

# **PROJECT IRAQI VETERAN**

## **UPDATE FOR 1/25/08**



**A long awaited update to PROJECT IRAQI VETERAN is finally here---and have we been busy !!!**

### **THE PROJECT HAS TAKEN ON A NEW DIMENSION**

**First, I must inform everyone out there who has been so gracious to support this project for Corporal Foster---that the project has now taken on a new dimension !!!**

We know that we have many, many long distance supporters of this project, from as far away as Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Washington St. and Canada. And on behalf of the First Generation Camaros of Arizona, The Cactus GTO club and Corporal Foster, we feel blessed that you are supporting our project.

However today, our newest and farthest long distance support comes from Staff Sergeant Stephen L. Tolson of the 261<sup>st</sup>, stationed in Iraq. I spoke with Steve this afternoon and he is drumming up support for PROJECT IRAQI VETERAN from the men and women of his battalion in Iraq!!! Folks---they need our support over there and yet here they are supporting our project over here---does this not speak volumes

about the men and women who serve our country.

Sergeant Tolson emphasized the importance of what a project like this does for the troops over there---which is the main reason why we are doing this project.

I informed Sargeant Tolson to spread the word as well, that PROJECT IRAQI VETERAN is not just a 1968 Camaro project for Corporal Jared Foster, but a tribute and sign of support to Corporal Foster and to all of them that are serving now and in the past.

And let me tell you---the support has been incredible. Just read below, about the progress and support being offered for Corporal Fosters 1968 Camaro.

### **LATEST INFO ON THE PROGRESS OF THE CAMARO**

First off---the project is still considered “covert”, and Corporal Foster is still unaware of our actions. In fact, below is a picture of the Corporal working on this car at Sterling Allen’s shop, where all the body and paint work is being completed. This photo was taken a while back.



Little does the Corporal know that we will be painting his car in the next week or so. The picture in the upper left corner is from several weeks ago, so you can see we’ve made a lot of progress.

Thanks to a \$1,000 dollar donation by the PFG Planning Group in Phoenix Arizona, we were able to by the Dodge Viper Blue paint and the necessary white for the Z-stripes that the

Corporal as mentioned. Dream Car Restorations in Mesa, have given us the thumbs up for the use of their paint booth. If you recall, they were the first ones to make a donation to our project---a \$500 dollar donation!!! Thanks guys !!!

**Thus far, we have received \$4,195 in donations from friends and enthusiasts around the nation, which includes both cash and parts.**

**This does not include the parts that manufacturers have donated, as we are not given receipts for those products. It is estimated that the manufacturers have donated at least \$7,000 to \$9,000 in parts alone.**

**In addition, the Corporal originally funded \$5000 of his own money to the project before we got involved. To date, the Corporal has invested approximately \$8,000 to the project for body and paint work, and some of the required parts.**



Below is a list of some of the manufacturers and financial supporters of PROJECT IRAQI VETERAN. And the list is growing regularly:

- RECARO seats – sent a set of Specialist seats
- Morris Classic Concepts - 3pt seat belts
- IDIDIT steering column offered at 25% less jobber cost
- Painless Wiring – wire harnesses
- Taylor Wiring – donating ignition wires
- Dream Car Restorations - \$500 cash + paint booth
- Ground Up Restorations - complete interior less front seats

- Safeshield Glass Company - front and rear glass pending - side glass at a discount
- Discount Tire - tires (for sure) rims (pending) Thanks to Moe Ferrat manager and Robbie
- Edelbrock #2106 manifold - donated by Edelbrock
- Grant Steering Wheels called us and said to go on to their website and choose whatever steering wheel we wanted !!!
- THM 400 trans and driveline - club member Terrance Huffman
- 400 bare block, 400 crank, a second new Edelbrock manifold, new HEI dist., and a new Comp Cam donated Neal Muylaert of Boeing Mesa
- New, rechromed bumpers & bumper guards donated by Tory DiBlassi NYFD Firefighter from New York !!!!
- \$1000 donation from PFG Planning in Phoenix
- Bailey's Eng Machine in Mesa is donating all of the engine machine work
- Several of the employees at AMSAFE Aerospace in Phoenix have donated \$\$\$
- The many used parts that so many of you have donated and your labor for this project.
- \$\$\$\$\$\$ from so many of you that has been so beneficial in allowing us to acquire those other parts we need--we just can't mention everyone's name in this update.

I have also been in contact with Moe Ferrat, Discount Tire Manager in Gilbert, AZ. Moe is donating the BFG Tires out of his stores inventory, but he is also working with Discount to possibly provide us with a set of MB Retro rims.

Paint is expected to be completed in the next two weeks. From there, the car will roll to Jack Riley's. While there, the interior will be put in and misc. chrome installed. In the meantime, the engine will be assembled at John Bauler's Shop. Bailey's Engine Machine is donating the machine work and has already completed much of it.

If all goes well and the parts arrive as planned, we might be able to have the Camaro completed by the end of February—or within the first two weeks of March.

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## **MATCH A SOLDIER'S DONATION CAMPAIGN**

As we round the corner on getting this car done, we are realizing that a few more donations will be required to all us to complete the project.

So, In response to the call from Sergeant Steve Tolson, stationed in Iraq, we thought it would be a perfect way to show them our support over there---while they show support their support to Corporal Foster and the Camaro Project.

Since we know that pay for our soldiers is sub-par to say the least, and not to mention the fact that they are putting their lives on the line for us, let's show our support, by matching them dollar for dollar for each of their donations.

Basically, if a soldier from Iraq pitches in \$10.00, then someone from our club(s) will co-partner with that soldier and match, double or triple his donation and we will consider it a co-donation---both names will be listed on the total sum of the donation. In essence, you will be teaming with a soldier in Iraq to support a soldier here at home.

Therefore, the soldier will not only have donated \$10.00, but he will be listed as having donated \$20.00, \$30.00 or even \$100.00---depending on how much you the contributor want to co-sponsor.

We know that some of you have yet to donate to the project and have asked how you can get involved, well now is your chance. We would like this to be an invitation to those who have yet to contribute.

The funds we raise for this final push, will hopefully give us the amount we need to finish the project for Corporal Foster. We still need to build the motor, buy the necessary exhaust, brackets, etc. So as you can see, cash is critical at this point.

If you would like to participate, please respond with an Email or phone call ASAP, as I need to inform our soldiers in Iraq of our support program for their efforts.

Everyone will be given a "donation receipt" that will be valid for your 2008 taxes.



Trunk pan of Corporal Foster's Camaro was in great shape with little to no rust ---but the rest of the car was not so fortunate---go figure?



Members of the team assembling the 10-bolt posi diff that will go into Corporal Foster's Camaro.

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On behalf of the First Generation Camaros of Arizona, the Cactus GTO club and Corporal Foster---THANK YOU for your interest and support thus far.

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