



# BLUE COLLAR IRAQ



# 330 DAYS BLUE COLLAR IRAQ

IN A FAILING ECONOMY, WE'RE GOING TO TEACH YOU TONIGHT HOW TO MAKE  
\$100,000 DOLLARS TAX FREE.

YOU DON'T NEED AN EDUCATION - THERE ARE NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

BUT, YOU HAVE TO ASK YOURSELF ONE QUESTION... IS MY LIFE WORTH IT?

## SYNOPSIS

The story that filmmaker Julian Van Bellinghen considers the most incredible epic of the past decade, has never been fully reported or ever covered in depth by the mainstream media. When the average working class American makes approximately 25 to 30 thousand dollars per year as a blue-collar worker, the prospects of making \$100,000 dollars tax free in less than a year created a fever pitch environment in Texas that became similar to a 'Modern Day, 1849 Gold Rush.'

The jobs were advertised only by word-of-mouth. When Julian heard about this incredible event taking place with some kind of relative secrecy, he felt that the offer was too good to be true. After signing up to drive trucks and tankers for Kellog Brown & Root, his intention was to cover a story of incredible magnitude... If it were true.

Alas, what he discovered was true and incredible. The mobilization of the biggest civilian contractor force in a war zone created a sub-culture that was left to exist underneath a political veil of secrecy. The story became unavailable to the mainstream media, but Julian was there, first hand with his camera. What once seemed impossible, was happening then and still happening, tonight.

Some workers came forward as patriots. Others, simply for the money they will earn as an expatriated truck driver or construction worker within the boundaries of the current contemporary theater of war. These were and are, the War Contractors. From their living conditions to their feelings and emotions, most got more than they expected. Some, never came back...

With the only footage of it's kind available from the first advent of the Occupied Territory in 2003 to current footage shot by Soldiers that want to share their experiences for the first time, the project shows the effects of war on the men and women both physically and mentally throughout the 330 DAYS of their contracted tour and asks the question... Is Your Life Worth It?



# VISION / PROFILES

## PROJECT

*Besides being credited as a Filmmaker as well as a published Author, Julian is also a Screenwriter and has worked on many independent films in New York and the East Coast not only as a Performing Artist but also as a Director and Producer in film, theater and television.*

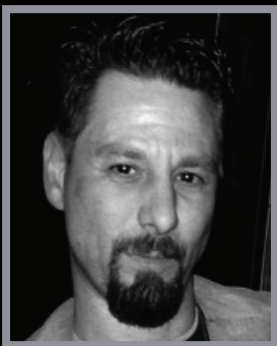
My primary goal was to shoot a documentary film in Iraq to capture an incredulous event that has never taken place before in the history of warfare, which was the deployment of a massive, untrained-for-combat Civilian Support Group to directly operate side by side in a combat zone with invading American Forces on foreign soil. With that, I took a huge risk and embedded myself in Iraq with KBR (Halliburton) and drove trucks through the Red Zone, shooting hours and hours of unique and original footage that the public has never seen before from the perspective of the Civilian Contractors.

The goal of the project is to explore the mindset we have become as Americans. Because of the dynamic social shift during the past few decades that has put materialism and self-serving principles above traditional values, we are forced to ask; "What have we become?" as the project's focal message to the audience for them to discuss and ponder.

For the Contractors, the experience in Iraq has made the answer very clear: 'Money isn't Everything'. What they left behind (family and community, faith and love) were always there in front of them before the War. In the end, they left blinded by materialism and came back with an ability to see clearly for the first time, all of the freedoms they took for granted. The 'American Spirit', isn't dead, it's right here in front of us. All we have to do, is *open our eyes...*

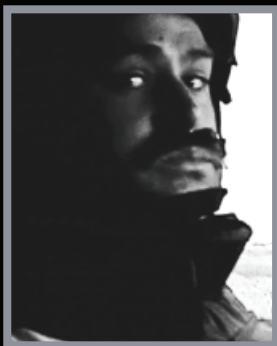
My philosophy for the success of the film is to draw the audience into the story the same way that ultimately brought the Contractors to Iraq in the first place - *The lure of learning how to participate in the still readily available \$100,000 payday.* That, is my 'little secret' that I believe will make the project a huge success.

## MAIN CHARACTERS - THE CONTRACTORS



JULIAN VAN BELLINGHEN - a.k.a. 'BROOKLYN'

Julian is a New York City Independent Filmmaker and Author that is the focus character of the project. Through his eyes, the illusive story of the War Contractors unfolds before us in first person as he entered the foray in Iraq to cover the story nobody was telling by secretly embedding himself with the Convoy Drivers and incredibly, lived to tell the tale. In the end, he finds something he never expected and that his life, is changed forever by the overall experience.



DENNIS LOPER - a.k.a. 'COWBOY'

Dennis is from Ardmore, Oklahoma and is a former professional Rodeo Bull Rider. He became best friends with Julian at the outset of their journey together to Iraq, assigned to the same Theater Transportation Mission (TTM) unit at Camp Anaconda. They volunteered together to be loaned out on a suicide mission to be re-located to more dangerous ground near BIAP (Baghdad International Airport) at the outset of the Insurgent War. While in hostile territory, Dennis was shot through the back with an armor piercing round in an ambush. By a stroke of luck and the grace of God (in his opinion), he lives on to tell the harrowing story.

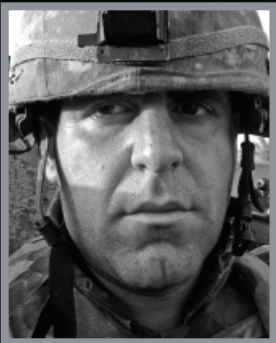
# PROFILES, (CONT'D)



DAVID BUSBY - a.k.a. 'BIG DADDY'

David Busby or 'Big Daddy' was by and far very popular with all of the Contractors at KBR. Dave is originally from Houston, Texas and was only one of a handful of Drivers that worked in the Balkans for KBR during the LOGCAP II contract that preceded Iraq. David suffered a life threatening injury when he was hit with a mortar and suffered shrapnel in his heart. David has struggled ever since with his injuries, but his story of hope, faith and overcoming permanent disability has led him to finish his degree in History and he is now pursuing a life changing position as a high school teacher in the Texas public school system.

## MAIN CHARACTERS - THE MILITARY



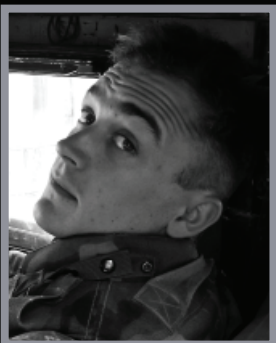
CHRISTOPHER DURANTE - a.k.a. 'D-BO'

Chris is from Long Island, NY and served two tours in Iraq with the United States Army. He deployed with the 1st Armored Division, 40th Engineer Battalion based at FOB Thunder and Camp Falcon in Baghdad. His unit was responsible for Counter IED Patrols and Counter Insurgency Patrols on a day to day basis. Chris has a degree in psychology from Stony Brook University and is the Co-Author of the original book, '330 DAYS: THE UNCENSORED WAR IN IRAQ'. Chris has recently appeared on NBC News and various radio spots as an expert on the Iraq War.



SPC. JOSE MONTANEZ - a.k.a. 'MONTE'

Spc. Jose Montanez, known by his Military Brothers as 'Monte', was a Medic in the United States Army for two tours in Iraq. His first tour was with the First Cavalry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom from March 2004 until 2005, then subsequently from November 2005 to 2006 with the 1st AD, 40th Engineers during what is known from the inside as, 'Operation Iraqi Freedom, II'. Monte served as a Medic for 9 years and retired in 2008, but his contribution and testimony to the project is imperative to illustrate from his point of view of what kind of damage is actually sustained from operating in a combat zone and what it truly entails.



SGT. MICHAEL HUNTON - a.k.a. 'HUNTON'

Sgt. Michael Hunton is a 21B Combat Engineer from Elko, Nevada. He served in the United States Military from 2002 until 2007 and deployed twice to Iraq with the 1st Armored Division, 40th Engineers from April 2003 through July 2004 and again from November 2005 until November 2007. As a Combat Engineer, he is an expert in bombs and ordnance and contributes to the project not only with his testimony to his experiences in the theater of war in Iraq, but more importantly, with regard to how the Insurgency operates planting roadside bombs and ambushes against the Coalition Forces and Contractors.



# PRODUCTION COMPLETION

## WHAT'S LEFT TO DO ( PHYSICAL PRODUCTION )

All footage known herein as: ( 'B-Roll: War Zone Footage' ) for the Production has been shot. The footage is one-of-a-kind and Historical in nature. Some interviews of the Main Subjects ( Julian Van Bell- inghen and Dennis Loper and the Loper Family ) have already been shot as well, therefore establishing a 'time line' for the primary two subjects in the project. The remaining physical production is required for completion of the Documentary Presentation below:

1. SHOOTING THE 3 MAIN SUBJECT CONTRACTORS ( JULIAN VANBELLINGHEN, DENNIS LOPER AND DAVID BUSBY IN THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ON LOCATION IN LOS ANGELES, CA / ARDMORE, OKLAHOMA and HOUSTON, TEXAS RESPECTIVELY FOR INTERVIEW PURPOSES.
2. SHOOTING THE 3 MAIN SUBJECT SOLDIERS ( CHRISTOPHER DURANTE, JOSE MONTANEZ and MICHAEL HUNTON IN LOS ANGELES AT A SOUNDSTAGE FOR THEIR INTERVIEW / EXPERT TESTIMONY AND PERSONAL STORIES.
3. COLLECTION OF ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE FROM OUR CONTACTS TO FOLD INTO OUR ALREADY EXTENSIVE CATALOGUE OF 'B-ROLL' FOOTAGE & STILL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE PRODUCTION ( THIS IS ALREADY IN PROGRESS ).
4. COLLECT ALL CLEARANCES, GO TO POST FOR ROUGH CUT.

## CLEARANCES

All CLEARANCES pertaining to the documentary interview subjects, (a.k.a. herein known as 'MAIN CHARACTERS') including any other ancillary framed or otherwise added interview subjects that include notwithstanding: Family Members of the Main Subjects, Co-workers or Relationships such obtained on-camera within the Domestic shooting and finishing schedule (whether they are pre-scheduled at the various shoots or not) will be obtained through Blackstaar Entertainment at the request of the Executive Producer unless the Executive Producer has made other arrangements with the Staff of Blackstaar Entertainment to forego the responsibility for any clearances obtained for the production.

Blackstaar Entertainment will obtain clearances for all footage already shot and sited in-catalog as well as for all upcoming shoots that involve the six (6) main characters and their on-camera relationships, unless otherwise directed by the Executive Producer.

Regarding the footage shot by various individuals in Iraq, clearances will be obtained by the AUTHORS of such footage, as clearances could never in any way, be obtained 'In-Theater' (a.k.a. herein known to be: 'In a Combat or War Zone') as it would be impossible, but the footage shot 'In-Theater' is of a historical nature and endeavor and all clearances pertaining to such footage that is assumed to be ('B-Roll') for the Production, falls under the clause of 'Fair Use' and the clearances for the Authorship of such footage will be obtained to suffice the legality of use within and for the Production by Blackstaar Entertainment unless otherwise directed by the Executive Producer.



# PRODUCER'S VISION

*Because the subject matter is so provocative and timely for this country, the Producer feels that this story must be told, so that the public can know about those who served in the Iraq War, both military and contractor and appreciate the personal sacrifices these men and women made in the effort to answer a call of duty.*

*The '330 DAYS' PROJECT started in 2003 when NYC Filmmaker and Author, Julian Van Bellinghen heard what he thought was the "Most incredible story taking place in Iraq" and the rest as they say, is history. There are 3 Phases to bringing the stories of '330 DAYS' to life...*

1 **330 DAYS: THE UNCENSORED WAR IN IRAQ**, was written by Julian Van Bellinghen and Christopher Durante and was launched in 2011. It caused tremendous controversy and elicited great praise for its straightforward honesty and reality. It is a first hand account of the Military and Contractor experiences in the biggest world-wide event in the past decade.



'330 DAYS, THE BOOK'

2 **330 DAYS: BLUE COLLAR IRAQ**, captures the most jaw dropping move of modern warfare – The deployment of a massive, untrained-for-combat Civilian Support Group to directly back an invading Military Force on foreign soil in a war zone – The Producer sees a chance to tell an incredibly epic story to the public and explore a facet of the Iraq War that has *NEVER BEEN TOUCHED UPON AND REPORTED ON BY THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA TO DATE*, the story of the Military Contractors who kept the machine of war running while working side by side with the Soldiers of the war. The Producer seeks to finish this documentary that has already been shot in the Combat Zone by Julian Van Bellinghen during his time as an embedded Contractor with Halliburton.



'BLUE COLLAR IRAQ'  
THE DOCUMENTARY

3 The story of the Military Contractors in Iraq is so deep and unique that a book and documentary do not sufficiently begin to explore the most epic and incredibly unreported story of the last 20 years. The Producer wants to fully realize the project's potential power, so the Feature Film, '**330 DAYS**' will round off the overall franchise and property nicely with a great opportunity for revenue generation, whether it is shot as an Independent or a Major Studio film. The secret to the success of this portion of the project will be in how we "*Show them the Money*" and what it actually takes to get the \$100,000 tax-free payday in a War Zone.



'330 DAYS'  
THE FEATURE FILM