

Honoring Those that Paid the Ultimate Price

My intent from the beginning of CS2 was to minimize the various statistics presented. We hear, read, and are bombarded with so many numbers and my goal is to present solid, objectively developed concepts and to promote common understanding among our people – words rather than numbers.

However, then I began writing this piece on our Civil Wars and wanted to communicate some sense of the human loss, the level pain and suffering that our predecessors had endured for the good of the nation.

So I looked for the human numbers and located a very detailed statistical chart on the Internet. It was too much! It charted all the wars and conflicts that our military people have bravely fought since 1775, listing the harsh counts of all those Americans that had died and were wounded.

I felt they all had to be acknowledged in CS2. Those sacred numbers represent the men and women that bravely sacrificed themselves for us over the years, and those that unfortunately are doing so even today.

My hope and prayer are that each of us will quietly study those solemn numbers. That those *most human* statistics would provide each of us a real perspective on *true sacrifice* to consider as we individually ponder the potential for personal loss, if any, that you and I could realize from the implementation of the proposals in An American Agenda and others to come.

Most people will benefit more than they may lose, if they lose anything at all. However, some will absolutely experience personal loss and/or upsetting adjustments in their personal world in the order for the Common Good to be truly served. Such is the very nature of dramatic, public Changes in our or any nation's National System.

Such societal Changes are always happening in the world, but most are not of a positive nature.

The Human Cost of Our Wars

The first chart below presents key events in our nation’s history and those of more recent times. I have provided the approximate counts for the Afghanistan and Iraq wars through September 11, 2007.

The War	Dates	Killed	Wounded
American Revolution	1775-1783	25,324	8445
War of 1812	1812-1815	2,260	4505
Texas War of Independence	1835-1836	704	138
Mexican War	1846-1848	13,283	32
Civil War – North	1861-1865	363,020	281,104
Civil War – South	1861-1865	199,110	137,102
Spanish-American War	1898	2893	1,637
World War I	1917-1918	116,708	204,002
World War II	1914-1945	408,306	670,846
Korean War – it was not a Conflict (Optional)	1950-1953	54,246	103,284
Vietnam War (Optional)	1957-1975	58,219	153,356
Granada	1983	19	100
Persian Gulf War (To keep the oil flowing)	1990-1991	363	357
Somalia – Bush I (Optional)	1991-1992	8	0

Operation Enduring Freedom

Afghanistan War			
As of 02-04-2008	2001 to 20??	482+	1500+

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Iraq (Bush II's Optional) War			
As of 02-04-2008	2003 to 20??	3948+	28,770+

The Comprehensive Listing

The second chart is intended to be a comprehensive listing of all military events in our nation's history. These are the very *human statistics* from our nation's wars and military conflicts. Many of them you and I have never heard of before. My sincerest apology if anything is omitted.

Years	Location	Killed	Wounded
1775-1783 (1)	Revolutionary War	25324	8445
1789	Indian Wars	6125	2156
1798-1800	Franco-Amer Naval War	20	42
1801-1815	Barbary Wars	35	64
1812-1815	War of 1812	2260	4505
1814	Marquesas Islands	4	1
1822-1825	West Indies	3	5
1832	Sumatra	2	11
1835-1836	Texas War Of Independence	704	138
1846-1848	Mexican War	13283	32
1855	Fiji	1	2
1859-1860	Texas Border Cortina War	5	
1861-1865 (2)	Civil War, North	363,020	281,104
1861-1865 (2)	Civil War, South	199110	137102
1853	Japan	5	6
1867	Formosa	1	0
1870	Mexico	1	4
1871	Korea	4	10
1898	Spanish American War	2893	1637
1899-1902	Philippines War	4273	2840
1899	Samoa	4	5
1900	China Boxer Rebellion	53	253
1902-1913	Moro Campaigns	130	300
1904	Dominican Republic	1	0
1911-1919	Mexico	19	69
1912	Nicaragua	5	16
1915-1920	Haiti	146	2
1916-1922	Dominican Republic	144	50
1917-1918	World War I	116708	20400
1918-1919	Russia North Expedition	246	307

The Second Coming of Common Sense

Years	Location	Killed	Wounded
1918-1920	Russia Siberia Expedition	170	52
1921-1941	China Yangtze Service	5	80
1927-1932	Nicaragua	136	66
1941	North Atlantic Naval War	141	44
1941	Pearl Harbor	2388	—
1941-1945	World War II	408306	670846
1945-1947	Italy Trieste	6	14
1945-1947	China Civil War	12	42
1950	Inchon	670	—
1950-1953	Korean War	54246	103284
1954	Matsu and Quemoy	3	0
1957-1975	Vietnam War	58219 (4)	153356
1958-1984	Lebanon	268	169
1962	Cuba	9	0
1964	Panama Canal Riots	4	85
1965-1966	Dominican Republic	59	17
1966-1969	South Korea	89	131
1967	Israel Attack/USS Liberty	34	171
1968	Tet (Vietnam)	7040	0
1980	Iran	8	0
	Operation Desert One		
1980-1991	Terrorism	28	0
1983	Grenada	19	100
1983	Beirut Lebanon	241	—
23-Oct			
1983-1991	El Salvador	20	0
1984-1989	Honduras	1	28
1986	Libya	2	0
1987 (3)	Persian Gulf	148	467
1989-1990	Panama	40	240
1990-1991	Persian Gulf, Op Desert Shield/Storm	363	357
1991-1992	Somalia, Op Restore Hope	8	—
1993, Feb 26	Terrorism, World Trade Center	6	1000+
1995	Terrorism Oklahoma City	168	400+

Years	Location	Killed	Wounded
1995, Nov 13	Terrorism Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	7	42
1995-2000	Terrorism	77	—
1996, Jun 25	Terroism Khobar Towers, Saudi Arabia	19	500
2000	Yemen, USS Cole	17	651
2001, Sept 11	Flight 93	44	-0-
2002	Operation Enduring Freedom, Filipines	12	—

The source of the expanded list along with the various references is located on the Internet at:

<http://members.aol.com/usregistry/allwars.htm>

For current information on Operation Enduring Freedom please reference:

<http://www.icasualties.org/oef/>

For current information on Operation Iraqi Freedom please reference:

<http://www.icasualties.org/oif/>

Also see, <http://members.aol.com/veterans/warlib64.htm>

I sincerely thank those organizations for developing and distributing such meaningful information on our military.

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The Real Bottom Line

In reviewing those numbers, I was most personally struck when considering the *total* number of our people that have, and unfortunately to this very day are dying – for the welfare of the rest of us.

In reviewing the full chart of all military actions that America has been involved in since 1776 the number of military men and women that lost their lives exceeds some 1,262,000 — a very sobering number.

For perspective, I determined to calculate the cost in lives spread from 1776 to the end 2008, the next presidential election year – which totals 232 years and over 84,680 days. Continuing the grim math it first equates to 5,439 people lost per year.

And finally it calculates to some **14.9** of our military people lost each day from 01-01-1776 thru 12-31-2008!

A loss of **14.9** real people for each of our nation’s **84,680** days.

Just think of all the tears!

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And What of Today

And now our military is facing Bush II’s optional and “out of control” Iraq War. Through 2-4-08 it has taken 3,948 lives,

and is now averaging over two (2) lost each day since 3-19-2003.

Consider that in just the Iraq War to-date, all of the lives lost, bodies and minds wounded, and families forever damaged. It is far too much pain. And it is avoidable national pain. We can and we will do better than that in the future. And We must demand it!

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It goes without saying that all of America’s military actions contributed in defining and defending the nation, and in making our place on the world stage. However, those wars did not define us internally as did the Revolutionary (Civil) War of 1776, the Civil War of 1861, and the Civil War of 2008 and beyond which we are reluctantly approaching today.

This modern day, domestic-based, non-violent legislative war will do just as much and probably far more than the other two Civil Wars in clarifying and determining what we Americans stand for – and – in particular what We will not stand for!

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As you consider any negative personal impacts resulting from the proposed Changes to the National System presented in An American Agenda, remember the sacrifice of the real people that are shown only as numbers on the charts above. Real Progress and Change in society is not free.

It is the Democratic Right of American society to call on each other for help, as well as for sacrifice *when it is justified* – in order to insure the Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness of our fellow Americans.

And it is now so justified!

WHATEVER, any of us may need to give, pales in comparison to what they so bravely gave, so that we would continue to have the choice.

It would serve us all to remember President Lincoln’s challenge,

“that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.”

When, We the People, join together to act compassionately and decisively for the Common Good of America – nothing and no one can keep us from achieving victory.

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