

These are truly the...

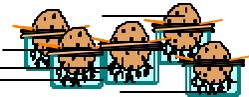
Activated by the heat of your blow dryer...



Pepper Spray Times

...or P.S.T...

November 2001



It's xerophilous... it's free

"Ride on the pants triumphing!"*

Vol. V No. 3

SUPPORT THE TROOPS; GO SHOPPING *Shopping As Combat*



By Mark Downs



SF MAYOR WILLIE BROWN unveils the new combat shopping slogan.

San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown joined other political leaders recently by unveiling a regional shopping campaign aimed at targeting terrorism. "America: Open for Business" slogans blazed the sides of shopping bags and posters to encourage bewildered members of the public to support the economy by spending money, especially on luxury items which would potentially offend Afghanistan's ruling Taliban.

"I didn't really have the money for that Bob Dylan concert," commented one Berkeley resident softly, "but I had to go. Otherwise the terrorists might win."

"I don't really like Armani," confessed one San Francisco society matron, "but I

feel I have to try to do my part for my country." Pentagon spokespersons agreed that shopping as combat was an unconventional approach, but pointed out that this was an unconventional war.

"It's almost Christmas, anyway," stated Christopher Hellman, senior analyst at the Center for Defense Information. "We definitely think the consumer has a role to play. We highly recommend Rathen's Tomahawk Cruise Missile, which has unbeatable long-range capacity and is a steal at \$600,000."

Defense analyst Loren Thompson from the Lexington Institute agreed.

"We appreciate anything the public can contribute," he said. "Northrop Grumman's B-2 Spirit "stealth" bomber is a bit of an investment at \$1.3 billion, but Boeing's Joint Direct Attack Munition features the latest global positioning system, can be attached to most conventional bombs, and is a mere \$21,000."

Retailers facing the bleakest holiday sales predictions since 1991 were quickly retooling their holiday campaigns to accommodate the post-September 11th consumer consciousness.

"We're trying to show some sensitivity to the dead and bereaved," offered a spokesperson from Macys attaching an American flag to a creche of the virgin Mary in a manger. "This year Santa and Jesus are just going to have to team up with the Pentagon."

* * * * *

FOOD NOT BOMBS ADMITS MESSAGE UNCLEAR



By Lorna Ranger

The radical group Food Not Bombs admitted recently that the ambiguity of its message, "Food Not Bombs", could have contributed to the confusion of the Bush administration, which recently began both bombing and dropping food supplies on the country of Afghanistan.

"We did our best," conceded Food Not Bombs co-founder Keith McHenry, "but we admit we speak a different language than the president and his analysts."

The group is currently considering several new names as options, hoping to resolve any confusion, including "Food Not Stuff That Explodes", "Food Not Stuff You Can't Eat That Kills People," and "No Bombs At All, You Stupid Git."

* * * * *

Fax freely, plagiarize wildly, in other words, enjoy.

EXPERTS ADVISE: BE CALM BUT ALERT BUT NOT TENSE

By Ariel Winner

United States Attorney General John Ashcroft recently advised Americans to live their lives with "a heightened sense of vigilance", causing some confusion as to the specific attitude being advised.

President Bush tried to clarify matters at a recent press conference by advising the public to contact authorities if they saw a stranger getting into a crop duster or hanging around a petrochemical plant, causing the attendant press corp to break up in nervous giggles while reporter Arnie Passman commented, "you gotta cry to keep from laughing."

Senator Bill Frist, a Republican from Tennessee, tried to help by advising that people "need to be vigilant, but assured," and "educated, but not tense."

A reporter asked him whether it was possible for people to be too aware, and he responded "no, they can't be too aware, but they can be too vigilant," adding that people can also be too tense and too calm, but not too confident.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher commented as well, observing that the American public should be calm, somewhat composed, but watchful, although not too watchful.

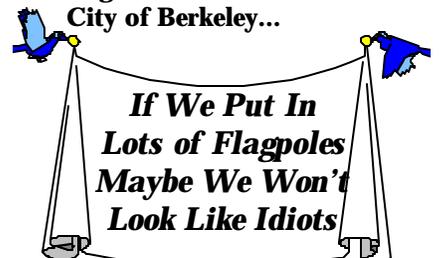
"Be on guard, be observant, but not too wary," he stated. "People should be careful and prepared, but resolute. Bold, but not too daring. They should be confident and self-reliant, and maybe a little wistful. Sad is okay, but not too sad."

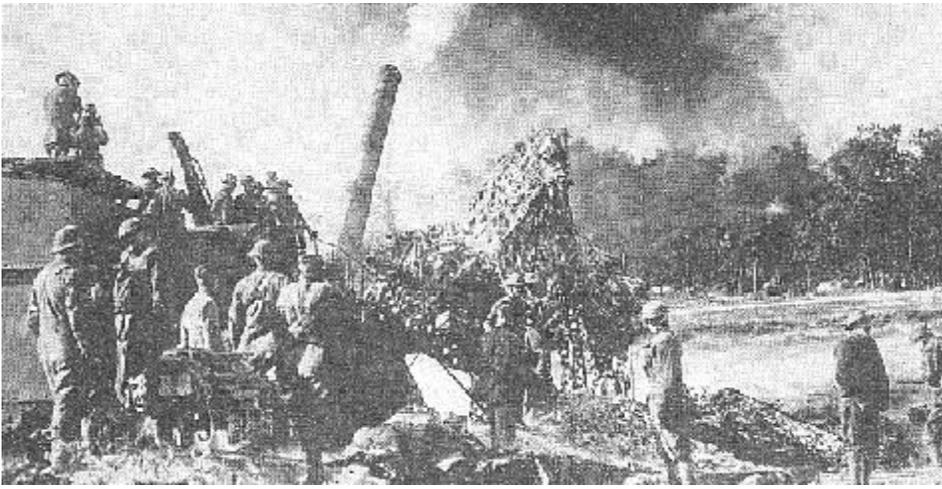
Experts on the American psyche agreed that Americans were doing their best to follow all the various instructions.

"Americans seem confused, but not too confused. They seem resolutely aware of their confusion, but not too aware. We're confident, although we're not too confident, that Americans are somewhat but not too nervous."

* * * * *

Possible new slogan for the City of Berkeley...





THE QUASI-PEACE RESOLUTION sparked an historic battle at Berkeley City Hall.

COUNCIL GOES TO WAR OVER QUASI-PEACE RESOLUTION

Taliban Rejects Dona Spring

By Heloise Anybodyhome

The Berkeley City Council hit the national news for the second time in a month when Council Representative Dona Spring, backed by the “progressive” majority, passed a watered-down “hope-the-war-ends-quickly” resolution under a hail of outrage from both pro-war and anti-war groups which strained police and fire safety resources to their maximum.

“We can’t always count on mutual aid at a moment like this,” commented one nervous officer. “We don’t mind the overtime, but most of us are on twelve hour shifts. This peace stuff is killing us.”

“It’s killing us, too,” lamented one local business owner taking another cancellation call from a growing boycott movement. “We appreciate Dona’s need for breast-beating, but her personal growth through foreign policy program is really hard on our bottom line.”

In a related story, a spokesperson from Osama Bin Laden’s camp announced that while they had contemplated recruiting Dona Spring after she stated that the United States was “a terrorist nation”, they had since decided against it.

“That gal is a fruitcake,” confessed the spokesperson. “Whatever she says one day she’ll deny the next. We may be extremists, but we’re not stupid.”

* * * * *



PRESIDENT BUSH and congressional good guys signed a law outlawing evil.

BUSH OUTLAWS EVIL

By Bob N. Weave

President Bush signed a bill outlawing evil, bad guys, and “evil-doers” in a recent ceremony at the White House.

“Now we’ve got them,” he chortled, along with several congressional representatives who toasted the overwhelming bipartisan support for the bill which allows immigrants suspected of terrorist activities to be detained for seven days without charges, and in some cases held for an additional six months.

Critics who argued that the bill was unconstitutional were summarily detained until they agreed to march around the Rose Garden with little flags.

“We should have done this years ago,” observed Senator Patrick Leahy. “I feel safer already.”

* * * * *

PENTAGON HITS TARGET

By Horace N. Rider

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shrugged their shoulders recently when asked to explain how the Pentagon, after bombing the Red Cross humanitarian project in Afghanistan three times, managed recently to hit an actual military target.

“It’s a big world,” commented Rumsfeld, who pointed out that the American air campaign is focused on command posts and military garrisons that are important to the Taliban in and around Kandahar. “Sometimes you just get lucky.”

* * * * *

NUDITY NEW SECURITY TOOL

By Rosalie Blushing

The FAA and the FBI recently unveiled a new flight security program which would require all passengers to shed their clothing at the airport security gate and make the flight to their destination entirely naked.

“It’s just too easy to use belts, shoes, and jewelry as weapons,” explained a spokesperson for the FAA. “We want to assure the flying public that they will be entirely safe.”

The new security program will require a slight adjustment of the current cabin temperature and require that any in-flight meals be served without utensils.

“We do think any would-be terrorist will think twice once they are naked and up to their elbows in mashed potatoes,” mused one enthusiastic flight attendant. “We’re hoping people will see nudity as both a security measure and a patriotic obligation.”

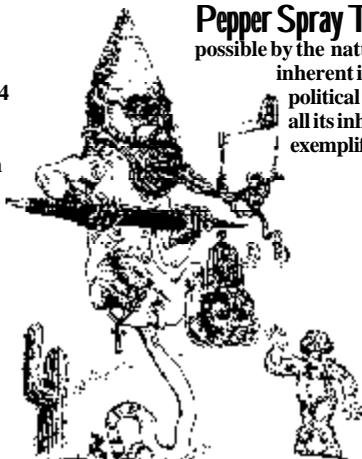
* * * * *

The **Pepper Spray Times** gratefully accepts donations, death threats, mailing list additions etc., at: **Pepper Spray Times**
1970 San Pablo Ave #4
Berkeley, CA 94702
cddeney@igc.org
www.caroldenney.com

Pepper Spray Times Staff

Publisher ----- Theodore Zopen
Editor ----- Grace Underpressure
Art Director ----- Egon Schiele
Comix ----- Roger Dondis
Staff --- Mark Downs, Lorna Ranger, Ariel
Winner, Heloise Anybodyhome, Rosalie
Blushing, Bob N. Weave, Horace N. Rider

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.



Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by:

Available at all the finest Berkeley City Council meetings.
* Antony and Cleopatra