

WAR DEAD

IN AFGHANISTAN

- 2,290 U.S. troops killed (2,290 last week)
- 19,526 U.S. troops wounded in action (19,514)
- 1,452 U.S. contractors killed (1,452)
- 16,179 civilians killed (updates NA)
- \$681.5 billion cost of war (\$679.8 billion)
- \$281.8 million cost to Eugene taxpayers (\$281.1 million)

IN IRAQ

- 4,423 U.S. troops killed, 31,941 wounded
- 1,604 U.S. contractors killed (1,604)
- 127,323 to 1.2 million civilians killed* (126,977)
- \$816.1 billion cost of war (\$816 billion)
- \$337.4 million cost to Eugene taxpayers (\$337.4 million)

Through Dec. 16, 2013. Sources: icasualties.org, defense.gov, U.S. Dept. of Labor, iraqbodycount.org, guardian.co.uk. *Civilian deaths based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate Iraqi civilian deaths as high as 655,000 (Lancet survey, 2006) to 1.2 million (Opinion Research Business survey, 2008).

>>> CONTINUED FROM P. 7

a bipartisan issue,” Stahl says. Stahl provided the original framework in which the current DeFazio O&C Trust, Conservation and Jobs Act has its basis.

DeFazio writes that without legislation, this and other D.C. Circuit cases “could subject the O&C lands to 1980-era logging levels, which would mean the liquidation of irreplaceable old-growth forests.”

Doug Heiken of Oregon Wild, which has been outspoken in its criticism of the DeFazio bill, agrees with Stahl that the chances of the new appointees affecting the O&C case decision are small. “We don’t know the politics,” he says. “It’s too speculative.”

But he says in the end, he doesn’t think the O&C cases in the D.C. court have much merit in the first place. Heiken says they conflict with cases that have been ruled on by Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and he expects that the D.C. court will find the Ninth Circuit “more compelling than Judge Leon.” — *Camilla Mortensen*

MEGALOAD PROTESTS RAMP UP ARRESTS

The megaload of oil extraction equipment heading through Eastern Oregon to the tar sands of Canada hit another snag when climate justice activists blockaded the road in two places east and west of John Day as part of a series of protests against the nearly one-million-pound shipment. Twelve of the 16 people arrested on Dec. 16 were members of Eugene-based Cascadia Forest Defenders.

Jason Gonzales of CFD says the group, which is known for its use of direct action in forest protests, was working with Portland Rising Tide, 350.org and Native American tribal members to block the loads because “we actively re-

sist resource extraction at any given opportunity.”

Extraction of oil from the sands beneath Canada’s boreal forests is water and energy intensive, opponents say, and it is not only speeding up climate change but also destroying an area the size of Florida. Representatives of the Umatilla tribe have expressed concern about the environmental impacts as well as the lack of consultation with the tribe by state agencies over transportation of the modules.

Oregon-based Omega Morgan is shipping the massive load from the Port of Umatilla. Opposition in Idaho by the Nez Perce tribe, which won an injunction against the megaloads, led the company to try the Oregon route. The current megaload, a General Electric water evaporator and the equipment to carry it, is moving along Hwy. 26 and weighs 901,000 pounds.

Gonzales says two people locked down to a car on the west side of John Day and another two people locked down to a trailer on the east side. The police used the Jaws of Life and pain compliance to remove the people from the car, according to Portland Rising Tide, and the group says that “according to bystanders, the police lifted and pulled the trailer, with the person locked to the axle being dragged on the ground.”

Gonzales says that members of CFD and others who were nearby documenting the protest and serving as police liaisons, but not participating in the blockade, were also arrested, despite not being “anywhere near” the action.

Last week Rising Tide protested at the Omega Morgan offices in Hillsboro as well as at General Electric subsidiary in Bellevue, Wash., where the evaporator was manufactured.

An Emmert International megaload carrying a 660,000-pound transformer tipped over on I-205 in Portland Dec. 2. It took 24 hours to get that load moving again.

CFD and Portland Rising Tide are fundraising for legal costs at wkly.ws/1nn. — *Camilla Mortensen*



Simple, local & unique inspirations throughout the entire store

DOWN TO EARTH
HOME, GARDEN & GIFT

Joy is in Season!

DTE gift cards are perfect!

5th & Olive Street 541-342-6820 • 25th & Willamette 541-349-0556
Mon-Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5

We're OPEN 'til 7PM TONIGHT, Friday December 20 & Monday December 23
We will be closing at 3pm on December 24 & closed on Christmas Day