

Military Resistance 10A5



Hundreds Of Armed Libyan Soldiers Protested On Thursday In The Eastern City Of Benghazi, Demanding Payment Of Overdue Wages:

“Every Time I Go The Military Camp To Ask About My Salary, They Say I’ll It Get Soon, And This Has Gone On For Four Months”

“I Have Kids And The School Year Is About To Start”

“The Kids Need Clothes, Schoolbags, Books And Stationary And I Have Nothing To Cover All These Costs”

Jan 5, 2012 By Mohammed Al Tommy, Reuters

BENGHAZI, Libya

Hundreds of Libyan soldiers protested on Thursday in the eastern city of Benghazi, demanding payment of overdue wages and complaining militia groups had taken over their bases and were not interested in joining a new national army.

The soldiers, part of a force marginalized by ousted leader Muammar Gaddafi, gathered outside a branch of the central bank in Benghazi in their military uniforms and clutching their arms.

They said the new government should focus on building a new army rather than giving cash compensation to former rebels who have formed powerful regional militia since ousting Gaddafi.

“The revolutionaries don’t want to join an organized military, they want to keep their current situation,” said Al Mabrouk Abdullah al-Oraibi, who worked in the military’s accounting department but now works in the military police.

The former dictator distrusted the military and effectively dismantled the armed forces in the 1990’s, leaving them with little personnel and arms.

He placed real power in the hands of his own militias which moved swiftly to crush protests against him in February.

A large number of military officers defected in the early days of the uprising. Some ordinary soldiers were pressured into fighting for Gaddafi but many stayed at home or joined the revolution.

“We haven’t been paid for three months,” Oraibi, 28, said.

“The national council is marginalizing the Libyan army, they are in favor of the militias.”

Oraibi said the NTC should start reorganizing the army immediately, adding that military camps were controlled by the militias rather than the military.

Ibrahim al-Sahati, 50, who served in the army for 32 years and joined the military police after the civil war that ousted Gaddafi, was more concerned about providing for his children.

“Every time I go the military camp to ask about my salary, they say I’ll it get soon, and this has gone on for four months,” Sahati said.

“I have kids and the school year is about to start,” the father of eight children said. “The kids need clothes, schoolbags, books and stationary and I have nothing to cover all these costs.”

He said the bank’s management had agreed to pay the protesters for two months, but he did not know when he would receive the payments.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Eight Foreign Occupation “Servicemembers” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan: Nationality Not Announced

Jan 6, 2012 The Associated Press

Eight foreign soldiers have been killed in a series of bomb attacks in southern Afghanistan, the military said Friday.

Three died on Thursday, another lost his life in a blast on Friday and four more were killed in second attack later the same day.

NATO’s US-led International Security Assistance Force did not release the nationalities of the soldiers, in keeping with policy.

Details would be released by the soldiers’ home countries, a spokesman said.

‘A Loving Young Man With A Good Heart’

December 27, 2011 By Katie Jones, The Greenville News

Justin Whitmire's family is doing as well as can be expected after learning he was killed while serving his country, said Terry Rogers, pastor of Faith Renewed Outreach Center, the family's church in Mauldin, S.C.

Whitmire, 20, an Army medic from Simpsonville, S.C., was killed Dec. 27 while serving in Afghanistan.

Whitmire had been in Afghanistan for about 19 days and in the military for a little over a year, Rogers said.

The vehicle he was in hit an improvised explosive device, killing him and two other soldiers, Rogers said.

Whitmire graduated from Hillcrest High in 2010, Rogers said, and immediately joined the military. "The reason he went there was just because he wanted to help people, and he felt like he was doing that," he said.

Rogers said the family received a call at about 8 p.m. Dec. 27 that Whitmire had been killed. He said he had received a call from a chaplain to come to the family's home.

Whitmire had expressed a desire to stay in the medical field after the military, Rogers said, but that from childhood, Whitmire knew he wanted to serve in the military.

"As a young boy, he knew that's what he wanted to do," Rogers said. "Just for him, the decision became which one it would be. He tossed around which branch of service he would be in and then decided with the Army."

Rogers said he was Whitmire's youth pastor for several years as well as his senior pastor. Rogers said the last time he spoke with Whitmire was over Skype on Christmas Eve. Whitmire talked about how he felt he was making a difference, he said. "He was excited about what he was doing there," Rogers said.

Whitmire was the middle child of three, Rogers said. His 21-year-old brother, 16-year-old sister and his parents live in Simpsonville, he said.

Rogers said Whitmire was a big brother to a lot of younger guys at church, including Rogers' 14-year-old son. During that last Skype session, Whitmire talked about fishing with Rogers' son when he returned, Rogers said.

"He was one of those guys, just a big brother to everybody," he said.

Whitmire was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, before going to Afghanistan. He was scheduled to return in February on leave, Rogers said.

One day before his death, Whitmire wrote on his Facebook page that he "had a great Christmas talking to the family and the love of my life on Skype. Can't wait to be home with everyone again soon."

Whitmire's Facebook page has filled with those remembering him and thanking him for his service. His grandmother requested prayers for the Whitmire family on her page.

“Please remember our family in your prayer. Our grandson, Justin Whitmire, was killed in Afghanistan today,” she wrote.

“He was supposed to be in a safe location. But it appears that it is not safe anywhere over there.

“He was only 20 years old and had been over there for three weeks. Thank you for your prayers.”

Rogers said he and the family have received emails, texts and tweets about Whitmire, even from people who only met him once.

“If you met him, you’d remember him being a good guy with a good heart,” Rogers said. “He’d drop what he was doing to come help you. He’d drop anything to come help you.”

Whitmire had a heart of gold, loved to help people and had a smile that would light up a room, Rogers said.

“Justin’s a good boy, never any trouble,” he said. “Wanted to help people and that’s why he became a medic.” Rogers said that’s how he will remember Whitmire — as “a loving young man with a good heart, who knew Jesus.”

USO Sailor Of Year Killed In Afghanistan



Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Chad Regelin — U.S. Navy

Jan. 3, 2012 Written by Jeanette Steele, San Diego Union-Tribune

When Navy bomb disposal technician Chad Regelin was named 2011 USO sailor of the year, he couldn't make it to the October gala in Washington, D.C.

He was in Afghanistan, standing in for a wounded bomb technician.

That job took his life Monday. Regelin, a 24-year-old sailor assigned to a San Diego unit, was killed during combat operations with a Marine Corps special operations company in Helmand province, Afghanistan, the Pentagon announced.

His brother Ryan said the sailor was on foot patrol when an explosion occurred. Regelin went to check it out and a second bomb, detonated via a wire, went off.

A Navy spokesman confirmed that the explosives technician was killed by a improvised bomb while on patrol but couldn't discuss the details.

Regelin grew up in Anderson, a Northern California town of 10,000 people. His brother said that for a small-town guy, the sailor grew to love San Diego, and surfing.

But, mostly, he loved his job. So much so, the bomb technician thought it wasn't fair to date; he was deployed too often. Days before the accident, Regelin had reenlisted for another six years, his brother said.

"He was a thrill junkie," Ryan Regelin said of his sibling, who talked to him about volunteering for the extra Afghanistan tour. "He said he hates sitting at home. He loved what he did."

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 3's then-command master chief said in October that Regelin was one of the group's top performers.

"He exemplifies the EOD warrior in all facets during combat operations and at home. Regelin is easily the most selfless EOD technician at my command," Master Chief Lee Morrison wrote in an email.

"Every chief petty officer and team member would be proud to serve with such a warrior."

Morrison attended the Oct. 6 USO gala with Regelin's parents, Scott and Shirene, to accept the sailor's award. The crowd stood and cheered when it was announced that Regelin agreed to take a wounded sailor's place in the field, Morrison reported.

"He represents our bedrock principles — honor, courage and commitment," he wrote.

Regelin was nominated for the USO award — which goes to a junior enlisted person for a specific act of bravery in the prior calendar year — for an earlier Afghanistan tour, from August 2010 to March 2011.

During that deployment, Regelin personally found and destroyed 24 roadside explosives, trained 13 people in bomb detection and took part in 20 firefights.

During a two-day stretch of intense fighting, the sailor stayed calm as the enemy attacked while he was in the process of disarming a 60-pound bomb. His cool head helped save the 10-person unit that he was leading.

The Navy nominated Regelin, a petty officer 1st class stationed at San Diego Naval Base, for the Bronze Star with V for the incident. The sailor's commander called Regelin a star.

“His outstanding situational awareness and keen attention to detail in a combat environment undoubtedly saved the lives of his teammates,” Cmdr. Charles Andrews wrote in the USO nomination entry.

“His leadership and performance under fire far exceeded his pay grade.”

In an October email to U-T San Diego from Afghanistan, Regelin said he chose bomb disposal — a skill in high demand during the past decade — because he enjoys working with explosives and the “top-notch” people in the field.

The sailor enlisted in 2006 and deployed three times, once to Iraq and twice to Afghanistan.

Ryan Regelin said the sailor will be buried in a veterans cemetery in Redding following a memorial service in his hometown.

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

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

Resistance Action



[Graphic:flickr.com/photos]

January 04, 2012 BNA & Jan 5, 2012 By Slobodan Lekic - The Associated Press

At least eight were killed and 18 other wounded in two consecutive roadside mining and bombing near Sardar Madad Khan cross in the southern province of Kandahar, an official said.

Three policemen had been killed and eighteen other injured as firstly a roadside mine was blown up and then an attack took place after the people including the security had gathered around the area where the mine had been detonated.

Ayobi blamed the Taliban for carrying out the attack in which over a dozen people were killed and wounded that an on duty in the provincial hospital called six wounded individuals in critical condition.

But, the eyewitnesses said the voice of gunfire had been heard from the site near the Sardar Modad Khan square, where the incident had taken place.

Attackers killed a local government official on his way to a mosque in southern Afghanistan in another hit on a government figure. Haji Fazel Mohammad was shot on his way to evening prayers Wednesday in the volatile district of Sangin in Helmand province, the governor's office said. The attackers escaped.

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

Pakistan Turns Back Hundreds Of Military Containers And Fuel Tankers Headed For Afghanistan

Jan 5, 2012 Press TV [Excerpts]

Pakistan has turned back hundreds of military containers and fuel tankers, headed for Afghanistan, from its southwestern border-crossing to the southern port city of Karachi, Press TV reports.

The containers carrying supplies for US forces in Afghanistan started returning to Karachi from the border town of Chaman on Wednesday as they were not allowed to gain passage into Afghanistan through the Chaman border gate.

Pakistan blocked supply routes to landlocked Afghanistan following US airstrikes on two Pakistani military checkpoints that killed 24 soldiers in Mohmand Agency on November 26.

The 5-week closure has left tens of thousands of tons of supplies bound for NATO forces in Afghanistan piling up at Karachi port.

THIS ENVIRONMENT IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH; ALL HOME, NOW



U.S. soldiers near the scene of an attack in Kandahar, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, Jan. 3, 2012. A bomber driving a motorcycle killed four civilians and a police officer in southern Afghanistan's Kandahar city on Tuesday, police said. (AP Photo/Allauddin Khan)...

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Insurgent Action



(Graphic: London Financial Times)

Jan 4, 2012 AP

BAGHDAD — A series of attacks in Iraq on Wednesday targeting the homes of police officers and a member of a government-allied militia killed four people, including two children, officials said.

Police said six roadside bombs planted near houses belonging to security officers in Baqouba exploded as their families were sleeping. Nine people were wounded.

The city, 35 miles (60 kilometers) northeast of Baghdad, is a former stronghold of militants.

Also, police said gunmen stormed the house of a leader in the government militia in the Abu Ghraib, west of the capital, killing him and his wife. The man had been active in the Sahwa, or Sons of Iraq, a militia supported the U.S. military in Iraq.

MILITARY NEWS

1,500 Soldiers From Fort Stewart Off To Obama's Imperial Slaughterhouse Beginning Next Month

Jan 4, 2012 The Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. — After years spent focusing on the just-ended war in Iraq, the Georgia-based 3rd Infantry Division is deploying 1,500 Army soldiers in their units' first deployments to Afghanistan beginning next month, Fort Stewart officials said Wednesday.

Lt. Col. Benjamin Garrett, a Fort Stewart spokesman, declined to comment on whether commanders expect more 3rd Infantry units might follow in 2012, but he said no further deployment orders have been given.

Both deploying units come from the division's 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, which returned from its fourth Iraq tour in the fall of 2010. Since then, the soldiers have been training to be ready to deploy as needed by the Army, Garrett said.

"Just because they haven't been to Afghanistan doesn't mean they would be outside the deployment cycle to go," Garrett said. "... It shouldn't come as a surprise."

Garrett said the first wave of soldiers, about 800 troops from the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, is scheduled to deploy in February and will provide security for other military units tasked with improving stability in Afghan villages.

In April, about 700 Fort Stewart soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, are scheduled to follow. They will join with members of a Stryker armored-vehicle

brigade from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., that is conducting counter-insurgency operations and helping train Afghan security forces.

The 3rd Infantry Division's troops and tanks were among the first U.S. forces to storm into Iraq in the 2003 invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein. The division's four combat brigades, including one based at Fort Benning, returned throughout the war in 2005, 2007 and in staggered deployments spread between 2009 and 2010.

“Retired Colonel With The Arizona National Guard Was Charged With Stealing More Than \$2 Million From A Charitable Fund For Guardsmen”

Jan 5, 2012 By JJ Hensley - The Arizona Republic

PHOENIX — A retired colonel with the Arizona National Guard was charged with stealing more than \$2 million from a charitable fund for guardsmen in a multicount indictment released this week.

Prosecutors with Arizona Attorney General Tom Horne's office claim that retired Col. James Eugene Burns used the stolen money to support a gambling habit.

A Maricopa County grand jury handed up the eight count indictment in October, charging Burns with fraud, theft and forgery during a four-year period from 2007 through 2011, during which time prosecutors claim Burns siphoned cash out of several charitable accounts and put it toward gambling debts.

“This is one of the most disturbing alleged abuses of a financial trust as I have ever seen,” Horne said in a statement.

“This money was meant to assist needy service men and women and their families, and Mr. Burns is alleged to have instead used it to satisfy his personal gambling debts.”

Prosecutors claim that Burns, while working as resource manager with the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, diverted cash from the Arizona National Guard Emergency Relief Fund and the Arizona National Guard Emergency Family Fund.

Both funds are designed to provide emergency assistance to National Guard members and their families.

A note posted on a social networking site dedicated to the Emergency Relief Fund said the organization is once again taking applications for assistance after temporarily shutting down after Burns was indicted. “Though we had to temporarily cease operations after learning that our previous financial manager had improperly accessed our funds, we want to assure you that we remain steadfast in our intent to continue assisting our military members and families in need,” the message read.

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

**Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number,
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you-
Ye are many — they are few**

-- Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1819, on the occasion of a mass murder of British workers by the Imperial government at Peterloo.

“The Objective Meaning Of Revolution Is The Struggle For State Power For The Purpose Of Reconstructing Antiquated Social Relations”

**The State Is “The Greatest Means Of
Organising, Disorganizing, And Re-
Organizing Social Relations”**

**“Democracy, As The Party Of The
Proletariat, Naturally Seeks The
Political Supremacy Of The Working
Class”**

Excerpts from *Foreword to Karl Marx, Parizhskaya Kommuna* by Leon Trotsky
(December 1905)

The State And The Struggle For Power

A revolution is an open contest of social forces in the struggle for power.

The popular masses rise up, driven by vital elementary motives and interests, and frequently have no awareness of the movement's goals or the paths it will take: one party inscribes 'right and justice' on its banner, another 'order'; the 'heroes' of the revolution are either impelled by a sense of 'duty' or carried away by ambition; the army's behaviour is determined by unquestioning discipline, by a fear that consumes discipline, or else by revolutionary insight that overcomes both discipline and fear.

Enthusiasm, self-interest, habit, bold flights of thought, superstition and self-sacrifice — thousands of different feelings, ideas, attitudes, talents, and passions are swept into and swallowed up by a mighty whirlpool in which they either perish or rise to new heights.

But the objective meaning of revolution is the struggle for state power for the purpose of reconstructing antiquated social relations.

The state is no end in itself.

It is only a working machine in the hands of the ruling social forces.

Like any machine, the state has its motive power, its mechanisms of transmission, and its working parts.

The motive power is class interest; its mechanisms are agitation, the press, the propaganda of churches and schools, parties, street meetings, petitions and uprisings.

Finally, the executive mechanism is the administration together with the police, courts and prisons, and the army.

The state is no end in itself.

It is, however, the greatest means of organising, disorganizing, and re-organizing social relations.

Depending upon whose hands control it, it can be either a lever for profound transformation or an instrument of organised stagnation.

Democracy, as the party of the proletariat, naturally seeks the political supremacy of the working class.

The proletariat grows and becomes strong together with the growth of capitalism.

In this sense, growth of capitalism is also the development of the proletariat in the direction of its own dictatorship.

However, the day and the hour when power will pass into the hands of the working class do not directly depend upon the level of the productive forces, but rather upon the relations of class struggle, the international situation, and finally, upon a number of subjective factors that include tradition, initiative, and readiness for the fight.

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

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

“My Father Was A General And I Served As A Soldier In The IDF Terrorist Organization”

“Israeli Children Are Educated To See The Palestinians As A Problem That Must Be Solved And As A Threat That Must Be Eliminated”

“The Israeli Judicial System Lets The Israeli Authorities Get Away With Abuse, Theft And Murder As Long As They Are Perpetuated Against Palestinians”

“This Is How Israel’s Well-Oiled Ethnic Cleansing Machine Operates”

Since the early days of the State of Israel the IDF made it its mission to be the most brutal bully in the region. Today the IDF has one purpose: to conduct an all out war against Palestinians by terrorizing Palestinian civilians, kidnapping children from their homes and using brutal force against protesters.

December 20, 2011 By Miko Peled, mikopeled.wordpress.com

Mostafa Tamimi from Nabi Saleh, Bahjat Zaalan and his son Ramdan from Gaza died on my fiftieth birthday and just a few days after Newt Gingrich declared them an invented people.

They were murdered by the Israeli terrorist organization, the IDF, an organization that is supported and funded by the US.

One Israeli terrorist shot the invented Tamimi in the head with a tear gas canister, and another Israeli terrorist fired a rocket that murdered the invented Zaan and his boy Ramadan.

Both terrorists were educated and trained by Israel, and armed by the US.

The Israeli terrorists are not invented but quite real, and they are safe, protected by the apartheid regime that trained and sent them on their missions, and the Israeli court system will make sure that they are never brought to justice.

This is how Israel's well-oiled ethnic cleansing machine operates.

The Zionist ethnic cleansing of Palestine is not a thing of the past but an ongoing campaign that is executed by three arms of the State of Israel:

The education system, a dedicated bureaucracy and the security forces. The education system is dedicated to indoctrinating and producing soldiers and bureaucrats who will execute and enforce the ethnic cleansing.

The bureaucracy is charged with making rules that make life unlivable for Palestinians. Rules that restrict Palestinian access to their lands, and restrict their ability to travel freely to work and school. This same bureaucracy then demands that Palestinians pay for permits to be allowed do these very same basic things that they were denied.

The security forces, the most obvious of which is the IDF, are charged with enforcing the restrictions, fighting off the resistance, armed or peaceful, and terrorizing the "invented" people of Palestine.

Since my father was a general and I served as a soldier in the IDF terrorist organization, people often ask me how is it that Israeli children who are raised in a Western style democracy become such monsters once they are in uniform?

The detailed answer can be found in my book, *The General's Son* due out in February 2012, but the short answer is this: Education – Racism requires a mindset that is fashioned by education.

In order to rationalize and justify the ethnic cleansing the Israeli education system portrays Palestinians as culturally inferior, violent and bent on the annihilation of the Jews, and at the same time, void of a true national identity.

Palestinian national identity is but a figment of some anti-Semitic imagination.

Israeli children are educated to see the Palestinians as a problem that must be solved and as a threat that must be eliminated.

They can go through life, as I did growing up in Jerusalem, without ever meeting a Palestinian child.

They know nothing of the life or culture of Palestinians who quite often live only several hundred meters from them.

Palestinians are portrayed as an existential threat through absurd comparisons like that of Yasser Arafat to Hitler, the Palestinians to Nazis, and the Palestinian resistance to Al Qaeda.

Since Israeli kids never meet Palestinians what they learn in school, particularly in the school textbooks, is all that they know.

In fact it is remarkable that even though they live so close to one another, much if not all of what Israelis know about their Palestinian neighbors comes from high school text books and popular racist stereotypes. Israelis don't know that Palestinians never had an army, that they do not possess a single tank, a single warship or fighter jet, that they don't have a single artillery battery and do not in fact pose a military threat at all.

According to a new book by Dr. Nurit Peled-Elhanan, not a single photo of a person who is a Palestinian exists in Israeli textbooks and there are millions of Palestinians in and around Israel. Israelis don't learn about Palestinian doctors and teachers, engineers and writers. They don't learn Palestinian poetry or prose and they don't read the works of Palestinian historians.

At a recent lecture I mentioned the ethnic cleansing of Palestine and someone called out: "What ethnic cleansing?"

People are unaware of the ethnic cleansing taking place in Palestine because Israel hides it well and the mainstream media doesn't care enough to ask.

In mainstream peace groups and dialogue groups that discuss Palestine/Israel, a basic Israeli condition is not to bring up issues like the ethnic cleansing because Israel doesn't like to talk about it.

But for the past 64 years ethnic cleansing of Palestine is what drives the Zionist policies towards Palestinians.

All Zionist governments and all Zionist political parties left right and center support the ethnic cleansing.

The Israeli judicial system lets the Israeli authorities get away with abuse, theft and murder as long as they are perpetuated against Palestinians.

Had these same crimes been committed against Israeli Jews they would have been prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Zionist supporters like to bring up the fact that on November 29, 1947 the United Nations voted to partition Palestine into a Jewish state and an Arab state.

What is left out of the Zionist story is that within one year of the vote Israeli forces had managed to capture close to 80% of Palestine, destroy close to 500 Palestinian towns

and villages, kill scores of unarmed civilians and force the exile of some 800,000 Palestinians.

Then, when the UN passed resolution 194 in December of 1948, calling for the refugees to be allowed to return to their homes, Israel proceeded to build cities and towns, parks and highways for the use of Jewish Israelis on Palestinian land.

Then the Knesset began passing laws that prohibit the return of the refugees and allow the new state to confiscate their lands.

After the war was over, the Palestinians who remained within the newly created Jewish state were forced to become citizens of a state that despised them and saw them as a “problem” and a “threat.”

They were designated as “The Arabs of Israel” a designation that stripped them of a national identity and denied them any rights to the land and provided them very limited rights as citizens. From being the rightful owners of their lands and their country they now existed at the pleasure of the new owner of the land, the state of Israel.

Palestinian refugees were forced into concentration camps, conveniently called refugee camps, and those that tried to return were shot.

A military unit was created for the purpose of punishing Palestinian refugee who “infiltrated” back into their homeland, now called Israel. It was called Unit 101, the notorious Ariel Sharon led it and it made a name for itself as a murderous gang with a license to kill Palestinians.

So regardless of the myth, now perpetuated by Newt Gingrich among others, that says there was no forced ethnic cleansing, we know today that the creation of Israel was made possible through a systematic campaign of ethnic cleansing, conducted by the Jewish militia, involving massacres, terrorism, and the wholesale looting of an entire nation.

Newt Gingrich, being the history buff that he is, might be interested in a story I mention in my book *The General's Son*, about my mother.

She was born and raised in Jerusalem and she remembers the homes of Palestinians families in neighborhoods in West Jerusalem.

She told me that when she was a child, on Saturday afternoons she would go for walks through these neighborhoods, admiring the beauty of the homes, watching families sit together in their beautiful gardens.

In 1948 when the Palestinian families were forced out of West Jerusalem, my mother was offered one of those beautiful, spacious homes but she refused. At age 22, the wife of a young army officer with little means and with two small children, she refused a beautiful spacious home, offered to her completely free because she could not bear the thought of living in the home of a family that was forced out and now lives in a refugee camp.

“The coffee was still warm on the tables as the soldiers came in and began the looting” she told me. “Can you imagine how much those families, those mothers must miss their homes.” She would ask and she continued, “I remember seeing the truckloads of loot, taken by the Israeli soldiers from these homes. How were they not ashamed of themselves?” there are thousands upon thousands of homes in cities all over the country that were taken.

Moving forward now to 1967 and the myth that Israel was fighting for its existence as it was attacked by Arab armies from all directions. Much was written about this but nothing is more revealing than the minutes of the meetings of the IDF general staff from June 1967, just prior to the war.

According to the generals, one of whom was my father, Matti Peled, not only was there no existential threat but the generals clearly state that the Egyptian army needed at least a year and a half before it would be ready for war and therefore this was an opportune time to attack and destroy it.

The army pressured the cabinet to authorize an attack and indeed the cabinet approved an attack against Egypt.

The IDF destroyed the Egyptian army and then went on to attack Jordan and Syria. It took the IDF six days and 700 casualties to kill an estimated 15,000 Arab forces, take the West Bank, the Golan Heights and The Sinai Peninsula.

One may like to think this was a miracle but it was a well-planned, well-executed attack against countries that had no viable military force. The Israeli army had thus fulfilled its goal of conquering the entire Land of Israel, and the De-Arabizing of Palestine could now proceed into the West Bank and Gaza.

Since the early days of the State of Israel the IDF made it its mission to be the most brutal bully in the region. Today the IDF has one purpose: to conduct an all out war against Palestinians by terrorizing Palestinian civilians, kidnapping children from their homes and using brutal force against protesters.

We are reminded of the intensity of IDF cruelty every so often, the latest major display being the three-week bloodbath in Gaza that began on December 27, 2008. Hundreds of tons of bombs were dropped by Israeli pilots on Gaza, followed by a massive invasion of land forces. All this for the purpose of terrorizing a defenseless civilian population that includes 800,000 children.

Now that Israel has been in control of the West Bank for over four decades it had built and invested there heavily. But all of the investment and construction in the West Bank was made to bring Jews into the West Bank.

Palestinian lands are being taken at an alarming pace, their homes are destroyed and thousands are incarcerated, while industry, roads, malls, schools and gated communities with swimming pools are being built for Jews only.

Water, which is the scarcest resource of all, is controlled and distributed by the Israeli water authority, as follows: Per capita, Israelis receive 300 cubic meters of water per year. In comparison, per capita Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza receive 35-85

cubic meters per year, while the World Health Organization recommends a minimum of 100 cubic meter of water per person per year. But what is even worse is that per capita, Israeli settlers in the West Bank are allocated 1500 cubic meters of water per year.

Jews in the West Bank live with green lawns and swimming pools while Palestinians quite often get no water at all. Perhaps invented people have no need for water.

De-Arabizing the history of Palestine is another crucial element of the ethnic cleansing. 1500 years of Arab and Muslim rule and culture in Palestine are trivialized, evidence of its existence is being destroyed and all this is done to make the absurd connection between the ancient Hebrew civilization and today's Israel.

The most glaring example of this today is in Silwan, (Wadi Hilwe) a town adjacent to the Old City of Jerusalem with some 50,000 residents. Israel is expelling families from Silwan and destroying their homes because it claims that king David built a city there some 3000 years ago.

Thousands of families will be made homeless so that Israel can build a park to commemorate a king that may or may not have lived 3000 years ago. Not a shred of historical evidence exists that can prove King David ever lived yet Palestinian men, women, children and the elderly along with their schools and mosques, churches and ancient cemeteries and any evidence of their existence must be destroyed and then denied so that Zionist claims to exclusive rights to the land may be substantiated.

Once we connect the dots it is not hard to see that the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza is only a small part of the Israeli Palestinian issue.

The greater issue is the ongoing ethnic cleansing of Palestine by the Zionist state.

The way forward for Israelis and Palestinians alike is to oppose the ethnic cleansing by opposing all its manifestations. This means supporting the movement to boycott, divest and place sanctions on Israel, or BDS for short, it means actively participating in the popular non-violent struggle in Palestine and it means challenging the racist laws that govern Israel by defying them.

There has to be a clear and unequivocal call to recognize that the IDF is a terrorist organization and its officers are war criminals. Furthermore, the reprehensible discrimination against Palestinians, whether they live in Israel/Palestine or not, practiced by the security officials at Ben Gurion airport and other points of entry to Israel/Palestine must be challenged.

The struggle for a democracy in our shared homeland is no different than the struggle at Tahrir square and can in fact be seen as part of the Arab Spring.

[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."]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



CLASS WAR REPORTS



New Poll Finds 18-29 Year Old Americans Favor Socialism Over Capitalism

12/29/11 By Alexander Eichler, The Huffington Post [Excerpts]

Young people who have served as the most visible face of the Occupy Wall Street movement -- might be getting more comfortable with socialism. That's the surprising result from a Pew Research Center poll that aims to measure American sentiments toward different political labels.

The poll, published Wednesday, found that while Americans overall tend to oppose socialism by a strong margin -- 60 percent say they have a negative view of it, versus just 31 percent who say they have a positive view -- socialism has more fans than opponents among the 18-29 crowd.

Forty-nine percent of people in that age bracket say they have a positive view of socialism; only 43 percent say they have a negative view.

And while those numbers aren't very far apart, it's noteworthy that they were reversed just 20 months ago, when Pew conducted a similar poll.

In that survey, published May 2010, 43 percent of people age 18-29 said they had a positive view of socialism, and 49 percent said their opinion was negative.

In the past several years, the poor economy has had any number of effects on young adults -- keeping them at home with their parents, making it difficult for them to get jobs, and likely depressing their earning potential for years to come -- that might have dampened enthusiasm for the free market among this crowd.

Indeed, the Pew poll also found that just 46 percent of people age 18-29 have positive views of capitalism, and 47 percent have negative views -- making this the only age group where support for socialism outweighs support for capitalism.

Young people have also been among the most involved in the nationwide Occupy movement, whose members have leveled pointed criticism at the capitalist ethos and often called for a more equal distribution of American wealth.

In general, income inequality -- which a Congressional Budget Office report recently pointed out is at historic levels -- has received more and more attention in politics and the media since the Occupy movement launched in mid-September.

Usage of the term rose dramatically in news coverage following the start of the protests, and politicians from Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to President Barack Obama have used the movement's language to describe divisions in the American public.

Pew broke down its results by age, race, income and political affiliation, as well as support for the Occupy Wall Street and Tea Party movements.

There were only two other groups among whom socialism's positives outweighed its negatives -- blacks, who say they favor socialism 55 to 36 percent, and liberal Democrats, who say they favor socialism 59 to 39 percent. These were also the only two groups to show net favor for socialism in the 2010 poll.

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.

Demonstrations Against The Government Break Out “All Over Libya”

**“The Wounded Are Often Very
Poorly Taken Care Of”**

**“People Are Taken To Prison And
Do Not Have The Right To A Trial.
We Are Calling For Equal Justice
For Everybody”**

**“We Were Patient While The Country
Was At War But Today We No Longer
Have Any Reason To Remain Silent”**



An anti-government demonstration in Benghazi's Tree Square.

Jan 5, 2012 France24 with contribution by Naima B. who lives in Benghazi and has participated in protests against the NTC. [Excerpts]

Since mid-December, demonstrations against the National Transitional Council (NTC) have been organised all over Libya, including Benghazi, the first town to rise up against the former regime.

After the enthusiasm of the first few months, Libyans are now demanding that the new government become more transparent and that it dissolve the armed militias that were formed during the revolution.

The NTC was created on February 27, 2011, during the uprising against Colonel Gaddafi's regime. It was officially recognised by France on March 10 and the rest of the international community soon followed.

These protests are particularly large in Benghazi, which was the birthplace of the Libyan revolution, but there is nothing 'regional' about them.

We are defending the rights of all Libyans without exception. There are also protests in Misrata and Zaouia.

What we want most of all is the creation of a Libyan army to ensure the country's security. It is completely unacceptable that a sovereign country only has militias.

The fighters must choose: either they join a regular army or they lay down their arms. There are still too many weapons in circulation in Libya.

We are also critical of the NTC's lack of transparency. Its meetings take place behind closed doors and we are only ever informed of the results, never of the decision-making process.

This is not democratic!

Furthermore, we don't even know all of the members of the Council, only those who founded it. During the armed conflict the leaders of the NTC stated that they did not wish to reveal the names of the Council's members for security reasons. But why hide them today?

We are not at all satisfied with the judicial system: the authorities are carrying out arbitrary arrests, even of former rebels.

People are taken to prison and do not have the right to a trial.

Sometimes it is a case of individuals settling old scores.

At the same time, the leaders of the former regime continue to live in impunity.

We are calling for equal justice for everybody.

The way public money is being managed is also a problem.

Last April, Mustapha Abdeljalil, the President of the NTC, declared that some of the new leaders had been involved in dodgy deals and embezzlement. But since then, nothing more has been said about it. We don't know who the people implicated in this scandal are, nor do we know what has happened to the money. In the meantime, we ordinary citizens have been forced to queue up outside the banks to get money out because the ATMs are empty.

Finally, there is the question of those who were killed or injured during the revolution. The government still hasn't done anything regarding the identification of the corpses buried in communal graves.

The families of the missing still don't know what has become of their children, despite there being a ministry dedicated to the martyrs of the revolution. (When contacted by France 24, the representative of the local transitional council in Misrata, Ibrahim Beit Almal, acknowledged that the families of those killed were not being sufficiently supported by the NTC.)

The wounded are often very poorly taken care of.

The most serious cases were sent abroad, mostly to Tunisia. But staff members in the Libyan embassies have not changed since Gaddafi's departure and nothing has been done to support these patients or pay their hospital bills.

"We demand the dissolution of the NTC"

"Although the president of the NTC and the prime minister came to Benghazi on December 26, they did not come to Tree Square.

"They only met several protestors whom they themselves had chosen. If they really want to talk to us, they should come and see us where we are protesting.

"We were patient while the country was at war but today we no longer have any reason to remain silent.

"We have taken a more radical position: we are now demanding the dissolution of the NTC and the creation of a new Council that is capable of responding to our demands."

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More Than 950 Protesters Invade Venezuelan Prison

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

January 4, 2012 (AP)

More than 950 relatives of inmates are refusing to leave a Venezuelan prison in a protest to demand faster trial for inmates.

Prisons Minister Iris Varela says the relatives decided to “kidnap themselves” at the Yare I and II prison about 40 miles (70 kilometers) southwest of the capital, Caracas, during the New Year holiday.

They include 800 women and 150 children and adolescents as well as a few men. Varela says President Hugo Chavez has told authorities to negotiate peacefully.

State radio says Varela alleged on Tuesday that human rights groups financed by the CIA are trying to use the occupation “to destabilize the country.” **[Actually, Varela is a CIA agent trying to use the prison protest to destabilize his grandmother, who is an Iranian spy masquerading as a Mossad agent. Which makes as much sense as the idiocy from Varela. T]**

GOT AN OPINION?

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