



# 25 DAYS TO CHICAGO

1. Medical folder
2. Audio of psychological evaluation: running time 00:40:22
3. Drawings of initial convoy into Iraq: pencil on vellum
4. Photographs of patrols in Chicago.
5. Map of Chicago on Mileh Thar Thar

#### SOURCE 1

“21 Days to Baghdad: The Inside Story of the War in Iraq” is the title of the TIME news campaign that ran shortly after President Bush declared an end to major combat. Unfortunately, this “commemoration of the historic battle to liberate Baghdad” was left incomplete. “25 Days to Chicago” is a collection of drawings, maps, and audio recordings discovered in the medical records of Aaron Hughes, a former Army Sergeant. These materials provide a fragment of what was left out of the original news campaign.

#### SOURCE 2

Sgt. Hughes, Hughs (for short), or Aaron was deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom during the initial invasion and then again to run combat support missions. He hauled supplies all over Iraq; passing through places like Baghdad, Fulljah, Al Najaf, An Nasiriyah, Umm Qasr, Ar Ramadi, Chicago, Balad, Ba’qubah, and Kirkuk. Recently, Sgt. Hughes went through a series of medical evaluations. This included an extensive psychological debriefing revealing an eccentric perspective of the on goings of the 1244th Transportation Company during Operation Iraqi Freedom. These eccentricities were recorded in Sgt. Hughes’s medical records and are presented here for your evaluation.

#### SOURCE 3

Aaron Hughes formally Sgt. Hughes of the 1244th Transportation Company, Illinois Army National Guard, is delusional. He continually confuses the space and time of his deployment with his current situation. Evaluations carried out by a multiplicity of experts have all concluded with similar results.

Sgt. Hughes displays signs of trauma, which often displaces spaces and events in memory. During his psychological evaluation Sgt. Hughes insisted he patrolled cities that are not geographically in Iraq. He affirms this by pointing out where Chicago is located on a map of Iraq. He then describes the location of Chicago on a body of water called the Mileh Thar Thar. This body of water appears only during the rainy season and is not on all maps. Sgt. Hughes notes this inconsistency of mapping as the reason why Chicago does not appear on maps of Iraq.

Other objects Sgt. Hughes has used in defense of his memories are drawings and photographs.

The drawings in question were originally confiscated from his military map-bag and spurred on this series of medical evaluations. Sgt. Hughes says the drawings were done on his initial convoy into Iraq and depict the landscape between the border near Umm Quasar and his SP (stopping point), Chicago. He also points out that the drawings were done on Iraqi Vellum. This has not been verified. However, it is important to note that vellum has historically been used for manuscripts in the Middle East.

The source of the photographs Sgt. Hughes presented is unknown. The photographs depict images that are clearly from Iraq and images from spaces that are clearly not Iraq. One hypothesis is that the images are from mock patrols carried out by a veteran in Iraq Veterans Against the War, a radical organization.

Sgt. Hughes’s medical file and objects described are present for review.