

# Embedded in the Language

“The U.S. share of world military spending for 2006: 51%”

—LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP

“I’m not a lawyer. My impression is that what has been charged thus far is abuse, which I believe is technically different from torture.”

—DONALD RUMSFELD

1.

Embedded in the language  
cultural proofs and tendencies  
the word *Brunif*,  
to make brown or to polish.

2.

Here the color, there the rubbing  
interaction of text  
and interpreter  
never closed  
bird of dawn:  
a constant term.

3.

Enlisted because  
his mother died  
he got laid off  
she got convicted twice.

4.

“Our national debt increased  
by \$2 trillion  
in only five years”  
(one trillion seconds  
equals 31,546 years.).

5.

“Beauty is information.”

6.

War coverage through  
“a soda straw”  
in a forty hour period  
not a single story  
shows people hit  
by weapons.

7.

Let’s embed Stravinsky  
let’s embed aspens  
let’s embed history  
let’s embed logic.

8.

I knew a soldier  
lovely in his wounds.

9.

The USO tour, said director  
Wayne Newton,  
featured Al Franken  
dressed as Saddam Hussein,  
Clint Black, Jewel and  
SoulJahz, the Christian  
hip hop group.

10.

Dust storms gather  
outside a tent  
on night patrol  
he listens to 50 Cent  
is it multicultural yet?

11.

A figure-ground reversal  
of any single aspect or facet  
of holistic sensory experience  
since man the symbol-maker  
adjusts to anything.

12.

A California mother on TV  
claims her son died  
to keep her and church members  
free from wearing burkas.

13.

How to make a poem  
of so many terrible facts  
how to re-embed  
sympathy and truth.

14.

Or rather un-embed  
sympathy and truth  
since knowing  
needs a room  
for quiet occupation  
and sorting out of facts  
white space and a reason  
time and air.

15.

No coffins from this war  
not allowed on the news  
all desertions prosecuted  
to the letter of the law.

16.

A boy from Honduras  
aged eighteen  
who died on February 7  
citizenship granted  
posthumously.

17.

“Political poems  
are only the crudest  
expression  
of the feeling of loss,  
an attempt to find  
a central enemy  
so that ironic tension  
may be dissolved.”

18.

Three years to the day,  
I read, "I'm reminded  
of the commanders  
of World War I  
who repeatedly lied  
about victory over the Kaiser  
as they pushed thousands of men  
through the butcher shops  
of the Somme,  
Verdun, and Gallipoli."

19.

This too information  
meant to tie on meaning  
carry it on your back  
use it as a shield.

*19 March 2006  
3rd anniversary*