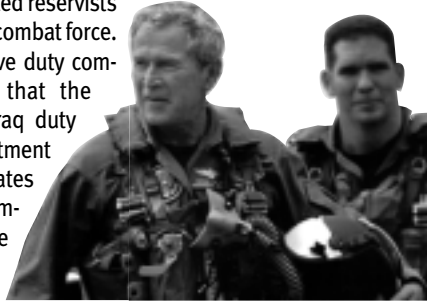


## PRESSURE TO RECRUIT NEW SOLDIERS INTENSIFIES

The current war in Iraq is the first one to really test the viability of the "all volunteer force" concept. Today, reservists must fill a major hole left when the active military was cut to 1.4 million from 2.1 million just ten years earlier. During the first Gulf War, which was a "cake walk" militarily-speaking, no reserve combat units were used because they weren't deemed combat-ready. It's a different story this time around, with activated reservists making up a third of the combat force. Reserve, as well as active duty commanders are worried that the growing disgust with Iraq duty will send their re-enlistment as well as new recruit rates plummeting. Record numbers of reservists have already threatened not to re-enlist.



## TOO BAD DUBYA DOESN'T READ

In his memoir "A World Transformed" (1998), George Bush, Senior, wrote the following: "Trying to eliminate Saddam...would have incurred incalculable human and political costs. Apprehending him was probably impossible...We would have been forced to occupy Baghdad and, in effect, rule Iraq. There was no viable 'exit strategy' we could see, violating another of our principles. Furthermore, we had been consciously trying to set a pattern for handling aggression in the post Cold War world. Going in and occupying Iraq, thus unilaterally exceeding the UN's mandate, would have destroyed the precedent of international response to aggression that we hoped to establish. Had we gone the invasion route, (we) could conceivably still be an occupying power in a bitterly hostile land."

Boy George:  
Pretend Pilot

- Write a check
- Transfer stock
- Make a pledge
- Make a bequest
- Establish a trust
- Give real estate and other property
- Donate life insurance
- Establish a memorial
- Take advantage of employer matching funds
- Donate in-kind gifts

## 10 WAYS TO GIVE

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**Citizen Soldier**

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[WWW.CITIZEN-SOLDIER.ORG](http://WWW.CITIZEN-SOLDIER.ORG)



**CITIZEN SOLDIER YEAR-END REPORT 2004**

**W**ith each passing day, the extent of deception employed by the Bush Team in justifying its invasion of Iraq becomes more obvious. None of the weapons of mass destruction that George W. warned about have been found. Nor have any terrorist cells, Al Qaeda or otherwise, been uncovered despite the Shrub's shrill predictions prior to invading.

Bush's contempt for the United Nations and the concept of international cooperation has isolated America in the world and placed our troops at greater risk. Few of them have received the kind of civil action or police training that they need to perform the tasks they're being assigned. A recent Stars and Stripes newspaper poll found

that a third felt morale was "low" and fully half said that they were "unlikely" to re-enlist.

The growing severity of attacks has forced the International Red Cross and many other aid organizations to order their staffs out of the country. Clearly, many Iraqis now oppose America's occupation and opposition forces appear to be growing stronger—not weaker. Having broken with traditional allies who could provide significant economic aid or military assistance, we are left to soldier on—alone.

Bush, as Commander in Chief, has yet to attend a single soldier's funeral, so fearful is he that he might face the angry words of their survivors!



## CURRENT PROJECTS OF CITIZEN SOLDIER

### COUNSELLING AND DEFENDING RESISTERS BUILDS THE ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT

**S**ince the Vietnam war, Citizen Soldier has defended war resisters who based their refusal on political, moral, and/or religious grounds. Working with CS cooperating attorney, Louis, Font, we are currently defending **Sgt. C. M.** (right), an activated reservist who fought for six months in Iraq before deciding not to perform additional duty there. Like 38,000 other non-citizens serving in the US military, C.M. was promised a "fast track" to citizenship in exchange for enlisting. Now, in addition to a court martial, he faces deportation.



We also are representing **Sgt. Nick G.** (left), an Airborne trooper who also served in a combat unit in Iraq for six months. Rather than return to Iraq at the end of an emergency leave, Nick attempted to take his life. Instead of compassionate assistance, the Army sent two MPs who took Nick out of a VA mental ward in handcuffs and returned him to Ft. Bragg for trial. US Today recently reported (Oct. 13, 2003) that 14 GIs have committed suicide in Iraq, a higher than expected rate for this age group.



Citizen Soldier is also counselling a large number of other GIs and their families on alternatives to Iraq duty. 50,000 of the troops serving there for at least one year are reservists. These "weekend warriors" pay an additional price since many of them take substantial pay cuts when ordered to duty, working a real hardship on their families.

We work as part of the Bring Them Home Now Coalition which has been organizing family members to speak out against Bush's war in communities across the U.S.

### ADVOCACY FOR NEGLECTED GULF WAR ONE VETERANS

**D**espite its constant appeals to "patriotism" the Bush Team has shown little interest in providing health care for veterans of America's earlier wars. After Gulf War One, where inadequate medical records made it difficult to diagnose veterans' problems, Congress adopted a law requiring the Pentagon to clean up its act. In October, a GAO study found that despite the new law, the military still was not conducting the mandated health assessments on nearly half of

its deploying GIs.

Meanwhile, the White House continues to delay funding for the kinds of broad studies that could provide some answers as to why **one third** of all Gulf vets who deployed during the first war now receive some sort of medical disability pay.

Finally, Bush has angered many of the nation's 19 million veterans with his plans to "downsize" VA hospitals and clinics, which are already overburdened. The planned cuts will mean longer waits for care and ailing vets having to travel greater distances to receive care.

### RECRUITERS ROPE IN VULNERABLE YOUTH WITH NEW COMPUTER "WAR GAME"

**A** mad-cool realistic video game, "America's Army" has become wildly popular among many teenage boys. It allows players to participate in mock combat operations, which include firing various weapons that "kill" the opponent's troops.

Military recruiters have already given away over 3 million free copies and two million young people have signed up to play in informal tournaments which use the video. It can also be easily downloaded off the Internet free of charge.

An *Army Times* story (Sept. 1, 2003) describes a tournament that took place in Kansas City: "Teams of twelve sit at computer terminals in separate rooms and wage virtual battle. Players take individual roles at the squad level and plan mission strategy before the game begins. The darkened rooms are draped with camouflage netting, stacked with sandbags and adorned with recruiting posters, banners and maps.

'You hear gunfire, you hear explosions and everyone's trying to communicate, yelling over the gunfire,' said Sgt. Erik Kuerst, a military recruiter. Before long, he said, teamwork starts to emerge. 'There's lots of role playing, it's just like the real thing.'

Recruiting does not take place during the tournament, but recruiters end up with dozens of fresh leads to (pursue)."

With the "No Child Left UnRecruited" law now being enforced on school districts coast to coast, military recruiters receive personal data on tens of thousands of high school students to assist their search.

