



Walter Mencken's

SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Hometown Homeless Heroes

U.S. Military Begins Implementing Experimental Plan to Put Homeless Veterans Back in Action

The New Expendables?

SOMEWHERE WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO MENTION ON THE GROUNDS OF CAMP PENDLETON — As the sun sank into the Pacific, "Commander Walt" — not his real name or title — took a sip of his Bud Ice and started in on his story. "So, I'm sitting there watching that new Stallone flick, *The Expendables* — you know, the one with all the old action movie stars? And it hits me — this is a film about getting the best you can

from guys who are no longer at their best. And I remembered reading this report in the *Wall Street Journal* or some other rag about how 40 percent of homeless men in America are veterans. Clearly, these are guys who are no longer at their best — otherwise, they wouldn't be homeless, right? But that doesn't mean they don't still have something to give for their country. They're not doing much good for anyone on the streets — why not put them back in action? Even if they're a bunch of head cases, they're still

better trained than your typical Afghani. So, a bunch of us fired up a personnel carrier, headed into downtown San Diego, and picked up a squadron's worth of willing veterans in about half an hour. All it cost us was gas money

and a couple cases of Natty Light. A week later, those boys touched down in Helmand [Province]. They've hit some snags, but I remain convinced: this is the kind of American ingenuity that helps win wars."



Squad leader Barney "Night Train" Michaelson, crouching in foreground, prepares to disarm an IAD (improvised alcoholic device) after it was discovered following the spinout and subsequent stranding of the unit's Humvee. Once disarmed, the IAD will be stored in the all-terrain shopping cart (pictured at right), until its contents can be safely disposed of. Meanwhile, Sergeant Edwin "Patches" McGee, who was driving the Humvee, reclines on a rock and finishes his cup of "special brew" coffee. Private First Class Andrew Reynolds is shown turning away, apparently having found McGee's claim that the road was blocked by Afghan spirit monkeys an unconvincing explanation for the spinout.

Oops



Interstate 15 closed until further notice after "ordinance event" occurs during controlled destruction of home full of explosive material. "We're probably going to want to evacuate some of the surrounding homes as well," says Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives spokesman Bob Johnson. "You know, until we can get a handle on things. We're advising pretty much all of San Diego that now might be a good time to think about taking a vacation."

Woof! San Diego-based TV Show *Terriers* Canceled After Single Season



Set right here in San Diego, you say? How 'bout that.

The FX television network recently announced the cancellation of its new private-eye drama *Terriers*, which starred Donal Logue and Michael Raymond-James as an ex-cop and ex-criminal operating together out of San Diego's Ocean Beach neighborhood. FX President John Landgraf said the decision wasn't easy, despite the fact that the show averaged a paltry 970,000 viewers over its first

season run. "I don't get it. I loved *Terriers*. Critics loved *Terriers*. *People* magazine called it 'one of the most offbeat shows of the new season. Also, one of the best.' And San Diego has a great history of providing a compelling setting for quality television. Fox's *That '80s Show*, CBS's *The Ex List*, HBO's *John from Cincinnati*, ABC's *Cavemen*... Actually, forget I said anything."

WHO PLAYS WHO

COUNTY SUPERVISORS EDITION



In *The Hudsucker Proxy*, **Paul Newman** played a shrewd and ultimately corrupt businessman who conspires with his cronies to ruin a company for personal gain.



County supervisor **Ron Roberts** is allegedly chummy with San Diego's pro sports powers that be.



In *Walking Tall*, **Joe Don Baker** kept folks in line with a big wooden club.



County Supervisor **Bill Horn** wants to keep Rancho Santa Fe clubhouse folks within his district lines.



Susan Sarandon uses her status in the arts to advance her vision of freedom.



County Supervisor **Pam Slater-Price** was fined for accepting tickets to see arts events for free.