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CONTACT: info2506@prawnworks.net
Rich Gardner 215-307-7980 or
Larry Petkov 215-563-6357

FATHER'S DAY PEACE EVENT

SUNDAY, JUNE 18th, FROM 2 TO 4PM

**Near Sen. Arlen Specter's Home:
At W. School House Lane and Timber Lane in East Falls
(Across the street from Philadelphia University)**

In October 2004, Kassim Abdullsattar al-Jumaily, the President of the The Study Center of Human Rights & Democracy wrote from Fallujah, Iraq to claim that the infamous Abu Musab al-Zarqawi was in fact, an American invention. There have been many claims and counter-claims about Zarqawi over the years, he allegedly had a leg removed in Iraq, thereby proving the Iraq-al Qaeda connection but photos of him reveal two good legs and the claim has been made that he adopted the al Qaeda "brand name" to boost his own image and that all involved parties found it convenient to credit his claim.

In other news on Iraq, a major provincial governor, Zuhayr Kashmula, had his funeral procession attacked, demonstrating that Americans can't even protect VIPs. Ordinary Iraqis long ago lost faith that Americans could provide anything resembling security and stability. The Iraqi Islamic Party, a moderate, middle-of-the-road group with members in the new Iraqi government, has had few complaints about the US occupation of Iraq but is now charging the US with having committed several massacres of civilians, indicating that Iraqis are getting very, very tired of the US presence in their country. According to the online newsletter Capitol Hill Blue, "...the massacre of Iraqi civilians at Haditha is 'just the tip of the iceberg' with overstressed, out-of-control Americans soldiers pushed beyond the breaking point both physically and mentally."

"They crush [Iraqi civilians] with their vehicles and kill them just on suspicion. This is completely unacceptable," [Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-] Maliki said. The White House tried to play down Maliki's comments, saying the prime minister was "misquoted" although Maliki himself has yet to make such a public claim.

On the eve of a major Congressional debate on Iraq policy, the Friends Committee on National Legislation charged a joint House and Senate conference committee with deleting language banning permanent US military bases in Iraq. This means that the 104-acre "embassy" in Baghdad will remain, along with 14 other "enduring bases" scattered about the country.

SUPPORT THE TROOPS, BRING THEM HOME!