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Weather

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 TH, 22/09
 +39..+41 °C
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Basrah
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The British Bombers
 By: Sploid.com on: 21.09.2005 [13:10] (740 reads)



(4431 bytes)

More details emerge on the most outrageous story from the Iraq occupation since Abu Ghraib.

The last remaining public justification for the U.S./U.K. occupation of Iraq is terrorism: The foreign forces cannot leave until Iraq is somewhat peaceful and the terrorists have been defeated.

That threadbare reasoning was ripped apart on Monday as the world — other than the United States, where broadcast media avoided the story — was shown two agents provocateurs employed by the British government. Their exact mission will never be proven. The evidence, however, is damning.

The two commandoes — alternately identified as members of Britain's notorious SAS or a newer offshoot, the SRR — were driving around a demonstration in

Basra when their suspicious behavior attracted the attention of Basra police.

The Scotsman now reports that the men are members of the SRR, or Special Reconnaissance Regiment. The insignia shows a Greek helmet with a sword thrust through the mouth and up through the back of the skull.

The police attempted to stop the men, who were disguised as Arabs in local garb over their T-shirts and trousers. The men wore black-hair wigs and, according to some reports, typical headresses.

And they also carried a whole lot of weapons, including explosives and other bomb-making materials. They began firing at the police and passers-by.

At least one Basra policeman was shot dead. At least one person in the crowd was shot dead. An undetermined number of others were injured in the gunfight.

The British pair was jailed. Arab television showed the beaten men with bandages on their heads, and their huge collection of weaponry. Basra — a relatively peaceful city compared to the rest of bloodsoaked Iraq — had suddenly lost patience with the British occupiers, caught red-handed with all the tools necessary to launch "suicide bombs" against the people.

And then the British tanks rolled in ... and destroyed the jail, releasing 150 "terrorists" in the process. Whether the British commandoes were inside the jail is now disputed, as are most parts of the story, with Britain in damage-control mode and Iraq officials universally condemning the "barbaric" destruction of the jail and the suspected terrorist goals of the captured duo.

The city rioted against the tanks and troops, setting fire to at least one of the tanks.

U.K. media is now desperately backpedaling from the version of events reported by at least a dozen independent reporters working in Iraq, after reporting the same general events as other world media on Monday.

● * *

A spokesman for rebel Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr said the British commandoes were trying to pass themselves off as members of Sadr's rebel militia.

Sheikh Hassan told Socialist Worker that the two undercover soldiers seized by Iraqi police last Monday were armed with explosives and a remote control detonator. The soldiers were disguised as members of Sadr's militia, the Mehdi Army.

The trouble started when a senior Sadr official was arrested on Sunday. "We called a protest outside the mayor's office on Monday demanding the Sheikh be released," Sheikh Hassan said. "This protest was peaceful."

"But events in our city took a sinister turn when the police tried to stop two men dressed as members of the Mehdi Army driving near the protest. The men opened fire on the police and passers-by. After a car chase they were arrested."

"What our police found in their car was very disturbing — weapons, explosives and a remote control detonator," Sheikh Hassan said. "These are the weapons of terrorists. We believe these soldiers were planning an attack on a market or other civilian targets, and thanks be to God they were stopped and countless lives were saved."


There are about 8,500 British troops in and around Basra. Four Iraqis died in the riots against the jailbreak mission. Also, a local reporter who wrote for the New York Times and The Guardian was found murdered after being abducted by mysterious gunmen.

Following the lead of its American partners, the British Ministry of Defense denied all wrongdoing, called the destruction of the jail "absolutely right," and blamed everything on a "civil war" developing (or Iran, depending on the mouthpiece) in southern Iraq.

[link](#)

14 comments

Only comments

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Article and comments

There you have it folks...

by USAn on 21.09.2005 [13:46]

They no doubt were working closely with the CIA, where such operations are right out of their playbook.

Of course, USAn's will dismiss this story as a nutty "conspiracy theory", like they dismissed stories of electoral corruption in the past two elections. One racism-denying friend even refused to believe the story about the suburb of Gretna, Louisiana turning dehydrated black people back at gunpoint from the only non-flooded route out of New Orleans. His argument was, that the Socialist Worker, whose reporters broke this now-completely confirmed story, were not credible because they were "loony lefties" - this person himself being the former director of a left activist center.

Thus, does the US propaganda machine keep the belief in the US as being in some some kind of ultra-innocent state - it's motives utterly pure and just, while behind the curtain, they matter-of-factly engage in the most vile, cynical, murderous acts, acts so vile as to stretch the imagination to new heights of disgust!

WHY ARE THEY NOT CHOKING TO DEATH ON THEIR VILE HYPOCRACY!!!!!!

If it was the SRR...

by stopwar on 21.09.2005 [14:26]

this is a particularly disturbing development.

These are the guys who "worked" with the metropolitan police in the operation that saw Menezes assassinated as a "suicide bomber".

I would imagine that the SAS are just as angry as the rest. Whatever you may think of them, their reputation was built up over many years. In the space of three months this off-shoot regiment (formed by Hoon and Blair on 5th April 2005) has made British special forces a laughing stock:

[link](#)

USAn

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 21.09.2005 [15:03]

Because they have no souls. Whether one considers a soul to be a figurative thing, a literal thing, or both, these people don't have it.

stopwar:

It figures Blair would be behind this regiment's founding.

i often wonder

by Spies_and_Traitors_will_be_Shot on 21.09.2005 [15:28]

the same thing USAn.

They must be some horrifying level of evil.

@Iranian_Shiite

by stopwar on 21.09.2005 [15:55]

that is why he is not likely to be the SAS's best friend at the moment...

British spin

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 21.09.2005 [17:38]

Now the British are saying that they busted the jail because "insurgents have infiltrated the Iraqi police."

They are also saying that they busted the jail because the British prisoners were handed over to the Mahdi army.

If they had been handed over to the Mahdi army, why were they still in a police jail?

If the British prisoners were handed to the Mahdi army then why would Britain be concerned with insurgents in the Iraqi police. The prisoners would not have been in police custody?

Now the British are blaming the Iraqis. The British are demanding the Iraqis explain why the prisoners were not handed over to British authorities. THEY WERE IN ARAB CLOTHES AND SHOOTING AT IRAQI POLICE !!

Meanwhile, Jafaari says that the incident was "unfortunate" and "regretable;" but that it would not effect relations with England.

The media is spinning the story as a heroic rescue of innocent British captured as hostages by the Mahdi militia.

more media spin

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 21.09.2005 [17:42]

And the media is also spinning Basra's unrest as more evidence that Coalition presence is needed in Iraq.

The lies of England, the U.S., and Israel show that they can not be reasoned with. They are not interested in truth or sincere discussion.

It Gets Worse.

by profile on 21.09.2005 [18:02]

Plans have just been announced today, that Ex-Soldiers that are experienced with Firearms are going to be given a brief training in Policing and then placed on the streets of London. It takes 2 years to train a British policeman and soldiers will be brought straight in without that level of experience.

The Difference is that Police are trained To "Protect and Serve" and Soldiers are trained to "Kill". Which is a big difference.

These Scum bags are Turning Britain into a Paramilitray in the same way that 3rd World Counties are Run.

too much cred...

by Mike-Malaysia on 21.09.2005 [18:24]

Again, our polarisation to the the truth and knowledge of the Iraq disaster mean were giving away too much credit to the way people will view the SAS.

Many wont expose themselves to news.

Those exposed will not consider this event in any depth greater than the fascile level the BBC went into.

Some will say 'SAS? Aaaah, I love those 'noble' (*spit*) guys.

Then many will forget the whole thing when the lastest edition of their fave soap opera comes on.

Many will blind themselves to the possibility that the brit forces can do anything wrong all in the name of (false)partiotism and 'supporting the troops'

Many will SUPPORT the UK forces.

ITs only a miniscule number of people like us here, that try and make a point of reading feverously about Iraq and the horrors going on there that will view the SAS with the contempt they deserve for actions such as this.

As Bush/bLiar/Coward/Aznar's supporters are polarised, we too are polarised but from the opposite direction. We consistently overestimate the effects and political currents that gon around us today. Give it a few days and see how the UK public forget about it. Only people like us and of course the desparately sufering iraqi at the front line will remember such evil.

Even when they die...

by Mike-Malaysia on 21.09.2005 [18:37]

the brit public support them (as did Cindy Sheehan {spell?} - never spoke badly of what her son did)..

Get this:

Monday, 12 September 2005, 20:08 GMT 21:08 UK - MoD names soldier killed in Iraq.

Major Bacon's parents said he was a hero whom they believed invincible and that he had served in many conflict zones around the world.

A hero?? Invincible?? (I think they need a dictionary).

Invincilbe reminds me of the Black Knight in Monty Pythons Quest For the Holy Grail. Standing there with chopped off arms and legs, bleeding profusely, calling himself invincible.

The significant number of the brit public are blind to ALL atrocities 'their' troops do. Even if they suspect wrongdoing, absolution is offered on a silver platter.

more

by Mike-Malaysia on 21.09.2005 [18:39]

If Basra *was* peaceful (which it probably wasn't actually) then why were the brit troops still there?

The UK govt and the fake opposition are infested with rancid lies and hypocrisy.

@profile...

by stopwar on 21.09.2005 [18:50]

It's MUCH worse than that.

For a start, the announcement was made by Sir Ian Blair - who is ultimately responsible for the death of an innocent man as a result of military involvement in police operations. Not only does Blair not show remorse for the death - he wants to extend the experiment further.

Secondly, he is talking about privatising the police force, so they can buy in whoever they want on short-term contracts and introduce local pay bargaining.

Third, he SPECIFICALLY focuses on police and military working together, as being the right way to go about certain types of law and order activity.

Fourthly - he said this quite openly to a police conference with the worlds media watching.

Police I've spoken to HATE HATE HATE what Blair (Tony) is doing to the role of the British police. Don't think the public is too impressed either, except for the frightened ones.

[link](#)

They may hate it stopwar

by Mike-Malaysia on 21.09.2005 [19:29]

but when the chips are laid down and the legislation passed (by fascist dictatorial decree of course) the police will do ABSOLUTELY NOTHING to stop mass murder bLiar. Far from it. The police will be bLiar arm of enforcement.

Iraqis Protest British Rescue Mission

by picard-fortune-500 on 21.09.2005 [19:53]

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050921/ap_on_re_mi_ea/iraq

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IRAQ
BODY COUNT

Min	Max
25884	29187



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