

CONSCRIPTIONS

Induction ceremonies found hidden amongst
opportunities for Selective Service personnel
replacing shadows - terminally posted in 1973

Turn on the lights, boot camp the computers,
upload lie detectors capturing defects on A(W)OL -
these Doors of Conscription have been left ajar

Women liberated from assuming the weaker sex,
to making cannon fodder instead of instant coffee -
teenage corpses losing their best shots at life

Reselected for body bagged service
clearing away Baath brigands so Shi'ites
can decree veiled dreams of freedom

21,420 slots to be filled across vacant boards
sending young men and women off to war(s)
about democratic spin to shining spin

Red, white and blue lines painted on a floor,
piss in a bottle -- give up your blood,
conscription is rearing its ugly dead.