



<http://www.thememoryhole.org/war/gulfwar2/index.htm>

This photo, along with others equally horrifying came to me in an email in the early days of "Shock and Awe," from The Memory Hole edited by Russ Kick. Last time I looked, one could still get the photos at this link.

Boy in a Red Shirt

lying back on a stretcher,
three or four years old,
crying out
the way a child cries from pain
he doesn't understand —
because until just now
he trusted the adults
to protect him.

One small hand
unburned,
the rest of him charred
in the fire wind of our bombs
that turned his torso into
raw meat —
the red shirt of a small
boy.

Send this photo,
and the one of someone's head
cracked like a white china bowl,
or the man in blue robes

lifting a child who is just
a red and cinnamon rag
to the president, his wife,
send it to their twin girls
so they can be proud
of America.

Send this photograph,
which American media
will not allow us to see,
to every legislator who gave
permission to President Bush
to create the horror
of this boy —
this boy in a red shirt.

No one may do this.
No one can permit anyone to do this,
for any reason.

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