

Name:
Mr. Meizys
Honors American Studies
The Quiet American and America on a Mission

News Project

DIRECTIONS:

1. Pick FOUR international current events stories (2 should be stories you think the mainstream media is neglecting) and print out/cut out the articles and bring them into class. You should use only credible sources (No Mr. X web pages- see The Simpsons) for your stories. Newspapers are the best places to start. You may also want to look at the BBC, The Economist, Newsweek, Time, NPR, PBS, The New Yorker and The Weekly Standard. Along with The New York Times and Wall Street Journal, all of the sources above have web sites. You may choose to do fewer stories if you do them in depth. You may choose to do fewer stories if you do them in depth. Your presentations should be at least 10 minutes long per person in the group.
2. In groups, you will work on four stories to report as if you are a news source- you will be creating a news broadcast (it will be your choice whether you want to perform the broadcast or videotape it). The groups that make their broadcast look and sound most like a real news program will get the best grades.
3. Two of the four stories must be reported by a correspondent with Fowler's perspective, while the other two must be reported as if Pyle was the reporter.
4. Each story should contain background information, commentary, and interviews with the "man on the ground."
5. You should work TEN quotations from the material we used in class thus far: Thomas Frank's *What's the Matter With Kansas?*, Jonathan Haidt's "Righteous Mind" Chris Hedges' "Permanent War," Mr. Meizys' "America on a Mission Documents", Michael Dobb's "The Price of a 50 Year Myth", Graham Greene's *The Quiet American*, The Presidential Debates, *Der Spiegel's* "Notes on the Decline of a Great Nation," Aaron O'Connell's "The Permanent Militarization of America", and Jonathan Haidt's "We Need a Little Fear". "Two Days in October," "The Pat Tillman Story," "The Fog of War," *Apocalypse Now/Heart of Darkness*, and "Bush's War." *The Quiet American* (1958) v. *The Quiet American* (2002), *Screaming Bloody Murder – US Interventions and Non-Interventions in the 1990's*,
6. Anything relevantly creative you want to add to your program beyond the above will only help your grade.
7. You may only change your assigned stories with the expressed, written approval of Mr. Meizys.

8. "You forgot one thing Wiggum. . . I filled the bowling balls with a funnel!" Mr. Meizys may make additions to this assignment. . . because I am always thinking.