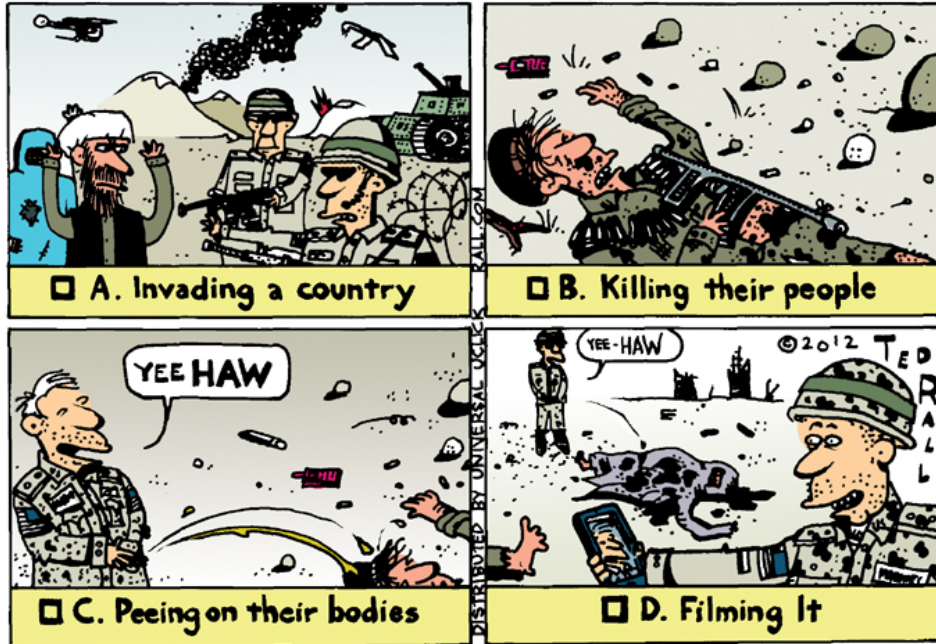


Military Resistance 10A19

Which of the following actions is wrong?



American And Other Foreign Troops “Are Being Killed In Increasing Numbers” By Afghan Soldiers:

**“Deep-Seated Animosity
Between The Supposedly Allied
Forces”**

**“The Sense Of Hatred Is
Growing Rapidly”**

**“There Are Pervasive Feelings Of
Animosity And Distrust A.N.S.F.
Personnel Have Towards U.S.
Forces”**

**The Americans “Voiced Suspicions
About The Afghans Being In League
With The Taliban, A Problem Well
Documented Among The Afghan Police”**

[Thanks to Sandy Kelson, Veteran & Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

“Lethal altercations are clearly not rare or isolated; they reflect a rapidly growing systemic homicide threat (a magnitude of which may be unprecedented between ‘allies’ in modern military history),” it said.

Official NATO pronouncements to the contrary “seem disingenuous, if not profoundly intellectually dishonest,” said the report, and it played down the role of Taliban infiltrators in the killings.

20 January 2012 by: Matthew Rosenberg, The New York Times News Service Report;
The New York Times [Excerpts]

Kabul - American and other coalition forces here are being killed in increasing numbers by the very Afghan soldiers they fight alongside and train, in attacks motivated by deep-seated animosity between the supposedly allied forces, according to American and Afghan officers and a classified coalition report.

A decade into the war in Afghanistan, the report makes clear that these killings have become the most visible symptom of a far deeper ailment plaguing the war effort: the contempt each side holds for the other, never mind the Taliban.

The ill will and mistrust run deep among civilians and militaries on both sides, raising questions about what future role the United States and its allies can expect to play in Afghanistan.

Underscoring the danger, a gunman in an Afghan Army uniform killed four French service members and wounded several others on Friday, according to an Afghan police official in Kapisa Province in eastern Afghanistan, prompting the French president to suspend his country's operations here.

The violence, and the failure by coalition commanders to address it, casts a harsh spotlight on the shortcomings of American efforts to build a functional Afghan Army, a pillar of the Obama administration's strategy for extricating the United States from the war in Afghanistan, said the officers and experts who helped shape the strategy.

One instance of the general level of antipathy in the war exploded into uncomfortable view last week when video emerged of American Marines urinating on dead Taliban fighters. Although American commanders quickly took action and condemned the act, chat-room and Facebook posts by Marines and their supporters were full of praise for the desecration.

But the most troubling fallout has been the mounting number of Westerners killed by their Afghan allies, events that have been routinely dismissed by American and NATO officials as isolated episodes that are the work of disturbed individual soldiers or Taliban infiltrators, and not indicative of a larger pattern.

The unusually blunt report, which was prepared for a subordinate American command in eastern Afghanistan, takes a decidedly different view.

The Wall Street Journal reported on details of the investigation last year. A copy was obtained by The New York Times.

"Lethal altercations are clearly not rare or isolated; they reflect a rapidly growing systemic homicide threat (a magnitude of which may be unprecedented between 'allies' in modern military history)," it said.

Official NATO pronouncements to the contrary "seem disingenuous, if not profoundly intellectually dishonest," said the report, and it played down the role of Taliban infiltrators in the killings.

The coalition [translation: U.S. military command in Afghanistan] refused to comment on the classified report.

But "incidents in the recent past where Afghan soldiers have wounded or killed I.S.A.F. members are isolated cases and are not occurring on a routine basis," said Lt. Col. Jimmie E. Cummings Jr. of the U.S. Army, a spokesman for the American-led International Security Assistance Force. "We train and are partnered with Afghan

personnel every day and we are not seeing any issues or concerns with our relationships.”

The numbers appear to tell a different story.

Although NATO does not release a complete tally of its forces’ deaths at the hands of Afghan soldiers and the police, the classified report and coalition news releases indicate that Afghan forces have attacked American and allied service members nearly three dozen times since 2007.

Two members of the French Foreign Legion and one American soldier were killed in separate episodes in the past month, according to statements by NATO.

The classified report found that between May 2007 and May 2011, when it was completed, at least 58 Western service members were killed in 26 separate attacks by Afghan soldiers and the police nationwide. Most of those attacks have occurred since October 2009.

This toll represented 6 percent of all hostile coalition deaths during that period, the report said.

“The sense of hatred is growing rapidly,” said an Afghan Army colonel. He described his troops as “thieves, liars and drug addicts,” but also said that the Americans were “rude, arrogant bullies who use foul language.”

Senior commanders largely manage to keep their feelings in check, said the officer, who asked not to be named so he could speak openly.

But the officer said, “I am afraid it will turn into a major problem in the near future in the lower ranks of both armies.”

There have been successes, especially among the elite Afghan commandos and coalition Special Operations forces, most of whom have undergone in-depth cultural training and speak at least some Dari and Pashto, the two main languages spoken in Afghanistan.

But, as highlighted by the classified report, familiarity in most cases appears to have mainly bred contempt — and that, in turn, has undercut the benefits of pairing up the forces.

The problem has also featured in classified reports tracking progress in the war effort, most of which are far more negative than the public declarations of progress, said an American officer, who asked not to be identified because he was discussing secret information.

The United States soldier was killed this month when an Afghan soldier opened fire on Americans playing volleyball at a base in the southern province of Zabul. The assailant was quickly gunned down. The deadliest single incident came last April when an Afghan Air Force colonel, Ahmed Gul, killed eight unsuspecting American officers and a contractor with shots to the head inside their headquarters.

He then killed himself after writing “God in your name” and “God is one” in blood on the walls of the base, according to an Air Force investigation of the incident released this week.

In a 436-page report, the Air Force investigators said the initial coalition explanation for the attack — stress brought on by financial problems — was only a small part of Colonel Gul’s motivation.

His primary motive was hatred of the United States, and he planned the attack to kill as many Americans as possible, the investigators said.

There have been no reported instances of Americans’ killing Afghan soldiers, although a rogue group of United States soldiers killed three Afghan civilians for sport in 2010. Yet there is ample evidence of American disregard for Afghans. After the urination video circulated, a number of those who had served in Afghanistan took to Facebook and other Web sites to cheer on their compatriots, describing Afghans of all stripes in harsh terms.

Many messages were posted on public forums, others in private message strings.

One private exchange was provided to The Times by a participant in the conversation; the names of those posting matched those on record as having served in the Marine Corps. In that conversation, a former Marine said he thought the video was “pretty awesome.” Another said he hoped it would happen more often.

The 70-page classified coalition report, titled “A Crisis of Trust and Cultural Incompatibility,” goes far beyond anecdotes.

It was conducted by a behavioral scientist who surveyed 613 Afghan soldiers and police officers, 215 American soldiers and 30 Afghan interpreters who worked for the Americans.

While the report focused on three areas of eastern Afghanistan, many of the Afghan soldiers interviewed had served elsewhere in Afghanistan and the author believed that they constituted a sample representative of the entire country.

“There are pervasive feelings of animosity and distrust A.N.S.F. personnel have towards U.S. forces,” the report said, using military’s abbreviation for Afghan security forces. The list of Afghan complaints against the Americans ran the gamut from the killing of civilians to urinating in public and cursing.

“U.S. soldiers don’t listen, they are too arrogant,” said one of the Afghan soldiers surveyed, according to the report.

“They get upset due to their casualties, so they take it out on civilians during their searches,” said another.

The Americans were equally as scathing.

“U.S. soldiers’ perceptions of A.N.A. members were extremely negative across categories,” the report found, using the initials for the Afghan National Army.

Those categories included “trustworthiness on patrol,” “honesty and integrity,” and “drug abuse.”

The Americans also voiced suspicions about the Afghans being in league with the Taliban, a problem well documented among the Afghan police.

“They are stoned all the time; some even while on patrol with us,” one soldier was quoted as saying. Another said, “They are pretty much gutless in combat; we do most of the fighting.”

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN MILITARY SERVICE?

Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly.

Whether in Afghanistan or at a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the wars and economic injustice, inside the armed services and at home.

Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657. Phone: 888.711.2550

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Saturday: Nationality Not Announced

January 21, 2011 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Sunday: Nationality Not Announced

January 22, 2012 By AFP

A foreign soldier died in an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan, the International Security Assistance Force said, without providing any further details.

Airman From Westminster In Afghanistan



Airman 1st Class Matthew R. Seidler, a Westminster resident assigned to the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron, Peterson Air Force Base, died Jan. 5 from injuries suffered from an improvised explosive device attack in southern Afghanistan. (courtesy photo, Peterson Air Force Base, / January 11, 2012)

January 7, 2012 By Steve Kilar, The Baltimore Sun

A 24-year-old airman from Westminster was killed when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle in Afghanistan, the Defense Department said Saturday.

Airman 1st Class Matthew R. Seidler died Thursday in the attack, which killed two other airmen. They were patrolling in Helmand, a southwestern province that remains a Taliban stronghold.

“When he joined the Air Force, he blossomed. He became himself,” said a cousin, Kalyn Masek, who last communicated with Seidler on Tuesday, his birthday. “I was really, really proud of him and the man that he’d become.”

Seidler, an explosive ordnance disposal technician, entered active duty in November 2009. He was assigned to the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado.

“He loved what he did” for the military, said Masek, who was surprised when Seidler told her that he was joining the Air Force. Being involved in the disarmament of explosives fed his intellect, she said, and excited him in a way that prior false starts in his professional life had not.

Seidler graduated from Westminster Senior High School in 2006. He took classes for a year in business administration at Stevenson University and then started in a multimedia design program at Carroll Community College before deciding to join the military.

“He was extremely smart,” said longtime friend Bryan Vana, who’d known Seidler since middle school. Vana said he was taken aback when Seidler asked him to be a reference for his Air Force admission, but said the decision made sense because military service would satisfy Seidler’s desire for new, evolving challenges.

Andrea Masek said she often played poker with her nephew. Poker and other strategy games were his favorite pastime, she said, and he had a serious demeanor at the table.

“He was very logical, analytical,” she said.

Seidler and Kalyn Masek, only a year apart in age, were “attached at the hip” growing up. When they were children, their families would go to Deep Creek Lake together, Kalyn Masek said, and the two of them would “cause trouble and get dirty” while playing hours on end.

Shy growing up, Seidler became an adventurous adult, she said. When they were young, she was always the one to bring him out of his shell. But after he joined the armed services, she said, he became the encouraging, outgoing one. On his Facebook page, where his father announced his death to friends and family, Seidler posted photos from trips he’d taken to Paris and New York and hiking and camping in the mountains. He also shared samples of his graphic design work and his preference for the Baltimore Ravens.

Seidler’s parents and brother live in Westminster, Kalyn Masek said.

In a statement, Lt. Col. Mark Donnithorne, his squadron commander, said Seidler’s role as an explosives disposal technician was vital to the operation. “We will never forget Matt’s sacrifice and dedication to his critical, yet dangerous, mission,” he said. “This is a tragic day for Team Pete, the 21st Space Wing, the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron and especially for Matt’s family,” Col. Chris Crawford, 21st Space Wing Commander, said in a statement Saturday. “We will come together to help Matt’s family and friends through their grief.”

Also killed were Senior Airman Bryan R. Bell, 23, of Erie, Pa., and Tech. Sgt. Matthew S. Schwartz, 34, of Traverse City, Mich.

**For N.J. Marine Killed In
Afghanistan Helicopter Crash,
Serving His Country Was A
Calling:
“He Always Used To Say, ‘I’ll Be OK.
I’m Coming Back’”
“He Is. Just Not The Way We Want Him
To”**



Family photo of 25-year-old U.S. Marine Cpl. Kevin Reinhard of the Colonia section of Woodbridge, who was killed in a U.S. helicopter crash in Afghanistan on Thursday. (Noah K. Murray /The Star Ledger)

January 21, 2012 By Star-Ledger Staff

WOODBIDGE — Like an insistent whisper, military service called to Kevin Reinhard.

Through his years in high school, through two years of college, Reinhard kept returning to the notion of a life in uniform, of serving his country.

“You could tell it was a passion for him,” said Miguel Cabrita, an assistant principal at St. Joseph High School in Metuchen and Reinhard’s volleyball coach there. “It wasn’t something he needed to do. It was something he wanted to do.”

Reinhard, who grew up in the Colonia section of Woodbridge, finally acted on that passion in 2008, enlisting in the Marine Corps. He learned to repair and maintain heavy-lift transport helicopters — “my helicopters,” he’d say, his voice tinged with pride — used to ferry troops and gear around the battlefields of Afghanistan.

It was there, with only weeks to go in his second tour of duty, where Cpl. Kevin James Reinhard and five other Marines died when their CH-53D Sea Stallion went down Thursday morning in Helmand Province. Reinhard, a 2005 graduate of St. Joe’s, was 25.

“He always used to say, ‘I’ll be OK. I’m coming back,’” said his mother, Kathleen Reinhard. “He is. Just not the way we want him to.”

Though the Taliban has claimed credit for downing the helicopter, a statement issued by the NATO international military coalition said there was no enemy activity in the area when it happened. German Brig. Gen. Carsten Jacobson, a spokesman for the NATO coalition in Kabul, told the Associated Press officials were looking at a “technical fault” as the possible culprit.

The Department of Defense has not officially released the names of the victims. All six Marines were based in Hawaii, where Reinhard was assigned to the Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363, a transport unit known as the “Lucky Red Lions.”

Friday, the flag that typically flies high in front of the Reinhard home had been lowered to half staff. Grieving relatives gathered to console the Marine’s parents and older sister, also named Kathleen.

Just three days ago, the family had spoken with Reinhard for the first time in months, enjoying a video chat as he wished his sister an early happy birthday and checked in on his Shih Tzu, Stubby.

Soon, with his seven-month deployment nearing an end, he would be coming home. The parents had planned to fly to Hawaii to meet him, celebrating both his return and their 30th wedding anniversary.

Then, near midnight Thursday, military officials knocked on the door.

The couple has wandered in and out of their son’s room since then, seeking comfort.

“That’s all we have right now,” James Reinhard said. “It’s something to look at and remember.”

His parents and sister described Reinhard as a generous and funny man who loved snorkeling, fishing, his black Nissan sports car and walks along the beach even during winter’s deepest bite.

Most of all, he loved flying.

“Ever since he was little he said he wanted to be a pilot,” his mother said.

At St. Joe’s, Reinhard took to volleyball, earning a starting spot on a varsity team that went deep into the state playoffs, said Cabrita, the coach and assistant principal.

“He worked hard at everything he did,” Cabrita said. “He was a no-fear kind of guy. We used to use the expression, ‘Run through a brick wall,’ and he would almost literally take you up on that. He was a go-getter.”

Principal John Anderson said it was widely known in school that Reinhard was strongly considering the military as an option after graduation. Guidance counselors also talked to him about college, but Anderson said the military was “something he really wanted to do.”

Reinhard did continue his education, spending a year at Ramapo College before transferring to Middlesex County College. But shortly before the end of his second year, he dropped out and enlisted. In an obituary written by his parents and sister, they said he “felt he needed to answer a call to serve his country.”

“The uniform only announced to the rest of the world what a wonderful man, what a wonderful soul he was — that he was a hero for all of us,” his family wrote.

Reinhard is the 41st service member with ties to New Jersey to be killed in Afghanistan since the war began in 2001. An additional 102 service members from New Jersey have died in Iraq since 2003.

Woodbridge Mayor John McCormac, who visited the family Friday morning to pay his respects, said Reinhard was the first Woodbridge resident killed in Afghanistan.

“He’ll be saluted as a true hero in our town,” he said.

**POLITICIANS CAN’T BE COUNTED
ON TO HALT THE BLOODSHED**

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO
STOP THE WARS**

**IF YOU DON’T LIKE THE RESISTANCE
END THE OCCUPATION**

MILITARY NEWS

**NOT ANOTHER DAY
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR
NOT ANOTHER LIFE**



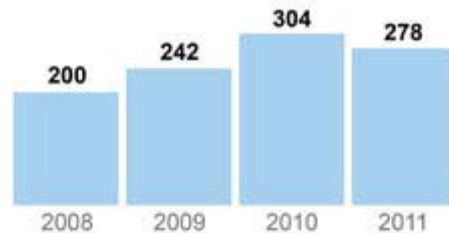
The remains of Army Pfc. Cody R. Norris of Houston at Dover Air Force Base, Del. Nov. 12, 2011. Norris was killed when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)

**Army Suicide Rates Decline For
First Time In 4 Years:
“Still, The Suicide Rate In The Army,
About 24 Per 100,000 Last Year,
Remains Higher Than A Similar
Demographic Among Civilians”**

“The Rate Among Soldiers Who Served In Iraq And Afghanistan Ranges Even Higher”

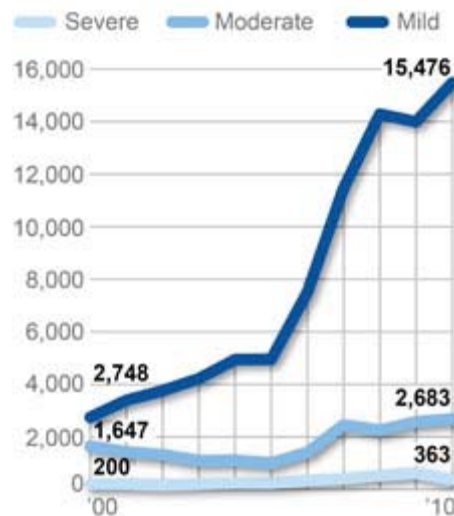
Suicides by year

The number of suicides involving active duty and non-mobilized soldiers fell for the first time in four years:



Brain injury trend

The number of Army soldiers with identified traumatic brain injury:



Note: Active duty includes Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers.

Source: U.S. Army

By Frank Pompa, USA TODAY

1.20.12 By Gregg Zoroya, USA TODAY [Excerpts]

Suicides among active-duty soldiers and those in the National Guard and Reserve who are not on active duty fell by 9% last year from 305 deaths in 2010 to 278 in 2011. It is the first good news on suicide for the Army since those deaths began increasing among active-duty soldiers in 2004.

Still, the suicide rate in the Army, about 24 per 100,000 last year, remains higher than a similar demographic among civilians, about 19 per 100,000.

The rate among soldiers who served in Iraq and Afghanistan ranges even higher, up to 38 per 100,000, the Army says.

Sexual assault and domestic violence have increased. The percentage of soldiers committing sex crimes has increased 32% since 2006.

The number of domestic abusers in the Army grew by almost 50% from 4,827 in 2008 to 7,228 last year. During that same, the number of child-abuse offenders is up 62% from 3,172 to 5,149.

Other findings:

More aggressive efforts to screen for mental illness and brain injury have revealed that concussions are a significant injury.

More than 15,000 concussion cases were identified in the Army in 2010, five times as many as diagnosed in 2000. The nearly 11,000 cases of post-traumatic stress disorder in 2010 were 15 times higher than in 2003.

The Army estimates that the total number of members from all branches of service afflicted with PTSD may be nearing a half million, half of them soldiers.

More complex wounds have led to longer periods of rehabilitation before soldiers return to duty or leave the Army. Nearly 7,000 have been convalescing for one to two years, and nearly 1,300 for two to three years.

**Semper Traitorous:
Film Documents How Marine
Corps Poisoned Their Own And
Buried Dead Babies In “Baby
Heaven”
“The Amount Of Leaked Fuel That
Led To Water Contamination Was
Many Times Greater Than The Marine
Corps Acknowledged”**

Marine Corps Traitors In Command “Ignored A Directive From The Navy To Inspect Its Water Systems For Possible Contamination And To Develop A Protocol For The Safe Disposal Of Hazardous Compounds”



(Gerry Broome/ASSOCIATED PRESS) - This 2007 photo shows some of the older base housing at Midway Park neighborhood at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

January 21 By Darryl Fears, The Washington Post [Excerpts]

Mike Partain didn't believe the rumors about a place called Baby Heaven until he visited a Jacksonville, N.C., graveyard and wandered into a section where newborns were laid to rest.

Surrounded by hundreds of tiny marble headstones, he started to cry.

A documentary film crew that followed him for a story about water contamination at Camp Lejeune heard his whimpers through a microphone clipped to his clothes. The crew dashed from another part of the graveyard and found him asking, “Why them and not me?”

The scene at Jacksonville City Cemetery is among the more poignant moments in the documentary “Semper Fi: Always Faithful,” about the men, women and children affected over three decades by contaminated water at the nation's largest Marine base.

The film made the short list of 15 documentary features being considered for an Oscar; the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will cut the list to five Tuesday.

“Semper Fi” follows Partain and Jerome “Jerry” Ensminger, the men credited with uncovering records showing that the amount of leaked fuel that led to water contamination was many times greater than the Marine Corps acknowledged.

A congressional hearing in 2007 revealed that the camp ignored a directive from the Navy to inspect its water systems for possible contamination and to develop a protocol for the safe disposal of hazardous compounds.

The Marine Corps at Lejeune routinely dumped fluids containing harmful chemicals, which leached into groundwater and eventually contaminated a well. For decades, buried tanks also leaked fuel, allowing the chemical benzene, a known carcinogen, into the ground nearby.

But Camp Lejeune failed to study the health risks of its water after toxic compounds were discovered in the early 1980s, and did not notify Marines and their families.

Up to a million people who rotated in and out of the base from the late 1950s to the late 1980s relied on the water to drink and bathe.

The federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry sent a survey last year to about 300,000 people who lived or worked at the Marine base before 1986. The agency expects to release the findings in early 2014.

Ensminger, a square-jawed ex-Marine master sergeant, is still haunted by the death of his 9-year-old daughter, Janey, from cancer in 1985. Partain, who was born at the base in 1968, is one of more than 70 men who lived there and now suffer from rare male breast cancer.

During four years of filming that ended last year, the two men heard mention of a cemetery near Camp Lejeune where hundreds of sick and malformed babies were interred.

“I don’t think any of us believed it existed,” said Rachel Libert, an independent documentary filmmaker who co-directed “Semper Fi” with Tony Hardmon, a veteran cinematographer. Seeing it “was . . . very weird,” she said. “It was a graphic representation of the issue to see all these graves.”

As news of the film’s Oscar worthiness spread, so did interest in Congress. “Suddenly, people on Capitol Hill were requesting DVDs from us, and links to watch it online,” Libert said. “People were taking it more seriously.”

“I thought it was a very powerful presentation of the story,” said Rep. Brad Miller (D-N.C.).

He said a friend who lived at the base as a child believes her reproductive problems are tied to the water there, and others have told him they ignored symptoms that turned out to be cancer, not knowing about the water.

“If it were not for a handful of Marine veterans, nobody would know about this thing. The Navy has certainly had to be pulled along very unwillingly to acknowledge that there was a problem with the water,” Miller said.

Miller and Rep. John D. Dingell (D-Mich.) reintroduced legislation last year that would provide medical assistance to hundreds of thousands of civilians and military personnel who spent time at the camp.

The bill is stalled in the Veterans’ Affairs Committee under Rep. Jeff Miller (R-Fla.).

Similar Senate legislation was introduced by Richard Burr (R-N.C.), Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa), Kay Hagan (D-N.C.) and Bill Nelson (D-Fla.). It is awaiting a vote in the upper chamber.

Many former residents first learned of the water contamination in 1999, when questionnaires arrived in their mailboxes from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

The agency focused on women such as Partain’s mother, who were pregnant while living on base between 1968 and 1985.

In 2003, the agency issued a report showing 103 cases of birth defects or childhood cancers among nearly 12,600 births in the survey — up to five times the normal rate, researchers said.

For the documentary, former residents looked into the camera and said they wondered for years how they got cancer. The film introduced viewers to a healthy looking ex-Marine, Danita Watkins, in 2007 and chronicled her deterioration and death from cancer two years later.

“It was the first time I had someone not survive the making of a film,” Libert said.

Ensminger, who joined the Marines in 1970, started digging into Camp Lejeune’s documents after he saw a news report about the contamination. His ex-wife became pregnant with his daughter, Janey, during a stint at the base. She developed cancer at age 6.

“I see all these memorandums, all this stuff that was going on. I’m thinking to myself, ‘For God’s sake, I was right there,’” Ensminger said in a telephone interview.

“I spent a quarter century of my life in the Marine Corps,” he said. “You talk about being disillusioned. I was walking around in a daze. Many times I had to ask myself, ‘Did I throw away 25 years of my life for a lie?’”

Partain partnered with Ensminger in 2007. He has found 73 men who lived at the camp and experienced breast cancer, an unusually high number for such a rare illness.

“The bad news is I was conceived, carried and born at Camp Lejeune,” Partain said. “What happened to me in the womb I will carry for the rest of my life, and will more than likely be the end of my life at some point.”

When Ensminger and Partain heard tales of a graveyard section called Baby Heaven two years ago, Partain, whose parents left the camp shortly after his birth, went back.

Baby Heaven isn't its official name. But local residents called it that, along with Baby Land, as it grew to accommodate more than 700 graves, said Carmen Miracle, the city clerk.

Partain stared at the graves of four babies born between 1967 and 1968, within months of his birth. "We could hear him crying before we found him," Libert said.

His voiced started to crack again when he talked about the importance of the documentary last week.

"It gives the little guy a voice. Now people can hear what we have to say, not just what the Marine Corps says," Partain said.

"Lies and coverups hate sunshine. Documentaries like this are our way of bringing sunshine to uncover the truth."

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



"At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation's ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke.

“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

“We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake.”

“The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppose.”

Frederick Douglass, 1852

<p>A revolution is always distinguished by impoliteness, probably because the ruling classes did not take the trouble in good season to teach the people fine manners. -- Leon Trotsky, History Of The Russian Revolution</p>
--

1777:
**“10 Revolutionary Sailors And
Marines Met In Secret — Not To Plot
Against The King’s Armies, But To
Discuss Their Concerns About The
Commander Of The Continental
Navy”**
**“He ‘Treated Prisoners In The Most
Inhuman And Barbarous Manner’”**

[Late but worth it. T]

June 12, 2011 By STEPHEN M. KOHN, The New York Times.

Forty years ago today, The New York Times began publishing the Pentagon Papers, a seminal moment not only for freedom of the press but also for the role of whistle-blowers — like Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked the papers to expose the mishandling of the war in Vietnam — in defending our democracy.

Today, the Obama administration is aggressively pursuing leakers. Bradley E. Manning, an Army private, has been imprisoned since May 2010 on suspicion of having passed classified data to the antisecrecy group WikiLeaks. Thomas A. Drake, a former official at the National Security Agency, pleaded guilty Friday to a misdemeanor of misusing the agency’s computer system by providing information to a newspaper reporter.

The tension between protecting true national security secrets and ensuring the public's "right to know" about abuses of authority is not new. Indeed, the nation's founders faced this very issue.

In the winter of 1777, months after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the American warship Warren was anchored outside of Providence, R.I.

On board, 10 revolutionary sailors and marines met in secret — not to plot against the king's armies, but to discuss their concerns about the commander of the Continental Navy, Commodore Esek Hopkins.

They knew the risks: Hopkins came from a powerful family; his brother was a former governor of Rhode Island and a signer of the declaration.

Hopkins had participated in the torture of captured British sailors; he "treated prisoners in the most inhuman and barbarous manner," his subordinates wrote in a petition.

One whistle-blower, a Marine captain named John Grannis, was selected to present the petition to the Continental Congress, which voted on March 26, 1777, to suspend Hopkins from his post.

The case did not end there.

Hopkins, infuriated, immediately retaliated. He filed a criminal libel suit in Rhode Island against the whistle-blowers. Two of them who happened to be in Rhode Island — Samuel Shaw, a midshipman, and Richard Marven, a third lieutenant — were jailed.

In a petition read to Congress on July 23, 1778, they pleaded that they had been "arrested for doing what they then believed and still believe was nothing but their duty."

Later that month, without any recorded dissent, Congress enacted America's first whistle-blower-protection law: "That it is the duty of all persons in the service of the United States, as well as all other inhabitants thereof, to give the earliest information to Congress or any other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or misdemeanors committed by any officers or persons in the service of these states, which may come to their knowledge."

Congress did not stop there. It wanted to ensure that the whistle-blowers would have excellent legal counsel to fight against the libel charges, and despite the financial hardships of the new republic, it authorized payment for the legal fees of Marven and Shaw.

Congress did not hide behind government secrecy edicts, even though the nation was at war.

Instead, it authorized the full release of all records related to the removal of Hopkins. No "state secret" privilege was invoked.

The whistle-blowers did not need to use a Freedom of Information Act to obtain documents to vindicate themselves. There was no attempt to hide the fact that whistle-blowers had accused a Navy commander of mistreating prisoners.

Armed with Congress's support, the whistle-blowers put on a strong defense, and won their case in court. And true to its word, Congress on May 22, 1779, provided \$1,418 to cover costs associated with the whistle-blowers' defense.

One "Sam. Adams" was directed to ensure that their Rhode Island lawyer, William Channing, was paid.

Nearly two centuries later, the Supreme Court justice William O. Douglas, praising the founders' commitment to freedom of speech, wrote: "The dominant purpose of the First Amendment was to prohibit the widespread practice of government suppression of embarrassing information."

A 1989 law was supposed to protect federal employees who expose fraud and misconduct from retaliation. But over the years, these protections have been completely undermined.

One loophole gives the government the absolute right to strip employees of their security clearances and fire them, without judicial review.

Another bars employees of the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency from any coverage under the law.

And Congress has barred national security whistle-blowers who are fired for exposing wrongdoing from obtaining protection in federal court.

It is no surprise that honest citizens who witness waste, fraud and abuse in national security programs but lack legal protections are silenced or forced to turn to unauthorized methods to expose malfeasance, incompetence or negligence.

Instead of ignoring and intimidating whistle-blowers, Congress and the executive branch would do well to follow the example of the Continental Congress, by supporting and shielding them.

And Now, For Something Completely Different

www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMDn6V7ZLhE

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email: contact@militaryproject.org

STUCK ON STUPID

**[Yowling Con Game Bullshitters
To The Contrary
Notwithstanding]**

**Israeli Defense Minister Says
Israel “Very Far Off” From
Decision On Iran Attack:**

**“The Intelligence Assessment Israeli
Officials Will Present Later This Week
To Dempsey Indicates That Iran Has
Not Yet Decided Whether To Make A
Nuclear Bomb”**

**“Obama Administration Recently Warned
Israel Not To Attack Iran’s Nuclear
Facilities, And Dempsey Is Apparently
Here In Part To Make Sure That Israel
Has No Such Plans”**

[Needless to say, assorted fund drives demanding money to “stop the attack on Iran” will continue to be puked out all over the Internet by dishonest dishonorable political organizations, as reliable as “Learn the secrets to making a higher income” and other assorted money-grubbing spam.

[You may wish to keep a list of those organizations, so you know who not to trust or take seriously again in the future. T]

Israeli intelligence sees signs that the regime in Tehran is genuinely worried about the possibility of an opposition victory in March.

Should that happen, the regime will have to choose between conceding the loss or falsifying results - as it apparently did in the 2009 presidential election - which could incite anti-regime protests thanks to the tailwind provided by the Arab Spring, which toppled the regimes in Egypt, Tunisia and Libya.

01.18.12 By Amos Harel and Reuters, Haaretz

Defense Minister Ehud Barak said on Wednesday that Israel was “very far off” from a decision about an attack on Iran over its nuclear program.

Barak was speaking on Israel’s Army Radio ahead of a planned visit this week by U.S. armed forces chief General Martin Dempsey that has triggered speculation Washington would press Israel to delay any action against Tehran’s nuclear program.

Asked whether the United States was asking Israel to let them know ahead of any assault against Iran, Barak replied:

“We haven’t made any decision to do this,” and added: “This entire thing is very far off.”

When pressed as to whether “very far off” meant weeks or months, Barak replied: “I wouldn’t want to provide any estimates. It’s certainly not urgent. I don’t want to relate to it as though tomorrow it will happen.”

The intelligence assessment Israeli officials will present later this week to Dempsey indicates that Iran has not yet decided whether to make a nuclear bomb.

The Israeli view is that while Iran continues to improve its nuclear capabilities, it has not yet decided whether to translate these capabilities into a nuclear weapon - or, more specifically, a nuclear warhead mounted atop a missile. Nor is it clear when Iran might make such a decision.

Israeli intelligence sees signs that the regime in Tehran is genuinely worried about the possibility of an opposition victory in March.

Should that happen, the regime will have to choose between conceding the loss or falsifying results - as it apparently did in the 2009 presidential election - which could incite anti-regime protests thanks to the tailwind provided by the Arab Spring, which toppled the regimes in Egypt, Tunisia and Libya.

The regime is also being confronted by two distinct ideological challenges.

On one hand, a growing camp that includes supporters of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is challenging the authority of the ruling clerics, and especially that of the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

On the other, the Iranian model of a strict Islamic regime run by clerics is being called into question by Islamist ruling parties in Turkey, Tunisia and perhaps also Egypt, which either are or will soon be offering more democratic, modern and moderate models of Islamic governance.

The Iranian issue will presumably be the major focus of Dempsey's talks here.

Over the weekend, the Wall Street Journal reported that the Obama administration recently warned Israel not to attack Iran's nuclear facilities, and Dempsey is apparently here in part to make sure that Israel has no such plans.

In addition, the U.S. State Department publicly criticized the assassination of a nuclear scientist in Tehran last week and denied any connection to it.

Iran has blamed Israel for the attack, though it later accused the United States and Britain of being involved as well.

Israeli officials have made contradictory statements in recent days about the effectiveness of the sanctions imposed on Iran. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised the sanctions in an interview with an Australian paper, but later told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that they were insufficient.

[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."]

Troops Invited:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

Stupid Shithead Judge Of The Year, So Far

January 21, 2012 By Stephen D. Foster Jr., Addictinginfo.org [Excerpt]

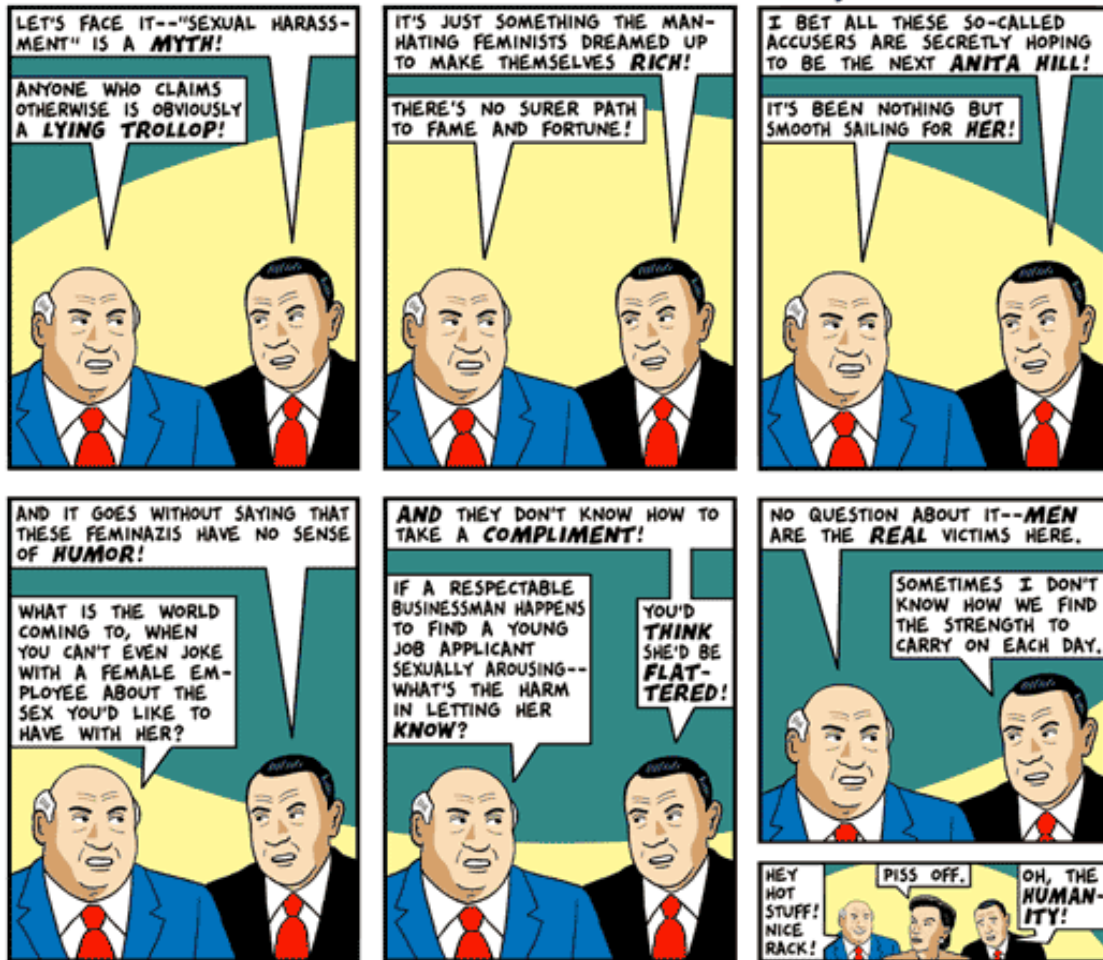
A judge in Atlanta, Georgia has ordered President Obama to show up at a hearing concerning a complaint filed by a citizen of the state who contends that Mr. Obama is not a natural-born citizen and therefore should be removed from the ballot in the Georgia Presidential primary.

On Friday, Deputy Chief Judge Michael Malihi denied a motion for dismissal of a subpoena that requires the President to attend. The hearing is set for Thursday

CLASS WAR REPORTS

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



GET MILITARY RESISTANCE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you wish to receive Military Resistance immediately and directly, send request to contact@militaryproject.org. There is no subscription charge.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



Vietnam GI: Reprints Available



Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War

Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command.

The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

Military Resistance has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

Free on request to active duty members of the armed forces.

Cost for others: \$15 if picked up in New York City. For mailing inside USA add \$5 for bubble bag and postage. For outside USA, include extra for mailing 2.5 pounds to wherever you are.

Checks, money orders payable to: The Military Project

Orders to:
Military Resistance
Box 126
2576 Broadway
New York, N.Y.
10025-5657

All proceeds are used for projects giving aid and comfort to members of the armed forces organizing to resist today's Imperial wars.



“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.”
Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War

Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out

Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website

<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others:

<http://williambowles.info/military-resistance-archives/>; news@uruknet.info;

http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/;

<http://www.albasrah.net/pages/mod.php?header=res1&mod=gis&rep=gis>

Military Resistance distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **Military Resistance has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is Military Resistance endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

If printed out, a copy of this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.