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US Iraq casualties rise to 54,630

Submitted by [davidswanson](#) on Tue, 2007-05-01 20:56. [Media](#)

By Michael Munk

US military occupation forces in Iraq suffered at least 197 combat casualties in the week ending May Day, as total casualties reached at least 54,630. The total includes 27,822 killed or wounded by what the Pentagon classifies as "hostile" causes and 26,808 (as of five weeks ago, March 24) more casualties from "non-hostile" causes such as accidents, suicides and illness serious enough to require medical evacuation.

US media divert attention from the actual cost in American life and limb by routinely reporting only the total killed (3,352) as of May Day and rarely mentioning the 25,090 wounded in combat. To further minimize public perception of the cost, they cover for the Pentagon by ignoring the 26,188 military victims who suffered "non-hostile" injuries and illness (only through March 24), although the 3,352 reported deaths include 620 (up one from last week) who died from those same causes. *

Although not defined as "casualties" since they have been discharged from active duty, as of the end of 2006 more than 180,000 U.S. military veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan had filed disability claims.

Another group of unreported casualties are the more than 8,531 dead (770) and injured (7,761) "contractors" of American companies through the end of 2006. Since 156 (as of April 3) of the dead are reported as Americans, we can assume the rest are foreign nationals--including everyone from food service workers to military mercenaries.

* The Pentagon has shut down its "non combat" casualty website and announced a new site to be available after May 6 at <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil>

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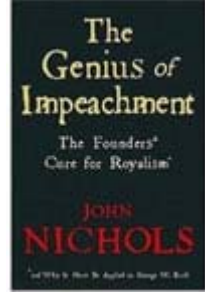
Impeachment Books

["United States v. George W. Bush et al.,"](#) by Elizabeth de la Vega, an indictment, a presentation to a grand jury charging Bush and gang with



BUSH fraud -- very well argued and documented, even entertaining.

"The Genius of Impeachment:



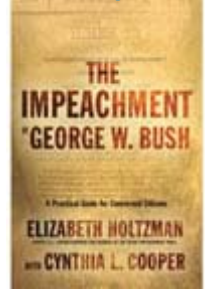
The Founders' Cure for Royalism," by John Nichols, a masterpiece that should be required reading in every high school and college in the United States, a history and portrait of the practice of impeachment.

"Articles of Impeachment



Against George W. Bush," by the Center for Constitutional Rights, a short book that lists and explains four (multi-part) articles of impeachment.

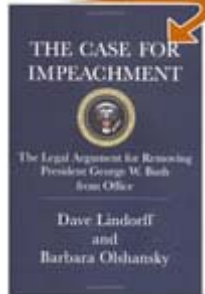
"The Impeachment of George



W. Bush: A Practical Guide for Concerned Citizens," by Elizabeth Holtzman (former Con- gresswoman and member of the Nixon impeachment

panel) and Cynthia L. Cooper, an excellent and readable book laying out five major grounds for impeachment of Bush, plus an extra section on Dick Cheney.

"The Case for Impeachment,"



by Dave Lindorff and Barbara Olshansky, an amazingly popular and extremely readable book that explains the context while also setting forth six

articles of impeachment against Bush, plus an extra section on Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Condoleezza Rice, and Alberto Gonzales.

"Impeach the President: The



Case Against Bush and Cheney," edited by Dennis Loo and Peter Phillips, with an introduction by Howard Zinn, a wonderfully well



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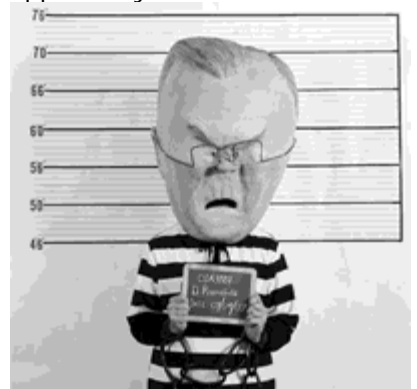


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written collection of essays organized around a list of 12 grounds for impeachment of Bush and Cheney.

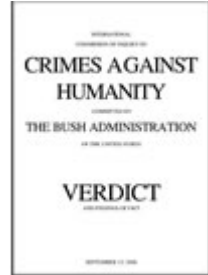
"George W. Bush versus the U.S.



Constitution: The Downing Street Memos and Deception, Manipulation, Torture, Retribution, and Cover-ups in the Iraq War and Illegal

Domestic Spying," by the U.S. House Judiciary Committee Democratic Staff, a book that not only collects the evidence but also tells us what Congressman John Conyers, the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee, is thinking (the full text, minus a new introduction by Joseph Wilson, is available [here](#).)

"Verdict and Findings of Fact,"



by the International Commission of Inquiry on Crimes Against Humanity Committed by the Bush Administration of the United States, a report that

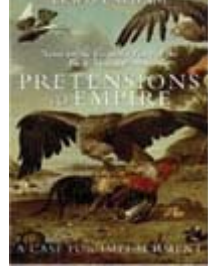
looks at five major international crimes and overlaps significantly with most lists of impeachable offenses (the full text is available at the link and can also be purchased for \$10);

"Impeach Bush: A Funny Li'l IMPEACH BUSH! Graphical Novel About the Worstest Pres'dent in the History of Forevar,"



a comic book account of Bush's impeachable offenses – the crimes really are self-evident, but pictures don't hurt.

"Pretensions to Empire: Notes on the Criminal Folly of the Bush Administration,"



by Lewis Lapham, a collection of essays from Harper's magazine, concluding with one called "The Case for Impeachment," which focuses on

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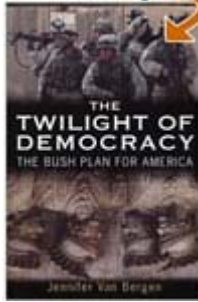


Randi Rhodes



Rep. Conyers' report.

"The Twilight of Democracy: The Bush Plan for America," by Jennifer Van Bergen. Find out what the Bush Plan is and how it diverges from what the law and Constitution say.



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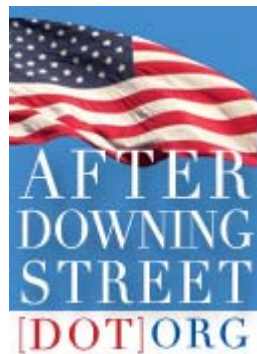
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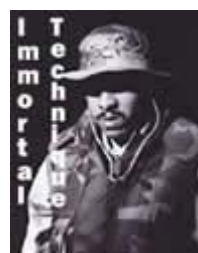
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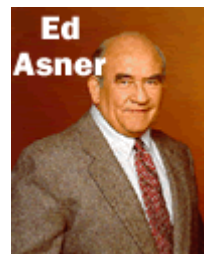


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"The President has the ability to exercise his own authority if he thinks Congress has voted the wrong way." - White House Spokesman Tony Snow
"The only security of all is in a free press." - Thomas Jefferson