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- Business
- Sports
- Tech • Science
- Living
- Travel
- Health
- TV News
- Opinions
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EXTRA ANCHOVIES

Hold the Dolphin

For years Sicilian fishermen have been unintentionally trapping more than sardines and anchovies in their nets. Dolphins, in particular, are constantly being caught sleeping with the fishes and causing untold damage to the fishermen's nets. According to past research, the average Italian fisherman accidentally catches a dolphin at least once every three years, losing up to 40 percent of his annual income in the resulting net damage.

But it seems this year's winter tides may have washed in a solution. Scientists believe that they have finally found a way to keep the unwanted dolphins at bay. After months of study, experts at Italy's National Research Council recently announced the development of an electronic whistle that will act as a dolphin deterrent. And while previous sonar efforts have failed because the clever marine mammals realized the sound was simulated due to its obvious repetition, scientists say the new wave is likely to work. In three months of testing, the software for EMMA (electroacoustic prototype for controlling the behavior of marine mammals) proved consistently successful, annoying the dolphins enough to keep them away, but also emitting sounds that were random in both sequence and volume. Just wait until the sonar becomes widely available at the Italian seaside next year. Dolphin and human alike might finally be on the same wavelength.

—*Nicole Martinelli*

[BACK TO TOP ↗](#)

LIVE TALK

- ▶ Read the transcript of Martha Brant's Live Talk on the war in Iraq.

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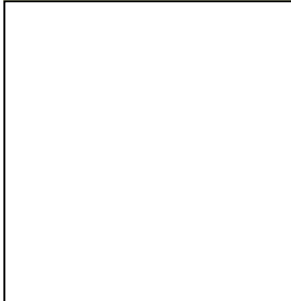
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- ▶ [Periscope](#)
- ▶ [National](#)
- ▶ [World](#)
- ▶ [Business](#)
- ▶ [Tech • Science](#)
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Perspectives



“You just arrived. You’re late. What took you so long?” **Ajami Saadoun**, whose son and brother were executed under Saddam Hussein’s regime, welcoming U.S. Marines into the Iraqi city of Safwan

“At dawn prayers... the criminal, reckless little Bush and his aides committed this crime which he was threatening to commit against Iraq and humanity.” **Iraqi President Saddam Hussein**, avowing to his people that he would overthrow President Bush

“I am doing this out of a responsibility to history. What distinguishes us from animals is our memory. Humanity cannot forget its history.” *Holocaust survivor Kurt Werner Schaechter, on suing France’s national railroad company for its role in transporting Jews to concentration camps during World War II. Schaechter is seeking €1 in damages.*

“The last thing Ted needs these days is a licking from me.” **Rupert Murdoch**, *responding to a challenge to a fistfight from fellow media mogul Ted Turner*

“That’s a weapon of mass destruction right there.” *Event moderator Dave Moody, on a shoe that was entered by the crew of the USS Montpelier submarine in the annual Rotten Sneaker Contest held in Vermont. It arrived double-bagged from an undisclosed location in the Persian Gulf and reeked of fish.*

“I didn’t have the feeling of sitting across from an uncultured villain of history. My impression is that we had a pleasant, cultivated, comprehensive talk.” *Austrian right-winger Jorg Haider, recounting his meeting with Saddam Hussein last year*

“We just decided to act in a peaceful way, following a one and only aim: peace around the world.” *A French Web site, bretzelforbush.com, which advocates sending pretzels to President Bush, who fainted in January 2002 after choking on the snack*

Quotation sources from top to bottom: Guardian, The Washington Post, New York Times, CBSNEWS.COM, Associated Press (2), BRETZELFORBUSH.COM

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**Newsweek
International April 7th
Issue**

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- [Letter From America: The View From the Counter](#)
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 - STORY** [Q&A: Wolfowitz's Vision for Postwar Iraq](#)
 - HOME** [MSNBC Cover Page](#)
-

[BACK TO TOP ↗](#)



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