do better. What do you say? **Nash:** Well, I think anything can be improved but when you look at the way they're being treated down there, there is something in the codes that people talk about and they say:....are they given their Geneva convention rights? They are being treated humanly and although some of the treatment may be uncomfortable, it is not torturous and -- it is not illegal. **Cavuto:** you are saying we should be reminded of the terrors that are real like in London last week and juxtapose that with what are fairly comfortable conditions in Gitmo. **Nash:** This is a war and the next time this country gets hit, god forbid, people will wonder when do we get tough on these guys? What is going on, the folks in Gitmo are getting the information they're getting and playing by the rules and it is disastrous for them. The one lever that they have, if you think about this, we have pretty much published what we can and can't do to prisoners. The prisoners know that the only leverage that we have remaining on these prisoners is they don't know when they're going to get out. Do you know when they're going to get out? When this war is over. If we start talking like some of these people up here on the hill about closing down Gitmo then that just stokes their fire and props them up because they think we don't have to talk to these guys. **Cavuto:** Chuck, you were there. Have you seen cases of that where they're saying, look, we will just go slowly? **Nash:** There are instances where, after certain statements are made and it's been reported in the press where folks from the Middle East are coming back and saying, see, even U.S. Senators and Congressmen are saying these things. So it is being used against us and you know when you're playing by the rules you have to control the environment. To control the environment, you have to really be careful about what these prisoners can and cannot get access to. **Cavuto:** There were -- I don't know what you know or what you can comfortably say. I know you had a clearance to go in there so maybe you can't say

MILITARY ANALYST REPORT

<u>Overall Military Analyst Coverage</u>	
9/12- 9/27, 2005	
Television	9
Print	4
Online	9
Radio	1
<u>Specific Analyst Coverage</u>	
Jacobs	2
Babbin	9
Cucullu	4
Francona	5
McCausland	1
Vallely	2

**There was no coverage found for Campbell, Eads, Garrett, Greer, Maginnis, Nardotti, Otis, Rokke, and Shepperd*

JACK JACOBS

TV

- MSNBC, News Live, 9/26 - 10:22:23 AM

Radio

- NPR, Talk of the Nation, 9/26

JED BABBIN

TV

- MSNBC, Connected: Coast to Coast, 9/26 – 12:07:43
- Fox News, Studio B with Shepard Smith, 9/16 - 3:53:30 PM
- CNN, 9/12

Online

- Newswithviews.com, 9/27
<http://www.newswithviews.com/metcalf/metcalf152.htm>
- American Daily, 9/26 <http://www.americandaily.com/article/9441>
- TheOneRepublic.com, 9/16
<http://www.theonerepublic.com/archives/Columns/Babbin/20050920BabbinPower.html>

Print

- The American Spectator, 9/26 (bylined piece)
- The American Spectator, 9/19 (bylined piece)
- The American Spectator, 9/12 (bylined piece)

GORDON CUCULLU

Online

- <http://www.theonerepublic.com/archives/Columns/Cucullu/20050923CuculluDuplicity.html>. 9/23 (bylined piece)
- <http://frontpagemagazine.com/Articles/ReadArticle.asp?ID=19558> - 9/20 (bylined piece)
- <http://frontpagemagazine.com/Articles/ReadArticle.asp?ID=19489> - 9/15 (bylined piece)
- <http://www.frontpagemag.com/Articles/ReadArticle.asp?ID=19475> - 9/14 (bylined piece)

RICK FRANCONA

TV

- MSNBC, Headliners & Legends 9/18 – 1:38:35 PM
- MSNBC, MSNBC News Live 9/18/2005 10:36:47 AM
- MSNBC, MSNBC News Live, 9/14 4:50:26 PM
- MSNBC, MSNBC News Live, 9/14 3:23:57 PM

Online

- Corvallis Gazette Times, 9/24 (interview)
<http://www.gazettetimes.com/articles/2005/09/24/news/community/sat02.txt>

JEFF MCCAUSLAND

TV

- CBS News, The Osgood File, 9/16

PAUL E. VALLELY

Print

- The Washington Times, OpEd, 9/21

Online

- FrontPageMagazine.com, 9/26 (reprint of Washington Times piece)
<http://www.frontpagemag.com/Articles/ReadArticle.asp?ID=19611>

P A R  A

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

MILITARY ANALYST FEEDBACK
POST GUANTANAMO VISIT
(July 13-18, 2005)

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➤ **Mr. Jed Babbin**

- *White House Bulletin*: "...witnessed parts of four different interrogations and saw no abuse."
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➤ **Colonel Jeff McCausland**

- **WCBS Radio*: Guantanamo is "not a 'gulag' but it's also not 'Club Gitmo'"
- **WCBS Radio*: Gitmo is a well-run maximum security prison for some very dangerous people
- **WCBS Radio*: Commenting on recent abuse charges - the interrogators are trying to humiliate and degrade as part of approved interrogation techniques; not physically abuse

**New commentary since the last report*

Mr. Jed Babbin

White House Bulletin - IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND AROUND TOWN; Prisoners At Guantanamo Bay Prison Providing Good Information.

Several members of the press have recently been brought to the Guantanamo Bay prison camp to see what's going on at the facility amid claims that prisoners are being abused, and American Spectator Contributing Editor Jed Babbin is among the latest. Babbin was flown to the base on Tuesday for a nine-hour tour, and during the visit officials suggested that some prisoners are providing good information to government investigators and battlefield commanders. "We're getting some good stuff," one official told Babbin. He said some of the information extracted from prisoners has been used by the FBI investigators of 9/11, and by battlefield generals in Iraq and Afghanistan. Babbin said in a telephone interview that he witnessed parts of four different interrogations and saw no abuse. Babbin also visited all of the five separate camps. He described the interrogation rooms as stark, filled only with cameras and folding chairs. He said the prisoners were provided cheese crackers and soda during interrogations, but otherwise were fed from a nutritious menu. "They're not happy down there," Babbin said of the prisoners, "but they are living better than they were [in Afghanistan or Iraq]." He said that many are receiving health, dental and mental care.

The Gitmo Varsity*

(The American Spectator)... Byline: Jed Babbin – July 18

GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA -- Abdullah M. was missing a leg when he got to Gitmo. In due course, he was fitted with a prosthetic leg and given occupational therapy to teach him how to use it. In the Orwellian inversion that dominates "world opinion" and requires us to prove we're the good guys, he was interrogated and -- after convincing our guys that he really wasn't a terrorist fanatic -- released and repatriated to Afghanistan. Now sought for involvement in the kidnapping of Chinese engineers and a bombing of the Islamabad Marriott, Abdullah is walking around on the artificial leg we evil Americans paid for.

Last Tuesday, in the company of Gen. Jay Hood, the Gitmo Joint Task Force commander, I and several other military analysts spent the day inside the terrorist detention camps and interrogation facilities, talked to a lot of intel people and soldiers, and saw about all there is to see at Gitmo.

What I saw made me proud and disgusted: proud at how our guys and gals are dealing with some of the world's worst; disgusted at the Fonda-Durbins of the world who want the world to believe that Gitmo is Auschwitz and terrorists are some oppressed minority.

As Gen. Hood explained, the mission of the Gitmo facility is twofold. First, to interrogate and obtain useful information from the terrorists held there. Second, to keep the dangerous ones from returning to terrorism, as so many of them openly say they want to do. There are about 520 of them. Many of them are just common thugs; foot soldiers in the terrorist gangs. With only a few exceptions -- notably those who reside in Gitmo's equivalent of a psycho ward -- they are cold, hard cases well trained in murder and in resisting interrogation. Mostly Afghani, Saudi, and Yemeni, they average in age at about 32, are fit, strong men who are proud to dedicate their lives to terrorism and look forward to the day they can go back to their chosen work. While observing

one interrogation of a typical detainee -- a Saudi man in his mid-thirties -- some of the intel people who deal with him nearly every day told me how he contemptuously, and frequently, proclaims his eagerness to get back to killing Westerners.

They are divided into separate mini-camps. Those who follow camp rules, basic stuff such as "don't throw feces on the guards," get to wear white uniforms and live in a semi-communal environment. In the minimum-security camp, I saw groups playing soccer and volleyball. One guy was jogging around in his issue slip-on sneakers. Others, who are less cooperative, get fewer privileges. Medium security camp inmates wear tan uniforms and are kept in cells, allowed out often to exercise. *Everything is done in ways calculated to respect Islam.*

Inmates' Korans -- in the medium security camps, hung from the steel mesh walls in surgical masks -- are accompanied, in every cell and exercise area I saw throughout Gitmo, by little black arrows painted on bunks and floors, showing the direction of Mecca. Many prayer rugs were in evidence, as were chess sets, playing cards, and -- in the minimum-security camp -- prescription sports glasses. In the maximum-security building, the Korans sit in the narrow windowsills. Interrogators will even interrupt interrogation sessions to allow detainees to pray. One interrogation I observed passed through the 4:30 p.m. call to prayer. The detainee, engaged in conversation with his interrogator, ignored the call and kept talking. To these faux-religious thugs, Islam is apparently less important than a cold Diet Coke.

The common belief among the terrorists, fed by reports apparently conveyed to some by their lawyers, is that political pressure will soon result in our having to close Gitmo and let them go. (Note to Messrs. Durbin, Kennedy, the New York Times, et al.: Please shut up. You are making the interrogators' job much harder than it already is.) Because they believe we'll close Gitmo, many of the detainees resist years of interrogation.

A large bunch of the detainees, about 100 of them, are smarter, better trained, and very knowledgeable of what their pals want to do to. They are the terrorist varsity, the high-value detainees. Up against them, and their ilk, are some of America's finest.

I DON'T KNOW THE NAMES of the soldiers: I didn't ask, and they didn't volunteer. No one -- other than the few top guys, including General Hood, his deputy, and the command sergeant major -- wears nametags. If the others' names were visible to inmates, they and their families would be at risk. That goes double for the intel crew. Like every soldier I've ever met, they had to bitch a little. The two enlisted guys I lunched with at the "Cafe Caribe" -- a chow hall that will never be mistaken for The Ritz -- were from towns in Texas and Washington State. The Texan wanted to be home with his infant son. His pal from Washington wondered why the hell was so much detail about the camp on the Internet. "How can you have OPSEC" -- operational security -- "when the whole world can see so much?" he asked.

They tried to do what every soldier is expected to do: shrug off the political floggings inflicted on them and their commanders every day. They meant well, but they couldn't b.s. this old b.s.'er. *When someone compares Gitmo to a Nazi death camp, they take it personally. They know it's idiocy, but it still hurts. Their motto is, "honor bound to defend freedom," and they take that personally, too. There are no prisoner abuses at Gitmo. It's a matter of pride among them. The chow is okay, they said, but mail is really slow. It takes almost three weeks for mail to get to them. The Texan -- who is assigned to the psycho ward -- had another concern. "These guys have hepatitis, TB and who knows what other diseases. When they throw feces on us they can give us a disease we can't get over."* The medical crew looks after them, and the terrorists, very well. The terrorists can't seem to make up their minds about it, though. Some, like a man who's had surgery for a serious cardiac condition, refuse further treatment.

The guards move a lot of prisoners: to and from the hospital, to and from interrogation and even between camps. The intel crew is as organized as I've seen any military operation, and that says a lot. The head of one Interrogation Control Element toured us around "gold block," a hall along which are a number of interrogation rooms. The rooms are all the same: stark white, with a small table and a few folding chairs. There's a steel ring in the floor, to which the detainees are attached by one or both leg irons. We observed a few interrogations there. The ICE boss disagreed with what I'd been told before. The intel crews don't feel downtrodden or unreasonably constrained by regulations. They're succeeding, and they take pride in the results they're getting. There are a bunch of FBI investigations going on right now that are propelled by intelligence garnered from the Gitmo detainees. ***It's not just possible -- it's a dead-bang certainty -- that terrorist attacks in the United States are being thwarted by the patience and skill of the Gitmo crew.*** And as the FBI benefits, so do the combatant commanders. The operational military levy requests on Gitmo several times a week, and are often answered with information they can apply on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. And elsewhere.

TO ANYONE WITH OPEN eyes, it must be clear that we are treating these hard-core terrorists humanely, and that our interrogators -- men and women, military and civilian -- should be praised, not scorned. Investigation after investigation has showed that there is no torture at Gitmo. But the outrageous and disgusting characterizations of what we are doing at Gitmo continue.

On Friday, a New York Times editorial said, "Surely no one can approve turning an American soldier into a pseudo-lap-dancer or having another smear fake menstrual blood on an Arab man. These practices are as degrading to the women as they are to the prisoners. They violate American moral values -- and they seem pointless....Does anyone in the military believe that a cold-blooded terrorist who has withstood months of physical and psychological abuse will crack because a woman runs her fingers through his hair suggestively or watches him disrobe? If devout Muslims become terrorists because they believe Western civilization is depraved, does it make sense to try to unnerve them by having Western women behave like trollops?" First they're all Nazis or Cambodian murderers; now the gals are whores.

I've met a few of these gals, and I can tell you they are smart, tough, and are accomplishing things other people can't. They aren't "behaving like trollops," but like the dedicated intel professionals they are. I -- and a lot of people who are, fortunately, in control of what they do -- approve because they are acting within the rules, and producing results. There are no whores at Gitmo, but there are intellectual whores in Congress and at the Times.

Who should be blamed for failing to prevent the next terrorist attack? Not the guys and gals of Gitmo who are working tirelessly, under awful conditions and politically correct constraints, to get information from hard-core terrorists. Every American should be proud of them, and grateful for what they're doing to defend us.

There are terrorists here in the United States and, along with many others overseas, they are planning to kill more Americans in more attacks. What will the intellectual whores of the left say after the next 9-11? Will they say that we were right to forgo interrogation methods that used sexual taunting and the use of psychotropic drugs? Or will they say that we should have done more to protect America?

We know what torture is, and we know what it isn't. Anything else and everything else should be done, consistently and thoroughly, to get the information we need. To say we should do less is to say we must sacrifice American lives that could otherwise be saved.

TAS contributing editor Jed Babbin is the author of *Inside the Asylum: Why the UN and Old Europe Are Worse Than You Think* (Regnery, 2004).

Additional Coverage

Scheduled to broadcast were approximately seven radio shows with Jed Babbin; these transcripts were not immediately available for this report.

Chuck Nash

Fox News – Your World with Neil Cavuto

7/15/2005 1:15:28 AM

Cavuto: Today's guest just got back from Guantanamo bay and says if anything, the prisoners are treated too well. He joins us right now. What do you make, Chuck, of the attention Gitmo gets these days? **Nash:** Unfortunately we have a situation that should not be political that is being made political. To add more wood on to the proverbial fires that are started here on Capitol Hill, this in no way should be in the news and the reason is because this is a very professionally run organization. It has had more scrutiny than probably, you know, any other military organization out there. They're doing a fabulous job, and they are, take it from me, they are getting some tremendous intelligence information out of these guys. I know you're aware, but my security clearance is still current. And while I was down there, I was given a classified briefing of what was going on. And just take it from me, that we are gaining tremendous value out of these prisoners. **Cavuto:** I know you were there and you know better than I but there is a separate report that says there were some cases of abuse there and John McCain, a guy who of course was in the North Vietnamese prison for seven years of his life says we (as a country) can do better. What do you say? **Nash:** Well, I think anything can be improved but when you look at the way they're being treated down there, there is something in the codes that people talk about and they say:....are they given their Geneva convention rights? They are being treated humanly and although some of the treatment may be uncomfortable, it is not torturous and -- it is not illegal. **Cavuto:** you are saying we should be reminded of the terrors that are real like in London last week and juxtapose that with what are fairly comfortable conditions in Gitmo. **Nash:** This is a war and the next time this country gets hit, god forbid, people will wonder when do we get tough on these guys? What is going on, the folks in Gitmo are getting the information they're getting and playing by the rules and it is disastrous for them. The one lever that they have, if you think about this, we have pretty much published what we can and can't do to prisoners. The prisoners know that the only leverage that we have remaining on these prisoners is they don't know when they're going to get out. Do you know when they're going to get out? When this war is over. If we start talking like some of these people up here on the hill about closing down Gitmo then that just stokes their fire and props them up because they think we don't have to talk to these guys. **Cavuto:** Chuck, you were there. Have you seen cases of that where they're saying, look, we will just go slowly? **Nash:** There are instances where, after certain statements are made and it's been reported in the press where folks from the Middle East are coming back and saying, see, even U.S. Senators and Congressmen are saying these things. So it is being used against us and you know when you're playing by the rules you have to control the environment. To control the environment, you have to really be careful about what these

prisoners can and cannot get access to. **Cavuto:** There were -- I don't know what you know or what you can comfortably say. I know you had a clearance to go in there so maybe you can't say much. But one of the reports was the abuse of the Koran, physical abuse or sort of more embarrassing type abuse for the prisoners there. Any of that true? **Nash:** There is absolutely zero truth to charges about the abuse of the Koran. There were instances where Korans may have been dropped but no instances of guards desecrating the Koran. Every Koran is hanging object a surgical mask by each prisoner's bed where it's in plain view and everything. There have been instances where some of the prisoners have desecrated the Koran and what they did was they tore it up to try to stop up a toilet or they tore it up and threw it out to try to insight the other prisoners to riot. As far as the abusive stuff, yeah, they had this guy. This guy, turns out he was the 20th hijacker....**Cavuto:** Wish we had more time but thank you for putting that in perspective. Appreciate it. Chuck Nash with the latest on Gitmo.

Jeff McCausland

* **WCBS NewsRadio 880**

7/15/05

Interview with Jeff McCausland with limited commentary on his recent visit to Gitmo

MILITARY ANALYST FEEDBACK
POST GUANTANAMO VISIT

(July 13-25, 2005)

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- *American Spectator*: "There are no prisoner abuses at Gitmo. It's a matter of pride among them [the prison guards]"
- *U.S. News and World Report*: Jed Babbin gave a copy of the menu served to Gitmo detainees to the publication, which printed it and said it was so healthy it "could be a model for the FDA's new food pyramid."
- *CSPAN*: (*Rep. Rohrabacher quoting Jed Babbin*) Critics of Gitmo are making interrogations tougher, as detainees are now resisting, as they believe that the facility might close... Those running Gitmo have done "a fantastic job."

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 - *WCBS Radio*: Commenting on recent abuse charges - the interrogators are trying to humiliate and degrade as part of approved interrogation techniques; not physically abuse
- **Lieutenant Colonel Sherwood**
- *Human Events Online*: The guards feel more threatened than the inmates... There's more truth to Rush Limbaugh's comparison to "Club Gitmo" than Sen. Durbin's "shameful and false" reference to a "Nazi concentration camp."

Mr. Jed Babbin

Print

One Shiny Apple: The Gitmo Diet

(U.S. News and World Report - Washington Whispers) - July 25

It certainly wasn't a good week on the PR front for the Guantanamo Bay prison authorities accused of belittling and degrading captives during interrogations. But there is one area where the military's treatment seems to shine, at least recently: fitness. During a press tour last week, our spies saw prisoners playing soccer, getting medical care, and eating a diet that could be the model for the FDA's new food pyramid. *Jed Babbin, a former Pentagon official who's a contributing editor for the American Spectator, snagged a weekly menu for us, and it shows a diet that's heavy on veggies, fruits, and whole grains.* Of note: no pork in deference to the Muslim faith of many prisoners. Will this spark a Gitmo Diet craze?

Actual Menu from Gitmo.

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A large bunch of the detainees, about 100 of them, are smarter, better trained, and very knowledgeable of what their pals want to do to. They are the terrorist varsity, the high-value detainees. Up against them, and their ilk, are some of America's finest.

I DON'T KNOW THE NAMES of the soldiers: I didn't ask, and they didn't volunteer. No one -- other than the few top guys, including General Hood, his deputy, and the command sergeant major -- wears nametags. If the others' names were visible to inmates, they and their families would be at risk. That goes double for the intel crew. Like every soldier I've ever met, they had to bitch a little. The two enlisted guys I lunched with at the "Cafe Caribe" -- a chow hall that will never be mistaken for The Ritz -- were from towns in Texas and Washington State. The Texan wanted to be home with his infant son. His pal from Washington wondered why the hell was so much detail about the camp on the Internet. "How can you have OPSEC" -- operational security -- "when the whole world can see so much?" he asked.

They tried to do what every soldier is expected to do: shrug off the political floggings inflicted on them and their commanders every day. They meant well, but they couldn't b.s. this old b.s.'er. *When someone compares Gitmo to a Nazi death camp, they take it personally. They know it's idiocy, but it still hurts. Their motto is, "honor bound to defend freedom," and they take that personally, too. There are no prisoner abuses at Gitmo. It's a matter of pride among them. The chow is okay, they said, but mail is really slow. It takes almost three weeks for mail to get to them. The Texan -- who is assigned to the psycho ward -- had another concern. "These guys have hepatitis, TB and who knows what other diseases. When they throw feces on us they can give us a disease we can't get over."* The medical crew looks after them, and the terrorists, very well. The terrorists can't seem to make up their minds about it, though. Some, like a man who's had surgery for a serious cardiac condition, refuse further treatment.

The guards move a lot of prisoners: to and from the hospital, to and from interrogation and even between camps. The intel crew is as organized as I've seen any military operation, and that says a lot. The head of one Interrogation Control Element toured us around "gold block," a hall along which are a number of interrogation rooms. The rooms are all the same: stark white, with a small table and a few folding chairs. There's a steel ring in the floor, to which the detainees are attached by one or both leg irons. We observed a few interrogations there. The ICE boss disagreed with what I'd been told before. The intel crews don't feel downtrodden or unreasonably constrained by regulations. They're succeeding, and they take pride in the results they're getting. There are a bunch of FBI investigations going on right now that are propelled by intelligence garnered from the Gitmo detainees. *It's not just possible -- it's a dead-bang certainty -- that terrorist attacks in the United States are being thwarted by the patience and skill of the Gitmo crew.* And as the FBI benefits, so do the combatant commanders. The operational military levy requests on Gitmo several times a week, and are often answered with information they can apply on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. And elsewhere.

TO ANYONE WITH OPEN eyes, it must be clear that we are treating these hard-core terrorists humanely, and that our interrogators -- men and women, military and civilian -- should be praised, not scorned. Investigation after investigation has showed that there is no torture at Gitmo. But the outrageous and disgusting characterizations of what we are doing at Gitmo continue.

On Friday, a New York Times editorial said, "Surely no one can approve turning an American soldier into a pseudo-lap-dancer or having another smear fake menstrual blood on an Arab man. These practices are as degrading to the women as they are to the prisoners. They violate American moral values -- and they seem pointless....Does anyone in the military believe that a

cold-blooded terrorist who has withstood months of physical and psychological abuse will crack because a woman runs her fingers through his hair suggestively or watches him disrobe? If devout Muslims become terrorists because they believe Western civilization is depraved, does it make sense to try to unnerve them by having Western women behave like trollops?" First they're all Nazis or Cambodian murderers; now the gals are whores.

I've met a few of these gals, and I can tell you they are smart, tough, and are accomplishing things other people can't. They aren't "behaving like trollops," but like the dedicated intel professionals they are. I -- and a lot of people who are, fortunately, in control of what they do -- approve because they are acting within the rules, and producing results. There are no whores at Gitmo, but there are intellectual whores in Congress and at the Times.

Who should be blamed for failing to prevent the next terrorist attack? Not the guys and gals of Gitmo who are working tirelessly, under awful conditions and politically correct constraints, to get information from hard-core terrorists. Every American should be proud of them, and grateful for what they're doing to defend us.

There are terrorists here in the United States and, along with many others overseas, they are planning to kill more Americans in more attacks. What will the intellectual whores of the left say after the next 9-11? Will they say that we were right to forgo interrogation methods that used sexual taunting and the use of psychotropic drugs? Or will they say that we should have done more to protect America?

We know what torture is, and we know what it isn't. Anything else and everything else should be done, consistently and thoroughly, to get the information we need. To say we should do less is to say we must sacrifice American lives that could otherwise be saved.

TAS contributing editor Jed Babbin is the author of *Inside the Asylum: Why the UN and Old Europe Are Worse Than You Think* (Regnery, 2004).

Television

CSPAN

7/20/2005 2:48:42 PM

(Commentary by Rep. Dana Rohrabacher quoting Jed Babbin – U.S. House floor)

One military analyst, Jed Babbin, recently toured Gitmo and concluded the following. The common belief by the terrorists fed by reports apparently conveyed to some by their lawyers is that political pressure will soon result in our having to close Gitmo and to let them go. ***Critics are making the interrogator's job much harder than it already is because they (the terrorists) are beginning to believe we'll close Gitmo and many of the detainees will resist interrogation because of this belief.*** To the critics of Gitmo, I would ask them where do they suggest we put them? Where are we going to put those people we need to interrogate? People there (at Gitmo) have done a good job, a fantastic job ...not a perfect job. ***We should keep it open and not close it and we should congratulate their efforts there.***

Radio*

*(*Interviews scheduled; transcripts not available for the following radio shows)*

KOGO (San Diego)

7/22/2005

Interview with Jay Hood.

“The Core Hour” - The Alternative Black Radio Show (National)
7/22/2005

Interview with the radio show of the Congress of Racial Equality

KSFO (San Francisco)
7/19/2005

Interview with Lee Rogers and Melanie Morgan

WPHT (Philadelphia)
7/16/2005

Interview with Joe Watkins

WJOB (Winnipeg)
7/15/2005

Interview with Charles Adler

KOGO (San Diego)
7/15/2005

Interview with Mark Larson

Accent Radio Network (National)
7/15/2005

Interview with Greg Allen

WSBA (York, PA)
7/15/2005

Interview with Dennis Edwards

KFBK (Sacramento)
7/14/2005

Interview with radio commentators Paul and Phil

WMET (DC)
7/14/2005

Interview with Mark Bisno

ABC Radio Networks (National)
7/13/2005

Interview with nationally syndicated show host John Batchelor

Westwood One (National)
7/13/2005

Interview with Lars Larson

WIBA (Madison, Wisconsin)

7/13/2005

Interview with Vicki McKenna

Radio America (National)

7/13/2005

Interview with Chuck Harder and Greg Corumbus

Chuck Nash

Television

Fox News – Your World with Neil Cavuto

7/15/2005 1:15:28 AM

Cavuto: Today's guest just got back from Guantanamo bay and says if anything, the prisoners are treated too well. He joins us right now. What do you make, Chuck, of the attention Gitmo gets these days? **Nash:** Unfortunately we have a situation that should not be political that is being made political. To add more wood on to the proverbial fires that are started here on Capitol Hill, this in no way should be in the news and the reason is because this is a very professionally run organization. It has had more scrutiny than probably, you know, any other military organization out there. They're doing a fabulous job, and they are, take it from me, they are getting some tremendous intelligence information out of these guys. I know you're aware, but my security clearance is still current. And while I was down there, I was given a classified briefing of what was going on. And just take it from me, that we are gaining tremendous value out of these prisoners. **Cavuto:** I know you were there and you know better than I but there is a separate report that says there were some cases of abuse there and John McCain, a guy who of course was in the North Vietnamese prison for seven years of his life says we (as a country) can do better. What do you say? **Nash:** Well, I think anything can be improved but when you look at the way they're being treated down there, there is something in the codes that people talk about and they say:....are they given their Geneva convention rights? They are being treated humanly and although some of the treatment may be uncomfortable, it is not torturous and -- it is not illegal. **Cavuto:** you are saying we should be reminded of the terrors that are real like in London last week and juxtapose that with what are fairly comfortable conditions in Gitmo. **Nash:** This is a war and the next time this country gets hit, god forbid, people will wonder when do we get tough on these guys? What is going on, the folks in Gitmo are getting the information they're getting and playing by the rules and it is disastrous for them. The one lever that they have, if you think about this, we have pretty much published what we can and can't do to prisoners. The prisoners know that the only leverage that we have remaining on these prisoners is they don't know when they're going to get out. Do you know when they're going to get out? When this war is over. If we start talking like some of these people up here on the hill about closing down Gitmo then that just stokes their fire and props them up because they think we don't have to talk to these guys. **Cavuto:** Chuck, you were there. Have you seen cases of that where they're saying, look, we will just go slowly? **Nash:** There are instances where, after certain statements are made and it's been reported in the press where folks from the Middle East are coming back and saying, see, even U.S. Senators and Congressmen are saying these things. So it is being used against us and you know when you're playing by the rules you have to control the environment. To control the environment, you have to really be careful about what these

prisoners can and cannot get access to. **Cavuto:** There were -- I don't know what you know or what you can comfortably say. I know you had a clearance to go in there so maybe you can't say much. But one of the reports was the abuse of the Koran, physical abuse or sort of more embarrassing type abuse for the prisoners there. Any of that true? **Nash:** There is absolutely zero truth to charges about the abuse of the Koran. There were instances where Korans may have been dropped but no instances of guards desecrating the Koran. Every Koran is hanging object a surgical mask by each prisoner's bed where it's in plain view and everything. There have been instances where some of the prisoners have desecrated the Koran and what they did was they tore it up to try to stop up a toilet or they tore it up and threw it out to try to insight the other prisoners to riot. As far as the abusive stuff, yeah, they had this guy. This guy, turns out he was the 20th hijacker....**Cavuto:** Wish we had more time but thank you for putting that in perspective. Appreciate it. Chuck Nash with the latest on Gitmo.

Jeff McCausland

Radio*

(*Interviews scheduled; transcripts not available for radio shows with an asterisk)

WCBS NewsRadio 880

7/15/05

Interview with Jeff McCausland with limited commentary on his recent visit to Gitmo

CBS – Up to the Minute*

Transcript not available at the time of this report

Additional Commentary*

Interviews with two radio stations in the San Francisco and Pittsburgh markets

Carlton Sherwood

Print

Gitmo Prisoners Are Right Where They Belong: Firsthand Look at Camp Delta

(Human Events Online)...Carlton Sherwood - July 22

The thought occurs more than once on the (Guantanamo Bay) tour that those guarding the terrorists feel more threatened than the inmates. And they should... One detainee told his captor that when he was released he would track him and his family down on the Internet and "cut their throats like sheep..."

Many are living in better conditions than they have ever experienced...

They play soccer, volleyball, cards and chess. A fully equipped hospital is within the prison compound. Military doctors provide detainees with everything from new limbs to heart surgery...

Each detainee is provided with a copy of the Koran, prayer rug and beads, skullcap and oils-and the chance to use them five times daily during calls to prayer...

I was allowed to observe, remotely, four interrogation sessions... If not for the shackles on their ankles, tethered to a bolt on each interrogation room floor, a necessary safety measure to protect the questioners, you'd think the detainees were enjoying it.

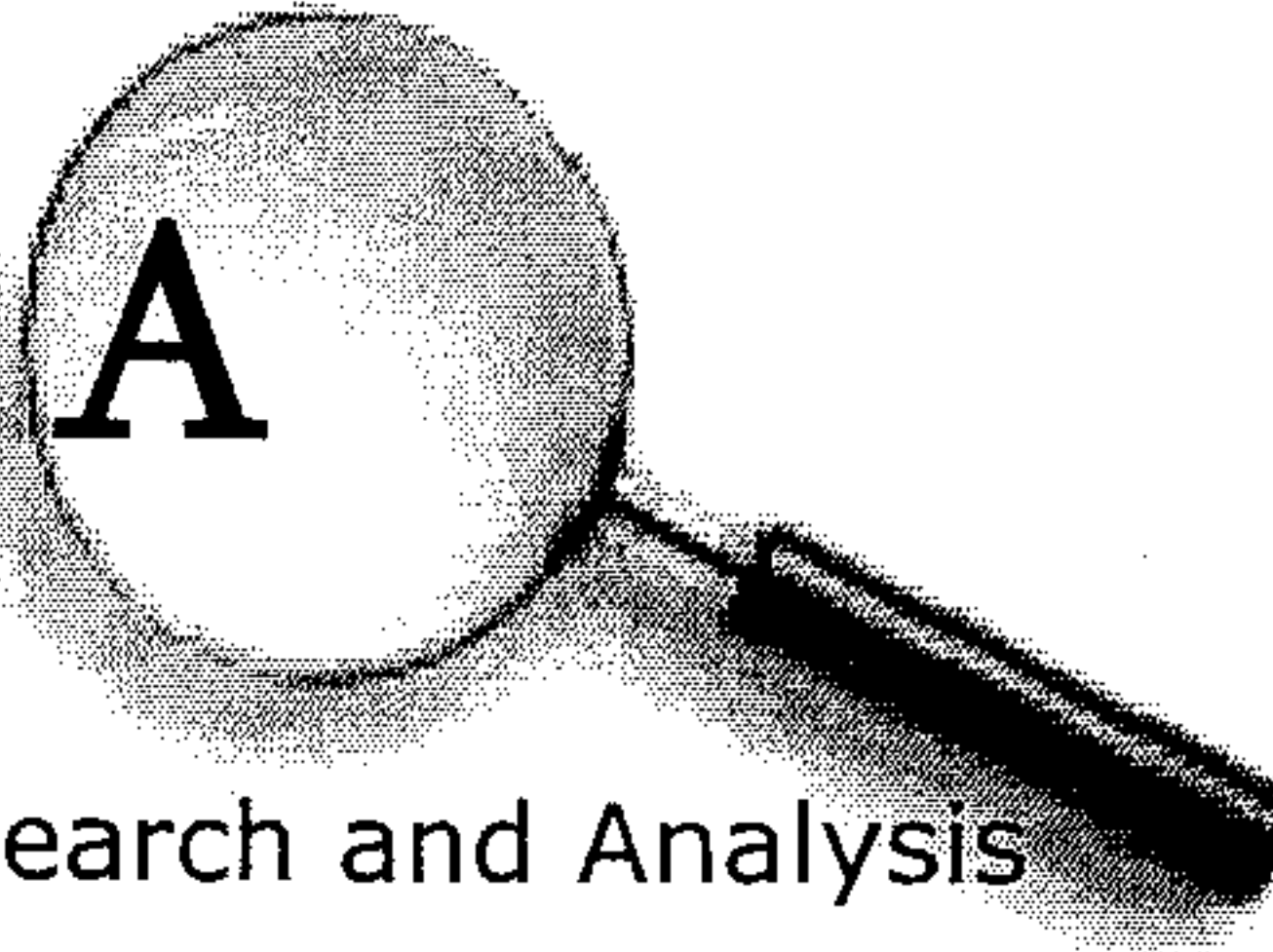
(Jay) Hood insists the interrogations are producing in-depth intelligence, what he calls "a wider mosaic of how al Qaeda operates," which has proven invaluable to both military field commanders and Homeland Security officials. But given the nature of intelligence gathering, it is unlikely you will see any headlines reporting success, nothing about terrorist attacks foiled or innocent lives saved...

There is far more truth to Rush Limbaugh's parodies of "Club Gitmo" than Democratic Sen. Richard Durbin's shameful and false analogy to a Nazi concentration camp.

Radio*

(*Interviews scheduled; transcripts not available for the following radio shows)

- Interviews scheduled this week on the Tony Snow and Laura Ingraham shows.
- Radio interviews to take place this week in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington D.C.

**Military Analyst Media Coverage***Iraq Referendum & Guantanamo Facilities**October 11, 2005***SUMMARY**

The media is just beginning to interview several of the military analysts recently on tour in Iraq. In the last week, Colonel Robert Maginnis was covered in the Washington Times while Captain Chuck Nash and Major General Donald Shepperd were covered on Fox and CNN respectively.

Guantanamo trip coverage has gained no coverage in broadcast and print media. However, there was one interview with Major General Paul Vallely posted online on The DailyInterlake.com. It included the notable comment, "They (the tours) even turned Teddy Kennedy around."

Print Media

There were two analysts quoted in print outlets, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Maginnis in The Washington Times (Inside the Ring) on his trip to Iraq, and Major General Paul E. Vallely in an interview on The DailyInterlake.com (MT) on his tour of the Guantanamo prison.

Maginnis noted troops' frustration over negative media coverage on the war, and Vallely said that torture is not and has never been a policy at Guantanamo, and described the guards as "highly trained and disciplined," and the prison as a "secure yet humane holding facility."

Broadcast Media

In television, two analysts have provided commentary on their visit to Iraq. Early this morning on Fox News Channel Captain Chuck Nash discussed his view on Iraqi participation in the elections stating that "over 88% of Iraq's voting population plan to vote" on the referendum. Additionally, he emphasized that "the object is to get a representative government," regardless of whether or not the Sunnis vote "no." While on CNN (early morning and mid-afternoon), Donald Sheppard made the point that the Iraqi forces will be running this election and that the general Iraqi population is behind them. He also emphasized that the "Iraqi security forces are good and they're coming up to speed very, very quickly."

IRAQ TRIP

Print

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Maginnis

Inside the Ring: Sightseeing

(The Washington Times)... Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough - October 7

Robert Maginnis, a retired Army colonel and frequent military analyst on radio and TV, is touring Kuwait and Iraq, compliments of the Pentagon, to see how things are going firsthand.

After a dinner last night with Army soldiers, Mr. Maginnis reports to us:

"The soldiers expressed frustration with the fact that most of the U.S. news coverage about Iraq is bad, which contradicts their firsthand view. Two of those soldiers have children stationed with combat units in Iraq. These proud parents appreciate the importance of their Kuwait support mission. A lieutenant colonel volunteered that the American people support the troops but probably don't understand our mission, which explains why national support for the war is declining. A sergeant offered that support would increase if more people served and suggested that returning to a draft might help universal understanding."

Broadcast

General William Nash

Fox News Channel

10/11/05 06:23:39

Tiki: Fox news military analyst and retired Navy Captain Chuck Nash just rushed from a trip to Iraq and joins us from D.C. How are you doing?

Nash: I'm doing great.

Tiki: Over in Iraq, they're doing a lot leading up to this constitutional referendum on Saturday and a lot of the security measures are not being done by American forces, are they?

Nash: No, not at all. As a matter of fact, the Iraqis are out front on this. There's so much difference between now and the vote, the election back in January, the biggest difference in this is number one, the Iraqi population is leaning very far forward to vote, over 88% of the people in Iraq are registered to vote and intend to. There are some areas where as many as 98% of the people are registered to vote and the security, the plan itself for the security is an Iraqi plan, the U.S. folks when they got it, were ready to make whatever changes were necessary and they looked at it and said "wow, this is a great plan," so the Iraqis are providing the forces, the Iraqis are providing all of the security planning and our forces are there strictly as response units to help out should the Iraqis get in trouble, but the Iraqis are running this thing.

Brian: What's the feeling about the constitution? I hear there's a Sunni vote down the constitution movement, which in many quarters would be a positive, because they're actually voting on something.

OSD

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

Nash: Well, that's the whole point. You know, last time the Sunnis boycotted the elections and when they did, rather than excluding that portion of the population about 20%, that is Sunni, instead, the government came in said OK, look, you guys boycotted the election, but we're going to appoint some Sunni officials so you do have representation. Those same Sunnis that were appointed were weakened because they weren't elected, they didn't feel as if they had the backing of their own people, so they were weak negotiators in this whole constitutional referendum, therefore, what's going to happen this time is the Sunni leaders, religious leaders, are telling their people, get out and vote this time, don't sit at home, get out and vote "no." The bottom line effect of that is we now have the vast majority, probably much higher than in this country ever go out and vote, are going to go out and vote, so even if they vote this thing down, it is a win, and the reason why I say that, and I know it sounds like spin, but the object is to get a representative government, then you need all of the people out and voting and that's what's going to happen this time if it goes up or down. Either way in December they're going to elect another government, so if you follow that logic that in January the Sunnis sat out, they got a government that wasn't truly representative so they had to appoint some, this time everybody goes out and votes, and next time in December, you get a truly representative government, if the referendum gets voted down this time, they'll have a truly representative government in December, to do this again.

Tiki: Captain Nash, thank you for all the update. I know you're just back from a three day trip over there and the people over there are also fed up with a lot of things going on.

Nash: Absolutely. That's the other thing that's turned. Because there are so many Iraqi troops, there are about 140,000 Iraqi troops and those are fully trained, ready to go troops and that's the other thing that's changed since January. It's not a U.S. face on this, it's an Iraqi face and they are competent troops. They're out there and the Iraqi people are turning to them, responses to surveys, 89% of the Iraqi population has support and trust the Iraqi troops and they're telling them where the bad guys are and we are rolling up that network. That's a real take away. The real take away is that the terrorist network is crumbling over there.

Tiki: Captain Chuck Nash joining us. Thank you very much for the update on Iraq.

Major General Don Shepperd

CNN – Daybreak

10/11/05

COSTELLO: Our CNN military analyst, Major General Don Shepperd, just returned from Iraq, and he joins us live from Washington with some perspective.

Good morning, general.

MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPPERD, CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Good morning, Carol.

COSTELLO: So, like I said, perhaps as many as 50 dead this morning. And seemingly no end in sight.

SHEPPERD: Yes, a tough place. I just got back last night. I'm still a little bit groggy. And I was in western Baghdad, where the bombings took place there.

You can expect a rise clearly over this weekend at the polling places as insurgents attempt to keep people from voting or punish those who do. And you can probably expect increased violence between this referendum and the election if the election is held. In other words if the constitution passes and is not voted down.

It's a very, very tough neighborhood.

COSTELLO: We're hearing word that these suicide bombers are in rehearsals for the upcoming vote. In fact, the suicide bombing at the marketplace this morning, the vehicle was painted like a taxi. So, they're finding creative ways to carry out their violence.

SHEPPERD: Yes. I suspect that that's true. You're going to see that and other innovative methods.

I think there's something that we need to consider about this, though. The only strategy that the insurgents have is the strategy of death and violence. That is not a winning strategy. It's a painful strategy, and it certainly will work for a while.

But the Iraqi people, at least the ones that I've talked to, are really, really getting tired of this. And I think you are -- I'm encouraged and optimistic for the first time in a long, long time that the Iraqis are going to pull off -- they're going to pull off the election. They are going to get their forces trained, and that is going very well. And they're going to be much better at some of the things that are key to it than we are.

And I think they're going to be able to pull this off. I think you'll start seeing the insurrection or the insurgency take some hits next year and start to peter out. But it won't be until next year -- Carol.

COSTELLO: Well, yes, it won't be until next year. But if the insurgency succeeds in preventing many Sunnis from going to vote, it will be not a victory for Iraq or the United States. Will it?

SHEPPERD: No, it won't. Now, a couple of things about the election. Again, the people I've talked to say they believe the Sunnis are going to turn out despite the violence.

They've got plans for protecting the polling places, but they think they'll turn out. They do not know whether they're going to vote for or against the referendum.

They think that even if the referendum is voted down that it will be a positive, because the Sunnis have joined the process for the first time. And they get can them a modified constitution.

So, they see it as perhaps a victory either way, although it certainly will be something less than what we hoped for.

COSTELLO: OK. Let's talk about the American troops and when possibly some might pull out of there. When do you think?

SHEPPERD: Well, I'll tell you, we asked that question everywhere we went. And you get people looking at their shoes, and they don't want to give you a date.

But I think this is what's going to happen: We've got impressions that the Iraqi forces are not good. The training is not going well. From everyone that we talked to, nothing could be further from the truth. These guys are good. They're coming up to speed very, very quickly. And if they do come up to speed as planned, I think you'll see some major troop withdrawal starting the first part of next year, and then gradually continuing. But we're still going to be there for a few years -- Carol.

COSTELLO: For a few years. I mean, you're saying something different than what we're hearing, because we're hearing only a few of the Iraqi forces are up to speed and can fight on their own.

SHEPPERD: Yes. You've got to know what people are talking about when they say that. These Iraqi forces are not as good and not going to be as good as U.S. forces and able to do all of the things that we can do for a long, long time. By the way, neither can any other military. They're going to need our support for a long time.

But they can do the key things. They can do intelligence. They can do raids. And they can do presence.

And they are being -- areas are being turned over to them. For instance, about 20 percent of the city of Baghdad has now been turned over to the Iraqi forces. I was very, very impressed with what I saw, and I think things will get better as they get better and as they start taking over some of our duties, and we gradually begin to withdraw.

COSTELLO: Major General Don Shepperd joining us this morning. Thank you.

CNN – Live From.....

10/11/05 14:17:30

Betty: CNN Military Analyst General Don Shepperd just returned from Iraq and joins us now. First thing I want to ask you to tell us a little about your travels and why were you there.

Shepperd: Betty, we're part of a military sponsored trip a group of six of us that do military analysis on the media. Our goal was to go over, visit the commanders and troops, and see what they say; visit Iraqi elected civilian officials and the Iraqi security forces. It was a good trip with all of those things.

Betty: You got to speak with some of the Iraqi security forces. In your view, are they ready to secure the country?

Shepperd: Look, Betty, a lot of bad information has been passed on these people as though they are incompetent. These guys are good. I mean, very good. They're no match for U.S. forces and won't be for a long, long time, but can do things that U.S. forces cannot do. They can get intelligence, act on it and stay in the presence in various neighbors where we go in and come out all the time. They are very, very good, very faithful. One of the units we visited, 75% of their recruits have been in the military before and these are no amateurs. They are very tough. The training is going well, and I think you're going to see a spread of security by the Iraqis themselves next year and that's the key to getting this insurgency done. Them, not us.

Betty: What about insurgent intimidation? Is that affecting the force, or are Iraqis saying we're fed up with these suicide car bombings; we're going get that information to the Iraqi security forces.

Shepperd: Some of each. Of course, the people are intimidated. That's the intent of the insurgents; keep Sunnis away from the polls. The jobs in the police force and also the military, by Iraqi standards, are good paying jobs. Some of it is also patriotism. They have a great sense of being Iraqis, a great sense of nationalism.

Betty: I'm surprised by that. A lot the attacks we've watched and see across the news wires are attacks on police stations. You would think that would keep the recruits from

coming in. You say that's not the case. Why is that? Is it the money or the patriotism or both?

Shepperd: It is some money and some patriotism. We have built over time these insurgents ten feet tall. They are only able to do small attacks with IEDs. They have not taken over police stations or done large movements or actions in the last several months. There's a certain level of violence that will be escalated through the elections. The Iraqi forces as they come up to speed will squeeze them out starting next year.

Betty: What needs to be done to get the forces up to speed, as you say?

Shepperd: Quickly train them. Train them up fast; we need to match them up with U.S. forces. We need to back them up with logistics, equipment. We'll be there a while doing this, but I think there's a good possibility you'll see U.S. forces start to draw down after the first of the year sometime.

Betty: I also have to ask as you toured the area, spoke with the people on the ground. Did anything surprise you while you were there?

Shepperd: I was surprised at the capability of these Iraqi security forces and surprised by a couple other things. The U.S. forces, they are under attack by IEDs, but other than that very little direct action against U.S. forces any more. The level of violence against U.S. forces has gone down, except for the IEDs. I think they'll be able to pull off these elections, Betty, and I don't know how they're going to come out, rejected or accepted. the constitution that is, but I think they'll come off and do as good a job as they did last time.

Betty: Either way the elections come out; do you think Iraqi forces are ready for the aftermath?

Shepperd: The Iraqi forces are ready to protect the polling places. They're ready. They're starting to get ready in various areas. For instance, 20% of the territory of Baghdad has already been turned over to Iraqi forces. You're starting to see that spread slowly as they come up to speed. When they come up to speed, they are a match with U.S. forces then given their own territory. All of that appears to me to be working. It is slow, tough work and we will be there for a while helping them.

Betty: General, a pleasure.

Shepperd: A pleasure, Betty.

GUANTANAMO TRIP

Online

Major General Paul E. Vallely

Bigfork's military analyst - interview

(The Daily Interlake.com of Kallispell, MT)...Candace Chase – October 10

Moving to Bigfork hasn't kept retired Maj. Gen. Paul Vallely from keeping on top of the war on terrorism.

Last week, he was fresh off a whirlwind tour of the detainee camp at Guantanamo Bay...

He said he was impressed by the men and women running the facility, which holds 558 detainees classified as enemy combatants. "They are so highly trained and disciplined," he said. "They go above and beyond the Geneva Convention in taking care of these people." According to Valley, the law of war allows the detention of enemy combatants for the duration of conflict. The idea is to keep them from rejoining the fight. Experience has validated the concept.

Valley said 10 detainees were released earlier only to show back up on the battlefield. One was wearing a prosthetic leg he received compliments of the U.S. government. Although it's not required, the Department of Defense has instituted a combatant review process. Valley's group was briefed on the process that allows a detainee to fight his combatant status and seek release...

The retired general bristled as he spoke about a recent article that compared Guantanamo to Hitler's death camps.

"Nothing could be farther from the truth," he said. "These guys get three meals a day, the Koran, a prayer rug and they're shown which way to pray."

Valley and the others toured the newest detainee holding facility. He said it was air-conditioned and comparable to the most modern detention center anywhere in the United States.

Detainees get assigned to camps with various levels of freedom based on their compliance with camp rules.

"Most do comply," Valley said. "Those live in a communal situation. Some of the Afghans have taken up basketball."

Because of cultural clashes, Valley said camp officials have to segregate Afghan detainees from Saudis within the camps.

"Afghans don't consider themselves Arabs," he said.

The worst of the worst detainees end up in Camp 3. At the time of the tour, two prisoners were headed back to that camp after they threw paper cups filled with urine on the chest and face of a woman security guard.

"These are some of the nastiest people in the world," he said. "These are bad, bad people."

Valley said detainees average in age from mid-30s to 40s. The oldest was in his 70s.

"They are mainly trainers and cell leaders," he said.

Some are expert bomb makers while others have worked at financing terrorism.

Valley said most of the interrogators are women. It has to do with the Muslim culture.

"They [women] are very effective at getting information from them," he said.

Some very hard-core cases remain uncracked. Like prisoner no. 23, Osama bin Laden's former driver.

Valley said torture isn't and never has been an interrogation method at Guantanamo. The West Point graduate backs up that assertion with 32 years of distinguished service in the Army.

His trip to Guantanamo reinforced his view that the camp remains a secure yet humane holding facility. Such tours have changed some others' points of view.

"They even turned Teddy Kennedy around," he said.

Military Analyst Media Coverage*Iraq Referendum**October 12, 2005***SUMMARY**

Military analyst coverage continued today on TV and Radio and included such outlets as Fox News, BBC Radio and WINS-AM. There was no coverage in print and online. Army General Robert Scales had a lengthy interview on Fox which aired in the evening on Monday, October 11 and early morning on Tuesday, October 12. Major General Donald Shepperd furthered his commentary from yesterday on both BBC and WINS-AM in New York.* No additional Guantanamo coverage of the military analysts was reported today.

**Shepperd was also scheduled to be interviewed on WBAL-AM (Baltimore) but the clip is not currently available*

Highlights**General Robert Scales on Fox News:**

- “They (the Iraqi troops) are nationalists. And they want to get rid of the insurgents just as badly as we do. They are very well led and highly motivated.”
- We looked at the “Iraqi troop training, their will to win, the courage factor, bonding, and cohesion, and leadership, and all those intangibles that really make an army effective, rather than just, you know, “How are you equipped?” And, frankly, what I saw was very encouraging.”
- “The insurgency is on a steady downward trend, mainly because U.S. forces and Iraqi forces have been successful in cleaning out the ratlines...”

Major General Donald Shepperd on WINS-AM:

- “The Iraqis will be in charge of the voting stations and the U.S. forces will back them up in the outer ring with rapid reaction forces. They think they have a good plan.”
- “All indications are that the Sunnis will get out and vote.”

Major General Donald Shepperd on BBC Radio:

- They (the Iraqi officials) are all confident that the election will take place.

IRAQ TRIP TRANSCRIPTS

TV Broadcasts

Army General Robert Scales

Fox News Channel – Special Report with Brit Hume

Aired on 10/11/2005 6:19pm and 10/12/05 12:20am

GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Today, there are more than 80 Iraqi army battalions fighting the insurgency alongside our forces. Progress isn't easy, but it is steady. And no fair-minded person should ignore, deny, or dismiss the achievements of the Iraqi people.

HUME: That was the president the other day. And his view of things in Iraq is backed up by his generals. Tonight, we hear from one who is not one of the president's generals, retired Army General Robert Scales, a noted military historian and a FOX News analyst, just back from Iraq. Welcome home, Bob. Nice to see you.

MAJ. GEN. BOB SCALES, U.S. ARMY (RET.): Good to be back...

HUME: So what did you -- you know, tell us about the mission, where you went, what you saw.

SCALES: We were there for six days. We spent time in Baghdad. And then we spent a day -- we went up to a place called Taji, which is the headquarters of the Ninth Iraqi Mechanized Division.

We specifically asked not only to see our American men and women but, "Let's just go up north and talk to the Iraqis, look them straight in the eye, and get a sense of their military readiness," not readiness in terms of readiness reporting, you know, how many vehicles have you got, what's your percent filled and all that.

Instead, we wanted to look at things like, you know, their training, their will to win, the courage factor, bonding, and cohesion, and leadership, and all those intangibles that really make an army effective, rather than just, you know, "How are you equipped?" And, frankly, what I saw was very encouraging.

HUME: What did you expect to see?

SCALES: Well, I didn't know, because, you know, the make has all along been that, "Well, the Iraqis -- we're not too sure about them. We're not sure they'll fight. Back in 2004, they ran away, et cetera, et cetera."

Boy, I got there, and I saw a unit that was only a year old. It was Iraq's first mechanized unit. It hasn't even been fully formed yet. It's commanded by a General Bashar (ph), who, a year ago, when they told to form the unit, he went out to an Iraqi junkyard, essentially a huge bone yard, if you will, and put together pieces of equipment to build 200 armored vehicles without any support from the United States, or American contractors, or the Iraqi government.

So the Iraqis themselves built this division. Seventy-five percent of this division is made up of veterans, of professional soldiers. I met the leadership. I met one brigade commander who had just come back from a firefight. He was in the hospital. And he came back with both of his hands bandaged just to have a chance to meet the Americans.

I also met the Americans that fought with the Iraqis.

HUME: Now, in this kind of unit, this is one of these -- or the kind of unit we're hearing about where the U.S. is embedded...

SCALES: That's right.

HUME: ... but not in charge.

SCALES: Exactly. There are a group of advisers, colonels, and majors, and NCOs, who sort of marry up with the unit.

HUME: But they're a fraction of the fighting force.

SCALES: Oh, there's only 10 or 12. But in addition to that...

HUME: In a fighting force of, what, a couple hundred?

SCALES: Oh, no. This division is not fully formed. I'd say 8,000 or 9,000.

HUME: Oh, really?

SCALES: Oh, sure.

HUME: So we're talking about 8,000 or 9,000?

SCALES: It's a division.

HUME: Right. This is a division with only a dozen or so Americans?

SCALES: Sure. And it's very interesting. One of my good friends, a man I've known for many years, a brigadier general who's the number two man in charge of the team or the command that's building up the Iraqi army, he actually goes out on patrol with these units.

And he came back, and he said, "Hey, these guys are fighters." I mean, are they patriots? Sure. But more than that, they are nationalists. And they want to get rid of the insurgents just as badly as we do. They are very well led and highly motivated.

HUME: So when we hear, as we do periodically, that there are now only -- there's only one battalion -- Iraqi battalion that is fully ready to go out completely on its own, no American presence, but there are 36 others with Americans advising...

SCALES: Yes.

HUME: ... but I take it we're talking now about only a small number of Americans in these units?

SCALES: Well, just be careful. Well, first of all, there's 25,000 Americans that are sort embedded, if you will, with the Iraqi units.

HUME: Across the Iraqi -- of all the Iraqi units?

SCALES: Across the Iraqi army. It's 117 battalions. About 80 of them, as the president said, are fully deployed and out in the field fighting.

We have readiness reporting in the United States Army. Look, we're not trying to make the Iraqi military as good as we are, at least not right now. We just want to make them better than the bad guys.

And I would argue, from what I saw, by looking these guys right in the eyes and seeing if they got fire in their belly and if they've got the will to fight, I would argue that, at least the unit that I saw, is capable of taking on the bad guys.

HUME: And you didn't pick one that's in the most advanced stage?

SCALES: No, no. Oh, no. I mean, in fact, because, you know, most of the units that are deployed are deploying around to protect the voting stations, so the unit that we saw, while, you know, it hasn't even been formed yet, it's in the process of being formed. And as they're being formed, they're also going around in the area around Highway 1 and

their garrison, and they're cleaning out the terrorists as they train and as they build. That's a pretty extraordinary accomplishment.

HUME: So what do you make of -- I mean, you talked to our own military officers over there. They're not in a situation when they're talking to you as they would be if they're back in Washington.

SCALES: No, that's right. That's right.

HUME: They can talk to you without you ever revealing their names and so forth.

SCALES: Precisely.

HUME: What did you find, in terms of their view of how it's going?

SCALES: Oh, well, they're -- first of all, they're frustrated with the media, particularly those who are training the Iraqi army. They kept telling me, you know, "Why don't they come and look at the Iraqi units? Why don't they embed themselves with us for a while? We can show you what these guys are capable of doing."

The Iraqis themselves are a little disappointed, you know? They're very proud of what they've done. I'll give you one example. Remember about eight months ago, Bill Cowan was in here talking about the BIAP road, you know, the airport road?

HUME: Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, the alley of death.

SCALES: Right. I drove the BIAP road, five miles along that road. And it's clear of the enemy. It's full of commerce. And who's protecting it? The Iraqi sixth infantry division. And in many ways, they're better than we are, in the sense that they're better able to gather intelligence. I mean, they can spot insurgents by their body language and by how they act and the language they use. They can spot foreigners far better than our soldiers can.

And they're better able to engage these terrorists when they find them oftentimes than our own soldiers are. You know, being part of the culture really means a lot when you're fighting an insurgency.

HUME: So frustration with the media, more advanced training. What about the -- what is your sense, based on what you've heard, about the overall likelihood of this mission succeeding, and how much farther along are we, if at all, from where we're hearing?

SCALES: That's a great question. The American commitment is steady. We're not going to see an increase in American forces. And their capability is increasing, thanks to infusions of technology and the combat experience...

HUME: American forces?

SCALES: American forces. And the infusion of new units coming over, combat-experienced units.

The insurgency is on a steady downward trend, mainly because U.S. forces and Iraqi forces have been successful in cleaning out the ratlines...

HUME: You wouldn't know it from the news reports.

SCALES: I know. I know. But the ratlines that goes along the Tigris and Euphrates River and feed into Baghdad...

HUME: These are lines of infiltration.

SCALES: Yes, yes. And they're taking down the suicide bombers. They're denying access to...

HUME: We've got about 15 seconds.

SCALES: But I think the greatest hope is Iraq, Iraq units, the regular army, building

them up very quickly so that they can take over the fighting and increase the probability of coming out of this OK.

HUME: And you think its happening?

SCALES: It's happening.

HUME: All right. Bob scales, great to have you back. Welcome.

SCALES: Thanks, Brit.

Radio Broadcasts

Major General Don Shepperd

BBC

10/12/05 02:06:16

Reporter: Just days before the vote, a major Sunni group is telling its people to get out and vote and vote "yes." Just back from Iraq is Major General Don Shepard where civilian elected officials in Iraq are hopeful.

Shepperd: They (Iraqi officials) are all confident that the election will take place. It is still a question of whether the Sunnis will vote it up or down. But they say it is a victory either way. If the Sunnis vote it down then they will start over with a new process again. This may be discouraging to some but it may be closer to something the Sunnis will take part in.

Reporter: Let's hope this starts a period where legal debate starts to make as much noise as the fire fighting.

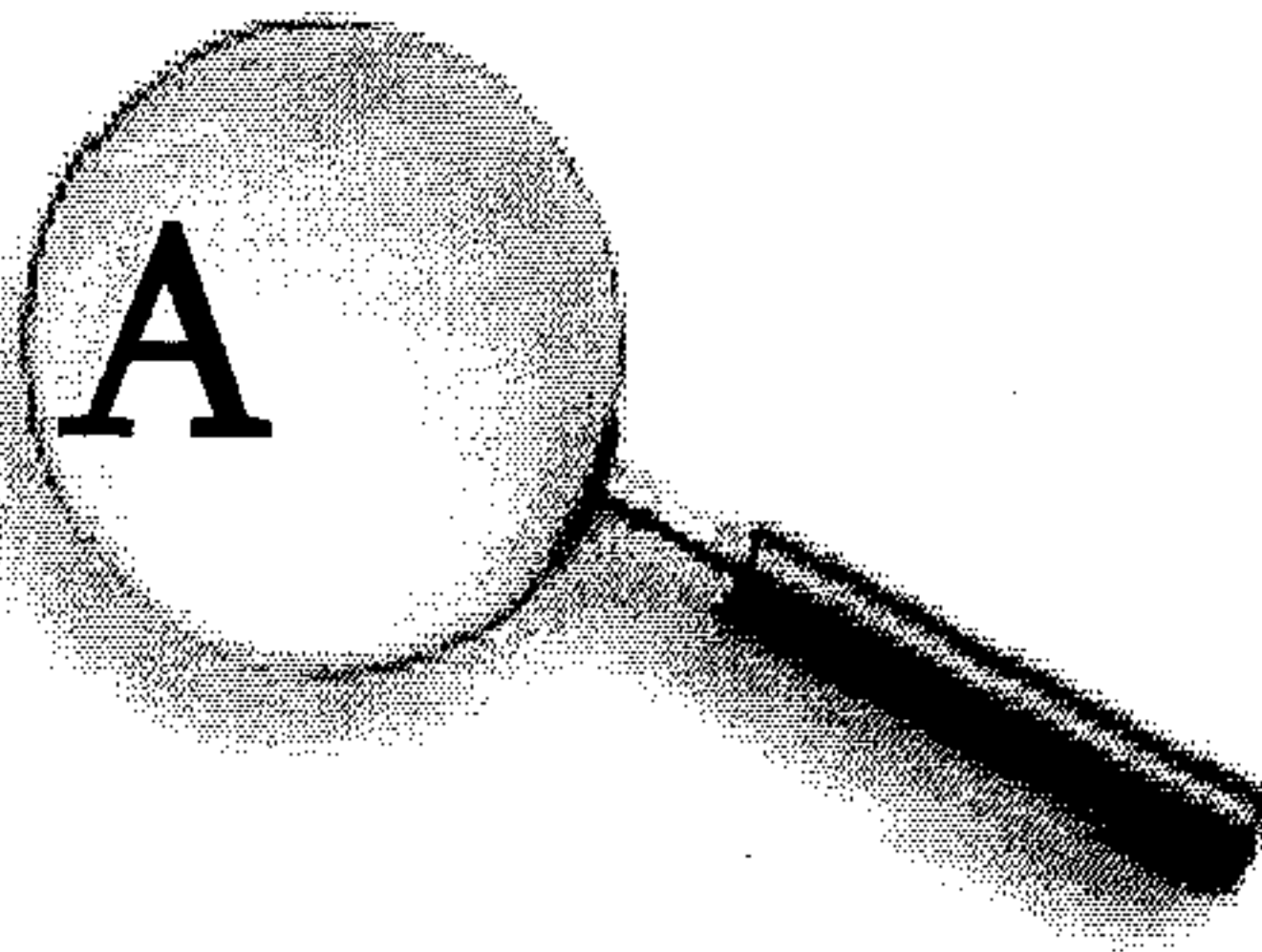
WINS – AM

10/12/05 08:34:00

Reporter: Another suicide bombing in Iraq at an Iraqi recruiting center, killing 30 and wounding many others. U.S. and Iraqi forces are making final plans to increase security in advance of Saturdays voting on the new Iraqi constitution. Military analyst Don Shepard says its likely insurgent attacks will continue in an effort to disrupt the balloting process.

Shepperd: The Iraqis will be in charge of the voting stations and the U.S. forces will back them up in the outer ring with rapid reaction forces. They think they have a good plan. There is no doubt that violence will be attempted we saw it today in Tal Afar and some in Baghdad. All aimed at Sunni intimidation. But all indications are that the Sunnis will get out and vote.

P A R **A**



Public Affairs Research and Analysis

Military Analyst Media Coverage

Iraq Referendum

October 14, 2005

Summary: We found just two reports today: Robert Maginnis on CNN Europe, and Robert Scales on FoxNews. Both were guardedly optimistic about the referendum, with Mr. Maginnis saying the vote is a "toss up" as to whether things will get better or worse afterward. Both had good things to say about the division they visited, the Ninth Division in Taji. Asked about American soldiers, Maginnis said morale was pretty good, even among the wounded, and that he heard a plea that Zargawi and al Qaeda should not be allowed to ruin the will of the American people to stay the course.

General Robert Scales on FoxNews

Time: 0916

FoxNews: We have been warned from the President all the way down that there was going to be a big run up in violence ahead of this constitutional referendum vote. Are you surprised that it has not been more bloody than it is in Iraq these days?

Scales: Yeah. And to some extent that's due that there has been a big run up in the effort by Iraqi security forces to protect polling places, to protect election officials, to protect various political entities in Iraq. You know, in many ways, this upcoming election for the Iraqi military is almost a litmus test or an opportunity to sort of prove that they have matured to the point where they can begin to take over control of the security function in Iraq. So, this is very important. It's important for the insurgents to do whatever they can to disrupt the election, but it's even more important for the security forces to prove they're getting the right stuff.

FoxNews: I think it's pretty obvious from President Bush's poll numbers that a lot of people are getting weary of his line, that you know the Iraqis will take over security for themselves and American troops will be able to pull out. You have been over there. You have seen how they're doing. How would you assess it?

Scales: First of all, it's important not to pay attention to the numbers. The numbers have gone up. There are 117 battalions, 80 or so are in the field. But what I paid attention to as a soldier what are the intangibles like all of the things that make an army effective in combat, will to win, courage, leadership, bonding cohesion, patriotism and nationalism, the things that make an army fight for something other than pay. And for the unit that I visited, the ninth mechanized division in Taji, north of Baghdad, I saw a lot of that. I saw commanders who had the fire in their gut and wanted to take on the insurgency and wanted to get this war over with. And many of these senior leaders had suffered at the hands of Saddam. One colonel I met over there actually had his daughter murdered, as she was coming up to Taji to visit him. These are guys who have an incentive that's fairly unique. They want to see the insurgency over with. They want to win it, and increasingly, they want to take charge.

FoxNews: One of the most diverse organizations in America, really, is the military. What about over there?..Do you have Sunni brigades and Shiite brigades? How does it work?

Scales: You know, it's very interesting. Again, the division I visited, the ninth division, has soldiers from every ethnic persuasion. They have soldiers who come from every province in Iraq. In fact, the motto of the division is "Iraq First" which is very interesting. The Iraqis have gone out of their way to try to make their units as diverse as they can. And that's a good thing. Because if you have a diverse unit in, say, a Sunni area keeping the peace, that has a lot more effect than a Shia unit in a Sunni area. So it's very important to send the right message for the Iraqi security forces to the Iraqi people. By the way, Jon, it's interesting to note the approval rating for the Iraqi military, based on the last poll, hovers around 80 percent.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Maginnis on CNN/Europe

Time: 1637

Reporter: It's a very important development that of course is the referendum vote Iraqi authorities have imposed an overnight curfew they've shut down their borders all of that is part of that heightened security that's designed to upkeep the voters safe from insurgent attacks as they make their way to the polls for more let's bring in Robert Maginnis retired Lieutenant Colonel with the U.S. Army. Now you just returned from Iraq and you are joining us now from Washington. When you look at the country (Iraq) there are some misgivings of whether this is going to calm the situation make any better or hold the potential of making things worse. What was the sense when you were there?

Maginnis: Well it is of a toss up, Jim, the reality is that the Iraqi security forces have increased since the last election in January they'll be far more capable in the streets they are, of course, more polling stations. At the same time, Zarqawi and his group continued there IED attacks or suicide attacks. I met with the ambassador to the US over there about the deal that was struck this week with the Sunnis so some of the Sunnis are apparently going to vote "yes" in this referendum. It's as yet to be determined how many of those but we do have about 15.6 people registered and last time only 8 million people voted but I am optimistic but a lot could go wrong.

Reporter: All right you know the fundamental question that people have today is whether or not the situation is improving. You know you read about and you hear about IEDs and the car bombings of civilian casualties but is there any sense that those are Iraqi security forces are getting a grip on the situation and we are winning?

Maginnis: Jim last weekend I was with the Iraqi ninth division north of Baghdad, these folks are filled with nationalism and with a will power, with capability. The division commanders said seventy-five percent of his soldiers were in the old army but they're being retrained and he thinks they are far more capable. You know just here recently Tal Afar was led by an Iraqi division with US support. So you know after talking with the Minister of Defense he said look we have over a hundred battalions that are out there he engaged in the battle they're getting better every day our numbers are going to continue to increase and he is confident that not only will the number of attacks go down but the presence of Iraqi forces will really win the hearts of the Iraqi people and things will begin to improve so we'll have to see

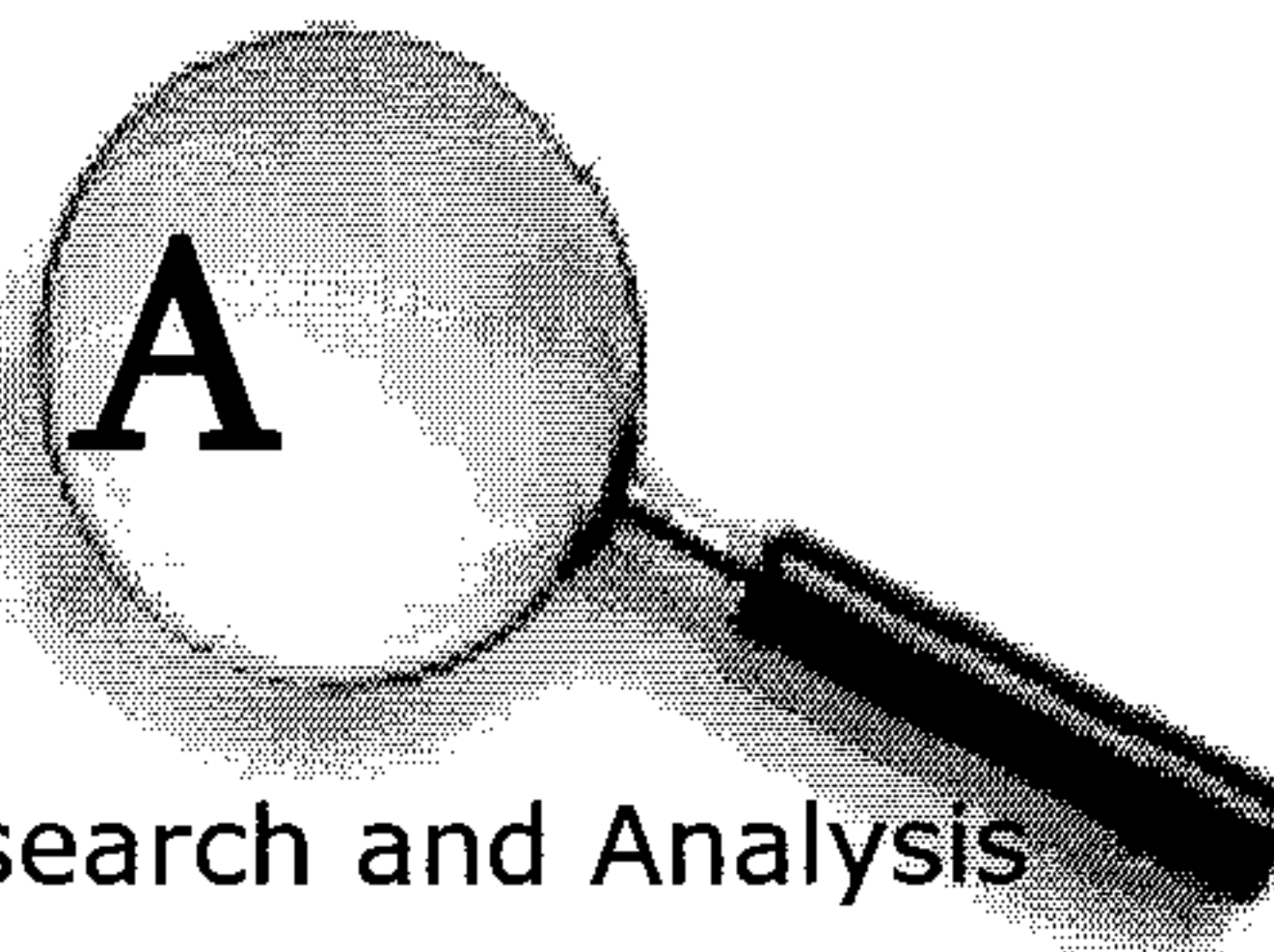
Reporter: Now you spent a lot of their time too I know with US troops, one of the questions has been as the president's popularity has declined so the polls show him at about thirty-nine percent approval rating. Iraq is the leading concern among the American public, the soldiers were they come and all of this? Are they perhaps as looking on this is darkly what is their personal involvement?

Maginnis: Jim I talked of soldiers that have been wounded this past week and their morale is pretty good. I talked to the third infantry division there in Baghdad and elsewhere all over the country, I was impressed with these people, they are resilient. All they are saying to the American public is don't let the Zarqawi and the insurgencies rule the will of the American people. They want America to support the effort they say that we need to stay in long term and they're very optimistic. And I know that may sound odd to people across the world but morale among the soldiers, they feel if they have the support of the American people then they can stay the course. You know there's a controversial letter that was intercepted the one written by Zarqawi to the number two in Al Qaeda allegedly telling them you know think about it before you start targeting more innocent civilians in Iraq because it's backfiring we talked to the commanding generals only that they have the sense that the public mood in Iraq is shifting because of that?

Maginnis: Look at Ramadi, Fallujah or even Tal Afar you know the people are calling in and reporting the Jihadist...they went into the middle of the city in the marketplace and blew themselves up and killed thirty innocent Iraqi women and children. You know they're not after the Iraqi government or the Iraqi security forces they are after innocents. So yes they are finding far more cooperation among Iraqis even in Anbar province and the province in the north which, of course, is in the heart of the resistance. So you know from our perspective those commanders are saying you know we're moving in the right direction they're not saying we're going to withdraw American forces tomorrow but they're saying major efforts and major successes have been taking place.

Reporter: We're going to have to leave it there. Lieutenant Colonel Robert Maginnis, thank you very much for being with us.

P A R **A**



Public Affairs Research and Analysis

Military Analyst Media Coverage Wrap-Up

Weekend Commentary-Iraq Referendum

October 18, 2005

This report takes a look at overall coverage numbers and weekend commentary (October 15-16) by military analysts who recently visited Iraq. As a control group, we have also provided some insight into commentary (or lack there of) of those military analysts who did not travel to Iraq right before the referendum.

Total Coverage (Oct. 11-16)				
<i>Analyst</i>	<i>Television</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Print</i>	<i>Online</i>
Montgomery Meigs	1	0	0	0
Robert Scales	3	0	0	0
Don Shepperd	8	2	0	0
Chuck Nash	1	0	0	0
John Garrett	0	0	0	0
Robert Maginnis	1	0	1	0
Weekend Coverage (Oct. 15-16)				
Montgomery Meigs	1	0	0	0
Robert Scales	1	0	0	0
Don Shepperd	6	0	0	0
Chuck Nash	0	0	0	0
John Garrett	0	0	0	0
Robert Maginnis	0	0	0	0

HIGHLIGHTS

Bob Scales:

- The insurgency is on “a slow downward decline,” because the Americans and the Iraqis are working together.
- Feels optimistic that the Iraqi troops are up to speed “in terms of the intangibles” - willingness to fight for a cause, courage, cohesion, and “the bottom line is yes - these guys want to fight.”

Montgomery Meigs:

- Things were better than he thought they'd be in Iraq.
- They have secured "roughly 100 people connected to Zarqawi's networks...in the last 10 months...that's amazing."
- U.S. troops will be in Iraq through the first government term, through the next four years, but with significantly less troops. As Iraqi forces get better and stronger, U.S. troops will be drawing down.
- A positive sign is that lots of Iraqi troops, instead of U.S. forces, are leading battles in certain areas, including recently in the successful Tal Afar situation.

Donald Shepperd:

- Very difficult (for the Iraqi people) to elect a competent government that is not corrupt and gaining confidence of the people will take time
- Iraqi forces just need to be better than the insurgents; not as good as U.S. soldiers (in response to "readiness numbers").
- The Iraqi security forces, both the police and the military are getting better and more capable and this is their second election. They learned from the last one.
- I see a rapid acceleration of the training and the capabilities of Iraqi forces over there. The ones I visited were really good and very motivated.
- We must not set a date on troop withdrawal.

Other Military Analyst Coverage

As a means of comparing the analysis provided by the six persons who recently traveled to Iraq, we also looked for commentary by six other retired military personnel who regularly appear on television, in print, or on line. We chose Ken Allard, Jed Babbin, Bill Cowan, Gordon Cucullu, Barry McCaffrey, and Wayne Simmons. We found a combined total of one item among the six. This was a short excerpt in a piece Jed Babbin wrote on Sunday about Washington, DC, politics (see below).

Excerpt from *The American Spectator* online (posted today but written 10/15)

The unrestrained glee among the Sunday morning liberal talking heads at the Miers-driven internecine war among conservatives was equaled only by their celebration of the possible (and possibly imminent) indictments of White House staffers in the Plame leak investigation. Those political currents swept away the topic of the Iraqi constitutional referendum, which seems to have been an unqualified success. **At this writing -- Sunday afternoon** -- we don't know the result. Regardless of whether the constitution was ratified, about 60 percent of Iraq's eligible voters -- roughly 9 million people -- braved the insurgents' threats and voted. Even in the Sunni provinces, the turnout was reportedly that high or higher. No matter how the vote turns out, this is an overwhelming victory over the terrorists, whose murder campaign failed to keep the Sunnis out of the political process. This vote doesn't preclude failure of democracy in Iraq, but it makes it much less likely. The Sunnis -- and the other Iraqi ethnic groups -- will long remember this vote as a

milestone on their path to freedom and self-government. Their memory is bound to last longer than that of Judith Miller.

Note: General Tommy Franks appeared on Fox News on Sunday morning, in part to talk about the newly issued paperback edition of his book. In response to questions about the elections, he provided supportive answers, such as; it shows “the strategy is working.” Additionally, Rick Francona was later discovered to have multiple television clips on MSNBC. Generally, his commentary was about the referendum process and the insurgency. Unlike the traveling military analysts, he had much less focus on troop levels and Iraqi troop readiness.

Weekend Television Coverage

(Link to Actual Coverage on Fox, CNN and MSNBC)

Robert Scales:

Fox News -- On the Record With Greta Van Susteren

10/15/05 03:57:05

Donald Shepperd:

CNN -- Live Saturday

10/15/05 16:20:53

CNN -- Live Saturday

10/15/05 12:08:31

CNN -- Saturday Morning

10/15/05 07:48:53

CNN -- Dolans Unscripted

10/15/05 10:18:43

CNN -- Live Saturday

10/15/05 18:37:57

CNN -- Dolans Unscripted

10/15/05 10:07:59

Montgomery Meigs:

MSNBC -- Hardball

10/15/05 03:57:04

Analysis of Military Analyst Trips to Iraq
from January, October and December 2005

Overview

Commentary from all three Iraq trips was extremely positive overall, with analysts discussing progress on several fronts. Discussion focused on: the Iraqi elections, training of security forces, overall security/violence situation and the long-term strategies regarding transfer of responsibilities to Iraqi forces and the eventual U.S. troop drawdown.

Highlights from each trip include:

January 2005

- *Coalition forces providing security for the January 30 vote:* “Iraqi forces are taking the initiative”
- *Turnout for the vote –* “It may have turned out better than we think”
- *Training of Iraqi security forces:* “We are moving aggressively...” “We have seen good results... our primary goal right now is to build an effective fighting force in the Iraqi Army...”
- *Overall security/violence situation:* “Fallujah is the safest city in Iraq right now...the Marines are controlling it...they are doing such a great job”
- *Troop morale:* There are “good, highly motivated kids doing a mission and they feel strongly about it”

October 2005

- *Support from the Iraqi people:* “They say that we need to stay in long term and they're very optimistic”
- *Situation looking better overall:* Things were better than analysts thought...the insurgency is “on a downward trend”
- *Training of Iraqi forces:* U.S. troops will draw down as Iraqi forces get better and stronger... “They are very well led and highly motivated... getting up to speed very quickly”
- *Iraqi forces leading battles:* It’s “a positive sign that Iraqi troops are leading battles in certain areas, including recently in the successful Tal Afar situation”
- *The upcoming vote:* So many people have registered that “even if they vote this thing down, it is a win”... the Iraqi people “feel good about the future”
- *Long term strategy:* “We must not set a date on troop withdrawal”

December 2005

- *Support from the Iraqi people:* The U.S. troops feel that “life is getting better for Iraqis”
- *Situation is improving:* “The three tier strategy (political, economic and security) is working”
- *Iraqi security forces improving:* “The Iraqi security forces are much better than they were six months ago...” “The U.S has transferred authority of a key border town (between Iraq and Syria) to Iraqi forces”
- *Transfer of military responsibilities:* “The Iraqis have made remarkable military progress there. They're now in effective control of a third of the country”

ATTRIBUTED QUOTES

PART I – JANUARY TRIP

Steven Greer

Fox News

- Iraq is a training ground but it is not a breeding ground for terrorists.
- Part of the issue is that inside of Iraq you have terrorists flooding in from other nation states... because nation states like Syria are reluctant to do anything.

Paul Vallely

Fox DaySide with Linda Vester

- We're training more battalions each month. I saw many Iraqi soldiers out there, National Guard. They're doing the security work for the convoys over there. I saw them in downtown Fallujah, we're trying to put the best Iraqi face out there, and that's what we need to do, so the Iraqis are very active, they're very active in the polling stations, in getting those set up throughout the country for the election. So they're taking the initiative finally.
- (When asked about Baathists in Syria still funding the insurgency): The situation with Syria is very bad, and we need to really take some action over there in some ways because they're fueling the fires there.
- I was very comfortable with the January 30 vote. I think it may be better than we think but there will be problems up in that area only because of registration.

Fox DaySide with Linda Vester

- (About the threat of insurgents for the January election): We had great meetings with the first cavalry division and the Marines up in Fallujah. They're doing so many things, but it's security, it's finding the bad guys. We're finding there's more foreigners now than we thought that have come across the borders, so they're working it and doing a great job but what they're doing for the people we can talk about.
- Fallujah is the safest city they say in Iraq right now. The Marines control it. Now the citizens are starting to come back into the neighborhoods, they're being given identification cards...
- I can't say enough about the marines up there doing a great job, the men and women. It's just fantastic.

Bill Cowan

Fox News – Heartland with John Kasich

- We have seen good results with the Iraqi security forces training we have done.
- Our primary goal now in Iraq besides reconstruction employment and all other things has to be build an effective fighting force with the Iraqi army.
- I met with young troops, young troops in the reserves over there who had nothing bad to day. Good, highly motivated kids doing a mission and they felt strongly about it.

Fox and Friends

- (On the differences now from his last visit to Iraq): Seeing what's happening to the Iraqi security forces, how we're really moving forward aggressively... putting advisors alongside the Iraqi forces bolsters their offense, capabilities and confidence, putting together quick reaction forces, so when they run into trouble, they have folks to help them out.
- We now have better communications, better equipment, getting things ready for the Iraqis to take over more responsibilities.

PART II – OCTOBER TRIP

Robert Maginnis

The Washington Times – Inside the Ring

- The soldiers expressed frustration with the fact that most of the U.S. news coverage about Iraq is bad, which contradicts their firsthand view.

CNN/Europe

- I was impressed with these people, they are resilient. All they are saying to the American public is don't let the Zarqawi and the insurgencies rule the will of the American people. They want America to support the effort they say that we need to stay in long term and they're very optimistic. And I know that may sound odd to people across the world but morale among the soldiers, they feel if they have the support of the American people then they can stay the course.

Montgomery Meigs

MSNBC - Hardball

- Things were better than he thought they'd be in Iraq.
- They have secured roughly 100 people connected to Zarqawi's networks...in the last 10 months...that's amazing.
- U.S. troops will be in Iraq through the first government term, through the next four years, but with significantly less troops. As Iraqi forces get better and stronger, U.S. troops will be drawing down.
- A positive sign is that lots of Iraqi troops, instead of U.S. forces, are leading battles in certain areas, including recently in the successful Tal Afar situation.

William Nash

Fox and Friends

- There's so much difference between now and the vote, the election back in January, the biggest difference in this is number one, the Iraqi population is leaning very far forward to vote, over 88% of the people in Iraq are registered to vote and intend to.
- The bottom line effect of that is we now have the vast majority, probably much higher than in this country ever go out and vote, are going to go out and vote, so even if they vote this thing down, it is a win, and the reason why I say that, and I know it sounds like spin, but the object is to get a representative government, then you need all of the people out and voting ...

Bob Scales

Fox Special Report with Brit Hume

- They (the Iraqi troops) are nationalists. And they want to get rid of the insurgents just as badly as we do. They are very well led and highly motivated.
- We looked at the Iraqi troop training, their will to win, the courage factor, bonding, and cohesion, and leadership, and all those intangibles that really make an army effective, rather than just, you know, "How are they equipped?" And, frankly, what I saw was very encouraging.
- The insurgency is on a steady downward trend, mainly because U.S. forces and Iraqi forces have been successful in cleaning out the ratlines...

Fox News Live

- First of all, it's important not to pay attention to the numbers. The numbers have gone up. ... But what I paid attention to as a soldier what are the intangibles like all of the things that make an army effective in combat, will to win, courage, leadership, bonding cohesion, patriotism and nationalism, the things that make an army fight for something other than pay. And for the unit that I visited, the ninth mechanized division in Taji, north of Baghdad, I saw a lot of that.
- The approval rating for the Iraqi military, based on the last poll, hovers around 80 percent.

Fox News, On the Record with Greta Van Susteren

- The insurgency is on a slow downward decline, because the Americans and the Iraqis are working together.
- Optimistic that the Iraqi troops are up to speed in terms of the intangibles - willingness to fight for a cause, courage, cohesion, and the bottom line is yes - these guys want to fight.

Don Shepperd

CNN Daybreak

- The only strategy that the insurgents have is the strategy of death and violence. That is not a winning strategy. It's a painful strategy, and it certainly will work for a while. But the Iraqi people, at least the ones that I've talked to, are really, really getting tired of this. And I think you are -- I'm encouraged and optimistic for the first time in a long, long time that the Iraqis are going to pull off -- they're going to pull off the election.
- We've got impressions that the Iraqi forces are not good. The training is not going well. From everyone that we talked to, nothing could be further from the truth. These guys are good. They're coming up to speed very, very quickly. And if they do come up to speed as planned, I think you'll see some major troop withdrawal starting the first part of next year, and then gradually continuing. But we're still going to be there for a few years.

CNN - Live From

- (The insurgents) are no match for U.S. forces and won't be for a long, long time, but they can do things that U.S. forces cannot do... (Iraqi forces) training is going well, and I think you're going to see a spread of security by the Iraqis themselves next year and that's the key to getting this insurgency done. Them, not us.
- Insurgents have not taken over police stations or done large movements or actions in the last several months.

CNN Live Saturday

- Polls that are valid indicate the Iraqis are much more confident about their future than Americans are about ours. They feel good about the future which is very, very interesting to me.
- The same polls indicate they have almost no confidence in U.S. forces and very good confidence in their Iraqi forces, and think - as you see the Iraqi forces begin to build and have success that their confidence will increase even more. Clearly they want us gone, Clearly we want to be gone, and our success will be when we can leave and they're strong enough to succeed after we leave.

CNN Live Saturday

- I was very encouraged by what I saw of the Iraqi security forces.
- Just like everywhere else, war is easy. Running a country is really hard. ... The most important thing that's going on in Iraq is not the security forces. It's not even the insurgency. It's being able to elect a competent government that is not riddled with corruption (and) that gains the confidence of the people ...

CNN Saturday Morning

- Here's the toughest thing - electing a competent government that can gain the confidence of the people and run the country without corruption.

CNN Dolans Unscripted

- The insurgency is clearly not growing weaker but maintaining a certain level.
- Both the police and the military are clearly getting better and more capable.
- The key to American forces coming home is training the Iraqi forces and making them capable of taking over areas of cities and areas of the country; slowly turning the country back over to them.

CNN Live Saturday

- It (the election) came out smoother than what was predicted by the people I was with when I was over there.
- They (the Iraqis) say that they need us probably for another three to five years for logistical back up and that type of thing.

CNN Dolans Unscripted

- Very difficult (for the Iraqi people) to elect a competent government that is not corrupt and gaining confidence of the people will take time
- Iraqi forces just need to be better than the insurgents; not as good as U.S. soldiers (in response to "readiness numbers").
- The Iraqi security forces, both the police and the military are getting better and more capable and this is their second election. They learned from the last one.
- I see a rapid acceleration of the training and the capabilities of Iraqi forces over there. The ones I visited were really good and very motivated.
- We must not set a date on troop withdrawal.

BBC Radio

- They (the Iraqi officials) are all confident that the election will take place.

1010 WINS-AM, New York

- The Iraqis will be in charge of the voting stations and the U.S. forces will back them up in the outer ring with rapid reaction forces. They think they have a good plan.

- All indications are that the Sunnis will get out and vote.

PART III – DECEMBER TRIP

Jeffrey McCausland

WCBS – New York

- The U.S. troops I talked to feel that life is getting better for Iraqis

Steven Greer

Fox and Friends

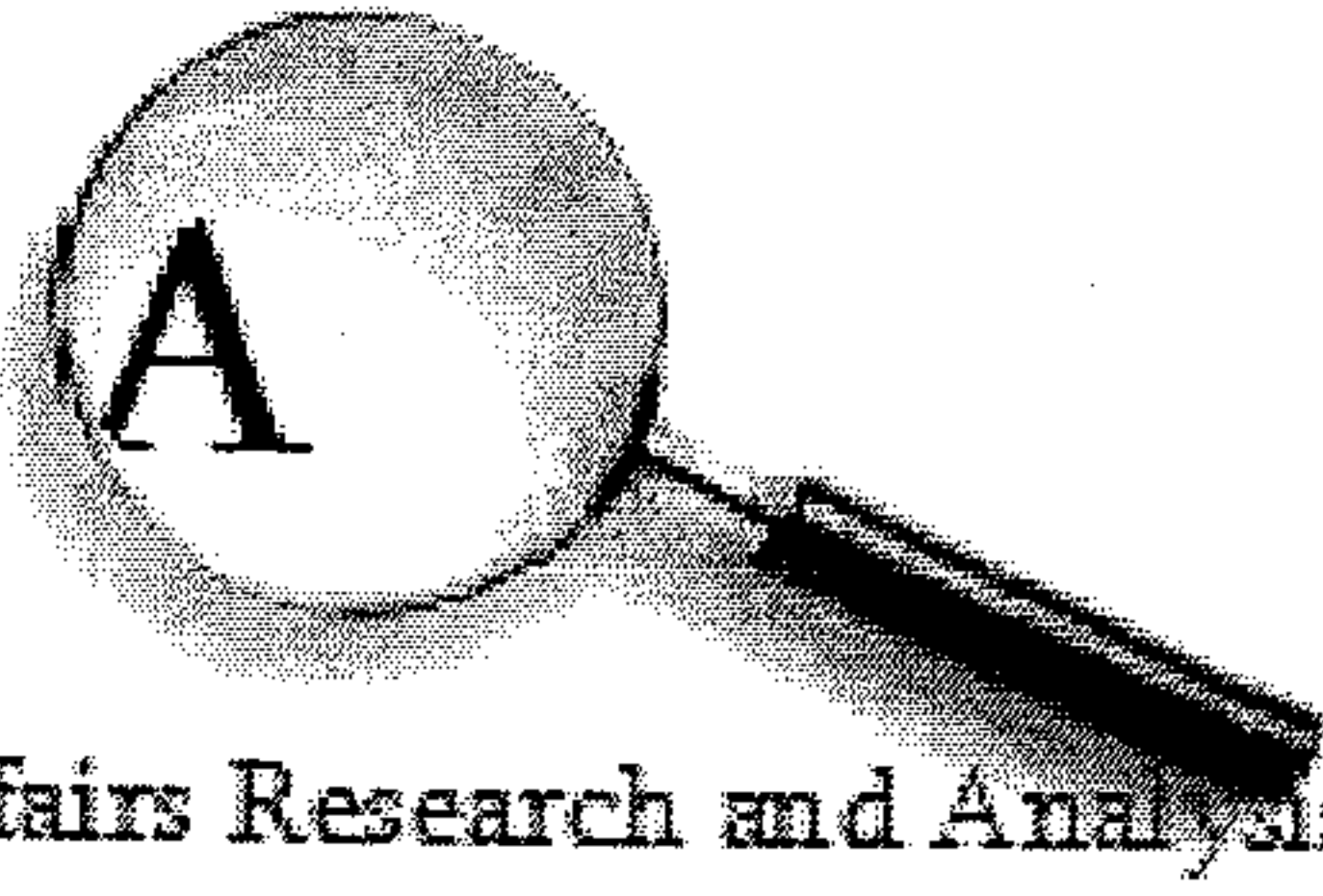
- The three tier strategy (political, economic and security) is working
- The Iraqi security forces are much better than they were six months ago
- The U.S has transferred authority of a key border town (between Iraq and Syria) to Iraqi forces and we have disrupted foreign fighters and terrorists coming from Syria

Colonel Kenneth Allard

MSNBC News Live

- This is actually the third election these people have had in the course of this year and by every account they've made remarkable progress
- Whether you like it or whether you don't, there's always that question as to whether this is going to be one country or three and this election is going to go a long way in determining that
- The Iraqis have made remarkable military progress there. They're now in effective control of a third of the country. There is effective control of about half of Baghdad itself but I would just tell you that is a very long road.

P A R A



Public Affairs Research and Analysis

SUMMARY

Commentary by military analysts briefed on the NSA domestic surveillance issue was light. Jed Babbin wrote a piece for American Spectator and was also featured on World Net Daily. In somewhat related coverage, his appearance on the Jon Batchelor radio show was discussed in the National Journal's Hotline and on Hugh Hewitt's radio show website, in which he alleged that Sen. Rockefeller was the NSA surveillance leak. In TV, CIA analyst Wayne Simmons argued on Fox News that the President needs a quicker way to surveil potential terrorist threats and that the hearings may be leaking sensitive intelligence to the enemy.

JED BABBIN

Getting With the NSA Program

(The American Spectator Online)... By Jed Babbin – February 6

Today's Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the NSA terrorist surveillance operation will utterly fail to address the two most important facts about it. Neither Attorney General Gonzales nor the senators questioning him will distinguish between a wartime intelligence gathering operation, which this is, and a broadly scoped peacetime law enforcement investigation, which this is not. And though it will shape the soundbites on which tonight's newscasts will ride, the tension -- no, the enmity -- that governs the administration's dealings with Congressional Dems will be displayed but not explained.

Last week, DNC Chairman Howard Dean said, "President Bush's secret program to spy on the American people reminds Americans of the abuse of power during the dark days of President Nixon..." It is only the most fevered liberal brows and the willfully ignorant -- in both of which categories Dr. Dean consistently fits -- who can make such an irrational and irresponsible comparison. As Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Pat Roberts (R-Kan) wrote to Dean on Friday, "Any suggestion that a program designed to track the movement, locations, plans or intentions of our enemy -- particularly those that have infiltrated our borders -- is equivalent to abusive domestic surveillance of the past is ludicrous. When Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson approved the electronic surveillance of Martin Luther King, those Presidents were targeting American citizens based on activities protected by the First Amendment. When President Richard Nixon used warrantless wiretaps, they were not directed at enemies that had attacked the United States and killed thousands of Americans." Unlike the Deanocrats, Roberts understands the differences between illegal searches that violate the Fourth Amendment and wartime intelligence gathering.

The NSA program is not intended to detect and punish past crimes. It is an intelligence program, designed -- like every such signals intelligence program has been since a telegrapher rode with Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry to give Stuart the benefit of intelligence gleaned by tapping into Union lines -- to discover the enemy's plans. NSA isn't wiretapping massive numbers of Americans' private conversations. It is listening in only to conversations in which at least one party -- and many times both -- are outside the United States and have been identified as connected somehow to al-Qaeda. Senior Justice Department officials told me on Friday that the program is carefully limited to that, and excludes all else. What NSA is doing, under presidential order, is gathering intelligence by listening to al-Qaeda communications between and among its commanders and operators overseas as well as those people in the United States who talk to them.

The program, according to these officials, works by detecting where the calls originate (at least by country) even where, as in too many instances, a cell phone is used from abroad that has a U.S. area code and number. Many of the intercepted conversations only pass through American fiber-optic lines and switchboard exchanges and have no one in the territorial U.S. participating at all.

The NSA operation is not a violation of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act because the president, as the courts have held, has the power to order warrantless surveillance of this type -- outside of FISA -- to gather intelligence. FISA is used, according to the Justice Department officials, whenever both sides to a conversation are in the United States.

FISA is an act of Congress. Because the president's authority to order this surveillance is granted by the Constitution, an act of Congress cannot limit it. FISA, moreover, is unsuitable to combat terrorists because its requirement to demonstrate probable cause cannot often be met. The NSA program is not directed at gathering evidence admissible in a court of law. It's directed at capturing, killing, or disrupting terrorists. As Attorney General Gonzales will testify today, "Congress and the American people are interested in two fundamental questions: is this program necessary and is it lawful? The answer to both questions is yes." FISA is a peacetime tool. We are at war.

WHEN ANY HIGH-LEVEL TERRORIST is captured or killed, it is not unusual for his cell phone (or phones) and computer to be seized. On them is usually found both telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. To our armed forces, that is tactical intelligence, in actionable form. If your cell phone was on Khalid Sheik Mohammed's speed dial, and you are in a place such as Afghanistan or Iraq, the good news is that you have by now been visited in the dark of night by some guys with painted faces who have killed you if they had to or grabbed you if they could and whisked you off to someplace such as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for interrogation and confinement. The bad news, for you and us, is that if they couldn't get to you, you have almost certainly reached the age of 16, as in F-16. And your intelligence is lost with you.

But the mere fact that your telephone number or e-mail address is found on a terrorist's electronic accessories, by itself, would not constitute probable cause justifying a FISA warrant to tap your phone or read your e-mail. It may suffice if other evidence is known that connects you to terrorist operations. But the time it takes to assemble the evidence and seek a FISA warrant can be days or weeks. By the time the FISA court acts, the opportunity to gather the intelligence is probably gone. There had to be another option. The NSA program is it. The NSA is, according to the Justice Department officials, gathering a lot of useful, valuable intelligence. If the president hadn't ordered it to do so, he wouldn't have been complying with his oath of office to protect and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

Some critics, including some conservative pundits such as George Will, have condemned the president for failing to seek congressional action to expand or change FISA to allow it to be used more broadly. In 2004, the Bush administration considered asking for just such action. The reason it did not is a fact congressional leaders of both parties ignore at their peril, and ours.

As the Attorney General will testify today, and as he has already said in response to questions by Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Penn.), consideration of legislative action on FISA was put aside because "members of Congress advised the Administration that more specific legislation could not be enacted without likely compromising the terrorist surveillance program by disclosing program details and operational limitations and capabilities to our enemies."

LOOSE CANONS HAS SAID, over and over again, that Congress is the source of leaks of many if not most of the top-secret information about the war on terror that has reached the press. The leak of the CIA terrorist detention centers in Europe and Asia probably came from the CIA. But the list of congressional leaks is long. Too long.

In December 2004, Loose Canons reported that Sens. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) -- vice-chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee -- along with Sens. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) were under criminal investigation for leaking a top-secret satellite program. Every indication is that the NSA program leak -- which CIA Director Goss said last week significantly damaged national security -- also came from the Hill. Leak after leak, as Loose Canons predicted more than a year ago, has reached a level that the executive branch cannot trust Congress to keep those secrets. And without that trust, Congress cannot be permitted to get the information that allows it to perform its constitutional oversight role. This is not, as Howard Dean insists, a rogue executive, out of control and violating the law. This is, as I will say again and again, a danger to our form of government that can only be met by the expulsion from Congress, and subsequent prosecution, of those members and staff who are responsible.

Today's hearing will feature the high-strung posturing of Democrats who have yet to say anything constructive about winning this war. The Dems will pound on Gonzales for refusing to discuss more classified details of the NSA program. There will be

misstatements, accusations, and hour after hour of dire predictions of the fall of the Republic if George Bush's imperial presidency isn't reined in. Republicans will try to ask supportive questions, and only confuse things further. The AG will do his lawyerly best, but because he can't say much about the program, which remains highly classified, his answers will seem flat and desultory.

The Dems will earn their places on CBS, CNN and the rest tonight and in the New York Times tomorrow, which is their only goal. It would be far better for these senators and their Republican counterparts to clean their own house, and get on with their jobs. It's their war too, even if many don't seem to think so.

TAS contributing editor Jed Babbin is the author of *Inside the Asylum: Why the UN and Old Europe Are Worse Than You Think* (Regnery, 2004).

Big mouths in Congress inhibit secret-sharing

(WorldNetDaily)...Jon Dougherty – February 8

As the Senate Intelligence Committee continues its probe into a controversial National Security Agency eavesdropping program, a former Pentagon official says the Bush administration has found it increasingly difficult to share top-secret information with Congress out of fear it will be leaked to the press.

Jed Babbin, a one-time deputy undersecretary of defense in the administration of George H. W. Bush, told WorldNetDaily fear of congressional leaks are what prevented the current White House from pursuing legislation specifically authorizing an NSA electronic-monitoring program ordered by President Bush in the wake of the 9-11 attacks. Details of that highly classified program were leaked to The New York Times more than a year before the paper eventually reported them in December. Since then, the administration has weathered a firestorm of protest over what Democrats and some Republicans say is a violation of U.S. law prohibiting such monitoring without a warrant from a special, secret court.

The Bush administration has argued the president was given broad authority to fight the war on terror when Congress authorized him to "use all necessary and appropriate force" against "those nations, organizations, or persons he determines" responsible for the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

"The use of signals intelligence – intercepting enemy communications – is a fundamental incident of waging war," Attorney General Alberto Gonzales wrote in the Wall Street Journal on Monday, in defense of the program.

Some lawmakers and policy analysts have discounted that interpretation.

Still, in order to placate opposing members of Congress, the White House had considered amending the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 – the legislation opponents say Bush violated – to cover the current NSA operation. But, says Babbin, that idea was

abandoned because it would require the administration to divulge more details about the program – details administration officials believed could again be leaked to the press.

Federal intelligence officials have publicly expressed similar concerns about leaks. Porter Goss, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, told a Senate committee earlier this month unauthorized leaks of CIA operations have caused "severe damage," adding that journalists who report them should be subject to questioning by a grand jury.

Regarding recent and past disclosures, Goss – a former chairman of the House Intelligence Committee – said "the damage has been very severe to our capabilities to carry out our mission."

"It is my aim and it is my hope that we will witness a grand jury investigation with reporters present being asked to reveal who is leaking this information," he told members of the Senate intelligence panel. "I believe the safety of this nation and the people of this country deserves nothing less."

Babbin suggested past and present unauthorized disclosures of classified information may even be connected to the Senate intelligence panel's No. 2 man: Sen. John Rockefeller, D-W.Va.

Babbin told WorldNetDaily that Rockefeller – along with Sens. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Ron Wyden D-Ore. – "is the subject of a criminal referral as a result of a leak of a very highly classified, top-secret satellite program" – a probe he believes is ongoing that was launched by the Justice Department the first week of December 2004.

"The formal request for a leaks investigation would target people who described sensitive details about a new generation of spy satellites to the Washington Post, which published a Page 1 story about the espionage program Saturday [Dec. 11, 2004]," the Associated Press reported on the probe at the time. The Post reported the National Reconnaissance Office, which operates U.S. spy satellites, made the request.

And, Babbin said, while there's no "hard evidence" to indicate Rockefeller was involved in leaking the NSA program details to the Times, he adds that sources within the intelligence community have indicated their suspicions to him, though he declined to identify them.

Rockefeller's office did not respond to repeated phone calls and e-mail requests for comment. The Justice Department also did not respond to a request to confirm or deny details regarding the criminal referral.

"I do ... think it is very revealing when you have the attorney general of the United States answering written questions to [Pennsylvania Republican Sen.] Arlen Specter the week before the hearings, and says one of the reasons [the administration] did not go to the Hill and ask for legislation to modify the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act is that they

feared any further disclosure to Congress would be leaked," Babbin told WND. "I think then Congress has a very big problem there because they are unable to do their constitutional oversight function of the executive branch."

Added Babbin: "If you can't tell the Hill what you're doing, you've got a constitutional problem."

For his part, Rockefeller – one of a very few members of Congress briefed on the NSA spy program – said in a Dec. 19, 2005, statement that, when he first learned of the surveillance program on July 13, 2003, he immediately expressed "serious concerns about the nature of the program as well as Congress' inability to provide oversight" to the White House.

"The record needs to be set clear that the administration never afforded members briefed on the program an opportunity to either approve or disapprove the NSA program," he said. "The limited members who were told of the program were prohibited by the administration from sharing any information about it with our colleagues, including other members of the intelligence committees."

Rockefeller maintains he voiced concerns about the program to Vice President Dick Cheney, specifically "that the limited information provided to Congress was so overly restricted that it prevented members of Congress from conducting meaningful oversight of the legal and operational aspects of the program."

Said Rockefeller: "These concerns were never addressed, and I was prohibited from sharing my views with my colleagues."

As to the overall legality of the NSA program, experts say Bush was operating within constitutional and statutory parameters.

"Gathering signal intelligence has been an important constitutional power exercised by the president since President Washington first intercepted signal intelligence from the British," says former Bush White House special adviser Ron Christie, author of "Black in the White House: Life Inside George W. Bush's West Wing."

"President Lincoln intercepted telegraph cables during the Civil War, and President Wilson ordered all cable communication from America and Europe to be intercepted," he said. "In the war against terrorism, President Bush is lawfully carrying out his duties as commander in chief to institute a narrow intercept of foreign intelligence information against terrorists abroad or within the United States who seek to harm us."

Retired federal Judge Charles Pickering told WorldNetDaily focus on the NSA operation is not only too political, it is keyed into the wrong issues.

"I haven't heard anyone seriously question the fact that the president has the constitutional authority" to order the NSA surveillance program, said Pickering, author of "Supreme Chaos: The Politics of Judicial Confirmation & the Culture War."

"The only argument I'm hearing is whether or not the president complied with congressional statutes. So it's really a tug-of-war between the executive and legislative branch as to who gets to call the shots," he said.

"I don't want Big Brother snooping in on my telephone calls," said the former federal judge, "but I sure do want Big Brother to protect me from terrorists."

"The irony here is that for four years Congress has known this is going on, and not one peep until the New York Times ran an article," said Pickering. "Unfortunately, everything – confirmation of judges, the conduct of the war on terror – has become so politicized, it's hard for the American people to get a straight answer."

As to leaks, Babbin – writing Monday in the American Spectator, said he has repeatedly stated "that Congress is the source of leaks of many if not most of the top-secret information about the war on terror that has reached the press. The leak of the CIA terrorist detention centers in Europe and Asia probably came from the CIA. But the list of congressional leaks is long. Too long.

"Every indication is that the NSA program leak ... also came from the Hill," he continued. "Leak after leak ... has reached a level that the executive branch cannot trust Congress to keep those secrets."

Secondary topic in Jed Babbin coverage - for situational awareness purposes

Jon Batchelor Show - Friday, February 3

(Lists that Babbin was a guest on the John Batchelor radio show – transcript not available)

10:50: Jed Babbin, *Author & Nationally Syndicated Columnist*, The National Security Agency wiretap scandal is less of a scandal than the media makes it to be.

Eavesdropping II: Smoking Out Jay?

(National Journal Group – The Hotline) - February 6

* Also covered on Hugh Hewitt's radio program on February 3

Hugh Hewitt, on 2/4: "The American Spectator's Jed Babbin was on John Batchelor's radio show yesterday, and stated that the intel community believes West Virginia Senator Jay Rockefeller is the leaker who illegally supplied the New York Times with the details of the NSA program. ... When the crime was bribery (Abscam) no one protested that a sitting U.S. Senator ought not to be a target. If the crime is much more serious -- and this is -- purported good intentions should not shield the suspect. Has any member of the press asked Rockefeller point blank if he's the law breaker yet?"

TELEVISION

Fox News -- Your World With Neil Cavuto

02/07/06 05:00:49

NEIL CAVUTO: From Washington former CIA operative Wayne Simmons and P.J. Crowley the National Director of Homeland Defense at the Center for American Progress. Wayne, you first, what do you think of the hearings?

WAYNE SIMMONS: I think they are a waste of times. Taxpayers have better things to spend their time on such as those of Mr. Crowley's position (those on the left). The democrats know that everything that the president is doing is legal. He knows that the members of congress who need to be informed are being informed and that the president has absolute authority to conduct such foreign intelligence surveillance. So, it's a waste of time.

NEIL: P.J., do you think that just the idea of everything being second-guessed on the security front is damaging or no?

P.J. Crowley: I think that the exercise democracy how can we call that damaging to national security? What we saw today is precisely why the United States is going to win the war on terror because we are showing the terrorists this is how you function in a rule of law. We have co-equal branches of government unless Wayne wants to change the constitution and today congress was doing its job. I would point out this is not a partisan hearing at all. I think it was a sobering analysis by some very concerned senators on the right, left, democrats, and republicans. You know, for example Lindsey Graham republican of South Carolina said it best I thought he said in a time of war you need checks and balances more than ever. This is what we saw today.

NEIL: Wayne?

WAYNE: Neil, we already have the president has been given authorization for the use of military force granted by congress after 9/11. He already has that power to protect the nation. What concerns me is that this is nothing more than a fishing expedition on the part of the left to force the right into these hearings when they don't need these hearings. Because trust me when I tell you as we all know there are those on the left who are involved in these hearings and then miraculously they are letting out bits and pieces of Intel. That is what concerns me. We don't need these hearings. Let the president do his job and continue to make us safer.

NEIL: P.J.?

P.J.: Again, I don't know maybe Wayne and I just saw different hearings. Orin Hatch said there are different constitutional issues at stake here and even Alberto Gonzalez himself said this is very complex. It's important for to us understand I agree fully that the N.S.A. should be doing what they are doing. We should be listening to al Qaeda but where we are clearly adapting the way that we operate as an intelligence community we have to make sure that we have a legal foundation for it. If we want to change the laws that allow the N.S.A. to do more, even today in this hearing, you know, some senators said, hey, if you are listening to al Qaeda calls where one end is in the United States and the other end is not, what about listening to calls where al Qaeda (both ends) are in the

United States? Shouldn't you have that authority, too? I just think this is not about politics.

NEIL: P.J., can I ask you this?

P.J.: This is about making sure what we are doing as a nation of laws is right for the country.

NEIL: I do want to get this out because I'm curious. P.J., where was this condemnation when Franklin Roosevelt was doing it; when John Kennedy was doing it and Lyndon Johnson. In other words, it's bad when republicans are doing this but it's not bad when democrats are?

P.J.: These are not the same things. You know in 1978 congress passed a law, the FISA Act. Now, the administration is coming back and saying, hey, here 25 years later, you know, FISA is still important said Gonzalez but it's in the way which, is fine. So if we think that we need to do things slightly differently because FISA says you can listen to a call that originates outside the United States but you can't listen to a call that originates inside the United States.

WAYNE: P.J., you are clearly confused. You are clearly confused. That's what's going on here, Neil. The left and those coming against the administration and trust me this is a partisan issue.

P.J.: Karl Rove is the only one that's made it a partisan issue.

WAYNE: Let me finish. The FISA Act is a very good tool for the president to use. That is just a tool but in order to use that tool, the attorney general has to know that the moment he presents that to the FISA court that he is going to get approval within 72 hours, that means that he has to have that entire case ready to present. So now what the president has done is said, look, that tool is too slow. I cannot protect America using the FISA courts in some instances. Therefore, under the authorization that he now has according to the constitution, he can immediately attack our enemy. No American is going to want the president to not attack our enemy.

P.J.: I agree with that.

NEIL: Guys, I wish we had more time. I want to thank you.

P.J.: There are other views.

NEIL: All right. Ok. Guys, thank you both very much you argued your positions well.

**Military Analysts in Coverage Regarding Their Meeting With The Secretary
April 18 – 19 (as of noon on the 19th)**

Summary

Retired Major General Donald W. Shepperd received the most airtime of the 15 attending military analysts, generating about 13 minutes of clips on CNN and Headline News on the 18th. Shepperd was followed by:

- Robert H. Scales appeared on NPR for roughly four minutes
- Robert Maginnis, who appeared on MSNBC for approximately three minutes
- Thomas McInerney, who appeared on Fox News for roughly three minutes
- Tom Wilkerson, who was on CNN's American Morning for about three minutes. Wilkerson was also quoted in a front page New York Times article by David S. Cloud

Generally speaking, all five of the analysts interviewed thought the meeting was productive and shared similar views. They agreed that:

- The Secretary was positive and not overly concerned with the generals' criticism
- The Secretary and General Pace felt they had consulted with military and other experts frequently and sufficiently on war strategy/plans
- The focus of the meeting was not on the generals' criticism, but on the more important topics at hand regarding Iraq – including forming a new government and getting the right messages out to the American public
- The meeting was productive, a chance to share ideas and the Secretary clearly listened to the analysts

Don Shepperd provided the most insight on details discussed during the meeting, followed by Tom Wilkerson and Robert H. Scales, while Thomas McInerney focused specifically on the Secretary's concern about setting up an Iraqi government. By comparison, Robert Maginnis spoke less about meeting specifics, including Iraq, and more about the generals' criticism of the Secretary.

Highlights

Jed Babbin

- No comments found

Frank B. Campbell

- No comments found

(Tim) J. Eads

- No comments found

John Garrett

- No comments found

William F. "Buck" Kernan

- No comments found

Robert L. Maginnis

- Secretary was both "forthcoming" and "energized"
- Secretary wondered "why these generals didn't, while they were on active duty, push back and ask these questions that they're raising after retirement"
- General Pace primarily talked about transformation and its necessity
- Repeated General Pace's point that troops on ground have not raised concerns about the civilian leadership and feel that generals do represent their best interest in Washington
- Pointed out that commanders have plenty of opportunities to express their opinions
- In response to questions of "being arrogant and dismissive" Maginnis reported that the Secretary was a "tough cookie," but a "reasoning man"

Jeff McCausland

- No comments found

Thomas McInerney

- The Secretary is "very concerned" that an Iraqi government is not yet formed, and knows things will "fall into place" after this happens.

Chuck Nash

- No comments found

William L. Nash

- No comments found

Robert H. Scales, Jr.

- In a "fairly unusual" occurrence, the Secretary spent a lot of time listening to the dialogue between himself and the analysts... it was a "very engaged give-and-take"
- The focus was not on the criticism of the Secretary, but on moving forward in Iraq
- The next "big thing" in Iraq as a sign of progress will be the formation of an Iraqi government
- While the Secretary has certainly instituted change, military changes began before his arrival – transformation, for example, began in the mid '90s – he was just continuing the efforts

Donald W. Shepperd

- The focus was on Iraq, and “things of concern” around the world – Afghanistan, piracy in the Pacific, things in the Southern Command
- Little focus on the generals’ controversy. However, although the Secretary and General Pace were in good moods, the Secretary is “clearly distracted” by it. He and General Pace are “puzzled” about where it’s coming from, as they thought they had been extremely “consultive” about strategy
- The analysts discussed the need to better communicate to the public about the importance of the war, and a “forward strategy”
- The analysts asked what are the next things coming up in terms of a milestone to mark progress – the answer was clearly setting up an Iraqi government and training Iraqi security forces
- General Pace reiterated the level of collaboration on war plans with the generals, combatant commanders, General Franks and others, who all “made their inputs, voiced their concerns...talked it out...we all had a hand in this”
- The Secretary and General Pace definitely see progress thus far in Iraq, and are hopeful that a new government will be in place soon
- This was the 16th meeting between the Secretary and analysts, of which the Secretary has attended all but one. The analysts also have regular teleconferences with briefers for Iraq background and Q and A sessions

Wayne Simmons

- No comments found

Martin Strong

- No comments found

Tom Wilkerson

- To call this is a “firestorm” of criticism is an exaggeration. There are some 7-8,000 retired Generals
- The criticism is at least a temporary distraction to the Secretary in that it takes time away from prosecuting the war in Iraq and the global war on terror
- The criticism misses the point because we are at a crucial stage in the change needed to bring Iraq back to self-sufficiency; that’s far more important than what happened in the past to an individual
- The meeting was a good exchange of views, with tough questions asked
- The Secretary appeared energized at the meeting rather than chastened
- The Secretary and General Pace emphasized that the big event to watch for in Iraq is the formation of the government there

Sources

Robert L. Maginnis

MSNBC: News Live – April 19, 9:35:48 AM (approximately three minutes)

“I've been meeting with Mr. Rumsfeld for over four years prior to the beginning of the war in Iraq. He's a tough cookie. He's a tough debate partner. He's a tough person when you ask a question. If you have your ducks in a row, then you can perhaps win or persuade him. He's a reasoning person, a very bright person but if you don't know what you're talking about, he's going to push back and rightly so.”

Thomas McInerney

Rumsfeld Not Considering Resigning – Associated Press, Robert Burns – April 19

** Reprinted by six print outlets*

...Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney, who is a Fox News commentator, said in an interview afterward that the calls from other retired generals for Rumsfeld to resign came up only briefly. "We didn't waste the secretary's time with that," he said, adding that he puts little stock in the criticisms because they come mostly from two-star generals who were not senior enough in rank to work directly for Rumsfeld.

Fox News: Special Report with Brit Hume – Aired 4/18/2006 6:08:46 PM, again on 4/19/2006 12:08:46 AM (approximately three minutes)

(clip of McInerney in a Bret Baier report)

...**LT. GEN. TOM MCINERNEY, US AIR FORCE RET.:** He is very concerned that it hasn't happened because he knows once we have a unity government, a lot of things will fall in place, and they're not falling in place now because the Iraqi people who have voted, 11 million voted, they've done their share, now it's up to the elected officials to do theirs.

Robert H. Scales

NPR's Morning Edition – April 19, 7:00 AM (approximately four minutes)

...**GENERAL SCALES:** I mean, the real question is to get on with the war, to look forward instead of backward, and to figure out where we're going, and to establish a secure Iraq that's defined by a free-market economy, representative government, and most of all, security. And, most of that discussion back-and-forth, between us, wasn't about his past record, but was questions from him about where we should be going in the future.

Donald Shepperd

Despite critics, he's staying put – Newsday, April 19, P. A24

...Retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd also said that it appeared Rumsfeld was mindful of the growing controversy around his stewardship of the Pentagon. "The secretary's clearly distracted by it, and worried about it," Shepperd said on CNN.

Rumsfeld takes on his critics - The Dallas Morning News, c/o Knight Ridder - April 18
At the meeting of military analysts, retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd, a military analyst for CNN, said Rumsfeld didn't bring up the calls for his resignation by the retired generals, but was "clearly distracted by it, and worried about it and concerned about it." "He listened to a lot of things from the group," Shepperd said, explaining that the session focused mainly on Iraq and what events might evolve there that would send encouraging signals back home. Shepperd reported that Rumsfeld said the formation of a new Iraqi government, stalled for months, would be such a new milestone.

CNN: Situation Room – April 18, 4:00 PM (approximately 3.5 minutes)

...**MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPPERD, U.S. AIR FORCE (RET.):** Everybody expected the headlines out of this to be that the secretary says the following things and the focus of the meeting was very little on that. It came up from time to time, mainly from our own questions, but basically the focus was on how the war in Iraq is going, how it would have been different in the past if, and that type of thing...

We basically offered our ideas about the fact of, look, the message is not getting out. If you say that we're doing well in the war, what is the message for the American people? What is the next thing the American people are going to see in the way of an event they can see some progress?

And the answer was unanimous from both the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and also the secretary. It's the formation of the Iraqi government. That's the next important event and from there, the continuing training of the Iraqi forces. That's the message, Wolf.

CNN -- Paula Zahn Now, April 18, 8:17:14 PM (approximately 2 minutes)

...**SHEPPERD:** If I could say one other thing about the session, I -- I honestly believe that the secretary and the chairman were both puzzled by this reaction from the generals. They didn't expect it. They don't know why. General Pace laid out all of the meetings that -- that the various high-level generals responsible for the war plans attended.

They went back and forth, a series of 40, 50, 60 meetings, before they made decisions.

They went over all of that. So, I -- I think they were -- they were puzzled about this.

We didn't challenge him from the standpoint, but we did say, look, it is very clear, in the American -- the eyes of the American people, that the impression is, this war is not going well. Your -- your message is not getting out. What are you going to do to change the message? What is the next visible thing that Americans are going to see that can give them some confidence?

CNN's The Situation Room April 18, 5:00 PM (approximately 5.5 minutes)

** Note: This clip is a roundtable discussion with Shepperd and two other military analysts*

SHEPPERD: I thought the focus of our meeting would be on the generals controversy calling for the resignation. He was very upbeat, he was humorous. He appeared very much as he did in the press conference. But he was very, very intense, Wolf, as he always is...

They (the Secretary and General Pace) feel that there's progress. Not light at the end of

the tunnel. They think it's going to be a long, hard struggle in many places. But what they said unanimously and immediately when we asked the question, what's the next big event that's going to take place? They said the formation of the Iraqi government is the most important. You can train all the Iraqi troops, but those troops have to be loyal to the government in which the people have confidence. They see that as the next big event before anything else can happen.

CNN Headline News 4/18/2006, 6:16:23 PM (approximately two minutes)

SHEPPERD: The headline out of the meeting was not what you'd expect. I thought it would be focused on the Generals' controversy, which did come up, but the Secretary did not seem embattled at all. He was affable, much like the Pentagon press conference that took place ahead of time. He seemed mystified by all of this and so did General Pace, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. They said there was plenty of consultation all along the way, plenty of consultation with the Generals and they don't know where this is coming from or why...

This is the 16th meeting that Secretary Rumsfeld has invited analysts to. I've been at 12 of them. He's been in all about but one of those 12. We have regular teleconferences not with the Secretary but with various briefers for background, giving us information on the war and we get a chance to ask questions.

Tom Wilkerson

CNN American Morning – April 19, 8:35 AM (approximately three minutes)

And one of the things emphasized is the most important thing to come in Iraq is about the formation of that government ...

"Here's Donny" - New York Times – April 19, page 1

"He said it's a diversion, and that it's taken him away from the full-time focus on things he needs to do," he said. Mr. Rumsfeld "was not chastened. If anything, he looked like he was energized by it."

**Military Analysts in Coverage Regarding Their Meeting With The Secretary
April 19 – 21 (as of 11:00 am on the 21st)**

Summary

Retired Major General Donald W. Shepperd and retired General Tom Wilkerson both received additional airtime on CNN's Anderson Cooper. They were both on a roundtable discussion with retired Lieutenant General Dan Christman, generating about 5 minutes of airtime. Overall, there has been a noticeable drop in coverage of the military analysts meeting with the Secretary.

Comments by Thomas McNerney, William Nash, Jed Babbin and Don Shepperd were reference in the April 19 edition of the National Journal's Hotline. Out of those four, Jed Babbin wrote an article for the Family Security Foundation focused primarily on the "generals' revolt" but referenced Tuesday's meeting.

On the issue of the meeting, all of the analysts commented that the Secretary did not act overly concerned with the criticism and was focused on more pressing matters. They all expanded their analysis to include thoughts concerning the reasons and impact of the so-called "generals' revolt" - generally agreeing that the issue of "ruffled feathers" over the Secretary's effort to transform the military probably played a significant role in the public criticism.

Highlights

Jed Babbin

- Calls for the resignation was not the focus of the meeting
- Babbin essentially argues that the "generals' revolt" was motivated by those in the Pentagon frustrated by the Secretary's efforts to transform the military
- At Tuesday meeting, he described the SecDef as "relaxed, warm, intense, responsive" and more "ebullient" than "beleaguered"
- He also argued that the so called generals' revolt had "blown itself out without noticeable effect"

Frank B. Campbell

- No comments found

(Tim) J. Eads

- No comments found

John Garrett

- No comments found

William F. "Buck" Kernan

- No comments found

Robert L. Maginnis

- No comments found

Jeff McCausland

- No comments found

Thomas McInerney

- No comments found

Chuck Nash

- No comments found

William L. Nash

- He said, "it was love-in"

Robert H. Scales, Jr.

- No comments found

Donald W. Shepperd

- Surprised that the focus was not on the generals' controversy – focus was on Iraq
- Asked about a recent Thomas Friedman op-ed that questioned the Secretary's effectiveness, particularly dealing with the Iran - Shepperd argued that the primary issue was not about Secretary Rumsfeld but that "we're tied up in Iraq"

Wayne Simmons

- No comments found

Martin Strong

- No comments found

Tom Wilkerson

- Reported that the criticism was at least a temporary distraction to the Secretary in that it took time away from prosecuting the war in Iraq and the global war on terror
- Noted that the meetings happened regularly and were not geared for supporters of the Secretary, but rather for former military people frequently commenting in the media
- Asked whether generals at the Pentagon were annoyed at the Secretary because of military transformation, Wilkerson replied that he doesn't see a large number of officers "standing at the gate to take their uniforms off and then publicly disagree with him"

- He pointed out that if the President asked the Secretary to resign it would “abrogate the policy that took him to war” and label the military transformation a “failure”

SOURCES

Jed Babbin

Keep the Big Dog Running – April 20

(Family Security Foundation)

I was among the military analysts who met with Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Peter Pace and Rumsfeld on Tuesday. I’ve seen Mr. Rumsfeld when he’s been agitated, pressured and even a bit down. But on Tuesday, he was relaxed, warm, intense, responsive in his normal rapid-fire way and even a bit funny. Ebullient is not the word one normally uses to describe a cabinet officer. But for Mr. Rumsfeld – when I met with him on Tuesday -- it was much more accurate description than the *New York Times*’ “beleaguered.”

National Briefing: RUMSFELD - Ch-Ch-Changes - 19 April 2006

(National Journal: The Hotline)

Ex-Reagan defense official Jed Babbin: "That certainly was not the central focus of the meeting."

Thomas McInerney

National Briefing: RUMSFELD - Ch-Ch-Changes - 19 April 2006

(National Journal: The Hotline)

According to McInerney, the calls for Rumsfeld's resignation “came up only briefly.” McInerney: “We didn't waste the secretary's time with that” (AP, 4/19)...McInerney said that “much of the meeting” focused on discussions with Rumsfeld and Pace about the global war on terrorism, and “improving communications about the effort” (Bloomberg, 4/18).

William Nash

National Briefing: RUMSFELD - Ch-Ch-Changes - 19 April 2006

(National Journal: The Hotline)

Nash: “It was a love-in.”

Donald Shepperd

CNN: Anderson Cooper 360 – April 19, 11:17:53 PM

* *Note: This clip is a roundtable discussion with Shepperd and two other military analysts*

COOPER: General Christman, in the "New York Times" today, Thomas Friedman wrote about how the perception of Rumsfeld could affect a possible threat from Iran, possible

OSD

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

military action in Iran. He wrote, in part, "...we will not have the support at home or abroad for that threat as long as Don Rumsfeld leads the Pentagon. No one in their right mind would follow this man into another confrontation -- and that is a real strategic liability." Rumsfeld supporters would say, look, any secretary of defense has critics. That comes with the job. Why is Rumsfeld any less effective than other tough secretaries of defense?

... **COOPER:** General Shepperd, what do you think?

MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPPERD, U.S. AIR FORCE (RET.): Well, I think Thomas Friedman's op-ed was a little bit off. And it doesn't make any difference who's secretary of defense, but clearly, Iran and the world know that the United States has got to get itself untangled from Iraq before it could ever do anything with Iran. So in that sense, they know that we're shackled. The fact that this is going on is certainly not helpful, but I don't think it centers on Secretary Rumsfeld. It centers on the fact that the war in Iraq is not perceived as going well, and we don't see a light at the end of the tunnel. To take the old phrase from Vietnam, and that's the problem. We're tied up in Iraq. We need to bring it to an acceptable conclusion before we can do anything else meaningful anywhere, especially anything military.

National Briefing: RUMSFELD - Ch-Ch-Changes - 19 April 2006

(National Journal: The Hotline)

Shepperd, on the meeting: "I was surprised. I thought the focus of this meeting would be on the generals' controversy. It was not. It was about Iraq, and the things going on there, and the things that they would like to see happen in the future" ("PZ Now," CNN, 4/18)

Tom Wilkerson

CNN: Anderson Cooper 360 – April 19, 11:17:53 PM

** Note: This clip is a roundtable discussion with Shepperd and two other military analysts*

COOPER: General Wilkerson, Secretary Rumsfeld has sort of implied in the last couple days that, you know, feathers are ruffled in the Pentagon because he's been transforming the military. My reading is military transformation started before Rumsfeld became secretary of defense. Do you think it is true to say that he's just been so tough about transformation that, you know, a lot of these generals who have their feet in the mud can't deal with transformation and are just kind of annoyed?

WILKERSON: Well, I'm not sure how to describe annoyed. I don't see them all standing at the gate to take their uniforms off and then publicly disagree with him. There's no doubt that he's a strong personality. But they have to put that in a context. And I think Don did it earlier. The context is, whether the American public sees us as moving forward in the war on terrorism. And if they don't see that, it doesn't make any difference who's secretary of defense. The other part, though, in calling for the resignation of the secretary of defense, think about that for a second because it's very important. The president, in order to ask the secretary to resign, would essentially have to abrogate the policy that took him to war in the first place, and not coincidentally as a subset, decide that the transformation that SecDef had been putting through the Defense Department was also a failure. That's not a casual decision.

**MEDIA COVERAGE OF MILITARY ANALYSTS FOLLOWING
THE 6/1/06 CONFERENCE CALL ON HADITHA
As of 6/2/06, 3:30 PM**

Covers participating analysts:

- Mr. Jed Babbin
- Retired Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Maginnis
- Retired Major General Bob Scales
- Retired Major General Don Shepperd
- Retired Colonel Jeff McCausland

SUMMARY

This report examines media coverage of participants following the DoD conference call on Haditha. As of 6/2/06 at 3:30 PM, there was no resulting coverage from Robert Maginnis or Don Shepperd.

Jed Babbin

Jed Babbin had three pieces related to Haditha, an appearance on "The O'Reilly Factor" and "Day Side," and a commentary on RealClearPolitics.com, which largely presented the same position that people need to show restraint since not all the facts about Haditha were out. He conceded that "apparently something bad happened in Haditha," but argued that once the initial reports were deemed "unreliable" the military launched a "serious in-depth investigation."

He characterized the media coverage as a "feeding frenzy" and observed that people, such as John Murtha and Michael Moore, were using the incident "shamelessly as a lever" to make it a "metaphor for the whole war." The media was in a similar mindset as it was with Abu Ghraib, although there was more confusion surrounding the prison abuse scandal.

He continued to express the futility of arguing that the Marines had been put in an "impossible position," because this was not a "natural course of fighting in any war" and if it was a war crime it was an "aberration." He observed that the left would use Haditha as a "political tool" like My Lai to undermine support for the troops and "shatter the legitimacy of our cause" and "morale of our troops."

Bob Scales

Bob Scales appeared on Fox's Hannity and Colmes in an in-depth interview with Thomas McInerney, while Jeff McCausland appeared in two segments: in an interview on CNN's American Morning, and giving a brief statement to CBS-NY Radio on possible action to be taken against those involved following the investigation.

While Scales acknowledged that there are rules of engagement that must be followed, he also described the unique nature of this war, and was sympathetic to the majority of troops and their efforts, characterizing them as this country's "most professional ground force ever." He described the counterinsurgency as one that is difficult to fight and one in which the troops can never be sure of their enemies. Suggesting that the alleged incident was not the norm, he also

shot down any comparisons between Iraq and Vietnam, and dismissed allegations of Haditha as similar to My Lai.

Jeff McCausland

On CNN, McCausland focused on the majority of troops who are doing a good job and who know the purpose of their mission. He described the core values training as “unprecedented,” but said it would serve as more of a “reinforcement” than a lecture, as troops already know these values. He defended the majority of troops as performing well and understanding they are not to abuse their presence, but to work with the new government to help win the hearts and minds of the Iraqis. When asked about who to blame if the investigation finds some guilty, he pointed out there are two separate investigations, but did acknowledge “the possibility” of a high-level cover-up.

HIGHLIGHTS

JED BABBIN

Haditha and the Left – John Murtha, Michael Moore, Maureen Dowd, Seymour Hersh...

- “They want this war to be like Vietnam. They want to make Haditha into a My Lai, something that can be used to shatter the legitimacy of the war and to break the morale of our troops” (O'Reilly)
- “First, the left will use every tool at their disposal to ensure that the Haditha incident becomes synonymous with the entire Iraq war” (realclearpolitics.com)

Political Fallout - “It will be easy for the left to drive this story”

- They can drive into a “frothing political rage” because “they will have the field to themselves” (realclearpolitics.com)
- “The fact that Rumsfeld and others won't say more will only fuel more political demands for his head - and others -- to roll” -- the military law doctrine of “command influence” limits the ability of those in the chain of command to comment on the case (realclearpolitics.com)

“If it is a war crime it's an aberration”

- As he put it, for Marines, incidents like this – “you could count on the fingers of one hand and have enough fingers left over to hold your coffee cup” (O'Reilly)
- “Just as the few disgraced the many at Abu Ghraib, the very few who may have committed murder in Haditha will place a burden on the shoulders of every soldier, sailor, airman, marine and coast guardsman fighting terrorism” (realclearpolitics.com)

Media Coverage

- “Because of the media hype here and around the world, Haditha could become a synonym for American brutality equal to My Lai and will damage our ability to fight radical Islam around the world” (realclearpolitics.com)

JEFF MCCAUSLAND

CNN

The core values training is “unprecedented”

- However, it's “reinforcement” for previous training, and will be in the form of lectures, not discussions. Most troops will likely take it seriously

The troops understand their mission

- They know they are not there just to shoot people, but “that this is all about winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people”

Despite the troops great service, the attention from this incident will “do terrific damage”

- The media and attention at home from the public will affect the troops... but of over one million who have served in this war, the few cases of alleged misconduct “shouldn't besmirch those particular soldiers that have served so well”

WCBS-NY Radio

McCausland simply stated the possible action to be taken against those found guilty, noting court martial action could be taken.

BOB SCALES

Counterinsurgencies are tough wars:

- Despite the rules of engagement, oftentimes “you don't know who the enemy is”

Despite the capability of the force, incidents happen

- “This is the most professional ground force this country has ever produced... but every once in a while, sadly, something like this occurs”

Haditha is not My Lai

- Iraq is not Vietnam. And Haditha, whatever happened there, is not My Lai.

Allegations and discussion of the event before conclusions are made hurts troop morale

- Criticism of the troops as “murderers” and “killers” is “extremely hurtful...” it's “very unfortunate” when the troops say they are not appreciated there

TRANSCRIPTS/EXCERPTS

JED BABBIN

Fox News: The O'Reilly Factor - 6/1/2006 11:48:56 PM

O'REILLY: "Back of the Book" segment tonight. Reports are it will be weeks before the official word is released on the alleged Marine murders in Haditha, Iraq. Nevertheless, "Washington Post" reporting today there was a cover-up. Other news agencies are going -- coming to conclusions, as well, about the case. We will not do that. We're going to wait until the official report comes out. I told the Marines that I would and I will. Joining us now from Washington, Jed Babb, the former deputy undersecretary of state and author of the book "Showdown: Why China Wants War with the USA". There's also another report by the BBC that 11 innocent Iraqi civilians may have been killed by U.S. forces in March. And you know that's going to get a lot of publicity. It's very difficult for those of us who want to be fair and who also believe in the war on terror to report. Because it looks like these things did happen. They did happen. And there's really no excuse -- I get e-mails saying, this is what -- no. But on the other hand you have to, I think, report it with some restraint. How do you see it?

JED BABBIN, AUTHOR, "SHOWDOWN": I think you're dead bang right. We have to be restrained on this, because we don't know the facts. Apparently, something bad happened in Haditha. We don't know the details. What I'm unwilling to do is go along with the feeding frenzy. What they want to do is two things. No. 1, they want to make whatever bad happened in Haditha a metaphor for the whole war. To make the whole war a war crime. And they want to allege that there's some sort of a devious cover-up. And I can tell you that as soon as our people found out that the initial reports were unreliable, they have launched a very serious in-depth investigation. And there is not going to be a cover-up.

O'REILLY: Who is "they"? They want to make it a metaphor for the whole war. Who is "they"?

BABBIN: Well, they are the Jack Murthas of the world, Michael Moores, the whole mainstream media. If you look out there you see that there is a confluence of reporting. Al Jazeera, New York Times, BBC. It's the usual suspects, Bill. They want this war to be like Vietnam. They want to make Haditha into a My Lai, something that can be used to shatter the legitimacy of the war and to break the morale of our troops.

O'REILLY: Was that the same reportage in Abu Ghraib, the same mindset?

BABBIN: I think so, but I quite frankly, there was a lot more confusion about what went on in Abu Ghraib, and there still are a lot of different unresolved issues about what actually happened there. This is what it is. It's a fairly certain characterization of events. And we are going to get to the truth of the matter as soon as the official investigations are over.

O'REILLY: OK. If the truth of the matter is that Marines and soldiers, Army did kill innocent civilians, they snapped, OK, which happens in all wars, they snapped and they did kill them, then would it be legitimate for anti-war activists to say, see, we put these people in an impossible position and this is what happens? Would that be a legitimate point to make?

BABBIN: I don't think so. I mean, we have in the history of the Marine Corps, for example, 231 years, if my math serves well. The number of incidents that the Marine Corps has been involved in that are like this, you could count on the fingers of one hand and have enough fingers left over to hold your coffee cup. This is -- if whatever it is, if it is a war crime it's an aberration. And it's not something that is a natural course of fighting any war.

O'REILLY: All right. But the point is, it wouldn't have happened if we didn't go there. And that's what they, as you define them, will say. We shouldn't be there in the first place. It should never happen.

BABBIN: Well, that's what they're going to say. They want to drive us out of there. And they will use this shamelessly as a lever to do so.

O'REILLY: All right, Mr. Babbin, as always, thank you very much.

Fox News: DaySide - 6/2/2006 1:15:50 PM

GRETCHEN: Let's start out with the whole impression that this creates. Obviously, not a good message, not a positive one for Americans, Iraqis or anyone else in the world.

BABBIN: Well, clearly if what is alleged did happen, it is a very terrible incident. And people will be held accountable. The problem I have is that there are a lot of very cynical people on the left who are trying to make this into a metaphor for the whole war as if one alleged war crime could make the whole war a crime....

The Haditha Story - June 1

(Real Clear Politics)...Jed Babbin

The accelerating media feeding frenzy over the alleged killings of twenty-four Iraqi civilians in Haditha by US Marines last November is about to overwhelm American politics. Propelled by their most irresponsible war critics, the left will try use Haditha as it used My Lai thirty years ago: as a political tool to take apart America's support for the war and to shatter the legitimacy of our cause and the morale of our troops...Just as the few disgraced the many at Abu Ghraib, the very few who may have committed murder in Haditha will place a burden on the shoulders of every soldier, sailor, airman, marine and coast guardsman fighting terrorism. Each of us has a duty to not add to that burden, and to help relieve it as well. If those few Marines killed innocents in Haditha, their conduct is an aberration, not the norm. It is up to each one of us to ensure that the events of Haditha do not tarnish the brave and selfless service of the many who came before, or any who come after. Except for the aberrant few, the Marines are always faithful to America. In times such as this, we cannot fail to be faithful to them.

JEFF MCCAUSLAND

CNN American Morning 6/2/2006 8:33:00 AM

MILES O'BRIEN: A lot of talk this morning, serious talk, about U.S. Marines and soldiers in Iraq crossing the line and taking aim at innocence. All of it is still in the realm of accusations, but the investigations into U.S. killings in Haditha, Ishaqi and now Hamandiyah prompting the Pentagon to order lectures on core values for all U.S. troops in Iraq.

For more on the charges and that U.S. response, we turn to retired U.S. Army Col. Jeffrey McCausland who is a CBS contributor. He joins us this morning.

Colonel, good to have you with us.

COL. JEFFREY MCCAUSLAND, U.S. ARMY (RET.): Miles, great to be with you.

M. O'BRIEN: It's kind of extraordinary. As a matter of fact, as best I can tell, unprecedented to have these core values lectures in the midst of a conflict in theater, so to speak.

MCCAUSLAND: It is pretty unprecedented. I can't recall, and I've talked to colleagues of mine who serve in combat as well elsewhere, any time where we've done this type of training and education in a combat operational theater.

M. O'BRIEN: What is the message if you can boil it down? I know it's a fairly complicated thing and it's intricate, but what are you -- what are the leadership trying to impart to the troops in the field?

MCCAUSLAND: Well the first thing that is important to stress is this is reinforcement. The education and training a soldier gets on professional values begins when they enter basic training. So this is nothing new to these particular soldiers. But what I think it will encapsulate is four areas.

First of all, they're going to want to talk to them again about those professional values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor and personal courage.

Then they're going to talk about individual and command responsibilities. Each soldier, sailor, airmen, marines has responsibility for their actions, but commanders have responsibility for the actions of their units, proper reporting, proper training, et cetera.

Thirdly, I think they're going to spend time again reemphasizing Iraqi cultural values. And here units may have some particular nuance, depending on their area of operation, Shi'a area, Sunni area, Kurdish, et cetera.

And finally, this won't be so much lectures as discussions. They'll want to use operational vignettes. If you use talking about scenarios that are specific to the area they're at to get the soldiers to think and talk about particular things they may well encounter.

M. O'BRIEN: Do you suspect that these talks, discussions, lectures, whatever you want to call them, that they will be really embraced by the troops or will they be not taken so seriously given all the pressure, stresses? I mean, after all, every day they face the possibility of being under attack, of being killed.

MCCAUSLAND: Well, it is hard to say for, obviously, each individual soldier, marine. But I think they're going to take it quite seriously, because one of the things they also want to talk about is the second and third order of effects. You know casual things you might do that will offend an Iraqi may reverberate across and affect an operation or one of your fellow service members. And you know a lot of our soldiers now are embedded with Iraqi units for their training and to assist them in military operations. And obviously they're in a particularly difficult situation in this environment.

M. O'BRIEN: It seems as if this could be interpreted, and I'm curious what your thoughts are on this, especially now that we're looking this morning at at least three incidents of allegations of this kind of thing, of a failure of leadership. Would you agree with that? And if so, who would you point the finger at?

MCCAUSLAND: Well there's two investigations going on since we knew about Haditha. And all of these, I'm sure, will be the same, and that is what exactly happened and then what did the command do about it?

And in Haditha, there's the possibility, and I stress possibility, that some people in the chain of command may have attempted to cover it up. And if that's the case, then very serious court-martial action, I expect, will be taken against them as well, because that's where the command responsibility comes in, and as you rightfully point out, potential failures in leadership.

MILES O'BRIEN: But is there a command responsibility to impart a message that part of the mission in Iraq, matter of fact may be the lion's share of the mission at this point, is to win the hearts and minds of the people? And that, at times, in real-time situations, split-second decisions is at odds with preserving their own lives for that matter?

MCCAUSLAND: Well, you know, Miles, that is imparted to them all the time.

I was in Iraq twice last year, and let me tell you a story. I was with a lance corporal walking through the streets of Falluja about a month after the battle. And this young lance corporal turned to me and he said, you know what, sir, we could kill more of these people, we've shown our ability to do that. What's more important right now is for us to make more friends in this particular area and that's what we need to work on.

So I think every soldier, sailor, airman and marine understands that to a large degree that this is all about winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. And we've got to work with the new Iraqi government to accomplish that.

M. O'BRIEN: Give us a sense, no matter how these investigations play out, how much damage has been done so far?

MCCAUSLAND: Well, I think terrific damage has been done so far, not only to the morale and the spirit of the soldiers. You know we have got to keep in mind that we have now had over a million soldiers and marines and sailors serve in this theater. We have some cases, maybe of a handful, it shouldn't besmirch those particular soldiers that have served so well.

Obviously it will reverberate in the press internationally. The Arab world will see these photographs eventually, if they have not already, on their own newspapers, magazines. It will have a terrific affect adversely there.

And finally, how the American people will react to allegations, if proven, of these type of atrocities has a -- it will have a terrific affect back here at home.

WCBS-NY Radio 6/2/2006 5:35:25 AM

HOST: Meanwhile, investigators are looking into the deaths of two dozen unarmed civilians in Haditha, investigators are focusing on two different crimes.

JEFF MCCAUSLAND: If they definitely say there is, in fact, recourse, there will be court martial action taken. That could be for those who committed the crime, or in fact, if it's under the... investigation... if it is discovered that others attempted to cover up the crime.

BOB SCALES

Fox News, Hannity and Colmes, 6/1/2006 9:01:05 PM – PART I

Fox News, Hannity and Colmes, 6/1/2006 – PART II

Analysis With Bob Scales, Thomas McInerney

SEAN HANNITY, CO-HOST: All right. First, joining us now to talk about this latest development in the investigation into Haditha is Major General Bob Scales, Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney, both FOX News military analysts...

HANNITY: Let me go to you, General Scales, if I can. Now, I want everybody to put themselves, if possible, to the extent we're capable of even doing this, in the position of these Marines and what they go through on a daily basis. On this particular day, there was an IED that went off. And Corporal Miguel Terrazas was split in half in front of his fellow Marines. Now,

there was one gentleman sitting next to him, Corporal James Crossan, and he has now just spoken out in this particular incident. He was injured in that incident. And he has spoken out. One of the things that he said on an interview that he gave to King Television out on the West Coast is he talked about how the kids and the people in the community -- basically you don't know who the enemy is here. There seems to be a fundamental lack of understanding of just what it is that these guys go through every day. Can you explain what it is that they're going through?

MAJ. GEN. BOB SCALES, U.S. ARMY (RET.): Well, I went through a very similar experience when I was a company commander in Vietnam, Sean, and that's exactly right. When you fight an insurgency or a counterinsurgency, you don't know who the enemy is. And oftentimes an ambush, a roadside bomb, a suicide bomber blowing up a vehicle, you see your buddy torn to shreds. I've got many e-mails from young men and women who have experienced this horrific, horrific type of thing. But having said that, Sean, there are laws of war and there is rules of engagement. And soldiers and Marines are held accountable even under the toughest circumstances.

COLMES: General McInerney...

SCALES: Listen, Sean, this is the most professional ground force this country has ever produced. Over a million men and women have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, and they have all served honorably, so we can't besmirch the conduct of the vast majority of...

COLMES: All right. General Scales, the key issue here, though, is whether or not we have a situation where we have people in harm's way, in a very difficult situation, where they don't know who the enemy is and, in some cases, civilians get killed. And the question is: What actually happened here? And how do we prevent this from happening in the future? And do we belong in that kind of a situation?

SCALES: Well, first of all, Alan, as I mentioned to you before, counterinsurgencies are tough wars. They last a long time. In a counterinsurgency, the object isn't to depose a dictator or capture ground. It's to shape perceptions and win the hearts and minds of the people. This is a very slow, difficult type of war. And so the soldiers and Marines who fight this, particularly those that do this dirty business of intimate killing, that those of us who served in war know something about, have to be inured to this. They have to be trained, and they have to be well-led. But every once in a while, sadly, something like this occurs, and it's very sad, but I'm afraid...
(CROSSTALK)

SCALES: Exactly. We don't know what happened...

COLMES: But isn't it our responsibility to be upfront about when it does happen, to show that we are the kind of country that agrees in rule of law and doesn't permit this kind of thing to take place?

MCINERNEY: Absolutely. Absolutely. And we will, by the way. It is very important to let the military do it and that we don't exert command influence, like Congressman Murtha did, that can lose the case. It's very important to let them go through the process.

HANNITY: General Scales, that's the point here: There's no evidence presented. There's no conviction in this case. There's been no cross-examination.

SCALES: Right.

HANNITY: There's no context put in this case. The conversation tonight seems to be predicated on the idea that this is, you know, a second My Lai. Frankly, I can't believe we're at this point.

SCALES: Oh, come on. That's right. But it is very important, Sean. I was in Vietnam when My Lai broke. You know, Iraq is not Vietnam. And Haditha, whatever happened there, is not My Lai. In My Lai, there were hundreds of innocent civilians who were killed by a company of soldiers. It was covered up for well over a year. Whatever happened in Iraq, this is a far more professional force than the force that I fought with in Vietnam.

HANNITY: All right. I want to talk about one thing here, because this -- going back to the comments of Jack Murtha, that civilians were killed in cold blood, going back to the comments of John Kerry that our troops are terrorizing women and children in the dark of night, we have, you

know, groups like Human Rights Watch and others saying that Haditha massacre will go down as Iraq's My Lai, what happened at Haditha appears to be outright murder. How hurtful is this to the troops that are putting themselves in harm's way?

SCALES: Extremely hurtful, Sean. I've talked to many of these troops. I get e-mails every day, and the mantra is always the same: "We do good work over here, and we put our lives on the line every day. I hump a 110-pound rucksack in 130-degree heat, and I set up an ambush that will last for hours on end. And nobody appreciates what we're doing," and I think that's very, very unfortunate.

COLMES: And we appreciate the kind of country where the truth comes out and when justice is done. Isn't that what this is really all about?

SCALES: Of course it is.

COLMES: We thank you both very much.

Military Analysts – Review of Comments, June 1 -14

Summary

In the month of June, a select list of military analysts chosen for review have been in heavy demand on broadcast news programs. They weighed in on a wide-range of topics, including (in order of most to least covered) Haditha, Zarqawi, President Bush's trip to Baghdad, Guantanamo, and border security. Former Brig. Gen. David Grange and Former Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd were the two most visible guests, while former Lt. Col. Robert Maginnis and former Gen. James "Spider" Marks appeared just a few times each.

- **Haditha** – The general sentiment was that, if soldiers are proven guilty, the incident was an isolated one. Though there is no excuse for such behavior, the nature of this long war defined by counterinsurgency tends to leave room for incidents such as Haditha, although it's "no My Lai." Several noted that it was essential for "balanced media coverage" and for everyone to reserve judgment until after the investigation. There was mixed feelings over whether this had damaged the military's reputation.
- **Zarqawi** – Military analysts celebrated the death of Zarqawi as a "psychological" victory, but cautioned that the violence would continue. The key to decreased violence would be to continue to "disassemble" his network, maintain momentum following the "bursting" the "Zarqawi myth" and have the new Cabinet in place and taking further action against the insurgency.
- **President's visit to Baghdad**– The visit was praised as a "tremendous move," "historic" and signaling key messages of commitment of the U.S. mission in Iraq.
- **Guantanamo** – The consensus was that detainees are treated humanely there, and that detainees need to remain there or else "end up in battlefield."
- **Border Security** – The overall perspective was that, regardless of the border north or south, securing it should be taken seriously because terrorism is a global movement. Additionally, one analyst (former Brig. Gen. David L. Grange) believed that the National Guard's role should be expanded and "robust up front."

HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTS BY TOPIC

Guantanamo

Question over whether to close

- **Babbin:** I have been to Gitmo, and seen that "we are not mistreating people there..." we need to keep them there, away from doing harm to others.
- **Maginnis:** "...we've been trying to repatriate as many people as possible...But there are certain countries that are unwilling to meet the humane requirements for repatriation. And we're just concerned, to a certain degree, about these people ending up in the battlefield..."

Accountability

- **Jacobs:** "There's so much security... guards...so much supervision of the inmates that it's difficult to envision a circumstance in which this can happen and it can be excused. So I'm sure there's going to be discipline taken"

On the DoD quickly putting together a press conference

- Shepperd: "They're doing about what I would do and about the only thing you can do when things turn up bad for you"

What we need is better guidelines

- Cowan: We need interrogation rules but they shouldn't be too restrictive... "the current field manual language of 'humiliating and degrading treatment'" is a good example

"Propaganda victory" too high for jihadists

- McCaffrey: "The propaganda victory for jihadists is greater than the reward we're getting. Having said that, what do we do...we're in a very tricky judicial position"

President's visit to Baghdad

Symbolized commitment, sent the right messages

- McInerney: "And symbols like this -- it's more than symbolism. It is fact-finding -- a leader getting his feet on the ground, boots on the ground, and going eyeball to eyeball with our allies"
- Grange: It was "...a tremendous move" in showing the confidence and commitment of the U.S. to Iraq... "you can't beat that"
- Shepperd: "The President sent three messages. One to the troops, and it was thank you. One to the new Iraqi government, and it is we are behind you. And another to the American people, and it is that all of this is worth it. Those are important messages that only the president can carry right now"

On possible topic of discussion of troop withdrawals

- Jacobs: Not surprised that withdrawals will not be a topic in Baghdad. Advisors to Iraqi units will increase in number, but overall troop numbers will go down... "I expect them to be at or below 100,000 by the end of the year"

Haditha

Americans and the media must reserve judgment until after the investigation

- Babbin: Except for the aberrant few, the Marines are always faithful to America. In times such as this, we cannot fail to be faithful to them.
- Shepperd: on Haditha and other similar incidents: It's "very bad news. It's all the things you don't want to hear...see...suspect... Most of our troops over there are doing great work in terribly difficult situations"
- Spider Marks: 99.99% of Marines and soldiers act "with honor and dignity..." but we don't have a credibility problem... there are challenges
- Scales – "The global media has gotten every ounce of effect" out of recent incidents... but the soldiers are "innocent until proven guilty"
- Grange: "This is not another Vietnam" and if conclusions are made before the investigation is complete, it'll reflect in Americans' attitudes... "you must have balanced reporting"

Accountability

- Shepperd: Despite "great respect" for John Batiste, his point that the Secretary should resign because of the war and such incidents as Haditha will not change anything. "It wouldn't prevent a Haditha. He wasn't responsible for Haditha. This is a breakdown, if it happened, of command at the local level, values of the people that did it. That's what has to be zeroed in on, or you won't fix it."
- Shepperd: "I don't think there's going to be any whitewash of this"
- Jacobs: senior commanders are not paying as much attention as they should to the lower levels and making sure that things are done properly, people are schooled properly

- Cowan: "... is not so much the incident we will find that's an aberrations, but we may find there was covering up going on that shouldn't have and that may be a cultural problem than aberration"

The investigation is long overdue

- Jacobs: It's "very bad news. Bad news doesn't get my better with age... You got to get ahead of the story, and you've got to either charge somebody, or clear everybody right away"

Whether such incidents will hurt the U.S. image in Iraq

- Jacobs: "We're not going to have very much effect one way or the other on the Iraqi people," even considering incidents such as Haditha. Instead, it'll have a negative affect on the American people and the troops' morale

Such incidents, if proven, are isolated

- Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney - 99.99% of troops are acting "the way we've trained them"
- McInerney: Was Iraq in mid-December... This is "the best-trained force we have ever had"
- McCaffrey: "I think the issues are anomalies. These are not a failure of training or of policy... It looks like a squad snapped and deliberately murdered a couple dozen people over the space of several hours. A sad footnote to the horror of war."

Zarqawi

Great work by U.S., Iraqis

- Shepperd: This is a real coup for intelligence and cooperation between the Iraqis and the Americans,
- McInerney: "There was some brilliant human intelligence work behind this... we've gotten inside their decision cycle and from a strategic point of view I believe al-Qaeda is finished in Iraq"

Progress, but it's not over

- Babbin: If the new defense ministers and the Iraqi government can "stomp on the rest of the insurgency" they can "make this is a tipping point" but it's not yet
- Jacobs: Violence will not stop or will decline slightly. If it does, it's likely due to the new Cabinet/government than to Zarqawi

Symbolic, great impact on al Qaeda and Iraq

- Maj. Gen. Robert H. Scales - "psychological impact... he was the inspirational head of the organization. So, when he was killed, you lost the brain and you lost the symbol of al-Qaeda in Iraq..."
- Grange: "I think the impact, one, has an effect on the Iraqi people because I think a little bit of a myth started with Zarqawi and killing him, I think, kind of broke that bubble.
- Cowan: "...it is not inconceivable that Zarqawi was done in by his own people because his own people were listening to bin Laden and saying we have got to get this guy out of here"
- McCaffrey: "The foreign fighters, in a strategic and operational sense, are getting defeated. So the Army-Marine elements, with very focused intelligence, have really taken the fun out of jihad"

Border Security

North or South, "doesn't matter"

- Scales: "Remember, it's a global movement and they'll find a terrorist Petri dish in any country that doesn't have their alert up"

"Let's be robust up front"

- Grange: "I think we're a little short on both National Guard law enforcement and other means"

Extremism is a global problem

- Cowan: "I think it shows once again that this kind of extremism, fundamentalism can go anywhere in the world. We are certainly not the only ones people are after"

EXCERPTS/LINKS

Mr. Jed Babbin

Haditha, the new Iraqi cabinet, Zarqawi

CNBC Kudlow and Company 6/12/2006 5:05:00 PM

Host: Jed Babbin, first your take on the idea the government is irrelevant outside the green zone and second of all, Jed, doesn't this give a booster – I mean, it comes at a good time for about a thousand reasons, but, one of them is the whole Haditha controversy, and so forth. Does it give a lot of morale to the American troops.

Babbin: The point really comes down to, yes, this is a big boost, not just for us, but for the whole Iraqi operation. Our guys, yes, certainly, there is a lot of controversy surrounding, what probably happened in Haditha and also suffering a lack of progress in accomplishing the final gains of the war and it will not be a tipping point unless the Iraqis make it one and if the new defense minister and the interior minister and Maliki government can make it work and stomp on the rest of the insurgency and close the borders they can make it a tipping point but it is not one yet.

Guantanamo

CNBC Kudlow & Company 6/12/2006 5:03:35 PM

Babbin: The fact is what we are doing there is not mistreating these people, I have been there personally and have seen it, and what we are doing is consistent with international law and is consistent with the Geneva Conventions. These guys are not lawful combatants and you cannot put them in a regular POW camp. They don't have the status and are not entitled to it. What we are doing at Guantanamo Bay is not counterproductive and in fact is taking the very worst people in the world out of the way of our forces and putting them in a place where they can't hurt people anymore, each and every one of these guys, Larry, had at least one annual review of their case in front of an administrative tribunal and we let the people who are not connected to terrorism go. These are the bad guys. We need to keep them where they are behind the wire.

...If we had the ability to try them up until the time all the lefties and the ACLU and so forth tied it up in the U.S. courts and once the supreme court rules on the Hamden case, the cases will be tried and there is no way to handle these guys... it's wrong to say we have a long track record in trying these guys. We have one case, the Moussaoui case, which was a disaster in and of itself... there is nothing else you can point to that'll compare. What we're doing is constitutional.

Haditha

Real Clear Politics: The Haditha Story – June 1

By Jed Babbin

The accelerating media feeding frenzy over the alleged killings of twenty-four Iraqi civilians in Haditha by US Marines last November is about to overwhelm American politics. Propelled by their most irresponsible war critics, the left will try use Haditha as it used My Lai thirty years ago: as a political tool to take apart America's support for the war and to shatter the legitimacy of our cause and the morale of our troops.

We have thousands of troops in harm's way around the world. We cannot allow them to believe - as their fathers in Vietnam came to believe - that Americans regard them with the same scorn as those who may have murdered innocents in Haditha...

OSD

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

Just as the few disgraced the many at Abu Ghraib, the very few who may have committed murder in Haditha will place a burden on the shoulders of every soldier, sailor, airman, marine and coast guardsman fighting terrorism. Each of us has a duty to not add to that burden, and to help relieve it as well. If those few Marines killed innocents in Haditha, their conduct is an aberration, not the norm. It is up to each one of us to ensure that the events of Haditha do not tarnish the brave and selfless service of the many who came before, or any who come after. Except for the aberrant few, the Marines are always faithful to America. In times such as this, we cannot fail to be faithful to them.

Ret. Lt. Col. Bill Cowan

Zarqawi

Fox News: Fox and Friends First 6/8/2006 6:08:51 AM

"...it is not inconceivable that Zarqawi was done in by his own people because his own people were listening to bin Laden and saying we have got to get this guy out of here. We have already picked our successor for him. let's get him aside and turn him over somehow to the U.S. coalition forces let's let them get him because we are ready to replace him with somebody more moderate not doing such drastic deeds against innocent people but who is going to continue the fight inside."

Army field manual on interrogation

Fox News: The O'Reilly Factor - 6/6/2006 8:04:00 PM

"But there are some people we're going to catch out there in the global war on terror, that we need to be able to put some tough standards to. And what we're suggesting here, the problem is while this debate is going on about a manual, we really need to have some kind of very specific laws written by Congress that tell us what we can or can't do. But they should never be too restrictive. What's restrictive in the field manual right now, the basic disagreement, is this - these words "humiliating and degrading treatment."

Canada Terrorist plot

Fox News: Heartland With John Kasich - 6/3/2006 8:04:35 PM

Canada Terrorist plot

"I think it shows once again that this kind of extremism, fundamentalism can go anywhere in the world. We are certainly not the only ones people are after"

Haditha

"The most important thing right away is all this new training that's going on in Iraq for people there and people getting ready to go...long term effect I think the bigger thing will come out of Haditha...is not so much the incident we will find that's an aberrations, but we may find there was covering up going on that shouldn't have and that may be a cultural problem than aberration"

Haditha

The American way? Pursue truth and accountability over civilian deaths – June 1

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune)... Editorial

"Bill Cowan, a retired Marine colonel and analyst for Fox News, disagrees. "I think in the final analysis, the bigger story will be the notion of the cover-up and whether a culture of denial and cover-up exists," Cowan told us in an e-mail Wednesday. "Isolated atrocities are unacceptable, but clearly isolated. Any cover-up is a much bigger issue, which goes to the very heart of the Marine Corps and all it stands for."

Ret. Brig. Gen. David L. Grange

President's visit to Baghdad

CNN: Live Today - 6/13/2006 11:09:04 AM

President's visit

- I think the face-to-face visit was a tremendous move just to show confidence and commitment of the United States of America to the success of this effort in Iraq. And I think you can't beat that
- Don't let that momentum slip away, but continue to force that aggressive offensive spirit and get a handle on this right now to give the government a chance to succeed.

Draw-down in troops

- If conditions go the way they are now, I think near the end of this year, that late, you know, into the fall, late summer, into the fall, they'll start maybe moving some U.S. troops out of there. But again, it truly is situational dependent, and the enemy has a vote

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - June 9

Repeated comments on tape from June 1st appearance on "Lou Dobbs"

Zarqawi

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - 6/8/2006 6:32:33 PM

"I think the impact, one, has an effect on the Iraqi people because I think a little bit of a myth started with Zarqawi and killing him, I think, kind of broke that bubble. Even though he may not have controlled all of the insurgency, it does have an effect. It has an effect on the Iraqi police, and the military. Gives them a little bit of a shot in the arm as well as the coalition forces. So I think in perception, psychologically, it did have an effect... The tenacity now has increased. Morale has increased for the U.S. troops. So, I mean, this is very favorable, absolutely."

Zarqawi

CNN: Live Today - 6/8/2006 10:06:39 AM

"...this is a great psychological impact against the enemy. It's a great impact with the population because it was almost like this guy was invincible to the Iraqi people."

Zarqawi

Headline News: Robin & Company - 6/8/2006 9:20:31 AM

Comments similar to one made on CNN's "Live Today."

Batiste criticism of Secretary/Haditha

CNN: Late Edition with Wolf Blitzer - 6/4/2006 12:18:07 PM

Batiste criticism of Secretary

"I don't agree that the secretary should resign. I do think there needs to be a little bit of changes, some changes in how the relationships and communications is handled between senior military officers, senior civilian leadership in the military and junior ranks that are in the field."

Haditha

"Well, it's going to have a lot of impact. Whether guilty or innocent, it will have a lot of impact because the local media will disinformation -- there will be disinformation that will come out from these acquisitions, and it'll cause problems for the soldiers regardless. And so, yes, there's going to be some bad fallout from this, just like in the prison scandal."

Haditha

Headline News -- Glenn Beck - 6/3/2006 7:31:57 PM

“This is not another Vietnam. It is going to rely on the will of the American people to finish this mission that we're on. That depends on balanced media coverage. And if you make comments out of the box before, again, the investigations complete or you just report the fire and blood, you know, if it burns, it leads, that's the kind of attitude the American people are going to have. You must have balanced reporting.”

Haditha

CNN Live Saturday - 6/3/2006 5:18:56 PM

“Well, the United States military is more prepared than most armies in the world for this, in regards to treatment of civilians on the battlefield. And regrettably some incidents do happen. What's going to happen, though, is that whether they are guilty or not, the disinformation in Iraq and elsewhere is going to make them look guilty... And we have to remember the vast majority of men and women doing their job on the battlefield, doing it well, what we are hearing about, the reports in Haditha are hopefully just a minority.”

Haditha

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - 6/2/2006 6:29:12 PM

“I just think that's important to recognize, however. But the longer a war goes on where you have combat situations one after another, you're going to have an incident. It doesn't mean it's right, but they're going to come -- they're going to happen, there is no doubt about it... Well, it's an insurgency, definitely an insurgency, a long type of conflict, and it's not explained properly up front. And that's why we have the confusion now and why we have this debate, is that people don't understand what type of war we're in, because it was not articulated properly at the beginning.”

Border Security

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - 6/1/2006 6:30:29 PM

“I think if we really are serious about this, and I don't mean fortifying the border, I mean just securing the border, I think we're a little short on both National Guard law enforcement and other means. I mean, if we're going to be serious about it, let's be robust up front, especially when everybody knows we're going to do this... One thing this military does well is that when it has an issue like this, it takes care of it. I mean we're a military of the United States of America that in fact cleans up any mess it produces in that regard.”

Ret. Col. Jack Jacobs

President Bush's Baghdad Visit

MSNBC 6/12/2006 12:38:33 PM

Host: ... Joining me is retired military colonel and Analyst Jack Jacobs. First, what did the White House have to say about these meetings? They said do not expect an announcement about levels, reductions, troops coming home. Does that surprise you at all?

Jacobs: No. They want to make it look like we're really working hard to do what we need to do and that means training Iraqis. We're going to have an increase in the number of advisors to Iraqi units. But overall, the number of troops, I believe, will come down. Don't forget, this is a political season. There's a very important midterm election taking place in November. I expect troop levels to be at or below 100,000 by the end of the year.

Zarqawi

MSNBC -- Countdown With Keith Olbermann 6/8/2006 9:33:15 AM

Host: Right now we want to turn to MSNBC military analyst, retired Colonel Jack Jacobs. Jack, what's the immediate impact now of Zarqawi's death on the insurgency there in Iraq?

Jacobs: Well, I think the sectarian violence is not going to necessarily abate. And if it does, it's not going to be very much. If it does, it's more a function of getting a new defense and interior minister and it looks like the government is coalescing because of al Zarqawi's death. And it means from a longer-term standpoint. Don't forget, not only was Zarqawi killed but his number two guy, the spiritual advisor... Makes it difficult them him to get money; and because the terrorist network was broken up into so many different cells... there will be cells running around with no leadership at all... we might see a lull in activity from Zarqawi's organization... another positive aspect is that we will have the opportunity to target other cells who haven't been in our sights up until now.

Guantanamo

NBC Nightly News, June 10 6:30 PM EST NBC

Jacobs: There's so much security, there are so many guards, there's so much supervision of the inmates that it's difficult to envision a circumstance in which this can happen and it can be excused. So I'm sure there's going to be discipline taken.

Haditha

MSNBC's COUNTDOWN June 2, 8:00 PM EST

Jacobs: Haditha is a different story altogether. The incident apparently happened in November. We know that an investigation wasn't begun until February. It's now June. Very bad news. Bad news doesn't get my better with age. You got to jump on it right away. You got to get ahead of the story, and you've got to either charge somebody, or clear everybody right away.

Olbermann: Haditha, Ishaqi, Hamandiyah, Abu Ghraib, no matter what the investigations ultimately conclude in each case, perception alone, is it still possible for the U.S. to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people?

Jacobs: Oh, I think we're not going to have very much effect one way or the other on the Iraqi people. There's a large number of them who like us being there, and there's a bunch of them who don't want us to be there. Eventually they'll all want us to leave. And I don't think incidents like this necessarily have an effect one way or the other on the Iraqi people and their view about us and our being there ...

Olbermann: One last question, Jack. Is this kind of thing evidence of a fatigue of the military, the overstretched criticism that we keep hearing about the U.S. military in Iraq, in Afghanistan, elsewhere around the world, that we're too thin, and it's now showing up on the ground?

Jacobs: No, I think that this is a reflection of poor leadership in areas that should always have good leadership. It means that senior commanders are not paying as much attention as they should to the lower levels and making sure that things are done properly, people are schooled properly. It's a separate issue altogether. We don't have enough troops there, we've never had enough troops there. And we need to have lots more troops there if we're ever going to be successful.

Ret. Lt. Col. Robert Maginnis

Guantanamo

CNN: Your World Today - 6/12/2006 12:21:39 PM

“...we've been trying to repatriate as many people as possible...But there are certain countries that are unwilling to meet the humane requirements for repatriation. And we're just concerned, to a certain degree, about these people ending up in the battlefield...Now, as far as humane treatment, I've been at Guantanamo. I've seen all the facilities, the food, the medical treatment, and so forth. So I think they're being treated humanely.”

Ret. Gen. James “Spider” Marks

Haditha

CNN’s ANDERSON COOPER 360 DEGREES June 2, 10:00 PM EST

Marks: I don't think there's a credibility issue at stake here. What we have is aberrant behavior that has taken place. Granted, there are a number of investigations, and these investigations need to be full and open, as they will be. But it's inappropriate to determine, at this point, in advance of any of the findings, that there is credibility at stake. Ninety-nine percent of those Marines -- and I would tend to agree with the assessment that 99.9 percent of the Marines and the soldiers on the ground are conducting themselves with honor and dignity, and there's goodwill in a lot of corners in Iraq. Clearly, there are challenges. There will be this type of behavior. It's unfortunate... The core values training that takes place is routine in the military. This isn't something that just happens as a result of problems and incidents that occur in extremis. I mean, this is routine type of training that takes place.

Ret. Gen. Barry McCaffrey

Analysts visit with President

Draw-down of troops

Guantanamo

NBC News: Today Show – 6/12/2006 7:16:17 AM

Analysts visit with President

Well, I think he's, you know, very much open to new thinking. Steve Hadley and Josh Bolten and the White House team were in the back of the room taking notes. He had six people in there. I think all of us essentially supported the notion of taking down the Saddam regime, but had different ideas on how to go forward.

Draw-down of troops

Well, I think they're going to be very leery of announcing timetables, but it's clear to me that in the near term--six months, 12 months--we've got to withdraw a substantial amount of our combat power... I don't think so, although I do think there's a political dimension to it, there's no question. I think the bigger issue is that the current size of the Army and Marine Corps cannot keep this up. So I do think that General Casey and General Abizaid will have the final vote on troop strength.

Guantanamo

Well, it's a huge political liability. I've looked at our detention centers in Afghanistan and Iraq. We've now straightened our act out. They're professional, humane, we're doing the right thing. But we've got--at the end of the day, the next couple of years we've got to walk away from Guantanamo. The propaganda victory for jihadists is greater than the reward we're getting. Having said that, what do we do? A third of these guys are extremely dangerous. And we're also having trouble sending them back to their home countries, in many cases where they face a fate a heck of a lot worse than Guantanamo. So I think we're in a very tricky judicial position.

**Guantanamo
Zarqawi
Sustainability of Iraq mission
Afghanistan**

NBC: Meet the Press – 6/11/2006 5:01:55 AM

Guantanamo

I think the problems of the first year--we had some real serious difficulties complying with, I think, our own national and international law--are gone. Firm, humane, professional way of handling it. Guantanamo's a special case. It's become a huge political problem for us, in the Gulf region in particular. I don't know how we get out of this. Some of these people are extremely dangerous. This was an act of political warfare by the three people that committed suicide, the same as a suicide bomber in downtown Baghdad. But we got a challenge trying to think our way through how to close down Guantanamo in the next two or three years and get these people into some other judicial system...I think right now the payoff in propaganda for the international jihadists is, is enormous. But the question is how do we back our way out of it?"

Zarqawi

Well, we can't ever ignore good news. This fellow was ferociously dangerous. He raised a lot of money for them. He was very good at information operations. It's a great blessing to the Iraqi people. He was slaughtering Shiite civilians by the thousands, literally. Having said that, look, al-Qaeda in Iraq has turned mostly Iraqi Sunni Muslim.

Sustainability of Iraq mission

"Well, if we had 10 years to work the issue, there's a 99 percent probability we'll achieve our objective. But I don't think we've got that much time. So it seems to me, in the next couple years prior to Mr. Bush leaving office, it has to appear to the American people this thing is working. And therein lies the risk. Because--so we've got to hurriedly transfer security arrangements to a force that's ill-equipped, the Iraqi security forces, and is yet probably inadequate to stand on their own. Plus, I think the United States Army and Marine Corps, and elements of the Air Force--C-17 lift, special operations command--cannot maintain this pace of deployment. But we've got to draw down, and pretty soon, maybe 50 to 100,000 troops by next summer. But otherwise, we risk breaking the force...My guess is, though, Tim, these guys are actually going to pull their act together. It may be a weak government, it may be ineffective, but the prospect of turning Iraq into Lebanon is a frightening one to the Iraqis as well as their allies like us."

Afghanistan

"The Taliban two years ago were in 10-man units. A year ago in 100-man units. This year they're in battalion-size units, 300, 400 people. There's a huge offensive going on...Things are starting to work in Afghanistan. We've got to push back. NATO's coming in. We got to keep our fingers crossed...But this is going to be a tough year in Afghanistan, also."

Zarqawi

MSNBC: The Situation With Tucker Carlson - 6/8/2006 11:12:10 PM

"Well, they're now speculating on who will be up next. Clearly, it won't end the Zarqawi network...It struck me that 90 percent of al Qaeda in Iraq is now Iraqi Sunni Muslim. The foreign fighters, in a strategic and operational sense, are getting defeated. So the Army-Marine elements, with very focused intelligence, have really taken the fun out of jihad...Well, I think another good thing that came out of today was Zarqawi darn near got them into open civil war with a bombing of the Samarra mosque. They came right up to the edge. They didn't like what they saw, and they retreated from it...But I think killing this guy, we're now watching the Iraqi people definitely turn

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against the foreign fighters. They do not want, generally speaking, a civil war. So I think his death also underscores sort of an Iraqi rejection of that kind of jihad.”

Zarqawi

NBC News: Today Show – 6/8/2006 4:16:43 AM

Well, I don't think there's a political implication to this, to be honest. I--you know, I think the policy misjudgments of the past three years have been significant. What we need to underscore is the unbelievable courage and cleverness of these Special Operations units, air/land/sea, that achieved significant...gift to the Iraqi people.

Haditha

NBC News: Nightly News - June 2

“I think the issues are anomalies. These are not a failure of training or of policy...It looks like a squad snapped and deliberately murdered a couple dozen people over the space of several hours. A sad footnote to the horror of war.”

Ret. Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney

Bush Visit

Fox News: Your World With Neil Cavuto - 6/14/2006 1:03:56 AM

“This is historic, showing the two presidents together and the new government. The cabinet meeting they had this morning, joint cabinet meeting between the U.S. and the Iraqi, the war cabinets and the symbol that the president is putting behind our men and women over there - and our commitment to the nation as a coalition that we, in fact, are going to stand. We are not going to be “cut and run” people like the left is trying to do in the United States. So this sends a huge signal in the world and I believe it's critical in the global war on terror. And symbols like this -- it's more than symbolism. It is fact-finding -- a leader getting his feet on the ground, boots on the ground, and going eyeball to eyeball with our allies. And I think that is extremely important.”

Zarqawi

Fox News: Fox News Live - 6/8/2006 9:46:57 AM

“No, there was some brilliant human intelligence work behind this, Jon. We'll not know about it because we don't want to expose it, but we've gotten obviously inside their decision cycle and that's a very important thing as we go forward. There's no question there's going to be a lot more activity and killings, the senseless killings that al-Qaeda is so famous for, but in retribution -- but frankly, we've gotten inside their decision cycle and from a strategic point of view I believe al-Qaeda is finished in Iraq.”

Haditha

Fox News: Hannity & Colmes - 6/1/2006 9:01:30 PM

“We need to give our people the benefit of the doubt. They are fighting a very difficult war over there...I don't think it's widespread at all. First of all, this came from a Sunni group that provided the movies...this was the best-trained force we have ever had. It is tough fighting. Things do happen when you have a counterinsurgency. Bombs go off. People are returning fire. You've got incoming fire. But I do not believe that there's deliberate killing of people or you would know it right away... You may have a case. You may have a case where there is deliberate killing for rage or something. But it is probably 99.999 percent that you don't have and everything is going the way we've trained them.”

Maj. Gen. Robert H. Scales

Zarqawi

Fox News: On the Record With Greta Van Susteren - 6/8/2006 10:05:16 PM

“I think the key point here is the psychological impact of this. Remember, Zarqawi was two things. He was sort of the CEO. of this organization. In the sense that he controlled all of the money, he made all of the key assignments and he was also the psychological head of this organization. He was sort of the inspirational head of the organization. So, when he was killed, you lost the brain and you lost the symbol of al-Qaeda in Iraq...”

Zarqawi

NPR: Morning Edition – June 8

“Well, there’re two facts that play – three facts that play in this, Mike. It’s not only the death of Zarqawi, which is significant because Zarqawi was, in effect, the brains of the outfit. But also, secondly, was the fact that he was given up either by some of his own people, or by Sunnis who were very close to the insurgency, which shows a certain fracturing within the Sunni community, and a sense of dissatisfaction with foreign involvement in the insurgency. And third was something that’s not been reported on – which is very significant – and that’s an enormous amount of intelligence data gathered from laptops and documents and so forth that’s been scooped up, which may allow coalition forces to begin to unravel the network. Because in an insurgency, it’s not just the guy at the top, but it’s the network – it’s the ability to disassemble, if you will, the network that leads to success in a counter- insurgency war.”

Border Security

Fox News: Your World With Neil Cavuto - 6/5/2006 4:03:16 PM

“I don't think it really matters. I think if they are looking for fertile ground they would go down south. Remember, it's a global movement and they'll find a terrorist Petri dish in any country that doesn't have their alert up.”

Haditha

Fox News: On the Record With Greta Van Susteren - 6/2/2006 10:50:52 PM

“We don't know what happened at this point, Greta. You know, soldiers, just like civilians, are innocent until proven guilty, and have the privilege of due process just like everyone else...In a war like this, in a counterinsurgency, it's perceptions, unfortunately, that count, Greta. The global media has gotten every ounce of effect out of these two alleged incidents that they can. but it's important to understand that these soldiers are innocent until proven guilty...I think that our responsibility is to get to the bottom of this and find out exactly what happened in the surest. way to reduce the stress of these events is to get to the bottom of it and present the facts and put them on the table.”

Haditha

NPR: All Things Considered – June 2

“When innocents die, America loses another set of allegiances and the road to success becomes steeper and more uncertain. But Iraq isn't Vietnam, and if the allegations of the murder of civilians are substantiated, Haditha won't be My Lai.”

Haditha

Fox News: Hannity & Colmes - 6/1/2006 9:01:30 PM

“When you fight an insurgency or a counterinsurgency, you don't know who the enemy is. And oftentimes an ambush, a roadside bomb, a suicide bomber blowing up a vehicle, you see your buddy torn to shreds...But having said that, Sean, there are laws of war and there is rules of

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Public Affairs Research and Analysis

engagement. And soldiers and Marines are held accountable even under the toughest circumstances...Oh, come on. That's right. But it is very important, Sean. I was in Vietnam when My Lai broke. You know, Iraq is not Vietnam. And Haditha, whatever happened there, is not My Lai. In My Lai, there were hundreds of innocent civilians who were killed by a company of soldiers. It was covered up for well over a year. Whatever happened in Iraq, this is a far more professional force than the force that I fought with in Vietnam."

Ret. Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd

President Bush's Baghdad visit

CNN LIVE FROM... June 13 1:30 PM EST

Shepperd: Well, I'll tell you, it was somewhat predictable in the sense that I figured for sure that the president was going to go over to boost this new Iraqi government. I've been in the place where the troops are gathered there, in the hall, on previous visits. And to me, the president sent three messages. One to the troops, and it was thank you. One to the new Iraqi government, and it is we are behind you. And another to the American people, and it is that all of this is worth it. Those are important messages that only the president can carry right now.

Host: Well, he mentioned Zarqawi and the troops went wild. That's definitely a big deal for the U.S. military, obviously a big deal for the president, but if you look at the polls, the recent polls, for the public, it's not that big a deal.

Shepperd: ...For the troops over there, it's an up and down. These kids are in a very, very tough mission. When you visit them, they believe in what they're doing, they believe it's important. They don't believe that the American public or the world understands what they're doing, and the danger of it. They all want to be home, no question about that. But when the president visits, it's a big morale booster.

Haditha

CNN LIVE EVENT/SPECIAL June 11 1:00 PM EST

Blitzer: ...On Thursday, Jamie McIntyre reported on photos that added weight to accusations Iraqis were deliberately killed by U.S. Marines in the town of Haditha. As good as the other news, General Shepperd, about Abu Musab al Zarqawi and the new Iraqi government, this is pretty bad news.

Shepperd: Wolf, it's very bad news. It's all the things you don't want to hear and you don't want to see and you don't want to suspect. Most of our troops over there are doing great work in terribly difficult situations. What appears to be going on over there particularly in the Haditha, we have been very careful not to convict these people ahead of time, but it looks like we're going to look at the initial report, the review of that report and then the investigation of what actually took place, and following that will be OK, this is what took place.

Zarqawi

CNN's LIVE FROM... June 8, 1:41 PM EST

Shepperd: ...This (Zarqawi's death) is a real coup for intelligence and cooperation between the Iraqis and the Americans, who were able to keep this secret for a long period of time.

Haditha

CNN's ANDERSON COOPER 360 DEGREES June 7, 10:00 PM EST

Shepperd: John, this is looking very, very ugly. I am convinced that the military will get to the bottom of this, that all of us will find out what happened. I'm convinced that it will take some time to do that. But I'm -- I don't think there's going to be any whitewash of this. I am very careful, as you stated in the first of the piece here, to not convict these people by things that we see, which are partial evidence. These men are going to have their right in court. But they are

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going to look at the investigation; they are going to look at those who reviewed the investigation, and then they are going to look at what happened. And it's sounding really ugly.

Host: General John Batiste has said that Secretary Donald Rumsfeld should resign, because his policies created conditions in Iraq, which led to the alleged atrocities in Haditha. You disagree with that position and feel that Batiste has crossed the line. Why do you feel that way?

Shepperd: First of all, I have got great respect for John Batiste. He's a good guy and, by reputation, a very good soldier. He's been in the middle of things in Iraq. I have not. I have visited there, but not been. But John's point, I think, is that the Secretary should resign because of the way the war is going. I don't think that the resignation of the secretary of defense right now will do anything. It wouldn't prevent a Haditha. He wasn't responsible for Haditha. This is a breakdown, if it happened, of command at the local level, values of the people that did it. That's what has to be zeroed in on, or you won't fix it. You're not looking for scapegoats. And the idea that, if we had simply had more troops there, none of this would have happened, I simply disagree with, John.

Guantanamo

CNN LIVE SATURDAY June 10, 5:00 PM EST

Host: When you take a look at how quickly they scrambled to get this press briefing -- it had to be a teleconference because they didn't even have time to get cameras there. And then you listen to the language in the briefing, the Rear Admiral, the commander down there at Guantanamo, called it an act of warfare, these suicides. What do you make of the language and the timing of this briefing?

Shepperd: They're doing about what I would do if I were still in uniform. It's the only thing you can do. Guantanamo has become a, as I say, a symbol of the United States. Zaraqawi was a symbol and Guantanamo is a symbol. And it's a very burdensome symbol on us.

And so what they are basically doing is trying to get out as much information as possible, letting them know letting us know what happened, but trying to be sensitive on this and trying to get ahead of the story, rather, because they know what's coming with this.

They know that the international community is going to be incensed -- did we kill these people? Were we careless? This is clearly an act of defiance, whether it's an act of warfare. That's a choice of words. But it's clearly an act of defiance by the prisoners here.

MILITARY ANALYSTS ON GUANTANAMO
AS OF JUNE 23, 11:00 AM
(To be updated later today)

Military analysts who visited Guantanamo on Wednesday have conducted interviews on the following stations, as of 11:00 AM on June 23rd. They include:

- Judge Andrew Napolitano:
 - Three Fox News Radio interviews/clips on “Brian and the Judge” – one was live (June 21, 22)
 - One appearance on the Big Story with John Gibson (6/22, 5:00 PM – listed below in two parts)
 - Two segments on Fox and Friends (6/23, 6:30 AM and 8:00 AM)
- Robert Maginnis:
 - While at Guantanamo, conducted three “live to tape” interviews for national broadcast
- Wayne Simmons:
 - One appearance on The Big Story w/ John Gibson (6/22, 5:51:58 PM)

JUDGE ANDREW NAPOLITANO

Fox News Radio: Brian & The Judge – Call-in from Judge Andrew Napolitano from Guantanamo Bay – June 21

** (Note – highlights from the clip, not a word for word account)*

The “Live from Gitmo” segment on “Brian & The Judge” was roughly two and a half minutes long. Judge Andrew Napolitano phoned in live from a building across from the U.S Terrorist Detention Facility at Guantanamo Bay Wednesday morning. He had not yet toured the facility or witnessed any interrogations. He wanted to learn about the “fairness of the process of how prisoners are transferred in and out of the prison,” and was most interested in sharing the numbers that he had already received.

- “800 in so far, 139 sent home as a result of the hearings”

Both the Judge and the host, Brian Kilmeade, were very surprised that they had not known about those numbers previously. The Judge elaborated further on numbers:

- “790 brought to Guantanamo, 290 transferred to their home countries or a third country if their home countries wouldn’t take them, 130 are awaiting transfer, which is a matter of logistics...”

The Judge sounded eager to tour the prison and said, “Everyone’s been very open. I’ve been amazed and thrilled with the openness with which they’ve answered my questions.”

Fox News Radio: Brian and the Judge – Live interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Cully Stimson on Guantanamo Bay Detainee Policy – 6/22, 0930

Judge Andrew P. Napolitano conducted a 10-minute interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Detainee Affairs Cully Stimson on Guantanamo Bay detainee policy after Napolitano returned from a trip to the detention center yesterday. Napolitano was impressed by the condition of the facilities and questioned the lack of reporting on the positive aspects of the center. He was also convinced of the guilt of the detainees and discussed the difficult legality issues in trying the detainees.

Impression of Guantanamo

Host: The military is almost delicate in the manner in which it treats these detainees; the treatment of the detainees far exceeds minimum requirements of the Geneva Convention. I’m shocked that I hadn’t seen anywhere in the media that 797 detainees had been there and 230 have

been released and 238 are ready to be released... no one reported... The facilities that are being built are as modern, sophisticated and as comfortable as any prisons that I have seen.

Stimson: I'm delighted you were able to go, and I'm not surprised by your observations. I'm happy to think that you think...that we far exceed the mandatory minimums required by Geneva. And everyone who goes down there believes the same thing...Over 1000 media have been down there from a very broad spectrum across the world, we've had 145 Congress members, 145 staffers go there, I took two European delegates down there to talk about how humane the conditions are.

Detainee Policy and Legality Issues

Host: Why was I surprised? Why were the media not reporting on the things that I saw? Is there an ideological bias because we are incarcerating people without trying them?

Stimson: Well, I'm not going to answer that...

Host: I apologize, that's a political question.

Stimson: Look, you know that any nation at war is entitled to detain its enemy, the Nazis who we were fortunate enough to detain, we detained them without charges...they didn't know when the war was going to end. There are some groups you can characterize one way or another that believe these people deserve more rights than the Nazis. That's just absurd.

Host: There's no legal basis for that. The legal conundrum that you guys are in. There's no question that the guys still there are the bad guys. There's no question that the military is convinced of it, I'm convinced of it. [After being briefed by FBI investigators of the evidence against the detainees,] the tracing of their behavior, even some who were in the United States, was the most terrifying. The problem is that not all this evidence would be [uphold... as evidence of the federal evidence either in federal court or in a traditional court marshal.]... So what do we do with them? We cannot send them back. They will kill the guards, their families, they will cause enormous damage and havoc to innocent Americans.

Stimson: [There are two concepts here,] one, is that the system you and I have lived in: criminal law. [Where there are defense lawyers, prosecutors, and evidence.] On the other side is history and the law of war. If you are lucky enough to detain your enemy, and there is no doubt that that is our enemy, and during the time of war, you can detain your enemy as long as you decide them as an enemy combatant.

Host: And here's where you've exceeded Geneva's wildest [expectations, for] the worst of the worst, you've given them lawyers!

Fox News Radio: Brian and the Judge - Account of Guantanamo Bay - June 22nd (time unknown)

Judge: We visited jail cells, we saw detainees, we saw them in their cells, we saw them in their exercise yard, we examined evidence, I actually had an opportunity...to look at the evidence that they have obtained from these guys which will be used in the military commissions...we received briefings from FBI agents about the activities of these detainees, in the United States, before they were arrested! Nothing was off grounds. No questions went unanswered. The military is extremely courteous, kind and forthcoming.

Big picture: Guantanamo Bay is an enormous naval base, it's 46 square miles...Since Castro came to power, he refuses to accept the lease payments but he knows we are there forever.

The prison at Guantanamo Bay is just one square mile of the 46 square mile, it is a very small portion of the naval base. The prison itself consists of six camps, with different levels of constraint depending the prisoners' behavior. Every prisoner receives truly top flight medical and dental attention. Every prisoner has his religious rights respected. The call to prayer occurs several times a day. The prison stops while those who wish to pray do pray. Obviously, one can work his way to a camp with more freedom with cooperation.

There is a surprising number of these prisoners who have cooperated. Cooperation consists of evidence information about what they know about other prisoners and what they know... (clip ends).

PART I: Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:00:27 PM

JOHN GIBSON, HOST: Hi, everybody. I'm John Gibson. A "Big Story" exclusive for you tonight -- our judge, just back from a visit to Guantanamo Bay, home to some of the world's most dangerous terrorists. The government invited Judge Andrew Napolitano and a select few others -- there's his snapshots -- to check out our prison in Cuba. He was allowed to personally examine evidence against the detainees, and he watched in an interrogation. The FOX News senior judicial analyst joins us now to break down the trip for us. So, judge, one of the most interesting facts I have heard about your trip already is, there are 100 guys there, bad guys, that they know have been in the United States casing this country. What, 37 trips?

ANDREW NAPOLITANO, FOX NEWS JUDICIAL ANALYST: Oh, John, it was terrifying. We -- we received about eight or nine briefings, starting on the flight down and concluding with as we were leaving Guantanamo Bay. Clearly, the most compelling -- and, from my point of view, the most terrifying -- was from the FBI agents. There's a full team of FBI agents down there.

And they tracked the behavior of many of the detainees and showed that nearly 100 of them, collectively, had visited 38 states in the United States, legal, lawful entry into the United States, some for as long as two years to -- to attend junior colleges, some for as short as two days, many to visit traditional American tourist sites. But they had all been -- but that many of them have been there.

GIBSON: Bad guys. They don't have the evidence to -- to put them on trial, and they don't want to let them go.

NAPOLITANO: This is the government's legal, not military or political -- this is the government's legal conundrum.

The government's chief lawyer and those working for him conceded to me that they do not have enough evidence to get a conviction before a military commission, which is the easiest, before a court-martial, which is the next most difficult, before a federal district court jury, which is the most difficult.

But they are satisfied, and they persuaded me from the evidence that they showed me, that these are such bad, evil human beings that to release them into society, whether in the United States or outside the United States, would be suicidal, because these guys would for sure return to kill their captors, to attack the families of the captors, or to wage war against us again in the Middle East.

GIBSON: You have been an opponent of what is going on in Gitmo. You have spoken out against it. And I think you have even written about it.

NAPOLITANO: I have written extensively about it.

GIBSON: In both your books.

You saw interrogations. Did you see anything objectionable?

NAPOLITANO: Oh, no, no, not at all. The people conducting the interrogations freely admit that the procedures that they used before 2004 were more aggressive than now.

When the Supreme Court came down with its 8-1 decision, saying the Constitution applies, the treaties apply, and the law applies, and the federal courts of jurisdiction, they stopped using the methods that about five FBI agents had complained about.

So, the interrogations that we saw, John, were about as mild as you and I conversing now. It's one interrogator. It's -- excuse me. It's one detainee. It's three interrogators, one of whom is a translator.

The whole thing is taped. Four people are watching the entire interrogation as it goes on. In my case, they allowed us to watch it through closed-circuit. So we weren't in the same room, and we

couldn't hear the words being used. We watched the guy being interrogated, who is the number-two person there.

The government has ranked them, all 400 of them, in the order of their influence over the others. This is the number-two person. And they interrogate him about every two weeks, just to see what information he wants to share with them or what lies he wants to give them, which allows them to compare what he said with what others are saying.

GIBSON: What has happened since the recent suicide of detainees?

NAPOLITANO: Well, since the recent suicide of detainees, the administrative tribunals have stopped. So, we thought we could see an administrative tribunal or a commission.

This is the interrogation of a -- of a detainee, formally and on the record and before a panel of three judges. Those stopped. Security has tightened considerably. And people who were about to get moved up to an area of the camp which is not as -- as aggressive were put back at the bottom of the line.

GIBSON: Judge Napolitano has opposed Gitmo for some time. A little later in the show, we are going to have him back, after he has seen this thing, to explain to us, what are we supposed to do about it?

Judge, we will see you in a little bit.

NAPOLITANO: OK, John.

PART II: Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:34:48 PM

GIBSON: President Bush saying he would like to shut down Gitmo. He's been under pressure from the international community about this prison for some time now. So should we? Our Fox News senior judicial analyst judge Andrew Napolitano just got back from an exclusive trip to Gitmo. That's him in his golf shirt looking around at the facility. Should we close it?

NAPOLITANO: No, I don't think we should close it.

GIBSON: Haven't you called for it to be closed?

NAPOLITANO: No, have never called for it to be closed. I have called for the people there to be put on trial. Because never in American history, I shouldn't say never because Abraham Lincoln did it during the Civil War and Woodrow Wilson did it in during World War rMD+IT_rMD-IT_I. But F.D.R., to his credit, tried the German saboteurs before they were executed. We've not since the Geneva conventions, which didn't exist until after World War II, held people without a trial. The president must know that he has spent over \$30 million in the past year there, expanding the size of it, building a truly high-tech, first-rate building. I've been in a lot of prisons in my prior life as a judge and I walked through this one. This is about as good as they get in terms of facilities for the inmate, as prisons go, comfort for the inmate and high-tech ability to do what you have to do in a prison. They spent a lot of money on it. They spent \$2.5 million last week on a fence to keep out local people that were wandering on to the property.

GIBSON: You know, we hear from the human rights community that one of the reasons that Gitmo should be closed is the sense of hopelessness that detainees have because they don't know how they would ever get out if they're going, are they entitled to hope?

NAPOLITANO: Well, it depends who you ask. That's a great question, John. In my view on the American constitution and the treaties we've signed, they are entitled to a trial. And if the government cannot prove their guilt, they shouldn't be there. The government knows this. How do I know this? Because they haven't sent any detainees there since the Supreme Court ruled 8-1 that the constitution applies. Where are all the detainees from Iraq? They stayed in Iraq. They're under the custody of the Iraqi authorities. There's no new people coming to Guantanamo Bay.

GIBSON: And the supreme court is going to decide something soon?

NAPOLITANO: Yes, the case is very complicated but boiled down, 400 detainees filed applications for habeas corpus, meaning they want the government to justify to a federal judge why they're incarcerated without a charge. After that was filed the Congress enacted a statute saying they can't do it. The government now wants to argue that that statute is retroactive, which

would wipe out the 400 applications. That's what the Supreme Court will decide. Are these 400 cases still alive? If they are, John, there will be 400 trials before federal judges in Washington, D.C. If they're not, there will just be military commissions with the right to appeal only after the commission rules.

GIBSON: One way or another there will be trials.

NAPOLITANO: One way or another there will be trials even though the top guys I spoke to yesterday said to me we can't prove cases against a lot of these guys. We just don't have the evidence.

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NAPOLITANO: They don't want to say that. They don't want to let them go because they don't trust the governments to which they might go and the 15 of the 230 that they did let go came back and fought against us.

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GIBSON: There have been, as you know, many accusations that detainees are tortured at Gitmo.

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GIBSON: Who is their best interrogator?

NAPOLITANO: Their best interrogator is a New York City homicide detective, who volunteered to become an ensign in the Navy so he could go down there and show them how to interrogate and he's a terrific guy.

GIBSON: So law and order prevails at Gitmo. Judge, thank you very much.

Fox News: Fox and Friends 6/23/2006 6:34:20 AM

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Fox News: Fox and Friends - 6/23/2006 8:05:59 AM

Steve: Judge Napolitano not exactly in to this zip code for a couple of days. he went to Gitmo.

Andrew: there I am in a jail cell.

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Andrew: you know what, they love to play checkers and they love to play chess. I asked about that.

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E.D.: now, compared to how American prisoners are treated at American jails, here in the United States, are these people being treated equally, better, worse?

Andrew: Far better, far better, far better. Not even close in terms of the quality of the food, in terms of the medical treatment, education, and recreation available. I mean, one of those pictures shows me using exercise equipment in the prison yard. That was just one of the many pieces, there it is Steve -- it was 110. There was no roof over that exercise.

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Steve: It was great you were able to make the trip. Judge, thank you for sharing that --

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WAYNE SIMMONS

Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:51:58 PM

JOHN GIBSON: Back now to our "Big Story" Guantanamo Bay exclusive. We've heard from our judge earlier about what he saw on his trip yesterday to that infamous detention facility. Former CIA operative Wayne Simmons was also on that trip. He joins us now with his thoughts. So, Wayne, the judge, you know, has always said that these guys should get some sort of trial. Isn't quite sure about whether you should close it. But he also described a situation where it seems like the interrogation techniques are so watered down, you wonder if they're getting anything out of these people at all. I mean, he described an interrogation technique that looked a little like Tony Soprano talking to his shrink. What do you get out of that?

WAYNE SIMMONS, FORMER CIA OPERATIVE: Listen, and the judge is absolutely correct. I had the very good fortune and the honor of being on the first contingent to go to

Guantanamo Bay a year ago, and when I came back, I wrote some pretty scathing things about the interrogation methods, which I found much, much too soft. I thought we should use much harsher methods to get the time sensitive intel.

I can tell you now, after a year I've changed in my position, and I'll tell you why. What is happening is the command and control face on the battlefield is changing, and what we now see happening, John, is that we're able to go back to some of these detainees and secure information about who we believe is now the new face of the command and control in the battlefield, and get a description of these individuals and where they are and where their families are.

So would I like to see harsher conditions -- not torture but stronger conditions in interrogation? Absolutely. But...

GIBSON: But I mean, you know, the judge described it as three people in there, a guy sits on a couch, they talk to him. Nobody else. There's no sleep deprivation, no food deprivation. It's not too hot. It's not too cold. He's not being water boarded. He doesn't have snarling dogs. He's just chatting with them. What do they get out of that?

SIMMONS: Well, they're using a technique whereby they build a bond and whereby they hope that as time passes, that bond will yield verifiable intel. And it appears that is working.

But I will tell you, one of the most amazing things that I saw, and one of the things that made me very, very happy, and as the judge said, it was a scary time, was that we're finding out that a lot of the intel we're getting from these detainees is being used by our FBI, and these men and women of the FBI are doing one incredible job of hunting down the cells inside the United States.

And unfortunately, we're not allowed to stand up on the mountain and scream at the top of our lungs, look what we did or look what they've done, and that's unfortunate because the American people would be proud of what they see the FBI having done.

GIBSON: Wayne, you won't mind if I needle you just a little bit. The judge says the best interrogator they got was a New York City cop.

SIMMONS: Well, listen, I don't know if that's the case. But I can tell you...

GIBSON: I mean, where are the CIA guys, where are the FBI guys? How come they're behind a New York City cop?

SIMMONS: Listen, all of these men and women that are doing those interrogations are outstanding. So I'll let the judge make his assessment, but I will tell you they are -- and I'd love to mention names, but I can't for obvious reasons, but they are doing an incredible job, outstanding job. And I want to show you one thing quickly if I can. I don't know if you can pan in on this medal that was given to me by the commander of JTF Guantanamo, Admiral Harris. And on this, if you can see this, it says, it says "honor bound." And these fine young men and women that are guarding these animals -- and that's what they are, the nastiest people on the planet -- they are shouting "honor bound" at every opportunity.

GIBSON: All right, Wayne Simmons, thanks a lot. Appreciate it.

SIMMONS: Thank you, John.



MILITARY ANALYSTS ON GUANTANAMO
AS OF JUNE 23, 11:00 AM
(To be updated later today)

Military analysts who visited Guantanamo on Wednesday have conducted interviews on the following stations, as of 11:00 AM on June 23rd. They include:

- Judge Andrew Napolitano:
 - Three Fox News Radio interviews/clips on “Brian and the Judge” – one was live (June 21, 22)
 - One appearance on the Big Story with John Gibson (6/22, 5:00 PM – listed below in two parts)
 - Two segments on Fox and Friends (6/23, 6:30 AM and 8:00 AM)
- Robert Maginnis:
 - While at Guantanamo, conducted three “live to tape” interviews for national broadcast
- Wayne Simmons:
 - One appearance on The Big Story w/ John Gibson (6/22, 5:51:58 PM)

JUDGE ANDREW NAPOLITANO

Fox News Radio: Brian & The Judge – Call-in from Judge Andrew Napolitano from Guantanamo Bay – June 21

** (Note – highlights from the clip, not a word for word account)*

The “Live from Gitmo” segment on “Brian & The Judge” was roughly two and a half minutes long. Judge Andrew Napolitano phoned in live from a building across from the U.S Terrorist Detention Facility at Guantanamo Bay Wednesday morning. He had not yet toured the facility or witnessed any interrogations. He wanted to learn about the “fairness of the process of how prisoners are transferred in and out of the prison,” and was most interested in sharing the numbers that he had already received.

- “800 in so far, 139 sent home as a result of the hearings”

Both the Judge and the host, Brian Kilmeade, were very surprised that they had not known about those numbers previously. The Judge elaborated further on numbers:

- “790 brought to Guantanamo, 290 transferred to their home countries or a third country if their home countries wouldn’t take them, 130 are awaiting transfer, which is a matter of logistics...”

The Judge sounded eager to tour the prison and said, “Everyone’s been very open. I’ve been amazed and thrilled with the openness with which they’ve answered my questions.”

Fox News Radio: Brian and the Judge – Live interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Cully Stimson on Guantanamo Bay Detainee Policy – 6/22, 0930

Judge Andrew P. Napolitano conducted a 10-minute interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Detainee Affairs Cully Stimson on Guantanamo Bay detainee policy after Napolitano returned from a trip to the detention center yesterday. Napolitano was impressed by the condition of the facilities and questioned the lack of reporting on the positive aspects of the center. He was also convinced of the guilt of the detainees and discussed the difficult legality issues in trying the detainees.

Impression of Guantanamo

Host: The military is almost delicate in the manner in which it treats these detainees; the treatment of the detainees far exceeds minimum requirements of the Geneva Convention. I'm shocked that I hadn't seen anywhere in the media that 797 detainees had been there and 230 have been released and 238 are ready to be released... no one reported... The facilities that are being built are as modern, sophisticated and as comfortable as any prisons that I have seen.

Stimson: I'm delighted you were able to go, and I'm not surprised by your observations. I'm happy to think that you think...that we far exceed the mandatory minimums required by Geneva. And everyone who goes down there believes the same thing...Over 1000 media have been down there from a very broad spectrum across the world, we've had 145 Congress members, 145 staffers go there, I took two European delegates down there to talk about how humane the conditions are.

Detainee Policy and Legality Issues

Host: Why was I surprised? Why were the media not reporting on the things that I saw? Is there an ideological bias because we are incarcerating people without trying them?

Stimson: Well, I'm not going to answer that...

Host: I apologize, that's a political question.

Stimson: Look, you know that any nation at war is entitled to detain its enemy, the Nazis who we were fortunate enough to detain, we detained them without charges...they didn't know when the war was going to end. There are some groups you can characterize one way or another that believe these people deserve more rights than the Nazis. That's just absurd.

Host: There's no legal basis for that. The legal conundrum that you guys are in. There's no question that the guys still there are the bad guys. There's no question that the military is convinced of it, I'm convinced of it. [After being briefed by FBI investigators of the evidence against the detainees,] the tracing of their behavior, even some who were in the United States, was the most terrifying. The problem is that not all this evidence would be [uphold... as evidence of the federal evidence either in federal court or in a traditional court marshal]... So what do we do with them? We cannot send them back. They will kill the guards, their families, they will cause enormous damage and havoc to innocent Americans.

Stimson: [There are two concepts here,] one, is that the system you and I have lived in: criminal law. [Where there are defense lawyers, prosecutors, and evidence.] On the other side is history and the law of war. If you are lucky enough to detain your enemy, and there is no doubt that that is our enemy, and during the time of war, you can detain your enemy as long as you decide them as an enemy combatant.

Host: And here's where you've exceeded Geneva's wildest [expectations, for] the worst of the worst, you've given them lawyers!

Fox News Radio: Brian and the Judge - Account of Guantanamo Bay - June 22nd (time unknown)

Judge: We visited jail cells, we saw detainees, we saw them in their cells, we saw them in their exercise yard, we examined evidence, I actually had an opportunity...to look at the evidence that they have obtained from these guys which will be used in the military commissions...we received briefings from FBI agents about the activities of these detainees, in the United States, before they were arrested! Nothing was off grounds. No questions went unanswered. The military is extremely courteous, kind and forthcoming.

Big picture: Guantanamo Bay is an enormous naval base, it's 46 square miles...Since Castro came to power, he refuses to accept the lease payments but he knows we are there forever.

The prison at Guantanamo Bay is just one square mile of the 46 square mile, it is a very small portion of the naval base. The prison itself consists of six camps, with different levels of constraint depending the prisoners' behavior. Every prisoner receives truly top flight medical and dental attention. Every prisoner has his religious rights respected. The call to prayer occurs

several times a day. The prison stops while those who wish to pray do pray. Obviously, one can work his way to a camp with more freedom with cooperation.

There is a surprising number of these prisoners who have cooperated. Cooperation consists of evidence information about what they know about other prisoners and what they know... (clip ends).

PART I: Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:00:27 PM

JOHN GIBSON, HOST: Hi, everybody. I'm John Gibson. A "Big Story" exclusive for you tonight -- our judge, just back from a visit to Guantanamo Bay, home to some of the world's most dangerous terrorists. The government invited Judge Andrew Napolitano and a select few others -- there's his snapshots -- to check out our prison in Cuba. He was allowed to personally examine evidence against the detainees, and he watched in an interrogation. The FOX News senior judicial analyst joins us now to break down the trip for us. So, judge, one of the most interesting facts I have heard about your trip already is, there are 100 guys there, bad guys, that they know have been in the United States casing this country. What, 37 trips?

ANDREW NAPOLITANO, FOX NEWS JUDICIAL ANALYST: Oh, John, it was terrifying. We -- we received about eight or nine briefings, starting on the flight down and concluding with as we were leaving Guantanamo Bay. Clearly, the most compelling -- and, from my point of view, the most terrifying -- was from the FBI agents. There's a full team of FBI agents down there.

And they tracked the behavior of many of the detainees and showed that nearly 100 of them, collectively, had visited 38 states in the United States, legal, lawful entry into the United States, some for as long as two years to -- to attend junior colleges, some for as short as two days, many to visit traditional American tourist sites. But they had all been -- but that many of them have been there.

GIBSON: Bad guys. They don't have the evidence to -- to put them on trial, and they don't want to let them go.

NAPOLITANO: This is the government's legal, not military or political -- this is the government's legal conundrum.

The government's chief lawyer and those working for him conceded to me that they do not have enough evidence to get a conviction before a military commission, which is the easiest, before a court-martial, which is the next most difficult, before a federal district court jury, which is the most difficult.

But they are satisfied, and they persuaded me from the evidence that they showed me, that these are such bad, evil human beings that to release them into society, whether in the United States or outside the United States, would be suicidal, because these guys would for sure return to kill their captors, to attack the families of the captors, or to wage war against us again in the Middle East.

GIBSON: You have been an opponent of what is going on in Gitmo. You have spoken out against it. And I think you have even written about it.

NAPOLITANO: I have written extensively about it.

GIBSON: In both your books.

You saw interrogations. Did you see anything objectionable?

NAPOLITANO: Oh, no, no, not at all. The people conducting the interrogations freely admit that the procedures that they used before 2004 were more aggressive than now.

When the Supreme Court came down with its 8-1 decision, saying the Constitution applies, the treaties apply, and the law applies, and the federal courts of jurisdiction, they stopped using the methods that about five FBI agents had complained about.

So, the interrogations that we saw, John, were about as mild as you and I conversing now. It's one interrogator. It's -- excuse me. It's one detainee. It's three interrogators, one of whom is a translator.

The whole thing is taped. Four people are watching the entire interrogation as it goes on. In my case, they allowed us to watch it through closed-circuit. So we weren't in the same room, and we couldn't hear the words being used. We watched the guy being interrogated, who is the number-two person there.

The government has ranked them, all 400 of them, in the order of their influence over the others. This is the number-two person. And they interrogate him about every two weeks, just to see what information he wants to share with them or what lies he wants to give them, which allows them to compare what he said with what others are saying.

GIBSON: What has happened since the recent suicide of detainees?

NAPOLITANO: Well, since the recent suicide of detainees, the administrative tribunals have stopped. So, we thought we could see an administrative tribunal or a commission.

This is the interrogation of a -- of a detainee, formally and on the record and before a panel of three judges. Those stopped. Security has tightened considerably. And people who were about to get moved up to an area of the camp which is not as -- as aggressive were put back at the bottom of the line.

GIBSON: Judge Napolitano has opposed Gitmo for some time. A little later in the show, we are going to have him back, after he has seen this thing, to explain to us, what are we supposed to do about it?

Judge, we will see you in a little bit.

NAPOLITANO: OK, John.

PART II: Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:34:48 PM

GIBSON: President Bush saying he would like to shut down Gitmo. He's been under pressure from the international community about this prison for some time now. So should we? Our Fox News senior judicial analyst judge Andrew Napolitano just got back from an exclusive trip to Gitmo. That's him in his golf shirt looking around at the facility. Should we close it?

NAPOLITANO: No, I don't think we should close it.

GIBSON: Haven't you called for it to be closed?

NAPOLITANO: No, have never called for it to be closed. I have called for the people there to be put on trial. Because never in American history, I shouldn't say never because Abraham Lincoln did it during the Civil War and Woodrow Wilson did it in during World War rMD+IT_rMD-IT_I. But F.D.R., to his credit, tried the German saboteurs before they were executed. We've not since the Geneva conventions, which didn't exist until after World War II, held people without a trial. The president must know that he has spent over \$30 million in the past year there, expanding the size of it, building a truly high-tech, first-rate building. I've been in a lot of prisons in my prior life as a judge and I walked through this one. This is about as good as they get in terms of facilities for the inmate, as prisons go, comfort for the inmate and high-tech ability to do what you have to do in a prison. They spent a lot of money on it. They spent \$2.5 million last week on a fence to keep out local people that were wandering on to the property.

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GIBSON: So law and order prevails at Gitmo. Judge, thank you very much.

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JOHN GIBSON: Back now to our "Big Story" Guantanamo Bay exclusive. We've heard from our judge earlier about what he saw on his trip yesterday to that infamous detention facility. Former CIA operative Wayne Simmons was also on that trip. He joins us now with his thoughts. So, Wayne, the judge, you know, has always said that these guys should get some sort of trial. Isn't quite sure about whether you should close it. But he also described a situation where it seems like the interrogation techniques are so watered down, you wonder if they're getting anything out of these people at all. I mean, he described an interrogation technique that looked a little like Tony Soprano talking to his shrink. What do you get out of that?

WAYNE SIMMONS, FORMER CIA OPERATIVE: Listen, and the judge is absolutely correct. I had the very good fortune and the honor of being on the first contingent to go to

Guantanamo Bay a year ago, and when I came back, I wrote some pretty scathing things about the interrogation methods, which I found much, much too soft. I thought we should use much harsher methods to get the time sensitive intel.

I can tell you now, after a year I've changed in my position, and I'll tell you why. What is happening is the command and control face on the battlefield is changing, and what we now see happening, John, is that we're able to go back to some of these detainees and secure information about who we believe is now the new face of the command and control in the battlefield, and get a description of these individuals and where they are and where their families are.

So would I like to see harsher conditions -- not torture but stronger conditions in interrogation? Absolutely. But...

GIBSON: But I mean, you know, the judge described it as three people in there, a guy sits on a couch, they talk to him. Nobody else. There's no sleep deprivation, no food deprivation. It's not too hot. It's not too cold. He's not being water boarded. He doesn't have snarling dogs. He's just chatting with them. What do they get out of that?

SIMMONS: Well, they're using a technique whereby they build a bond and whereby they hope that as time passes, that bond will yield verifiable intel. And it appears that is working.

But I will tell you, one of the most amazing things that I saw, and one of the things that made me very, very happy, and as the judge said, it was a scary time, was that we're finding out that a lot of the intel we're getting from these detainees is being used by our FBI, and these men and women of the FBI are doing one incredible job of hunting down the cells inside the United States.

And unfortunately, we're not allowed to stand up on the mountain and scream at the top of our lungs, look what we did or look what they've done, and that's unfortunate because the American people would be proud of what they see the FBI having done.

GIBSON: Wayne, you won't mind if I needle you just a little bit. The judge says the best interrogator they got was a New York City cop.

SIMMONS: Well, listen, I don't know if that's the case. But I can tell you...

GIBSON: I mean, where are the CIA guys, where are the FBI guys? How come they're behind a New York City cop?

SIMMONS: Listen, all of these men and women that are doing those interrogations are outstanding. So I'll let the judge make his assessment, but I will tell you they are -- and I'd love to mention names, but I can't for obvious reasons, but they are doing an incredible job, outstanding job. And I want to show you one thing quickly if I can. I don't know if you can pan in on this medal that was given to me by the commander of JTF Guantanamo, Admiral Harris. And on this, if you can see this, it says, it says "honor bound." And these fine young men and women that are guarding these animals -- and that's what they are, the nastiest people on the planet -- they are shouting "honor bound" at every opportunity.

GIBSON: All right, Wayne Simmons, thanks a lot. Appreciate it.

SIMMONS: Thank you, John.

MILITARY ANALYSTS ON GUANTANAMO

AS OF JUNE 30th, 2:00 PM

Military analysts who visited Guantanamo on Wednesday have discussed their trip on the following stations. They include:

- Former Army Undersecretary Joe Reeder:
 - Fox News Live (June 29)
 - “The detention center is absolutely valid and legal. It was authorized by Congress”
 - Fox News Dayside (June 29)
 - “There are 100 (detainees) now, approximately, out of the 450 that are slated to be transferred. This is how bad some of them are. 50 of them, their home countries won't receive them, won't take them back. We're not dealing with paragons of citizenship here”
- Retired Major General Robert Scales
 - Two appearances on Fox News Live (June 29)
 - “These prisoners, who are intending to kill Americans, get 4200 calories a day. They have four detainees for each medical aid professional who will take care of them and they're living in a prison, which, by American standards, is at the top of the scale. What bothers me is the inequity I saw down there yesterday as juxtaposed against the Supreme Court ruling, which in my mind at least, doesn't really accept the fact that this is a nation that's fighting in a war”
 - “I think the young men and women who are guarding these people down there are doing a marvelous job”

Coverage from the following analysts who also attended the trip has not been found using the tools available to us:

- Captain Chuck Nash, USN, Retired
- Captain Martin Strong, USN, Retired
- Major Andy Messing, USAR, Retired
- Command Sergeant Major Steve Greer, USA, Retired

Joe Reeder

Fox News Live 06/29/06 12:32:57

Host: I'm going to talk to Joe Reeder, former Under Secretary of the Army. Just back from Guantanamo. Were you talking about this (the decision) last night at Guantanamo?

Reeder: We didn't talk about the decision a whole lot. We knew it was coming out. Mainly yesterday was just about being at the detention center at Guantanamo Bay.

Host: From a legal standpoint, do you have an opinion about what to do with them?

Reeder: Now or at the outset?

Host: Why don't we take the present?

Reeder: At present I think we're doing everything we can do right now. Approximately there are 450 down there right now – over 100 slated for transfer. Frankly, these are fundamentally bad customers. There are a lot of them. Upwards of 50 of them that their own countries won't take back.

Host: If 100 are going to be sent back, that leaves roughly about 360. 14 were sent back to Saudi Arabia. When they are sent back to their country, are they jailed or set free?

Reeder: The whole gammit – everything you said... it depends on the country. But my point is that their host countries won't even take them back. Tells you something about who you're dealing with. They are very dangerous people.

Host: Will Gitmo be forced to close or do you keep it open as you look for some sort of legislative agreement?

Reeder: I don't think this decision has any impact at all -- the detention center is absolutely valid and legal. It was authorized by Congress. The problem with the Supreme Court decision today, you have a lot of fault to share. You have fault with the President and with Congress. Fundamentally the President should have asked for legislation. He is supposed to be the leader. We need leadership. He is now going to ask for that legislation. It is high time, overtime. It was struck down by a court favorable to him 5-3. He should have asked for the legislation before instead of forging ahead....

We need different rules on the battlefield. You can't parachute F. Lee Bailey to give rights... You don't have chain of custody. You need fundamental fairness. All of this can be solved with legislation.

Host: Thank you, Joe. Just back from Guantanamo last night.

Fox News Dayside 06/29/06 13:04:56

Part II

Host: Let's have the third member of the panel – Joe Reeder, former Undersecretary of the Army joins us from DC. Joe – when were you at Gitmo?

Reeder: I was there yesterday.

Host: And certainly not as a prisoner... you were down there yesterday. Thank you for joining us. Who has a question for this panel of three here?...

Juliet: Real quickly, General Scales... came in this morning. He was talking and said, he's really concerned about this ruling because he says the enemy will be using now our confusion, the U.S.'s could be fusion over -- confusion owe who these people are and how to define them. They'll be using that to our disadvantage. What do you do about that?

Reeder: Well, I think General Scales is absolutely right. It is incumbent on the President to work with congress. It is a two-way street now. There have been bills pending. Loretta Sanchez, hr-3044. Same bill, same language. Senator Graham for over a year, pending. the concurring opinion of Justice Kennedy is crystal clear. Congress can solve this problem. It was struck down because the President barged ahead without Congressional authority. It needs to get solved. It needs to get solved right now. And you need different rules. Not unfair rules. But on the battlefield, you have a complete different scenario – you're on the ragged edge of combat. You can't jump in, and parachute F. Lee Bailey in and give rights on the field... when you get evidence, you throw it in the Humvee, you

don't have a chain of custody. The question really is, is it fundamentally fair? We tried Milosevic in Europe under these same rules. The Nuremberg trials were under these rules. We just need legislation...

Juliet: Secretary, if these people are let back out into the world, what is that going to do in the minds of our military men and women who are serving in places like Iraq and Afghanistan?

Reeder: They won't be let back out, they're detainees, they're not prisoners of war. They don't deserve to be treated as prisoners of war. And they don't adhere to the old rules that makes them prisoners of war. They won't be released. We've already released 250. There's 100 now, approximately, out of the 450 that are slated to be transferred. This is how bad some of them are. 50 of them, their home countries won't receive them, won't take them back. We're not dealing with paragons of citizenship here.

Audience member: If the detainees are released, should we consider there might be another terrorist attack in the U.S.?

Reeder: Well, certainly some of them, that's true as to some of them. That's what we're trying to come up with. A process that everyone agreed to that is constitutional that sorts those things out.

Bob Scales

Fox News Live 06/29/06 14:03:52

Host: Joining us now, Bob Scales. A Fox news military analyst, welcome.

General Scales let me start with you, and ask you - the Democratic Majority Leader, Nancy Pelosi, is calling this a triumph for the law, saying that everyone is entitled to the basic guarantees of the of the American justice system. Do you agree?

Scales: Well, I think to some degree. This is the United States. We are a nation that's ruled by laws. But we're not talking about crime on the streets here. We're talking about 330 hard-core... 85% of whom have openly said to their guards and their interrogators, when released, they will immediately begin to kill Americans. 95% of them are Sunnis. These are not just your common criminals. These are men, who when released, should they ever be released, and God forbid they will have be released, will immediately go back on the terrorist network and begin the process of doing what they were doing before they were captured. To me, sure. Here's the deal. What's important is the American people have to decide, is this a nation at war? Or is this a nation at peace? If we're at war, we can use the police and the courts to clean up the terrorist problem. If we're a nation at war, we have to take extraordinary efforts in order to protect the American people. It is just that simple...

Host: Let me just get General Scales in here while I have a little time. You were there yesterday. You had a chance to observe how things were run there. How difficult will it be to make these changes, particularly for those who are capturing these detainees on the front lines, to incorporate something they're asking for - something like Miranda Rights.

Scales: That's a great question. The only advantage our young men and women have there who are guarding these guys is time. They have the ability to use time as a weapon against these guys. These young men and women have been assaulted. They've been beaten. They've been treated in ways that I can't talk about on the air. And you turn around, the other side, and these prisoners, who are intending to kill Americans, get 4200

calories a day. They have four detainees for each medical aid professional who will take care of them and they're living in a prison which by American standards, is at the top of the scale. What bothers me is the inequity I saw down there yesterday as juxtaposed against the Supreme Court ruling, which in my mind might be, at least, doesn't really accept the fact that this is a nation that's fighting in a war.

Host: General Scales, thank you very much. Appreciate your time.

Fox News Live 06/29/06 10:29:12

Host: Let's get reaction from someone that was at Guantanamo Bay yesterday, Retired Major General Bob Scales. General, give us your quick take on what our military personnel retired and otherwise, around the world are thinking about this?

Scales: I think we're all a little bit amazed by this, Jon. After all, to try to invoke the tenets of the Geneva Convention, for non-state actors, for people who are essentially - for lack of a better term, international murderers - to me is absolutely unbelievable. One of the things our veterans need to understand is that this ruling, bad as it is, does not affect the status of the detainees. Even if they're prisoners of war, they're still going to be detained in Guantanamo and not be loose to go back and kill Americans again.

Host: I don't know whether to be proud of my country for extending the rights and freedoms that we sort of take for granted here to a bunch of people who, you know, in my view, don't deserve it or whether to be appalled that, you know, the Supreme Court is throwing this blanket of protections over people who, you know, clearly are -- don't follow the rules of war themselves.

Scales: I think I would go with appalled. Frankly, I think this is amazing. It comes down to this, Jon. What the American people and the Supreme Court and the rest of the people of the enlightened states of the world have to understand or have to decide for themselves - are we in a state of war or are we not in a state of war? Are we in a condition where we can apply the rules of law and the works of police forces to stop global terrorism or are we going to have to rely on the tenets of war and our military to do it? This is a very important consideration... We have to get together and decide this. The enemy is using our confusion about the conditions in the world today to their advantage and ultimately it's going to wind up with innocent dead in Europe and the US and elsewhere in the world.

Host: When the camel courier or the donkey gets word to Osama bin Laden in his cave somewhere that this is the decision of the US Supreme Court, he's going to be chuckling, don't you think?

Scales: I think so. One of the things the enemy really enjoys is the confusion and the legal twists and turns that Western societies go through in trying to deal with their acts of barbarity. The little bit of solace here though is that this doesn't affect events in Guantanamo. These guys are still detained. I think the young men and women who are guarding these people down there are doing a marvelous job and they'll remain in Guantanamo because even -- remember, the prisoner of war status is not a punishment for crime. It's the status to take those guys off the battlefield and for now they're still off the battlefield.

Host: General Scales, we'll be talking more with you about this incredible decision from the US Supreme Court.

**MILITARY ANALYSTS ON GUANTANAMO:
COVERAGE FROM ANALYSTS ATTENDING THE
JUNE 28 AND THE JUNE 21 TRIPS**

FROM THE JUNE 28th TRIP:

Military analysts who visited Guantanamo on June 28th have discussed their trip on the following stations, as of 3:00 PM on June 30th. They include:

- Former Army Undersecretary Joe Reeder:
 - Fox News Live (June 29)
 - “The detention center is absolutely valid and legal. It was authorized by Congress”
 - Fox News Dayside (June 29)
 - “There are 100 (detainees) now, approximately, out of the 450 that are slated to be transferred. This is how bad some of them are. 50 of them, their home countries won't receive them, won't take them back. We're not dealing with paragons of citizenship here”
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- Captain Chuck Nash, USN, Retired
- Captain Martin Strong, USN, Retired
- Major Andy Messing, USAR, Retired
- Command Sergeant Major Steve Greer, USA, Retired

FROM THE JUNE 21st TRIP:

Military analysts who visited Guantanamo on June 21st have conducted interviews on the following stations, as of 11:00 AM on June 23rd. They include:

- Judge Andrew Napolitano:
 - One appearance on Fox News: O'Reilly Factor (June 29)
 - Three Fox News Radio interviews/clips on “Brian and the Judge”— one was live (June 21, 22)

- Two appearances on the Big Story with John Gibson (6/29 and 6/22, 5:00 PM – listed below in two parts)
- Two segments on Fox and Friends (6/23, 6:30 AM and 8:00 AM)
- Robert Maginnis:
 - While at Guantanamo, conducted three “live to tape” interviews for national broadcast
- Wayne Simmons:
 - One appearance on The Big Story w/ John Gibson (6/22, 5:51:58 PM)

Coverage from the following analysts who also attended the trip has not been found using the tools available to us:

- Mr. Bing West (Fmr ASD, USMC, Retired)
- Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Maginnis (USA, Retired)

COVERAGE FROM ANALYSTS ATTENDING THE JUNE 28 TRIP

Joe Reeder

Fox News Live 06/29/06 12:32:57

Host: I'm going to talk to Joe Reeder, former Under Secretary of the Army. Just back from Guantanamo. Were you talking about this (the decision) last night at Guantanamo?

Reeder: We didn't talk about the decision a whole lot. We knew it was coming out. Mainly yesterday was just about being at the detention center at Guantanamo Bay.

Host: From a legal standpoint, do you have an opinion about what to do with them?

Reeder: Now or at the outset?

Host: Why don't we take the present?

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Host: If 100 are going to be sent back, that leaves roughly about 360. 14 were sent back to Saudi Arabia. When they are sent back to their country, are they jailed or set free?

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Host: Will Gitmo be forced to close or do you keep it open as you look for some sort of legislative agreement?

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Fox News Dayside 06/29/06 13:04:56

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Host: Let's have the third member of the panel – Joe Reeder, former Undersecretary of the Army joins us from DC. Joe – when were you at Gitmo?

Reeder: I was there yesterday.

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Juliet: Real quickly, General Scales... came in this morning. He was talking and said, he's really concerned about this ruling because he says the enemy will be using now our confusion, the U.S.'s could be fusion over -- confusion owe who these people are and how to define them. They'll be using that to our disadvantage. What do you do about that?

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Host: General Scales, we'll be talking more with you about this incredible decision from the US Supreme Court.

COVERAGE FROM ANALYSTS ATTENDING THE JUNE 21 TRIP

JUDGE ANDREW NAPOLITANO

Fox News: The Big Story With John Gibson - 06/29/06 17:04:15

GIBSON: Joining us now to break down this big decision, FOX News senior judicial analyst Judge Andrew Napolitano. He recently visited Gitmo. He is also the author of "The New York Times" best-seller "The Constitution in Exile." Just on the point the president raised right there, does this decision put, as he said, killers out on the street?

ANDREW NAPOLITANO, FOX NEWS JUDICIAL ANALYST: No. The president is quite correct. It does not. It basically says the only two ways you can try them, Mr. President, are in a federal district court in the mainland of the United States, a most undesirable choice, or in a regular traditional court-martial, which you can establish right there at Guantanamo Bay. But it does force him to empty the jails.

GIBSON: OK, well, then, what was this issue about, because he wanted to run them through a military commission or a court-martial, right?

NAPOLITANO: Well, he -- there's a difference between a military commission and court-martial. And that's what the whole case comes down to. The Supreme Court said, first, the Geneva Conventions apply to the whole war on terror, what's going on at Guantanamo Bay and everywhere around the world. And the Geneva Convention says the following. You can't set up a temporary penal tribunal, as they call it, just to try one set of problems. You have to use a regular, preexisting court system, like the U.S. district courts or regular court-martials. It then said the other reason you have to use regular court-martials or a U.S. district court is because they provide the protections against hearsay and use of secret evidence that the commissions permit, but the U.S. Constitution and Geneva Conventions won't allow.

GIBSON: OK. So, explain what it is they wanted to do. They wanted to say, look, we have got this evidence against you. We will show it to the judge, but we are not going to show you.

NAPOLITANO: Right, or they wanted to say, so and so told us, when they arrested Mr. Mohammed, that had a gun in his hand, even though the so and so is now dead, so, he obviously can't testify. And the Supreme Court said the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the federal military rules, the U.S. Constitution, and the Geneva Conventions prohibit those things. They prohibit hearsay and they prohibit the use of secret evidence. So, now the president is left with this very, very difficult choice. He must decide between revealing -- declassifying classified evidence and revealing its source, and using it in a courtroom to convict someone, or not trying that person and letting them go. He has to decide which of those awful choices is less painful to the country.

GIBSON: OK, explain this, if you can. Apparently, Justice Breyer writing in a concurring opinion -- that is, he agreed with the majority opinion -- said the ruling only applies to Hamdan, and not others, and that there's nothing to stop the president from approaching Congress to seek the authority he thinks is necessary to do what he wants.

NAPOLITANO: I -- I can't explain it, because the majority opinion, which he signed, disagrees with that. The majority opinion says it applies to everybody at Guantanamo Bay. And the majority opinion says, because the Constitution and the Geneva Convention require that you can't use secret evidence and you have to use a regular court-martial, and Congress can't change the Constitution or the Geneva Convention, no legislation that the Congress can write can accommodate this decision.

GIBSON: OK, if you have -- you were there. You -- and the general that was guiding you around was anticipating this result, this -- this decision, right?

NAPOLITANO: Yes, he was, as was the State Department.

GIBSON: And the general was going to appear on the air...

NAPOLITANO: Yes.

GIBSON: ... with you.

NAPOLITANO: Yes.

GIBSON: He promised to do that.

NAPOLITANO: Yes.

GIBSON: And he wouldn't do it. Why?

NAPOLITANO: Well, he's mad.

(CROSSTALK)

NAPOLITANO: He's probably angry, because, to be honest with you, the court went farther than it had to, by declaring that the Geneva Conventions apply to the entire war on

terror, not just Guantanamo, which was the only issue before them. They have basically said to the president, you got special-ops in a back alley in Baghdad, Geneva Convention applies. You got the CIA in the basement of a safe house in Afghanistan, the Geneva Convention applies. The government, the Justice Department has been arguing before every federal court that wants to hear this in the country for the past four years that the Geneva Convention does not apply. And the Supreme Court has rejected that. That adds to the president's burdens in prosecuting the war on terror.

GIBSON: Judge Andrew Napolitano -- Judge, thank you very much. Of course, the judge just visited Gitmo.

Fox News: The O'Reilly Factor - 06/29/06 20:05:10

O'REILLY: (Regarding the Supreme Court decision on Guantanamo): What do you think's going to happen, Judge?

ANDREW NAPOLITANO, FOX NEWS SENIOR JUDICIAL ANALYST: I think the President's going to be faced with a very, very difficult choice of how to prosecute these people, because the Geneva Conventions say you can't use temporary penal tribunals. You can only use...

O'REILLY: Well, what was the Nuremberg trial like?

NAPOLITANO: Nuremberg preexisted the Geneva Conventions, Bill. The Geneva Conventions are 47 to 49. Nuremberg is 45 to 46.

O'REILLY: So right now, you're saying Nuremberg would be outlawed?

NAPOLITANO: Yes.

O'REILLY: War crimes trials would be outlawed?

NAPOLITANO: Yes.

O'REILLY: Really?

NAPOLITANO: Because the Geneva Conventions say you have to use a preexisting judicial mechanism, meaning either a federal...

O'REILLY: Military tribunals pre-exist. They try people all the time.

NAPOLITANO: No. The President established military tribunals just for Guantanamo Bay. That's what the Supreme Court said he can't do.

O'REILLY: Well, move them to Fort Leavenworth and have a military tribunal to do that.

NAPOLITANO: It doesn't matter where they are, you can't set them up for one problem. You have to use either a federal district court, which no one wants them to do.

O'REILLY: Right.

NAPOLITANO: Or court martials.

O'REILLY: What if we bail from the Geneva Convention?

NAPOLITANO: That would have other repercussions, be very difficult to do.

O'REILLY: Yes.

NAPOLITANO: But that would relieve the country of the burden of complying with the Geneva Conventions.

O'REILLY: All right, so what the Supreme Court has done is it's constrained the war on terror.

NAPOLITANO: Yes.

O'REILLY: Handcuffed the commander in chief.

NAPOLITANO: One way to look at it. The other way to look at it is it's required him to follow the rule of law. The military commissions that he wanted allowed secret evidence and hearsay. Supreme Court said secret evidence, the government can see it and the judges can see it, but the defendant and his lawyer can't, violates the Geneva Convention. It is the Geneva Convention that mandates full due process.

O'REILLY: I've got a headache. I've got a headache right now.

NAPOLITANO: I'm sorry you have a headache, Bill.

O'REILLY: I mean, it's just...

NAPOLITANO: But that's what the Supreme Court said.

O'REILLY: All right.

NAPOLITANO: You know, you may think they're political, but they are the final word on what the law of the land is.

O'REILLY: I know they're the final word. I mean, unless we move to Costa Rica, because we won't get attacked by terrorists there probably...

NAPOLITANO: Well, you won't have the rule of law there either.

O'REILLY: You know, Costa Rica's OK. It's not chaos there. So give me a prediction. Give me a prediction. What's going to happen?

NAPOLITANO: The president has to decide whether or not to use classified evidence against them or whether to free them. My prediction from having interviewed the FBI agents who gather the evidence is they do not want to declassify this evidence. Therefore, he's going to be forced to let some of them go. Now they're not going to walk the streets. They'll go to a prison in Afghanistan where they were arrested. And the Karzai government will deal with them.

O'REILLY: OK. Megyn, good job. We appreciate you reporting for us all throughout the week. Judge, you know.

NAPOLITANO: Did I make sense tonight?

O'REILLY: A little bit. More than usual. Next.

NAPOLITANO: Happy Fourth of July, Bill.

O'REILLY: Thank you, judge.

Fox News Radio: Brian & The Judge – Call-in from Judge Andrew Napolitano from Guantanamo Bay – June 21

** (Note – highlights from the clip, not a word for word account)*

The “Live from Gitmo” segment on “Brian & The Judge” was roughly two and a half minutes long. Judge Andrew Napolitano phoned in live from a building across from the U.S Terrorist Detention Facility at Guantanamo Bay Wednesday morning. He had not yet toured the facility or witnessed any interrogations. He wanted to learn about the “fairness of the process of how prisoners are transferred in and out of the prison,” and was most interested in sharing the numbers that he had already received.

➤ “800 in so far, 139 sent home as a result of the hearings”

Both the Judge and the host, Brian Kilmeade, were very surprised that they had not known about those numbers previously. The Judge elaborated further on numbers:

➤ “790 brought to Guantanamo, 290 transferred to their home countries or a third country if their home countries wouldn't take them, 130 are awaiting transfer, which is a matter of logistics...”

The Judge sounded eager to tour the prison and said, "Everyone's been very open. I've been amazed and thrilled with the openness with which they've answered my questions."

Fox News Radio: Brian and the Judge – Live interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Cully Stimson on Guantanamo Bay Detainee Policy – 6/22, 0930

Judge Andrew P. Napolitano conducted a 10-minute interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Detainee Affairs Cully Stimson on Guantanamo Bay detainee policy after Napolitano returned from a trip to the detention center yesterday. Napolitano was impressed by the condition of the facilities and questioned the lack of reporting on the positive aspects of the center. He was also convinced of the guilt of the detainees and discussed the difficult legality issues in trying the detainees.

Impression of Guantanamo

Host: The military is almost delicate in the manner in which it treats these detainees; the treatment of the detainees far exceeds minimum requirements of the Geneva Convention. I'm shocked that I hadn't seen anywhere in the media that 797 detainees had been there and 230 have been released and 238 are ready to be released... no one reported... The facilities that are being built are as modern, sophisticated and as comfortable as any prisons that I have seen.

Stimson: I'm delighted you were able to go, and I'm not surprised by your observations. I'm happy to think that you think...that we far exceed the mandatory minimums required by Geneva. And everyone who goes down there believes the same thing...Over 1000 media have been down there from a very broad spectrum across the world, we've had 145 Congress members, 145 staffers go there, I took two European delegates down there to talk about how humane the conditions are.

Detainee Policy and Legality Issues

Host: Why was I surprised? Why were the media not reporting on the things that I saw? Is there an ideological bias because we are incarcerating people without trying them?

Stimson: Well, I'm not going to answer that...

Host: I apologize, that's a political question.

Stimson: Look, you know that any nation at war is entitled to detain its enemy, the Nazis who we were fortunate enough to detain, we detained them without charges...they didn't know when the war was going to end. There are some groups you can characterize one way or another that believe these people deserve more rights than the Nazis. That's just absurd.

Host: There's no legal basis for that. The legal conundrum that you guys are in. There's no question that the guys still there are the bad guys. There's no question that the military is convinced of it, I'm convinced of it. [After being briefed by FBI investigators of the evidence against the detainees,] the tracing of their behavior, even some who were in the United States, was the most terrifying. The problem is that not all this evidence would be [uphold... as evidence of the federal evidence either in federal court or in a traditional court marshal.]... So what do we do with them? We cannot send them back. They will kill the guards, their families, they will cause enormous damage and havoc to innocent Americans.

Stimson: [There are two concepts here,] one, is that the system you and I have lived in: criminal law. [Where there are defense lawyers, prosecutors, and evidence.] On the other

side is history and the law of war. If you are lucky enough to detain your enemy, and there is no doubt that that is our enemy, and during the time of war, you can detain your enemy as long as you decide them as an enemy combatant.

Host: And here's where you've exceeded Geneva's wildest [expectations, for] the worst of the worst, you've given them lawyers!

Fox News Radio: Brian and the Judge - Account of Guantanamo Bay - June 22nd (time unknown)

Judge: We visited jail cells, we saw detainees, we saw them in their cells, we saw them in their exercise yard, we examined evidence, I actually had an opportunity...to look at the evidence that they have obtained from these guys which will be used in the military commissions...we received briefings from FBI agents about the activities of these detainees, in the United States, before they were arrested! Nothing was off grounds. No questions went unanswered. The military is extremely courteous, kind and forthcoming. Big picture: Guantanamo Bay is an enormous naval base, it's 46 square miles...Since Castro came to power, he refuses to accept the lease payments but he knows we are there forever.

The prison at Guantanamo Bay is just one square mile of the 46 square mile, it is a very small portion of the naval base. The prison itself consists of six camps, with different levels of constraint depending the prisoners' behavior. Every prisoner receives truly top flight medical and dental attention. Every prisoner has his religious rights respected. The call to prayer occurs several times a day. The prison stops while those who wish to pray do pray. Obviously, one can work his way to a camp with more freedom with cooperation.

There is a surprising number of these prisoners who have cooperated. Cooperation consists of evidence information about what they know about other prisoners and what they know... (clip ends).

PART I: Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:00:27 PM

JOHN GIBSON, HOST: Hi, everybody. I'm John Gibson. A "Big Story" exclusive for you tonight -- our judge, just back from a visit to Guantanamo Bay, home to some of the world's most dangerous terrorists. The government invited Judge Andrew Napolitano and a select few others -- there's his snapshots -- to check out our prison in Cuba. He was allowed to personally examine evidence against the detainees, and he watched in an interrogation. The FOX News senior judicial analyst joins us now to break down the trip for us. So, judge, one of the most interesting facts I have heard about your trip already is, there are 100 guys there, bad guys, that they know have been in the United States casing this country. What, 37 trips?

ANDREW NAPOLITANO, FOX NEWS JUDICIAL ANALYST: Oh, John, it was terrifying.

We -- we received about eight or nine briefings, starting on the flight down and concluding with as we were leaving Guantanamo Bay. Clearly, the most compelling -- and, from my point of view, the most terrifying -- was from the FBI agents. There's a full team of FBI agents down there.

And they tracked the behavior of many of the detainees and showed that nearly 100 of them, collectively, had visited 38 states in the United States, legal, lawful entry into the

United States, some for as long as two years to -- to attend junior colleges, some for as short as two days, many to visit traditional American tourist sites. But they had all been -- but that many of them have been there.

GIBSON: Bad guys. They don't have the evidence to -- to put them on trial, and they don't want to let them go.

NAPOLITANO: This is the government's legal, not military or political -- this is the government's legal conundrum.

The government's chief lawyer and those working for him conceded to me that they do not have enough evidence to get a conviction before a military commission, which is the easiest, before a court-martial, which is the next most difficult, before a federal district court jury, which is the most difficult.

But they are satisfied, and they persuaded me from the evidence that they showed me, that these are such bad, evil human beings that to release them into society, whether in the United States or outside the United States, would be suicidal, because these guys would for sure return to kill their captors, to attack the families of the captors, or to wage war against us again in the Middle East.

GIBSON: You have been an opponent of what is going on in Gitmo. You have spoken out against it. And I think you have even written about it.

NAPOLITANO: I have written extensively about it.

GIBSON: In both your books.

You saw interrogations. Did you see anything objectionable?

NAPOLITANO: Oh, no, no, not at all. The people conducting the interrogations freely admit that the procedures that they used before 2004 were more aggressive than now.

When the Supreme Court came down with its 8-1 decision, saying the Constitution applies, the treaties apply, and the law applies, and the federal courts of jurisdiction, they stopped using the methods that about five FBI agents had complained about.

So, the interrogations that we saw, John, were about as mild as you and I conversing now. It's one interrogator. It's -- excuse me. It's one detainee. It's three interrogators, one of whom is a translator.

The whole thing is taped. Four people are watching the entire interrogation as it goes on. In my case, they allowed us to watch it through closed-circuit. So we weren't in the same room, and we couldn't hear the words being used. We watched the guy being interrogated, who is the number-two person there.

The government has ranked them, all 400 of them, in the order of their influence over the others. This is the number-two person. And they interrogate him about every two weeks, just to see what information he wants to share with them or what lies he wants to give them, which allows them to compare what he said with what others are saying.

GIBSON: What has happened since the recent suicide of detainees?

NAPOLITANO: Well, since the recent suicide of detainees, the administrative tribunals have stopped. So, we thought we could see an administrative tribunal or a commission. This is the interrogation of a -- of a detainee, formally and on the record and before a panel of three judges. Those stopped. Security has tightened considerably. And people who were about to get moved up to an area of the camp which is not as -- as aggressive were put back at the bottom of the line.

GIBSON: Judge Napolitano has opposed Gitmo for some time. A little later in the show, we are going to have him back, after he has seen this thing, to explain to us, what are we supposed to do about it?

Judge, we will see you in a little bit.

NAPOLITANO: OK, John.

PART II: Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:34:48 PM

GIBSON: President Bush saying he would like to shut down Gitmo. He's been under pressure from the international community about this prison for some time now. So should we? Our Fox News senior judicial analyst judge Andrew Napolitano just got back from an exclusive trip to Gitmo. That's him in his golf shirt looking around at the facility. Should we close it?

NAPOLITANO: No, I don't think we should close it.

GIBSON: Haven't you called for it to be closed?

NAPOLITANO: No, have never called for it to be closed. I have called for the people there to be put on trial. Because never in American history, I shouldn't say never because Abraham Lincoln did it during the Civil War and Woodrow Wilson did it in during World War rMD+IT_rMD-IT_I. But F.D.R., to his credit, tried the German saboteurs before they were executed. We've not since the Geneva conventions, which didn't exist until after World War II, held people without a trial.

The president must know that he has spent over \$30 million in the past year there, expanding the size of it, building a truly high-tech, first- rate building. I've been in a lot of prisons in my prior life as a judge and I walked through this one. This is about as good as they get in terms of facilities for the inmate, as prisons go, comfort for the inmate and high-tech ability to do what you have to do in a prison. They spent a lot of money on it. They spent \$2.5 million last week on a fence to keep out local people that were wandering on to the property.

GIBSON: You know, we hear from the human rights community that one of the reasons that Gitmo should be closed is the sense of hopelessness that detainees have because they don't know how they would ever get out if they're going, are they entitled to hope?

NAPOLITANO: Well, it depends who you ask. That's a great question, John. In my view on the American constitution and the treaties we've signed, they are entitled to a trial. And if the government cannot prove their guilt, they shouldn't be there. The government knows this. How do I know this? Because they haven't sent any detainees there since the Supreme Court ruled 8-1 that the constitution applies. Where are all the detainees from Iraq? They stayed in Iraq. They're under the custody of the Iraqi authorities. There's no new people coming to Guantanamo Bay.

GIBSON: And the supreme court is going to decide something soon?

NAPOLITANO: Yes, the case is very complicated but boiled down, 400 detainees filed applications for habeas corpus, meaning they want the government to justify to a federal judge why they're incarcerated without a charge. After that was filed the Congress enacted a statute saying they can't do it. The government now wants to argue that that statute is retroactive, which would wipe out the 400 applications. That's what the Supreme Court will decide. Are these 400 cases still alive? If they are, John, there will be 400 trials before federal judges in Washington, D.C. If they're not, there will just be military commissions with the right to appeal only after the commission rules.

GIBSON: One way or another there will be trials.

NAPOLITANO: One way or another there will be trials even though the top guys I spoke to yesterday said to me we can't prove cases against a lot of these guys. We just don't have the evidence.

GIBSON: Every day we see this, people say we don't have the evidence against these guys, we can't prove a case, we have to let them go. They don't want to say that?

NAPOLITANO: They don't want to say that. They don't want to let them go because they don't trust the governments to which they might go and the 15 of the 230 that they did let go came back and fought against us.

GIBSON: And they actually believe these people are terrorists who have taken a vow to fight the United States?

NAPOLITANO: The vast majority of the 400 detainees that are still there have made threats of such magnitude and severity that anybody who heard what I heard yesterday would believe that they are terrorists sworn to attack the United States. But under the laws and the treaties, they're still persons entitled to trials.

GIBSON: There have been, as you know, many accusations that detainees are tortured at Gitmo.

NAPOLITANO: Until the Supreme Court ruled 8-1 that the constitution applies and the federal courts have jurisdiction, there were some aggressive means used and all of those were outlined by FBI agents who objected to them. They were things like great heat, great cold, sleep and food deprivation. None of that, I'm told, has happened in the past two years since the Supreme Court's ruling. And the interrogation I witnessed, as I said earlier, was a conversation like you and me are having.

GIBSON: Who is their best interrogator?

NAPOLITANO: Their best interrogator is a New York City homicide detective, who volunteered to become an ensign in the Navy so he could go down there and show them how to interrogate and he's a terrific guy.

GIBSON: So law and order prevails at Gitmo. Judge, thank you very much.

Fox News: Fox and Friends 6/23/2006 6:34:20 AM

Fox News: Fox and Friends - 6/23/2006 8:05:59 AM

Steve: Judge Napolitano not exactly in to this zip code for a couple of days. he went to Gitmo.

Andrew: there I am in a jail cell.

Steve: About time.

Andrew: you know what, they love to play checkers and they love to play chess. I asked about that.

E.D.: you know its interesting, on my way into work today I was listening to National Public Radio and there is a movie coming out -- I think its called the "Road Gitmo"-- it starts today, but they were interviewing a person and it's based on the recollections of some people who have been imprisoned at Gitmo and they were saying that they -- I guess with no independent confirmation, the claim is that they were kept in cells and where they sleep, they have no roofs over their head and when it rains, it rains down on them and I asked you about that. In their living quarters, do they have rooms?

Andrew: they clearly have roofs, and the cells are so positioned so that the rain can't get in on them. They could get wet he if they were out in an exercise yard and it started to rain and they decided to stay

E.D.: they said their blankets –

Andrew: the Geneva Conventions and I should say the military's treatment of these detainees, exceeds the minimum that the Geneva Conventions requires. The Geneva Conventions requires a roof over their head, even though there's no heat or air conditioning -- the average temperature is in the 90's, there's a roof over their head in the cells.

Steve: I'm glad you went down there and saw it with your own two eyes. Remember those very famous early pictures of what it was like at Gitmo, somebody squeezed off some shots and you saw those prisoners in the orange jumpsuits and their hands were bound behind them, they were blindfolded. Any of that stuff? Are they still wearing the blindfolds down there?

Andrew: the military has asked all the media to stop using that. When the Supreme Court ruled in June of '04 that the constitution, the treaties, and the laws of the United States apply, the military's treatment of the detainees changed dramatically. It is now gentle, almost child-like the way they treat the detainees. It was not that way before, but the tape you're talking about is the old way that they were treated, which hasn't happened in two of that years.

E.D.: now, compared to how American prisoners are treated at American jails, here in the United States, are these people being treated equally, better, worse?

Andrew: Far better, far better, far better. Not even close in terms of the quality of the food, in terms of the medical treatment, education, and recreation available. I mean, one of those pictures shows me using exercise equipment in the prison yard. That was just one of the many pieces, there it is Steve -- it was 110. There was no roof over that exercise.

Steve: Judge, Valley Fitness is about a block away. If you need to workout, I wouldn't go to Gitmo. The facilities there are excellent.

E.D.: People claim people are treated so horrendously, it needs to be closed, is better than what we keep our own prisoners in America in?

Andrew: No question about it. The administration has just spent \$30 million to build indoor cells and that facility, which will be known as Camp Number Six. They each have numbers, depending upon the degree of security and lock down and that facility will be the most modern, high tech facility with the best creature comforts for prisoners. It's a jail. It's not too many creature comforts but the best for prisoners anywhere in the country.

Steve: It was great you were able to make the trip. Judge, thank you for sharing that --

Andrew: It was a one day trip, down in the morning, five hours there, back to Andrews Air Force base.

Steve: it's not like you wanted to spend the night.

Andrew: No way, O-Reilly said to me make sure you leave

WAYNE SIMMONS

Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson - 6/22/2006 5:51:58 PM

JOHN GIBSON: Back now to our "Big Story" Guantanamo Bay exclusive. We've heard from our judge earlier about what he saw on his trip yesterday to that infamous detention facility. Former CIA operative Wayne Simmons was also on that trip. He joins us now with his thoughts.

So, Wayne, the judge, you know, has always said that these guys should get some sort of trial. Isn't quite sure about whether you should close it. But he also described a situation where it seems like the interrogation techniques are so watered down, you wonder if they're getting anything out of these people at all. I mean, he described an interrogation technique that looked a little like Tony Soprano talking to his shrink. What do you get out of that?

WAYNE SIMMONS, FORMER CIA OPERATIVE: Listen, and the judge is absolutely correct. I had the very good fortune and the honor of being on the first contingent to go to Guantanamo Bay a year ago, and when I came back, I wrote some pretty scathing things about the interrogation methods, which I found much, much too soft. I thought we should use much harsher methods to get the time sensitive intel. I can tell you now, after a year I've changed in my position, and I'll tell you why. What is happening is the command and control face on the battlefield is changing, and what we now see happening, John, is that we're able to go back to some of these detainees and secure information about who we believe is now the new face of the command and control in the battlefield, and get a description of these individuals and where they are and where their families are.

So would I like to see harsher conditions -- not torture but stronger conditions in interrogation? Absolutely. But...

GIBSON: But I mean, you know, the judge described it as three people in there, a guy sits on a couch, they talk to him. Nobody else. There's no sleep deprivation, no food deprivation. It's not too hot. It's not too cold. He's not being water boarded. He doesn't have snarling dogs. He's just chatting with them. What do they get out of that?

SIMMONS: Well, they're using a technique whereby they build a bond and whereby they hope that as time passes, that bond will yield verifiable intel. And it appears that is working.

But I will tell you, one of the most amazing things that I saw, and one of the things that made me very, very happy, and as the judge said, it was a scary time, was that we're finding out that a lot of the intel we're getting from these detainees is being used by our FBI, and these men and women of the FBI are doing one incredible job of hunting down the cells inside the United States.

And unfortunately, we're not allowed to stand up on the mountain and scream at the top of our lungs, look what we did or look what they've done, and that's unfortunate because the American people would be proud of what they see the FBI having done.

GIBSON: Wayne, you won't mind if I needle you just a little bit. The judge says the best interrogator they got was a New York City cop.

SIMMONS: Well, listen, I don't know if that's the case. But I can tell you...

GIBSON: I mean, where are the CIA guys, where are the FBI guys? How come they're behind a New York City cop?

SIMMONS: Listen, all of these men and women that are doing those interrogations are outstanding. So I'll let the judge make his assessment, but I will tell you they are -- and I'd love to mention names, but I can't for obvious reasons, but they are doing an incredible job, outstanding job. And I want to show you one thing quickly if I can. I don't know if you can pan in on this medal that was given to me by the commander of JTF Guantanamo, Admiral Harris. And on this, if you can see this, it says, it says "honor bound." And these fine young men and women that are guarding these animals -- and that's what they are, the nastiest people on the planet -- they are shouting "honor bound" at every opportunity.

GIBSON: All right, Wayne Simmons, thanks a lot. Appreciate it.

SIMMONS: Thank you, John.



Snapshot!

Retired Military Analysts on Television

October 21 - 23

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October 21 – NBC Saturday Today

HOLT: And, Colonel Allard, we brought you here specifically to talk about this book (Warheads: Cable News and the Fog of War). But let's first of all talk about where things are right now in Iraq. The president meeting with General Abizaid to talk strategy. What might the options be, the realistic options right now, to turn this thing around?

Col. ALLARD: There are really not too many good options. Either too many--either too few troops, too much arrogance, has been the problem. I'm not sure you can cure either one.

HOLT: And, Colonel Jacobs, let me ask you, from the standpoint of--we were talking about this book and cable--from the days that we were talking about this on MSNBC, you made a point that after the fall of the statue, things became a guessing game. Are they still so much a guessing game at the military level?

Col. JACOBS: Oh, yeah, I think they are. You know, running up to the fall of the statue was a classic military attack. They didn't have enough troops, but, you know, it was not a plan that anybody could have put together--everybody who had any military experience could've put it together. After that, it was a complete guessing game, and right now the options are very, very few. Pull out, which I think is where we're headed; partition the country, which is unlikely because it'll start a regional war. I think the options are very few for the government.

October 22 – CNN Encore Presentation of “Rumsfeld: Man of War”

SESNO: But anyone who's been in the room with Rumsfeld will tell you, you can take him on but you better be prepared.

LT. GEN. MICHAEL DELONG, U.S. MARINES, (RET): If you brief him and he knew more about the subject than you, you're - on a boat with no paddles.

SESNO: It's a demanding management style that can be intimidating, even for people who have been to war.

DELONG: Were the generals tough enough? Some of them were and some of them weren't. If you're not willing to stand up to the secretary of defense, and give your input, and take your hits, then you shouldn't be there.

October 22, 2006: NBC Nightly News

Lt. Col. Rick Francona: Al Queda in Iraq has told all of their people that they need to kill an American a day, they need to keep this on the front page of the American media. "They understand the war will be won in the United States -- not on the battlefields of Iraq." Meanwhile, the president and his war chiefs are fighting to come up with a Winning Plan With the future of Iraq ... And his own party ... On the line. While President Bush says he may reconsider tactics ... He vowed he won't pull U.S. troops out of Iraq until the mission is complete. I'm Brian Mooar in Washington...NBC news

October 23: CNN Late Edition

BLITZER: All right. All right. Let -- let me bring in retired U.S. Army General David Grange, our military analyst. General Grange, you speak with some authority on this. You are not only a retired general. You're a former U.S. Army Ranger, a Green Beret, a member of the elite Delta Force. You were involved. You helped us better appreciate this insurgent video that was given to our Michael Ware in Baghdad. And you had some initial concerns. Talk a little bit about your -- your involvement in this decision.

RETIRED BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE, CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, my involvement was, I was asked to review the -- the full tape to see if it was authentic, to see if it was, in fact, a -- just it was set up to be props, in other words, it wasn't actual combat footage. I also looked at it in my own accord to look at the capabilities that their snipers were using, because what's key in this is that our forces find out how they are doing things, because the tape was not given to our military, and we can counter that. Now, I know for a fact that I -- I gave my comments. They asked if I would be involved in talking about it. I said I would not, unless certain conditions were met. One, they did not show an American soldier going down. They did far pictures. They did blackout. And they said up front, which I -- I believe Anderson Cooper did say, that this was, in fact, a propaganda film, and that I would talk about this as typical, just like of beheadings, of how our enemies use propaganda information warfare to influence public opinion, both overseas and in the United States. So, I -- I do know that they went through a very difficult decision on this. I'm not saying it was right or wrong. I think what came out of it, knowing that something was going to be shown, that they -- they did it the best they could, because it's a very gruesome film, if you look at the whole thing.

BLITZER: Did -- did the conditions that you put forward, did CNN meet those conditions?

GRANGE: Things I asked for, yes, they did. What's another interesting piece, in "USA" newspaper, "USA Today," they talked about capturing a sniper team in Baghdad that used a vehicle with a hole cut out of it with a video camera in the back of the car, which is the same thing we said was happening last week on the technique used in these particular sniper cuts. I think there were 10 incidents altogether.

October 23: CNN Newsroom

KYRA PHILLIPS: Iraqis under the gun, U.S. forces over extended, insurgents more dangerous than ever. The fight for Iraq seems to have gone from bad to worse just this month alone. How did the war get to this point and what can be done to turn it around? Let's bring in our military analyst, retired Brigadier General David Grange. I have to tell you, General, on Friday, when all the chaos hit the city of Amara, I don't think I've ever seen you that animated in a really long time. So I pulled a clip from that breaking news coverage. I just want to take a listen to what you had to say when that happened real quickly

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: What it takes right now is a dual strategy of George Marshall and Ulysses S. Grant. You have to continue with the compassion of trying to build some type of prosperity and way of life for the Iraqi people like Marshall would do after World War II, and you have to be ruthless like Grant during the Civil War. And right now they cannot let the militia get away with taking over a city.

PHILLIPS: You didn't beat around the bush. Why this city? Why that day? Why did that -- why did it hit you like that at that moment?

GRANGE: Well, I just -- it's just a dual track that you have to take, I believe, to win in this type of a conflict. I mean, nation- building is tough. It's much tougher than, you know, a straight-out war of a conventional enemy. We're fighting an irregular warfare. You still have to engage with the people. I think a lot of the engagement is lost in certain areas because of some mistakes that were made years ago at the beginning of the campaign. But you also have to be ruthless with those that don't want the Iraqi -- elected Iraqi government to succeed or who are influenced by outside sources like Iran and Syria. And the only way -- the only thing that these people understand in this regard is toughness. You can't -- you can't pitty-pat around with these people that want to negate the efforts that have been taking place so far.



Snapshot!

Retired Military Analysts on Television

October 23 - 25

SUMMARY

Commentary by analysts over the last few days have focused on recent remarks by the President, General Casey and General Caldwell, and were fairly critical of the current situation, the strategy, the limited number of forces currently on the ground and the ultimate outcome in Iraq. The analysts offered insight on mistakes made, as well as thoughts for going forward. There was very little mention of what has gone well in Iraq, as this was limited to praise for the training of Iraqi troops. Specifically, analysts focused on:

- Changes in troop levels – analysts split on whether recent comments by Gen. Casey and the President indicate an upcoming increase. Doubts about whether increases would occur before the elections
- Previous recommendations for higher troops levels prior to entering Iraq – by Gen. Shinseki and others – should have been followed.
- We “ignored history” thinking that the situation in Iraq would improve after the fall of Saddam
- How to best utilize the troops that are in Iraq – the training of Iraqis and implementing a justice system are key – both good benchmarks
- President Bush is right in putting political pressure on in Iraq, as we are doing well militarily but not politically
- The President should have faith in al Maliki, but not for a whole lot longer
- Dropping of the term “stay the course” is “just for votes” for the upcoming elections
- Talk of a timetable is not new – it just hasn’t been followed so far
- It’s understandable that violence in Iraq will continue for a long time - but the outcome does not look very promising
- Discussion about Iran and North Korea, which country poses more of a threat, and how to strengthen ties
- There is a growing need to sit down and talk with Iran, Syria, Kuwait – they are very much “a part of the equation”

HIGHLIGHTS

Gen. David Grange

- It’s “very unusual” for active duty members to speak out against the war

Gen. Wesley Clark

- On what to do now about the war on terror: we need to talk to Iraq’s neighboring countries, strengthen political ties and use our military to train Iraqis and for “political leverage”
- We must seriously think about our objectives and detail our conditions going forward – we should have a “minimal goal” of holding Iraq together

Mr. Jed Babbin

- Problems in Iraq are that our military's responsibilities in Iraq are too varied, and the force is experiencing "cultural barriers"
- The number of troops is not the problem, but rather, how to utilize those that are there

Col. Jack Jacobs

- The best scenario in Iraq is "limited operations with limited objectives for a limited amount of time"
- The President's comments do not indicate a change in strategy
- Military success in Iraq is dependent upon significantly increased troop levels, particularly around Baghdad
- Comments by the President and Gen. Casey are "prepping the way" for an increase in troop levels – but likely not until after the elections
- Dropping the term "stay the course" is for political gain
- The discussion about a timetable is not new – there's always been one, but it hasn't been in effect
- General Shinseki "was right" when he predicted we needed upwards of 250,000 – 400,000 troops
- Iraq "won't end well" – a regional war will occur at some point – the only way to keep the country together is to have "a strongman" in charge

Maj. Gen. James "Spider" Marks

- The U.S. military doesn't have enough forces to contain the situation – particularly in Baghdad, "the center of gravity"
- One measure of success is how well we are training the Iraqi forces – right now we are doing a good job

Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd

- Iran is more of a nuclear threat than North Korea, because it has more money, stronger military capabilities, more support from neighboring countries.
- Doubts the U.S. will make major changes now in strategy, or send more troops – violence will continue for a while
- The end result of our presence in Iraq will be our gradual departure – no clear victory or defeat
- We "ignored the history" of previous conflicts and were "ignorant" in underestimating the situation in Iraq and how "desperate" Iraq was under Saddam Hussein
- Despite concerns about his capabilities, the Pentagon would not replace al Maliki, as it would be a recognition of U.S. failure

EXCERPTS

GEN. DAVID GRANGE

CNN: American Morning, October 25

M. O'BRIEN: Marine Sergeant Liam Madden is home from a seven month tour of duty in Iraq. He's still on active duty and he's one of 118 active duty service members speaking out against the war.

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE, CNN MILITARY ANALYST: For active duty members, I think it's very unusual. The 30 years I served in the military, I don't recall that ever happening.

HDLN 10/23/06 14:32:17

Host: What would you want to see in terms of benchmarks for Iraq?

David Grange: You need to have some kind of an Iraqi force that can produce some level of rule of law so people have some kind of freedom from fear, freedom from want. So they can get on with their business and lives, education, et cetera. So you're going to have to have some institutions that are loyal to the government. And that actually has to be policed in the military. The police have a long way to go. Military as well, though I think there's more military people that are loyal to the Iraqi government.

Host: On the question of flexibility, the president says U.S. is showing and has shown flexibility on Iraq. That's exhibited by the military. Can you think of an example where that flexibility has been shown and has produced results?

Grange: The ability to shift from certain areas to other area where's there's a priority of need, because of the change on the ground. And even though it's unpopular, extending troops that are trained, that are in that area where they can survive and produce some resulting instead of putting green troops in just because of a timetable.

Host: Do all the headlines we're seeing in the past two weeks put more pressure for the President to end the violence once and for all?

Grange: There's pressure there, but you know, a lot of times it's not just more troops. I like the idea of re-enforcing with more troops not so much that you got to have that specific number -- another 10,000, another 20,000 - but just to keep the adversaries off balance. What are they going to do now, why are they doing that? We're just hearing at home trying to have a timetable, pull people back to the U.S. and yet they just sent 20,000 more soldier and marines over there. Why did they do that? It's a lot of psychological factor here. I would do it just to keep enemy off balance in certain regions.

GEN. WESLEY CLARK

FNC O'Reilly Factor 10/25/06 04:12:26

GEN. WESLEY CLARK, FOX NEWS MILITARY ANALYST: (On what steps to take in the war on terror): I think first we have to talk to countries in the region. We must talk to Iran. We must talk to Syria and Kuwait and Jordan.

But it's Iran and Syria that we've resisted talking to. They're part of the equation, whether we like it or not. And we need to be talking to them.

Secondly, we've got to strengthen our ability to maneuver politically inside Iraq. And that means a stronger team, more incentives, positive and negative, for the Iraqi politicians.

And finally, our military needs to not only train and provide security, but they provide crucial political leverage. And we need to be very forthright in using them for that.

I think we also have to really be serious about the objectives. We're not going to get a democracy - not a Western democracy in Iraq. Our goal should be minimal. We should be trying to hold Iraq together, not have it become a source of conflict. And then the Iraqi people will have to decide really their form of government and how much federalism there is there.

CLARK: What we need to do is put a team together, go over there and deal with each of the factions, talk to them, lay out our conditions. We did this in the Balkans.

CLARK: Go in there with what our conditions are. What are our conditions? Our troops are leaving. You're going to take charge of the country. We'd like Iraq to stay together if possible. What is it that keeps you from doing this? And then lay out the puts and takes of each of the actions, and try to work them together.

MR. JED BABBIN

CNBC Kudlow & Company 10/23/06 17:31:46

Mr. Jed Babbin (Former Deputy Undersecretary of Defense): I don't see that there's going to be any major change in Iraq for quite some time...

The problem that we have had is that we have a military that is deployable, but when you go out there, and you see--well, we've got to build up the police force, we've got to get a system of justice in there. I mean, you don't have the Department of Justice having, for example, a deployable unit that you load onto a C-130. So there's a lot of lag on our part and there's also a lot of cultural barriers. Larry, you've got a situation in Iraq where the culture is largely not comparable to ours. So you know, you have this clear, hold and build issue. It's not entirely possible, I think, for it to succeed in Iraq...

The issue has never been how many troops we have there. It's a false issue. The issue is what do you do with the troops that you've got there. And the real issue is what do you do about the other countries in the neighborhood which are preventing Iraq from becoming stable?

Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson, October 25

John Gibson: The President is not saying stay the course anymore but we have to get the job done. But in essence, he's saying the same thing, isn't he?

Jed Babbin: Pretty much. The president is saying we don't establish artificial deadlines and we try to finish the job in Iraq. The real question, John, is what is the job, and can you even finish it in the four corners of Iraq.

Gibson: What about this seeming timeline, if not deadline that the generals have put out and the president's stance on that?

Babbin: I think the President is right to try to put some pressure on the Iraqi political process. I mean, the fact is we are winning all of the military engagements and we're losing the political battle over there and the Maliki government and the supporters of it including Muqtada al Sadr are trying to establish their own sectarian advantage without really going at the hard political issues that they need to resolve before they can stand up a government that's going to last.

Gibson: Is it true that Iraqis want to succeed in Iraq as he says?

Babbin: I'm not sure, John. I have talked to a lot of people over there and I've talked to Iraqi parliamentarians and I spoke to Baram Sala (ph), the deputy prime minister a couple of months ago. I think he wants to succeed and I think Maliki wants to succeed and I don't know if people over there understand or have any conception that really, we're not going to be there for ever and not going to be allowed infinite time to fiddle around and settle their own sectarian scores.

Gibson: Should the president have the faith in Maliki, the leader of the Iraqi government, that he says he has?

Babbin: I think he probably should, but not for a whole lot longer. The real issue, John, is can the president focus on what it's going to take to win the war. And again, you're not going to win this war in Iraq. You can lose it there, but cannot win it within the four corners of Iraq.

COL. JACK JACOBS

MSNBC 10/25/06 13:44:54

Rita Cosby: Does the President's comments today indicate a change in tactics? Or is this just a variance because he is listening to his generals.

Jack Jacobs: I don't know if he's listening to his generals. I don't think this is a change in tactics at all. We have the same troop level as we had before. As a matter of fact, there may even be a few more now. I don't know if he's listening to his generals. He said an interesting thing today which was very jarring. And it is the same thing that has been that before. If the generals want more troops, they'll get them. They need more troops by anybody's estimation in any reasonable estimation. And either somebody is not telling the truth, that is that generals are asking for more troops and not getting them, or the generals aren't asking for more troops and therefore, I have to conclude that they don't know what they're doing.

Cosby: But Jack, General Casey suggested that we may need more troops. Does that mean that we will see some of the soft language for more coming?

Jacobs: I do think that is a prep for more troops coming. We'll almost undoubtedly take more troops from the theater to add to the 5,000 to 7,000 troops we already have in Baghdad because they haven't been able to quiet things down. I think we're going to double the troop level in and around Baghdad. We definitely need lots more troop if we're going to have military success in Iraq. And that mean many more, it is, than we're willing to commit.

Cosby: When do you we could see that happen? Does the election play a role? We won't beef it up prior.

Jacobs: Good point. A lot of this is politically driven. I don't think we'll see a lot of fanfare about increasing troop levels until after the election is over. Clearly, the President's discussion today and General Casey's remarks was to prep the way for more troops in Iraq.

MSNBC Imus in the Morning 10/24/06 06:39:30

Jacobs: I think the whole idea (of dropping the term "stay the course") is for political reasons if nothing else - to start drawing troops down before the election. And I thought we would have only about 100,000 troops in Iraq now. Because it would start drawing it down to make it look like we were making progress. What has happened in Iraq is that they could not possibly withdraw the few troops they had there. Indeed, they insinuated 5000 troops into Baghdad to try to put the lid on that but that didn't work... now they have all the disadvantages of having all those troops there politically and none of the advantages. It has not worked. This business about a timetable is a bit of nonsense. There is been a time table all along, it's just not has been adhered to....

Imus: But this dropping the phrase stay the course is just simply designed to try to get votes, right?

Jacobs: The disturbing part about this is that they're sitting there in the White House having these meetings and that there is a number of people out there who will fall for it...

The trouble is now we now have the situation that we have there in Iraq and the choices are very few and far between. We either pile more troops in there and do it properly, or we tell the Iraqis they are going to have the control over it so they better do something about it.

Imus: How many more troops will it take?

Jacobs: I think General Shinseki was right when he said we needed a total of probably to 250,000 or 300,000 - 400,000 troops - and we don't have them - it's politically not feasible... I don't think this will end well... the danger is you will wind up having something that is a heck of a lot worse, certainly over the near term, and that is a regional war... the only way to hold this country together is with a strongman - and we'll have to put up with that - some guy who'll go run into people, we will have to put up with that stuff...

NBC Nightly News, October 22

JOHN SEIGENTHALER, anchor: This has been a bloody weekend in Iraq. New insurgent attacks killed Iraqis and more Americans. NBC's Jane Arraf is in Baghdad.

JANE ARRAF: As Washington debates how to stop the fighting, it has few military options.

Colonel JACK JACOBS (Retired, NBC News Military Analyst): The best that we can hope for is to conduct limited operations with limited objectives for a limited amount of time.

MAJ. GEN. JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS

CNN Newsroom 10/23/06 11:33:57

TONY HARRIS, CNN ANCHOR: So, Spider, are we on the verge of a major course correction in Iraq?

MARKS: I don't know that there's going to be a major course correction... the operational missions to clear, hold and build need to be -- that needs to be fixed, and here's why. First of all, you have the capacity in Iraq to clear. You can clear with the forces on the ground. You can clear with the JDAM. You can clear kinetically, and you can clear with forces on the ground. The challenge is, do you have the capacity, the size, to hold? And you don't. You don't have enough forces on the ground to hold what it is you're trying to hold. So if you're not going to increase the number of forces, then how do you have the right number of forces, the appropriate

force distribution, in the location that's critical? And that's where you get to the discussion of Baghdad...

HARRIS: I have heard from so many people now that we need more boots on the ground, so why don't we have more boots on the ground?

MARKS: Well, the point is, how do you define the ground? And that's - if Baghdad is the center of gravity -- and I think we would argue that it is. And in military terms what that means is, you have got to make a difference there because as goes Baghdad goes the rest of the country. If you can draw that parallel, then you're good to go.

So you've got to have sufficient presence on the ground in Baghdad to make a difference. Frankly, there isn't enough. So you have one of two choices. You either really jam it in there, you have clear mission statements, clear lines of delineation so you don't fratricide and people banging into each other, or you let it go the way that it's going to go and you back out. But you can't continue to do what's being done right now...

...(We need to consider) Are you putting the best and brightest into the function of training the Iraqi forces? I would argue we are. But that needs a lot more focus, because that's the bellwether, that's the measure of success. If you have one soldier on the ground, whether it's Iraqi, U.S. or coalition, to 50 of the population and you can sustain that, so a 25 million-person country, you need about 600,000 forces on the ground. We're not there.

MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPPERD

Nuke threat feared most perilous in Middle East

St. Louis Post-Dispatch... Philip Dine, October 22

As the United States and much of the world focus on North Korea's nuclear weapons program, some worry that an even more perilous nuclear situation is being put on the back-burner - that of Iran...

Retired Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd said Iran is more of a threat in part because it "has more money and is in the part of the world with the oil assets. It controls right now the entry to the Straits of Hormuz, through which most of the energy assets of the world flow."

"North Korea is much less predictable than Iran, but clearly North Korea does not have the military capability to do anything important outside the Korean peninsula, or to carry out a long war," he said. "They would clearly be defeated. In the case of Iran it's less clear. They are bigger, wider and have more support in the Muslim world."

CNN This Week at War 10/22/06 13:35:05

JOHN ROBERTS: Right, General Shepperd, what kind of change do you think there needs to be?

SHEPPERD: Well, I think, basically, you're not going to see a whole bunch more troops sent in, John. I was on a conference call this morning with General Caldwell and basically what he said was despite the fact that they're reexamining tactics all the time, your going to see a parallel progression of violence and progress in Iraq. You're not going to see any rapid improvement. There's no finger snap of new things that they can do that is going to make things better. I think we're looking at violence for a long period of time and I don't see a whole bunch more troops

added. You may see some troops starting to come out after the Iraqi Studies Group study comes out, after the election, probably in January, John...

ROBERTS: And General Shepperd, step back and give us the big picture here. Where is this all headed? Is it destined to be lost unless there is some sort of significant or even radical change on the ground?

SHEPPERD: I think victory and loss is going to be in the eye of the beholder, John. It's very clear, I think, to everyone how this is going to end. At some point, the United States says it's going to depart. It's not going to announce a day, but it's going to slowly slip away. It's going to leave advisors. And when we leave, if you were for the war, you're going to say, it is the best we could do. The rest is up to them...

ROBERTS: Major General Shepperd, did the United States military and the White House, for that matter, have a clear understanding of the potential for Sunni versus Shiite violence when it went into this war?

MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPPERD, U.S. AIR FORCE (RET.): John, I think that everybody understood the potential for the violence, but everybody thought that once the military conflict was over, once Saddam Hussein was gone, that everything would settle down. Once again, like in the previous conflicts, we have ignored history. We were ignorant of some of the things that had brought this society together and the problems boiling underneath. Thirty-five years of Saddam's hand sucking the soul out of this country produced a desperate situation, and now the transfer of power -- some of it over economics as well as sectarian violence -- has produced this desperate situation, John...

ROBERTS: The White House, the Pentagon, starting to voice concerns about whether Nouri al-Maliki has the political will, has the capability of bringing together these various factions. Might they consider, at some point in the future, if this does not work, pitching him overboard and going for a more authoritarian figure?

SHEPPERD: Well, that would certainly be a recognition of failure on the part of the United States policy and strategy. We have gone to great pains and killed a lot of our own and a lot of Iraqi people to install the -- the vestiges of a democratic government. To go back to a military hand, to see a military coup would certainly be a step backwards. But, a lot of things are happening on the political side behind the scenes that are not visible to all of us. Hopefully, some of this will come to fruition, but these militias have to be encountered. There's 23 of them Baghdad in alone. This is a serious problem that's going to take a lot of careful politicians' hands in this, not just military, John.



Snapshot!

Retired Military Analysts on Television and in Print Coverage

October 26 – November 7

The television appearances and print coverage among the select list of military analysts focused primarily on troop levels, the Military Times Media group editorial on the Secretary, mistakes made and challenges in Iraq. The following includes highlights from those who appeared on television or in print:

Lt. Gen. Michael De Long

- Terrorists' money moved from Baghdad into Syria in 2003 and is now supporting the Sunni insurgency

Major Gen. James "Spider" Marks

- We are not moving toward an end date, but an "end state" in Iraq; the focus needs to be on Baghdad
- Forces right now are stretched thin, and more troops are not necessarily needed in Iraq. But we need to reexamine how we use those troops that are deployed and in what areas
- Troop numbers will likely remain the same for now, possibly a small increase. What will change is how the troops are used and in what areas
- One of the problems in Iraq is that the volatile areas are so large; communication in and around the area is tough
- Possible scenario in Iraq: Part of the military will join the militias; U.S. forces need to remain in Iraq until Iraqi forces are stable

Brig. Gen. David Grange

- The Secretary is correct in saying our forces need to adapt on the ground
- A viable Iraqi government will need a loyal police force
- Overall the U.S. soldiers and coalition forces are making progress in Iraq, but the training of Iraqi forces has been difficult due to infiltrations, shortages of equipment, etc. "It's a race against time" for the Iraqi forces to stabilize before the militias
- The Powell doctrine: Some, not all, of his points are relevant to the current situation in Iraq

Major Gen. Bob Scales and Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney

- Anti-war soldiers calling for an end to the war are "shameful" and "suspiciously close to the elections"

Jed Babbin

- The Army Times piece is not coming from the troops, and the writers do not speak for the troops – the piece should not be taken too seriously
- Believes the Secretary will stay in office as long as he wants to

Bing West

- Quoting his Military Review article:
 - Senior officers no longer trust senior civilian officials, and are angered by mistakes made in planning and leading throughout the war
 - One key mistake was disbanding the Iraqi army - "changing the mission of the American soldiers from liberators to occupiers"

EXCERPTS

MICHAEL DE LONG

U.S. tries to cut off terrorists' cash flow

(The Washington Times-100T)... Rowan Scarborough – October 30

The U.S. military is not only trying to stop terrorists and arms from leaking into Iraq from Syria and Iran but also another just as dangerous commodity - cash...

Retired Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Michael DeLong, the former deputy commander of U.S. Central Command, said literally tons of cash moved from Baghdad into Syria as the U.S. invasion neared in March 2003. That money is now going full circle to feed the Sunni insurgency.

"We watched caravans going into Syria," Gen. DeLong said. "They took their money; their jewels. They took everything."

But not all the cash got out.

"We found U.S. money all through the capital," Gen. DeLong said. "Saddam and the Ba'ath Party had caches of U.S. money stashed everywhere. One day, one guy found \$10 million in cash."

JED BABBIN

CNBC Kudlow & Company 11/06/06 20:18:58 (approx. 30T)

KUDLOW: Let me go to another one. The Army Times, I guess, has run an editorial which is calling for Mr. Rumsfeld's resignation...

Jed Babbin, what do you make of this? And I might add, part of that editorial has said active duty, a new chorus of criticism from active duty military leaders are starting to voice misgivings from the war's planning, execution and dimming prospects for success. Your thoughts, Jed, this is rough stuff.

Mr. BABBIN: It's rough stuff, but it's coming from a bunch of AA hitters, Larry. This is not from the troops. The Army Times, the Navy Times, the Air Force Times. It's the Gannett newspapers. It's the same pansy liberal elitist editorial writers that, you know, they just want to get a job at The New York Times next year.

KUDLOW: Who are these guys? Who are they?

Mr. BABBIN: They guys don't speak...

KUDLOW: Who owns them?

Mr. BABBIN: They don't speak for--they're a bunch of writers.

KUDLOW: But who owns them?

Mr. BABBIN: They're owned by Gannett. Gannett.

KUDLOW: So it's not an official...

Mr. BABBIN: They are owned by Gannett. And these guys...

KUDLOW: So it's not an official Pentagon journal.

Mr. CROWLEY: No, it's not.

KUDLOW: All right.

Mr. BABBIN: And they don't speak for the troops. That's the most important thing.

Mr. CROWLEY: Well, now there you're wrong, Jed.

Mr. BABBIN: They're not speaking for them.

Mr. CROWLEY: They do...

Mr. BABBIN: No. You're absolutely right.

Mr. CROWLEY: They do--they do take polls of the troops. And look, look, look.

Mr. BABBIN: Garbage.

Mr. CROWLEY: The fact that Larry says the president's message--the president's changed his message. He's cut-and-run on stay-the-course. And the fact is that...

KUDLOW: I don't think so. I don't think so, PJ. I was in with him in the Oval Office.

Mr. BABBIN: No way he's going to do that.

KUDLOW: I was amazed how resolute he was. His messages is, we have to stay on the offense. And his second message is, if we leave prematurely, it will be an utter unmitigated disaster. So that is really--he is very clear, and I've heard him on the campaign trail.

Mr. CROWLEY: But, you know, one has to recognize the strategy that we have is not working. It's not a matter of one poll or the other, it's a matter of finding something effective that will actually make a difference in Iraq.

Mr. BABBIN: Well, yeah, but, PJ...

Mr. CROWLEY: And the president has not offered that vision, Secretary Rumsfeld has not offered that vision, and he is ultimately responsible.

Mr. BABBIN: We have not heard anything. We have not heard--PJ, we have not heard anything from the Democrats, from the Democrats. All we hear--all we hear--PJ, PJ...

Mr. CROWLEY: And as long as President Bush keeps defending Rumsfeld, the message to the American people is stay the course, and the American people have said, 'This is not working, we have to change.'

KUDLOW: All right. Let me have a little bit of decorum. You have two smart guys, and I respect both of you and you respect each other.

Jed Babbin, let me just ask you this, now the president has said, I believe he said that Mr. Rumsfeld is with him, safe, defense secretary for two more years. Is that true, Jed?

Mr. BABBIN: Right.

KUDLOW: That was a complete endorsement.

Mr. BABBIN: Absolutely. I think Rumsfeld was there as long as he wants to be and, you know, PJ is just so wrong. I wish the Democrats would say something other than withdrawal. They don't have a strategy. They don't have an understanding of this war. They don't have a clue as to how to fight it and that's what you're going to see tomorrow.

JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS

CNN Presents 11/05/06 20:39:44 (210T)

JOHN ROBERTS: I'm John Roberts in Baghdad, as voters and politicians weigh the "Iraq Effect" in the final countdown to the U.S. midterm elections, what is the military side of the equation?

Helping us map that out, CNN military analyst Brigadier General James "Spider" Marks, U.S. Army, Retired in our Washington bureau. Spider, on the eve of the election, where are the U.S. forces in Iraq right now?

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS, U.S. ARMY, (RET), CNN ANALYST: John, let me take you to the map and show you where the U.S. forces are located. I'm going to show you their forward operating bases and their camps as they exist in Iraq right now. As you can see, they extend from close to the border of Kuwait, all the way up to Mosul and out to K2 which is an airfield out in western Iraq. That's where they are currently located.

ROBERTS: And what are the options, Spider, if they needed to move the troops around, how could they move them?

MARKS: Well John, I think what's really important is the discussion always concentrates around the number of boots on the ground. So if the number of boots physically on the ground does not increase, how do you increase boots in very specific locations? Let me show you a possibility on where U.S. forces could be concentrated to achieve maximum effect on the ground.

These are four specific locations. They are representative of where U.S. forces should be concentrated and could be concentrated based on conditions on the ground.

Now what that provides you is what I would describe as an oil stain effect. That is to say you crack the nut when you went into Iraq, now you achieve a presence in some very specific locations. I recommend these four, and then you work your way out. Concentrate forces inside, and then work to make adjustments and fixes on the ground from the inside out, John.

ROBERTS: And what has been the difficulty, Spider, in the war, and up until present with these long lines of communication throughout Iraq. And also in and out of Iraq.

MARKS: John, what many fail to realize is this is a very large area of operations. Support comes out of Kuwait in the form of air traffic up into Baghdad, and that's about 300 air miles.

Additionally what happens is you have to take a look at what the ground lines of communication look like. Coming out of Kuwait up through Nasiriyah and then into Baghdad along the Euphrates or north of the Tigris, that's about 400 miles. This is a very large, very long exposed line of communications for convoys and vehicles to make it from Kuwait where the support is up into Baghdad.

And then additionally, John, you have traffic out of Qatar and elsewhere in the greater Southwest Asia region into Baghdad and also of significance is a large amount of support out of Central Europe, or our presence in Germany. And that flies in many cases directly into Mosul. So the theater of operations is more than just Iraq itself.

ROBERTS: We also want to bring in our CNN senior Pentagon correspondent Jamie McIntyre... What's the sense at the Pentagon, is there a major change coming, they're just waiting until after the midterm elections?

JAMIE MCINTYRE, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, they are really waiting to see what Secretary Baker comes up with. He's holding his cards pretty close to the vest. He's been getting a lot of dire assessments from people on the ground. And what the administration is sort of warning against is a major course correction. They haven't said that they will automatically adopt whatever the Iraq study group comes up with there. They are really waiting to see what they propose.

ROBERTS: And Spider Marks, what do you think is in the cards here? Redeployment of current forces. Adding more U.S. troops, perhaps just accelerating the pace at developing Iraqi forces?

MARKS: John, I don't think it's a withdrawal. It's certainly not a cut and run as many have said, and I doubt very seriously that it's a dramatic increase in the aggregate numbers that are on the ground.

What I do think is going to happen is the numbers are probably set right now, there may be a little adjustment upwards. And the mix of those forces may change as we've discussed before in terms of the number of forces available to do additional training for Iraqi forces, because that's the key.

And the other piece is there may be some adjustments in terms of where they are physically located on the ground. Again, as we've discussed in some degree of detail.

A New Strongman for Iraq?

(National Journal-10T)... James Kitfield – November 4

Retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. James (Spider) Marks was the senior intelligence officer for coalition forces during the 2003 Iraq invasion. He, too, believes that the greatest danger facing Iraq today is that some ethnic faction within the military might break off and align itself with a powerful militia and a charismatic leader. "Under certain scenarios you could imagine someone like Moktada al-Sadr convincing a sizable chunk of the

professional military force to join with his militia, and a hostile takeover and coup under that kind of circumstance might be difficult to handle," he said, noting that such a coup could draw the support of Shiite Iran. "That's why I think it's important that U.S. forces remain engaged in Iraq to preclude that from happening, and to give them time to embed an ethos in Iraqi forces that will make a military coup in the future unlikely...

"After the fall of Saddam, the CIA helped me find a handful of Iraqi generals who I judged could help me make things happen and who came forward willing to help," Marks said. "We were told to discard them because they were Baathists. At this point, I think the list of potential strongmen with the necessary leadership credentials in Iraq is a roster of none."

CNN: This Week at War 10/29/06 13:10:25

JOHN ROBERTS: "Spider" Marks, there's a lot of talk about reviewing the strategy for Iraq, perhaps making some course corrections. Nobody expects anything major to happen before the November 7th election, but do you expect after that we're going to see some major changes on the ground here?

BRIG. GEN. JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS, U.S. ARMY (RET): Well I think what you have to see on the ground clearly are some operational adjustments. John, I don't know that this is going to be a change in strategy. Still the strategy remains trying to have some form of representative government. What underpins that certainly has to change. The definition of idiocy is doing the same thing and expecting different results. So there will be differences and primarily what that goes to is two things -- number one, it's not an end date that I think General Casey is moving toward. It's an end state. It's an element off security and clearly the focus has got to be on Baghdad because Baghdad drives the train as we all understand.

ROBERTS: "Spider" Marks, there's nothing official. But there's a lot of talk about maybe the U.S. troops -- maybe the U.S. government will send more troops in to Iraq as Senator John McCain has suggested. If they did, how many troops would it take and where would they come from? Isn't the United States already stretched too thin?

MARKS: Well, John, starting from the top and working it down, yes, I would say U.S. forces are spread extremely thin. The turnaround time is very quick a unit that comes out on combat, has an opportunity to get back home and then try to do some refresh and then redeploy. The U.S. military has not reached a normalization of that rotation schedule. So yes, it's stretched very thin. In term of the numbers that need to be increased on the ground, what I would say is, it's not necessarily the pure numbers. It's where those soldiers on the ground are located. If they're spread throughout country and they're not getting the job done, where do you want to put them so that the job can get done and you increase the numbers very specifically on the ground.

ROBERTS: I can tell you, "Spider," I've met several commanders who are very frustrated about the difficulty of the challenge that they face on the ground. "Spider" Marks, thanks very much, as well as to Barbara Starr at the Pentagon and Arwa Damon here in Baghdad.

DAVID GRANGE

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight 10/26/06 18:15:20 (330T)

LOU DOBBS: Let's -- if we may, let's go to this new idea of benchmarks. And I want to go to something that Secretary Rumsfeld said, if we could listen to what he said today. And I'm going to ask you to see what you make of it.

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, I think that the secretary is correct that forces have to adapt and adjust to the battlefield. I mean, that's what warfare is about. But I think what's critical here is -- is changing the mindset and the strategy. And this is not an easy task to take on, but to get the enemy to adapt and adjust, not us. We want them to dance to our tune and not us to theirs. And that's the hardest part in warfare, and that's what needs to happen.

DOBBS: General Grange, is it your judgment we're going to see a -- from anything that Donald Rumsfeld, President Bush has said here, any change in strategy that we're likely to see, more boots on the ground?

GRANGE: I think you're going to see -- see a lot of change. I think it's such a critical time right now. Forget the political aspects. I know that influences it, but, I mean, for combat, such a critical time that I think you will see some changes. And the thing is, you've got these great young captains that John talked about, and they'll make a difference, because whoever provides the security gets the trust, confidence and loyalty of the community that they operate in. But once they leave, if you don't have a viable Iraqi government force to move in, then the same thing starts again, the same cycle. You know.

DOBBS: Is there any kind of judgment on the part of those line officers that they should be disarming Muqtada or any other militia?

GRANGE: My reaction is it would take -- it would cause a fight. There's no doubt about it. But unless you want a situation like the Hezbollah and Lebanon, which is the Iranian strategy right now in Iraq, you have to take them on some time by negotiation and combat. And so it's going to happen.

DOBBS: Is that time now, in your judgment, General Grange?

GRANGE: It's better now than later. They're going to get stronger. Better now than later.

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight 11/02/06 18:10:43 (253T)

You've just heard John Roberts' report that as many as 70 percent of those Iraqi police have a connection, an attachment to militias, either Sunni or Shia. What is your reaction, and how do you think that would affect any prospect for real stability?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, any kind of democratic governance, even if it's a fledgling government like Iraq, is going to require the military for sure, and hopefully police, to be loyal to that government. If they are loyal to a -- to a different, separate -- separatist organization, a militia, and they don't have the loyalty, they'll never be able to have the commitment and the confidence of the people, which are the center of gravity, in order to govern. So it won't work if that's the case.

DOBBS: Well, let's turn to the issue of the progress that's being made, the violence. White House Press Secretary Tony Snow saying point blank that violence is decreasing in Iraq. John Roberts, is that your sense, that things are stabilizing, that things are getting better?

ROBERTS: Lou, everything here is relative. And the figures that are being talked about in these days are relative to what was happening back at the beginning of the month of Ramadan, back at the beginning of October.

I actually had a briefing from one of the brigade commanders when I first arrived here who walked me through a presentation to show that there was a definite spike at the beginning of Ramadan and it has tailed off some as Ramadan progressed and then ended. But it's not to say that the level is particularly lower than it was earlier this year. It's just all relative to that Ramadan -- the opening of Ramadan -- spike.

DOBBS: Of course, October being the fourth-deadliest month in this war for our troops.

General Grange, the president yesterday said, speaking about the conduct of the war in Iraq, "I am pleased" -- "I am pleased with the progress we're making." Are you pleased with what you're seeing with what is happening militarily there?

GRANGE: Well, you know, overall I disagree. I don't think -- I think that the soldiers, Marines are making tremendous gains in their operations as American units, as the coalition forces are throughout Iraq.

The problem is, the training, in a very -- in a fast way, which is very difficult to do, of the Iraqi police and Iraqi military organizations, and they -- and they -- and that's a slow process. And now if you have the infiltrations, shortages of equipment, it's a very tough thing to take on. And that's going to take some time.

And this is a race against time. If the militia becomes more powerful before the Iraqi military becomes more powerful, then it's a good chance that the Iraqi government may not be able to win this thing...

DOBBS: Let me -- General Grange, let me ask you this, as I asked -- well, General Paul Eaton and General John Batiste and Colonel Tom Hannis (ph) yesterday on this broadcast, is Iraq becoming a testament to the fact that we should never have breached the Powell doctrine?

GRANGE: Well, the Powell doctrine has many components. The parts that I read on their -- their discussions with you really had to do with mass.

DOBBS: Right.

GRANGE: It had to do with certain conditions. There is some...

DOBBS: Overwhelming.

GRANGE: ... violation. But I don't believe the Powell doctrine will work in every situation. In this case, many of his points definitely are relevant to the fight in Iraq.

BING WEST

U.S. Officers Detail Problems With Iraqi Soldiers

(The Washington Post-656T)... Walter Pincus – November 1

Not all the critiques in recent Military Affairs issues center on lessons learned abroad. Some are aimed at officials in Washington.

"The trust senior officers repose in senior civilian officials has eroded," writes F.J. Bing West, who was an assistant secretary of defense in the Reagan administration and is a frequent traveler to Iraq and a consultant to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's office. "Inside the senior levels of the military and among those who follow foreign policy, anger is directed at elected and appointed civilian officials seen as too blithe in initiating the war and too obtuse in leading once the going got tough," Mr. West writes in the new issue of Military Review.

"While there is no unity of military judgment about the civilian management of the war, the Bush administration has been injudicious in its consultations with the military," Mr. West writes. Both he and Col. Grunow say a key event was the May 2003 decision to disband the Iraqi army, which was made by former Coalition Provisional Authority chief L. Paul Bremer at the direction of the Defense Department.

Officers say military faces obstacles in training Iraqis

(Associated Press)... John Milburn – November 1

U.S. military advisers are facing serious challenges in bringing the Iraqi army up to standard, including dealing with frequent absences and excessive force from Iraqi soldiers, as well as difficulty recruiting new soldiers, according to recent articles in a military publication.

In an article in Military Review, which is produced by the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Lt. Col. Carl D. Grunow, who completed a yearlong tour training Iraqi

units, described how the soldiers frequently used excessive force, including going on rampages after colleagues were killed by insurgents...

Offering similar criticism was F.J. Bing West, a former assistant secretary of defense under President Reagan who serves as a consultant to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

West wrote in the September-October issue of *Military Review* that the struggles in Iraq stem from the decision in May 2003 to disband the Iraqi army, which "changed the mission of the American soldiers from liberators to occupiers."

"The real failure was not seeing that Iraq had fallen apart as a cohesive society," West said. "A generation of repression had taught the society to take care only of its own, to enrich family and to avoid any communal activity that attracted attention and charges of deviant political behavior. The society fell apart, with each family and sub-tribe caring only for itself."

BOB SCALES AND THOMAS MCINERNEY

Active Duty GIs Being Recruited To Lobby Congress Against War

(The New York Sun-40T)... Eli Lake – October 26

Former military generals are criticizing anti-war groups for helping to organize active-duty soldiers to urge Congress to end the war in Iraq...

"I think it is shameful because the timing is so close to the election. They ought to be ashamed of themselves," a retired Air Force lieutenant general, Thomas McInerney, told *The New York Sun* yesterday by phone from Israel. "The soldiers should be ashamed of themselves for being duped into this. It is to be expected from a MoveOn.org-type group. They have no standards."

A retired Army major general, Robert Scales, told the Sun he supports the right of enlisted soldiers to petition Congress about the Iraq war. But he said, "It is a little suspicious that something like this would appear 12 days before an election."

"My only concern is that soldiers may be used as unwitting instruments of a particular political view. It appears they are being organized," General Scales said.



Snapshot!

Retired Military Analysts on Television and in Print Coverage

November 7 – November 30

The following includes sample highlights and excerpts by select military analysts from November 7 – 30th in television appearances and in the print media. While a number of different topics were discussed, including: recruiting, a draft, the nomination of Mr. Gates, strategy in Iraq, possible increased troop levels and engaging of Iran and Syria – nearly all analysts strongly suggested a bigger focus on training Iraqi security forces and an increase in troop levels. On the subject of Mr. Gates, analysts guessed that, if confirmed, he likely would not “make a difference,” as he’d be simply carrying out the President’s plan as Secretary Rumsfeld had (this is essentially the same conclusion reached by a Harris Poll sampling of the American public which found that 40% believe his presence will make no difference and 42% are unsure whether it will. There was mixed commentary on Mr. Gates as the next Secretary of Defense, as one analyst cited his lack of military experience, while another noted his strong experience in national security. The notion that the war in Iraq is “unwinnable” was also expressed by some. Brig. Gen. David Grange seemed to be the most cited military analyst in television coverage for this time period.

HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Jed Babbin

- Having a new Secretary will not change things on the ground - Secretary Rumsfeld and now Mr. Gates will do what the President wants him to do
- “Gates is not a reformer, he's not a strong leader, he's not a big military strategist. At best, he's going to be a caretaker over there”
- We now need to “take this war to the center of gravity, of the enemy. That’s in Tehran and Damascus”
- “Mr. Gates has no credentials as a military strategist or innovator,” which “is more than worrisome”

Lt. Gen. Michael De Long

- There’s no “silver bullet” answer to Iraq, or else Secretary Rumsfeld and President Bush would have implemented them already
- Doesn’t support the draft
- Bringing in more troops to Iraq won’t help unless there’s a new or more competent government in place

Gen. Wayne Downing

- The police force has been a major downfall – once we have an area secured and hand it over to the Iraqi force, it deteriorates again right away

Brig. Gen. David Grange

- Marines and Army are stretched thin – in order to build it up, we must also give them more resources – “you get what you pay for”
- Agrees with Gen. Abizaid’s suggestion to double the size of forces in Iraq
- We need to focus on training the Iraqi soldiers – if they’re not loyal – that’s an Iraqi problem, not ours
- The Army needs 50,000 more troops, and that a total of 600,000 would be an optimum end strength - "They're pretty much operating on a shoestring right now"
- Believes in some kind of national service/support, but not the draft
- Doesn’t support adding troops to populated areas, but rather, to the borders of volatile areas, like the Iranian/Syrian border
- Both the Army and the Marines are strained; the military “needs to rebuild itself” for the current and long term situations

Col. Jack Jacobs

- We’re currently in a civil war
- Things won’t change in Iraq unless we can send another 150,000 - 175,000 more troops
- (On a possible draft): “The only way to get consensus about service is if you have a political culture that values service. And we don’t have that at the moment”
- “It would be deleterious to drag into the service people who don’t want to be in the service”

Lt. Col. Robert Maginnis

- The U.S. will likely not need a draft – “7% out of the people eligible last year reenlisted. So far, this year, over 100 percent of those eligible. So the numbers are pretty good”

Maj. Gen. James Spider Marks

- Some Iraqi security forces are operating pretty well – “you can't throw them all into the same bucket and say the Iraqi security forces aren't up to the task. You've got to be a little more granular in terms of how you assess that and then make the fix”
- More training of Iraqi forces are needed, but we also must position them in the right areas of the country
- The first thing he’d tell Mr. Gates to do if given the chance would be to embrace his senior leadership and then talk to Lt. Gen. Marty Dempsey in Iraq about increasing the number of trained Iraqi security forces
- The idea of a timetable for withdrawal is not a good idea, and will only help our enemies

Capt. Chuck Nash

- Our forces are “the most capable, the best military” the U.S. has ever had – it would only hurt the force to bring in those who don’t want to be there

Maj. Gen. Bob Scales

- Troop levels in Iraqi units should increase

Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd

- Believes in a “quasi volunteer military” but only if the nation feels “threatened”
- Would tell Mr. Gates if given the chance to “watch your rhetoric and do not say “staying the course” or “we're going to win” and do not set a timetable for getting out.
- Gates has “been well engaged for a length time in national security. I think he'll be very careful and thoughtful on whatever he does”

Maj. Gen. Paul Vallely

- The military will and should “go long” – bringing in forces to “purge Baghdad once and for all,” allow U.S. troop withdrawal, leaving troops available to be sent to other areas in the global war on terror

EXCERPTS

JED BABBIN

CNBC Kudlow & Company – November 9

KUDLOW: OK. Jed, quick take. Rumsfeld out, Bob Gates in.

Mr. JED BABBIN (Former Deputy Undersecretary of Defense): Well, I think it's clearly a diminution of the influence of the Defense Department. I think you see an ascendancy of the State Department here, and I think it's not a question of changing the person, it's a question of whether the president is going to redirect the policy. I think our intervention in Iraq has stalled, and the president has to find a way to break the logjam.

Mr. BABBIN: The departure of Don Rumsfeld does not change anything on the ground for the troops. Rumsfeld was doing what Mr. Bush wanted him to do. Bob Gates is going to do what Mr. Bush wants him to do. Gates is not a reformer, he's not a strong leader, he's not a big military strategist. At best, he's going to be a caretaker over there. The question is what does the president want to do? I suspect he's going to want to do what the Baker--the fabulous Baker boys, Baker and Hamilton, tell him that he should do.

KUDLOW: Jed Babbin, you know, I guess I'm one of those who believes in the--in the idealistic position of democratization, freedom and human rights.

Mr. CROWLEY: But it takes time.

Mr. BABBIN: It ain't going to happen, guys. That's the neocon position. That's the position that was forced on Don Rumsfeld, who never believed in nation-building to start with. And we see it in ruins right now in Iraq. The issue is whether Bob Gates can tell

George Bush the bloody truth. You're not going to win that war by staying in Iraq. You're either going to have to get out of there or you're going to have to go deal with Syria and Iran. Unless you do that, you can't win this war.

CNN Headline News – November 13

GLENN BECK: Jed, tell me where I'm wrong. Phased redeployment? That sounds like a horrible idea.

JED BABBIN, FORMER DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE: Well, it is, Glenn, but where you're wrong is taking Iraq in isolation. And that's the capital mistake that President Bush has made, the mistake that Mr. McCain is making, and lord only knows the Democrats don't even have a clue of an idea, far less even a mistake.

BECK: I get that. I got to tell you, my friend, I think -- I think Iraq is a small piece of the puzzle. They are being controlled by Iran and Syria, and they -- they are trying to do what we, I believe, were trying to do to Iran -- plant democracy on both sides and squeeze their head and pop it. They're doing that to us now.

BABBIN: Well, that's pretty much right. I mean, the fact of the matter is you have a situation there where you can't possibly solve Iraq within the four corners of Iraq.

You have its interfering neighbors, Syria and Iran, and frankly, we are fighting a proxy war against our principal enemy's proxy. You can't defeat the principal enemy if you're only fighting his proxies. We are at a point where we have to go and take this war to the center of gravity, of the enemy. That's in Tehran and Damascus.

Gates Likely to Sustain Terror War

(The Washington Times)... Rowan Scarborough – November 13

Mr. Baker's State Department practiced pragmatism at times over loftier goals. He already has said he supports talking to one's enemies, a sign the study group may recommend engaging in talks with Iraq's terrorist-sponsoring neighbors, Iran and Syria.

"I don't think you restrict your conversations to your friends," Mr. Baker told ABC News.

Some conservatives fear such language means Mr. Baker - and Mr. Gates - will urge a political agreement that rewards the two hard-line regimes that have supported the deadly Iraqi insurgency with millions in cash, training and weapons.

"Gates has no credentials as a military strategist or innovator," said Jed Babbin, a senior Pentagon official in the first Bush administration. "To replace Rumsfeld with someone lacking these credentials is more than worrisome... How will we proceed to win the war? It all comes down to how the president wants to proceed. That's the most important open question."

Mr. Gates will bring a new style to a Pentagon. While Mr. Rumsfeld is brash and combative, Mr. Gates is studious and measured.

MICHAEL DE LONG

New Iraq charge

(AP)... Lolita Baldor – November 11

"If anybody had a silver bullet answer for this, the president and the previous secretary would have done it," said retired Marine Lt-Gen Michael DeLong, former deputy commander of the US Central Command during the Afghanistan and Iraq wars.

CNN Late Edition with Wolf Blitzer 11/26/06 11:45:17

LT. GEN. MICHAEL DELONG (RET), MARINE CORPS: Well first of all it's not new from the representative, but I don't support that. The current way that we do business right now, the military, we've got the best young men, best young ladies, the best force that we've ever had. I joined in the late '60s when they had a draft. I came from the Naval Academy and watched the services grow. And each service brings its own unique style, but the way we're doing it right now with the all-volunteer force is by far the way to go.

BLITZER: What about you, General Grange? What do you think?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, I think there should be something with national service. I believe that deeply, especially when they just released from Washington, D.C., the National Civic Health Index showing a lack of sense of service or participation, volunteerism, trust in others. And I think that it's more than just the military. I think the sense of service is a national issue for just the civic health, the civic engagement, and if you look at homeland security, there's many organizations and agencies that need support. So I do believe in something, but not the draft.

DELONG: Bringing in more troops, I don't know what good that would do. I talked to John Abizaid and listened to him, and have talked to the other people over there right now. And I've been over there. I think they're doing what they need to do right now, but unless they get a different government, or a government that can control the security of that country, I think they're going to have a problem.

WAYNE DOWNING

Critics focus on training, use of Iraqi army, police

(The Washington Post)... Walter Pincus – November 27

"What's really fallen down ... has been the police," according to retired Gen. Wayne Downing, who headed the U.S. Army's Special Operations Command and briefly served after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the Bush White House, handling counterterrorism.

"We reconstituted the Iraqi police pretty much in their old image," he told NBC's Tim Russert. "They are corrupt, they are feared by the people and we recognize this." Downing said that once a Baghdad neighborhood is cleaned up, "we turn it over to the Iraqi police, Tim, and within weeks it's right back to the way it was before."

DAVID GRANGE

CNN Lou Dobbs – November 22

...PILGRIM: Gen. Abizaid also said that he wants to double or he could consider doubling the training forces for the Iraqi forces -- the U.S. force -- doubling the U.S. forces. What do you think of that?

GRANGE: Well, I think that's probably necessary right now, because, obviously, one of the key issues is to provide trained and ready and loyal Iraqi forces to take on most of this fight and to establish the rule of law in a country which is their responsibility.

And it doesn't just mean you add another 10 to a 10-man team. You have to add the right skills, the right rank structure to get the right mix in order to provide that quality training.

I also think that there may be -- and I would personally recommend this -- that you would also do more combined operations. In other words, you would put whole U.S. units alongside whole Iraqi units so they fight side-by-side that give you some quality assurance, if that's some kind of a loyalty issue with a certainly faction instead of the Iraqi government.

PILGRIM: That's interesting. Let me bring up the commandant of the Marine Corps. General James Conway says the Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan are stretched. Let's listen to what he had to say... General Conway also said that he thought that the Marines could sustain another conflict. What's your opinion of how strained the Marines are?

GRANGE: I think the Marines and the Army are strained immensely. And I think the -- both -- especially the ground forces, there must be an increase, not on the edges, a very large increase in forces in the Marine Corps and in the Army.

CNN Newsroom – November 15

DAVID GRANGE: It's going to need more troops not to go in, for instance, and clear a -- a district within Baghdad. That should be the Iraqi police and military duty, with American support from behind, training and maybe advising.

But what Americans need to be used for is, one, train more Iraqi soldiers. Whether they're loyal or not, that -- that's an Iraqi problem. We can't influence that very well. And you are going to always have that problem.

CNN 11/12/06 17:19:49

Host: Can you comment of moving out in four to six months?

Gen. David Grange: I don't know what we know on the ground that is different from before that would tell us conditions are appropriate to pull out in four to six months. I don't think you should do it openly. That gives power to our adversaries thinking we have lost resolve, we have lost will. We are desperate. I think with al-Maliki it should be told to him we can't carry on as is. And he has to start doing things aggressively. Act like commander-in-chief like Abraham Lincoln of Iraq. Find tough Iraqi generals and get on with it.

CNN 11/11/06 11:51:11

Host: On a lot of people's minds is Donald Rumsfeld stepping down. New guy coming in is this time for renewed optimism for a lot of people about what's going to happen with Iraq and just how valuable can it be to have a new set of eyes on this whole situation, sir?

Don Shepperd: The departure of Donald Rumsfeld was clearly ordained. A new set of eyes, Dr. Gates being nominated will give us an opportunity to do something different but there's no magic in Iraq. We are engaged against some very difficult, tough enemy.

Host: What would you tell Bob Gates to avoid, I guess, that maybe you think Donald Rumsfeld did wrong?

Shepperd: A couple of things... I would say, watch your rhetoric. Do not say ""staying the course,"" no matter what. Do not say ""we're going to win"" because that's very, very difficult to define. Be very, very careful about your rhetoric. Above all, do not set a timetable for getting out. That can only help the enemy. I think Dr. Gates has been well engaged for a length time in national security. I think he'll be very careful and thoughtful on whatever he does.

The push for a bigger Army; More soldiers needed to meet demands of war, many say

(Army Times)... Matthew Cox and Sean Naylor – November 6

Retired Brig. Gen. David Grange, former commander of the 1st Infantry Division and now president of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, said the Army needs a minimum of 50,000 more troops, and that a total of 600,000 would be an optimum end strength.

"They're pretty much operating on a shoestring right now," he said. "If you can't even handle very well the challenge of Iraq, can you imagine if you had people standing by, I mean really standing by with no broken equipment, for something like North Korea?"

JACK JACOBS

MSNBC with KEITH OLBERMANN – November 27

Olbermann: Critics of the NBC decision today claiming that the situation in Iraq is still a matter of interpretation, likened our use of this term to a stunt. You and I have discussed

this before. You've used this term before. There are standards of definition for a civil war, correct?

JACK JACOBS: Well, and they're unambiguous, too, armed factions trying to take over the duly constituted government of a country. If that isn't a civil war in Iraq, then I don't know what else you would call it, and you'd be wrong if you called it anything else...

OLBERMANN: You use that key phrase, 'more troops. How many more troops would it take to essentially staunch a civil war? And if we're not willing to do that, is the administration essentially biding its time there in an effort to save face and not really impact the outcome?

JACOBS: Well, I would have said some time ago that we needed, you know, maybe another 100,000, or a little bit more. And up until recently, I would have thought doubling the number of troops that are already there would have been adequate.

But I think, given the recent circumstances, I think a substantial number, several hundred thousand more, would be required. And furthermore, more significantly, would have to be a commitment to do things that we have not yet done, and that is to insinuate ourselves in -- en masse into areas, and to kill or capture all the enemy, to move people out of built-up areas into camps where we work through them to make sure that before we return them to where they came from, that they're not bad guys, and so on.

It's going to take a great deal of effort. I don't think we're prepared to make that effort, and there's not a lot of time to do that. And I don't think the American population is ready for it.

MSNBC with Tucker Carlson – November 8

Unless we are committed to sending another 150,000 to maybe 175,000 more troops to Iraq to really go root out the bad guys, lock, stock, and barrel, which, by the way, we're not going to do, I can't see that the tactical or strategic situation is going to change drastically.

MSNBC Tucker Carlson 11/20/06 18:00:58

COL. JACK JACOBS (RET.), MSNBC MILITARY ANALYST: Good to be here with you.

CARLSON: A draft? I mean, do people who think seriously about the military think that's a good idea?

JACOBS: No, they don't think it's a good idea for a number of reasons. It would be nice if we did have a draft to the extent that we had universal service.

I came in to the Army in the first place because I believed then and I believe today that everybody owes some sort of debt to the country that keeps them free. I grew up in the post-World War II generation. My father served in the second world war, and so on.

But the only way you're going to be able to get consensus about service is if you have a political culture that values service. And we don't have that at the moment. And it wouldn't work because it's politically infeasible.

ROBERT MAGINNIS

Host: Can you ever imagine, Bob, us needing the draft again?

Robert Maginnis: Not any time soon, Glenn. Clearly, if we were in a national crisis to have to fill the ranks with hundreds and thousands of more people than we currently have, we have plenty of volunteers. Seven percent, seven out of the people eligible last year reenlisted. So far, this year, over 100 percent of those eligible. So the numbers are pretty good. You wonder why people want to go to war but, in fact, they do by large numbers.

CNN Headline News: Glenn Beck – November 9

BECK: I saw something last night by the guy who's replacing Rumsfeld. And it scared the living pants off of me. It was a report that he wrote and said, you know, basically in a nutshell, "Hey, we've got a lot in common with Iran. We should find common ground." Are we suddenly going to find ourselves taking a European approach with the Middle East?

MAGINNIS: Well, I think he's in the camp with James Baker, of course, who is very cozy with a number of key leaders over there. And perhaps one of the things Iraq Survey Group's going to do is come back and say we've got to talk more with Iran, with Syria, with you know, some of the -- maybe the Sunni radicals that are running the insurgency. So this is a major change in approach over there.

I don't think we're going to increase troops. And I'm not so sure the Maliki government over there is ready to take on more responsibility. After all, the Iraq security forces are not getting as good as we'd like them to be.

JAMES SPIDER MARKS

CNN This Week at War – November 19

BRIG. GEN. JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS, CNN MILITARY ANALYST: You saw here the dynamic of General Abizaid essentially digging in his heels and not really being swayed by any of the armchair commanders in Congress who seem to think they have a better idea. And I guess the answer is if you don't have confidence in General Abizaid's judgment, somebody ought to replace him. But other than that, he made a very impassioned argument that more U.S. troops will not change the dynamic except to provide perhaps some very, very temporary relief.

HOST: Spider, is this a little tinkering around the edges here in anticipation of the Baker report? Do you expect that anything significant will happen until that report comes out?

MARKS: I would think something significant could happen, absolutely. In fact General Abizaid indicated that what he's looking for is to increase the amount and the capacity of the U.S. forces to train Iraqi forces. He mentioned that. He said needs to be a primary focus. Now tinkering around the edges might mean an up tick a little bit to adjust who does that and how they do it, but not an aggregate increase in the numbers.

HOST: Of course, one of the big parts of the strategy here is training up the Iraqi forces to the point where they can take over security...

ROBERTS: So "Spider" Marks, there is this idea that perhaps gunmen masquerading as police commandos were responsible for this raid. There are other schools of thoughts that maybe the police commandos themselves were responsible for it. Certainly there had been other instances where the official government security forces have been involved in kidnappings, death squads, illegal checkpoints. If Iraqis can't trust Iraqi security forces to secure the country, how can they be expected to be up to the job?

MARKS: It's going to take time. That's the issue. You can't walk away from it. The Iraqis can't walk away from it. And to, to modify in some way how they go about training and how they try to inject some form of professional ethos into this force. The only way to do that is over time. So you've got to stick with the training of the forces and you can't. Understand, you can't paint all the Iraqi security forces with the same brush. In many cases the military forces are doing quite well. And they've been tested in battle. In some cases, as we've seen, the police are not being trained as well. And they've got some real challenges. How do you address that is the long-term challenge, but it's got to be done. So you can't throw them all into the same bucket and say the Iraqi security forces aren't up to the task. You've got to be a little more granular in terms of how you assess that and then make the fix.

CNN Anderson Cooper – November 14

JOHN KING: Well, then General Marks, what do you do? Is it the wrong composition of troops? The wrong mix of troops? Should they be in a different place? Should the rules of engagement or their responsibilities be different?

MARKS: John, a number of good questions. I would offer two suggestions. One is I think we need to increase the training of the Iraqi security forces. And you need to get more of those Iraqi security forces through that pipeline.

Now what that's going to cost is a little more money. Certainly -- I have to disagree with David a little bit, in that you've got to uptick your forces a little bit and make sure you've got the right functions aligned toward the training of those Iraqi security forces. And then they have to set for a while.

The second thing is you need to get the forces where they need to be. Right now they are scattered throughout the country. And a number of posts and camps and stations that are in Iraq, and you need to concentrate those with some mass, probably about three or four locations. And that way you achieve some overwhelming presence that allows you to take care of situations like that. And that's a combination of Iraqi and U.S. forces.

CNN Paula Zahn – November 9

Paula Zahn: If you were able to advise Robert Gates, if confirmed, what would you tell him he should do first?

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Paula, the very first thing I -- well, first of all, I appreciate the question. I certainly won't have that opportunity.

But the first thing I would tell the -- the new secretary is the obvious, really probably two things. First of all, embrace your senior leadership. Whether it's perception or reality, the perception has been very deep that the secretary of defense, the former secretary of defense, Secretary Rumsfeld, was very dismissive of his senior leadership, to the point of distancing their input, and really valuing their input.

So, the new secretary needs to embrace that leadership, and go to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Pace, and say, look, let's remind each other, you are the senior military adviser to the president of the United States, not I. You are. So, let's -- let's empower that role.

And the second thing, obviously, Paula, is, I would say get to Iraq, and, very specifically, talk to a lieutenant general by the name of Marty Dempsey -- Marty is in charge of the training of all the Iraqi forces -- and ask him, Marty, let's increase the number of Iraqi forces we can get trained, and decrease the amount of time, without decreasing the standard. What do you need?

And get in -- get him engaged.

(CROSSTALK)

ZAHN: And, against that backdrop, we have heard that there is a proposal on the table for a phased withdrawal, perhaps even with a preset timetable. What do you think of that?

MARKS: Not a good idea. What we need to discuss is end states, and not end dates. When you start establishing timelines that are really tied to the calendar, the very first thing that would happen -- and -- and I'm a former intelligence guy -- if I was a -- if I was a bad guy, I would say, let's go to ground. Everybody, go on vacation. Maintain your training and your skills, but I want you to come back in about four or five months.

Let's send the signal to our enemies, the coalition forces on the ground, that there's a causal link between the removal of the secdef and the new secdef. And we think this is a good deal.

We start to withdraw our forces at the exact wrong time, because we read that signal. I don't think it's a good -- good idea at all. You have got to establish conditions.

CHUCK NASH

Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson – November 20

CHUCK NASH, CAPTAIN, U.S. NAVY (RET.): Because today we have the most capable, the best military that the United States has ever fielded. And to take that group, which is highly motivated, has superb training, and then to force those into that organization who don't want to be there, who are not motivated to serve, would not help the overall situation.

BOB SCALES

Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson – November 23

HOST: ...At what point do Iraqi security forces stand on their own two feet? They are trained to do their jobs, but many say they lack the confidence to go out on raids without Americans assisting them. So, when can Americans back finally back off and let them stand on their own?

SCALES: Boy, that's a great question, Julie. First of all, not all the Iraqi forces are bad. There's a problem with the Iraqi police. We all know that. But there are some Iraqi ground units that are very good.

The key to the strategy in the future is going to be to thicken the American presence in Iraqi units and to increase the quantity of advisers to improve the quality of their equipment and to back off, to give the Iraqi leaders, the junior leaders, particularly sergeants, lieutenants and captains, more of an opportunity to learn to fight while fighting, to learn from us and then to apply those lessons in fighting the war their way.

HOST: All right. So, troop withdrawals, or increasing troop levels, what do you think should be the solution?

SCALES: I think the troop levels will increase in the Iraqi units. The number of advisers, the number of trainers, the number of our soldiers who are dedicated to the Iraqi mission will increase and probably beginning in late winter or early spring we'll begin to see a pullback of some of the major American combat units, army and marines.

NPR All Things Considered – November 27

ROBERT SCALES: What can we learn from our sergeants? First, technology and machines don't fight wars, people do. At the end of the day its sergeants and soldiers who

have to do the dirty business of killing and dying. The other lesson is that a volunteer force we begin with is the same one we finish with. It's hard to recruit during wartime. So, our soldiers will soldier on but for how long, only they will be able to tell us and when they're gone, nothing remains to replace them.

DON SHEPPERD

CNN: This Week at War – November 26

MAJOR GEN. DONALD SHEPPERD, U.S. AIR FORCE (RET): Clearly, the war is being shared more by the lower classes than if you had a draft, a fair draft, such as Dr. Moskos is proposing. What Dr. Moskos is proposing in my opinion is a concept of national service that I would buy into. But as Congressman Rangel is proposing, just a military draft. Number one, it's not needed right now in the numbers that we're facing. It is not wanted by the military. I served in a war and in a military where people didn't want to be there and the nation didn't support the war and it was a disaster John.

HOST: General Shepperd, what about this notion though that if the country is at risk, if the country is being threatened, then everyone needs to play a role in addressing that risk?

SHEPPERD: Absolutely it does and again, back to the concept of national service where you have options, one of them being the military which means it's a quasi-volunteer military. I really buy into that. But right now, the nation does not feel threatened. War is not about social engineering. War is about victory. In World War II where we had 16 million people, you needed every man available in the United States, either in civilian industry or in the military to win. Right now for the struggle we're in, we don't. It depends on how long we're at it and how wide it gets John.

PAUL VALLELY

Fox News: Hannity & Colmes – November 22

VALLELY: ...Everything is keyed on the Baker report, I think, coming out perhaps in a couple of weeks in December at some time.

So, you know, we've heard the options go long, go short, declare victory, go to the locker room. But I think what will probably happen and I have -- and I don't have an inside line into the White House, of course, but I think they're going to go long, and they should go long. Overwhelming force to purge Baghdad once and for all.

And that way then the troops can draw down, and we can be repositioned in other locations to fight this global war on terror.

HOST: And is that doable? I've heard you say that before about this business of purging Baghdad once and for all. Again, that's a tall order, isn't it?

VALLELY: That's a goal. That would be the mission. And eliminate the militias. I would suggest the forces will probably come from outside of Iraq. And that would be smart to do.

MILITARY ANALYSTS: COMMENTS IN THE MONTH

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HIGHLIGHTS

Colonel Ken Allard

- **National Service:**
 - Does not advocate for a draft but thinks enlistment should be more equal among all socio-economic levels

Mr. Jed Babbin

- **Bolton Resignation:**
 - Strong Supporter of Bolton and saw his resignation as a mistake
- **Robert Gates:**
 - “Gates is not reformer, not a strong leader, not a big military strategist. At best he will be a caretaker over there”
- **Iraq Study Group:**
 - Claims that all the recommendations are “really covering a graceful exit”. Expresses criticism towards the ISG.
- **Iran:**
 - Argues that the only way to win in Iraq is through Iran and Syria
 - Calls Tehran and Damascus the “center of gravity of the enemy”
 - Says that we have been at war with Iran since 1979

- **Behavioral Profiling:** Supports the arrest of the “flying Imams” and supports “behavioral profiling”

Lieutenant General Michael P. DeLong

- **Troop Levels:**
 - Did not think troop levels should be increased as per Senator McCain’s recommendation
- **Draft:**
 - Would damage the military and is not needed. Argues that an all volunteer force is best

Brigadier General David L. Grange

- **Military Stretched:**
 - “I think we’re coming to the end of the rope on the size of the military, committed the way they are right now in Iraq and Afghanistan. And in particular, for being ready in case something happens in Iran or elsewhere around the world. We’re asking too much of the military for the commitments right now that they’re expected to accomplish to standard”
 - “But the bottom line is, it’s back-to-back tours with a little bit of time in between where they can’t train, refit, go to school...It goes back that the military is too small. It was screwed up after the Berlin Wall fell in ‘89, when we started downsizing. And we’re living with those results right now. The military needs to rebuild itself, not only for the current crisis but for the looming operations that we have in the future that I’m sure are going to happen”
- **Senator Rangel/Draft:**
 - “I think there should be something with national service... So I do believe in something, but not the draft”
- **Nation not at war:**
 - “...the nation is not at war. You have the United States Army at war, you have the Marine Corps at war and the rest of the government agencies, and everyone else is not at war. And you can’t win a war unless you have unity of effort. And that’s the problem”
- **ISG report:**
 - “...it puts more people involved in the leadership of the nation behind the war effort, which basically has been somewhat isolated with, I think, very little support from the rest of the government”
 - “What should have happened is this report, this effort, should have happened when Paul Eaton was there during his tour years ago when all this type of resourcing would have probably paved the way for a sure success”
- **Engage Iran/Syria:**
 - “you have to negotiate with people you don’t like, not to compromise your position but to give them the red lines and make sure they understand where you stand in relation to this conflict”
 - “...people will think that we have some flexibility that we’re willing to listen to other nations in this region. And this is a regional issue. It’s not just Iraq by itself in some kind of a silo”
 - “Iran...have quite a lot of influence in Baghdad and with the militias supporting them both politically, morally, and with weapons and explosives”
- **Iraq - four- to six-month critical window:**

- “I believe there's a four- to six-month critical window in order to get this thing in a positive position...[it]is not a time to reduce strength or to piecemeal but overwhelmingly occupy or support the different areas that are needed in Iraq
- “...[we] actually have a chance to win this thing. And the winning may not look the way we like it but it's not leaving where we're going to be a loser and so are the Iraqi people and this region of the world”
- **Reposition troops in Baghdad:**
 - “Baghdad, you have a very tough situation where someone has to provide security. The people are going to support whoever provides that security. The Iraqi army and police are not doing it, so they’re sending American GIs in there”
 - “...now is the time not to rob Peter to pay Paul through other places in Iraq, to reinforce Baghdad but to reinforce the entire country so you don't leave a void, you take down the important objectives and win this thing”
- **Get troops off the street:**
 - “I do think it’s time to get the G.I.’s off the street and only go on into the urban areas where you're doing combined operations alongside Iraqis”
- **Move troops to border areas:**
 - “I wouldn’t put more American troops in the cities and in the populated areas, but I would deploy several brigades of American troops on the periphery, on the Iranian/Syrian border in Anbar Province, to demonstrate resolve and will and to do the unexpected, because that's what it takes to dissuade Iran militias and some others right now”
- **Training Iraqis:**
 - “You can’t do it real fast...You can gradually put them in there. It’s not just numbers”
 - “...the toughest thing is not just to teach these Iraqi soldiers to shoot, move and operate, but to teach them the sense of loyalty to the government and loyalty to the people they serve. That's the hardest thing to make happen”
 - “I would personally recommend this -- that you would also do more combined operations. In other words, you would put whole U.S. units alongside whole Iraqi units so they fight side-by-side that give you some quality assurance”
- **Iraqi Security Forces infiltrated:**
 - “...no doubt in my mind that they are infiltrated. You train the police and the Iraqi military to be more proficient. You’re also training infiltrators”
- **Militias – hardest issue:**
 - “...you either decide to live with them and their power that they have and have like a Hezbollah, Lebanon situation. You co-opt them to be a part oaf the Iraqi security forces, like a national guard. Very similar to what happened in Afghanistan with the warlords. But it would be – it’s much tougher now because we've waited so darn long. Or you dismantle them, which means they fight. So that decision has to be made, regardless of what strategy is taken”
- **Muqtada al Sadr:**
 - “you can argue he’s really not part of the insurgencies, but he's a part of the militia problem, which the militia problem is the biggest problem right now”

Colonel John Garrett (USMC, Retired) – Fox News

- No recent comment by Colonel Garrett

Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer (USA, Retired) Fox News

- No recent comments by Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer

Colonel Jack Jacobs

- **The ISG report:**
 - Engaging Syria and Iran is “complete nonsense”
 - With report, military leaders’ suggestions may be heeded more
- **Training of Iraqi forces:**
 - Emphasis on training forces and then gradual withdrawal
 - Need to “increase in combat power” to train Iraqis and protect the force
 - National command objective: “Get out of Iraq as best we can training as many Iraqis as we can so the place doesn’t fall apart immediately”
- **Permanent Iraq bases:**
 - Important to keep a military presence
 - Not only to operate in region but to have access to other countries
- **Muqtada al Sadr:**
 - Leader and militia are “a force to be reckoned with”
- **Iraq is a civil war:**
 - “Wrong if you called it anything else”
 - Backing one side is a “recipe for disaster”
 - Administration doesn’t call it a civil war because it shows that policies have “failed”
- **Recommended Solutions:**
 - Emphasis that will not occur because of 2008 elections
 - Need a “massive” increase of troops to stop civil war
 - Completely change counterinsurgency operation in Iraq
 - Have to be “ruthless and accept more casualties”
- **Possible draft - “Politically unfeasible”**
- **Dr. Gates:**
 - Not much change for lower levels of military
 - Will want to make changes to Iraq policy

Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney

- **Tough fight:**
 - “If people understand we’re trying to create a moderate government that can contain and eliminate this Islamic extremism, then they’ll understand why this fight is so tough, because those extremists, those fascists cannot let Iraq have a moderate government.”
 - Need to lock Baghdad down
 - Questions Prime Minister Maliki’s will
- **“End Game” for Iraq:**
 - “End game” is “stable Iraq, not necessarily democratic”
 - Suggests an authoritarian government with marshal law
 - Comparisons to South Korea after Korean War
 - Iraqi forces – “Long run going to win”
- **Phased withdrawal:**
 - Basically “cut and run”
 - Giving enemy the “game plan”
- **Iran:**
 - “Iran and Syria are trying to destabilize Iraq because they think if it’s destabilized, then the U.S. will pull out.”
- **Secretary Rumsfeld:**
 - “I believe ultimately history will be very good to him”

- **Dr. Gates:**
 - “Gates may try to work with Iran but he is no fool and will be a tough taskmaster.”
 - Will continue with Secretary Rumsfeld’s efforts to transform the military

Colonel Jeffrey McCausland

- **The ISG report - “On target”:**
 - Key recommendation – Iraqi leadership has to grab situation they’re in with sectarian violence
 - Broader diplomatic strategy – need to engage regional players.
 - Must be a combination of military, economic, political and diplomatic efforts
- **Training Iraqi forces - “Not a silver bullet”:**
 - Military will embrace more embedded military training teams with Iraqi Security Forces, but still difficult to train
 - Even after withdrawal, Some U.S. forces in Iraq or region to provide “external security” (intelligence, communication)
 - Questionable if training can be done quickly
- **Troop levels:**
 - “Not surprising Gen. Abizaid called for retaining military flexibility regarding troop levels, resisting the call by many Democrats for creating a timetable for immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops”
- **Increased deployment of National Guard:**
 - “Conceivable they might recommend an increase in U.S. forces in Iraq”
 - Question if there are enough forces in Baghdad
- **Dr. Gates:**
 - “Very capable and experienced guy”
 - Indicates change in Iraq strategy
 - “Average folks” on ground won’t pay attention to change
- **Status of military equipment - “Real problem”**

Major General Robert H. Scales, Jr.

- **Mr. Gates:**
 - He brings “a fresh start and a new approach... with few ideological preconceptions”... he is “a collegial consensus maker” and has “good state and intelligence community relations”
- **Where to invest DoD money:**
 - Thinks transformation is the best bet, but doesn’t think that’s what Mr. Gates will focus on first and most
- **The Army today:**
 - It’s “hanging on” because of the sergeants
- **Iraq:**
 - The key to success in Iraq is to increase the adviser to the Iraqi units
 - Troop levels in Iraqi units should increase
 - Training of Iraqi troops closely could take months or even years

Major General Donald W. Shepperd

- **The ISG report:**
 - It’s “right on the mark... powerful and dramatic. It gives us a chance to change direction there”

- The group has it right when they say we need to talk to Iran and Syria diplomatically
- **Recommendations:**
 - Embedding combat troops with the Iraqi forces is “really smart” and a next step after that would be to move on to deal with the militias
- **Training of Iraqi forces:**
 - It’s going well, but they don’t have the logistics, equipment, air support and long-term support they need
 - The forces “are very good, but they need some backbone... some time”
- **Concept of a draft:**
 - “Buys into” the concept of national support for the service proposed by Dr. Moskos
 - Believes in a “quasi volunteer military” but only if the nation feels “threatened”
- **Mr. Gates:**
 - Would tell Mr. Gates if given the chance to “watch your rhetoric and do not say staying the course” or “we’re going to win” and do not set a timetable for getting out.
 - Gates has “been well engaged for a length time in national security. I think he’ll be very careful and thoughtful on whatever he does”

Mr. Wayne Simmons

- **Mr. Gates:**
 - He’s an “outstanding choice - a no-brainer” ... one of the most commendable things about Mr. Gates is that he came up through the ranks and has always been – for the most part – “apolitical”

EXCERPTS

Colonel Ken Allard

San Antonio Express: Lesson of unequal sacrifice - 11/29/06

“Bugging out is always an option, but so is ethnic cleansing or oil at \$200 a barrel. Listen to lame duck Republicans or eager new Democrats and you might think that the only options for national policy are somewhere between surrender and stupidity. And while it's hard to make matters worse, give the politicians enough time and they'll figure out a way.

...But before we allow those grieving classmates and flags along U.S. 181 to recede into our collective memories, can we try recalling that the ideal of equality in this country means that the burden of defending our freedom is the responsibility of the many. Not just the few, the proud and the poor.”

San Antonio Express: Memorials salute heroism, but so does support of a nation- 11/08/06

Then there are the recent amputees wheeled through the PX by spouses every bit as courageous as their warrior soul mates. One look at them and you realize that you haven't done nearly enough. So let this Veterans Day mark the turning point. Because maybe it's time for all of us to put aside the larger issues and simply concentrate on making a personal difference in the lives of those brave young people.

Jed Babbin

CNBC: Kudlow & Company- 12/04/06 17:07:36

I think he's (Newt Gingrich) the worst guy for the job (UN Ambassador.) He wants to give away the first amendment for heaven's sake and we need somebody like, we need somebody like retired Marine General PX Kelly go in there and kick butt and take names.

CNBC: Kudlow & Company- CNBC 12/04/06 17:23:21

Well, I don't think you'll see a confrontation between Mr. bush and the hill because I think these proposals I'm hearing now and things I have been reading over the weekend, all these things are designed to meet the democrats halfway and the issue is, and there will not be a big confrontation with this pentagon, the pentagon understands civilian control unlike the people in the British military these days, they'll respect what the president decides and will not be happy about it because all of these recipes, Larry, all of these recipes are really covering a graceful exit, that is all this is about and we are trying to figure out how we can get out of there gracefully and turn the Iraqis over and say adios and let it fall apart Larry, that is what will happen.

Headline News: Glenn Beck-11/13/06 21:07:01

But where you're wrong is taking Iraq in isolation. That's the capital mistake that president bush has made, the mistake that Mr. McCain is making and lord only knows the democrats don't even have a clue of an idea. Far less even a mistake, they don't get that far.”

...The fact of the matter is you have a situation there where you can't possibly solve Iraq within the four corners of Iraq. You have its interfering neighbors, Syria and Iran, and frankly we are fighting a proxy war against or principal enemies' proxy. You can't defeat the principle enemy if you're only fighting his proxies. We are at a point where we have to go and take this war to the center of gravity of the enemy, that's in Tehran and Damascus.”

...We've been at war with Iran, Glenn, since 1979 and we have yet to say more than a nasty word to them.”

CNBC: Kudlow & Company- 11/28/06 17:44:21

It (Behavioral Profiling) has to (continue). If we don't do it we're absolute fools.

CNBC: Kudlow & Company- 11/15/06 17:56:07

JED: Not really saying same things we've been hearing for them. Larry it comes down to the fact we could be in Iraq, 60 days, 60 years nothing much will change unless we deal with Iran and Syria.

LARRY: You don't want to invade Iran Jed?

JED: I want to foment revolution, strike at mullahs with air strikes. No American troops.

Headline News -- Glenn Beck- 11/13/06 21:09:27

They believe some sort of Islamic heaven on earth will begin with the return of the 12 imam, and his return can only be precipitated by a massive global conflict with hundreds of millions of deaths. So that's Ahmadinejad career objective. He personally believes it. You are talking about a guy, Glenn, when he went to the U.N. a couple of years ago, he believed that an aura, a holy aura surrounded him when he addressed the general assembly. This guy has a -- all the earmarks of a fanatic. We have seen this before in that part of the world. And if we don't take him at his word and don't make sure that they don't have the means to do it, we are going to suffer something; our allies will suffer something the world has not seen before.

CNBC: Kudlow & Company- 11/09/06 17:43:39

It will not happen. That's a NeoCon position. Position forced on Don Rumsfeld who never believed in nation building to start with. We see it in ruins right now in Iraq. The issue whether Bob Gates can tell George Bush the bloody truth. You're not going to win that war by staying in

Iraq. You're either going to have to get out of there or go deal with Syria and Iran. Unless you do that, you can't win this war.

CNBC: Kudlow and Company- 11/9/2006 17:40:24

I think it's diminution of the influence of the defense department. You see ascendancy of the state department here. It's not a question of changing the person; it's a question whether the president is going to redirect the policy. I think, our intervention in Iraq, has, stalled and the president has to find a way to break the log jam.

The Departure of Don Rumsfeld does not change anything on the ground for the troops. Rumsfeld was doing what Mr. Bush wanted him to do. Bob Gates will do what Mr. Bush wants him to do. Gates is not reformer. Not a strong leader. Not a big military strategist. At best he will be a caretaker over there. The question is, what does the president want to do? I suspect he will want to do what the Baker, fabulous Baker boys, Baker and Hamilton, tell him that he should do.

Lieutenant General Michael P. DeLong

CNN: Late Edition With Wolf Blitzer- 11/26/06 11:45:13

Well first of all it's not new from the representative but I don't support that. The current way that we do business right now, the military we've got the best young men, best young ladies, the best force that we ever had. I joined in the late '60s when they had a draft. I came from naval academy and watched the services grow and each service brings its own unique style but the way we're doing right now with the all volunteer forces by far the way to go

CNN: Late Edition with Wolf Blitzer- 11/26/06 11:47:23

Well, as I listen to your program before and I think both gentlemen had a good point. The issue right now in Iraqi army is pretty well trained. The Iraqi police force is pretty well trained they got some asperse and you have the Iraqi police without so much asperse and the government that cannot control either one right now. So bringing in more troops I don't know what good that would do. I talked to John Abizaid and listen to him and have talked to other people, over there right now. I have been over there. I think they are doing what they need to do right now but unless they get a different government, or a government that can control the security of that country I think they are going to have a problem.

Brigadier General David L. Grange

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight – December 7

DOBBS: This ISG -- recommendations, 79 them in point of fact, General Eaton, does it give you confidence that, as the report is termed, that the way forward will be more effective?

...BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE, CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, it puts more people involved in the leadership of the nation behind the war effort, which basically has been somewhat isolated with, I think, very little support from the rest of the government.

DOBBS: You both are expressing some hope. It's guarded hope

...GRANGE: Well, I think there's definitely a chance for victory still to have some come out of there somehow with a stable Iraq to some degree. What should have happened is this report, this effort, should have happened when Paul Eaton was there during his tour years ago when all this type of resourcing would have probably paved the way for a sure success.

DOBBS: The head of the Marine Corps says he's got to have more people, and he needs those people quick. Everyone I talk to in the U.S. Army, the U.S. military -- it's -- what they're basically saying is, we need a lot of help, more people, and quick. No one wants to support a draft. That's not what they're asking for. But this military is worn down, and, as Senator McCain said today, being at this stage, being stressed and strung out is a lot better than being defeated. But how much longer can this country reasonably tolerate the -- just the abuse of the U.S. military by out

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policymakers that have put them into positions where we're spending billions of dollars on worn-out equipment, straining out -- stringing out our Reserves, our Guard, and our regular military?

GRANGE: Well, I'll go ahead and start that off if it's OK. I would -- I think we're coming to the end of the rope on the size of the military, committed the way they are right now in Iraq and Afghanistan. And in particular, for being ready in case something happens in Iran or elsewhere around the world. We're asking too much of the military for the commitments right now that they're expected to accomplish to standard.

Blunt report calls Iraq situation 'dire' – December 7

(Chicago Tribune)...Stephen J. Hedges and Mike Dorning

... "You can't do it real fast," said David Grange, a former general in the U.S. Army's Special Forces. "You can gradually put them in there. It's not just numbers. These guys have to have the proper ranks and specialties and experience in order to train. They're trainers, not recruits."

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight – December 1

DODDS: Joining me now, General David Grange. General Grange, what do you think of this idea to move troops within Iraq and reposition them in Baghdad?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, two critical areas in Iraq. One is the Baghdad metropolitan area, and the other is the Anbar province. And in Baghdad, you have a very tough situation where someone has to provide security. The people are going to support whoever provides that security. The Iraqi army and police are not doing it, so they're sending American GIs in there.

DOBBS: You know, you and I have -- and indeed the nation -- have been talking about, wrestling with the issue of Iraq. We've talked about a general staff, the entire U.S. military, the command structure sitting primarily in the Pentagon, not delivering victory, calling for patience. We have the Pentagon right now, apparently, scrambling to come up with some sort of riposte to whatever the Iraq Study Group comes up with. What are we dealing with here as we approach the fourth anniversary of this war's beginning?

GRANGE: Well, I think the biggest problem, Lou, is that the nation is not at war. You have the United States Army at war, you have the Marine Corps at war and the rest of the government agencies, and everyone else is not at war. And you can't win a war unless you have unity of effort. And that's the problem.

DOBBS: You know, General Grange, I think that is about as eloquently and accurately as anybody has put that. So what do we do? And how can a nation of conscience, a democratic nation of conscience, ask, as we do and as we have institutionalized, a military to go to war in which there is not a shared burden, a shared sacrifice? And in the instance of Iraq, in my judgment, as we have discussed before, certainly no clear strategy for victory?

GRANGE: Well, as history proves, without that unified effort, we have not won in the past. We have either had a tie or we've lost. And so, that has to be done. And I just -- it bothers me considerably that we're not going to put forth the effort, besides a new strategy -- I mean, the strategy's got to be to take down bad guys, like al-Sadr and others that are keeping the Iraqi government from being successful, and get on with the mission and accomplish it. Without a timeline; otherwise, if you use a time, time becomes the mission instead of the effects you're trying to achieve becoming the mission, and you won't win that way. And so, now is the time not to rob Peter to pay Paul through other places in Iraq, to reinforce Baghdad but to reinforce the entire country so you don't leave a void, you take down the important objectives and win this thing.

CNN: Anderson Cooper 360° - November 29

COOPER: The report is also indicating that they recommend relatively soon that this pullback begins on some level. We're also joined now on the phone by retired Brigadier General David OSD

Grange. General Grange, I don't know if you've had a chance to see the report or at least hear John talking about it. What do you make of it?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET.), U.S. ARMY: Well, you know, it's -- you know, they say there's no timeline. And so it can be a year from now before they move one soldier. I do like the idea, though, that it may not be pulling them out of the country, but redeploying in certain areas, let's say along the Iranian border, for example, or the Syrian border or Anbar Province. Where they get the G.I.'s off the street. I do think it's time to get the G.I.'s off the street and only go on into the urban areas where you're doing combined operations alongside Iraqis.

COOPER: How would that work, though? I mean, one of the things that John Murtha had been talking about is the redeployment, you know, to a neighboring country, maybe Kuwait at some point he had mentioned as a possibility. And then sending in troops, maybe Special Forces troops, as needed to respond to terrorist incidents. Does that militarily make sense? Does that seem feasible to you?

GRANGE: Well, see, there's only one country you can do that, you know, go to. That's Kuwait. I mean, you may get some into Jordan but not large numbers. I think you need more than Special Forces. I think you need a rapid reaction force. You're talking about, you know, a battalion task force, brigade combat team. That means anywhere from a 500-man force to, you know, 3,000 to 5,000 brigade combat team if it's a big, tough area. So a Special Forces teams are key, but I think it has to be more than that.

...**GRANGE:** Well, first of all, to do that strategy in Baghdad, you have to do it in an overwhelming manner, which is going to take thousands of American and Iraqi troops and police to do that. I mean, you have enclaves of very powerful militias and criminal groups now. It would be like going into Chicago and locking down the entire city, rooting out anyone that you would -- you can confirm is an adversary and then you -- but once you leave, then they come out of the woodwork and blend into the population. So you're talking about time, massive numbers of people, marshal law, and really a ruthless cloning operation in order to root out these groups. You would have to dismantle militias, which are heavily armed. So the Baghdad set is very tough, and if you're going to put Americans in there, you'd better do it all the way and not piecemeal it, or you're just going to lose a lot of G.I.'s for nothing.

...**COOPER:** General Grange, Reza raises a good point. My quick reading of this ICG report, or the "Times" report about it, this doesn't seem like a strategy for winning, as this administration once talked about winning in Iraq or, you know, creating a table government. It seems much more about just getting American troops out in the most favorable way possible. Is that -- is that fair?

GRANGE: I think -- I think you're right. I think it -- what's the favorable outcome that you can salvage? You know, I agree with the statement on the -- you see, the thing with the militias, which is the hardest issue right now in Iraq, I believe, is that you either decide to live with them and their power that they have and have like a Hezbollah, Lebanon situation. You co-opt them to be a part of the Iraqi security forces, like a national guard. Very similar to what happened in Afghanistan with the warlords. But it would be -- it's much tougher now because we've waited so darn long. Or you dismantle them, which means they fight. So that decision has to be made, regardless of what strategy is taken -- is approved with what to do with the American troops. That has to be decided.

CNN: Late Edition W/Wolf Blitzer – November 26

BLITZER: ...Charlie Rangel, the Democratic congressman from New York, made some waves over the past week suggesting, and I'll read to you what he said last Sunday. He said, "I don't see how anyone can support the war and not support the draft." He wants to reinstate the military draft. What do you think about that idea? ...What about you, General Grange? What do you think?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, I think there should be something with national service. I believe that deeply, especially when they just

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released from Washington, D.C., the National Civic Health Index showing a lack of sense of service or participation, volunteerism, trust in others. And I think that it's more than just the military. I think the sense of service is a national issue for just the civic health, the civic engagement, and if you look at homeland security, there's many organizations and agencies that need support. So I do believe in something, but not the draft.

BLITZER: All right. I think that that's a prevailing view among many current and retired U.S. military officers. Congressman Rangel is going to pursue this in hearings when the new Congress convenes in January. Let's talk about various options right now... I'll start with Senator John McCain. He wants the U.S. military to deploy thousands more additional forces to try to ease the crisis, the... What do you think, General Grange?

GRANGE: Well, right now, I believe there's a four- to six-month critical window in order to get this thing in a positive position before the United States and the elected Iraqi government. I have five points, but two to answer your question. One is, I believe that the surge in training -- in other words, it's not just numbers going from ten advisors to 20 in each group but going to 10 to 20 with the right specialties in leadership. Because the toughest thing is not just to teach these Iraqi soldiers to shoot, move and operate, but to teach them the sense of loyalty to the government and loyalty to the people they serve. That's the hardest thing to make happen.

BLITZER: Well, let me interrupt, General Grange. Because we heard from the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the DIA. Lieutenant General Michael Maples testified the other day before Congress, suggesting that so much of the Iraqi police force, the interior ministry and even the military are now riddled with Shia death squad members, and that this is becoming a huge, huge problem for the Iraqi military and police force that you have these Shia death squad members, these militia already deeply ingrained into the security forces.

...GRANGE: Well, no doubt in my mind that they are infiltrated. You train the police and the Iraqi military to be more proficient. You're also training infiltrators. But the majority, I think, you still have some that are very loyal to the government. I think you've got to pick the toughest, most loyal generals right now to get on with some of these operations on the Iraqi side. It's critical. The other point, though, I wanted to make on troop increases. I wouldn't put more American troops in the cities and in the populated areas, but I would deploy several brigades of American troops on the periphery, on the Iranian/Syrian border in Anbar Province, to demonstrate resolve and will and to do the unexpected, because that's what it takes to dissuade Iran militias and some others right now.

...BLITZER: General Grange, I want you to react to what the incoming, the new commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, General James Conway, told reporters this past week about the strain on the U.S. Marine Corps right now, the current tours of duty in Iraq and elsewhere. Listen to this. (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GEN. JAMES CONWAY, U.S. MARINE CORPS COMMANDANT: I think we may lose some of those folks. I think that the families, the young Marines, sailors will say that's just more than I think, you know, I'm willing to bear, and it could have some negative consequences for us in that regard.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BLITZER: And it's not just the Marines. It's the U.S. Army, as well, because if you send back these troops for a second or third or fourth tour of duty in Iraq, it puts an enormous strain not only on them but on their families.

GRANGE: Well, that's absolutely correct. I agree with the commandant, it's Marine and Army. Remember, now, some tours and special operations in the Marine Corps may be seven months, where some National Guard units have been activated maybe 12, 14 months. But the bottom line is, it's back-to-back tours with a little bit of time in between where they can't train, refit, go to school. This is a very highly educated military that's constantly in training, and most importantly the time with the families, missing holidays, missing birthdays, weddings, all these different types of things. It goes back that the military is too small. It was screwed up after the Berlin Wall fell in

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'89, when we started downsizing. And we're living with those results right now. The military needs to rebuild itself, not only for the current crisis but for the looming operations that we have in the future that I'm sure are going to happen.

CNN: CNN Newsroom - November 25

LIN: Let's take a look at the big news today. The vice president of the United States gets on his plane, flies all the way to Saudi Arabia for but a two hour meeting with King Abdullah. There is one theory out there that he was there to warn the Saudis that Iran or possibly Syria, Shia dominated countries, may have to take a more prominent role if the insurgency is to be controlled in Iraq. What do you make of that?

GRANGE: Well, I believe so. And also that the Gulf states, Saudi Arabia, Oman, these states are nervous about the power that Iran is gathering, their influence in the area. And they have quite a lot of influence in Baghdad and with the militias supporting them both politically, morally, and with weapons and explosives. Their strategy is actually working. An so you have to negotiate with people you don't like, not to compromise your position but to give them the red lines and make sure they understand where you stand in relation to this conflict.

LIN: So what does the United States -- are you saying dialogue with Syria, dialogue with Iran or actual Syrian and Iranian presence on the ground in Iraq?

GRANGE: No, I'm talking about us, the United States of America, having dialogue with Syria and Iran to make sure they understand our position, our red lines, and that we won't condone certain things. And where we will work with them if necessary.

LIN: And how...

GRANGE: But I think you have to talk to these people face to face on these issues.

LIN: And how do you think that changes the dynamic on the ground, the mere fact that the United States would put down its volatile, what some might say, rhetoric out there, have these conversations with these two countries? How does that immediately change the dynamic on the ground, if at all?

GRANGE: Well, maybe people will think that we have some flexibility, that we're willing to listen to other nations in this region. And this is a regional issue. It's not just Iraq by itself in some kind of a silo. But at the same time, you can still be a tough guy and talk to other people.

LIN: And yet, you have folks like Senator John McCain who said this just in past week.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JOHN MCCAIN (R), ARIZONA: I believe al Sadr has to be taken out. I believe that the Mehdi army continues to pose a threat. I think that it's very clear that we need to increase the size of the Army and Marine Corps.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LIN: All right. Specifically, he there was talking about Muqtada al Sadr, right, the head of the Mehdi militia, one of the most prominent members of the insurgency some might say. I mean basically, an assassination of an insurgent leader. Is that an effective way to bring peace to the region?

GRANGE: Well, he's not -- you know, you can argue he's really not part of the insurgencies, but he's a part of the militia problem, which the militia problem is the biggest problem right now. You know, he did -- he was supposed to be brought to court years ago because of his alleged involvement in a murder of another religious leader at a shrine. And nothing was done because of the fear of inciting more violence, more conflict. You have to deal with the militias now. The earlier the better. Something should have been done with him years ago. Either arrest him. Or if he resisted arrest, then of course, he would have died. But the problem gets worse as the years goes on, as the time goes on. He gets more powerful.

LIN: He certainly does. All right, thank you very much, Brigadier General David Grange. We'll see what happens.

GRANGE: Thank you.

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CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - November 22

PILGRIM: You know, we reported earlier that General Abizaid said that he wants a temporary increase in troops. Last week before the Senate Armed Services Committee, he didn't indicate any increase. And then suddenly there's 2,200 troops moving to Al Anbar. Are we having mixed signals here?

GRANGE: No, I think that the 2,200 marines going to Anbar province -- I hope this is the case, anyway -- is the start of a reinforcement during this very critical four- to six-month period where, I think, the future of Iraq is going to be determined. And I think it's better to have more than just enough in order to have the flexibility to do the different things, the different requirements in both Afghanistan and Iraq.

PILGRIM: Let me read a comment that he told CNN today. "I could see a series of options coming together where you might have a short term increase for a good reason and it would have to be tied to a specific plan." Now, that plan is the open question. Is it a Pentagon call? Is it the Iraq Study Group call, White House plan? Where might this plan be coming from that he's looking at this?

GRANGE: The plan -- the military part of the plan will be done by General Abizaid's Central Command with approval from the Pentagon, the National Security Council, et cetera. Other aspects come into that plan because there's a State Department piece to it, there's USAID, there's other government agencies that are involved in the holistic plan that will be approved and put together, considering recommendations from the separate study groups as well.

PILGRIM: Abizaid also said that he wants to double or he could consider doubling the training forces for the Iraqi forces -- the U.S. force -- doubling the U.S. forces. What do you think of that?

GRANGE: Well, I think that's probably necessary right now, because, obviously, one of the key issues is to provide trained and ready and loyal Iraqi forces to take on most of this fight and to establish the rule of law in a country which is their responsibility. And it doesn't just mean you add another 10 to a 10-man team. You have to add the right skills, the right rank structure to get the right mix in order to provide that quality training. I also think that there may be -- and I would personally recommend this -- that you would also do more combined operations. In other words, you would put whole U.S. units alongside whole Iraqi units so they fight side-by-side that give you some quality assurance, if that's some kind of a loyalty issue with a certainly faction instead of the Iraqi government.

PILGRIM: That's interesting. Let me bring up the commandant of the Marine Corps. General James Conway says the Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan are stretched. Let's listen to what he had to say.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GEN. JAMES CONWAY, U.S. MARINE CORPS COMMANDANT: I think we may lose some of those folks. I think that the families, the young Marines, the sailors will say that's just more than I think I'm willing to bear. And it could have some negative consequences for us in that regard.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PILGRIM: He's talking about the amount of time off that they get in between tours -- 180,000 Marines, he says that's a good level for peacetime. We're hardly at peacetime situation now, General?

GRANGE: Well, here's the issue on the rotation of forces. Whether you're on a seven-month tour or a 12-month tour, whatever, you need sufficient time to retrain. Well, one would say, well, why do you have to do that? You just came back from combat, you should be trained. What happens is, you lose about 50 percent of the force on return back from a mission. That's regular troops as well as sergeants and officers. So you get all these new, green troops in, plus you get new leaders in that have to come together as a team. That takes time. Then there's other training that must be done for other places in the world that we have contingencies for. That takes time. They have to

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reset all their equipment, which most of it's broken or just run hard and put away wet. And lastly, and the most important, are the family issues, the moral aspects of missing Christmas, missing many Christmases, Thanksgivings, weddings, birthdays. All these things wear on military families. And with a force that's over, I think, 60 percent married, this is tough and this morale issue is something to be considered.

PILGRIM: Certainly at this time of year it's fairly obvious. General Conway also said that he thought that the Marines could sustain another conflict. What's your opinion of how strained the Marines are?

GRANGE: I think the Marines and the Army are strained immensely. And I think the -- both -- especially the ground forces, there must be an increase, not on the edges, a very large increase in forces in the Marine Corps and in the Army. And that's not an easy task. There's two pieces to that. One is you have to have it approved by Congress and funded properly by Congress. And that usually is a little loose at times. And the second piece is that it's hard to get that many recruits out of our society today. So the recruiting

CNN: The Situation Room - November 16

BLITZER: We're following a breaking news story out of southern Iraq. A convoy of contractors, including four Americans, ambushed just a little while ago near Nasariya in the southern part of Iraq. We're watching this story very closely. I want to bring in our military analyst, retired U.S. Army Brigadier General David Grange. You hear this kind of story. You know there's protection. There's a lot of suspension, as you also know, General Grange, that those who may have ambushed this convoy were wearing Iraqi army uniforms or police uniforms, which are apparently very plentiful. This seems like sort of a new structure on how to go after the people they want to go after. Just dress up as the good guys.

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well I think that is the case. What that does, it causes security personnel in this case or it could be U.S. soldiers or Iraqi -- regular Iraqi army soldiers that are actually loyal to the government to hesitate in executing rules of engagement if there is a threat. And that gives the opponent a little bit of an edge to get the jump on an organization like this.

BLITZER: These convoys, incredibly dangerous. But as I observed myself last year when I was there, they are pretty sophisticated and they seem to have all the equipment they need. They've built up the armor. Apparently these guys just stopped in Nasariya at what they thought was a regular Iraqi army checkpoint, but guess what? It apparently was not the case.

GRANGE: Well and also why four? I mean if they go with three gun vehicles, three each, there is nine right there. So, I mean, it just depends on how -- did they get separated? What kind of issue happened? But most of these contractors, former law enforcement agency personnel, and Special Ops or paratroopers, those kind of soldiers that -- or Marines that retired are well trained. I mean these are not green-type recruits.

BLITZER: The 2,200 Marines who are about to be deployed to the al Anbar Province in the western part of Iraq, they are aboard ships right now in the Persian Gulf. These are in addition to the 140, 145,000 troops already there. It sounds, given the enormity of that geography over there like a -- you know a limited capability that they'll have to really do much.

GRANGE: Well, I think it's about 20,000 to 30,000 Marines or soldiers short. This is the time, if anything, to surge even if -- and I am not talking about G.I.s patrolling streets. I'm talking about showing presence, showing resolve that we aim to win, to make the Iraqi government successful. And this four-to-six month period is not a time to reduce strength or to piecemeal but overwhelmingly occupy or support the different areas that are needed in Iraq.

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - November 16

DOBBS: General Grange, the idea that there is still no straight-forward, articulated strategy in Iraq, that more of our men and women in uniform are being killed there. To hear General Abizaid

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yesterday, I don't know about you -- well, let me just ask you. Were you inspired by his assessment and prescription for the future in Iraq?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE, (RET), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: I believe it has to be more of a strategy than it was in testimony. A couple of things have to happen. One, yes, double the size of the advisory teams, but also establish and it has to be a surge, to do that establish combined Iraqi-U.S. forces so have the capabilities to move anywhere you need to take on opponents. You must do something about the militia, because it's only going to get worse. You have about a four to six-month window, I think, to do that and then I would send brigade size elements, 3,000 to 5,000 troops a piece on the Iranian border, Syrian border, Anbar Province, just to demonstrate resolve and to intimidate and for psychological effect on our adversaries.

...**DOBBS:** General Grange, I have to tell you, as Tom Ricks says that, 18 months. You are going to have to put me down as unpatriotic and soft on Iraq. The idea of losing more Americans over the course of a year and a half does not sit well with me. It sticks in my craw. Because I don't see clear goals, clear strategy. And I don't think a lot of Americans do, either. Give us your best military insight into what in the world we should be doing there?

GRANGE: We have this four- to six-month window, I believe, to actually have a chance to win this thing. And the winning may not look the way we like it but it's not leaving where we're going to be a loser and so are the Iraqi people and this region of the world. So we have to do something. Talk about who has the blame. I don't understand why we're so concerned about that piece of it. Why can't someone just lead these things to victory? Get the military back on its feet the way it should be to take on the challenges of the 21st century. Which is quite apparent. This is not an easy challenge for this country.

DOBBS: Let me ask you straight up. What is the world is West Point producing amongst this group of generals, this war has taken longer than World War II. Not a single general has been fired and every general talks about patience. And General Abizaid is sitting there sounding like a politician instead of a general when he's standing before Congress.

...**GRANGE:** Lou, it's an Abraham Lincoln commanding a Grant and a Marshall to accomplish this mission. That's what's needed.

DOBBS: Where do we find Grant and Marshall in this general staff?

GRANGE: They are out there.

CNN: CNN Newsroom - November 15

PHILLIPS: All right, so, where does the war go? With a new leader coming at the Pentagon, and Democrats poised to take control of Congress, let's bring in our military analyst, retired Brigadier General David Grange. You know, he's saying there should be troops. There shouldn't be troops. Well, maybe there should be troops to help the Iraqi troops, but it's only temporary. He's going back and forth, General.

BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID GRANGE (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Here's why. There are three major problems. One is the rising power of the militia and disloyal Iraqi leaders. Number two is the influence from Iran. And number three is, there's not enough trained, loyal Iraqi soldiers or police. So, the answers have to be able to support those three problems, whether they need more troops or less troops. And we can go into it from there.

PHILLIPS: Well, how do you -- all right, let's -- let's say we lay it out with those three points you just made it. It sounds like that's going to need more troops.

GRANGE: It's going to need more troops not to go in, for instance, and clear a -- a district within Baghdad. That should be the Iraqi police and military duty, with American support from behind, training and maybe advising.

But what Americans need to be used for is, one, train more Iraqi soldiers. Whether they're loyal or not, that -- that's an Iraqi problem. We can't influence that very well. And you are going to always have that problem.

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PHILLIPS: But...

(CROSSTALK)

GRANGE: But more have to be trained to go in to actually let them clear these cities. You don't need to have another Fallujah with American troops as the lead.

PHILLIPS: Well, it sounds like Abizaid...

(CROSSTALK)

GRANGE: ... the Iraqi sovereign government...

PHILLIPS: Go ahead. I'm sorry, General.

GRANGE: I'm sorry.

PHILLIPS: No, I apologize.

GRANGE: No, I -- I'm just saying, the Iraqi sovereign government will not allow us to do that anyway.

Where American troops need to be used is more in the backdrop, training Iraqi troops. And what I would do is, if you send more troops, which is really not a bad idea, but for other reasons. That's psychological reasons.

I would plop them down on the border of Iraq, on the border of Syria, and out in Anbar Province to patrol and just conduct training exercises, because, right now, the -- the -- the enemy feels that we're losing our will; we're not determined to win this thing. And -- and they think we have the lack of resolve.

So, if you did something like, you would throw them totally off balance and get some kind of a positional advantage.

PHILLIPS: Well, this is a big beef with Senator John McCain as well. He has been saying, look, you need more Marines; you need more Army. You got to take the pressure off the Guard, take the pressure off the Reserve.

He and Abizaid got into a little bit of a back-and-forth. Let's take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JOHN MCCAIN (R), ARIZONA: I respect you enormously. I appreciate your service. I regret deeply that you seem to think that the status quo and the rate of progress we're making is acceptable. I think most Americans do not.

ABIZAID: Well, Senator, I agree with you. The status quo is not acceptable. And I don't believe what I'm saying here today is the status quo.

I am saying we must significantly increase our ability to help the Iraqi army by putting more American troops with Iraqi units in military transition teams to speed the amount of training that is done, to speed the amount of heavy weapons that gets there, and to speed the ability of Iraqi troops to deploy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PHILLIPS: Let me ask you, is it the quality vs. the quantity? When -- when -- when McCain has talked about we need to put more Army and Marines in there, and -- and take the pressure off the Guard and off the Reserves, what is it about the Army and the Marines? Are they -- are they trained differently than the Guard and the Reserve, where they can go in there and maybe accomplish this quicker?

GRANGE: Well, it's hard to get -- to train up forces that only have a couple weekends a month to -- to maintain proficiency, compared to active units, that train all year long.

I mean, it's hard just to get active units ready to go to these kind of irregular warfare fights, when they train 365 days a year. So, there is a bit of a difference. And it's a fair way to say it. I mean, you can't expect more than that.

But the point is, there's two issues here. One is, we have too small of a military to handle all the things we have to do and be ready to do in the world. Reference Iraq, if you're going to speed up the training of Iraqi units to take on the fight themselves, and you're going to surge that effort, then, you have probably got to send more troops, if you don't have enough, to do that, because right now is the breaking point.

OSD

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

The next half-year or so, this may be it. And, so, if it takes more troops, then, by goodness, do it. But the Iraqis have to be the ones that go in and do the fighting, finally.

PHILLIPS: Interesting. You say it's a -- it's a breaking point. Now we have got this Iraq Study Group, Jim Baker and the rest. Does that word study bother you? I mean, how many more people will it take to study this war, vs. just taking action and doing something?

GRANGE: Well, yes, you can study it to death, but it's -- it's almost gets time where you're -- you're in the execution phase.

And, so, that's right. And -- and I think one thing the study group's going to come up is the regional approach, vice just Iraq. I mean, Iraq can't be looked at in a silo by itself. It's tied too much, there's too much connectivity to -- to terrorist groups to other countries, to other influences, militias, black markets, criminals, businesses, etcetera.

And, so, you have to look at it in a regional approach...

PHILLIPS: And these death squads.

GRANGE: ... to take it on.

Exactly, the death squads. I mean, what about the militia? Are we -- is the militia going to be allowed to live alongside and operate alongside the elected sovereign government? Are they going to be integrated, like National Guard, into the military? Or are they going to be taken down?

A decision has to be decided to do one or the other. And if -- and if the Iraqi government won't solve that problem, won't take that on, it's never going to get fixed. It is going to be like the Hezbollah in Lebanon. That -- that will be the result.

PHILLIPS: General David Grange, always great to see you.

GRANGE: Thank you.

Colonel Jack Jacobs

MSNBC: Tucker with Tucker Carlson – December 6

CARLSON: We'll have much more time to talk about this in a minute, but briefly, I just want, if you would, each of you to sum up your responses to this. Colonel, when you read this, what was your reaction?

JACOBS: Well, there are two things that jumped right out at me, and that was despite the fact this was commissioned by the White House, this is a damning indictment of two things about the White House.

First, it said that its military policy stinks. And it also, in saying, Hey, you need to engage in Iraq -- I mean, Iran -- there's a Freudian slip -- Iran and Syria. It said your foreign policy stinks, too. And those two things jumped right out at me much more blatantly than the prescriptions for what ought to be done on the ground...

Colonel Jacobs, one of the recommendations is to close permanently all military bases in Iraq, when we pull out, leave nothing behind. How useful would it be to the military to have a permanent base or two in Iraq?

MSNBC: Countdown with Keith Olbermann – November 27

OLBERMANN: You use that key phrase, more troops. How many more troops would it take to essentially staunch a civil war? And if we're not willing to do that, is the administration essentially biding its time there in an effort to save face and not really impact the outcome?

JACOBS: Well, I would have said some time ago that we needed, you know, maybe another 100,000, or a little bit more. And up until recently, I would have thought doubling the number of troops that are already there would have been adequate.

But I think, given the recent circumstances, I think a substantial number, several hundred thousand more, would be required. And furthermore, more significantly, would have to be a commitment to do things that we have not yet done, and that is to insinuate ourselves in -- en

masse into areas, and to kill or capture all the enemy, to move people out of built-up areas into camps where we work through them to make sure that before we return them to where they came from, that they're not bad guys, and so on.

It's going to take a great deal of effort. I don't think we're prepared to make that effort, and there's not a lot of time to do that. And I don't think the American population is ready for it.

MSNBC: Tucker with Tucker Carlson – November 27

JACOBS: It's not true. You can, in fact, achieve significant objectives even in the environment of Iraq, but that's going to require two things. First, a massive increase in the number of troops, which we're not prepared to undertake. We're just not going to do it. It's politically infeasible. And, quite frankly, I'm not certain that we even have the forces now or at any time in the near future in order to effect change.

And second, and perhaps more important, is the fact that we'd have to completely change how we operate in Iraq. That means that we'd have to be prepared to inject troops into small areas, take plenty of casualties, which happens in wars like this, and for there to be commensurate civilian casualties that are unplanned. I don't think the American public is prepared for that, and, as I said, it's politically infeasible in a run-up to a general election in two years.

MSNBC: Tucker with Tucker Carlson – November 8

CARLSON: The irony in that, since, of course, his public perception has been completely consumed by, certainly defined by the war in Iraq.

What do you think Gates is going to do? Will he make changes in our policy in Iraq?

JACOBS: It is -- he's going to want to, and he's a good guy. And by the way, he's likely to get confirmed relatively easily, although more Democrats in the Senate, they're going to give him a harder time, period.

But it is difficult to envision how you change the strategy and make it significantly different and more successful than what's being done right now. We need more mobile training teams, that's for sure. We need more troops in Iraq, in any case. We've got to get the Iraqi army and police force on line.

Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney

Fox News: The Big Story with John Gibson – November 27

GIBSON: General McInerney, this Iraq Study Group, the leakage says that the first document we will see recommends discussions with Iran and Syria and does not set a timetable. What can come of discussions with Iraq and Syria?

GEN. TOM MCINERNEY, FOX NEWS MILITARY ANALYST: I don't think any good will come out of discussions with them, because it's in Iran and Syria's interests, John, to have an unstable Iraq. And that's what they want to do, because then they believe the United States will withdraw, and then they'll have a region in which they can spread the Shia crescent, which they're trying to do across the central part of the Arabian peninsula. We do not want that. That's why people, when they talk about leaving or talk about the situation, they've got to talk about consequences. There are not enough people talking about consequences.

Fox News: The Big Story with John Gibson – November 24

Anchor: This obviously puts more pressure between Maliki and the president, but do you think that Americans understand how difficult this fight really is?

LT. GEN. TOM MCINERNEY (RET), FOX NEWS MILITARY ANALYST: Well, the military does, Julie. And it's a great question, but I don't think the American people, and certainly the left in our country, understand that -- who we are fighting. It's Islamic fascism. And this is Islamic fascism, or extremism, is what we're trying to contain, this ideology. And you only

contain an ideology and change it by being in the region. And what we're trying to do is create a moderate government. If people understand we're trying to create a moderate government that can contain and eliminate this Islamic extremism, then they'll understand why this fight is so tough, because those extremists, those fascists cannot let Iraq have a moderate government.

Fox News: Fox and Friends – November 13

LT. GEN. TOM MCINERNEY (RET), FOX NEWS MILITARY ANALYST: I don't think putting more troops in, that that wouldn't do t you would wants to train the Iraqi forces faster. In the long run, they are the ones going to win. Here is the key thing, is Maliki up to it and I'm starting to question if he is up to it and it may be we might have to use what we did after the Korean war when President Syngman Rhee was put in. we may to go to authoritarian government civil rights and martial law and do a whole host of things to get stability over there.

Colonel Jeffrey McCausland

WCBS 11/08/06 17:33:00

- Transcripts available on request

WCBS 11/11/06 09:00:40

- Transcripts available on request

WCBS 11/15/06 17:00:42

- Transcripts available on request

Major General Robert H. Scales, Jr.

Fox News Special Report with Brit Hume – December 8

MIKE EMANUEL: Pentagon officials say they're not surprised by the recommendation of the Iraq Study Group to expand the number of trainers, since the top U.S. general in the Middle East, John Abizaid, already said he wants to beef up the number... Military officials say they're aware of the risk for the American trainers...

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT SCALES (RET), MILITARY ANALYST: We have enough troops to beef up the training capacity. The issue is not numbers. The issue is quality and preparation.... Leaders have to be trained. Soldiers have to be trained. And that's going to take time, months if not years.

NPR All Things Considered – December 5

General ROBERT SCALES (Retired, U.S. Army): I don't see any new ideas on the table, nor would I have expected him (Mr. Gates) to throw out ideas in his hearings. I do think, and I agree with General McCaffrey, is that what he brings to the table is a fresh start and a new approach. He is by nature a collegial consensus maker. He has good relations with State and the intelligence community. He has few ideological preconceptions that he brings to the table.

I think he has a certain gravitas based on his past and his close association with the president which puts him at a new position, and so at the end of the day, what we're looking for is, for lack of a better term, a sort of - not new options, but a rebalancing of old options and an appearance that we're bringing to the table a fresh set of intellectual capabilities that we're going to throw at the problem.

NPR All Things Considered – November 27

ROBERT SCALES: ...I'm a Vietnam veteran and a retired general. Had you told me after 9/11 that my army would be fighting in its fourth year in Iraq, that soldiers would be heading back into combat for the third time in as many years I wouldn't have believed it. Because after Vietnam I saw my army collapse, broken, disheartened and abandoned by the American people. But this

isn't broken, at least not yet. Why? I think the army is hanging together better than any of us old vets imagined because of sergeants. They're the soul of our Army...

What can we learn from our sergeants? First, technology and machines don't fight wars, people do. At the end of the day its sergeants and soldiers who have to do the dirty business of killing and dying. The other lesson is that a volunteer force we begin with is the same one we finish with. It's hard to recruit during wartime. So, our soldiers will soldier on but for how long, only they will be able to tell us and when they're gone, nothing remains to replace them.

Fox News: The Big Story w/ John Gibson – November 23

HOST: ...At what point do Iraqi security forces stand on their own two feet?...

SCALES: Boy, that's a great question, Julie. First of all, not all the Iraqi forces are bad. There's a problem with the Iraqi police. We all know that. But there are some Iraqi ground units that are very good.

The key to the strategy in the future is going to be to thicken the American presence in Iraqi units and to increase the quantity of advisers to improve the quality of their equipment and to back off, to give the Iraqi leaders, the junior leaders, particularly sergeants, lieutenants and captains, more of an opportunity to learn to fight while fighting, to learn from us and then to apply those lessons in fighting the war their way.

Fox News The Big Story with John Gibson – November 23

HOST JULIE BANDERAS: All right. So, let's talk about the Iraq study group, then you've got the Pentagon, then you've got the president heading to Jordan to meet with Maliki all working to come up with ideas to win this war in Iraq. At point are there too many cooks in the kitchen?

SCALES: Well, there are a lot of cooks in the kitchen, Julie, because the cooks are trying to devise a new recipe using old ingredients. And as you know, as a cook yourself, how difficult that is. But in the end of the day, this is going to be good. It's good to have -- the whole Iraq strategy is being rethought right now. And the more voices that you are able to listen to and the more eyes you have on the problem, probably the sharper your conclusions will be. And the better the new strategy is going to be once it begins to emerge at the beginning of the new year.

Major General Donald W. Shepperd

CNN Newsroom – December 6

HOST KYRA PHILLIPS: The Iraq Study Group calls for a whole new mission for U.S. troops. Let's bring in our military analyst, Major General Don Shepperd for a strategy session. So, what's your first impression, general?

MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPARD (RET)., CNN MILITARY ANALYST: I tell you, Kyra, I think this report is right on the mark. It is powerful. It is dramatic. It gives us a chance to change direction there. It also says right off the bat that there is no simple solution to Iraq, but on the other hand, staying the course, winning, bringing home the coon skin is not in the cards. So I think this really offers us an opportunity and is clearly on the mark.

PHILLIPS: More troops or less troops?... So what would those extra troops do Shep?

SHEPPARD: Basically, you're talking about not increasing U.S. troops in any way, but taking the combat forces, stopping the combat, and concentrating on just training the Iraqis. I've traveled with these Iraqi forces. They are very good. They need some backbone. They need some time. They need support, what have you...

PHILLIPS: All right. The Iran factor... Will that ever happen, the U.S. talking to Iran?

SHEPPERD: Well, I don't know. But, again, the study group is right on the mark. You have to talk to people diplomatically...

I think the Iraqi study group has got it just right, talk to the people in the region, involve them, doesn't mean it will go anywhere but it's essential.

CNN Newsroom – December 5

HARRIS: How is -- give me your honest assessment of how that (the Iraqi forces) is going. And it always comes down to how long and to what level are we trying to train the Iraqi forces. Do we want them to be the equal of U.S. forces?

SHEPPERD: They will never be the equal of U.S. forces. That would be great if they could, but they will not be. I was on a conference call with General Caldwell from Baghdad this morning talking about this. Three of the 10 Iraqi divisions have taken over control of their areas. Prime Minister al-Maliki has said that he wishes to have the other seven take over the control of their areas by June.

Now, that is possible to train them up. And that training is going well, and the forces are doing well within their capabilities. What they don't have is logistics support, air support, the long-term support that they need.

And so you're going to see trainers with them for a long period of time. Ideally, we would stay for years and not only train them, but watch them develop, make them better, and what have you. It doesn't look like that's in the cards, Tony. We're going to be there with trainers for a long time, but our combat forces are probably going to be reduced, and probably by the summer.

CNN: This Week at War – November 26

MAJOR GEN. DONALD SHEPPERD, U.S. AIR FORCE (RET): Clearly, the war is being shared more by the lower classes than if you had a draft, a fair draft, such as Dr. Moskos is proposing. What Dr. Moskos is proposing in my opinion is a concept of national service that I would buy into. But as Congressman Rangel is proposing, just a military draft. Number one, it's not needed right now in the numbers that we're facing. It is not wanted by the military. I served in a war and in a military where people didn't want to be there and the nation didn't support the war and it was a disaster John.

HOST: General Shepperd, what about this notion though that if the country is at risk, if the country is being threatened, then everyone needs to play a role in addressing that risk?

SHEPPERD: Absolutely it does and again, back to the concept of national service where you have options, one of them being the military which means it's a quasi-volunteer military. I really buy into that. But right now, the nation does not feel threatened.

CNN Newsroom – November 25

COSTELLO: So, if you're a general on the ground and U.S. troops seem to be in the middle of a whole lot of things, what do you tell your troops?

SHEPPERD: Yes, first of all, there is no quick solution. People are looking for a quick solution, the Iraqi Study Group is going to issue its report, we will do something, but if there was a change in tactics that the U.S. thought could make things better, they would be in the middle of it or already have done it. There isn't any real quick change that's going to produce quick results. But I would do, is I would embed more U.S. forces with more Iraqi military, perhaps as much as a platoon with every battalion, giving them backbone, helping them come up to speed quicker. That's the thing that I would do and then I would move against the militias. The militias are the key in Baghdad, they must be taken on, they must be disarmed for Baghdad to work.

Mr. Wayne Simmons

Fox News Big Story with John Gibson – November 8

WAYNE SIMMONS, FORMER CIA OPERATIVE: We're talking about an outstanding choice (Mr. Gates) by President Bush. This is a no-brainer.

...**SIMMONS:** I think one of the most commendable things about Mr. Gates is that he came up through the ranks... That (Iran Contra) could be -- could be something that the Democrats want to

explore, but, again, I think that his experience, 26-plus years in the intelligence business, he has always been, in most cases, apolitical.

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Jed Babbin

HDLN Glenn Beck 01/10/07 00:04:57

Beck: Jed, what is the president going to say tomorrow to the American people to explain the needs of a troop surge?

JED BABBIN, FORMER DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE: Well, I think he's going to try to say this is the only way to secure Baghdad so that the people of Baghdad, the government there, can actually secure itself and make progress in developing their country and making deals politically that they need to make. I don't know that that's going to prove to be true.

CNBC: Kudlow & Company, 01/05/07 17:26:28

KUDLOW: Jed, you don't favor a troop surge. I say, to you, that if we don't have a troop surge, there's no other option but to leave because the American public has already said the status quo is unacceptable. Will you please tell me why you oppose a troop surge, Jed?

Mr. BABBIN: I don't oppose a surge if we do it the right way for the right purpose. I have yet to hear...

KUDLOW: What is the right way? And is Petraeus the right guy to do it the right way?

Mr. BABBIN: Petraeus is absolutely the right guy, but it's got to be dependent on what the president wants to do. I don't believe 30,000 more Americans troops going into Sadr City are going to change much for very long. If we're going to close down the ratlines, we're going to attack the people from the Iranian Revolutionary Guard who are coming in with IEDs. If we're going to do that, I'm all for it. But the point of the matter is if we're just going to put them on foot patrol in Sadr City, I don't think that's a very good idea. I want to hear what the president has to say.

CNBC: Kudlow & Company 01/02/07 17:39:33

Kudlow: OK, Jed Babbin, have you come around to the troop surge or are you still opposed to it?

Mr. JED BABBIN (Former Deputy Undersecretary of Defense): I'm still pretty much opposed to it, Larry. I don't know what we're going to do with another 10 or 20 or 30,000 troops there. You're not going to clear and hold Sadr City. It's 2.4 million people. You're not going to clear and hold rest of Baghdad. I want to know what we're going to do before we send more folks into that milieu. I don't see that the president has defined victory in a way that is reachable and even in a way realistic. To achieve victory there, and I've said it a hundred times, I'll keep saying it until it

happens, we have to take on both Syria and Iran and defeat the nations that are sponsoring terrorism against us.

...**KUDLOW**: I want to come back to the troop surge because General Keane and Fred Kagan say, 'Look, we need to clear and hold. We can't clear and turn it over to the Iraqi army yet. We need to have Americans do that,' and it seems to me, as a potential prescription for some kind of victory there, which I personally favor, it's a good idea. Why are you so intransigent, Jed?

Mr. BABBIN: Well, I don't think I'm intransigent, Larry, at all. I'm just realistic. I think if you want to clear and hold, and if you want to do that as a predicate to pursuing security in Iraq, which we all would like to see, you can't do it with 30 or 40,000 troops. You're going to have put 100 or 120,000 more troops in there. Clear and hold. The Iraqis, we can clear. The Iraqis can't hold. That's the problem we have right now. And if you want to wait and have clear and hold work, you may have to wait forever because the Iraqis are not coming around to the capability to actually be able to hold what we have cleared. You're not going to be able to clear out the Muqtada al-Sadr forces from Sadr City 'cause Maliki won't let you. What are we going to do with these troops? Either they're way too many to do nothing or they're many, many too few to actually do what we could do.

Gen. Wayne A. Downing

CNBC: Kudlow & Company - 12/13/06 17:40:27 – December 13

KUDLOW: It--when you get--parse through the various Washington gossip and leaks and so forth, here's what I hear. The National Security Council's Steve Hadley wants a troop surge. Senator John McCain wants a troop surge. The State Department wants a troop surge. Middle level planners in the Pentagon want a troop surge. We're talking temporary surge to try to stabilize Baghdad. But General Peter Pace, the head of the Joint Chiefs, and General Abizaid and General Casey over at CENTCOM do not want a troop surge. What is your view on this, sir?

Gen. DOWNING: Well, my view is that putting more United States troops over in Iraq right now, more combat formation, is going to raise false expectations back here in the United States, Larry. It's also going to put more Americans on the street, which are going to further infuriate the Iraqis. I do not believe we should put more US combat units in there. I do believe that some point, six months from now, we need to start a drawdown, but the emphasis, Larry, has to be on the--building the Iraqi army. And, Larry, unfortunately, we've got to start over with the Iraqi police. The Iraqi police have traditionally been corrupt. They're not trusted by the people. The new police that we've put in have fallen back into those same old ways. And we cannot have a pacification campaign. We cannot actually clear these neighborhoods and make them peaceful until we get decent police in there. So I say no more US troops. That's my recommendation.

NBC News: Today - 12/12/06 18:35:05- December 12

WILLIAMS: And, General Downing, same question: Were these mostly points that have been brought to the public debate as a result of the Iraq Study Group?

GEN. WAYNE DOWNING (RET.) (NBC News military analyst): I think they were, Brian. They were, as Barry said, widely divergent. I know I, for one, made the point not only no more U.S. forces but I also believe that the key to this thing is going to be the Iraqi security forces. My comment to the President was, is we've gotta look at this long war on terrorism - this ideological struggle we're in with al Qaeda, radical Islam, through the prism of Iraq. We just can't look at Iraq and Afghanistan. We've got to think much beyond that. And then, the last point I made, Brian, is the perception of the American people. They've got to be told what's going on. They've got to be able to understand it. They don't right now. And a subset of that, Brian, is the American fighting man and woman and their loved ones around the United States. They've made great sacrifices. They believe in what they've done. They're proud of it. We cannot do anything that's going to marginalize them, make them feel bad.

Lt. Col. Rick Francona

MSNBC: Hardball 01/05/07 17:35:17

CHRIS MATTHEWS: What's the significance Rick of all those changes (including talk of a troop surge)?

LT. COL. RICK FRANCONA (RET), MSNBC MILITARY ANALYST: Well, I think the President understands what he's doing right now is not working and this looks like a clean sweep. He got rid of the top guy at the Pentagon. He's bringing in Bob Gates to do that. He's also removing John Negroponte as head of the DNI. I think that's also significant. So, he's starting with a clean slate...

MATTHEWS: ...Now the Americans, the outsiders who don't speak Arabic and don't know the neighborhoods are being sent into the neighborhoods of Baghdad to look for Sunni insurgents, Shia militias, death squads. What an assignment!

FRANCONA: ...What you're doing is you are interposing an American military force between two warring sides. Both of which are going to try to kill you, so it's a very difficult problem. So I think, when these 40 thousand or 30 thousand, whatever the number turns out to be, show up -- is General Petraeus going to put them in Baghdad or is he going to put them around Baghdad? This won't work unless we get some cooperation from the Iraqi government. Those Iraqi troops have got to be involved, but more importantly, Maliki has to give us a commitment that he's going to go after these Shia militias.

MATTHEWS: Well, he never shows any sign of wanting to do that. Aren't the -- isn't the worst of the militia guys, as we said in the last segment, Muqtada al-Sadr, the guy that they were saluting and singing praises to during the execution of Saddam, isn't he behind this current government?

FRANCONA: That's exactly right. The relationship between Maliki and al-Sadr is so strong, it's almost inconceivable that he's going to be willing to take that step. So, if he's not willing to do that, interposing any number of U.S. forces into Baghdad, I think is really unwise... without the commitment from the Iraqi government and a real plan, sending troops over there is not going to do any good.

MSNBC News Live 01/10/07 11:29:27

David Gregory: It is important to say that while we talk about a troop surge, as Sen. Reid pointed out this morning, it's really not a surge. It will take weeks to get to that level. What difference can U.S. troops make at this point?

Francona: If you're going to put 15,000 into Baghdad, in the absence of any commitment of Maliki to do anything about the Shia militias and the ongoing violence, I don't think 15,000 troops will do anything at all. They'll just be in the way. We have to have a commitment from the Maliki government that they'll go after the militias. That's the first step. I don't see a willingness or capability of Maliki to do that.

Gregory: We were told of a situation in which Iraqis would play a more predominant role and U.S. troops would move out to the periphery -- now we have a change...

Francona: Yeah, I hope the President will tell us the mission of what the troops are going to do in Baghdad. Are they going to put a cord around the city? Provide logistics support? I'm not sure what they are doing. Are they bolstering Maliki's determination to do something about the militias? They have to go to Sadr City. We don't even know if the Maliki government is capable of doing this and surviving.

Brig. Gen. David L. Grange

CNN: CNN Newsroom -- 01/09/07 09:34:46

HEIDI COLLINS: It may be one of the most fierce fire fights of the entire war, 1,000 U.S. and Iraqi forces battling insurgents in the heart of Baghdad. The running gun battle lasted more than ten hours. So intense our camera crews, of course, kept at a safe distance. U.S. military sources say dozens of insurgents have been killed or wounded. The president expected to call for more troops in Iraq. Where would they be sent, and what will they do when they get there? These are all questions for CNN military analyst and retired U.S. Army Brigadier General David Grange. General Grange, nice to see you today. Talk about this plan for us a little bit. As we know, there are many meetings taking place. President Bush talking with some House Democrats, and White House briefing Congress on this new plan. There's a lot to understand, a lot to absorb. Is 20,000 troops, as far as what the recommendation that we have heard, enough?

BRIG. GEN. DAVID GRANGE (RET.), CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Well, those that did the troops at task. In other words, what are the requirements? What are the tasks for the military part of this, and how does that equate to how many troops are required for those tasks? If they say it's 20,000, then it's 20,000. The guys on the ground made that assessment, those commanders, and I'm sure they know what they're talking about.

COLLINS: Well, I think that's a great point. And talk to us a little for people who don't understand the process of how you go about determining how many troops would be needed in a case like this?

GRANGE: Well, for an example, right now there's several major operations going on in Iraq. You have what's known as holding operations with some offensive moves on a counterinsurgency front. In other words, trying to either contain or hold down the insurgency while Iraqi military are being trained. Which is the other task -- training the Iraqi military to a level of proficiency where they can take over many of these duties, realizing that many of them are infiltrated or have loyalties to militia instead of the local government. But now we have a situation where more offensive operations must take place to gain superiority on the adversaries where they have the upper hand. Anbar province is an example, and the other is the city of Baghdad. That's going to require more troops, used in offensive operations, in order to handle that threat.

COLLINS: Right. And Baghdad being where we just saw video from this morning. Very fierce gun battle there. Let's talk about this "Washington Post" report. I'm talking about the mission that includes the understanding that joint U.S. and Iraqi forces will confront the Mehdi Army that you just spoke about. What kind of army are we talking about here? And how do you flush them out?

GRANGE: Well, we're talking about an enemy that's grown considerably in size. Several years ago, there was only a few hundred militiamen. Now there are 40,000 or whatever the case may be. It's hard to count, of course, because one could join tomorrow, one can leave today. Who knows. But the point is, something must be done at the militia, or you're going to have a situation in Baghdad similar to the Hezbollah in southern Lebanon. So they have to take on the militia if the militia will not work with the elected government. And that's going to require going in to built-up areas in the city and taking out, in other words, eliminating, the core militia, hopefully a lot of the periphery militia will then decide it's not the way to go, and that's going to take offensive operations with additional troops to do that properly.

COLLINS: What about intelligence on that? How do you learn who's the right guy?

GRANGE: Well, there's intelligence on core leaders, there's intelligence on Iranian influence inside Baghdad as an example. Many of these targets are not approved by the elected Iraqi government for U.S. or Iraqi forces to go after. That's one of the issues that we have. Since it's a sovereign nation, we need to do this together with the Iraqi government. But most of the information and who the insurgent -- the militiamen are comes from Iraqis themselves, because many of the Americans, of course, don't know, cannot tell.

COLLINS: And I know you're not the political man on this, and in a few minutes I'll speak with someone who is, but as a military man here, we've been reporting this morning, if Democrats continue to want to send more troops, and they don't want to send more funding to the Iraq war, what is the way to win?

GRANGE: You know, this bothers me, and it's OK that I'm a military guy, because, you know, war's an extension of politics anyway. But the issue here is, if you cap the force -- and I remember this happening to me in Bosnia. When you cap the force, you do it regardless of the tasks required to, and troops to do those tasks to accomplish the mission. You put those soldiers in harm's way. If you cut the funding, the resources, you put those soldiers and Marines in harm's way. Look, if we want to win this thing, if we want to leave honorably, if we want to leave with conditions that are acceptable to the United States of America, you must let those running the war have the resources and the personnel needed to be successful. If you cap it, you ensure defeat.

COLLINS: CNN military analyst and U.S. Army retired General David Grange. Nice to see you this morning, General Grange. Appreciate it.

CNN: Lou Dobbs Tonight - 12/28/06 18:35:08

...CHRISTINE ROMANS: Returning to our top story tonight, it's been an extremely violent month for American forces in Iraq as the president works on his plan for our next step there. Joining me now to discuss the latest developments is General David Grange. Welcome to the program, sir.

GEN. DAVID GRANGE, (RET.) CNN MILITARY ANALYST: Thank you.

CHRISTINE ROMANS: You've got the president with his top advisers talking about the Iraq strategy, talking about their next move. Any changes in troop levels, any kind of fallout you expect from these most recent meetings?

GRANGE: Well, there's not too many good options left for Iraq because a lot of the mistakes were made in the past. Because that's water under the bridge what to do now. I think what's really important is that the American G.I. gave the Iraqis a chance for freedom, and to do something with that freedom. It's up to the Iraqis. So I think whatever comes out of this puts a lot of pressure on the Iraqi government even if it's behind closed doors. And I think what you're going to see is the increase in the advisers to the Iraqi military and police. You're going to see an increase in some forces for no other reason than to show resolve and to be a rapid reaction force in case things get worse than they are today. But in Iraq, whatever Americans decide to do, whatever we end up doing with the direction from the administration, is in the Middle East it's nice to be liked, but more importantly with the adversary, you have to be feared.

Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney

Fox News: Special Report with Brit Hume – January 4

...EMANUEL:More importantly, perhaps, than adding U.S. troops, Pentagon sources say the strategy for Iraq is expected to include more job opportunities, economic progress and a focus on responsible government, issues that military commanders and some experts have repeatedly said are keys to reducing violence.

LT. GEN. TOM MCINERNEY, USAF (RET): So just throwing troops at the problem, as I have said, is not going to solve the problem.

Mr. Bing West

ABC News: World News with Charles Gibson - January 8

MARTHA RADDATZ (ABC NEWS)

Some of those answers are already known. The military objective for the expected 20,000 additional troops? To secure Baghdad. How does the Iraqi government fit in? The President is expected to call for benchmarks, goals for reconciliation that the Iraqi government will be expected to meet. The international community. Countries will be encouraged to help with reconstruction and jobs programs, although the President will likely ask for more than \$1 billion additional US tax dollars. Part of the plan for adding troops could mean sending some troops in early and holding others longer. Former Assistant Secretary of Defense Bing West says the troops deserve an explanation.

FRANCIS "BING" WEST (FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE)

I don't mean to be flip but any surge has an ebb, so the question is, what do you expect will change in six months that hasn't changed in four years?

Col. Jack Jacobs

MSNBC: Tucker with Tucker Carlson 01/08/07 16:01:33

CARLSON: Colonel Jacobs, what is the maximum, do you think, the U.S. military could spare at the moment in Iraq?

JACOBS: Well, it depends on what you're willing to give up and how long you're talking about deploying them to Iraq. I mean, the fact is that we could probably deploy 100,000 troops, 150,000 troops. If we're willing to take people out of Korea, where we have 37,000 troops, turn -- turn sailors into infantrymen and trainers of Iraqi ground units and so on, we could contribute large numbers of troops. But, of course, we're not going to do that.

And as John was mentioning, readiness is the thing that's vitally important here. Part of the problem around the world is that we have denigrated our capability worldwide for other missions because we have made such a commitment to what's taking place in Iraq. And on top of that, the equipment is not doing very well.

The Army needs \$75 billion right now to fix all the stuff that's broken. So I -- despite the fact it would take -- it really would take a large number of troops to really do the job over an extended period of time, I think a small number of troops, 20,000 to 30,000 or so is probably all that's going to be coughed up.

MSNBC: Tucker with Tucker Carlson 01/05/07 18:15:20

CARLSON: Well, that's right, but at this point -- I mean, I guess my question is, are they in favor of a surge?

JACOBS: Oh, I think they are in favor -- let me put it this way. The large majority of them are in favor of articulating an end game that is going to be satisfactorily -- that can be satisfactorily completed.

The military has not done that, the White House hasn't done that, nobody has done that yet. I think they are -- they are -- would be satisfied with a surge as long as the purpose of the surge is to give the military enough time to train some more Iraqis so that we can make a graceful exit. But anybody who thinks that a surge of up to 10,000 to 20,000, 30,000, 50,000 troops, even if all of them were in Baghdad, anybody who thinks that that's going to have a positive effect ultimately on the outcome of the conflict in Iraq doesn't have any military experience. All it -- this is a fight basically now between Shia and Sunni, and among the Shia, between Muqtada al-Sadr, who has the best army in Iraq, and everybody else. And I don't think that the Americans can have any effect on that.

MSNBC: Tucker with Tucker Carlson 12/28/06 18:33:37

BUCHANAN: I'm joined once again by Jim Vandehei, Frank Donatelli, and MSNBC's Colonel Jack Jacobs. Colonel Jacobs, let me come to you first. It seems clear right now that the president is planning, and everything you hear, is planning on a surge somewhere upwards of maybe 30,000 troops into Iraq for at least a brief period of time. Do you think this will work?

JACOBS: Well, it depends on the objective is. If the objective is to establish some short period of time in Sunni areas where there's going to be some peace, where we're going to be able to kill some bad guys and so on, sure, it's going work. But if the objective is to bring peace to all of Iraq, separate the Sunni and Shia, keep further deterioration in the control of the central government from occurring, to make sure that the police and the Iraqi army are up to speed in short order, it's not going to do any of those things.

Lt. Col. Robert L. Maginnis

CNN HDLN: Headline News -- Glenn Beck 01/08/07 19:37:33

MAGINNIS: Well, it really does. You know, the opinion in the military, Glenn, follows the general population, and it shows up first generally in our National Guard and Reserves. So we're beginning to see attrition rates that are somewhat unacceptable.

You know, I know Charlie Rangel talks about draft and so forth. That's not the answer, I don't believe. But clearly we need a volunteer force that we have to sustain.

And this is the third-longest war as -- soon, perhaps, if we're not careful, to be the second-longest war we've ever fought. So the reality is that these young people need a very clear mission.

They need to know what they need to do, when they need to do it. And they need to see crystal clear how they're going to get out of there. And the president has to make it perfectly clear why we're there and why this is linked to our national security.

I expect he'll try to do that on Wednesday night. I just hope he does.

Major General James Marks

CNN: This Week at War 12/31/06 10:11:47

Anchor: General Marks, part of what the White House is looking at is a surge in troops temporarily, maybe weeks, a few months, 20,000 to 30,000 additional troops in there by crossing over rotations, delaying other rotations out of the country. Is this a strategy that's going work? It's been met with resistance by military leaders although they do seem to be sort of coming around to the White House's, perhaps under pressure.

MARKS: Well, a surge, I think, frankly, is not going solve the problem and you have to define -- if the surge is 18 months, is that a surge? You have to sustain your presence, if you're going to clear, hold and build. You got to hold. The ability to clear, you can do that precisely and with very small force. You have to hold and you have to hold and then build with a pretty sizeable force.

What are you going to achieve if that is in fact your operational objective to clear, hold and build? How are you going to do that with a surge -- 90 days, 120 days? I don't know how that's defined. So my point is that you're going go big, go big and stay and make it work. I don't know that 20,000 is enough and I don't know that bringing them in and kind of disrupting the readiness and the deployment schedules that exist. This is a very thin force, back in the states waiting to support the operations in southwest Asia.

CNN: American Morning 12/22/06 08:15:43

ROBERTS: Defense Secretary Robert gates is flying back from Iraq right now. A number of U.S. commanders there telling him over the past three days that troop levels should not be increased. But enlisted forces spoke up and asked for more help. Brigadier General James "Spider" Marks, U.S. army retired is with us now to talk more about this. Let me ask you first of all Spider, where do you come down on this idea of a surge in troops for Iraq?

BRIG. GEN. JAMES "SPIDER" MARKS, U.S. ARMY (RET.): Frankly, I don't think it's going to work with the numbers that are being suggested. It sounds like it's a considerable amount, but let's be frank, 15 to 30,000 with the size of the mission sets that are required, I don't think that's going to make a difference. That's point number one. Point number two is a surge requires an extension of those that are there and then an acceleration of those that are coming in. What that affects is a number of readiness postures of those units that are there that really need to be ex-filled and reset and those that are coming in.

Major General Donald Shepperd

CNN: CNN Live Sunday 12/23/06 17:07:31

Anchor: But, General Shepperd, it's still not enough. The president of the United States now considering a temporary surge of American forces, particularly in Baghdad to try to get a hold of security there. Is that a good idea?

MAJ. GEN. DON SHEPPERD, USAF, (RET): Probably not a good idea to send additional U.S. forces into Baghdad. The reason for injecting U.S. forces, in my opinion, should be to train the Iraqis, to train them faster to take over. The training of the Iraqi military is going pretty well but it's not just training and equipment. It's getting them competent and getting them to work together over time. That comes through success and confidence in their leaders which takes time. The police, the police force which is another important part of security are an absolute disaster, probably two years behind the army. But trying to put American troops on the streets with 20 or 30,000 more troops that we would have to interject in there to try to take on the militias is just not going to improve the security in Baghdad, John.

CNN: Newsroom 12/14/06 10:24:19

HARRIS: So you've been talking to folks at the Pentagon. If the president said to Generals Casey and Abizaid, we're sending in an additional 20,000 to 30,000 troops on the ground, would they be able, can they come up with a plan to make that a successful deployment?

SHEPPERD: No, I don't think they can. And that's the danger of sending additional troops. If you send them in and nothing improves, it's perceived as a huge failure, a second failure, if you will. The president needs to start working our way out of there and the commanders on the ground, at least as of last week, have said American troops are not the solution. Only Iraqis fighting for their country, taking over their country, over time, us training them up over time and giving them backbone and help is the way to go. And I certainly believe that's true, Tony.

CNN: Newsroom 12/14/06 10:22:45

HARRIS: So let me see if I can paraphrase this. You wouldn't send in additional troops of the number that we keep hearing kicked around, 20,000 to 30,000 to 40,000 additional boots on the ground there unless you were talking about taking on the militias. And if you did that, that would be very dangerous and very risky to the stability of the whole country.

SHEPPERD: Indeed. I would take the 20,000 or 40,000 that we're talking about and embed them with Iraqis, bring them up to speed, send some of our combat troops home, about 70,000 of our 140,000 American troops that are in the country are combat troops. I'd start sending some of them home. I would embed the others. I would try to rapidly train the Iraqi forces, turn over areas as soon as they're ready and slowly work our way out. I don't think there's any other way, Tony.

GENERAL PETRAEUS ROUNDTABLE WITH MILITARY ANALYSTS

January 31, 2007 – February 5, 2007

Summary

General Petraeus held a roundtable discussion with a select group of retired military analysts on January 31st. Resulting coverage of this discussion was limited, with just Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney appearing on Fox News. In the “exclusive interview,” McInerney mentioned that General Petraeus was aware of the difficulty of his work and also noted that his “extraordinary background” (i.e. Bosnia) will prove effective in implementing a plan of action in Iraq. Other highlights from the interview:

- Lt. Gen. McInerney said Gen. Petraeus thinks 21,000 troops is a “good starting point” (Fox News)
- Lt. Gen. McInerney said Gen. Petraeus did not discuss Iran a lot because there is a “new briefing that’s supposed to come out” (Fox News)

Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney: 1/31/07 12:38:40

Bill Hemmer, correspondent: “Is he convinced this will work?”

Lt. Gen. McInerney: “Yes, he is. He knows it’s tough work, and there were a number of us in there with him. He has extraordinary experience with his background in Bosnia. He knows the players over there. They are changing the strategy from transition strategy to one with population security. That means stabilize Baghdad, where the people can have a decent living, and then start working from there. In addition, he knows he has to get the rules of engagement, which some units have made far more restrictive on our troops. We’ve got to get back to basics... What he’s trying to do is buy space and time, so we can get a political situation resolved. If we stabilize Baghdad, which I believe he thinks he can do. He laid out the techniques he’s going to use.”

P A R 

Public Affairs Research and Analysis

MILITARY ANALYST FEEDBACK

POST GUANTANAMO VISIT

(Transcripts: June 25-27, 2005)

General Montgomery Meigs

(Found Weekend Today Show clip and MSNBC - this Weekend clip)

WNBC-NY (NBC) - Today

6/25/2005 7:08:07 AM

Newscaster: Earlier this week a team of human rights experts at the United Nations accused the U.S. of unfair treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay. And joining us this morning from Washington, D.C., two NBC news analysts, both former generals, Barry McCaffrey who's returned from a trip to Iraq and Montgomery Meigs, who recently returned from, I believe, just yesterday, a visit to Guantanamo Bay. Good morning to both of you...

Newscaster: General Meigs, let me turn to you and Guantanamo Bay. You were just there at the invitation of the U.S. military. Give us your general impressions. **Meigs:** Well, we went to just about every corner of the place. Escorted by Major General Hood, the commander down there. There's been over \$100 million of new construction. The place is professionally run. I was impressed. **Newscaster:** isn't the debate though not so much about exactly how prisoners are being treated there but more on whether or not Guantanamo Bay has become a symbol? A symbol to the Muslim world and in particular -- a recruitment tool for terrorists because of what it represents? **Meigs:** Well, I think the problem we have is in terms of the general treatment of prisoners early on in the war. Let me give you an example. The Red Cross just spent six weeks there interviewing prisoners, going to every part of the prison. It's not an irretrievable situation. You're going to have to have something like Guantanamo to hold these 500-odd terrorists who were very seriously dedicated people. It might as well be Guantanamo as just the Department of Defense is going to tell the story of what's really going on there. I think they're starting to do a much better job of that now. **Newscaster:** General Meigs and General McCaffrey, thanks very much to both of you this morning.

MSNBC News Live

6/25/2005 11:20:12 AM

Newscaster: Meanwhile Guantanamo Bay is just one of the fronts on the war on terror causing frustration. Earlier I got a firsthand account from two retired generals. They now serve as analysts.

...General Meigs, thanks for your patience. You returned from a visit to Camp Delta in Guantanamo Bay, a source of a lot of controversy. What were your perceptions there?

Meigs: The place is very professionally run. There's been \$100 million spent in construction, which has brought the facilities up to a very high standard in terms of confinement facility. The confinements were sound, similar to what we use in the Department of Defense facility at Leavenworth. We talked with the senior interrogation heads, and interrogations were being done correctly - nothing like what you read in the log in "Time" magazine... Looks to me like they've got that thing up and running properly. **Newscaster:** But how much were you actually able to see? There's a lot of controversy, because of the treatment of detainees during interrogations ... Amnesty and The Red Cross are both saying the prisoners may have been abused and that they were not allowed to see all that was going on. Were you able (confirm?) **Meigs:** Yes. I know the commander. He was trying to show us everything because he's got a good story to tell. The Red Cross had just spent six weeks there interviewing prisoners, getting access to any part of the facility. And as I understand it, secondhand, their issues concern individual cells for prisoners, as opposed to two or three prisoners in a cell. That is not unusual in confinement facilities, in that the prisoners can talk to each other cell-to-cell, et cetera. So I would say as time goes on, this story is going to abate. They are doing the right things at Guantanamo. **Newscaster:** I will have more on their thoughts on whether the media is giving America the accurate picture of what's really happening in the war on terror. Meanwhile, a look at your weather...

Command Sergeant Major Steven Greer

(Found Sunday Fox News clip; the Saturday clip was not available)

Fox News -- Fox and Friends Sunday

6/26/2005 9:45:13 AM

Newscaster: There has been a lot of debate about conditions at Gitmo. Our next guest said it is not the detainees who are getting abused but the prison guard. If Washington to explain is command sergeant Steve Greer. He went to the facility and he was there for Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. Sergeant, I saw you yesterday on shows and one of the interesting things the points you made was you ate the food the detainees eat and it is better than foods that the actual guards eat. It even costs more. **Greer:** Yes. That's absolutely right. It is amazing the amount of steps that we have taken and put in place to ensure there is a consistently humane treatment for all detainees. Some 520 currently inside Gitmo. They've been there awhile. **Newscaster:** You said the people being treated harshly are the guards themselves. What you are also saying, Sergeant is that these prisoners have not been broken in any way. **Greer:** Well, what I would tell you is that the interrogation strategy down there is based on rapport building because that works. You don't torture detainees to gain information - it's critical information to fight the war on terror. What they have done is designed a rapport building based on certain activities. If you are not compliant you get less incentives. I watched a Libyan being interrogated - he was eating Hostess donuts and reading a magazine from the coast of Libya. Another interrogation I watched (included) the detainee watching Martha Stewart Living and drinking Seattle's Best Coffee. These are incentives given to detainees if they are

compliant if they continue to provide information to their interrogators. **Newscaster:** we have had e-mails and discussed this as a talking point early in the show. We have had people e-mail in to say this is nothing but a dog and pony show and of course conditions will be good and respectful because you guys will be brought down there and everybody knows it. What do you say to that? **Greer:** That's nonsense. That B roll footage you ran there - that's camp x-ray - that thing has been gone for two years. There have been millions of dollars of construction and operation costs put into the camps at Camp Delta. Here's the deal. The International Red Cross has 24/7 access to detainees and they have met with every single detainee. Not to mention, anybody who thinks that there is something going on other than humane treatment there never served a day in the military because the soldiers and sailors I know would never put up with it. They wouldn't allow this to go on....

Newscaster: Steve, this is what I want to know. We had interrogations - you witnessed four of them. My question is, if these interrogations are indeed working, are we further along on the intelligence trail? Are we any closer to cracking Al-Qaeda? Are we closer to getting Osama bin Laden? **Greer:** I don't know. Yes, they are definitely working. I spoke to the senior interrogator - a female who has been there two years, she said every single week they gain credible information that helps us uncover the structure of a Canadian and associated networks. Not to mention Al-Qaeda's pursuit of WMD, terrorist techniques and skill sets the way they recruit, recruiting centers and locations as well as how terrorist organizations used legitimate financial businesses as fronts to fund terrorism. **Newscaster:** The interrogations you viewed - what were they like? **Greer:** it was really hair-raising to watch the interrogations and to see an Al-Qaeda operative face-to-face with an American interrogator and interpreter. To see the cat and mouse game that goes on... There was one individual who was leaning forward in his seat very focused and attentive, with the detainee watching every word he said, he was there two years and he was a leader within the camp itself.... **Newscaster:** thank you for joining us today. Take care.

Major General Donald W. Shepperd

(Found CNN America Morning News only; CNN Radio transcripts not available)

CNN -- American Morning

6/27/2005 9:14:57 AM

Newscaster: On Friday, a group of former military leaders, who are now TV commentators, also toured the prison. Don Sheppard was there. He's in Washington this morning for us. Nice to see you, General. You went Friday. How long were you there? What did you get to see? **Shepperd:** We were there the whole day. We got to see the entire detention facility, talk to the guards, see interrogations, observe interrogations, and talk to interrogators. We had pretty much free run of the place to talk to anyone we wanted to talk to. **Newscaster:** What did you come away thinking? **Shepperd:** I came away thinking what the congressional delegation said. What we saw in Guantanamo bears no resemblance to what we are reading in the present press. Most of the people writing about this, I believe, have never been there. We have impressions of an old facility camp that was closed three years ago. We have a modern, well-constructed prison guarded by very, very dedicated people, doing an extremely tough job in the midst of a

very dangerous people. **Newscaster:** Did you talk to interrogators there as well? What kind of questions did you have for them? **Shepperd:** We talked to interrogators and watched them at work as well. A lot of people have the impression peep at Guantanamo, people with no rights and being mistreated. This is consistent with what I heard from the interrogation training in Arizona, mistreatment does not work. You can't get things out of people by torturing them. All it does is screw things up. You have to establish rapport over a long period of time, keep the interrogations going and eventually people will give you information that you then coordinate with other pieces of information to bring you actionable intelligence and that's what's happening now. **Newscaster:** You had free run of the place and that you got to watch them at work pretty much unfettered for a day. Isn't it fair to, well, if there's abuse going on it sure isn't going to happen while the U.S. Congressional delegation is going through and certainly not while former people who are now analysts on TV, are hanging out in town? I mean, it seems to me, obviously you wouldn't see those things, I think that's fair to say, isn't it? **Shepperd:** Absolutely. They put their best foot forward. In any prison situation you have to continually guard against abuses. There have been abuses at Guantanamo in the past. I think they have been fixed and they're constantly on the alert for them. What we saw was a bunch of dedicated people that are really mad and feel attacked by the things coming out in the print press about this. They say, I don't know where these people are getting information. They haven't been here, and I haven't seen it going on. **Newscaster:** not only coming out in the print press, journalists who haven't had a chance to visit, talking about Amnesty International, they called Guantanamo modern gulag, the IRC said tactics were tantamount to torture. IRC comes by frequently to check on prisoners. They're there all the time. The same with Amnesty International, they are people there. These are not journalists typing on computers in another state and never have left the country. **Shepperd:** The international red cross has access 24 hours a day 7 days a week at times and place of their choosing. You've got to realize that people think about Guantanamo as in previous wars where you captured detainees and hold them until the end of the war and release them. Guantanamo is detaining people, keeping them off of the battlefield, releasing ones not guilty and punishing and bringing to military tribunals ones that are. That's what we saw going on. And I believe that's what's going on now, after some rough starts. **Newscaster:** What do the interrogators tell you about information they're getting from folks who remain detained there? **Shepperd:** These people have been here, some, two, three years. **Newscaster:** Are you still getting valuable information? **Shepperd:** Absolutely yes. You get bits and pieces. New people coming in all of the time, new faces, they reconfirm new things and go into databases line things up, they say we've gotten a lot of information to prevent attacks in this country and other countries with the information they're getting from these people and it's still valuable. Former Air Force Major General Don Shepperd joining us CNN military analyst back from Gitmo. Thanks for talking with us.

Colonel Jack Jacobs

(Found three MSNBC clips and NBC Weekend Nightly News clip)

MSNBC

6/26/2005 9:35:56 AM:

Newscaster:...possible prisoner abuse in Guantanamo Bay, lawmakers from both sides of the aisle tour the site this weekend. They say conditions are improving for prisoners. Military escorts took a house delegation through cellblocks, interrogation rooms, and troops' barracks. Our own military analyst was also given a tour of Guantanamo Bay earlier this week; retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs joins us with a little more insight. First up, before we get to Guantanamo Bay, about that report in the Sunday Times about U.S. officials meeting with insurgent leaders, tell us a little about what that might mean.

Jacobs: I think we're reaching out to try to find some solution to the problem of continued violence by this group of people that we call collectively the insurgency, trying to meet with these guys and figure out if there's some way that we can ameliorate the situation. I can't get any confirmation that it actually took place. But I can tell you this -- unless you meet with every one of these guys, including Al-Zarqawi's mob, you're not going to get anything.

Newscaster: Well, Secretary Rumsfeld has said it was Iraqis meeting with insurgent leaders. Was there a difference there? Would they not do it with the U.S. military?

Jacobs: They might do it with the U.S.'s approval, but not with the U.S. or any combination of those things. And it's possible and plausible that the Iraqis themselves would meet with the insurgency leaders. But if they're going to do it, they've got to get all of the insurgency leaders together. The thing is so fragmented, unless they get them all to agree it's not going to work.

Newscaster: Now to Guantanamo Bay. Tell us about the cells themselves also where the prisoners are detained. What are they like?

Jacobs: Well, the older cells, of course, are older. But the new cellblocks, which a new cellblock is patterned directly after a high security prison in Indiana, and it's the state of the art facility. The cells are very, very good indeed. The detainees have the capability to talk to other detainees and inmates. They can do things like play checkers with them and so on, even in the higher security blocks. It's a very nice facility, to be honest with you. If you've got to be in prison, it's not a bad place to be.

Newscaster: We're seeing a lot of high-profile visits to Guantanamo Bay is it part of a PR ploy? We now recognize that we've been watching pictures from three years ago, since abandoned. Now Camp Delta, an entirely different location in that facility in Guantanamo Bay. What's going on here?

Jacobs: Well, I think the Defense Department has been way behind the eight ball. This story had been building up over a period of time. You said yourself, the x-ray pictures are three years old and we've still been showing them. The Defense Department has waited; instead of getting ahead of the story and saying, why don't you come on down and take a look at this thing. We'll show you what it's really like, but has waited until now to do it. Long overdue. I think that the story -- the story is one in which we can get a good view of what's actually taking place. There's nothing necessarily to be ashamed of. The facilities there are actually quite good. And the story is an interesting and important one that the

Defense Department should have shown us before. They need to learn from this, that it doesn't make any sense to wait, get everybody down there, show them the stuff at the very beginning, and they would be lots better off.

Newscaster: We spoke to two retired Generals yesterday. Alex just spoke to two lawmakers who said conditions there, and you yourself saw that conditions there are better or good. Does that mean, however that, the reputation, the image, has not been too tarnished, that this camp should in fact stay open?

Jacobs: Well, the reputation is tarnished, period. I don't know if you're going to be able to improve the reputation in the Islamic world, no matter what you do. At the end of the day, the intelligence value of Guantanamo is so high, and I've seen both unclassified and classified briefings down there. But I can tell you that the intelligence value is so high that it makes no sense whatsoever to close it down. And we're still getting information from detainees who have been there for three years.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 10:38:56 AM

Newscaster: Retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs, welcome as always.

Jacobs: Good morning.

Newscaster: A report in the "Sunday Times" of London, about meetings between U.S. officials disputed by Donald Rumsfeld, and Iraqi insurgents. Any way you slice that, it's still problematic because the insurgency is not a coherent group, could you tell us about that?

Jacobs: I tried to check to see whether or not it was true and so far, nobody's talking about it. It's plausible that we will have, that we would have had meetings with these guys. But one of the points that you mention, that it's difficult, if you can't assemble everybody who is participating in this very fragmented insurgency, we call it an insurgency like it's one centrally-organized thing, it's not...

Newscaster: Let's go to Guantanamo Bay. The respect or disrespect of Islam. Now we talked earlier about some of the cells and conditions there. What about Islam itself? Did you get any sense of how that fair it is there?

Jacobs: Sure. Not only what happened before, and people make mistakes and you'll sure mistakes have been made in the past. The law of large numbers says eventually something bad may have happened. I can tell you right now that they go really, from my standpoint, way out of their way to accommodate Islam. Ritually slaughtered meat is flown in from Florida. The meals that they ate, I can tell you that you can't eat that much food, to be honest with you. The each, each detainee gets a prayer rug, prayer oil, prayer beads. He's got a niche in his cell for his Koran, so that it doesn't inadvertently get desecrated. Every conceivable horizontal surface you can think of has got an arrow stenciled on it. Any place that a detainee can be, interrogation room, out in the exercise yard in the cell, to show which way to turn, which way is Mecca, so he can pray.

Newscaster: Are these changes? Is this an updating in the system? Because the reports, remember the log story about how the 20th hijacker was treated three years ago or two years ago.

Jacobs: That was a long time ago.

Newscaster: Do you have a sense that this is newly implemented?

Jacobs: This is the sense, I think some of the changes, the large majority of them have been evolutionary, the kind of conditions we have there now, were not, were not existing three years ago. They've been changing for the better. And I think one of the reasons we've done it is less because of the international concern about it, but because you get more information out of these guys if you treat them properly. And they're properly treated and we're getting lots of information from them. Information we didn't get before.

Newscaster: Better with honey than vinegar.

Jacobs: It works every time.

MSNBC

6/26/2005 11:47:47 AM

Newscaster: Meanwhile, we'll get insight from our own military analyst, also given a tour of Guantanamo Bay earlier this week. Retired army Colonel Jack Jacobs, welcome as always.

Jacobs: Good morning again.

Newscaster: Tell us a little bit -- earlier you talked about the cells and the food. Tell us about specifically about the interrogations you were able to witness.

Jacobs: We saw a number of interrogations. Some of fairly high profile and extremely dangerous detainees. And they used different techniques. The whole idea is to get closer to the detainees, so he can feel comfortable with you and therefore give you the information you require. You're not going to get any good information from somebody you beat up. He's going to tell you whatever he thinks you want to hear so that you'll stop. So they've been working hard over the last few years to gain the trust of these detainees. Some of them are very, very high-level and hard-core people. And it works, it works. I saw one, one detainee, whenever there's a session, he won't talk unless he gets his stuff. What's his stuff? A Twix candy bar, you can't make this up. A cup of Seattle's best coffee and the latest edition of "" Martha Stewart Living."" and then he'll start talking.

Newscaster: And is that because Martha Stewart....

Jacobs: I have no idea. Are you establishing real trust with these people, if you have an interrogator and analyst, who over time, develops trust with the detainees.

Newscaster: Is that a change in a tactics? We had heard before the complaints of the FBI agents who were sent to various locations who witnessed military interrogations or perhaps those by the contractors or reservists in Iraq. Who at one point were doing some of them? Is that a change in tactics?

Jacobs: I think in some areas it's a change. In many areas, it's not. Because the American military people recognize that if you, if you establish trust you're going to get the information you require ultimately. But I think overall it's a recognition that it's going to take time and you have to establish a working relationship with the detainee. There's one interrogator I saw, who is a very motherly type. And this is the interrogator who finely got this one detainee to spill everything because he felt some sort of close relationship with this woman, who overtime developed a personal intellectual relationship with him.

Newscaster: Did you see what you expected to see when you took this tour?

Jacobs: No. I'm something of a skeptic. And a doubter. I've always been, I was very surprised to see what I saw. I expected the facilities to be very rustic. They are not, they are in very good shape and they are in new high-tech containment cells. I did not expect

civilians to be interrogating the prisoners. I didn't expect to see the little contact with military people and detainees.

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Cucullu

(Found the Fox News clip only. Radio transcripts for KKLA Frank Pastore, Al Rondel Show, Greg Allen Show, KTFK Crane & Smash and True North Radio with Laurie Morrow not available)

Fox News (Fox and Friends First)

6/27/2005 6:23:12 AM

News caster: Because he's just back from Guantanamo bay. He spent a lot of time in the military. Former Green Beret, Colonel, thank you for joining us. What did you see when you got over to Gitmo? **Cucullu:** Good morning, Brian. I saw an impressive situation there. We're talking about a very smooth-working, operating procedure that may have had problems in the beginning but is now up and running. The facility is quite adequate for what the mission is. And the troops were extraordinarily impressive from top to bottom. I had an opportunity to dine with them, to work with them, and it really was amazing. **Brian:** First off, do the troops realize the amount of pressure and focus is on Gitmo? **Cucullu:** Oh, it's unbelievable. They get -- you know, they get Fox News down there. They get emails; they talk to their friends and relatives here in the states. And they're quite aware, not only of the overall situation, but they're extremely aware when you hear off the wall comments by people like Senators Kennedy and Durbin, that attack them personally, and the great thing is that rather than hurt their morale, what this really does is it raises the bar for them. They say we're going to be even better than we were before, just to prove to these guys how professional we are. **Brian:** In terms of what you observed first-hand, what do you know now that you didn't know before you walked on to the island? **Cucullu:** Well, quite a few things, Brian. The first thing I know for sure is that there's no torture going on down there. And that these people are being kept in a way that's very humane, probably more so than even your average maximum security prison in the United States. The other thing is that surprised me is the fact that we're still getting what we would call actionable, usable intelligence information interrogations with these guys, and that I hadn't expected, and so I was very pleased to see that, because what it shows is that the process is working and that there really is a reason, other than the fact that these are very evil terrible people, who keep this system working. **Brian:** The FBI report that says they used dogs chained to the floor, forced to go to the bathroom on themselves, everything like that, do you understand that that is proven true, but that was the old system or is that considered a false report? **Cucullu:** I don't know what happened in the past, and it's tough for me to evaluate that particular report, although it sounds a bit hyperbolic to me. We went through several of the camps, we actually watched several ongoing interrogations and we had a chance to talk to the troops on a one-on-one basis over a meal, which was a detainee's meal, it proved to me that there's absolutely nothing like that going on now. In fact, many of us were a bit shocked at the leniency that the command is showing toward the prisoners, the detainees, because in many cases the real abuse going on down there that we don't hear about is that every day

when these guards, our young men and women go into the blocks, they're assaulted by the detainees throw feces, urine, semen, spit. They're vilified, threatened; their families are threatened with death. If they go into the cell with these guys, they're personally attacked. They try to scratch their eyes out, pull their mouths and stuff, and break their hands. It's very dangerous, and these kids are very brave and professional for putting up with it and not reacting in a way that maybe you and I would if we put up with the same threat. **Brian:** When you talk about interrogations, you say relationships are being built. Why? **Cucullu:** Because they feel that you get -- it's like the old -- the old saying, you get more flies with honey than you do with vinegar. These people are working with them over a long period of time, the interrogators are establishing a relationship with the prisoners, and what they're finding is that in many cases, it's an ego thing, Brian. These detainees are proud of what they did, they're proud of the fact that they have tried to kill Americans, and Westerners and will do so in the future. They brag about it. They openly boast about it. And they -- we're finding out things about financing, about Al Qaeda organizations and training, about operations that took place in the past and may happen in the future, so this is all -- is essential for the security of the United States that we continue the interrogation process down there. **Brian:** Last question, there's no way to ever show you if there was something to hide in Gitmo, the average person watching at home says never show you what was wrong at Gitmo. What makes you think that you got the real story? **Cucullu:** Because we saw hundreds of people, we saw almost every cell and confinement facility down there. It's simply impossible, Brian, to have a conspiracy on that level and that magnitude. There were 10 of us along; we were speaking to the troops over a meal. If somebody had a complaint or a problem, they would have indicated it to one of us and we would have been able to share that. This business about these vast conspiracies is really overstated. Plus we do what we're looking for. You know, we're not rookies at this, and we've inspected military units before. You can tell the pride, the honesty, and the pride that comes from these troops. **Brian:** Thanks again for joining us. **Cucullu:** Great to be on with you. **Brian:** In and out of Cuba, not an easy thing to do.



CIVILIAN DEFENSE EXPERTS IN THE MEDIA

FEBRUARY 5 – FEBRUARY 11

Summary

Among civilian defense analysts for this reporting period, nine were mentioned in the media in print, television, and radio sources. Most featured were Dr. Michael O'Hanlon and Dr. Loren Thompson who covered a substantial range of topics, including: President Bush's "Iran rhetoric," management of the military, more downed helicopters, and upgrading of military equipment.

While O'Hanlon and Thompson received the most of coverage, other analysts were prevalent and provided more specific and targeted sentiments relating to the DoD. Ms. Danielle Pletka penned a piece in The Lebanon Daily Star entitled, "The U.S. Congress is hoisting the white flag of defeat in Iraq." In her article, she asserted that the congressional resolution called for "Iraqis to sort out their political woes with 'compromises necessary to ending the violence in Iraq,' while focusing on 'territorial integrity,' 'counterterrorism,' and 'accelerate[d] training.'" She added that no other plan other than Bush's seeks victory, and she meets the ideas of the U.S. with great skepticism, wondering how the implementation of these varied plans will come to fruition. She stated that, "ways and means are not discussed" and training the Iraqis is, "vital if the U.S. is ever to exit Iraq."

A growing problem in Iraq has been the drastic increase in sectarian violence. Barry Posen, professor of political science at M.I.T., provided his thoughts on how to effectively manage this issue by suggesting that the U.S. offer protection to anyone who wants to relocate within Iraq. He also recommended that we accept refugees who have put their lives at risk to help us.

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Civilian Analysts

Mr. Anthony Cordesman : Arleigh Burke Chair in Strategy

Mr. Cordesman was mentioned in three articles related to the DoD. In two pieces, one by AFP and the other by the Boston Globe, Cordesman focused on Iraq insurgents' threat to the U.S. helicopter fleet. In an AP article, Cordesman mentioned that Bush was "smart to add more reality to his remarks about al-Maliki." In the same article, Cordesman argued, "Like it or not, this government is the only option we have. There's no one waiting in the wings."

- Cordesman noted that insurgents can simply wait anywhere in the normal flight area to attack a U.S. helicopter.
- "The more media attention the insurgents can get through such attacks, the more likely it is that U.S. domestic politics will increase pressure for withdrawal from Iraq or place limits on the use of U.S. forces."

Mr. James Dobbins : Director, International Security and Defense Policy Center

Mr. Dobbins did not have any commentary regarding the DoD for this reporting period.

Mr. David Frum : Resident Fellow, Author; American Enterprise Institute

Mr. Frum was not mentioned in regard to topics relating to the DoD.

Dr. Alton Frye : Presidential Senior Fellow and Director; Council on Foreign Relations

Dr. Frye was not featured in commentary regarding the DoD for this reporting period.

Dr. Daniel Goure : Senior Fellow, Lexington Institute

Dr. Daniel Goure was featured three times in the media for this reporting period regarding topics related to the DoD. In pieces in the Orlando Sentinel and Baltimore Sun, respectively, Goure mentioned war used to be a "young man's game—except for the old generals" and discussed the safety of helicopters in Iraq, given the recent increase of downed aircraft. Goure was also mentioned during an NPR/APR radio broadcast in which he said, "The Pentagon could shift money around to pay for additional troops without Congress' blessing."

- Goure said the modern military offers more roles for older people, and we are not seeing "the Band-of-Brothers, storming-Normandy-beach, lugging-supplies-across-Burma stuff that was common in previous conflicts."
- Goure argued that it's safer flying a helicopter in Iraq than driving on the streets of Washington.

John Hamre : President and CEO, CSIS

Former DoD Deputy Secretary John Hamre was mentioned on a broadcast of CNN Newsroom and in an article in the Australian Financial Review where he discussed tasks of the CPA and compared it with allies at the end of the Second World War. This discussion was mainly in regard to the reconstruction effort in Iraq.

- "There is no known precedent for an effort to manage the reconstruction of a nation on such a vast scale in the midst of danger and violence." – referring to Iraq
- "When you add the various supplemental requests to the baseline defense budget, you get an astounding number, a number easily exploited by political opponents."

Victor Davis Hanson : National Review

Victor Davis Hanson was not mentioned in regard to topics relating to the DoD.

Mr. Robert Kaplan : National Correspondent, Atlantic Monthly

Mr. Kaplan's views were cited in The Statesman (India), examining Gen. Musharraf's campaign.

- "But when it came to a nation, wide efforts to organize large scale protests against the start of the Iraq War in 2003, the religious parties were unable to mobilize the masses. Gen. Musharraf's campaign to explain to the public that Pakistan could not afford to alienate the USA was widely accepted."

Mr. Stanley Kurtz : Research Fellow, The Hoover Institution

Mr. Kurtz was not featured in commentary regarding the DoD for this reporting period.

Mr. Steven Nider : Director of Foreign & Security Studies

Mr. Nider was not featured in commentary regarding the DoD for this reporting period.

Dr. Michael O'Hanlon : Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institute

For this reporting period, Dr. O'Hanlon had a considerable amount of coverage with 11 mentions in the media. A piece entitled, "Bush Iran rhetoric echoes Iraq stance," ran in a total of six print sources which included such papers as: the Grand Rapids Press, Charleston Gazette, and St. Petersburg Times. Television and print sources focused on the semantics of a phrase used by President Bush in which he stated that Iran is the "axis of evil" country whose nuclear ambitions must be stopped. O'Hanlon asserted that, "He (President Bush) again is convinced that he's on the side of right, fighting against the forces of evil, expressing this somewhat oversimplified view of the world he has." Among other topics in referenced articles were: management of the military, a piece in which O'Hanlon examined China's anti-satellite program, downed aircraft, and Gen. Petraeus.

- O'Hanlon: "He's (Gen. Petraeus) not universally adored by everyone, partly because he's a rock-the-boat kind of guy."
- In regard to Gen. Petraeus' abilities to create change in Iraq, he says, "If he can't do it, nobody can."

Ms. Danielle Pletka : Vice President, Foreign and Defense Policy Studies

Ms. Pletka was featured twice during this reporting period and wrote a piece in The Lebanon Daily Star entitled, "The U.S. Congress is hoisting the white flag of defeat in Iraq." In her commentary, she discussed U.S. elected officials and how they have spent the first month of 2007 scrambling to offer the public the exit strategy it seeks.

- "Training the Iraqis is vital if the U.S. is ever to exit Iraq."
- "Competition, in the form of an array of imaginative and realistic ideas, is good. The congressional plans themselves? Not good."

Mr. John Podesta : Visiting Professor, Georgetown University Law Center

Mr. Podesta did not discuss any DoD-related topics, just domestic issues, during this reporting period.

Mr. Barry Posen : Professor of Political Science, M.I.T.

Mr. Posen was featured twice during this reporting period with mentions in the Contra Costa Times and the Akron Beacon Journal. Posen's paper, "A Nuclear-Armed Iran: A Difficult But Not Impossible Policy Problem," was mentioned as asserting the view that the real threat of nuclear-armed Iran would be not to the security of its neighbors but to the survival of the nuclear nonproliferation regime. In the Akron Beacon Journal, a piece by Steve Chapman discussed

Posen's idea that "mass murder tends to occur when one group is unarmed" in reference to ethnic and sectarian bloodshed.

- "A secure base, Posten points out, is unlikely for the Sunni al-Qaeda in a country dominated by Shiites, and unlikely in a region where the group has few friends and many enemies—unlike Afghanistan, where it has long gotten help from Pakistan."

Dr. Chris Preble : Director of Foreign Policy Studies, The Cato Institute

Dr. Preble was not mentioned in the media for this reporting period.

Dr. Loren B. Thompson : COO, Lexington Institute

Dr. Thompson had nine mentions in the media, which occurred in: The Seattle Times, Washington Times, Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor, San Francisco Chronicle, and a few small publications. Of the civilian military analysts covered for this reporting period, Dr. Thompson spoke about the largest range of DoD-related topics, covering: the military construction budget, government contracts, the Watada case, and the recent escalation of downed aircraft.

- "Suppressing free speech in any form does not come naturally to democracies, but military discipline requires it." – in reference to Watada case
- Dr. Thompson made an observation that what was notable about the recent shoot-downs was that they were attributed to small-arms fire rather than missiles.

EXCERPTS

Mr. Anthony Cordesman : Arleigh Burke Chair in Strategy

Iraq insurgents threaten US helicopter fleet – Feb. 9

(AFP)... unattributed

The London-based Arabic newspaper Al-Hayat has reported that the advanced SA-18 Igla -- a modern version of the Strela which is harder to defend against -- might have found its way into Iraq. A version of that missile is produced in Iran "and was successfully used by Hezbollah during last summer's war with Israel" in Lebanon, the newspaper said. But a Pentagon spokesman said on Thursday that no link had been established between the crashes, and downplayed reports that advanced weapons were being used. "I don't think I can make any sort of conclusion like that at this point," said the spokesman, Bryan Whitman. Garver said that to keep insurgents guessing "we vary our flight operations so the enemy can't discern patterns in our flying. We vary our routes so that we don't establish traffic patterns." But **Anthony Cordesman** at the Washington-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) said: "Insurgents can simply wait anywhere in the normal flight area until a helicopter becomes easy to attack." He added that they can use "virtually any automatic weapon, man-portable surface-to-air missiles and even RPGs (rocket-propelled grenade launchers)."

U.S. seeking ways to keep copters safe – Feb. 9

(Boston Globe)... Bryan Bender

So far, the military has lost roughly 60 helicopters in Iraq, according to a tally by the Brookings Institution in Washington, accounting for about 170 US troop deaths.

"If the insurgents can limit helicopter use ... they gain in military as well as political terms," **Anthony Cordesman**, a military specialist at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, wrote in a paper published on his organization's website yesterday. Moreover, Cordesman wrote, "the more media attention the insurgents can get through such attacks, the more likely it is that US domestic politics will increase pressure for withdrawal from Iraq or place limits on the use of US forces."

Analysis: Bush More Cautious About Iraq – Feb. 6

(Associated Press)... Jennifer Loven

And U.S. and Iraqi forces were supposed to start their campaign to secure Baghdad on Monday, but Gates told the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday that "it's probably going to slip a few days, and it's probably going to be a rolling implementation." Al-Maliki told his military commanders in a meeting that "I have a feeling that we have been late and this delay has started to give a negative message." **Anthony Cordesman**, an Iraq expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said Bush is smart to add more reality to his remarks about al-Maliki. At the same time, he said the Iraqi leader can only be pushed so hard.

"Like it or not, this government is the only option we have. There's no one waiting in the wings," Cordesman said.

Dr. Daniel Goure : Senior Fellow, Lexington Institute

Pentagon courts seasoned soldiers – Feb. 10

(Orlando Sentinel)... Stephen Hudak

Department of Defense deployment figures show the number of active military personnel older than 50 had risen steadily every year in the past decade until it dipped slightly last year.

"War used to be a young man's game -- except for the old generals," said Daniel Goure, a military analyst for the Lexington Institute, a Washington think tank that studies defense issues. "That has changed to some extent. It is a function of technology, but it is also clearly a function of the need for experience in Iraq." He said the modern military offers more roles for older people.

Some are specially skilled with computers and information technology, rear-echelon positions that provide critical support. "You are not seeing the Band-of-Brothers, storming-Normandy-beach, lugging-supplies-across-Burma stuff that was common in previous conflicts," Goure said.

"It's still war. There are still casualties. But we have discovered that, while physical ability is important, maturity, in many cases, may almost be more important." He said the Pentagon desperately seeks soldiers with experience in Iraq. "Rotating people is very tough," Goure said.

"If you're a first-timer in Iraq, it may take you six months to find where the desert is, and the next six months, you're preparing to leave."

Iraq funding faces uphill battle with Murtha – Feb. 9

(National Public Radio/American Public Radio)... unattributed

Congressman John Murtha is working on language that would only fund the buildup in Iraq if the troops met readiness standards on training and equipment. That means the Pennsylvania Democrat could very well block the Iraq troop buildup, get at equipment shortages and the precious little training time the military has been facing. During today's hearing of a defense subcommittee that Murtha chairs, he pressed Army Chief of Staff General Peter Schoomaker on whether the 21,000 extra troops planned for Iraq are ready. But **Daniel Goure** of the Lexington Institute says the Pentagon could shift money around to pay for the additional troops without Congress' blessing. **Goure**: One of the ways you could treat it would be by reducing the presence of support units in Iraq, take the money you save and put it towards combat brigades.

Flying Iraq's deadly skies – Feb. 8

(Baltimore Sun)... David Wood

The helicopter "is a vulnerable platform that by definition flies low and slow, and with that comes casualties," said **Daniel Goure**, a military analyst at the Lexington Institute, a Washington defense think tank. "But after flying millions of miles in Iraq, the casualty rate for helicopters is extraordinarily low. I'd hazard a guess that it's safer flying a helicopter in Iraq than driving on the streets of Washington."

John Hamre : President and CEO, CSIS

CNN: Newsroom 11:26:08 – Feb. 6

(CNN)... Tony Harris

Among many shocking data, for example, during the 1990s Saddam Hussein cut healthcare spending by 90 percent, 9-0 percent. No new hospitals had been built for 20 years. Half of the country's public health clinics were closed. Even before the war, unemployment was running at 50 percent. Iraq's primitive banking system was shut down. The banks had no system for electronic transfer of funds. This was a cash-based economy. At the end of 2002, inflation was running at 115,000 percent. In mid-2003, two reports, one by the GAO and the other by President Clinton's former deputy of defense, Dr. **John Hamre**, each compared the CPA's (Coalition Provisional Authority) tasks to those faced by the allies at the end of the Second World War. The special inspector-general for Iraq added, "There is no known precedent for an effort to manage the reconstruction of a nation on such a vast scale in the midst of danger and violence."

Bush in showdown over Iraq funding – Feb. 5

(Australian Financial Review)... Tony Walker

The Washington Post quoted former Pentagon official **John Hamre**, now executive director of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, as saying: "When you add the various supplemental requests to the baseline defence budget, you get an astounding number, a number easily exploited by political opponents."

Victor Davis Hanson : National Review

America the blameworthy – Feb. 10

(Washington Times)... Victor Davis Hanson

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, many leftists cited American faults that supposedly accounted for Osama bin Laden's savage attack. Now there is another angle to the "blame America" game, this time from the secular right. In his book "The Enemy at Home," Dinesh D'Souza, of the Hoover Institution (where I work as well), charges our decadent culture turns off traditional Muslims otherwise the potential allies of American conservatives and often renders them sympathetic to jihadist rhetoric. But worst of all, too many Americans embrace only their fantasy of a perfect United States, rather than the good America we actually have.

Mr. Robert Kaplan : National Correspondent, Atlantic Monthly

The beards count – Feb. 9

(The Statesman, India)... unattributed

In local and provincial elections, the religious parties fare better. In Baluchistan and the North-West Frontier Province, they are in office. Here they have been able to offer if not shelter at least a blind eye to terrorist organizations. But when it came to a nation, wide effort to organize large scale protests against the start of the Iraq war in 2003, the religious parties were unable to mobilize the masses. Gen. Musharraf's campaign to explain to the public that Pakistan could not afford to alienate the USA was widely accepted. The army, too, remains essentially a secular organization. **Robert Kaplan** has written that if Gen. Musharraf goes 'after him come the men with the beards'. But the fact is the army is fairly representative of the country and Islamists make up probably no more than 10 per cent of its higher ranks, if that. It is doubtful that Gen. Musharraf is playing a complicated double game, as Kaplan and others suggest, whereby he appears to be trying to repress terrorists but is privately nurturing them, or at least turning a blind eye.

Dr. Michael O'Hanlon : Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institute

Bush Iran rhetoric echoes Iraq stance – Feb. 11

(Grand Rapids Press)... Tom Raum

Reprints: Charleston Gazette, The Record, Deseret Morning News, St. Petersburg Times, Associated Press Newswires

"He again is convinced that he's on the side of right, fighting against the forces of evil, expressing this somewhat oversimplified view of the world he has," said **Michael O'Hanlon**, a foreign policy analyst for the Brookings Institution and an adviser to the bipartisan Iraq Study Group.

"He's doing what he thinks is right to show resoluteness." Bush's saber-rattling -- rather than reaching out to Iran and Syria diplomatically as recommended by the Iraq Study group -- is risky. Many national security professionals suggest this approach could lead to wider conflict.

Back to school for the admirals – Managing the military – Feb. 10

(The Economist)... unattributed

"The economics of what you learn in business school are not necessarily the most central thing" for officers who have to worry about war-fighting strategy or technology, argues **Michael O'Hanlon**, a defence analyst at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. "You can make the argument that people should be learning engineering or military history." Moreover, he notes, the corporate style of Donald Rumsfeld, a former defence secretary who (like many top corporate leaders) thrived on risk-taking, "didn't work out so well."

New U.S. commander in Iraq is warrior-scholar – Feb. 9

(Reuters News)... Andrew Gray

Petraeus' high media profile in the United States and a willingness to challenge conventional thinking have not endeared him to all members of the military establishment. "He's not universally adored by everyone, partly because he's a rock-the-boat kind of guy," said **Michael O'Hanlon**, a military analyst at the Brookings Institution think tank who knows Petraeus well. But he is widely seen across the U.S. political spectrum as the man best qualified to try to reverse American fortunes in Iraq. The U.S. Senate approved his nomination as Iraq commander and his promotion to four-star general by 81 votes to zero. "If he can't do it, nobody can," said O'Hanlon.

Downed aircraft spur shift in tactics – Feb. 8

(Chicago Tribune)... James Janega, Liz Sly, & Nadeem Majeed

Analysts and military experts say it is too soon to know whether the recent insurgent successes against American helicopters will have a deep effect on U.S. strategy in Iraq or whether they merely represent a string of bad luck for U.S. pilots. "It's quite troublesome," **Michael O'Hanlon**, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said in an e-mail interview. "But it's hard to know the significance until we understand more about what shot them down and whether the pattern continues."

An intelligent test? China's new anti-satellite program makes sense - at least from Beijing's perspective. But it could turn out to be a dangerous mistake – Feb. 6

(The Bulletin)... Michael O'Hanlon

Reprints: Newsweek International

On one level, China's recent test of a new anti-satellite weapon was a success: Beijing managed to blast one of its aging weather sensors out of orbit several hundred miles above Earth. On a more profound level, however, the test was a mistake. And if China now continues to develop more space weapons, it could turn into a very serious error indeed. The U.S. Defense Department estimates that China already boasts the world's second largest defense expenditures, once adjustments are made for its lower costs and for off-budget military items. After centuries of

subjugation at the hands of the West, it is only natural that the Middle Kingdom would seek its rightful place in the sun. Forty years ago this meant developing its own nukes. Today it means building an anti-satellite weapon (which, we should remember, is a lot less dangerous than an atom bomb). It is also important to recognize that the United States already uses many of its satellites for war fighting. The U.S. military now regularly relies on real-time reconnaissance networks that can spot targets from orbit. It also uses satellites to pass information from sensors to shooters, and uses space-based Global Positioning Systems to guide bombs to their targets. It would therefore be dishonest for Washington to argue that space remains a pristine, war-free zone. The heavens may not have been weaponized yet, but they certainly have been militarized - and by a country that would likely come to the defense of China's archrival, Taiwan, in the event of conflict over that disputed island.

Ms. Danielle Pletka : Vice President, Foreign and Defense Policy Studies

All Iraq's neighbours 'are fueling conflict' – Feb. 8

(Financial Times)... Guy Dinmore

Danielle Pletka, a senior analyst with the conservative American Enterprise Institute, supports Saudi Arabia's assertions that the government does not fund Sunni insurgents. However, she calls claims that they cannot exert control over individual Saudi funding of terrorists "ridiculous".

The US Congress is hoisting the white flag of defeat in Iraq – Feb. 6

(The Daily Star, Lebanon)... Danielle Pletka

Members of the United States Congress, distressed with the flagging popularity of the Iraq war, have spent the first month of 2007 scrambling to offer the public the exit strategy it seeks. Bereft of a serious and comprehensive strategy for several years, the American public now has a surfeit of offerings from their elected representatives. Competition, in the form of an array of imaginative and realistic ideas, is good. The congressional plans themselves? Not good. The resolution called on Iraqis to sort out their political woes with "compromises necessary to ending the violence in Iraq," while focusing on "territorial integrity," "counterterrorism" and "accelerate[d] training." For good measure, it also called for a "regionally sponsored peace and reconciliation process." How any of this is supposed to come to pass remains mysterious. Ways and means are not discussed. At the root of the failure to devise better strategies is a flaw: No plan other than Bush's seeks victory. Yes, it is crucial that the Iraqis compromise politically, and indeed, territorial integrity is important. Training the Iraqis is vital if the US is ever to exit Iraq. And fighting terrorism is America's top foreign policy priority. But the prerequisite for all these important pieces to fall into place is security for the people of Iraq.

Mr. Barry Posen : Professor of Political Science, M.I.T.

Let's Contain, Not Bomb, Iran – Feb. 11

(Contra Costa Times, Alameda)... Jeffrey Laurenti

The real threat of a nuclear-armed Iran, Chirac blurted out, would be not to the security of its neighbors but to the survival of the nuclear nonproliferation regime -- precisely the analysis that MIT's **Barry Posen** has advanced in a recent U.S. paper, "A Nuclear-Armed Iran: A Difficult But Not Impossible Policy Problem."

Held hostage in Iraq – Feb. 6

(Akron Beacon Journal)... Steve Chapman

Ethnic and sectarian killing are occurring with us there and doubtless would continue with us gone. But MIT defense scholar **Barry Posen** notes that mass murder tends to occur when one group is unarmed, and "everyone in Iraq is armed." We could minimize bloodshed on our way

out by offering protection to anyone who wants to relocate within Iraq, and by accepting refugees who have put their lives at risk helping us. A secure base, Posen points out, is unlikely for the Sunni al-Qaida in a country dominated by Shiites, and unlikely in a region where the group has few friends and many enemies -- unlike Afghanistan, where it has long gotten help from Pakistan.

Dr. Loren B. Thompson : COO, Lexington Institute

Military construction budget may triple – Feb. 11

(Honolulu Advertiser)... Dennis Camire

Loren Thompson, a defense analyst with the Lexington Institute in Alexandria, Va., said Hawai'i is becoming more important to the nation's defense because of potential threats in the Pacific region from North Korea and China. "It is in the middle of the Pacific rather than on the far side of the world from the key threats we face," Thompson said. "The military has figured out that being halfway to Asia is a much more useful place to have your troops stationed than in the continental United States." Military construction funding for Hawai'i has varied over the past five years, according to Inouye's staff. In 2003, it was \$258 million, and rose to \$339 million in 2004 and \$368 million in 2005. It fell to \$354 million in 2006.

Northrop joins race for tanker contract – Feb. 9

(The Seattle Times)... Donna Borak

Aircraft-valuation firm Avitas estimates the price of a new Boeing 767 -- with standard discounts for purchase of one airplane, not a large order -- at about \$83 million. Defense analyst **Loren Thompson** of the Lexington Institute said Northrop's decision might signal the company's willingness to offer its aircraft at a discounted price. Or, he added, executives may be entertaining the outside chance the Air Force will purchase refueling tankers from both Boeing and Northrop.

Upgrading military equipment – Feb. 9

(The Washington Times)... unattributed

At Tuesday's Senate hearing, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said that he had recently "heard plenty both in Iraq and in Afghanistan about the need for" more Hellfire missile-equipped Predators (unmanned air vehicles). He acknowledged that "there has been a reluctance not knowing how long this war was going to go on a reluctance to expand capacity at the factory." That seems to be the common denominator underlying the ongoing equipment crisis. **Loren Thompson**, a defense analyst at the nonpartisan Lexington Institute, recently explained to the Baltimore Sun one key reason (besides the lack of money) why, four years into the war in Iraq, there is a shortage of vehicles that can more effectively survive an IED. "At each step along the way for the past four years, the key policymakers have assumed we were just months away from beginning to withdraw" from Iraq, Mr. Thompson explained. "As a result, they never made long-term plans for occupying the country effectively."

Watada case could define free speech for military – Feb. 8

(San Francisco Chronicle)... Anna Badkhen

The outcome of his trial has implications that go beyond Watada's freedom. The eventual decision could set an informal precedent establishing the limits of free speech in the U.S. military, say experts on military law. "Suppressing free speech in any form does not come naturally to democracies, but military discipline requires it," said **Loren Thompson**, a defense analyst at the Lexington Institute, a centrist think tank in Arlington, Va.

5th copter in month goes down in Iraq – Feb. 8

(Los Angeles Times)... Tina Susman

Military officials say as long as there are more helicopters in the air, there are more chances of crashes. But at a Senate hearing Tuesday, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Marine Gen. Peter Pace, acknowledged that there could be more than numbers at work: "At this point in time I do not know whether or not it is the law of averages that caught up with us or has there been a change in tactics, techniques and procedures on the part of the enemy," he said when questioned about the helicopter losses. **Loren Thompson**, a defense analyst at the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va., said that what was notable about the recent shoot-downs was that they were attributed to small-arms fire rather than missiles. That indicates that insurgents have noticed the military's change in flight methods and adjusted accordingly, Thompson said. Once the U.S. began flying lower to evade high-flying missiles, insurgents apparently traded in missiles for rocket-propelled grenades or machine guns that can down a helicopter flying just a couple of hundred feet above ground, he said. "Look at the dilemma we're in here. It's hard for us to use the roads because of the proliferation of improvised explosives," Thompson said. "But when we try the alternative of flying by helicopter, they shoot us high and they shoot us low."

Friendly fire still deadly in today's wars – Feb. 8

(Christian Science Monitor)... Brad Knickerbocker

"The fog of war has partially lifted as soldiers and airmen have acquired wireless communications, overhead sensors, global positioning devices and other information technologies," says military analyst **Loren Thompson** of the Lexington Institute. Digital communications networks like the Army's Blue Force Tracker and the Air Force's Link-16 have greatly reduced the danger of fratricide, also called "blue-on-blue" casualties. "However, technology is a double-edged sword in modern warfare because it accelerates the pace of battle to a point where anyone not on the network is in mortal danger," adds Mr. Thompson. "The British troops killed and wounded by US pilots in 2003 were at the forward edge of a fast-advancing force, and lacked the communications gear needed to communicate directly with A-10 attack planes."

Bush seeks increase in war spending – Feb. 6

(The Providence Journal)... John E. Mulligan

"This budget manages to cover all of the military modernization programs and pay for a two-front war - all for less than 4 percent of gross domestic product," said **Loren Thompson** of the Lexington Institute, a defense think tank. "It's amazing," Thompson added, attributing the feat to the strength of the overall economy - but warning that such defense spending is sustainable only as long as the economy stays strong.

Budget would be boon for N. Texas – Feb. 6

(Fort-Worth Star-Telegram)... Dave Montgomery

Loren Thompson, a defense analyst at the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va., said the Air Force wants to lift the current production cutoff date and continue producing F-22s until 2020. "The Air Force does not intend to cease production of the F-22 when the joint strike fighter begins ramping up," said Thompson, explaining the Air Force sees the F-22 and F-35 as complementary. Bush's strong commitment to expensive, and often controversial, weapons programs will likely face extensive scrutiny in the Democratic-controlled Congress as lawmakers juggle the costs of big-ticket weaponry against the soaring costs of the war. "The conclusion is clear," said Thompson. "Whatever the budget pressures from the Iraq war may be, they aren't slowing the investment in new weapons systems."

UPDATE: U.S. DoD Cuts Missile Defense in '08, Kills Lockheed Airship – Feb. 5

(Dow Jones News Service)... Rebecca Christie

Analysts said the new budget shows that there is little momentum for missile defense in the current budget environment. "It's clear that spending on missile defense is flattening out, and probably will not see another major increase unless there is some aggressive action by North Korea or Iran," said Lexington Institute defense consultant **Loren Thompson**.



RETIRED MILITARY ANALYSTS IN THE MEDIA

FEBRUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 16

Summary

Six retired military analysts were referenced during this reporting period, with a total of eight mentions occurring in television and print. General Wayne A. Downing and Mr. Bing West each had two references in the media while the other analysts were only referenced once. Topics of interest for this reporting period included: critical remarks about the situation in Iraq, the Inspector General's report on pre-war intelligence about Iraq and sentiments by the Washington Post's William Arkin on supporting the troops.

The Brisbane Courier-Mail reported that Gen. Downing was mentioned in one of the "most unlikely places"—Vanity Fair Magazine. Courier-Mail reporter James McCullough noted that the Vanity Fair piece called Downing "an advocate of the Iraq War" who said that "Iraqis are ready to take the war... overseas." In connection with this article, Newsweek mentioned Gen. Downing commented on the Iraq situation and argued that more Special Forces would be needed, despite General Keane's push for up to 60,000 combat troops in Baghdad. Gen. Downing and Gen. Keane, however, both agreed that it might be too late to save Iraq but a buildup would be a good idea.

The Orlando Sentinel and Honolulu Advertiser featured Mr. Bing West alongside Eliot Cohen of Johns Hopkins University in reprinted articles. Mr. West said the top priority of the U.S. must be to establish a "modicum of security." Given the current situation, captured Iraqi insurgents know they can remain silent and that most likely they will never be convicted because witnesses and judges can be bought or intimidated. Mr. West added, "Iraq will not become safer until more militants are behind bars, but they will never be convicted under peacetime rules of evidence."

Other analyst mentions and their topics of discussion included:

- Brig. Gen. James Marks discussed the Inspector General's pre-war intelligence report
- Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney discussed anger aimed at NBC News and The Washington Post regarding the Washington Post's William Arkin's comments about troop support
- Captain Chuck Nash discussed the ramifications of a strike against Iran
- Maj. Gen. Valley discussed Iran and its oil supply

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Retired Military Analysts

Mr. Jed Babbin (AF, Former JAG) American Spectator, national radio

No mentions in media coverage relating to the Department of Defense

General Wayne A. Downing (USA, ret.) MSNBC

During this reporting period, General Wayne A. Downing was referenced twice in the mainstream media. In a piece published by Newsweek Magazine entitled, "Bush's Truman Show," it was reported that Gen. Downing was among five military experts tapped by President Bush to attend two important strategy sessions which served as a means for President Bush to begin reaching out for independent assessments about the situation in Iraq.

A piece in the Brisbane Courier-Mail noted Gen. Downing was mentioned in a Vanity Fair article. The Courier-Mail piece said Gen. Downing is an advocate for the Iraq War.

- "Downing was also the chief proponent of a weapons system called Metal Storm . . . SAIC received \$10 million from the Pentagon to develop prototypes, but in the last two years the Metal Storm company has lost millions," Vanity Fair reports.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Maginnis (USA, ret.) Fox News, CNN, BBC, radio

No mentions in media coverage relating to the Department of Defense

Major General James "Spider" Marks (USA, ret.) CNN

Maj. Gen. James Marks received one media reference during this reporting period, which occurred on CNN's Situation Room. While he was not a guest during this broadcast, a clip of him was used in a piece discussing the Inspector General's report on prewar intelligence.

- Maj. Gen. James Marks: "You better be prepared to put your alternative view through the same type of rigor and scrutiny as everybody else is if you're going to end up doing something about it. If you shop it behind the lines, if you do behind a curtain, if you do it around the end, you're not making the best use of the intelligence community."

Dr. Jeff McCausland (Colonel, USA, ret.) CBS, mostly radio

No mentions in media coverage relating to the Department of Defense

Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney (USAF, ret.) Fox News

Lt. Gen. McInerney appeared on Fox News: The O'Reilly Factor. During this segment, McInerney addressed the anger aimed at NBC News and The Washington Post over remarks made by The Washington Post's William Arkin about supporting the troops.

- Lt. Gen. McInerney: "There is great anger (among the troops). And because I think they understand the difference between freedom of the press and aiding and abetting the enemy. Arkin has crossed the line to aid and abet the enemy, as well as NBC and The Washington Post by supporting these kinds of articles."

Captain Chuck Nash (USN, ret.) Fox News

Captain Chuck Nash was mentioned once in an article in the APS Review Oil Market Trends. In a piece entitled, "Algeria—The Oil Market Perspective," Captain Nash discussed the ramifications of a U.S. military strike against Iran.

- Captain Chuck Nash: "Any military action that causes the shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz will have an immediate and significant effect on the world economy."

Major General Robert H. Scales, Jr. (USA, ret.) Fox News

No mentions in media coverage relating to the Department of Defense

Major General Donald W. Shepperd (USAF, ret.) CNN

No mentions in media coverage relating to the Department of Defense

Major General Paul E. Vallely (USA, ret.) Fox News

Major General Paul E. Vallely was mentioned once in an article in the APS Review Old Market Trends. In a piece entitled, "Algeria—The Oil Market Perspective," Maj. Gen. Vallely spoke alongside Captain Chuck Nash regarding additional ramifications of a U.S. military strike against Iran.

- Maj. Gen. Vallely: "Shut down their (Iran's) flow of oil for a few weeks and see how they react to that."

Mr. Bing West (USMC, ret.) Atlantic Monthly, freelance writer

Mr. Bing West was mentioned twice in the media during this reporting period. A piece by Max Boot was reprinted in the Orlando Sentinel and the Honolulu Advertiser and stated that our top priority in Iraq must be to establish a "modicum of security."

- If insurgents, though identified and arrested by police, take advantage of the many normal safeguards built into the judicial system and are released, the police can do little.
- Clearly, more than any other kind of warfare, counterinsurgency must respect the principle of a single direction. A single boss must direct the operations from beginning until the end.

EXCERPTS

General Wayne A. Downing (USA, ret.) MSNBC

Bush's Truman Show – Feb. 12

(Newsweek)... Holly Bailey, Richard Wolffe, Evan Thomas; with John Barry
The election forced Bush to make a public show of announcing a new strategy in Iraq. He had the usual three options: pull back, stand pat or escalate. Retreat was intolerable; the president could not conceive of managing defeat. In late November, Bush was almost truculent as he publicly addressed reports that the Iraq Study Group would call for a pullout from Iraq. He openly scoffed at the notion of a "graceful exit." At first, say the Bush aides, the president was tempted to pull U.S. troops out of Baghdad and let the sectarian fires burn themselves out. But he soon decided that U.S. forces could not stand by and watch civilian massacres or the breakup of the country. The president is sensitive to the caricature of Bush-in-a-bubble, and he began reaching out more actively for independent assessments of Iraq. He had two important strategy sessions, described to NEWSWEEK by knowledgeable military and White House officials who wished to remain anonymous discussing confidential presidential meetings. On Dec. 11, Bush summoned five

military experts to the Oval Office: retired Gens. Jack Keane (former vice chief of staff of the Army), **Wayne Downing** (former head of Special Forces) and Barry McCaffrey (armored-division commander in the first gulf war); and two well-known scholars, Eliot Cohen of Johns Hopkins University and Stephen Biddle of the Council on Foreign Relations. Two of the generals, Keane and Downing, argued for significantly more forces--but while Downing argued for more Special Forces, Keane pushed for as many as 50,000 to 60,000 combat troops to protect the population in Baghdad. McCaffrey countered that such a surge would fail. The two civilians warned that it might be too late to save Iraq, but backed a buildup.

City Beat – Feb. 10

(Brisbane Courier-Mail)... James McCullough

KEVIN Dart, long-time managing director of local investment company Charter Pacific, has learnt over the years that it isn't always a good idea to hang around waiting for the really big pay-off from hi-tech investments. Charter did hang in there for a long time as a major shareholder of local weapons hopeful Metal Storm. But as the time line for the commercialization of Metal Storm's technology stretched out and out, Dart quit and pumped some of the proceeds into a wee bio-tech group which had been controlled by once high-profile explorer Diamond Joe Gutnick. Speaking of Metal Storm, the Brisbane weapons developer has turned up in one of the most unlikely places -- US magazine Vanity Fair. In a cracking article on US contractor SAIC -- headlined "Washington's \$8 Billion Shadow" -- former US army general **Wayne Downing**, who was a director of SAIC, gets a mention. Until last November, Downing was also deputy chairman of Metal Storm. The article notes Downing was an advocate of the Iraq war, quoting him as saying Iraqis "are ready to take the war . . . overseas". "Downing was also the chief proponent of a weapons system called Metal Storm... SAIC received \$10 million from the Pentagon to develop prototypes, but in the last two years the Metal Storm company has lost millions," Vanity Fair reports.

Major General James "Spider" Marks (USA, ret.) CNN

CNN: Situation Room 19:02:00– Feb. 9

(CNN)... Wolf Blitzer

Reporter Brian Todd: Gimble's report says Feith's office acted inappropriately because it sometimes pushed intelligence that hadn't been bedded property and didn't make decision makers aware that others questioned its reliability.

(Recorded Clip) Gen. James Marks ret.: You better be prepared to put your alternative view through the same type of rigor and scrutiny as everybody else is if you're going to end up doing something about it. If you shop it behind the lines, if you do behind a curtain, if you do it around the end, you're not making the best use of the intelligence community.

Brian Todd: But Gimble's report says Feith's office did not do anything illegal and Feith defends his actions.

(Recorded Clip) Douglas Feith: It's not the job of policy makers to explain what the intelligence is and then explain how they're varying from it. Our people were simply saying we're uncomfortable with what the CIA was doing.

Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney (USAF, ret.) Fox News

Fox News: The O'Reilly Factor 23:21:38 – Feb. 9

(Fox News)... Bill O'Reilly

O'Reilly: "Factor follow up" segment tonight, anger aimed at NBC News and "The Washington Post" over analyst William Arkin. As we reported, he called U.S. forces 'mercenaries', and implied they were lucky they weren't spit upon. That has angered our troops in the field and some in the Defense Department because NBC's parent company General Electric does more than \$2

billion with a 'b' dollars a year in business with the DOD. Joining us now from Austin, Texas, Senator John Cornyn. And from Orlando, Florida, Lieutenant General **Thomas McInerney**, a FOX News military analyst. Now gentlemen, we'll begin with you, because I'm getting a lot of mail from our forces in the field. And everybody knows about this because FOX News is on everywhere. What are you hearing? Are they angry or do they just think this is not even worth thinking about?

Lt. Gen. **Thomas McInerney**, U.S. Air Force ret.: No, Bill, they're very angry. I talked to Rear Admiral Fox today at 2:00 on the helicopter issues. I just read from the time I'd left the hotel to come over to the studio an e-mail, a lengthy one from Sergeant Eddie Jeffers, which was brilliant. He wondered what the soft politicians were doing. They send us to war, and then they don't support us. There is great anger. And because I think they understand the difference between freedom of the press and aiding and abetting the enemy. Arkin has crossed the line to aid and abet the enemy, as well as NBC and "The Washington Post" by supporting these kind of articles. O'Reilly: All right. So it would be fair to say from your research and from my e-mails, but that's anecdotal, that the troops in the field don't like the comments. Understand they're under the banner of the freedom of speech. But wonder why news organizations like "The Washington Post" and NBC News haven't distanced themselves from this man, because they have not. As you know, NBC News refuses to issue any statement. And "The Washington Post," the same thing. They will not distance themselves from this man, which is to me unbelievable. That's the summation? That's accurate?

McInerney: That's very accurate. And in addition to probably the numerous numbers of general officers and captains and sergeants and colonels I've seen down here at the Air Force Association that are expressing the same anger.

Captain Chuck Nash (USN, ret.) Fox News

Algeria—The Oil Market Perspective – Feb. 12

(APS Review Oil Market Trends)... unattributed

Iran's perch on the Strait of Hormuz, a potential chokepoint for crude oil shipments out of the Persian Gulf, will complicate the Bush administration's thinking on possible action against the Shi'ite theocracy. About 40% of the world's crude oil exports pass through those sea lanes - a 3.2-km channel flanked by Iran on one side and Oman and the UAE on the other.

Crude oil supply concerns will be at the forefront as President Bush contemplates action over Tehran's suspected nuclear weapons program, say experts at the Iran Policy Committee (IPC), a think tank comprised of former government officials. Iran denies that it is trying to develop nuclear weapons. A US military strike against Iran could rock the global economy. "Any military action that causes the shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz will have an immediate and significant effect on the world economy", said **Chuck Nash**, a retired US Navy captain. If the strait was closed by Iran or US military operations, "obviously we would all run out and buy oil futures", Nash said at a news conference to present an Iran policy paper in early 2005. The IPC has since been urging the Bush administration to pursue a policy of supporting regime change in Iran rather than military action. Iran, OPEC's second-biggest producer behind Saudi Arabia, holds more than 10% of the world's oil reserves and its crude oil production in recent weeks has been averaging about 3.9m b/d. Iran has missiles on its shores along the strait, which it used against tankers during its war with Iraq in 1980-88. Its offshore oil platforms can be adapted for military use. With Iran dependent on oil for its revenues, the US Navy could intercept and turn back its tankers to apply more economic pressure. Paul Vallely, a retired major general in the US Army, has said: "Shut down their flow of oil for a few weeks and see how they react to that". However, that could also tighten global oil supplies and push prices higher.

Major General Paul E. Valley (USA, ret.) Fox News

Algeria—The Oil Market Perspective – Feb. 12

(APS Review Oil Market Trends)... unattributed

Iran's perch on the Strait of Hormuz, a potential chokepoint for crude oil shipments out of the Persian Gulf, will complicate the Bush administration's thinking on possible action against the Shi'ite theocracy. About 40% of the world's crude oil exports pass through those sea lanes - a 3.2-km channel flanked by Iran on one side and Oman and the UAE on the other.

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Mr. Bing West (USMC, ret.) Atlantic Monthly, freelance writer

Don't just surge, strategize – Feb. 12

(Orlando Sentinel)... Max Boot

Reprint in: Honolulu Advertiser

While politicians debate whether more U.S. troops should be sent to Iraq, just as important is how those troops will be utilized. In the Boer War, a "surge" of soldiers helped. In the Vietnam War, it didn't. The difference is that the British had a sounder strategy. "Which side gives the best protection, which one threatens the most, which one is most likely to win, these are the criteria governing the population's stand. . . . Political, social, economic and other reforms, however much they ought to be wanted and popular, are inoperative when offered while the insurgent still controls the population." Too often the U.S. has gotten it backward, building infrastructure, holding elections and carrying out other civil reforms in an insecure environment. Expensive projects, such as electrical and water-treatment plants, have been sabotaged. Any good will won has been ephemeral. Our top priority must be to establish a modicum of security. Only then can reconstruction go forward. "If insurgents, though identified and arrested by the police, take advantage of the many normal safeguards built into the judicial system and are released, the police can do little." Captured Iraqi insurgents know they can remain silent and that most likely they will never be convicted because witnesses and judges can be bought or intimidated. "Eight of 10 detainees are set free," write military analysts **Bing West** and Eliot Cohen. "One in 75 American males is in jail, compared to one in 450 Iraqi males." Since, as they note, "Iraq is not six times safer than the U.S.," the disparity is because of faults with the legal system that need to be fixed -- perhaps by imposing martial law. Iraq will not become safer until more militants are behind bars, but they will never be convicted under peacetime rules of evidence. "Clearly, more than any other kind of warfare, counterinsurgency must respect the principle of a single direction.

A single boss must direct the operations from beginning until the end." There has never been a single boss in Iraq. On the American side, responsibility has been split between the Defense and State departments, which have not always worked harmoniously together. On the Iraqi side, the split is between the Interior and Defense ministries, between the police and army. The situation is especially muddled in Baghdad because President Bush has promised that Iraqis will "lead" operations there. That makes Gen. David Petraeus' job much harder. One of his first tasks as the top U.S. general in Iraq will simply be figuring out command relationships.

Snapshot: Military Analyst/Expert Commentary

(December 15 – January 4)

TV Summary*

The top military analysts interviewed during this time period were David Hunt (Fox News), Bill Cowan (Fox News) and Jack Jacobs (MSNBC). Each had five or more broadcasts. Analysts on some of the more prominent talk shows such as Hardball, O'Reilly Factor and Hannity & Colmes varied and included Rick Francona, Wayne Downing, Barry McCaffrey, David Hunt, Bob Scales, Bill Cowan and Bob MaGinnis. The most commonly discussed topics were the potential for U.S. troop withdrawal followed by Iraq security/elections and the issue of domestic spying (i.e. NSA).

Some of the more interesting comments/themes (paraphrased):

- We should send retired U.S. police officers to train the Iraqi police force to free-up military trainers (Hunt)
- There could be a military option to take out Iran's nuke program... (Clark)
- I don't look for us to be out of Iraq for another 5-10 years (Downing)
- There is no such thing as a private communication anymore (Jacobs)

Non-DoD topics discussed by military analysts:

- NSA Domestic spying issue
- Terrorist crisis simulations at airports and homeland security
- Iraqi -American Teenager's "visit" to Iraq
- Germany's parole of Mohammed Ali Hamadi

Print/Online Summary**

Comments from analysts/experts found in print/online publications largely came from individuals based in Washington DC area think tanks. Analysts/experts were primarily used to provide insights in the post-election outlook for Iraq with a particular emphasis on the Iraqi political process. An underlying theme among the analysts/experts was the issue of possible U.S. troop withdrawals and the ability of Iraqi security forces to expand its role. A number of analysts stressed the need for a gradual withdrawal to avoid the potential pitfalls of an ethnically based power stronger among the Sunnis, Shiites, and Kurds. Overall, there was a wide range of views expressed with a tendency to avoid making recommendations. Other points of discussion:

- James Fearon, a political scientist at Stanford University, described the current situation in Iraq as already in a civil war--"Since 1945, almost all civil wars, a big plurality, have been guerrilla wars where it is kind of insurgency versus counterinsurgency," and "Most civil wars look more like what we are seeing in Iraq now" (LA Times)
- Others discussed lessons learned from Iraq in the context of strategic priorities and budget considerations
- Several questioned the ability of Iraqi ministries to move beyond problems of corruption and ineffectiveness and actually manage day to day governance
- Many viewed the election as just the beginning of the process, stressing the need for the political process overcoming inter-ethnic squabbles.
- Michael O'Hanlon of Brookings Institute was the most commonly quoted expert

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TELEVISION COVERAGE

Analyst/Expert	Date	News Outlet	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes
David Hunt	1/4	Fox News	Your World with Neil Cavuto	U.S. perception of Terrorists	"We must attack countries or religions that support terrorism" "Iraq is turning against terrorists and insurgents"
Wesley Clark	1/3 and 1/2	Fox News	Big Story Weekend Edition	War with Iran?	"There could be a military option to take out Iran's nuke program along with air defense, command control and retaliatory capabilities"
Ken Allard	1/1	MSNBC	News Live	Action against Iran? Visits to Iran's neighbors & NATO allies	"Have to decide if diplomacy or military action is the best approach that is the conundrum"
David Hunt	1/1	Fox News	News	Do we need more soldiers to train Iraqi police?	"We should have been concentrating on training Iraqi police for the last two years but instead we have been concentrating on Iraqi military" "We should get retired police in the U.S. to go over and train the Iraqi police"
Ken Allard	12/31	MSNBC	News Live	-Most important events of 2005 -Morale in Iraq? -Training Iraqi troops -Troop withdrawal	Important event: "The fact that we had three election in Iraq" "The troop are saying that the U.S. media is only focusing on U.S. casualties not the casualties inflicted on insurgents"
Rick Francona	12/31 And 12/30	MSNBC	Hardball	-NSA wire tapping -Troop withdrawal	- "What situations have changed (within the NSA, etc.) to cause the President to go around the FISA court?" - "Iraqi security forces will need to dictate any U.S. troop withdrawal"
Wayne Downing	12/31 and 12/30	MSNBC	Hardball	Insurgents altering their tactics; getting better?	"The military is not the solution to the end game; they (the military) play a role in the solution and create the conditions"
Barry McCaffrey	12/31 And 12/30	MSNBC	Hardball	-U.S. teenager's visit to Iraq -Military Death Toll	The American's "visit" was: "Very irresponsible and could have put other 19 year old soldiers at risk"

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David Hunt	12/28	Fox News	O'Reilly Factor	-Elections -Troop withdrawal	"You're finding now the numbers game. Our side and the Iraqis are suggesting there are 50,000 Iraqis involved in fighting the terrorists, that's fine. 200,000 trained. The bottom line is they have to be able to logistically support themselves and use intelligence and communications and call in artillery and aircraft. That's a long way away for them." "As long as protests don't turn to violence then it is OK"
Bill Cowan	12/27	Fox News	Studio B with Shepard Smith	-Security situation during the elections -Protests during elections	
David Hunt	12/27	Fox News	DaySide	-Terrorist simulations at Logan Airport	"They (Boston emergency responders) flunked it. We spend 170 billion in homeland security and we still have 50 agencies responding and that is 49 too many."
Wayne Downing	12/27	MSNBC	News Live	-U.S. military transformation & withdrawal	"Does this mean the U.S. involvement is going to start easing? I think it probably will. But I don't look for us to be totally out of that country for five or ten years."
Bob Scales	12/27	Fox News	Fox & Friends First	-Protests after the elections by Sunnis	"Baghdad is increasingly becoming more and more peaceful as the Iraq security forces take over control of the city"
Bill Cowan	12/26	Fox News	Big Story with John Gibson	-Violence post election caused by election results?	"We are doing a better job of defending ourselves against these bad guys coming at us. But the civilians can't defend themselves." "The (political) process is going to move forward and the insurgent attacks aren't going to stop. But I think things are weighing in our favor a little more than they were six months ago."
Jack Jacobs	12/25	MSNBC	News Live	The holidays in Iraq & how troops are celebrating	"I was last in Iraq in April, and morale was good at least partially because communication between the kids over in Iraq and their friends in family"
Jack Jacobs	12/24	NBC	Local affiliate: KCRA - Sacramento	Domestic Spying	"There's no such thing as private communication anymore, and what people are most concerned about is not that in fact, that the information is out there, but that the government has access to it."

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Jack Jacobs	12/24	MSNBC	News Live	Domestic Surveillance	<p>“There will have to be some sort of legislation I think”</p> <p>“The government is really just data mining and trying to see patterns”</p> <p>“There is no such thing as a private communication anymore”</p>
Jack Jacobs	12/24	MSNBC	News Live	Domestic Spying	<p>“There hasn't been a big effort to convince us that we're genuinely at risk (referring to domestic terrorism), and until the government does that, people who are concerned about liberty are going to be very much concerned about indiscriminate data mining.”</p>
Bill Cowan	12/24	Fox News	Fox & Friends	<p>-SecDef serving Christmas dinner</p> <p>-Iraqi morale as U.S. withdraws</p>	<p>“The secretary visiting them is certainly uplifting for the troops”</p> <p>“Iraqis perceived U.S. withdrawal as an uplifting event and an indicator that their own forces are doing better at security” (paraphrased)</p>
Bill Cowan	12/24 and 12/23	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	-U.S. troop withdrawal just a political move?	“Withdrawal is being driven by conditions on the ground not a political move” (paraphrased)
David Hunt	12/24 and 12/23	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	-U.S. troop withdrawal just a political move?	“I'm not so sure politics aren't being played, the Iraqi forces still can't sustain themselves (i.e. provide logistical support)”
Bob Scales	12/23	Fox News	Big Story with John Gibson	-Drawdown of military a political move?	<p>“What the relief (reduction of U.S. military) does is sends a message to the Iraqi people that this is your country and to the Iraqi military you need to pick up the responsibility and to the American military that there is light at the end and to the enemy that they are either going to be able to make a run at taking over the country or have to deal with their own countrymen”</p>
Jack Jacobs	12/23 and 12/22	MSNBC	Scarborough Country	-Germany just paroled Mohammed Ali Hamadi convicted of killing a Navy diver in 1985	“The German government is working hard to satisfy their domestic Muslim population and do not want a situation similar to what has happened in France. This may be one reason why they paroled him and traded him for a German citizen being held hostage.” (paraphrased)

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Bob Scales	12/16	Fox News	News Live	-NSA and Domestic spying	"...it's a very, very narrow and very selective group of people in this country who the NSA and the administration thought they needed to get on top of to prevent another occurrence of something like a 9/11"
Bill Cowan	12/16 and 12/15	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	How will this war be seen in 10 years even though they want us out now?	"In 10 years from now, people in my judgment, as they have in other instances like this around the world, will tend to forget the bad and want to remember the good. And they'll certainly have to recall that this is the reason they have freedom..."
Rick Francona	12/15	MSNBC	News Live	Security in Iraq in the long term and during the elections	"Are the militias going to be allowed to exist, this is a major issue right now? Whatever government that's going to emerge is going to need to deal with the militias in some way to gain regional security." (paraphrased)
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Loren Thompson – Lexington Institute	1/5	AP	N/A	Strategic Priorities/Lessons learned	"The lessons learned by the Army coming out of Iraq are that each brigade needed its own aerial surveillance capacities"

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James Phillips - Heritage Foundation	1/1	Houston Chronicle	N/A	Elections	A quick pullout would leave a vacuum that Iran would be all too happy to fill...The Iraqis who are supporting a democratic government would be completely demoralized. It could lead to a very quick unraveling of national cohesion.
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James Fearon - Stanford University political scientist	1/1	Los Angeles Times	N/A	Situation in Iraq	I think there is definitely a civil war that has been going on since we finished the major combat operations
James Dobbins - Rand Corp.	1/1	Los Angeles Times	N/A	Situation in Iraq	As things stand now, "there is no real nice exit for the U.S." You could have a civil war of the sort that they had in Yugoslavia in the '90s, in which both sides had heavy weaponry and the casualties were much, much higher...the main argument for America continuing to stay in Iraq and exercise influence is to prevent the situation from degenerating that way. But it is going to be difficult, costly and time-consuming
Lawrence J. Korb - Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress	1/1	New York Times	N/A	Strategic Priorities	"We cannot fight a long, sustained war without a larger ground force." He defines a "long war" as lasting two years or more. The Iraq war has gone on now for nearly three.
Kenneth Allard	1/1	Sun-Sentinel	N/A	Torture	"When the subject breaks, he often lies," Allard told Newsweek magazine. "Prisoners have only one objective -- to end the pain. It's a huge limitation."

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Public Affairs Research and Analysis (PARA)

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Jack Jacobs	12/24	MSNBC	News Live	Domestic Spying	<p>“There hasn’t been a big effort to convince us that we’re genuinely at risk (referring to domestic terrorism), and until the government does that, people who are concerned about liberty are going to be very much concerned about indiscriminate data mining.”</p>
Bill Cowan	12/24	Fox News	Fox & Friends	<p>-SecDef serving Christmas dinner</p> <p>-Iraqi morale as U.S. withdraws</p>	<p>“The secretary visiting them is certainly uplifting for the troops”</p> <p>“Iraqis perceived U.S. withdrawal as an uplifting event and an indicator that their own forces are doing better at security” (paraphrased)</p>
Bill Cowan	12/24 and 12/23	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	-U.S. troop withdrawal just a political move?	<p>“Withdrawal is being driven by conditions on the ground not a political move” (paraphrased)</p>
David Hunt	12/24 and 12/23	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	-U.S. troop withdrawal just a political move?	<p>“I’m not so sure politics aren’t being played, the Iraqi forces still can’t sustain themselves (i.e. provide logistical support)”</p>
Bob Scales	12/23	Fox News	Big Story with John Gibson	-Drawdown of military a political move?	<p>“What the relief (reduction of U.S. military) does is sends a message to the Iraqi people that this is your country and to the Iraqi military you need to pick up the responsibility and to the American military that there is light at the end and to the enemy that they are either going to be able to make a run at taking over the country or have to deal with their own countrymen”</p>
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Rick Francona	12/15	MSNBC	News Live	Security in Iraq in the long term and during the elections	"Are the militias going to be allowed to exist, this is a major issue right now? Whatever government that's going to emerge is going to need to deal with the militias in some way to gain regional security." (paraphrased)
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Barry Posen - Professor of Security Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1/1	New York Times	N/A	Strategic Priorities	"If you do need to go in and occupy some place, you should want everybody and his cousin to go in with you." This would mean a renewed emphasis on multilateralism, alliances and diplomacy -- stemming not from moral qualms about the use of force, but from simple arithmetic. "Given the limits on our resources," he says, "it just seems impossible to do it any other way."
Michael O'Hanlon - Brookings Institute	12/31	Chicago Tribune	N/A	Elections	"It is too early to say how the political dynamic of the election is going to play out," said Michael O'Hanlon, an analyst on Iraq for the Brookings Institution. "That may take six months. The critical time is going to be when Sunni Arabs decide whether the political process is working for them..."
Anthony Cordesman - Center for Strategic and International Studies	12/29	USA Today	N/A	Allies pullout of troops	The coalition pullouts won't have much effect on Iraqi security or U.S. plans to further reduce its forces... Many of these forces are more of political value than they are of military value, because they "defuse" the impression that U.S. troops are occupiers
Michael O'Hanlon - Brookings Institute	12/29	USA Today	N/A	Allies pullout of troops	"It reflects ongoing unpopularity of this war in those countries, but it's not a precipitous pullout," said O'Hanlon, a frequent critic of Bush administration Iraq policy. "The impact is negative, but only mildly so."
Loren Thompson - Lexington Institute	12/27	New York Times	N/A	Strategic Priorities/ Budget	"The war in Iraq has not been as successful as expected." He went on: "Rumsfeld's notion of transformation is firmly rooted in the Pentagon and it calls into question previous spending plans. While thematically, this may sound like what we have heard before, that was before Iraq and there was not as much urgency as now."
Winslow T. Wheeler - Center for Defense Information	12/27	New York Times	N/A	Strategic Priorities/ Budget	"There is a big chasm between rhetoric and the budget process... Osama is happy for us to spend billions on and F-22A fighter jet systems that can do him no harm," Mr. Wheeler said. "It's hard to conceive of a larger gap between words and decisions."

Analyst/Expert	Date	News Outlet	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes
Juan Cole - Professor, University of Michigan	12/26	Los Angeles Times	N/A	Situation in Iraq/civil war	"Sunni Arabs were the officer corps and military intelligence [in Saddam Hussein's army], and the more experienced NCOs, and they know how to do things that the Shiites and Kurds don't." Before the invasion, Cole said, they "were also the country's elite and have enormous cultural capital and managerial know-how"
Michael O'Hanlon - Brookings Institute	12/24	AP	N/A	Strategy in Iraq	"I think you will see a gradual shifting toward the Iraqis taking more control, and over time the Iraqis will be bearing more of the casualties." But "It's not going to be a simple substitution effect. ... I think we should be braced for it to be quite slow, and 2006 will still be a bloody year in Iraq."
Sarah Sewall - Director, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard	12/24	New York Times	N/A	Situation in Iraq/ Civilian Casualties	"In a conflict like Iraq, where civilian perceptions are as important as the number of weapons caches destroyed, assessing the civilian harm must become a part of the battle damage assessment process if you're going to fight a smart war,"
Gary Anderson - retired U.S. Marine colonel	12/24	Los Angeles Times	N/A	U.S. Withdrawal	"The Sunni Triangle, the harder areas of Baghdad and Al Anbar province are probably going to be the last to see this happen, and that's at least a couple of years away"
Charles Moskos - military sociologist, Northwestern University.	12/23	Chicago Tribune	N/A	Pentagon/groups aiding GIs	"What's the big surprise? The Pentagon created the war and is for it. Why shouldn't it do everything it can to back the soldiers they are sending over there?"
Bill Cowan	12/23	USA Today	N/A	Propaganda	"I don't think there's anything egregious here. (In Iraq) they were just trying to get some good stories out"
Maj. Gen. William Nash, director of CFR's Center for Preventive Action	12/20	Council on Foreign Relations - interview	N/A	Elections	"The best news of the election was the participation in the political process by Sunnis"

Analyst/Expert	Date	News Outlet	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes
Patrick Clawson - Washington Institute of Near East Policy.	12/18	Washington Post	N/A	Political Process	"Iraq has performed miracles in going from destroyed ministry buildings and staff not showing up for work to creating a government. But it is still a fragile society that lacks skilled decision makers and political consensus, so it won't have a fully functioning government anytime soon"
Juan Cole - Professor, University of Michigan	12/18	Washington Post	N/A	Political Process	"The Shia and Kurds agreed to discuss the constitution again but the Sunnis, even if they double in number, will easily be voted down. In the end they can only be spoilers by blowing things up"
Kenneth Pollack - Brookings Institution's	12/18	Washington Post	N/A	Political Process	"If Iraq falls into civil war, it will be because of militias...The insurgency then becomes a secondary problem." What we have not paid attention to is the enormous corruption in the ministries and the fact they don't have the personnel or capability to do much."
Henri Barkey - Professor, Lehigh University	12/18	Washington Post	N/A	Political Process	For all that was achieved in Iraq's vote, some experts say the United States still has a lot of unfinished business. "If you look at what the administration wanted to accomplish, we're only 20 percent of the way there"
Anthony H. Cordesman - Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.	12/18	New York Times	N/A	Strategy In Iraq	It is very much a laboratory for the overall mission, linked not just to the development of the Iraqi armed forces but to efforts to make the special security forces act like national police forces," and not loyal only to local religious or ethnic leaders
Anthony Cordesman - Center for Strategic and International Studies	12/15	Council on Foreign Relations - interview	N/A	Success/failure in Iraq	"Iraqi security forces are becoming stronger and more effective and there is a process here which can work. But if you ask me if the odds are strongly in favor of success, I'd have to say no. Are they strongly in favor of failure? The answer has to be no as well."

TELEVISION COVERAGE

Analyst/Expert	Date	News Outlet	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes
David Hunt	1/4	Fox News	Your World with Neil Cavuto	U.S. perception of Terrorists	“We must attack countries or religions that support terrorism” “Iraq is turning against terrorists and insurgents”
Wesley Clark	1/3 and 1/2	Fox News	Big Story Weekend Edition	War with Iran?	“There could be a military option to take out Iran’s nuke program along with air defense, command control and retaliatory capabilities”
Ken Allard	1/1	MSNBC	News Live	Action against Iran? Visits to Iran’s neighbors & NATO allies	“Have to decide if diplomacy or military action is the best approach that is the conundrum”
David Hunt	1/1	Fox News	News	Do we need more soldiers to train Iraqi police?	“We should have been concentrating on training Iraqi police for the last two years but instead we have been concentrating on Iraqi military” “We should get retired police in the U.S. to go over and train the Iraqi police”
Ken Allard	12/31	MSNBC	News Live	-Most important events of 2005 -Morale in Iraq? -Training Iraqi troops -Troop withdrawal	Important event: “The fact that we had three election in Iraq” “The troop are saying that the U.S. media is only focusing on U.S. casualties not the casualties inflicted on insurgents”
Rick Francona	12/31 And 12/30	MSNBC	Hardball	-NSA wire tapping -Troop withdrawal	-“What situations have changed (within the NSA, etc.) to cause the President to go around the FISA court?” -“Iraqi security forces will need to dictate any U.S. troop withdrawal”
Wayne Downing	12/31 and 12/30	MSNBC	Hardball	Insurgents altering their tactics; getting better?	“The military is not the solution to the end game; they (the military) play a role in the solution and create the conditions”
Analyst/Expert	Date	News Outlet	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes

Barry McCaffrey	12/31 And 12/30	MSNBC	Hardball	-American teenager's visit to Iraq -U.S. military Death Toll	The American's "visit" was: "Very irresponsible and could have put other 19 year old soldiers at risk"
David Hunt	12/28	Fox News	O'Reilly Factor	-Elections -Troop withdrawal	"You're finding now the numbers game. Our side and the Iraqis are suggesting there is 50,000 Iraqis involved in fighting the terrorists, that's fine. 200,000 trained. The bottom line is they have to be able to logistically support themselves and use intelligence and communications and call in artillery and aircraft. That's a long way away for them." "As long as protests don't turn to violence then it is OK"
Bill Cowan	12/27	Fox News	Studio B with Shepard Smith	-Security situation during the elections -Protests during elections	
David Hunt	12/27	Fox News	DaySide	-Terrorist simulations at Logan Airport	"They (Boston emergency responders) flunked it. We spend 170 billion in homeland security and we still have 50 agencies responding and that is 49 too many."
Wayne Downing	12/27	MSNBC	News Live	-U.S. military transformation & withdrawal	"Does this mean the U.S. involvement is going to start easing? I think it probably will. But I don't look for us to be totally out of that country for five or ten years."
Bob Scales	12/27	Fox News	Fox & Friends First	-Protests after the elections by Sunnis	"Baghdad is increasingly becoming more and more peaceful as the Iraq security forces take over control of the city"
Bill Cowan	12/26	Fox News	Big Story with John Gibson	-Violence post election caused by election results?	"We are doing a better job of defending ourselves against these bad guys coming at us. But the civilians can't defend themselves." "The (political) process is going to move forward and the insurgent attacks aren't going to stop. But I think things are weighing in our favor a little more than they were six months ago."
Analyst/Expert	Date	News Outlet	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes

Jack Jacobs	12/25	MSNBC	News Live	The holidays in Iraq & how troops are celebrating	“I was last in Iraq in April, and morale was good at least partially because communication between the kids over in Iraq and their friends in family”
Jack Jacobs	12/24	NBC	Local affiliate: KCRRA - Sacramento	Domestic Spying	“There’s no such thing as private communication anymore, and what people are most concerned about is not that in fact, that the information is out there, but that the government has access to it.”
Jack Jacobs	12/24	MSNBC	News Live	Domestic Surveillance	“There will have to be some sort of legislation I think” “The government is really just data mining and trying to see patterns”
Jack Jacobs	12/24	MSNBC	News Live	Domestic Spying	“There is no such thing as a private communication anymore” “There hasn’t been a big effort to convince us that we’re genuinely at risk (referring to domestic terrorism), and until the government does that, people who are concerned about liberty are going to be very much concerned about indiscriminate data mining.”
Bill Cowan	12/24	Fox News	Fox & Friends	-SecDef serving Christmas dinner -Iraqi morale as U.S. withdraws	“The secretary visiting them is certainly uplifting for the troops” “Iraqis perceived U.S. withdrawal as an uplifting event and an indicator that their own forces are doing better at security” (paraphrased)
Bill Cowan	12/24 and 12/23	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	-U.S. troop withdrawal just a political move?	“Withdrawal is being driven by conditions on the ground not a political move” (paraphrased)
David Hunt	12/24 and 12/23	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	-U.S. troop withdrawal just a political move?	“I’m not so sure politics aren’t being played, the Iraqi forces still can’t sustain themselves (i.e. provide logistical support)”
Bob Scales	12/23	Fox News	Big Story with John Gibson	-Drawdown of military a political move?	“What the relief (reduction of U.S. military) does is sends a message to the Iraqi people that this is your country and to the Iraqi military you need to pick up the responsibility and to the American military that there is light at the end and to the enemy that they are either going to be able to make a run at taking over the country or have to deal with their own countrymen”
Analyst/Expert	Date	News	Show	Topic	Military Analyst Quotes

			Outlet			
Jack Jacobs	12/23 and 12/22	MSNBC	Scarborough Country	-Germany just paroled Mohammed Ali Hamadi convicted of killing a Navy diver in 1985	"The German government is working hard to satisfy their domestic Muslim population and do not want a situation similar to what has happened in France. This may be one reason why they paroled him and traded him for a German citizen being held hostage." (paraphrased)	
Bill Cowan	12/20	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	Germany's parole of Mohammed Ali Hamadi	"If it was a swap, it makes the story stink even worse"	
Bob McGinnis	12/20	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	Germany's parole of Mohammed Ali Hamadi	"The Germans should have put this terrorist to death" "We are setting a precedence for terrorists to take others hostage"	
Bob Scales	12/16	Fox News	News Live	-NSA and Domestic spying	"It makes our military people traveling on public airways very vulnerable"	
Bill Cowan	12/16 and 12/15	Fox News	Hannity & Colmes	How will this war be seen in 10 years even though they want us out now?	"...it's a very, very narrow and very selective group of people in this country who the NSA and the administration thought they needed to get on top of to prevent another occurrence of something like a 9/11"	
Rick Francona	12/15	MSNBC	News Live	Security in Iraq in the long term and during the elections	"In 10 years from now, people in my judgment, as they have in other instances like this around the world, will tend to forget the bad and want to remember the good. And they'll certainly have to recall that this is the reason they have freedom..." "Are the militias going to be allowed to exist, this is a major issue right now? Whatever government that's going to emerge is going to need to deal with the militias in some way to gain regional security." (paraphrased)	



Snapshot!

MILITARY ANALYSTS - REACTION TO THE "SURGE"

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Summary

Commentary by analysts over the past month has speculated on the President's new strategy for Iraq, particularly focusing on the issue of a "surge" in troops. In large part, analysts have refrained from outright rejecting the utility of a "surge," but connected any troop increases with the need to reinforce the political and economic components of the Iraq strategy. More specifically, the general consensus was that the mission had to be clearly defined for the U.S. forces and that the key to success was the Iraq security forces. The analysts offered a variety views regarding the possible new course of action in Iraq:

- Retired General Wayne Downing expressed backing in mid-December that in a meeting with the President he had stressed "the point not only no more U.S. forces," but highlighted that the key to success was with the Iraqi security forces. He also noted that putting more troops in Iraq would "raise false expectations" in the U.S. and "infuriate" the Iraqis. He stated on Dec. 13 that a drawdown should begin within six months and the U.S. should start over with the Iraqi police – create police that was trustworthy
- Lt. Colonel Rick Francona stressed the point that stopping violence was only the first step, the key was in solving the economic problem. More importantly, more troops wouldn't make a difference without Iraqi cooperation.
- In response to whether a surge of 20,000 additional troops was enough, retired Brig. General David Grange opined that if the "guys on the ground made that assessment" then it must be the appropriate number to accomplish the mission the troops were being sent to do. Brig. Gen. Grange did not directly express support or criticism of the planned "surge," but stressed the point that commanders on the ground best understood the military side of the tasks at hand and their requests would accurately represent what was needed to succeed. He did note that there weren't "too many good options left for Iraq," but if the U.S. wanted to "win this thing" then "you must let those running the war have the resources and the personnel needed to be successful."
- Retried Lt. General Thomas McInerney was cited on Fox's "Special Report with Brit Hume" as saying "just throwing troops at the problem, as I have said, is not going to solve the problem."
- Former Assistant Secretary of Defense Bing West stated that the troops deserved an explanation

HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Jed Babbin

Speculation about tonight's speech

- The President will try to say a surge is the only option for securing Baghdad – “I don't know that that's going to prove to be true”

Opinion of a surge depends on the goal

- “I don't oppose a surge if we do it the right way for the right purpose
- “Petraeus is absolutely the right guy” to head the surge, “but it's got to be dependent on what the President wants to do.”
- “I don't believe 30,000 more Americans troops going into Sadr City are going to change much for very long. If we're going to close down the ratlines, we're going to attack the people from the Iranian Revolutionary Guard who are coming in with IEDs. If we're going to do that, I'm all for it. But the point of the matter is if we're just going to put them on foot patrol in Sadr City, I don't think that's a very good idea.”
- “I don't see that the President has defined victory in a way that is reachable and even in a way realistic. To achieve victory there...we have to take on both Syria and Iran and defeat the nations that are sponsoring terrorism against us”

“Clear and hold” strategy requires more troops

- “If you want to clear and hold, and if you want to do that as a predicate to pursuing security in Iraq, which we all would like to see, you can't do it with 30 or 40,000 troops. You're going to have put 100 or 120,000 more troops in there... The Iraqis, we can clear. The Iraqis can't hold.
- “What are we going to do with these (additional) troops? Either they're way too many to do nothing or they're many, many too few to actually do what we could do.”

Lt. Col. Rick Francona

More troops won't make a difference without Iraqi cooperation

- Well, I think he's going to try to say this is the only way to secure Baghdad so that the people of Baghdad, the government there, can actually secure itself and make progress in developing their country and making deals politically that they need to make. I don't know that that's going to prove to be true.
- We are “interposing an American military force between two warring sides. Both of which are going to try to kill you... it's a very difficult problem”
- “When these 40 thousand or 30 thousand, whatever the number turns out to be, show up -- is General Petraeus going to put them in Baghdad or is he going to put them around Baghdad?”
- “This won't work unless we get some cooperation from the Iraqi government. Those Iraqi troops have got to be involved, but more importantly, Maliki has to give us a commitment that he's going to go after these Shia militias.”
- 15,000 troops will “just be in the way” – we need a commitment from Maliki, but I don't see a willingness or capability” of him to help
- “I hope the President will tell us the mission of what the troops are going to do”

Gen. Wayne A. Downing

No more combat troops

- “I do not believe we should put more US combat units in there”

Drawdown

- “I do believe that some point, six months from now, we need to start a drawdown, but the emphasis, Larry, has to be on the--building the Iraqi army”

Raise expectations in the U.S.

- “...putting more United States troops over in Iraq right now, more combat formation, is going to raise false expectations back here in the United States”

Anger Iraqis

- “It's also going to put more Americans on the street, which are going to further infuriate the Iraqis”

Brig. General David L. Grange

Commanders know best

- “If they say it's 20,000, then it's 20,000. The guys on the ground made that assessment, those commanders, and I'm sure they know what they're talking about”
- “Look, if we want to win this thing, if we want to leave honorably, if we want to leave with conditions that are acceptable to the United States of America, you must let those running the war have the resources and the personnel needed to be successful”

Limited options

- “Well, there's not too many good options left for Iraq because a lot of the mistakes were made in the past. Because that's water under the bridge what to do now”

Pressure on Iraqis

- “So I think whatever comes out of this puts a lot of pressure on the Iraqi government even if it's behind closed doors”

More advisors

- “And I think what you're going to see is the increase in the advisors to the Iraqi military and police”

Show of resolve

- “You're going to see an increase in some forces for no other reason than to show resolve and to be a rapid reaction force in case things get worse than they are today”

More operations/more troops

- “But now we have a situation where more offensive operations must take place to gain superiority on the adversaries where they have the upper hand”
- “Anbar province is an example, and the other is the city of Baghdad. That's going to require more troops, used in offensive operations, in order to handle that threat”

Lt. General Thomas McInerney

More troops will not solve the problem

- So just throwing troops at the problem, as I have said, is not going to solve the problem.

Mr. Bing West

Troops deserve an explanation

- I don't mean to be flip but any surge as an ebb, so the question is, what do you expect will change in six months that hasn't changed in four years?