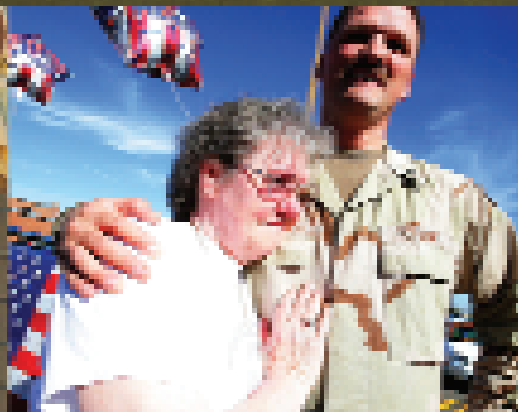




OFF TO WAR

A STORY ABOUT SOLDIERS AND THE FAMILIES THEY LEFT BEHIND



RESOURCES



RESOURCES

This section includes web links to background information, relevant organizations, media coverage and in-depth analysis on the issues central to *Off to War* :

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- o *Off to War*
- o National Guard
- o Iraq War

MEDIA COVERAGE/ANALYSIS

- o National Guard and the Iraq War
- o National Guard, Hurricane Katrina and Iraq

These resources may be used in conjunction with the discussion questions or on their own. Please note that while these resources are useful for addressing matters of policy, they are included here primarily to allow us to understand and enter more fully into the lives of the soldiers, families and community portrayed in *Off to War*—as well as the lives of people in small towns and cities across America affected by the large-scale National Guard mobilization for service overseas.

OFF TO WAR

Off to War follows a group of men from the Arkansas National Guard as they leave their jobs and their families, bound for Iraq. The Discovery Times Channel was granted exclusive access to these soldiers of the 39th Brigade for the duration of their mission. Filmmakers Brent and Craig Renaud were “embedded” with the troops. The Renaud brothers have produced documentaries for HBO and PBS. In addition, both were born and raised in Little Rock, the capital of Arkansas.

For the Renauds, *Off to War* is not only a documentary about war, it is also a portrayal of their home state and its people: “We wanted to produce a film that people we grew up with back home would be interested in and proud of . . . Something that still maintains the unique local color of a small Southern town, but presents the people as fuller, more realized characters.”

Growing up in a small town, they claim, “there can be a real disconnect between the stuff you see on the news and the lives you and your friends are living day to day. This activation brought a war in a strange country right to the front doorstep and many people weren’t prepared for that. It’s safe to say that the majority of the guardsmen were shocked to hear they would be going to Iraq. The families left behind, however, will undoubtedly feel the biggest impact of this deployment. The lives of National Guard members are not structured around Army life like those of full-time soldiers. The support networks aren’t always in place and most of the families had no reason to plan for something like this.”

THE SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Off to War is the story of a real-life “band of brothers” and the people back home who await their return:

Sgt. Ronald Jackson and his 19-year-old stepson, Specialist Thomas Erp, are both being deployed to Iraq. The deployment presents the family with a huge challenge. Ron’s wife Cheryl must quit her own job and take over running the family turkey farm—64,000 birds—for almost two years. She’ll have the help of Ron’s father and son Adam. “They’re not real happy about it,” Ron observes; “They really shouldn’t have to be doing it.” Moreover, he knows that it may be necessary for the family to give up the farm altogether while he is in Iraq. Adam says, “I just hope they come back.”

Tommy Erp had talked his best friend Matt Hertlein into joining the Guard with him. Having barely been out of Arkansas before being deployed, Matt’s looking for excitement and adventure. He says of going to Iraq, “It’s an opportunity to me, you know. We can go over there and get the job done. I’m gonna try to make the most of it. I think it’ll be fun.” With a bit of bravado, he shrugs off the potential dangers. At a farewell party for him and Tommy, a close friend expresses a similar sentiment: “I’m pretty sure you’re not gonna get killed or nothing.” Matt’s parents Steve and Suzanne, and his sister, are all deeply apprehensive about the upcoming deployment.

Sgt. Joe Betts, a minister who only recently realized his life-long dream of starting his own church in Clarksville, worries about letting down an entire congregation. He also acknowledges that he’s “scared to death” about going to Iraq. But, he says, “I raised up my hand and said I would do whatever it took to defend my country,” and feels that in being part of the military he is also defending his family. Joe’s wife Amy Betts is nervous about shouldering the burden of caring for their three children and various cats and dogs while Joe is gone. Joe has always been the head of the household; Amy will “have to get used to doing lots of things I haven’t been in the habit of doing, so that’s going to be hard.”

Donny Ireland joined the Guard as part of a family tradition. He’s heading to Iraq with his father, Sgt. Wayne Ireland, a guardsman who served in the 1991 Operation Desert Storm. Eighteen years old, Donny is a former gang member who had “done some time for doing some things I shouldn’t have done.” Donny and his wife Brandy recently married; she’s 15 years old and expecting a baby. So Donny’s mom, Lana, though upholding a proud military tradition, was losing her husband and her son for the next two years.

TOUR OF DUTY

The Arkansas National Guard was activated in October 2003, after the official conclusion of major combat operations (Operation Iraqi Freedom).

Before leaving for Iraq, the National Guard members undergo six months of training to transform them from sometimes out-of-shape, overweight citizens into fit, ready soldiers and peacekeepers. The transformation is sometimes less than perfect. Some of the guardsmen, no matter how patriotic, are tested by the grueling physical training. It is with mixed feelings that they accept a tour of duty unimaginable the previous year.

After concluding this six-month period of training and preparation, they deployed to Iraq in April 2004. The beginning of their tour of duty in Iraq coincides with the U.S. assault on the city of Fallujah, west of Baghdad, in response to the assassination of four American civilian contractors and subsequent mutilation of their bodies. Their base of operations is Camp Taji, north of Baghdad. They are welcomed to their new home by unrelenting mortar attacks. Within 24 hours of their arrival, one of their soldiers is killed by a mortar, and by the end of the first month they lose more soldiers than any other National Guard brigade in Iraq. Although they trained for a stabilization operation, the Guardsmen find themselves conducting combat patrols, raiding houses for insurgents and guarding Iraqi prisoners of war. While guarding a group of prisoners suspected of attacking the American base with mortars, Sgt. Jackson observes, "Last month I was taking care of 64,000 turkeys—now I've got 19 prisoners."

In March 2005, approximately one year after they arrived in Iraq, the 39th Infantry Brigade—including the unit from the Clarksville area—returned home.

Adapted from:

- *New York Times* press release, 4/125/04,

http://www.corporate-ir.net/ireye/ir_site.zhtml?ticker=NYT&script=461&layout=-6&item_id=516129

- *Interview with producers Craig and Brent Renaud,*

<http://times.discovery.com/convergence/offtowar/qa/qa.html>

RELATED RESOURCES

The Discovery Times Channel - *Off to War* website

<http://times.discovery.com/convergence/offtowar/offtowar.html>

o Meet the main characters/video clips of main characters before they left for Iraq
<http://times.discovery.com/convergence/offtowar/bios/videogallery/videogallery.html>

o Q&A with the Producers

<http://times.discovery.com/convergence/offtowar/qa/qa.html>

o Home and War Timeline (juxtaposes events in the war with events in the lives of the soldiers and their families)

<http://times.discovery.com/convergence/offtowar/compare.html>

“Honest film with no political agenda:” - Filmmakers from Tribeca studio follow National Guard soldiers to Iraq, By Timothy Lavin

Volume 74, Number 29 | November 24 - 30, 2004

http://www.thevillager.com/villager_82/honestfilmwithno.html

This article presents useful background and interview material, as well as cogent analysis and critique of *Off to War*

NATIONAL GUARD PRIMER

What is the United States National Guard?

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Guard

How is the National Guard different from the Reserves?

<http://www.ngb.army.mil/faq/#reserves>

<http://us.gallerywatch.com/docs/php/US/CRS/RL30802.pdf>

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4278725>

Unfamiliar with terminology for the organization of military units (e.g., Brigade, Company, Platoon) and military ranks (e.g., Specialist, Staff Sergeant, Brigadier General)?

http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/encyclopedia/m/mi/military_rank.htm

http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/encyclopedia/m/mi/military_unit.htm

<http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/army/unit/>

Historical overviews of the 39th Infantry Brigade, also known as the Arkansas Brigade (the 239th Engineering Company from Clarksville is part of this brigade):

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/army/39in-bde.htm>

http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/encyclopedia/u/u/u.s._39th_infantry_brigade1.htm

THE EVOLVING ROLE OF THE NATIONAL GUARD

<http://www.ausa.org/webpub/DeptHome.nsf/byid/CTON-6G3QNW>

Vice Chief Cites Vital Role Guard, Reserve Play in Army Missions

10/24/2004 Army Magazine

The Future of the Reserves and the National Guard: A Conference Report

by Michael P. Noonan, Rapporteur, January 19, 2005

<http://www.fpri.org/enotes/20050119.military.noonan.citizensoldier.html>

The Future of the Guard and Reserve: Roles, Missions and Force Structure

by Frank G. Hoffman. February 8, 2005

<http://www.fpri.org/enotes/20050208.military.hoffman.rolesmissionsforcestructure.html>

Gary Hart, "A Well-Regulated Militia", The American Prospect Online, Nov 1, 2003. Vol 14, Issue 10. Hart argues that the National Guard, not the military, should protect the homeland.

<http://www.prospect.org/web/page.wv?section=root&name=ViewPrint&articleId=6907>

Nobody Wants a Draft, but What if We Need One? Los Angeles Times, October 13, 2004

Michael E. O'Hanlon, Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Studies

<http://www.brookings.edu/views/op-ed/ohanlon/20041013.htm>

A Symposium on Citizenship and Military Service

by Elliot Abrams and Andrew Bacevich. Parameters, Summer 2001

<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/01summer/bacevich.htm>

A Citizen Check on War

by Janine Davidson, Research Fellow, Foreign Policy Studies

The Washington Post, November 16, 2003

<http://www.brookings.edu/views/op-ed/fellows/davidson20031116.htm>

Official (Governmental) National Guard-Related Organizations:

The Army National Guard <http://www.arng.army.mil/>

The Guard Family Program <http://www.guardfamily.org/>

The National Guard Recruitment website <http://www.1800goguard.com/guides/guides.html>

Home Pages of State National Guard and State National Guard associations

<http://www.ngaus.org/resources/guardlink.asp>

Arkansas National Guard site <http://www.ngaus.org/resources/guardlink.asp>

National Guard Bureau - <http://www.ngb.army.mil/>

Official site of the Pentagon bureau that administers both the Air National Guard and the Army National Guard. The site includes a mobilization reference center, information the TRICARE health care program and links to the Department of Reserve Affairs.

National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder www.ncptsd.va.gov

Fact Sheet: Information Specific to National Guard and Reserve Personnel and Their Employers:

http://www.ncptsd.va.gov/topics/Information_specific.html

Non-governmental National Guard-Related Organizations

Operation Truth - www.operationtruth.org

A nonprofit, non-partisan advocacy organization for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, often critical of the military's handling of the war, but not of the war itself. The mission of Operation Truth is to create a connection between military personnel and the public by giving our troops a voice and amplifying it. They act as a clearinghouse for veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, allowing them to share their stories and concerns with the public through the internet, the news media, and in person. They seek to create a national forum where successes and failures of the current conflicts are openly discussed for the edification of all citizens, including service members. Operation Truth will also use its knowledge of the issues facing our troops and veterans to successfully coordinate the creation and evolution of philanthropic and social service programs.

USA Cares - www.usacares.us

Nonprofit organization founded by retired military families to provide financial, material and legal support to service members and their families deployed across America and around the globe.

National Military Family Association

<http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=homepage>

Operation Home Front - Protecting the Rights of Reservists and National Guard Members

<http://www.operationhomefront.org/>

The National Guard Association of the US (publishes National Guard magazine)

<http://www.ngaus.org/ngmagazine/ngmagazine.asp>

National Committee For Employer Support of The Guard and Reserve

Iraqi War Veterans Organization - <http://www.iraqwarveterans.org/>

Wounded Warrior Project - <http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

THE IRAQ WAR

A chronology of the war, including the period prior to, during and after the Arkansas National Guard's tour of duty in Iraq may be found at: <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/iraqtimeline2.html>

For an historical overview of the development of Iraq, US-Iraqi relations and the current conflict, see Wikipedia: http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/encyclopedia/p/po/post-invasion_iraq,_2003-2005.htm

Tracking and remembering the people killed and wounded in Operation Iraqi Freedom and subsequent hostilities:

- o US and Coalition casualties <http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2003/iraq/forces/casualties/>

- o Iraqi Civilian Casualties

www.iraqbodycount.org

- o US Military Personnel Wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan: A Running Log

<http://www.thememoryhole.org/war/wounded/index2.htm>

- o Biographical information about each U.S. service member killed in Iraq:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpsrv/world/iraq/casualties/facesofthefallen.htm>

THE NATIONAL GUARD AND THE IRAQ WAR

News/Journalistic Accounts:

New York Times coverage of The Struggle for Iraq.

<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/worldspecial/index.html>

Newspaper coverage of Iraq War mobilizations of National Guard units in other states:

TN: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/org/news/2004/040511-tennessee-mobilization.htm>

MN: http://news.minnesota.publicradio.org/features/2005/08/16_scheckt_guard/

TX: <http://www.ngb.army.mil/news/story.asp?id=1189>

OR: <http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/AGPA/docs/Sentinel/Winter03.pdf>

HI: <http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2004/Jul/09/ln/ln05a.html>

AZ: <http://www.azcentral.com/community/mesa/articles/0829AZ-National-Guard-ON.html>

GA: http://www.ajc.com/news/content/custom/blogs/guard/entries/2005/05/28/georgia_unit_be.html

THE HUMAN FACE OF THE NATIONAL GUARD IN IRAQ

Selected Profiles of National Guard members serving in Iraq (published by Dept. of Defense):

Nebraska National Guard Sgt. First Class Michael Hart

Nebraska School Principal Helps Heal Broken Iraqi Schools

<http://www.defendamerica.mil/cgi-bin/prfriendly.cgi?http://www.defendamerica.mil/profiles/oct2003/pr102703a.html>

Arkansas Air National Guard Lt. Col. Larry Hill

Pilot's Final Flight a "Family Affair" <http://www.defendamerica.mil/cgi-bin/prfriendly.cgi?http://www.defendamerica.mil/profiles/oct2003/pr103003a.html>

Florida Army National Guard Sgt. Richard J. Pearce

Florida Army National Guard Soldier Applies, Shares Electrician's Expertise

<http://www.defendamerica.mil/cgi-bin/prfriendly.cgi?http://www.defendamerica.mil/profiles/aug2003/pr081803a.html>

Atlanta Journal-Constitution has a special series entitled, 'The 48th Goes to War,' following Georgia's 48th Army National Guard Brigade in Iraq.

<http://www.ajc.com/blogs/content/shared-blogs/ajc/guard/index.html>

<http://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/iraqdiary.html?limit=50&nophotos=0&start=&Go=Go>

An Audio Iraq Diary: 'Through sound and photos, National Guard members and reservists from Northern New York keep us abreast of their time in Iraq.'

One of the largest contingents of National Guard—more than 6,000 men and women—is from California. The Los Angeles Times will follow National Guard troops during their dangerous mission in Iraq. <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-guardgoes-special,0,3556761.special>

NEWS ANALYSIS/OP-ED

“National Guard unit finds humanitarian missions in Iraq rewarding”

Monday, August 22, 2005, By Holbrook Mohr, The Associated Press

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/05234/557986.stm>

“Guard at War,” Army Magazine, 01/01/2004

<http://www.ausa.org/webpub/DeptArmyMagazine.nsf/byid/CCRN-6CCSBP>

Bill Moyer's NOW: Society and Community – Citizen Soldiers, 9.17.04

<http://www.pbs.org/now/society/natguard.html>

See Operation Truth website for backgrounders on issues facing the troops, including:

- National Guard and Reservists
- Humvee Armor Shortage
- Weak Support for Military Families
- Understanding the Wounded

<http://www.operationtruth.com/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=49&Itemid=66>

“Who's Dying in Our War?,” Rone Tempest, LA Times

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-tm>

[calguard05jan30,0,7466904,full.story](http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-tm-calguard05jan30,0,7466904,full.story)

‘Permanent Scars of Iraq,’ by Sara Corbett

The New York Times Magazine, Feb. 15, 2004

<http://foi.missouri.edu/polinfoprop/permanent.html>

“Endangering the National Guard,” by David Englin, TomPaine.com

October 5, 2004, <http://www.alternet.org/story/20083/>

“Iraq effect shakes National Guard - Tours of duty get longer and riskier, prompting concern about retention and recruitment,” by Seth Stern, Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor, from the September 18, 2003 edition - <http://www.csmonitor.com/2003/0918/p02s01-usmi.html>

Critics: National Guard Unprepared for Iraq, by John McChesney

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4531883>

Some Army Guard Iraq Tours Extended 90 Days, May 2004

http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qa3731/is_200405/ai_n9357312/print

National Public Radio, December 2004- March 2005 (audio and related text)

Analyst: National Guard Not Designed for Iraq War

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4540712>

Recruiting and Retaining National Guard Members

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4538614>

Health Care Gap Cited for Guard, Reserve

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4536377>

Critics: National Guard Unprepared for Iraq

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4531883>

Guard, Reserve Service Takes High Financial Toll

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4531296>

Montana Governor Asks for Return of Guard Troops

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4525790>

Reservists, Guard Troops Find Military Benefits Lacking

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4521765>

Vermonters Question National Guard Role in Iraq

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4519276>

Six Louisiana National Guard Troops Killed in Iraq

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4280858>

Slate's Explainer: National Guard vs. Reserve

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4278725>

National Guard Attempts to Spur Lagging Recruitment

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4233880>

THE NATIONAL GUARD, HURRICANE KATRINA, AND IRAQ

News/Journalistic Accounts:

“With the Arkansas National Guard: Troops Back From Iraq Find Another War Zone - In New Orleans, 'It's Like Baghdad on a Bad Day”

By Ann Scott Tyson, Washington Post Staff Writer

Tuesday, September 6, 2005; A10

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/05/AR2005090501404_pf.html

“National Guard unit to return from Iraq to Katrina”

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20050905/ts_nm/soldiers_dc&printer=1;_ylt=A9FJqa6OvilDLUQA3wlg.3QA;_ylu=X3oDMTA3MXN1bHE0BHNIYwN0bWE-

“Troops Head Home To Another Crisis:

State Force to Leave on Schedule, But No Special Rotations Planned”

By Ellen Knickmeyer, Washington Post Foreign Service

Friday, September 2, 2005; A19

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/01/AR2005090101661.html>

Katrina fears haunt returning La. soldiers

By Brian Thevenot, Staff writer

New Orleans Times-Picayune

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

http://www.nola.com/newslogs/tporleans/index.ss?/mtlogs/nola_tporleans/archives/2005_09_20.html#081121

“Guard Sees Parallels to Iraq in Louisiana, by Robert Tanner,”

AP National Writers, 9/3/05

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050903/ap_on_re_us/katrina_echoes_of_iraq&printer=1;_ylt=AuX7Z0.Ad4Bh0XqOW3ja_qJH2ocA;_ylu=X3oDMTA3MXN1bHE0BHNIYwN0bWE-

“Returning Guardsman Arrive in Louisiana”

Associated Press | September 15, 2005

<http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,77115,00.html>

News Analysis/Op-Ed:

“The National Guard: Strain of Iraq War Means the Relief Burden Will Have to Be Shared” By Ann Scott Tyson, Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, August 31, 2005; Page A14

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/08/30/AR2005083002162_pf.html

“Katrina Rescue Operations: Are National Guard and Equipment Stretched Thin by Iraq War?.”

Tuesday, August 30th, 2005 <http://www.democracynow.org/article.pl?sid=05/08/30/1354257>

“The Un-Missing National Guard,” <http://www.redstate.org/story/2005/9/1/125948/7993>

(Critique of the widely held view that National Guard and equipment are being stretched thin by the Iraq War)

“National Guard Stretched too Thin,” Associated Press | September 10, 2005

<http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,76870,00.html>

(The National Guard is stretched so thin by simultaneous assignments in Iraq and the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast that leaders in statehouses and Congress say it is time to reconsider how the force is used.)

”Republicans and Democrats alike worry about the service's ability to balance its federal and state missions of fighting wars and responding to domestic crises”.

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2005/09/10/katrina/printable832586.shtml>

“Iraq hurt Katrina response, general says. Pentagon says it can handle both the disaster and Iraq war,”

Friday, September 9, 2005 - <http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/09/09/katrina.natguard.ap/>

“Changing role of National Guard takes toll,” by Ron Harris

August 1, 2005, St. Louis Post-Dispatch - <http://www.catholicpeacefellowship.org/nextpage.asp?m=2373>

“Guard Is Doubling Its Deployment,” by John Hendren and Mark Mazzetti

The Los Angeles Times, Thursday 01 September 2005

http://www.truthout.org/docs_2005/printer_090105M.shtml

The already strained force will increase the total number of troops in the Gulf Coast region to 28,000. Their first priority will be rescue and necessities.

“Off Their Guard,” by Mark Benjamin, Salon.com Thursday 01 September 2005

http://www.truthout.org/docs_2005/printer_090105M.shtml

The Gulf Coast disaster is further taxing the National Guard, already stretched to a breaking point in Iraq

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Active Voice (www.activevoice.net) is a team of strategic communication specialists who put powerful media to work for personal and institutional change in communities, workplaces, and campuses across America. Through practical guides, hands-on workshops, stimulating events and key partnerships nationwide, Active Voice moves people from thought to action. By highlighting compelling personal stories and perspectives seldom found in mainstream media, Active Voice offers a much-needed outlet to people across America to speak out, listen up, and take the initiative for positive change.

Discovery Times Channel (www.discovery.com/times) combines the journalistic authority of The New York Times with the programming excellence of Discovery Communications Inc. to bring viewers provocative, engaging and relevant documentary series and specials about the events and ideas shaping our times. The network has won multiple industry honors for its breakthrough programming, including three Emmys, an Overseas Press Club Award, three National Headliner Awards, a BANFF Rockie Award, an International Documentary Association honor and two AWRT Gracie Awards. In addition, the network has had films premiere at various film festivals, including the Sundance Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, San Francisco International Film Festival, SilverDocs Film Festival and the Tokyo Video Festival. Available to more than 37 million subscribers in the United States, Discovery Times Channel is a joint venture between The New York Times Company (NYSE:NYT) and Discovery Communications, Inc., the leading global real-world media and entertainment company.

Downtown Community TV Center (www.dctvny.org) is the largest, most honored community media center in the United States. DCTV has won 12 national Emmy Awards, three Columbia-DuPont Citations and every other major award in television. DCTV was in Baghdad during the first Gulf War and conducted an exclusive interview with Saddam Hussein after the war. DCTV has also made many reports about the lives of Iraqi civilians before, during, and after the second Gulf War. DCTV is housed in a landmarked firehouse in New York's Chinatown. Every year DCTV trains hundreds of at risk high schools students (who won two national student Emmys)—disabled producers (Connect TV)—and other New Yorkers. *Off to War* is produced by Brent and Craig Renaud. Jon Alpert is executive producer for DCTV.

New York Times (www.nytimes.com) The New York Times Company (NYSE: NYT), a leading media company with 2003 revenues of \$3.2 billion, includes The New York Times, the International Herald Tribune, The Boston Globe, 16 other newspapers, eight network-affiliated television stations, two New York City radio stations and more than 40 Web sites, including NYTimes.com and Boston.com. For the fourth consecutive year, the Company was ranked No. 1 in the publishing industry in Fortune's 2004 list of America's Most Admired Companies. The Company's core purpose is to enhance society by creating, collecting and distributing high-quality news, information and entertainment.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The *Off to War* Community Project began with a series of public conversations in four diverse communities, all directly experiencing the impact of war as a result of the mobilization of the National Guard for active duty in Iraq. Active Voice and Discovery Times gratefully acknowledge the organizations that made these discussions possible:

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Louisville, KY: **League of Women Voters of Louisville,** University of Louisville's Pan-African Studies Department

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